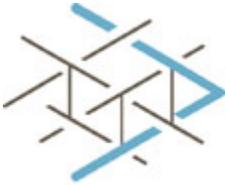


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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REGIONAL COUNCILS

VOL. XII, No. 33, August 27, 2012

eRegions

EXECUTIVE BRIEF

Colleagues,

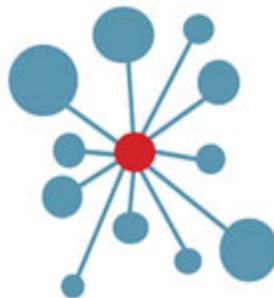
I was honored to present at the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA) Summit on “Beyond MAP-21” last week. Along with the National Conference of State Legislatures, AASHTO and former New Jersey Department of Transportation Commissioner Jack Lettiere, we presented on the context of metropolitan transportation funding and the future of the program. Congratulations to NJTPA on a successful event.

The room block for the Executive Directors’ Conference is closed. If

[PROGRAM UPDATE](#) [POLICY UPDATE](#)
[GRANT OPPORTUNITIES](#) [UPCOMING EVENTS](#)

Notes from Chair Sean Dey, Executive Directors Council

As we approach the Executive Directors’ Conference in Boise, I am looking forward to a dialogue with my colleagues from around the country regarding the future of regions. I have tried to summarize some of my ideas in the form of a chart and notes for discussion purposes by the NARC Executive Director’s Council and Board of Directors. Please click [HERE](#) to access my *Vision for the Future – NARC*. As always, I welcome your ideas and suggestions. I look forward to seeing you in Boise.



converge ■ learn ■ share

**executive directors’ conference
september 23-25, 2012
boise, id**

REGISTER TODAY

you have not registered or need a room, please contact [Lindsey](#). I hope to see everyone in Boise.

I am saddened to announce the departure of Jenee Kresge from NARC. Jenee has been with us for over four years and managed our Economic and Community Development program, along with many of our projects, including the largest grant in NARC history – the *Pathways Out of Poverty* project. She is moving on to work in community reinvestment. We wish her the best and thank her for all her time, success and effort at NARC.

I am happy to announce that NARC Research Fellow Valerie Hermanson has accepted full time employment with us as a Communications Associate to support our current projects, and assist in communications and events.

Best,
Fred

NARC LEADERSHIP

President David F. Shafer,
Clerk/Treasurer,
Town of Munster, IN

PROGRAM UPDATE

NARC and SPC Featured in Solar Podcast: Recently, staff from NARC and the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission (SPC) spoke about SPC's experience in working on solar energy issues in the Pittsburgh region. The podcast records this conversation and offers advice and insight for other regions looking at energy or solar energy as an industry cluster or a generator of economic activity. Download this podcast and related solar resources at www.narc.org/solarops.

NARC and APWA Jointly Host Greenroads Webinar: On Tuesday, September 11, 2012 from 12:00-2:00pm ET, NARC and the American Public Works Association (APWA) will host a webinar to explain the new [Greenroads certification program](#), run by the Greenroads Foundation. This webinar will serve as a way to highlight existing case studies of cities and counties already using this important tool and provide a way for regional planning organizations to consider its applicability in their own regions. The agenda is still being finalized but you can reserve your spot [HERE](#).

Solar Workshops Coming to a City Near You! Local governments interested in learning more about solar deployment in their region are invited to attend free workshops in the Southeast and Midwest, hosted by the SunShot Solar Outreach Partnership. These interactive workshops will provide actionable information on creating a local-level solar program in your region. Workshops are registered for 2 CM credits. Click [HERE](#) to see if a workshop is coming to your city.

NARC/HUD Webinar: The Location Affordability Portal: On September 6, 2012, from 3:00-4:00 pm ET, explore the true cost of place by taking a virtual tour of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Location Affordability Portal. HUD's Office of Sustainable Housing and Communities and the U.S. Department of Transportation have established the Housing and Transportation Affordability Initiative to study the link between housing and transportation costs and location. A product of the Initiative is the Location Affordability Portal, which will contain the Location Affordability Index to measures housing and transportation costs at the neighborhood level, and My Transportation Cost Calculator to allow individuals to enter information about their household and generate customized

Chair Sean Dey,
Executive Directors
Council
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Communications

Erika Young

Transportation Director

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transportation cost estimates. Join Josh Geyer, HUD's federal project manager, for a walkthrough of this exciting new informational tool. Click **HERE** to register.

POLICYUPDATE

The House and Senate are on recess from August 6 - September 7.

REGIONS360

2012 Spirit of Kentucky Award Presented to Regional Wastewater Project: The Red River Regional Wastewater Authority, which includes representation from the Bluegrass Area Development District, received the 2012 Spirit of Kentucky Award. Gover Steve Beshear "commend[ed] the Red River Regional Wastewater Authority on collaboratively working together with local, state and federal organizations to find a creative solution to the wastewater issues in Powell County... The increased wastewater capacity this project provides will not only alleviate environmental and public health concerns, it will also provide the opportunity for local leaders to help encourage new and expanded business creation in the area." Click **HERE** to access additional information.

GRANTOPPORTUNITIES

AIA Sustainable Design Assessment Teams - Technical Assistance

Application Due: October 12, 2012

The American Institute of Architects' (AIA) Center for Communities by Design is seeking potential partner communities that can demonstrate the capacity to convene a diverse set of community leaders and stakeholders for an intensive, collaborative planning process focused on long-term sustainability. The Center is particularly focused on identifying communities that have the ability to leverage local resources and build strong partnerships for implementation of an SDAT process. For more information, visit the **AIA SDAT page.**

NOAA Climate Program Office FY13 Grant Application Information

November 6, 2012

Individual programs within CPO will now be accepting letters of intent and project applications. The full announcement of opportunity is available on the **CPO Funding Opportunities** page and on

the [Grants.Gov website](#).

UPCOMINGEVENTS

NARC/HUD Webinar: The Location Affordability Portal

September 6, 2012, 3:00-4:00pm ET

Explore the true cost of place by taking a virtual tour of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Location Affordability Portal. HUD's Office of Sustainable Housing and Communities and the U.S. Department of Transportation have established the Housing and Transportation Affordability Initiative to study the link between housing and transportation costs and location. A product of the Initiative is the Location Affordability Portal, which will contain the Location Affordability Index to measures housing and transportation costs at the neighborhood level, and My Transportation Cost Calculator to allow individuals to enter information about their household and generate customized transportation cost estimates. Join Josh Geyer, HUD's federal project manager, for a walkthrough of this exciting new informational tool. Click [HERE](#) to register.

Solar Powering Your Community Workshop

September 7, 2012, 8:30am-12:30pm, Kansas City, MO

Join the SunShot Solar Outreach Partnership and the Mid-America Regional Council for a free half-day workshop to answer your questions about the relevance and affordability of photo voltaic solar for the heartland region. This workshop will present illustrative best practices, practical implementation information and case study examples to specifically demonstrate the opportunities that solar offers. For more information and to register, click [HERE](#).

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September 11, 2012, 12:00-2:00pm ET

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13th National Tools of the Trade Conference

September 12 - 14, 2012, Big Sky, MT

Join transportation professionals from around the country to network, share ideas, and learn about the latest developments and opportunities for transportation planning in small and medium sized communities.

Click [HERE](#) for additional information.

2012 Ohio Conference on Freight

September 13-14, 2012, Sandusky, OH

The 2012 conference will focus on building professional capacity in all aspects of freight transport, strengthening relationships between public and private sectors, and examining state and federal policies that support freight related economic development. To register or receive more information, click [HERE](#).

2012 Executive Directors' Conference

September 24-26, 2012, Boise, ID

Register Today! Join Executive Directors and senior staff of regional councils and metropolitan planning organizations at this premier regional training event. Registration information and an agenda are available

[HERE](#).

EcoSummit - Ecological Sustainability: Restoring the Planet's Ecosystem Services

September 30-October 5, 2012, Columbus, OH

Topics covered will include ecological restoration, ecological engineering, global change, wetland management, corporate involvement and sustainable economies. For information, click [HERE](#).

EPA to hold Water Quality Standards Virtual Academy

October 4, 2012, 1:00-4:00pm ET

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will launch its Water Quality Standards Virtual Academy webinar with Water Quality Standards 101. Learn how you can use Water Quality Standards (WQS) to protect water resources! Click [HERE](#) to register.

ICMA 2012 Annual Conference

October 7-10, 2012, Phoenix, AZ

Over three days, members and guests will learn about key local government management issues and leading practices, exchange ideas and network. Visit the ICMA Conference online at

icma.org/conference2012.

UPEDA Conference on Bi-National Collaboration Meeting

October 24-25, 2012, Sault Ste Marie, MI

Presenters include Roy Norton, Consul General of Canada at Detroit; a panel on alternative energy; Phil Becker, Executive Director of the International Bridge Authority; and other presenters still being confirmed. Click [HERE](#) for registration and additional information.

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