

15th Annual NEW PARTNERS FOR SMART GROWTH CONFERENCE

*Practical Tools and Innovative Strategies
for Creating Great Communities*

February 11-13, 2016 | Portland, OR



Early bird
rates available
until
Dec. 29

presented by



Local Government Commission
Leaders for Livable Communities

“The New Partners conference is not “just another health meeting.” It’s a unique opportunity to share innovative ideas and new strategies with educators, urban planners, elected officials, architects and developers about how to create healthy, active and lively communities. These will not happen unless we work together for good solutions. A good solution like smart growth can solve many problems. New Partners is powerful, and life changing.”

– Richard J. Jackson, MD, MPH, Professor/Chair, Environmental Health Sciences, UCLA School of Public Health

A national, multi-disciplinary conference that approaches community design from a public health and safety perspective.

The Public Health Track



Advancing Healthy and Equitable Food Systems

☐ Wednesday, February 10, 1:00.-6:00 p.m.

As past New Partners conferences have highlighted, communities across the country are recognizing food systems as critical elements of efforts to promote healthy, equitable and resilient places. The most innovative and promising strategies involve partnerships to bridge gaps: they align community-based initiatives with local and regional policies and plans; they engage local residents and businesses in designing systems that best serve them; and they understand food access and affordability are components of economic growth as well as public health.



Featuring local and national leaders, the workshop agenda will include a mix of general and small group sessions exploring the food and smart-growth nexus through policy and practice perspectives on food justice, land use, production, infrastructure, economic development and public health.

The program will showcase examples from the Portland region — including some also featured in an optional “Food Businesses and Food Access” tour the following afternoon — alongside leaders from across the country.

Pre-registration and a \$25 fee are required. A hosted networking reception for participants will follow the workshop (6:00-8:30 pm).

Made possible by the generous support provided 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 the Local Government Commission.

EARLY-MORNING NETWORKING SESSIONS

Age-Friendly Communities

☐ Friday, February 12, 7:15-8:30 a.m.

What do older adults and young families have in common when it comes to sustainable communities? They both want an age-friendly community in which to live. We invite you to contribute your research, ideas, experience and knowledge about age-friendly communities. Let’s discuss potential areas for collaboration in 2016 and 2017 on this vital topic.

Health in All Policies: Current HiAP Practice in the U.S.

☐ Saturday, February 13, 7:15-8:30 a.m.

This discussion will focus on the incorporation and implementation of “Health in All Policies” (HiAP) strategies at the local level. Population health outcomes are directly linked to community planning and development (or redevelopment), which is why it is important to consider health in all decision-making processes. We encourage all HiAP practitioners to attend this discussion to talk about your personal experiences with HiAP. The discussion will give you insight into HiAP practitioners’ experiences and share information on the role of the National Association of County and City Health Officials in HiAP research and implementation at the local level.

Special Features

Technology Fair: Public Engagement Tools for Smart Planning

Try out cutting-edge tools for scenario planning, opportunity mapping, crowdsourced planning and community engagement. Tool providers interactively demonstrate their tools, and you get to experiment with technologies and evaluate in real-time how those tools can apply to your real-life scenarios. More than a dozen providers will share their innovative products at this popular all-day event organized by PlaceMatters, the EPA and the Open Planning Tools Group.



Parklets 4.0: Taking Transformed Spaces Indoors!

Coordinated by the American Society of Landscape Architects, New Partners is again bringing the parklet movement indoors to highlight the need for more urban open space. These participatory installations will showcase how a parking spot-sized space can transform into exciting opportunities for creating more vibrant places in your community. Learn what organizations are doing to enliven their communities and be inspired by simple ideas to increase the communal and vegetated spaces in our city’s streetscapes.

FREE Transit Passes

TriMet is generously providing complimentary local bus and light-rail passes for all conference attendees from Thursday, Feb. 11, through Saturday, Feb. 13.

**Re-envisioning Bio-Diversity:
Integrating Pollinator Habitat into
Existing Frameworks**

Thursday, February 11, 1:30-3:00 p.m.

Bees and other native pollinators, both wild and managed, are vital to sustaining diverse ecosystems and maintaining our food supply, but their populations states of health are dwindling. Landscape architects, planners, other design professionals and policymakers, are at the front lines of the pollinator health battle and are actively developing creative new ways to promote pollinator health and habitat in the public and private realms. This session explores plans and practices aimed at integrating pollinator habitats into existing urban and rural frameworks across the U.S. The panelists will discuss how design professionals and communities design and incorporate pollinator habitats and best practices, as well as case studies from Houston and Washington, DC.

**Maximizing Health-Care Investments
in Your Community: Creating Health
Oriented Neighborhoods (HONs)**

Thursday, February 11, 3:30-5:30 p.m.

With the advent of the Affordable Care Act, healthcare providers are building new small neighborhood facilities to meet the demand created by the large increase in the insured population. Whether the new med center ends up filling a hole in a dying strip mall or transforming a community into a Health Oriented Neighborhood depends on what the community demands. This session will look at how medical facilities have created Health Oriented Neighborhoods in the East End in Richmond and in Portland's suburbs, what design features make HONs work, and what policies will help you create one in your community.

**Transportation Health Tool:
A New Tool to Drive Policy Decisions**

Thursday, February 11, 3:30-5:30 p.m.

For a long time, public-health impacts and benefits were glossed over in transportation policy, program and funding decisions. That is



beginning to change. The connections between transportation and public health are increasingly recognized in both fields. The CDC and the U.S. DOT have partnered to develop an online Transportation and Health Tool, allowing transportation decision-makers to understand how their area scores in terms of key health and transportation indicators.

**Innovative Approaches to Support
Agricultural Landscapes in Healthy
Metropolises**

Friday, February 12, 10:15-11:45 a.m.

Agricultural lands are a key component of a healthy metropolis. In addition to providing fresh, healthy food to residents, farms and ranches also provide wildlife habitat, sequester carbon, and contribute to the aesthetics of the region. Ag landowners often feel compelled to sell to developers, who then advocate for the conversion of agricultural land to sprawling subdivisions. This pressure is due in part to business challenges farmers and ranchers face, including high land costs, inadequate processing and distribution infrastructure, and difficulty in accessing capital. This session will provide examples of innovative policy and funding tools and strategies to support agricultural enterprise and preserve working landscapes that local government decision-makers and advocates can take back and implement in their communities.



**Step It Up: Statewide Efforts to Improve
Community Design and Active Travel**

Friday, February 12, 1:30-3:00 p.m.

Communities in several states are working to promote physical activity through improved community design. This session will focus on how state health departments are developing and implementing smart growth-related initiatives to provide opportunities for physical activity and active transportation. Participants will hear how several states are using multi-sector collaborations to promote health equity through Complete Streets and walkable community design.

Beyond Widgets: Scaling Up Food Enterprises in America's Foodiest Small Town

Friday, February 12, 3:30-5:30 p.m.

Economic development is not just about making widgets anymore. This workshop will pilot concrete placemaking tools – an electronic audience polling system, multimedia, and an outside, inside and in-between exercise – using urban and rural communities as case studies, including one of the nation's 12 Manufacturing Communities and the first to focus on food production as economic development – a light-industrial district that is incubating a variety of beverage companies. Following our case studies, we turn the tables to help you identify partnerships that facilitate economic and community development.

Open Spaces for an Aging Population

Saturday, Feb. 13, 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Accommodating the needs of seniors in our public spaces is easy and takes a basic understanding of the aging process and the ability to look at the built environment from a senior's perspective. This session will look at the current state of public parks and open spaces, and how they are, or are not, meeting the needs of seniors and others with physical and/or cognitive limitations. The session combines research and case studies from urban design, gerontology and physical-activity literature. See what they reveal and explore examples of senior-friendly U.S. and international parks.



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Plenary – The Making of a Healthy City

□ Saturday, February 13, 3:15-4:00 p.m.

A National Geographic Fellow and bestselling author, Dan Buettner has discovered, through multiple expeditions with teams of research scientists specializing in population studies, the five places in the world – dubbed “Blue Zones” – where people live the longest, and are healthiest and happiest. They found that the lifestyles of all Blue Zones residents shared nine specific characteristics – the Power 9®. In 2009, Buettner and his partner, AARP, applied principles of The Blue Zones to Albert Lea, Minnesota, and successfully raised life expectancy and lowered health care costs by some 40%. He’s currently working with Healthways to implement the Blue Zones Project in 17 cities throughout America. Blue Zones works with a diverse group of stakeholders to create an action plan for communities to change their environments into safe walkable, bikeable and livable communities where individuals and businesses thrive, people longer, and health and quality of life are improved.

Optional Tours

You may also be interested in taking one of the conference’s optional tours on Thursday, Friday and Sunday, including this healthy food tour. Visit the conference website for tour details/fees.

Growing Farm and Food Businesses – Strategies to Promote Food Access and Economic Development

□ Thursday, Feb. 11, 1:30-5:30 p.m.

This tour will explore how food-system development efforts at different scales are increasing food access and supporting entrepreneurship in disadvantaged urban neighborhoods. Visit three sites where organizations are addressing food-system challenges through urban farming, community-kitchen business incubators, specialty retail and the development of a food-processing and distribution hub. Zenger Farm offers programs for low-income residents in Portland, including a SNAP-accessible CSA farm, the Lents International Farmers’ Market, a farm/food education partnership with the local school district, and a new community-kitchen micro-business incubator. The Portland Mercado is a community hub and business incubator that provides affordable retail space for 19 businesses representing a range of Latin American foods. The Redd is an Ecotrust project to transform two city blocks in the central industrial district into a processing and distribution hub for the regional food economy. Cost: \$38

More sessions of interest to health professionals

In addition to sessions designed specifically around health issues, you will find a number of related smart-growth topics useful to your work and community:

- ◆ Mayors’ Challenge for Safer People, Safer Streets
- ◆ Getting to Zero: Navigating Implementation of Zero-Emissions Technology in Projects and Planning
- ◆ Community Power and City Action: Solar Farming in the Refinery’s Backyard
- ◆ #MoreThanAVillage: Collaboration and Climate-Change Adaptation
- ◆ Securing Funds and Engaging Communities in Brownfields Development
- ◆ Tales from the Trenches: Culture, Love, Equity Planning and Real Talk
- ◆ Survey Says: What Do Americans Really Want?
- ◆ Financing Lifelong Community Suburban Retrofits for the Boomers and Beyond
- ◆ Sea-Level Rise to Tsunamis: Strategies for Coastal Resilience
- ◆ The Bike-Accessible Transit Agency: Implementation Tools and Stories
- ◆ Tent Encampments and Tiny Houses: A Crisis Response to Homelessness
- ◆ Optimizing Community Benefits with Shared Mobility



THE 15TH ANNUAL **NEW PARTNERS FOR SMART GROWTH** CONFERENCE

■ ABOUT THE EVENT

This conference will bring local elected officials, planners, transportation professionals and traffic engineers, health professionals and public health advocates, parks and recreation professionals, urban designers, social equity advocates, school officials and school board members, community leaders and many others together to explore new approaches to community design from a comprehensive public health and safety perspective.

This dynamic event has grown significantly since it began several years ago, and gets its strength from the variety of participants and speakers who cross disciplines to share experiences and insights, and valuable tools and strategies to encourage the building of healthier communities. Today, there are more reasons than ever to join hands with new partners and work toward our common goal of creating safe, healthy and livable communities.

■ PROGRAM AND AGENDA

The three-day program is loaded with a mix of plenaries, interactive break-outs, implementation workshops, trainings and networking opportunities. You will have access to the latest on cutting-edge smart growth issues, healthy eating and active living initiatives, implementation tools and strategies, best practices, case studies, interactive learning experiences, new partners, new projects and new policies.

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 conference web site for details on eligibility and how to apply.



Follow the Conference on Facebook at facebook.com/newpartnersconference and Twitter @NewPartnersConf

Presented by the Local Government Commission ■ Supporters include:



THE KRESGE FOUNDATION

Register Now!

newpartners.org

Early-bird registration rates are available through December 4. Visit the conference web site for registration and more details about these and many other exciting sessions!

■ SCHOLARSHIPS

A limited number of need-based scholarships to cover registration fees are available to participants who would not otherwise be able to attend, with priority given to small nonprofits, community-based and grassroots organizations, and local governments. A Diversity Scholarship Fund provides a limited number of registration scholarships and travel stipends for leaders from disadvantaged communities and groups working on social and environmental justice issues. Visit the web site for eligibility and how to apply.

■ Conference Location

Conference sessions and hotel accommodations will be at the Hilton Portland & Executive Tower. The group rate until Jan. 18, 2016, is \$151 single/double occupancy plus taxes. Call (800) 445-8667 to make a reservation and indicate you're attending the New Partners event.

■ For Conference Information

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