New Partners for Smart Growth
Practical Tools & Innovative Strategies for Creating Great Communities
February 11-13, 2016  Portland

Highlights from 2015 - Parklets 3.0

An Age-Friendly Public Space!
AARP and Alta Planning + Design collaborated to create an environment that appeals to the senses and allows people of all ages an opportunity to enjoy outdoor spaces.

ReImagining the Canopy
Sponsored by the U.S. Forest Service, Parks & People, TreeBaltimore, and the Baltimore Office of Sustainability, this parklet included demonstrations of innovative uses of wood harvested from the urban tree canopy and demolished buildings.

Have a Nice Bay
Designed by the Student ASLA chapter members with participation from Morgan State University School of Architecture and Planning Students, and in partnership with Blue Water Baltimore, the space included rain barrels, a wetland model, seating, and information posters.

ReImagining Streets
Presented by Alta Planning + Design and PlaceMatters, introduced attendees to the Complete Streets design concepts that make our streets safer for people of all ages and abilities, balance the needs of different modes, and support local land uses, economies, and cultures.

The Teacher is IN: School Siting Tools You Can Use!
U.S. EPA and Georgia Conservancy collaborated on a space designed as a school “open house”, focused on the issues around community school siting and the benefits of community-centered schools.

Parklet participants:
+ Participate in planning calls
+ Provide materials and design for a 10’x20’ parklet space
+ Share potential resources and ideas with other parklet participants
+ Provide a title and description for their parklet, which will be included on the website and printed program booklet

Parklet participants receive:
+ One (1) full conference registration
+ Name/logo on website and printed program booklet
+ Name/logo on Parklet poster, located prominently throughout conference space
+ Special thanks in the printed program booklet
+ Mention in follow-up post in ASLA’s blog, The Field
The 2016 New Partners Conference is heading back to the West Coast to Portland. The nation’s largest smart growth and sustainability event, the theme for New Partners 2016 is “Practical Tools and Innovative Strategies for Creating Great Communities,” underscoring this year’s stronger emphasis on implementation tools, strategies and new technologies that will help communities become more resilient NOW.

A significant factor in this event’s tremendous success is its appeal to so many different disciplines. The conference draws a national audience of:

- Local policymakers and city/county staff
- State and federal agency leaders
- Professionals in planning, transportation, landscape architecture, architecture, housing, parks and recreation, public health, public works, engineering, crime prevention and the arts
- 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

This event will bring together a diverse, multi-disciplinary audience from across the country.

**Attendance at recent venues:**
- 1,200 in Baltimore, MD (2015)
- 1,200 in Denver, CO (2014)
- 1,200 in Kansas City, MO (2013)
- 1,400 in San Diego, CA (2012)
- 1,400 in Charlotte, NC (2011)
- 1,700 in Seattle, WA (2010)

**In Portland, we expect participants will represent:**
- 80% public sector and nonprofits
- 20% private sector
- 30% from Eastern U.S.
- 30% from Midwest and Southern U.S.
- 40% from Western U.S.

**Expected Attendance**

“This is exciting to see a growing number of communities rethinking how to use public space. One of the significant benefits of parklets is how easily they can be installed or modified with little capital expense to meet community needs.”

- Deborah Steinberg, Professional Practice Manager, American Society of Landscape Architects