

# Agenda



## National Conference of Regions

**Sunday, February 10**

12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

### **REGISTRATION TABLE OPEN**

12:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. *NARC Office*

### **MAJOR METROS ROUNDTABLE**

1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

### **MOBILE TOUR - NATIONAL LANDING, AMAZON HQ2**

*Please note that this tour requires separate registration. We will meet in the hotel lobby by the front door.*

Visit the newly-branded National Landing, the soon-to-be home of a new Amazon headquarters. Bringing Amazon to the area was the result of a regional partnership between Arlington County and the City of Alexandria. Once fully built out, more than 25,000 new jobs are anticipated. The project will also bring a new Virginia Tech Innovation Campus to the area and spur significant investments in housing and transportation.

5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. *Hotel Lobby Bar*

### **INFORMAL ANNUAL CONFERENCE PLANNING**

Join us for an informal session to discuss the upcoming conference in Omaha.

6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. *Atrium Ballroom*

### **OPENING RECEPTION**

Mingle with friends old and new!

*February 10-13, 2019*

*Washington Court Hotel  
525 New Jersey Avenue NW  
Washington, DC*

**WIFI:  
Network - NARC  
Password - NARC2019**

## Monday, February 11

8:30 a.m. Grand Foyer

### BREAKFAST OPENS

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9:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. Grand Ballroom

### OPENING SESSION

#### WELCOME

**Speaker:** *The Honorable Geof Benson, Commissioner, Town of Beverly Shores, Indiana; Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission; NARC President @geofbenson @NIRPC*

#### GENERAL SESSION: PERSPECTIVES ON WHAT LIES AHEAD

With the shutdown over, at least temporarily, the 116th Congress has work to do on a broad range of issues. Hear from a variety of perspectives on what to expect from the new Congress on issues that are important locally and regionally.

#### WHAT TO EXPECT IN THE 116th CONGRESS

**Moderator:** *Mitchel Herckis, Senior Editor and Director of Strategic Initiatives, RouteFifty.com, Atlantic Media, @MHerckis @routeifty*

**Speaker:** *Nancy Ognanovich, Congressional Leadership Reporter, Bloomberg Government @NOgnanovich @BGOV*

#### LOCAL GOVERNMENT PARTNER PERSPECTIVES

**Speaker:** *The Honorable Gary Moore, Judge/Executive, Boone County, Kentucky; Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana Regional Council of Governments; NARC Past President; NACo 2nd Vice President @BooneCountyKy @OKIRCOG*

#### THE IMPORTANT ROLE OF TRANSIT

**Speaker:** *Paul P. Skoutelas, President and CEO, American Public Transportation Association @APTA\_info*

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10:45 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

### BREAK

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11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

### BREAKOUT SESSIONS

#### TRANSPORTATION DATA: LEVERAGING OPPORTUNITIES AND AVOIDING PITFALLS

Grand Ballroom

New data from emerging technologies can improve planning, increase economic competitiveness, and even provide a potential new revenue source. A data strategy should maximize opportunities and avoid potential legal and political pitfalls. Hear policy and legal perspectives and early lessons from regional councils active in this fast-moving area.

**Moderator:** *Greg Rodriguez, Of Counsel, Best Best & Krieger @smartertranspo @BBKlaw*

**Speakers:** *Ron Achelpohl, Director of Transportation & Environment, Mid-America Regional Council @MARCKCMetro*  
*Randell Iwasaki, Executive Director, Contra Costa Transportation Authority @CCTA*

#### THE 2020 CENSUS: ENSURING ITS SUCCESS IN YOUR REGION

Executive Room

The census determines the federal assistance regions receive for housing, aging, transportation and more. Learn how regions are ensuring the census accurately reflects their population so federal resources are appropriately distributed.

**Moderator:** *Diane Rath, Executive Director, Alamo Area Council of Governments @AACOGCEO @AlamoAreaCOG*

**Speakers:** *Jim Reed, Executive Director, Central Texas Council of Governments @CentralTexasCOG*  
*Marlene Nagel, Community Development Director, Mid-America Regional Council @MARCKCMetro*  
*Aaron Schill, Data & Mapping Director, Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission @morpc*

12:15 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. *Grand Ballroom*

## LUNCH PLENARY SESSION

### THE POWER OF THE COMMONS

Civic assets bring us together and help turn a city into a community. Lynn Ross, founder of Spirit of Change Consulting, will share her vision that our civic commons are an essential part of cities. Her work includes leading the Knight Foundation's *Reimagining the Civic Commons*, demonstrating that public spaces should be welcoming to diverse populations and serve multiple purposes in creating vibrant communities.

**Moderator:** *The Honorable Marge Vogt, Councilmember, Olathe, Kansas; Mid-America Regional Council; NARC President-Elect @MARCKCMetro*

**Speaker:** *Lynn M. Ross, AICP, Founder and Principal, Spirit for Change Consulting @mslynnross*

### LOCAL GOVERNMENT PARTNER PERSPECTIVES

The National League of Cities (NLC) is dedicated to helping city leaders build better communities. Working in partnership with the 49 state municipal leagues, NLC serves as a resource to, and an advocate for, the more than 19,000 cities, villages, and towns it represents.

**Speaker:** *Clarence Anthony, CEO and Executive Director, National League of Cities @ceanthony50 @leagueofcities*

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1:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.

## BREAK

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1:45 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.

## BREAKOUT SESSIONS

### THE EVOLVING LANDSCAPE OF TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

*Grand Ballroom*

In the next transportation reauthorization cycle, Congress may take a hard look at the planning section of federal law to consider how well it aligns with new challenges such as emerging technologies, climate adaptability and resilience, and the increased demand for multimodal transportation solutions. Learn about and contribute to this emerging conversation.

**Moderator:** *Erich Zimmermann, Deputy Director, NARC @erichzimm @NARCRegions*

**Speaker:** *Jason Jordan, Director of Policy, American Planning Association @APA\_Planning*

### EXPANDING BROADBAND'S REACH

*Executive Room*

Despite recent progress, 24 million Americans still lack a high-speed Internet connection. Learn about the 2019 broadband priorities for Congress and the Administration, and how efforts to bring broadband further into underserved areas could impact our communities.

**Moderator:** *Miriam Gillow-Wiles, Executive Director, Southwest Colorado Council of Governments @SWCCOG*

**Speakers:** *Svetlana Matt, Legislative Assistant, Office of Representative Jerry McNerney - Co-Founder of Congressional WiFi Caucus @RepMcNerney*

*Kathryn De Wit, Manager, Broadband Research Initiative, Pew Charitable Trusts @km\_dewit @pewresearch*

*Angelina Panettieri, Principal Associate, Technology and Communications, National League of Cities*

*@AngelinainDC @leagueofcities*

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2:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

## BREAK

3:00 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.

## BREAKOUT SESSIONS

### ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Grand Ballroom

Learn more about the newly proposed Opportunity Zones (OZ) program regulations and how to help your communities prepare for the program's implementation. Also hear about a regional public-private partnership program created by the 2018 Farm Bill and how you can provide input to the U.S. Department of Agriculture before the program rules are written.

**Chairs:** *The Honorable Jennifer Robinson, Councilmember, Town of Cary, North Carolina; Triangle J Council of Governments; NARC Board of Directors @TownofCary @TJCOGnc*

*Betty Voights, Executive Director, Capital Area Council of Governments*

**Speakers:** *Matt Josephs, Senior Vice President, Local Initiatives Support Corporation@LISC\_Policy*

*Mike Wallace, Program Director, Federal Advocacy, National League of Cities @MikeWallacell @leagueofcities*

*Brett Theodos, Principal Research Associate, Urban Institute @BrettTheodos @urbaninstitute*

*Wes King, Policy Specialist, National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition @SustainableAg*

### ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Executive Room

Population growth, aging infrastructure, and water quality issues are stressing the nation's water and wastewater systems. Hear how the last Congress addressed these issues and what is planned for 2019. Learn about the implementation of recently passed integrated planning legislation, the proposed Waters of the U.S. redefinition, and upcoming water infrastructure legislation.

**Chairs:** *The Honorable Lee Constantine, Commissioner, Seminole County, Florida; MetroPlan Orlando and East Central Florida Regional Planning Council; NARC Board Member @seminolecounty @MetroPlan\_Orl @ECFRPC*

*Rosa De León Park, Executive Director, Stanislaus Council of Governments @FollowStanCOG*

**Speakers:** *Julie Ufner, Associate Legislative Director – Environment, Energy & Land Use, National Association of Counties @NACoTweets*

*Carolyn Berndt, Program Director, Sustainability, National League of Cities @BerndtCarolyn @leagueofcities*

*Jason Isakovic, Director, Legislative Affairs, National Association of Clean Water Agencies @NACWA*

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3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. *Hermitage*

### FISCAL OFFICERS WORKING GROUP

Financial professionals from regional councils will set the vision and structure for this new working group. We will also have a roundtable discussion about the partial federal government shutdown's impact on regional councils and how to better protect operations from future shutdowns.

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4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. *Springwood*

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS COUNCIL MEETING

8:30 a.m. *Grand Foyer***BREAKFAST OPENS**9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. *Grand Ballroom***GENERAL SESSION****VIEW FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT**

Dr. Benjamin S. Carson, Sr., M.D. is the 17th Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Secretary Carson advises the President on housing issues, creates and implements policy, and oversees all HUD programs.

**Moderator:** *The Honorable Geof Benson, Commissioner, Town of Beverly Shores, Indiana; Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission; NARC President @geofbenson @NIRPC*

**Speaker:** *The Honorable Benjamin S. Carson Sr., Secretary, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development @SecretaryCarson @HUDgov*

**VIEW FROM CONGRESS**

The House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee will play a central role in a possible infrastructure package, in reauthorization of surface transportation and water resources legislation, and legislation to reauthorize the Economic Development Administration. Hear key committee members discuss these and other priorities.

**Speakers:** *The Honorable Peter DeFazio, U.S. House of Representatives, 4th Congressional District of Oregon @RepPeterDeFazio*

*The Honorable Sam Graves, U.S. House of Representatives, 6th Congressional District of Missouri @RepSamGraves*

*The Honorable Dina Titus, U.S. House of Representatives, 1st Congressional District of Nevada @repdinatitus*

10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

**BREAK**

10:45 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.

**BREAKOUT SESSIONS****TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE***Grand Ballroom*

In 2019, Congress will discuss a long-anticipated infrastructure package and begin conversations about reauthorization of the surface transportation program. Hear from Capitol Hill staff with a key role in transportation and infrastructure. Learn about NARC's activities on these issues and provide your input on NARC's priorities for the 116th Congress.

**Chairs:** *The Honorable Fred Strong, Councilmember, Paso Robles, California; San Luis Obispo Council of Governments @PRCity @SLOCOGdotORG*

*Greg Stuart, Executive Director, Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization @MPOGreg @SpeakUp\_Broward*

*Miriam Gillow-Wiles, Executive Director, Southwest Colorado Council of Governments @SWCCOG*

**NARC Staff:** *Erich Zimmermann, Deputy Director, NARC @erichzimm @NARCregions*

**Speakers:** *Helena Zyblikewycz, Majority Staff Director, House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee @TransportDems*

*Murphie Barrett, Minority Staff Director, House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee @TransportGOP*

## PREPARING TOMORROW'S WORKFORCE

Executive Room

The world of work is evolving rapidly, with changes in workplace flexibility, self employment, and the need to retrain workers for the demands of tomorrow. Is the *Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act* (WIOA) succeeding? What could be done to improve it? Learn from a panel of experts what the federal government should do to help shape tomorrow's workforce.

**Moderator:** *Neil Bomberg, Senior Policy Advisor, NARC @neilbomberg @NARCregions*

**Speakers:** *Katie Spiker, Senior Federal Policy Analyst, National Skills Coalition @Katie\_SpikerNSC @SkillsCoalition*  
*Mirielle Burgoyne, Director of Government Relations and Legislative Affairs, National Association of Development Organizations @NADOWeb*  
*Chuck Wemple, Executive Director, Houston-Galveston Area Council @HouGalvAreaCog*

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11:45 a.m. – 11:55 a.m.

### BREAK

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11:55 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

### BREAKOUT SESSIONS

#### TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE - CONTINUED

Grand Ballroom

A continuation of the transportation policy conversation, with our partners at the National League of Cities and National Association of Counties.

**Speakers:** *Brittney Kohler, Director of Transportation and Infrastructure, National League of Cities @bdkohler @leagueofcities*

*Jessica Jennings, Associate Legislative Director for Transportation and Infrastructure, National Association of Counties @NACoTweets*

#### WHAT'S AHEAD FOR MUNICIPAL FINANCE IN 2019

Executive Room

Municipal bonds help support the roads we drive on, the schools we attend, the water we drink, and the public resources we depend on for growing economies and strong communities. Learn from local government partners what changes to municipal bonds we might expect in the current Congress.

**Moderator:** *Steve Dial, Deputy Director, San Joaquin Council of Governments*

**Speakers:** *Michael Belarmino, Senior Policy Advisor, Government Finance Officers Association @GFOA*  
*Brian Egan, Principal Associate, Federal Advocacy, National League of Cities @BeegleME @leagueofcities*

1:00 p.m. – 2:15 p.m. *Grand Ballroom*

## LUNCH & PRESENTATIONS

### GENERAL SESSION

**Moderator:** *The Honorable Robert Cannon, Supervisor, Clinton Township, Michigan; Southeast Michigan Council of Governments; NARC Senior Vice President @SEMCOG*

### FEDERALISM AND THE SUPREME COURT

The State and Local Legal Center (SLLC) supports state and local government interests on Supreme Court cases including those involving federalism and preemption. Since 1983 SLLC has filed over 300 amicus curiae briefs to the United States Supreme Court on behalf of the “Big Seven” national organizations representing state and local governments.

**Speaker:** *Lisa Soronen, Executive Director, State and Local Legal Center*

### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

The U.S. Department of Transportation under President Trump has focused on safety, infrastructure, innovation, and accountability. With discussions about an infrastructure package heating up, automated vehicles entering our system, and transportation reauthorization on the horizon, hear about the agency’s priorities on these and other pressing issues.

**Speaker:** *Anthony Bedell, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Intergovernmental Affairs, U.S. Department of Transportation @USDOT*

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2:15 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. *Hermitage*

### COMMUNICATIONS WORKING GROUP

This peer exchange will offer an opportunity for like-minded communications and government affairs pros to swap tips and tricks around engagement and outreach techniques and result measurement.

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2:15 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

### BREAK

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2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

### BREAKOUT SESSIONS

#### ADDRESSING THE HOUSING CRUNCH

*Grand Ballroom*

As the nation struggles with an affordable housing crisis, funding for housing and community development programs is critical. Hear the latest news regarding fiscal year 2020 funding and affordable housing-related legislation in 2019.

**Moderator:** *Marc Draisen, Executive Director, Metropolitan Area Planning Council @MAPCMetroBoston*

**Speakers:** *Elayne Weiss, Senior Policy Analyst, National Low Income Housing Coalition @elaynebw @NLIHC*  
*Vicki Watson, Executive Director, National Community Development Association @NCDAonline*

#### RENEWING THE OLDER AMERICANS ACT

*Executive Room*

Senior demand for services such as Meals on Wheels, transportation, supportive and financial services, and housing is increasing. The *Older Americans Act* has addressed these needs for more than 50 years. With reauthorization on the table, a panel of experts will discuss what should be retained and what needs to be changed.

**Moderator:** *Douglas R. Hooker, Executive Director, Atlanta Regional Council @AtlantaRegional @DougATL2*

**Speakers:** *Sandy Markwood, CEO, National Association of Area Agencies on Aging, @n4aACTION*  
*Rina Wulfing, Legislative Assistant, Office of Representative Peter DeFazio @RepPeterDeFazio*

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3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. *Springwood*

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

**Wednesday, February 13**

8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. *U.S. Capitol, Room HC-8*

### **CONGRESSIONAL BREAKFAST**

Join NARC for breakfast on Capitol Hill and hear remarks from members of Congress before you meet with your delegation and agency contacts. You will go through strict security to enter the U.S. Capitol, so plan to arrive early. Be prepared to empty your pockets and be aware that no outside food or beverages of any kind are allowed in the Capitol Building.

**Moderator:** *The Honorable Marge Vogt, Councilmember, Olathe, Kansas; Mid-America Regional Council; NARC President-Elect @MARCKCMetro*

**Speakers:** *The Honorable Earl Blumenauer, U.S. House of Representatives, 3rd Congressional District of Oregon @repblumenauer*  
*The Honorable Paul Tonko, U.S. House of Representatives, 20th Congressional District of New York @RepPaulTonko*



*See you in Omaha, Nebraska for the  
53rd Annual Conference & Exhibition,  
June 9-12, 2019!*

