

13th Annual New Partners for Smart Growth

Building Safe, Healthy, Equitable and Prosperous Communities

February 13-15, 2014

Denver, Colorado

Equitable Development, Environmental Justice and Smart Growth



Smart growth approaches to development create healthy, vibrant places that give people more economic opportunities and choices. Learn how smart growth supports equitable development, environmental justice and economic vitality and empowers communities of color, tribes and disadvantaged groups.

The 2014 New Partners for Smart Growth Conference includes a dynamic, interactive workshop and several sessions that will explore these critical issues and showcase strategies for greater collaboration among equitable development, smart growth and environmental justice advocates.

newpartners.org

Equitable Development: Smarter Growth through Environmental Justice

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

Equitable development and smart growth are complementary to one another. Innovative equitable development approaches can be incorporated into smart growth planning to achieve sustainable outcomes which protect human health and the environment, strengthen the economy, encourage community parity, and protect cultural assets. Such planning results in positive community outcomes, especially for underserved populations and vulnerable groups.

During this workshop, design professionals, planners, community developers, environmental justice experts and tribal leaders will share how they have worked to help communities and regions grow sustainably through new strategies, creative thinking, and effective partnerships.

Breakfast and lunch will be included. Pre-registration and a nominal \$25 fee are required.



Workshop Kickoff Keynote

The conversation about smart growth and equitable development continues to expand, and more municipalities are combining these two approaches to nurture regional growth and make communities vibrant. Learn about the linkages between equitable development and smart growth, and some tools to measure progress in your community.

Audacious Planning, Bold Designing and Compelling Results

Design and community development professionals will discuss how they balance stewardship of the built environment with social responsibility. Speakers will introduce smart growth and new urbanism projects that are recognized for meeting the needs of physical, social and human capital. They will also explain how they realized equitable development outcomes by rising above longstanding views about feasibility. Attendees will learn how practitioners are becoming more proficient in addressing environmental justice; encouraging public interest design; and achieving successful outcomes through collaborative problem-solving.

Cultural Sustainability: Heritage Preservation and Placemaking

Award-winning developers from urban and tribal communities will discuss how to successfully strike a balance between economic development and the sustainable management of cultural assets. They will explain how just “being green” is a restrictive interpretation for sustainability. Participants will learn ways sustainability can conserve resources; respect local culture, heritage and tradition; focus on quality balanced with economic opportunity for residents; optimize the visitor experience by applying a creative mix of cultural, natural and historic resources. The session will reveal successful placemaking is not measured in numbers alone, but also in the integrity of the experience that contributes to economic viability of the institutions, resources, community and its residents.

How Do You Get Equitable Development into the Plan?

Communities across the country are aligning environmental justice and smart growth as complementary quality of life goals. Speakers will share how to alter policies that hinder the needs of underserved populations as well as how to avoid getting ensnared in institutional inertia. This session will introduce new tools and strategies, and participants will learn how to calibrate existing tools in order to realize desired outcomes. Examples will showcase creative ways to integrate equitable development into the planning process to make communities better.



From Megaprojects to Strategic Incrementalism: New Perspectives on the Regeneration of America's Legacy Cities

□ THURSDAY, 2:00-3:30 p.m.

After decades of decline, America's older industrial cities like St. Louis or Pittsburgh are showing renewed life and vitality, with new economic engines, transformed downtowns and revitalized neighborhoods. Yet the revival is uneven. Many neighborhoods and their residents are being left behind, while some cities, like Flint or Detroit, continue to lose ground. Using the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy's report on "Regenerating America's Legacy Cities" as a springboard, this session will offer lessons for American cities from both the successes and failures of recent years, proposing an integrated approach to regeneration that replaces a focus on mega-projects with strategic incrementalism, links the development of new export-oriented economic sectors with the physical revitalization of the city, and is grounded in the principles of social equity and a just city, fostering broad public participation and ensuring that all segments of the city's population benefit from redevelopment and change.

YouthPass: The Next Generation of Transit Riders for Environmental Justice

□ THURSDAY, 2:00-3:30 p.m.

Transit is a lifeline to opportunity for many, none more so than youth, especially many youth from low-income families and youth of color, who have been greatly impacted by a national pattern of fare hikes and service cuts. Increasing youth access to transit, for educational, socioeconomic and extracurricular opportunities — advances triple-bottom line sustainability and stimulates the development of our next generation of transit riders. Hear directly from youth leaders and community organizers in three different regions across the country working to increase youth access to transit and to opportunity as they share youth leadership



strategies, the ins-and-outs of YouthPass campaigns, and next steps for environmental justice.

Advancing Regional Equity through Collaboration

□ FRIDAY, 10:15-11:45 a.m.

An increasing number of Metropolitan Planning Organizations and Public Housing Agencies are working together to promote resilient, replicable and scalable housing strategies. This session will showcase regional case studies, including perspectives on the political and bureaucratic challenges in Chicago and Baltimore; and outline the larger state and federal policy solutions still needing attention to align rental assistance programs with transit-oriented development, fair housing and regional growth trends and planning priorities.

Building a Participatory Vision for Equitable TOD in Los Angeles

□ FRIDAY, 1:30-3:00 p.m.

As low-income, communities of color with histories of disinvestment and real estate speculation, South LA, Little Tokyo and East LA continue to face both challenges and opportunities throughout the different stages of transit development in their neighborhoods. Strategies that increase community control over land, optimize development of new mixed-use affordable housing, protect small businesses, and promote active transportation are essential to preserving neighborhood character and preventing displacement during transit expansion.

Do Regional Collaboratives Move the Equity Dial?

□ FRIDAY, 3:30-5:30 p.m.

The first round of federal Sustainable Communities Initiative grantees have finished their three-year planning and implementation efforts that require planning for investments in communities of racially concentrated poverty. California's first round of regional transportation plans and housing elements have been completed under the mandates of laws to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Have these regional collaboratives to address equity, affordability and access moved the dial on equity outcomes? Have emerging plans addressed the changing demographics of growing majorities of people of color? Have new blueprints emerged to address economic development and jobs strategies for high unemployment communities? Have new models of community organizing been influential? Are affordable homes near transit in opportunity-rich neighborhoods? Are environmental risks reduced? Come learn from leading scholars, advocates and practitioners about progress in the field, and what it portends for policy, economy and collective impact efforts in the sustainability world.

Building Equity and Social Justice Networks to Scale

□ SATURDAY, 10:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Building successful equity and social networks can provide common ground and help address the vexing challenge of inclusion. This session will consider models for building networks, improving community capacity and institutionalizing equity gains. Explore essential building blocks of success for equity networks that foster the engagement and inclusion of low-income communities and communities of color, and provide the foundation upon which legitimate, equitable plans and policies will emerge.

OPTIONAL TOURS OF MODEL PROJECTS

You may also be interested in taking one of the conference's optional tours on Thursday and Sunday, including these with equitable development themes. Visit the conference web site for tour times, fees and more details.

□ THURSDAY MORNING AND AFTERNOON

From the Roots to the Rooftop: Bringing Healthy Food to Denver

Learn about a variety of innovative approaches to growing, processing, distributing and selling local food in an urban community. Some are in food deserts and increase access to affordable healthy food in underserved neighborhoods, while others ensure that fresh local food can be enjoyed year-round. These partners also contribute to community prosperity and sustainability.

10 Years of an Airport Turned into a Neighborhood for All

Explore how public and private partners work together to create a seamless connection of economic, health and educational opportunities as part of a 4700-acre, infill redevelopment of the former Stapleton Airport site. Discover how the human and social aspects of the project are addressed to build viable equitable communities within and surrounding the development.

Rhythm of the Rockies: Revitalization of an Historic District

At its pinnacle, African American-owned businesses, restaurants and entertainment venues lined Welton Street in the Harlem of the West. Learn about its revitalization strategy to capture its share of Denver's growth. Find out why this neighborhood – the first to receive light rail in Denver – is looking at the modern streetcar to return to its roots as the first "streetcar suburb" in Denver.

Transit and Neighborhood Organizing in Southwest Adams

With the buildout of Denver's light rail system underway, developers are looking to revitalize communities through transit-oriented development. In Southwest Adams County, residents are taking an active role to ensure these developments are equitable and create affordable housing, healthy neighborhoods and stronger communities. Join us for an on-the-ground-look at two neighborhoods in transition.

Using Culturally Sensitive Tools for Equitable Development

Experience the transformation of an aging housing complex into the Equitable Development Winner of the 2012 National Award for Smart Growth Achievement. See how the results of a cultural audit, a Health Impact Assessment, a Pedestrian Environmental Quality Index, three environmental design charrettes and other tools have shaped the physical and social environment of the community.

How Denver's Skid Row Became a Vibrant, Urban Destination

LoDo (Lower Downtown Denver) is a thriving historic district that 25 years ago was known as Skid Row. Today, it is home to the Alliance Center, a high-performance building for sustainability nonprofits; Denver Union Station, which is being transformed into a multimodal hub for transit and pedestrian uses; and a mixed-use redevelopment that includes offices, restaurants and a hotel in the works.

□ SUNDAY MORNING

Healthy Living by Design: Culturally Distinctive Westwood

A largely Latino and working-class neighborhood, Westwood faced a shortage of grocery stores and parks, vacant storefronts and a dangerous traffic corridor to walk or bike. But great things are happening to make Westwood a healthier and more vibrant place – through planning and design strategies focused on healthy and active living that capitalize on its cultural heritage and promote health equity.



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. Optional sessions outside conference hours will continue the conversation about smart growth, equitable development and environmental justice.

Technology Fair: Public Engagement Tools

□ FRIDAY, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

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.

FREE Transit Passes

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

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.



THE 13TH ANNUAL **NEW PARTNERS FOR SMART GROWTH** CONFERENCE

Other sessions of interest

Beyond the Equitable Development track, the entire conference program is infused with many sessions that include a focus on equity and environmental justice, including:

- Connecting Smart Growth Principles with Hmong, Mixtec and African-American Community Desires
- The Sustainable Journey of Beauty: A New Direction for Tribal Smart-Growth Planning
- Put Equity on the Map: Tools for Measuring Access to Opportunity
- Filling the Financing Gap for Equitable Transit-Oriented Development
- New Funding and Engagement Tools for Equitable Development
- Building Health Equity into All Policies
- Transportation Pollution, Neighborhood Health and Smart Growth: How Close Is Too Close
- Smart Recipes for Smart Growth: Increasing Healthy Access and Local Food Systems
- Bosses for Buses (and Employees, Too): Organizing Riders and Employers for Transit
- Anchor Institutions and Inclusive Economic Development
- Fix It First: Multi-Benefit Transportation Investment Strategies
- Land-use Innovations to Address Industrial Impacts in Neighborhoods
- Livable Communities Council: Engaging Volunteers to Empower Communities
- Y-PLAN Tools for Engaging Youth in Smart Growth Planning, Implementation and Change
- Together, Better, Smarter, Safer: Planning for Transportation and a Healthy Community
- Growing Food Connections for Sustainable Communities
- From the Ground Up: Using Data to Build Collaborative Plans for Local and Regional Prosperity



Follow the Conference on Facebook at [facebook.com/newpartnersconference](https://www.facebook.com/newpartnersconference) and Twitter @NewPartnersConf



The Local Government Commission is committed to local community revitalization through innovative approaches to environmental sustainability, economic prosperity and social equity.

Presented by the Local Government Commission • Supporters include:



Printing provided by LGC ■ printed on recycled paper using soy-based inks ■ editing+design:dave davis ■ photos: Visit Denver, LGC, Dan Burden, Lee Sobel

Register Now!

newpartners.org

Visit the conference web site for registration information and more details about these and many other exciting sessions!

■ Diversity Scholarships

The LGC has received foundation and agency support to establish a Diversity Scholarship Fund for this event that will allow us to waive the conference registration fee and provide travel stipends to community leaders from lower-income and traditionally minority communities, and representatives from organizations whose primary work is focused on social equity, environmental justice and equitable development. For information on how to apply for a Diversity Scholarship: Shani Alford, salford@lgc.org, (916) 448-1198 x330 newpartners.org/scholarships.html

■ Conference Location

Conference sessions and hotel accommodations will be at the Hyatt Regency Denver Hotel. The group rate until Jan. 10, 2014, is \$156 single/double occupancy. Call (888) 421-1442 to make a reservation and indicate you are attending the New Partners Conference.

■ For Conference Information

Rachael Ryen, Event Coordinator
Local Government Commission
(916) 448-1198 x 327
rryan@lgc.org
newpartners.org

