



13th Annual New Partners for Smart Growth

Building Safe, Healthy, Equitable and Prosperous Communities

February 13-15, 2014

Denver, Colorado



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Presented by the Local Government Commission • Supporters include:





Conference Organizer ■ Local Government Commission

The Local Government Commission (lgc.org) is a nonprofit organization that fosters innovation in environmental sustainability, economic prosperity and social equity. The LGC is helping to transform communities through inspiration, practical assistance and a network of visionary city and regional leaders. The LGC has been a pioneer in the field, building awareness about the impact land-use decisions have on transportation, public health, climate change and fiscal strength. In 1991, the LGC developed the Ahwahnee Principles for Resource-Efficient Communities, which helped pave the way for the smart growth movement.



About the Event

February 13-15, 2014 ■ Denver, Colorado

Mile-High Smart Growth

The 2014 New Partners Conference is going mile-high – to Denver. The gateway to the Rocky Mountains, Denver is one of the nation's most walkable and bike-friendly cities.

Founded as a boomtown on the western mining frontier, Denver has long fostered a strong sense of place, with urban parks, eclectic architecture and distinctive neighborhoods. Its dedication to sustainability is nurtured by an immutable geography that bequeaths clear blue skies, snowcapped mountains, majestic forests, cascading streams and panoramic open spaces. Denver exemplifies the smart-growth variety and vitality of a healthy, thriving city that balances development pressures and a rich quality of life for all its residents.

The 13th annual New Partners conference will explore practical strategies for identifying and overcoming barriers to more sustainable development in the Rockies and the rest of the nation.

Today, we are faced with economic, environmental and social challenges that will define our generation, shape our future, and test our resilience. Join leaders from across the U.S. as we tackle these challenges head-on and demonstrate smart-growth solutions that will create a more vibrant economy, assure a healthy population, foster more equitable development, and expand transportation and housing options for all Americans.

Learn more about the latest in smart growth, including the latest research, cutting-edge implementation tools and techniques, best practices, model projects, policies and codes, and new partners. Most importantly, this dynamic event offers you the opportunity to network and coordinate with your peers as well as practitioners from many different disciplines.

Who Will Benefit

A significant factor in this event's tremendous success is its appeal to so many different disciplines. The conference will draw a national audience of local elected officials and city and county staff; state and federal agency leaders; professionals in planning, transportation, public health, landscape architecture, architecture, housing, parks and recreation, public works and crime prevention; realtors, developers, builders and bankers; advocates for equity and environmental justice, youth, older adults, and walking and biking; labor representatives; school leaders and staff; environmentalists; and others committed to building safer, healthier and more equitable communities everywhere.

Conference Sponsors

We would like to thank our many funders and the more than 130 co-sponsoring organizations that are helping to shape and promote this event.

Conference Sponsors

- The California Endowment
- HDR, Inc.
- Kaiser Permanente
- The Kresge Foundation
- Local Government Commission
- National Association of REALTORS®
- Smart Growth Network
- U.S. EPA, Office of Environmental Justice
- U.S. EPA, Office of Sustainable Communities

Benefactors

- AARP
- CH2M HILL
- ESRI
- Federal Highway Administration
- PlaceMatters
- Regional Transportation District (RTD)
- Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District
- U.S. Forest Service – Urban and Community Forestry Program

Patrons

- American Public Transportation Association
- American Society of Landscape Architects
- Colorado Health Foundation
- Lincoln Institute of Land Policy

Supporters

- American Planning Association
- RCLCO

Friends

- The Sonoran Institute

For a full list of cosponsors:

NewPartners.org



Special Features



FREE Transit Passes

The Regional Transportation District (RTD) is generously providing complimentary bus and light-rail passes for all conference attendees from Wednesday, February 12, through Sunday, February 16.

Technology Fair: An Interactive Demonstration of Public Engagement Tools for Smart Planning

Try out cutting-edge tools for scenario planning and public engagement, and talk to leading developers and users about how to put these tools – including mapping and alternative analysis, interactive 3-D visualization, online surveys and mobile apps – to work to engage stakeholders typically not reached through public meetings. This open house is organized by PlaceMatters, along with the Open Source Planning Tools Collaborative.

Parklets 2.0: Taking Transformed Spaces Indoors!

Coordinated by the ASLA, New Partners will once again include several intriguing indoor parklet experiences. These interactive models will showcase how a parklet can transform a couple of under-utilized parking spaces into exciting opportunities for creating more vibrant (parking) spaces in your community. Learn how other cities are turning asphalt into small, on-the-street spots of greenery and temporary seating into parklets that enliven the streetscape and extend gathering places and outdoor seating for restaurants.



The Doctor Is In: Prescriptions to Create Sustainable Communities through EPA's Building Blocks Program

Do your streets need a diet? Are you experiencing unwanted growth? Or maybe a population hemorrhage? Do you need an infill transplant? Have any other built environment ailment?

The EPA, along with a team of national smart growth experts, has created the elixir to your planning and development health ills. It comes in a Building Blocks Toolbox of smart growth-related concepts and strategies that can assist your community in creating better public spaces, more vibrant, mixed-use districts and a healthier attitude toward what it means to be a sustainable community.



The toolbox contains dozens of resources that can assist communities of all sizes and shapes. During the conference, the EPA's Office of Sustainable Communities will be holding 20-minute "office hours" to match your ailment with a prescription from the toolbox. Check out the list of tools at epa.gov/smartgrowth/buildingblocks.htm#tools to determine your topic of conversation.

Appointments are encouraged, although walk-ins can be accommodated. Email nelson.kevin@epa.gov to schedule an "office visit."

Early Bird Rates Available – Register before Thanksgiving and Save \$50

Register for the conference by November 24, and save \$50 in fees (\$25 off for college students). Regular registration fees kick in after that date and apply until the January 21 registration deadline. Group rates are also available – check out the details at NewPartners.org

Networking Opportunities

While the program and speakers get high marks from participants every year, year after year the number one reason why participants flock to this conference is to network with their peers and many others outside their disciplines in a truly dynamic and inspirational learning environment.

The conference will include informal networking activities that will be scheduled throughout the conference, on a variety of smart growth and sustainable communities issues. The first full day of sessions and tours will be capped off with a hosted networking reception after the kickoff plenary.

Accreditation – Get Credit for Conference Sessions

The LGC is currently pursuing the availability of accreditation for AICP planners, architects and landscape architects. Visit the conference web site for more details.



photo: Denver Urban Gardens



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Conference Agenda

Equitable Development: Smarter Growth through Environmental Justice

■ Thursday, February 13, 8:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Equitable development, smart growth and environmental justice all aim for development that creates healthy and vibrant places. Given this common goal, how can the three be more closely integrated to create fairness in planning and development practices? How can we ensure that everyone has a safe and healthy environment in which to live, work and play? This interactive workshop will highlight innovative ideas and resources that communities are using to create more synergy in planning, resulting in safer, healthier, more equitable and prosperous communities. Breakfast and lunch are included.

Pre-registration and a \$25 fee are required.

The three-day program includes over 80 sessions and 300 speakers, spanning more than a dozen topic tracks. A complete list of sessions, detailed conference schedule and a current list of invited speakers can be found online.

Conference Sessions

■ Thursday Plenaries

Extreme Weather, Smart-Growth Forecasts: Finding Opportunities for Implementing Silver Linings
Hosted Networking Reception, 8:30-9:30 pm

■ Friday Plenary

Morning Plenary. Successful Transportation Networks: A Driving Force in Smart Growth

■ Saturday Plenaries

Morning Plenary. Smart Growth: A Prescription for Healthy Communities and Vibrant Economies
Closing Plenary. Health, Wealth and Happiness – The Inspiration of a City

■ Topics for Workshop, Breakout and Training Sessions (*partial list*)

Livable Communities Council: Engaging Volunteers to Empower Communities
Organizing Riders and Employers for Transit
Y-PLAN Tools for Engaging Youth in Smart Growth
Building Resilience from the Ground Up
The Regeneration of America's Legacy Cities
Creative Placemaking in Native Communities
A Participatory Vision for Equitable TOD in LA
Advancing Regional Equity through Collaboration
YouthPass: The Next Generation of Transit Riders
Do Regional Collaboratives Move the Equity Dial?

The Dollars and Sense of Smart Growth
Emerging Fiscal Impact Tools
Winning More Money for Transit
New Directions in Philanthropy:
2013 Report on Smart Growth Funding
Together, Better, Smarter: Planning for Transportation and a Healthy Community
Activating Public Spaces to Reduce Crime and Violence and Improve Public Health
When Food Deserts Become Just Desserts
Transportation Pollution, Neighborhood Health and Smart Growth: How Close Is Too Close
The Moving Walkway Has Ended...Everybody Walk
Building Infrastructure for Health and Sustainability
From Harm to Health: Land-use Innovations to Address Industrial Impacts in Neighborhoods
Crime Prevention and Smart Growth
Zombie Subdivisions
Putting a Price on Parks: The Economic and Health Benefits of Parks
Talk-Story: How to Complete Streets and Build Community
Artspace in Loveland: Affordable Housing and a New Art Center
Achieving Compact and Complete Communities
Envision: Developing Sustainable, Long-term Community Infrastructure

Location Analytics: Grow a Sustainable Economy
One Small Business at a Time
Lessons from the Vacant School House
Smart Growth at the Neighborhood Scale
Gettin' Real in Rifle, CO (economic revitalization)
Creative Placemaking in Rural America
Big Ideas, Small Towns: Young Entrepreneurs and the Future of Rural America
A General Plan Meets Smart Growth: TOD, Millennials and Boomers, Oh My!
Anchor Institutions and Inclusive Economic Development
Blazing a Trail: A Collaborative Model for Complete Streets in Rural Towns
Rail in the West
Lighter, Quicker, Cheaper: Remaking Streets for Better Outcomes
Integrating Green Infrastructure with Sustainable Transportation Options
Fix It First: Multi-Benefit Transportation Investment Strategies
Leadership for Water-wise Growth in the West
Smart Recipes for Smart Growth: Increasing Healthy Food Access and Local Food Systems
Community Energy District-Scale Planning and Implementation
Smart Growth in One Year: 10 Actions to Get Your Community Started

For more details on the program and tours or to register: NewPartners.org



Destination: Downtown Denver

Conference sessions and hotel accommodations will be at the Hyatt Regency Denver Hotel in downtown Denver, conveniently located across the street from the convention center and one block from the 16th Street Mall and Denver Pavilions with movies, theaters, shopping and more.

The group rate until January 10, 2014, is \$156 single/double occupancy. Room rates are subject to local taxes, which are currently 14.75%. Group rates will be honored three (3) days prior to the event starting and three (3) days after the event ends, based on availability. Call (888) 421-1442 to make a reservation and indicate you are attending the New Partners Conference.

Get a Head Start on the Conference

Pre-Conference Workshop. Advancing Healthy, Equitable Food Systems: Building Capacity, Partnerships and Resources

■ Wednesday, February 12, 1:00-5:30 p.m.



Across the country, how and where food is produced, processed, distributed and accessed has implications for the health and livelihood of residents, regardless of where they live. Accordingly, food systems have become increasingly important to the smart growth movement, as rural to urban communities and regions reflect on development and plan for their future.

This half-day workshop will explore local and regional food systems through the lens of smart growth. Learn more about building the capacity of local governments to engage in food system development, including strategies for environmental and policy change at the local and regional level. Representatives from community organizations, planners, local elected officials and businesses will share how they're forging partnerships and identifying resources to increase access to healthy, affordable food for all while also creating economic opportunities and promoting responsible land use. Take away inspiration from innovative models and practical guidance about the process, tools, funding, resources and, ultimately, implementation that can support work in your own communities. You can also visit some of the Colorado projects discussed during the conference's optional food systems tour on Thursday morning.

The workshop includes afternoon coffee and a reception. **Pre-registration and a \$35 fee are required.**

Made possible by the Michigan State University Center for Regional Food Systems, through funding from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation's Food & Community program, and additional support by LiveWell Colorado and the Local Government Commission.

Pre-Conference Tour. Forward Thinking on the Front Range

■ 3-Day Smart-Growth Tour ■ February 10-12

Spend three days exploring towns on the leading edge of community design. Led by national walkability experts Dan Burden, Mark Fenton and Paul Zykofsky, you will visit Fort Collins, Boulder, Golden and nearby areas where streets and blocks created with a "people first" vision have become strong, vibrant places. The tour will begin Monday afternoon to allow time for arrivals into Denver, and wrap up Wednesday evening in time to kick off the New Partners conference on Thursday morning. For updates and more info: walklive.org





Optional Tours of Local Model Projects

All tours carry a small fee to cover transportation costs and refreshments. Visit the conference web site for tour details and fees. Space on each tour is limited, and pre-registration is required.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13 MORNING TOURS

- Tour 1 – Bus Rapid Transit in Colorado’s North Front Range: MAX and Impact on Fort Collins
- Tour 2 – Riding the Rail to Reinvention: Art, Business and Livability along the New W Line
- Tour 3 – Old Is the New Workplace: Creative, Authentic and Green
- Tour 4 – Concentrated Creativity: Inspiration and Economic Potential in Creative Districts
- Tour 5 – From the Roots to the Rooftop: Bringing Healthy Food to Denver’s Communities

AFTERNOON TOURS

- Tour 6 – Denver’s Greatest Knitting Project: 10 Years of an Airport Turned Neighborhood
- Tour 7 – Rhythm of the Rockies: Revitalization of an Historic African-American District
- Tour 8 – Transit and Neighborhood Organizing: A Case Study in Southwest Adams County
- Tour 9 – Mariposa: Using Culturally Sensitive Tools to Turn Smart-Growth TOD into Award-winning Equitable Development
- Tour 10 – Historic LoDo: How Denver’s Skid Row Became a Vibrant, Urban Destination

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15 MORNING TOURS

- Tour 11 – Healthy Living by Design: Creating a Vibrant and Culturally Distinctive Westwood
- Tour 12 – Downtown Denver Walk Audit with Walkability Guru Dan Burden
- Tour 13 – Urban Walkshop: Strolling from Streetcar Suburban to Urban Renaissance

CONFERENCE FEES AND REGISTRATION (NewPartners.org)

To register, please visit the online registration system on our conference web site – NewPartners.org. You can also download the registration form and mail it in if paying by check or purchase order.

Registration fees cover all materials and sessions (except where noted) and several conference meals.

The registration deadline is January 21, 2014.

All registrations received after this date will be subject to a \$50 late fee. For a complete list of meals included in the registration fee, visit the conference web site.

■ GROUP RATES

A \$25 discount off the registration fee will be offered to groups sending five or more participants. The discount applies only to the public/nonprofit and private-sector “full conference” rates. Visit the web site for more details.

■ SCHOLARSHIPS

The LGC is sponsoring a fund to provide a limited number of need-based scholarships to cover registration fees, to be given to participants who would not otherwise be able to attend. Priority will be given to individuals representing small nonprofits, community-based and grassroots organizations, and local governments. Please visit the web site for details on eligibility and how to apply.

■ DIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIPS

A Diversity Scholarship Fund for this event has been established to provide a limited number of registration scholarships and travel stipends for leaders from disadvantaged communities and groups working on social and environmental justice issues. Please visit the conference web site for details on eligibility and how to apply.

■ JOIN THE LGC TODAY – AND SAVE ON CONFERENCE FEES

The LGC serves the growing network of individuals and agencies working for more livable, sustainable communities. We provide technical assistance on a wide range of issues, networking opportunities, events, newsletters, publication discounts and funding alerts for our members. Rates for agencies, current and former elected officials, staff, community leaders and other individuals. Sign up now: lgc.org/membership

■ REDUCE YOUR CARBON IMPACT – OFFSET YOUR TRAVEL

Help us reduce the carbon footprint of this event by purchasing carbon offsets for your travel to and from the conference. When registering online, select the voluntary contribution of \$12 as part of your registration to offset the carbon you generate to participate. The LGC will match your offset contribution. All who participate in this effort will be recognized on-site and on our web site after the event. HDR, Inc., serves as the LGC’s Sustainability Advisor, and provides resources to calculate the event’s estimated carbon footprint and helps identify sustainability measures to incorporate into the conference.

Early Bird Rates (3 days) – by Dec. 20

- \$350 Public/nonprofit
- \$325 LGC member – public/nonprofit
- \$400 Private-sector
- \$375 LGC member – private-sector
- \$200 College student

Regular Rates (3 days) – by Jan. 21

- \$400 Public/nonprofit
- \$375 LGC member – public/nonprofit
- \$450 Private-sector
- \$425 LGC member – private-sector
- \$225 College student

Group Discounts

\$25 off each when 5 or more from the same organization register at same time

One-Day Registration Fees

doesn’t include optional tours/workshops

- \$195 Early bird – by Nov. 24
- \$225 Regular – by Jan. 21

Registration Fees for Speakers

- \$225 Speaker full conference rate
- \$100 Speaker one-day rate

Optional Workshops

- \$35 Healthy Food Systems (2/12)
- \$25 Equitable Development (2/13)

\$50 Late Fee after January 21