



February 2-4, 2012

San Diego, California

11th Annual New Partners for Smart Growth:
Building Safe, Healthy and Livable Communities

Equitable Development, Environmental Justice and Smart Growth



Smart growth approaches to development create healthy, vibrant places that give people greater opportunity and choice. How can smart growth support equitable development, environmental justice and economic vitality and empower communities of color, tribes and disadvantaged groups to shape the neighborhoods, communities and regions in which they live? The 2012 New Partners for Smart Growth Conference includes several sessions and a pre-conference workshop that explore these critical issues and showcase strategies and opportunities for greater collaboration among the smart growth, equitable development and environmental justice advocates.

www.newpartners.org

Partnerships to Finance and Promote Equitable TOD

■ **THURSDAY, 8:30-10:00 a.m.**

Transit-oriented development is an important component of sustainable communities. Without proactive public policy and innovative financing, the development of new public transit infrastructure can result in the unintended displacement of low-income communities. One of the primary financing mechanisms for creating affordable housing near transit has been acquisition loan funds, in which both borrowers and lenders take new or non-traditional risk to ensure low-income households can benefit from access to reliable public transit and affordable housing.



Restoring Prosperity in America's Legacy Cities

■ **THURSDAY, 8:30-10:00 a.m.**

This session will explore how "legacy cities" like Detroit, Cleveland, Pittsburgh and St. Louis are using rightsizing approaches to adapt to a changing economy and position themselves for new growth and investment. Topics include a new role for federal community development policy, managing and rightsizing infrastructure, balancing public investment and market demand, equity and local community-driven change.

Smart Growth, Environmental Justice and Equitable Development: Finding the Connections

■ **THURSDAY, 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.**

Growth is not smart if it's not fair. Smart growth strategies can respond to many long-standing challenges faced by underserved communities. When planning processes include all residents, these efforts can contribute to a more robust



economy, a cleaner and safer environment, healthier people, and a better quality of life for the community as a whole.

Healthy Metropolitan Food Systems

■ **THURSDAY, 2:00-3:30 p.m.**

Expanding food production, processing, distribution and retail within our metropolitan areas can strengthen regional economies and encourage civic engagement that can transform how we think about our diets and our communities. Growing food can improve health and promote social justice. Local food systems can improve access to nutritious food in underserved areas and increase job prospects.

Planning for Improvements without Displacement

■ **THURSDAY, 2:00-3:30 p.m.**

Efforts in Los Angeles to increase equity in working-class communities of color are targeting "fair growth" community planning to improve conditions without inadvertently forcing out long-term residents. Focused on transportation and affordable housing choices, residents are re-envisioning their community and reaping the benefits of advocacy for equitable policy.

Advancing an Agenda for Healthy, Equitable and Sustainable Environments in California

■ **THURSDAY, 2:00-5:15 p.m.**

Explore promising approaches and activities at every level to advance healthy, equitable and sustainable environments across California. Speakers will include innovative leaders from government, philanthropy and community organizations who are achieving notable results at the nexus of health, equity and sustainability.

Advancing Equity through Transit Corridor Planning

■ **FRIDAY, 10:00-11:30 a.m.**

Learn about the process to establish a regional equity network and how coalitions are promoting social equity through transit corridor planning. See how an older industrial region in Kansas City approaches regional equity, while Puget Sound organizes communities along light rail corridors to ensure equitable TOD.

Building a Regional Equity Coalition for Sustainable Communities

■ **FRIDAY, 10:00-11:30 a.m.**

Powerful coalitions have formed over the last decade to unite communities of color and low-income communities across a region. Hear from leaders in Atlanta, Oakland and the Twin Cities about how these coalitions steer planning efforts, win and preserve affordable housing near transit, and foster transit service and investments that connect their communities to opportunities.

Native American Collaboration on Smart Growth & Green Design

■ **FRIDAY, 10:00-11:30 a.m.**

This session showcases a network of housing leaders, community designers and sustainability advocates working together to overcome barriers to smart growth and green design in Native American communities.

Revitalization, Gentrification and Equitable Development

■ **FRIDAY, 1:30-3:00 p.m.**

Gentrification is often defined as the transformation of neighborhoods from low value to high value. This change has the potential to cause displacement of long-time residents and businesses because of higher rents, mortgages and property taxes. Learn about local solutions for advancing equitable development.

The Role of Youth in Sustainable Brownfields Redevelopment

■ **FRIDAY, 1:30-3:00 p.m.**

A food desert in California's agriculturally abundant San Joaquin Valley, Fresno's Golden West Side neighborhood suffers from a lack of plan-



Advancing Equity through Planning: Challenges and Opportunities

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

ning which led to suburban flight, fewer public services and industrial activities in residential neighborhoods. Two EPA projects are gathering citizen input on possible brownfields and reuse ideas to turn one site into an urban garden.

Health, Justice & Equity in Freight and Infrastructure Development

■ **FRIDAY, 1:30–3:00 p.m.**

The infrastructure that delivers goods to stores and doorsteps from anywhere in the world also delivers negative health, environmental and social impacts in low-income communities of color living near ports, railroads, freeways and distribution centers. This session will examine these impacts and successful organizing efforts that have influenced ports and freight transportation investments and development in low-income communities of color.

Achieving Healthy, Equitable, Walkable Schools

■ **FRIDAY, 1:30–3:00 p.m.**

By locating schools well, communities can strengthen public schools, reduce air pollution, preserve older neighborhoods, protect children's health, and encourage healthier communities. Learn how to use new tools that promote good school siting, what a healthy community-centered school is, and what state and local changes are needed to encourage more of these schools.

Smart Growth, Immigrant Integration and Sustainable Development

■ **SATURDAY, 1:45–3:15 p.m.**

Immigration remains one of this country's greatest assets and also one of its most thorny issues. As the smart growth movement seeks sustainable, culturally rich places, we are challenged to understand how immigrants are part of smart growth solutions. This session features one of the nation's most renowned experts on immigration (Dr. Manuel Pastor) addressing how our nation's changing demographics will impact smart growth issues and new coalitions.

Across the country, communities and regions are finding that inclusive, equitable planning processes empower them to address the economic, environmental, health and other challenges they face.

However, integrating social equity, affordability, economic and workforce development, and environmental justice into local and regional planning is not always straightforward.

This pre-conference workshop will draw on the experiences of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Sustainable Communities Regional Planning and Community Challenge grantees to shed light on the barriers and opportunities related to fair and equitable planning.

How can regional planning agencies, community-based organizations and residents work together to ensure that development decisions meet the needs of all community members? How have communities and regions overcome barriers to inclusive planning, and how can those lessons be applied more broadly? How can local, regional, state, tribal, federal and foundation stakeholders collaborate to advance equitable planning and growth?



■ On the Workshop Agenda

During this half-day workshop, participants will:

- Hear from regional and community leaders who have forged successful partnerships in planning efforts.
- Learn about approaches to increasing engagement and leadership of lower-income communities, communities of color, indigenous groups and communities with environmental justice concerns in planning and development processes.
- Explore how issues of environmental protection, affordability, job creation, and environmental justice can be integrated in regional and community planning processes.
- Get to know federal and foundation programs and resources that support equitable development and inclusive planning.

Afternoon coffee will be provided. Registration is \$18.

■ **To Register for the Pre-conference Workshop:**

www.newpartners.org



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THE 11TH 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:

- Tax Foreclosure Reform: A New Approach for Stronger Neighborhoods
- Infill Development Strategies for Small Cities
- Where's the Money: 2012 Update On Smart Growth Funding
- Food Court: Using Smart Growth Principles to Achieve Food Justice
- Strategies for Saving the Small-Town Grocery Store
- A New Heart for Houston
- The Walking Audit — A Tool for Organizing Strong Communities and Developing Complete Streets
- Completing Neighborhoods through Appropriate Infill
- Seeds for Change: Creative Urban Gardens and Edible Parks
- Housing and Freeways — How Close Is Too Close?
- Eat, Play, Live: Creative Investments towards Equitable Health Access
- New Tools and Practices for Measuring Environmental, Fiscal and Social Impacts of Land Use Policies
- Corner of Smart and Green: Could Housing Trends Bolster Sustainable Building Trades?
- Essential Components of the 21st-Century Community: Housing for the "Missing Middle"
- Jobs, the Workforce and the Economy: Rethinking the Role of Smart Growth and Sustainability
- People, Place and Planning: Engaging Residents and Using Data in Revitalization and Evaluation
- Building Support for Mobility Options: Effective Outreach Tactics for Engaging Grassroots Groups and Underserved Communities
- Partnerships for Successful Community and Economic Development in Small Towns and Rural Regions

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Register Now!

www.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 federal 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

The conference will be held at the Sheraton San Diego Hotel and Marina in San Diego. The hotel is offering a special group rate of \$133 single/double occupancy until January 11. Make your reservations by calling (800) 325-3535, and indicate you are attending the New Partners Conference.

■ For Conference Information

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