

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

Innovations in Building Resilient Communities

Warwick Denver Hotel | Denver, CO
June 26-28, 2017

AGENDA

MONDAY, JUNE 26 | DAY 1

Theme: What's Possible?

- 12:00 – 1:00 PM Registration, Refreshments, and Networking
- 1:00 – 1:30 Welcoming Remarks
Christopher Forinash, *Director of U.S. Program Implementation, Institute for Sustainable Communities*
- 1:30 – 2:30 Plenary 1: Resilience a Mile High – The Denver Story
Over the past few decades, Denver has transformed itself into a more economically vibrant, inclusive, and resilient community. Panelists share their experiences and perspectives on how Denver has changed, what's currently underway, and how the city and region are looking to the future.

Moderator:
Ken Snyder, *CEO, PlaceMatters*

Panelists:
Paul Aldretti, *Program Coordinator, Mile High Connects*
Gretchen Armijo, *Built Environment Director, City of Denver*
Wendy Hawthorne, *Executive Director, Groundwork Denver*
Sonrisa Lucero, *Sustainability Strategist, City of Denver*
- 2:30 – 3:00 Plenary 2: Leading with Equity
Nora Liu, *Project Manager – Racial Equity Here, Center for Social Inclusion*
Nora ensures racial and social equity are at the forefront of community resilience work, both in planning and implementation. She describes what it means to lead with equity and how this translates into action across scale and sector.
- 3:00 – 3:15 Break

3:15 – 4:15

Breakout Sessions: Round 1

- 1. Community Leadership and Public-Private Partnerships in Puget Sound** *Room: Capitol 1*
Cheryl Markham, *Strategic Policy Advisor, King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks*; Jamie Stroble, *Climate Engagement and Community Partnerships Specialist, King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks*
Presenters discuss public, private, and community partnerships designed to engage cross-sector partners in co-designing strategies for resilience-building solutions, including the innovative communities of opportunity model.
- 2. Engaging and Supporting Youth** *Room: Evans*
Rick Held, *Director of Community Engagement, Socially Equal Energy Efficient Development (SEED)*; Stan Johnson, *Executive Director, SEED*; Ken Snyder, *CEO, PlaceMatters*
Denver-based think tank PlaceMatters is working to involve young people in civic life through innovative approaches to urban planning. In Knoxville, SEED is creating co-benefits by employing youth in community engagement efforts related to energy efficiency. Presenters discuss how to best engage youth.
- 3. Connecting to Communities in the South and Texas** *Room: Tabor*
Dwayne Patterson, *Regional Organizing and Civic Engagement, Partnership for Southern Equity*; Jacqueline Smith, *Chair of the Environmental and Climate Justice Committee, NAACP Houston Branch*
In many southern states and Texas, equity is perceived to be a distinct issue from sustainability. Representatives lead a discussion on how to engage in two-way conversations at the grassroots level.
- 4. Grassroots Approaches to Influence and Impact** *Room: Executive Lounge – 15th Floor*
Matt Abularach-Macias, *Program Coordinator, California League of Conservation Voters*; Donna Givens, *President and CEO, Eastside Community Network*; Tessa Kaneene, *Senior Program Officer, Institute for Sustainable Communities*
Representatives from the Eastside Community Network and the California League of Conservation Voters share their strategies for empowering community leadership and coordinating action between the community and government.
- 5. Diverse Populations and New Residents** *Room: Cambridge – 15th Floor*
Amy Coffman, *Special Assistant to the Mayor, Municipality of Anchorage*; Becca Najera, *Assistant Director, Martinez Street Women’s Center*
Emergency planning and improving social cohesion can be particularly challenging when cities experience a large influx of new residents. Representatives share their successes and hardships in building resilience with diverse populations.

MONDAY, JUNE 26 | DAY 1 (CONTINUED)

4:15 – 5:15

Team Huddle 1

Teams meet separately to discuss the status of their efforts, identifying accomplishments and challenges. Each team has time to discuss goals for this workshop and strategize about ways to maximize the impact of their new connections and insights.

5:15 – 5:45

Structured Networking

5:45 – 7:00

Networking Reception

The American Society of Adaptation Professionals hosts a reception with light hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar at the Warwick Hotel, 1776 Grant Street.

Theme: Explore and Inspire

- 8:00 – 9:00 AM **Breakfast of Champions**
Resource team members host breakfast tables, providing an opportunity for in-depth small-group discussions. Breakfast is provided.
- 9:00 – 9:15 **Opening Remarks and Today's Objectives**
Christopher Forinash, *Director of U.S. Program Implementation, Institute for Sustainable Communities*
- 9:15 – 10:15 **Plenary 3: Collaboration and Alignment**
Speakers have five minutes to present five slides on how they have effectively collaborated across sectors, jurisdictions, or city agencies. The presentations highlight two challenges, two solutions, and a cross-cutting lesson from their work, with Q&A to follow.

Moderator:
Beth Gibbons, *Managing Director, American Society of Adaptation Professionals*

"5x5" Presenters:
Ryan Dicks, *Sustainability Manager, Pierce County*
Michele Hasson, *Policy Director, Center for Community Action and Environmental Justice*
Hank Hodde, *Planning and Policy Manager, Smart Home America*
Doug Melnick, *Chief Sustainability Officer, City of San Antonio*
Raj Pandya, *Director, American Geophysical Union, Thriving Earth Exchange*
- 10:15 – 10:30 **Break**
- 10:30 – 11:45 **Breakout Sessions: Round 2**
- 1. Transportation System Resilience** *Room: Capitol 1*
Christopher Forinash, *Director of U.S. Program Implementation, Institute for Sustainable Communities*; Amy Shatzkin, *Sustainability Manager, Sound Transit*
Representatives lead a discussion on how to build resilient and equitable transportation systems.
 - 2. Food Security** *Room: Evans*
Radhika Krishna, *Community Development Manager, Anchorage Community Land Trust*; Arthur Levine, *Projects Manager, Huerta del Valle*
In this discussion on food system resilience, speakers share insights from their home cities of Anchorage—a city largely reliant on imports—and San Bernardino, where residents and government are collaborating to create community-driven food gardens and agriculture.

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- 3. Stormwater Management and Green Infrastructure** *Room: Tabor*
Donna Givens, *President and CEO, Eastside Community Network*; Tessa Kaneene, *Senior Program Officer, Institute for Sustainable Communities*
Explore the Eastside Community Network's grassroots education efforts in Detroit, where residents learn about the benefits of green infrastructure and receive assistance in installing rain gardens.
- 4. Mainstreaming and Integrating Resilience** *Room: Executive Lounge – 15th Floor*
Douglas Melnick, *Chief Sustainability Officer, City of San Antonio*
More than ever, communities are seeking to incorporate resilience efforts into city plans and policies. Explore examples of cross-agency and cross-sector approaches to integrating resilience principles into the frameworks and budgets of local government.
- 5. Faith and Resilience** *Room: Cambridge – 15th Floor*
Ann Helmke, *Community Faith-Based Liaison, City of San Antonio*
The City of San Antonio's faith-based initiative is expanding existing efforts to coordinate government services with services performed by faith-based groups, and is building a platform for sharing resilience-related information.

11:45 – 12:30 PM Lunch and Networking

12:30 – 2:30 Clinic: Communicating Resilience
Russ Sands, *Senior Planner, Brendle Group*; Raj Pandya, *Director, American Geophysical Union, Thriving Earth Exchange*; Molly Urbina, *Executive Director, Colorado Resiliency and Recovery Office*

2:30 – 2:45 Break

2:45 – 4:00 Team Huddle 2
Teams meet to discuss how they can take action on the new information and ideas they are acquiring at the workshop.

4:00 – 5:00 Speed Dating: Sharing Challenges and Solutions

Theme: Strategize and Commit

7:30 – 8:30 AM

Coffee with Counterparts

Connect over breakfast with individuals from other teams who work in similar roles or organizations. Breakfast is provided.

8:30 – 8:45

Opening Remarks and Today's Objectives

Christopher Forinash, *Director of U.S. Program Implementation, Institute for Sustainable Communities*

8:45 – 9:45

Breakout Sessions: Round 3

- 1. Leveraging the Power of Working with the Private Sector** *Room: Capitol 1*
Gavin Dillingham, *Program Director, Houston Advanced Research Center*; Hank Hodde, *Planning and Policy Manager, Smart Home America*
Explore how businesses can help build resilience in cities. Presenters discuss successful strategies for financing resilience investments and how these strategies have been leveraged.
- 2. Building Communities of Practice to Increase Social Cohesion in Maricopa County and Monitoring Their Success** *Room: Evans*
Emily Mead, *Senior Program Manager, Institute for Sustainable Communities*
A local philanthropy in Maricopa County is leading an effort to build community resilience and increase social cohesion by fostering greater cross-sector collaboration among social services. Learn about the monitoring and evaluation framework for this project.
- 3. Creating a Green Bank** *Room: Tabor*
Harrison Newton, *Director – 100 Resilient Cities Launch, District of Columbia Office of the City Mayor*
Green banks can be effective tools for using public funds to leverage private investment for critical environmental efforts at a variety of scales. Join a discussion on the first green bank concept developed under the Obama administration in Washington, D.C.
- 4. Green Revolving Funds** *Room: Executive Lounge – 15th Floor*
Susan Kidd, *Executive Director, Agnes Scott College Center for Sustainability*
The investment model of Agnes Scott College in Georgia has served as a national model for other institutions and municipalities leveraging energy savings through the establishment of a Green Revolving Fund.
- 5. Tracking and Evaluating Progress** *Room: Cambridge – 15th Floor*
Harriet Tregoning, *Former Principal Deputy Assistant Director, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Office of Community Planning and Development*
Explore the key measures of progress for social, environmental, and economic resilience, and learn where to find the data and how to measure and communicate impact. Hear about best practices at the municipal and regional scales.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28 | DAY 3 (CONTINUED)

9:45 – 10:00

Break

10:00 – 11:00

Team Huddle 3

Teams discuss new insights and how these breakthroughs will advance their work. Team leaders prepare brief (two minute) reports on three actions to put this new information into practice when they return home.

11:00 – 11:30

Team Report-Outs

11:30 – 12:00 PM

Closing Remarks

Christopher Forinash, *Director of U.S. Program Implementation, Institute for Sustainable Communities*; Harriet Tregoning, *Former Principal Deputy Assistant Director, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Office of Community Planning and Development*