

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REGIONAL COUNCILS

# VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

June 8-9, 2020

## NARC Virtual Conference Agenda

NARC will be hosting a virtual conference June 8-9, 2020 in place of NARC's 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference & Exhibition originally planned to be held in Detroit, MI and cancelled due to concerns for the health and safety of our members amid the coronavirus pandemic.

The virtual conference will feature two days of online sessions, meetings, and opportunities for members to network. Below is the conference agenda which features sessions on economic recovery, public health, transit, and more!

### *Monday, June 8 - Session One (11:00 AM – 1:30 PM ET)*

#### **11:00 AM – 11:30 AM: Opening/Welcome to the Conference**

Welcome to NARC's Virtual Conference! Join NARC President Marge Vogt to kick off the next two days of virtual conference sessions and meetings. NARC President-Elect Bob Cannon will also provide an update from the Southeast Michigan region, where we originally planned to hold this year's Annual Conference & Exhibition.

Moderator:

- **The Honorable Marge Vogt**, Councilmember, City of Olathe, Kansas; Mid-America Regional Council; NARC President

Speaker:

- **The Honorable Bob Cannon**, Supervisor, Clinton Township, Michigan; Southeast Michigan Council of Governments; NARC President-Elect

### **11:30 AM – 12:30 PM: The Economic Situation**

While lockdown measures instituted in our communities helped flatten the curve of the coronavirus pandemic, it also brought much of America's economic activity to a halt. Join us to get a full picture of what the current economic situation looks like in the United States. We will also discuss what the long-term fiscal impact could look like for states and localities as they begin their gradual reopening of non-essential businesses.

Moderator:

- **The Honorable Geof Benson**, Council Member, Town of Beverly Shores, Indiana; Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission; NARC Immediate Past President

Speakers:

- **Alan Barube**, Senior Fellow and Deputy Director, Brookings Institution Metropolitan Policy Program
- **Mike Pagano**, Dean, College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs; Professor, Public Administration, University of Illinois-Chicago

### **12:30 PM – 1:30 PM: COVID-19's Impact on Public Safety and Emergency Management**

The COVID-19 pandemic has placed unimaginable burdens on local and regional public safety and emergency management systems. Front line workers, older Americans, and people of color appear to be facing the greatest burdens. The recent events surrounding George Floyd's death have added an additional layer of responsibilities on cities, counties, and regions. To better understand how these events have impacted different communities, three local elected officials will discuss how their local governments are addressing these events, and what the demands on their public safety and emergency management agencies mean for the future.

Moderator:

- **Neil E. Bomberg**, Senior Policy Advisor, NARC

Panelists:

- **The Honorable Marge Vogt**, Councilmember, City of Olathe, Kansas; Mid-America Regional Council; NARC President
- **The Honorable Joy Fuchs**, Commissioner, Washington County, Texas; Brazos Valley Council of Governments; NARC Senior Vice President
- **The Honorable Alan Wapner**, Councilmember, City of Ontario, California; Southern California Association of Governments

*Monday, June 8 - Session Two (3:00 PM - 5:00 PM ET)*

**3:00 PM – 4:00 PM: COVID-19: Short and Long-Term Effects on Transit and Transportation**

COVID-19 has significantly impacted the way that people move: transit ridership is down, workers are foregoing commutes, and bike shops are running out of inventory. As reopening begins but health concerns remain, it seems increasingly unlikely that we will return to pre-COVID-19 transportation paradigms. Concerns have arisen that new transportation patterns, such as a shift from transit to auto commutes, may result in setbacks such as negative environmental impacts and reduced equity in transportation. Join this session to hear about possible short- and long-term transportation impacts of COVID-19 and potential ideas on how transportation systems can be successfully adapted to a post-COVID-19 world.

Moderator:

- **Pete Gould**, Founding Partner, Catapult Policy Strategies

Speakers:

- **Tara Lanigan**, Director of Business Development, May Mobility
- **Michael Schwartz**, Head of Customers and Policy, Ride Report

**4:00 PM – 5:00 PM: Board Discussion**

NARC's Board of Directors will meet for a discussion lead by NARC President Marge Vogt. This meeting will be held via Zoom videoconference software.

Moderator:

- **The Honorable Marge Vogt**, Councilmember, City of Olathe, Kansas; Mid-America Regional Council; NARC President

*Tuesday, June 9 - Session One (11:00 AM – 1:30 PM ET)*

**11:00 AM – 11:30 AM: Opening/Welcome to Day Two**

Welcome to day 2 of NARC's Virtual Conference! NARC President Marge Vogt will start our second day of sessions by showcasing the winners of NARC's photo contest. Winning photos will be displayed and attendees will hear the stories behind these images.

Moderator:

- **The Honorable Marge Vogt**, Councilmember, City of Olathe, Kansas; Mid-America Regional Council; NARC President

## **11:30 AM – 12:30 PM: Update from Local Government Partners**

Clarence Anthony, CEO and Executive Director of the National League of Cities will provide an update on federal policy impacting local governments, including the recently passed COVID-19 relief bills and potential forthcoming relief legislation.

Moderator

- **Chris Barnett**, Supervisor of the Charter Township of Orion; Southwest Michigan Council of Governments

Speakers:

- **Clarence Anthony**, CEO and Executive Director, National League of Cities

## **12:30 PM – 1:30 PM: What We've Learned from the Pandemic and How to Bridge to a Resilient Future**

As communities begin to recover from the short-term damage to the nation's economy and health care system due to the COVID-19 pandemic, recent experiences reinforce the importance of building resilience into our physical and human infrastructure. From broadband access and housing to economic development and social safety nets, what are the lessons we have learned from this public health and economic emergency? And what can community leaders do to create a healthier, more inclusive built environment for our citizens? This session will provide an interesting dialogue on resilience, long-term recovery, and future considerations for regional leaders.

Moderator:

- **Kim Hart**, Cities Correspondent, Axios

Panelists:

- **Danielle Arigoni**, Director of AARP Livable Communities, AARP
- **Kerry Armstrong**, Board Chair, Atlanta Regional Commission
- **Mike Alexander**, Director, Center for Livable Communities, Atlanta Regional Commission

*Tuesday, June 9 - Session Two (3:00 PM - 4:30 PM ET)*

## **3:00 PM – 4:30 PM: Transportation Policy Discussion**

NARC Deputy Director/Director of Transportation Programs Erich Zimmermann will lead a discussion on federal transportation policy. This meeting will be held via Zoom videoconference software.

Moderator:

- **Erich Zimmermann**, Deputy Director/Director of Transportation Programs, NARC