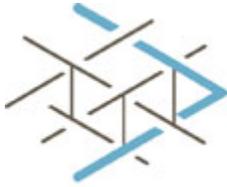


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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REGIONAL COUNCILS

VOL. XII, No. 47, December 17, 2012

eRegions

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Colleagues,

This is the last *eRegions* of the year. I thank every member and partner for your continued support. NARC is an association of peers and through your engagement, you own our shared success. Your support of your colleagues is evident in the accomplishments we've had this year.

NARC held four outstanding events in 2012. We thank our hosts, the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council and the Community Planning Association of Southwest Idaho, and our sponsors and partners for their gracious support. At these events, we acknowledge regional leadership, programs and projects, and are proud of the work our member regions undertake and our ability to recognize these serious efforts.

NARC also saw the completion and adoption of MAP-21 and after a hard two year fight, won important provisions in the bill. NARC worked on and supported the introduction of HR 3780 (Regional Infrastructure

Lindsey Riley

Deputy of
Communications

Erika Young

Transportation Director

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

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homepage —
click here to learn how.

Improvement Zones) as an innovative answer to our local infrastructure funding problems. NARC worked hard with members on the Sequester. We hope Congress and the Administration have taken our message seriously, see the impact the Sequester will have on communities and will work diligently to avoid the “cliff.” NARC released a number of tools and reports to help you implement everything from green infrastructure, to livable communities, to energy development. Details are available on **our website.**

You have an outstanding Board and Executive Directors Council who continue to show vision and leadership. This year they sustained the Association for the future by enacting the first dues increase in over 15 years; freeing the staff to focus more on issues important to regions.

One of the hardest parts of the job this year was saying goodbye to so many retiring directors who are good friends and avid supporters. NARC staff is looking forward to welcoming new directors and building a new community. Make it a point of attending the National Conference of Regions in February to prepare for the new year, welcome new directors, board members and staff, and renew friendships.

I close with thoughts and prayers for families, friends, and colleagues of tragedies in Newtown, CT, and all the communities around the country that suffered loss this year.

My sincerest thanks,
Fred



2013 NATIONAL
CONFERENCE OF REGIONS

FEBRUARY 10-12, 2013

THE RITZ-CARLTON HOTEL
WASHINGTON, DC

REGISTER TODAY!

PROGRAMUPDATE

American University/NARC Research Project: American University (AU) graduate students completed a Capstone project for NARC on the Federal budget for Workforce Investment Act Programs; Federal

Highway Administration; Economic Development Administration; Emergency Management Planning and Assistance; Administration on Aging; Clean Water State Revolving Fund; and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund programs, by state and with historic information. This will be the first in a series of projects with AU on Federal budget issues. We were honored to be chosen to be part of the Capstone system. Click [HERE](#) to access the report and [HERE](#) to access the student's presentation to NARC staff.

NARC's MAP-21 Implementation Meetings: NARC is hosting regional roundtables to examine and discuss the implementation of the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21) from the perspective of metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) and regional councils of government (COGs). Click [HERE](#) to register for one of the following roundtables or [HERE](#) for additional information.

- **Orlando, FL** - January 25, 2013
- **Sacramento, CA** - January 28, 2013
- **Phoenix, AZ** - January 31, 2013
- **Indianapolis, IN** - February 27-28, 2013
- **Tulsa, OK** - March 4-5, 2013
- **Worcester, MA** - March 8, 2013
- **Washington, DC** - March 14, 2013

Climate Adaptation Sector Needs Survey: The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association's (NOAA) Eastern Region Climate Team has administered a cross-sector climate needs survey. Results will be incorporated into a report and a website intended to serve as a shared resource for a wide audience, including research scientists, service providers, fish and wildlife managers, and decision-makers. Please complete the survey below by December 18th. Click [HERE](#) to access the survey.

MOVES Greenhouse Gas Final Guidance Now Available: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released the final version of their MOVES Greenhouse Gas (GhG) guidance recently. The final guidance can be found on [EPA's web page](#), with the documents direct weblink available [HERE](#). Questions can be directed to mobile@epa.gov.

POLICYUPDATE

Senate Democrats Approve Committee Membership: Last week the Democratic Steering Committee approved committee assignments and designated leadership for the 113th Congress. The committee membership list, available [HERE](#) will be up for full Senate approval in January. The Senate Republican Conference has not yet released its committee membership list for the next Congress.

Water Resource Development Act and Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act introduced in the Senate: On November 15th, Chairwoman Barbara Boxer (D-CA) held a hearing to introduce a draft Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) that includes a WIFIA pilot program, allowing the EPA and Army Corps of Engineers to provide loans and loan guarantees for a variety of water infrastructure projects. The bill allows for 10 pilot projects, each costing \$20 million or more, and authorizes Congress to appropriate \$50 million a year for 2013 – 2017 to provide direct loans and loan guarantees through the U.S. Treasury. Additionally, on November 13th, Sen. Jeff Merkley (D-OR) introduced The Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act of 2012 (S. 3626), that will provide loans and loan guarantees to water, wastewater and stormwater projects that have a minimum cost of \$20 million. To learn more about the bill and loan eligibility, click [HERE](#).

PARNTERUPDATE

IJIS Information Sharing LinkedIn Group: Please join the IJIS Institute's new LinkedIn Group, [Justice & Public Safety Information Sharing](#). The Group is a technology forum for practitioners and industry from the state, local, and tribal justice and public safety communities. The forum encourages organizations and individuals to share information about cross-agency, cross-jurisdictional, and cross-sector information sharing. Participants will discuss and share information on technology and standards to facilitate and assist one another to achieve information sharing. Over 1,100 of your colleagues from across the country have already joined the information sharing discussion.

IJIS New Associate program: To further the IJIS Institute's goal of uniting the public and private sector, we launched the Associate program in November for individuals employed by government, non-profit or academic organizations. If you plan on attending the IJIS Institute Industry Briefing on January 23-25, 2013, in Arlington VA, consider joining as an Associate so that you can take advantage of the discounted Associate registration fee. To learn more about the program please click

[HERE](#). This new program is available at no cost through June 30, 2013.

eREMI Fiscal Cliff Impact on State Economies: REMI (Regional Economic Models, Inc.) released their new online forecast database, eREMI, which shows the potential state-level economic impact of the "fiscal cliff," available [HERE](#). If not resolved, the REMI model shows the fiscal cliff could result in a loss 4.0 to 4.2 million jobs nationwide, a reduction of 350 to 400 billion dollars in gross domestic product (GDP), and an increase in the unemployment rate by 2.5% or more. State-by-state and detailed national economic impacts are shown [HERE](#).

Questions can be directed to Brett Albert, REMI, at

brett.albert@remi.com.

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

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.

The Coastal Resilience Networks Program

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.

NEA Our Town Grant

Application Due: January 14, 2013

The National Endowment for the Arts (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 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

Larimer County's Regional Energy Master Plan Consortium

Collaborative Webinar

December 19, 1:00 -2:00 PM ET

Larimer County, Colorado, is working with a wide variety of stakeholders to develop a regional energy master plan. Two local government organizations that have successfully developed regional energy plans will participate in this interactive, collaborative work session webinar with Larimer County. Click [HERE](#) for details.

IJIS Workshop on Information Sharing and Safeguarding Standards

January 23, 2013, Arlington, VA

The IJIS Institute and the Standards Coordinating Council (SCC), Sub-Committee of the Information Sharing and Access Interagency Policy Committee (ISA IPC), will conduct a *Workshop on Information Sharing and Safeguarding Standards (WIS3)*. This interactive workshop is intended to bring together government and industry leaders to chart the future for architecture and standards frameworks for the national information sharing environment. WIS3 will be held from 8:30 AM – 3:45 PM on Wednesday, January 23, 2013 at the Crystal Gateway Marriott in Arlington, VA as a pre-Industry Briefing event. Separate registration is required and can be made [HERE](#).

IJIS Institute Industry Briefing

January 23-25, 2013, Arlington, VA

Join your government and industry colleagues in Washington D.C. for the [IJIS Institute Winter 2012 Industry Briefing](#) on January 23-25, 2013. The Briefing is focused solely on justice, public safety and homeland security information sharing, and national standards. Learn more about the state of information sharing, the challenges others have faced, and the solutions they have implemented. This year's roster of speakers includes industry technology experts and government executives from Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Homeland Security, Program-Manager for the Information Sharing Environment, and many others. View the updated Agenda and reserve your seat before the Early Bird Discount expires on Dec. 19, by visiting the [IJIS Institute website](#). *IJIS Institute Committee meetings will be held on January 23, 2013.

IJIS Institute Badge & Tech Benefit Dinner

January 24, 2013

This year, in partnership with the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) Foundation, the proceeds from the [3rd Annual Badge & Tech Benefit Dinner](#) will benefit law enforcement officers and their families who were hardest hit by Super Storm Sandy. Colonel Rick Fuentes, Superintendent of the New Jersey State Police, will be our guest speaker. If you are not able to join us, please help support our law enforcement officers in their time of need by contributing to this worthy cause [HERE](#).

Trade Workshop to Feature Major Players in the Supply Chain

January 24-25, 2013, Tampa, FL

The 2013 *Shifting International Trade Routes* workshop will examine the effect of the world economic outlook on investment decisions, cargo

movements and international trade in general. The program is cosponsored by the American Association of Port Authorities and the U.S. Maritime Administration and hosted by the Tampa Port Authority. Registration and hotel information are available [HERE](#).

NARC's MAP-21 Implementation Roundtable

January 25, 2013, Orlando, FL

NARC is hosting regional roundtables to examine and discuss the implementation of MAP-21 from the perspective of metropolitan planning organizations and regional councils of government. Click [HERE](#) to register for one of the following roundtables or [HERE](#) for additional information.

NARC's MAP-21 Implementation Roundtable

January 29, 2013, Sacramento, CA

Click [HERE](#) to register for one of the following roundtables or [HERE](#) for additional information.

NARC's MAP-21 Implementation Roundtable

January 31, 2013, Phoenix, AZ

Click [HERE](#) to register for one of the following roundtables or [HERE](#) for additional information.

2013 National Conference of Regions

February 10-12, 2013, Washington, DC

Register today for this premier event, focused on all that is happening in Washington, DC. Local elected officials, executive directors and staff of regional and metropolitan planning organizations need to be here! Click [HERE](#) for registration and hotel reservation information.

NARC's MAP-21 Implementation Roundtable

February 27-28, 2013, Indianapolis, IN

Click [HERE](#) to register for one of the following roundtables or [HERE](#) for additional information.

NARC's MAP-21 Implementation Roundtable

March 4-5, 2013, Tulsa, OK

Click [HERE](#) to register for one of the following roundtables or [HERE](#) for additional information.

NIEM Technical Training

March 5-7, 2013

The IJIS Institute is hosting a three day, grant funded (for state and local government), Western Region NIEM technical training course on March 5-7, in Phoenix AZ at the NLETS Training Facility. This three day technical course is intended for information exchange developers and implementers and is designed to guide students through the National Information Exchange Model (NIEM) in a structured process. The NIEM Technical Training curriculum is designed for developers and practitioners in the field to provide the information needed to enable them to build applications using NIEM and use it effectively. Please visit [the IJIS Institute website](#) to register or to find out more about the course.

NARC's MAP-21 Implementation Roundtable

March 8, 2013, Worcester, MA

Click [HERE](#) to register for one of the following roundtables or [HERE](#) for additional information.

NARC's MAP-21 Implementation Roundtable

March 14, 2013, Washington, DC

Click [HERE](#) to register for one of the following roundtables or [HERE](#) for additional information.

Brownfields Renewal: Bringing Stakeholders Together

May 15-17, 2012, Atlanta, GA

The National Brownfields Conference is the largest event in the nation that focuses on environmental revitalization and economic redevelopment. Click [HERE](#) for additional information.

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!

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