

Email not displaying correctly? Click [HERE](#) to view it as a PDF.



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REGIONAL COUNCILS

VOL. XII, No. 41, November 5, 2012

**eRegions**

## EXECUTIVE BRIEF

Colleagues,

Three things this week: *recovery efforts continue* in NJ and NY from Hurricane Sandy, with a renewed dialog on climate change and severe weather. As we prepare for our 2013 Annual Conference in Philadelphia this year, we see mitigation and adaptation becoming a central point of discussion again.

Two, *please vote!* After Tuesday is said and done, remind the lame duck Congress and incoming President to do everything in their power to roll back the sequestration cuts. For months, we've been discussing the effects of these cuts, which amount to (including the expiring tax

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

## PROGRAM UPDATE

**NARC Green Infrastructure Roadmap Webinar:** On November 7, 3:00-4:00 pm ET, join NARC for a webinar to discuss NARC's new online tool, "A Roadmap to Green Infrastructure in the Federal Agencies." The Roadmap was created to facilitate regions' understanding of the numerous benefits of green infrastructure and the ways in which it can be funded and implemented in their communities. Click [HERE](#) for more information and to register.

**NARC Transportation Committee Webinar:** On November 13, 12:00-2:00pm ET, NARC will host its Transportation Committee webinar, *Transportation Alternatives: A review of requirements and competitive process examples*, which will review the changes to the Transportation Alternatives program as well as share two metropolitan planning organization (MPO) experiences with running competitions under the previously authorized Transportation Enhancement program. Click [HERE](#) to access the draft agenda for this webinar. Click [HERE](#) to register.

**ICLEI Webinar on New GHG Tool:** On November 7 from 1:00-2:30pm ET, ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability USA will

reductions) the single largest austerity measure in history – far larger than anything undertaken in the European Union to date.

Three, *women are good for business!* A Credit Suisse study suggests that, “businesses with women on their boards outperformed comparably sized companies with all-male boards by 26 percent, suggesting that a mixed-gender board provides an important boost for a business.” Appoint and elect more women!

Best,  
Fred

## **NARC**LEADERSHIP

### President

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

**Chair Sean Dey,**  
Executive Directors Council  
Executive Director, West  
Michigan Shoreline Regional  
Development Commission

## **NARC**STAFF

**Fred Abousleman**  
Executive Director

**Shannon Baxevanis**  
Deputy Director

**Mia Colson**  
Program Analyst

**Valerie Hermanson**  
Communications Associate

**Lindsey Riley**

conduct a webinar on its newly released national standard for measuring and reporting the greenhouse gas emissions associated with communities. Click [HERE](#) to access more information on the tool, as well as register for the webinar.

---

## **POLICY**UPDATE

*The House and Senate are in recess until after the November elections; they are expected to return on November 14.*

**Report Released on Water Resources Infrastructure:** In the wake of Hurricane Sandy, the National Research Council released a report calling on the Army Corps of Engineers to change the way it manages levees, dams and other water structures, as well as focusing on Congress and the White House for increased investment. The report examines water infrastructure the Army Corps of Engineering is responsible for, including flood mitigation and inland navigation infrastructure as well as ports, harbors and hydropower generation. Click [HERE](#) to access the report.

---

## **GRANT**OPPORTUNITIES

### **The Coastal Resilience Networks Program**

*Deadlines: Letters of Intent November 19, 2012; Applications by January 11, 2013.*

The U.S. Department of Commerce is offering grants through The Coastal Resilience Networks program that provides support for activities that enhance the resilience of coastal communities to natural hazard and climate risks through a regional or national network. Support is provided in the following three U.S. regions: the U.S. Flag Pacific Islands (Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands), the Gulf of Mexico Coast (the State of Alabama, Gulf Coast areas of Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas), and the West Coast (California, Oregon and Washington). Click [HERE](#) to learn more about this opportunity.

### **The Community Food Projects Competitive Grants Program**

*Application Deadline: November 28, 2012.*

The U.S. Department of Agriculture is offering funding through The Community Food Projects Competitive Grants Program to support projects designed to meet the food needs of low-income people;

Deputy of Communications

**Erika Young**

Transportation Director

To access past issues of  
eRegions, **visit our website.**

Make NARC your homepage

—  
**click here to learn how.**

increase the self-reliance of communities in providing for their own food needs; promote comprehensive responses to local food, farm and nutrition issues; and meet specific state, local, or neighborhood food and agriculture needs. Click **HERE** for more information about this program.

#### **EPA Brownfield Area-wide Planning Grant**

*Application Due: November 30, 2012*

This grant will fund projects to facilitate community involvement and conduct research, training, and technical assistance necessary to develop area-wide plans and implementation strategies to facilitate brownfields assessment, cleanup, and subsequent reuse.

Brownfields area-wide planning grant funding must be directed to specific areas affected by a single large or multiple brownfield sites, such as a neighborhood, downtown district, city block, or local commercial corridor. The grant funding will result in an area-wide plan, including implementation strategies, for the brownfields-affected area. For more information, see the **request for proposals.**

#### **USDA 2013 Urban and Community Forest Grant**

*Application Due: December 3, 2012*

The 2013 National Urban and Community Forestry Challenge Cost-Share Grant Program will support urban and community forestry projects on nonfederal public land that have a national or widespread impact and application. The National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council is seeking innovative grants proposals for program development, research, and collaboration to address the following two strategic priority issues: proposals that demonstrate the connection between the personal benefits of urban forests and quality of life within a community through community engagement; and proposals that design an urban forestry recruitment program and retention strategies that support existing urban forestry academic curricula. Urban and community forests demonstrate benefits including urban heat island reduction. All grant funds must be matched at least equally with non-federal source funds. For more information, see the **request for proposals.**

#### **EPA's 2013 Environmental Justice Small Grants**

*Application Due: January 7, 2013*

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is providing \$1.5 million in environmental justice small grants. The grants enable non-profit organizations to conduct research, provide education and

develop solutions to local health and environmental issues in communities overburdened by harmful pollution. Grants are available for up to \$30,000 each. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

#### **NEA Our Town Grant**

*Application Due: January 14, 2013*

The National Endowment for the Art's (NEA) Our Town grant will provide a limited number of grants, ranging from \$25,000 to \$200,000, for creative placemaking projects that contribute towards the livability of communities and help transform them into lively, beautiful and sustainable places with the arts at their core. Our Town will invest in creative and innovative projects in which communities, together with their arts and design organizations and artists, seek to: Improve their quality of life; encourage greater creative activity; foster stronger community identity and a sense of place; and revitalize economic development. Complete Our Town application guidelines are available [HERE](#).

#### **The Gannett Foundation's Community Action Grants**

*Application Deadline: February 16, 2013.*

The Foundation's Community Action Grants support nonprofit organizations with funding priority given to programs that focus on education and neighborhood improvement, economic development, youth development, community problem-solving, assistance to disadvantaged people, environmental conservation and cultural enrichment. For more information on these grants, click [HERE](#).

#### **The Surdna Foundation**

*Application Deadline: Letters of Inquiry accepted year around.*

The Surdna Foundation offers funding to nonprofit organizations that seek to help communities build wealth in a sustainable manner. The Surdna Foundation's Strong Local Economies program aims to help create communities of opportunity that offer good jobs within reach for low- and moderate-income residents, and provide sustainable development solutions that enable people to easily travel between their homes and jobs, schools, and day-to-day services. For more information on the application process, click [HERE](#).

---

## **UPCOMINGEVENTS**

***Green Infrastructure Roadmap Webinar***

**Wednesday, November 7, 3:00-4:00pm ET**

Join NARC for a webinar to discuss NARC's new online tool, "A Roadmap to Green Infrastructure in the Federal Agencies." The Roadmap was created to facilitate regions' understanding of the numerous benefits of green infrastructure and the ways in which it can be funded and implemented in their communities. Click [HERE](#) for more information and to register.

***Transportation Committee: MAP-21; a review of requirements and competitive process examples***

**November 13, 12:00-2:00 pm ET**

As the U.S. Department of Transportation continues to draft and prepare guidance that supports the implementation of the recently enacted federal surface transportation authorization, NARC has scheduled two Transportation Committee webinars to focus on different aspects of the law. This webinar will review the changes to the Transportation Alternatives program as well as share two metropolitan planning organization (MPO) experiences with running competitions under the previously authorized Transportation Enhancement program. Click [HERE](#) to access the draft agenda for this webinar. Click [HERE](#) to register for the webinar.

***Transportation Committee: MAP-21; measuring success: examining the state of practice in performance measurement***

**December 11, 12:00-2:00 pm ET**

As the U.S. Department of Transportation continues to draft and prepare guidance that supports the implementation of the recently enacted federal surface transportation authorization, NARC has scheduled two Transportation Committee webinars to focus on different aspects of the law. This webinar will review efforts by the federal government, state departments of transportation, and regional planning organizations to create performance measurement systems for their planning and programming processes. An agenda is forthcoming. Click [HERE](#) to register for the webinar.

***2013 National Conference of Regions***

**February 10-13, 2013, Washington, DC**

Save the Date for this premier event, focused on all that is happening in Washington, DC. Information about NARC's February event will be available before the end of 2012. Local elected officials, executive directors and staff of regional and metropolitan planning organizations need to be here!

***NARC's 47th Annual Conference and Exhibition***

**June 20-23, 2013, Philadelphia, PA**

Save the Date for NARC's annual conference will focus on best practice and programming for regional and metropolitan planning organizations nationwide. Executive Directors and Staff of regional organizations should plan on attending!

We are sending you this email primarily for your information, to meet your needs, further our valued relationship and because you requested to receive electronic newsletters from the National Association of Regional Councils. Please forward as appropriate.

[Unsubscribe](#) lindsey@narc.org from this list.

Our mailing address is:  
National Association of Regional Councils  
777 North Capitol Street NE, Suite 305  
Washington, DC 20002

**[Add us to your address book](#)**

Copyright (C) 2012 National Association of Regional Councils All rights reserved.

[Forward](#) this email to a friend

[Update your profile](#)