



Smart Regions Innovation, Recovery, & Resilience Virtual Workshop Agenda

Time	Session
Day One Thursday, October 29	---
10:00 AM -10:30 AM ET	<p>Welcome & Introductions Welcome to the Smart Regions Innovation, Recovery, and Resilience Virtual Workshop! Our organizing partners and sponsor will kick off the event by sharing more about the GCTC Smart Regions Collaborative and help set the stage for the conversations to come during our two-day event.</p> <p>Speakers (Bios Available Here)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jean Rice, Senior Broadband Specialist, National Telecommunication and Information Administration (NTIA)• Sokwoo Rhee, Associate Director for CPS Innovation, National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)• Maci Morin, Program Coordinator, National Association of Regional Councils (NARC)• Glenn Ricart, Co-Founder and Chief Technology Officer, US Ignite
10:30 AM -11:30 AM ET	<p>Smart Mobility Choices in Recovering Regions The national public health emergency brought about by the novel coronavirus has massively impacted and transformed</p>

	<p>regional mobility around the country. Regional travel has plummeted during periods of lockdown and is only slowly rebounding as lockdowns have been lifted. Essential workers have continued to travel out of necessity, raising equity issues for low-income and minority travelers employed in services and businesses considered essential. Telework continues in response to medical guidance and health concerns among the workforce. For those who are travelling, large scale avoidance of public transit is presenting challenges. This panel will explore the smart mobility options available to recovering regions that have the greatest potential of transforming how, when and where workers and others travel.</p> <p>Speakers (Bios Available Here)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderator: Eric Rensel, Vice President, Gannett Fleming • Gerry Bogacz, Assistant Director, New York Metropolitan Transportation Council • Danielle Hughes, Capital Program Manager, Tahoe Transportation District • Wilfred Pinfold, Chief Executive Officer, Urban Systems
<p>11:30 AM - 12:30 PM ET</p>	<p>Ensuring Equitable Access to Broadband During Challenging Times</p> <p>The coronavirus pandemic put a magnifying glass on many of the inequitable challenges being faced within our regions. Equal access to reliable Internet has proved to be an especially critical objective in 2020 as schools, offices, stores, and others moved most of their operations online. The Pew Charitable Trusts Broadband Research Initiative indicates that 21 million Americans, mostly in rural areas, still lack a reliable high-speed Internet connection. How are smart regions projects across the country helping increase broadband access for these underserved populations in a time where many aspects of our daily lives are being pushed towards online platforms? This session will share some examples of how smart regions initiatives are creating opportunities for digital access and inclusion for all.</p>

	<p>Speakers (Bios Available Here)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderator: Maci Morin, Program Coordinator, NARC • Jon Walton, Chief Information Officer, County of San Mateo, CA • Skip Newberry, President, Technology Association of Oregon • Aaron Deacon, Managing Director, KC Digital Drive • Mimi Yeh, Vice President of Human Capital, Connected DMV
<p>12:30 PM - 1:30 PM ET</p>	<p>Regional Showcase Panel: East Coast The smart regions of the east coast have established innovative partnerships that have them leading the way in long term physical, social, and economic resiliency. This panel will highlight the power of partnerships and regional strides in data sharing, smart street lighting, inclusiveness, mental health and more.</p> <p>Speakers (Bios Available Here)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderator: Gary McCarthy, Mayor, City of Schenectady, NY • Raimundo Rodulfo, Director of Information Technology/Chief Innovation Officer, City of Coral Gables, FL • Karl Darin, Vice President of Operations, Connected DMV • John Coluccio, Signal Superintendent, City of Schenectady, NY • Neal O’Farrell, Founder, The PsyberResilience Project
<p>1:30 PM - 2:30 PM ET</p>	<p>Education & Health Response Health and education are pillars of society. Having opportunities for more healthcare options via telehealth and the ability to gain an education online has been a game changer for people across the country. However, the coronavirus pandemic has highlighted those communities that continue to have little to no access to broadband - leaving their health and education options very limited as more of our daily lives shift online. This panel will discuss short- and long-term strategies and actions to ensure that</p>

	<p>societal needs are met through connectivity, digital adoption, and skills education.</p> <p>Speakers (Bios Available Here)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderator: Gilbert Resendez, Broadband Program Specialist, NTIA • David Witkowski, Executive Director, Civic Technology Initiatives, Joint Venture Silicon Valley • Chris Walker, Telecommunications Director, Northwest Open Access Network • Danae Wilson, Manager, Nez Perce Tribe Department of Telecommunications Services • John Griffith, Principal Artificial Intelligence Engineer, MITRE Labs
<p>2:30 PM - 3:45 PM ET</p>	<p>Regional Showcase Panel: West Coast</p> <p>The West Coast of the United States is an economic powerhouse. If these states were categorized as a country collectively, they would be the 3rd largest country in the world by GDP. However, what really makes this region stand out is its diversity. The West Coast is home to some of the largest and smallest counties in the U.S. The diversity of its residents, both socially and economically, provide the region with rich opportunities for growth as well as challenges for cities striving to serve their residents. This session will focus on some of the efforts on the West Coast to use technology to improve services provided to residents and to increase efficiencies and effectiveness of government services.</p> <p>Speakers (Bios Available Here)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderator: Renil Paramel, Co-Founder and Senior Partner, Strategy of Things • Jon Walton, Chief Information Officer, County of San Mateo, CA • Dominic Papa, Vice President, Smart State Initiatives, Arizona Commerce Authority • Danielle Hughes, Capital Program Manager, Tahoe Transportation District

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jerry Power, Chief Executive Officer, I3 Systems • Joyce Edson, Deputy Chief Information Officer, City of Los Angeles, CA
<p>3:45 PM - 4:45 PM ET</p>	<p>Investment & Partnerships</p> <p>As we continue to support short-term economic stabilization initiatives, our panel will focus on longer-term economic recovery and investment. We will discuss the nature of a post-Covid recovery and explore the investment landscape and trends likely to emerge. We will discuss whether we should anticipate continued investments focusing on sustainability and resilience, and whether current data and experience suggest future investment trends.</p> <p>Speakers (Bios Available Here)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderator: Eric Drummond, Chief Executive Officer and Founder, Innovation Corridor • Richard Adams, Director of the Innovation & Entrepreneurship Center, National Renewable Energy Lab • Brian Paul, Business Transformation and COVID Response Leader, TEKSystems • Eric Parrie, Chief Executive Officer, COVIDCheck Colorado • Peter Adams, Executive Director, Rockies Venture Club • Chong Lin, Senior Program Manager, Customer Product Growth, DER Grid Services, National Grid
<p>Day Two Friday, October 30</p>	<p>---</p>
<p>10:00 AM - 11:00 AM ET</p>	<p>How Smart Cities Can Become Pandemic Resilient!</p> <p>Cities and regions are working hard to use tools and technologies to modernize the citizen experience and return their communities into a safe and trusted new normal. What are the latest innovations being deployed to achieve this goal? What are the right foundations to put in place to return society to a new type of normality? Can these foundations be a platform for innovating the citizen experiences of tomorrow? What role can artificial intelligence play in this new normal? And what might a smart city experience be like</p>

	<p>in pandemic resilient communities? Join a panel of national experts in smart cities and artificial intelligence who will share the latest innovations from smart cities together with their thoughts on the best practices to innovate the next version of smart cities and regions.</p> <p>Speakers (Bios Available Here)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Moderator: Matthew James Bailey, IoT, Smart Cities, and Future of Artificial Intelligence Consultant ● Wilfred Pinfold, Chief Executive Officer, Urban Systems ● Jean Rice, Senior Broadband Specialist, NTIA ● Yuri Gawdiak, Airspace Operations & Safety Program Associate Director, Aeronautics Research Mission Directorate, NASA
<p>11:00 AM - 12:15 PM ET</p>	<p>Regional Showcase Panel: Mid-America</p> <p>Communities in the mid-American region are working on smart city solutions targeted to improving outcomes for governments, citizens, farmers and ranchers, nonprofits, and businesses. These solutions run the gamut from economic recovery and increasing water quality to improving the efficiency of agriculture and decreasing the digital divide. This panel will focus on different examples of how this region is developing smart solutions for residents living in our nation's heartland.</p> <p>Speakers (Bios, Challenges, Accomplishments, and More Available Here)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Moderator: Mark Fisher, Chief Executive Officer, Council of Great Lakes Region ● Jeff Leonard, City Administrator, City of Defiance, OH ● Johnny Park, Chief Executive Officer, Wabash Heartland Innovation Network ● Mark Critz, Western Regional Director, PA Department of Agriculture ● Aaron Deacon, Managing Director, KC Digital Drive ● Raymond Lai, Executive Director, McLean County Regional Planning Commission

12:15 PM - 1:15 PM ET

Regional Data Sharing

Data informs and provides situational awareness - a basis to understand trends, develop forecasts, and drive management and operational decision making. The COVID-19 pandemic has served as an example to make it clear that when each community is restricted to rely on local data, outcomes are hampered. It is only when communities share data that the data begins to reveal the larger picture that should shape our strategies. This same axiom can be applied to other disasters such as hurricanes or wildfires and even societal issues such as homelessness and crime. For this reason, it is important that each city, county, state, and federal agency begin to move toward a data infrastructure that allows these smart entities to share data in a managed and controlled environment. The development of an interoperable data sharing system is a complicated, multidimensional task. This panel session brings together NIST cluster representatives who are working on components of this larger issue to discuss how their efforts are coming together to develop a template that solves a much larger problem. Join us as we discuss the complexities associated with data sharing programs that transcend multiple NIST GCTC projects to create a framework for future progress.

Speakers

[\(Bios Available Here\)](#)

- Moderator: Glenn Ricart, Founder and Chief Technology Officer, US Ignite
- Heather Crondahl, Enterprise Architect and Open Government Strategist, GCTC Civic Data Hub and Service Delivery Platform Project
- Heidi Lengdorfer, Chief Data Officer, Alaska Department of Health and Social Services
- Raimundo Rodulfo, Director of Information Technology/Chief Innovation Officer, City of Coral Gables, FL
- Lan Jenson, Chief Executive Officer, Adaptable Security Corp
- Jerry Power, Chief Executive Officer, I3 Systems

<p>1:15 PM - 2:15 PM ET</p>	<p>Regional Showcase Panel: Northwest</p> <p>It's easy to think of the mountains of the Cascades, the depths of Crater Lake, the running of the Columbia River, and the rich native heritage of the area, when you describe the Pacific Northwest. But did you know with this unsurpassed beauty these states enjoy, so comes innovation and economic prosperity? In this panel we will see how the visionaries of the northwest have maximized collaboration and opportunity to bring prosperity for businesses, farmers, public service, and academics by creating an identity for advance economic development, transportation, communication, and urban prosperity to rural areas. We will also discuss the geographic and climatic challenges of the area, how innovators overcome the political and cultural diversity of the pacific northwest, and the establishment of economic and infrastructure links that bind the region.</p> <p>Speakers (Bios Available Here)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Moderator, Sokwoo Rhee, Associate Director for CPS Innovation, NIST ● Isaac Landerburg, Director, Launch Alaska ● Chris Walker, Telecommunications Director, Northwest Open Access Network ● Danae Wilson, Manager, Nez Perce Tribe Department of Telecommunications Services ● Jonathan Fink, Director, Portland State University Digital City Testbed Center
<p>2:15 PM - 3:45 PM ET</p>	<p>Smart Agriculture and Rural Prosperity</p> <p>The COVID-19 crisis brought into a quick and sharp focus the benefits of distance education, telemedicine and broadband-enabled commerce were no longer theoretical explorations or enjoyed by some communities. Rather, closures and stay-at-home directives in communities across the globe prompted a sudden and substantial increase in reliance on broadband-enabled platforms. This session will offer an introduction to the GCTC Smart Agriculture and Rural SuperCluster that was created develop projects, best practices, and a blueprint to assist rural communities and agriculturists increase productivity and quality of life. The panel will focus on efforts aimed at ensuring viable rural communities for farmers and other residents by improving educational resources, healthcare, aging in place, and</p>

economic development. This workshop is also expected to complement the lessons gleaned from the immediate efforts and serve as an even more valuable resource to technology innovators, communities, and policymakers for whom the imperative of rural broadband has been brought to prominence. While no one would have desired the catalyst, this segment of lessons derived from our experience on broadband and smart technologies should serve manifold benefits in the age of recovery and beyond.

Speakers

[\(Bios Available Here\)](#)

- Moderator: Mo Shakouri, Director, Community Broadband Initiative, Joint Venture Silicon Valley
- Erik Obrien, Program Manager, Denali Commission
- Andrew Nelson, Farmer & Software Engineer, Nelson Farms & Silver Creek Farms, Inc.
- Josh Seidemann, Vice President of Policy, NTCA - The Rural Broadband Association
- Jack Stucky, Vice President, Engineering, Wabash Heartland Innovation Network
- William Aderholt, Program Manager of Grand Farm, Emerging Prairies
- Harry Crissy, Extension Agent, Penn State Extension, Pennsylvania State University
- Shawn Irvine, Economic Development Director, City of Independence, OR
- Sam Musa, Chief Information Officer, U.S. Government Publishing Office