TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15 | DAY 1

Theme: What’s Possible

12:00 – 1:00 PM  Registration, Refreshments & Networking

1:00 – 1:30  Welcoming Remarks
Debra Perry, Program Director, Institute for Sustainable Communities

1:30 – 2:20  Plenary 1: Tales from the Trenches
Panelists will share their experiences – how they’ve set their targets, the goals and outcomes they are seeking, and the challenges they’ve encountered along the way.

Moderator: Steve Nicholas, VP of Urban Programs, Institute for Sustainable Communities

Panelists:
Doug Melnick, Chief Sustainability Officer, City of San Antonio
Lucinda Smith, Environmental Services Director, City of Fort Collins
David Broustis, Energy Manager, King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks

2:20 – 2:30  Break

2:30 – 3:45  Breakout Sessions: Round 1

1.  How Can Local Governments Influence Policy and Motivate Energy System Transformation with Chad Laurent, Meister Consulting. Achieving ambitious renewable energy goals can be helped or hindered by a policy framework that is beyond local government control. This session will discuss ways that local government can work within these boundaries and how they can exert influence to change policy barriers.
2. **Setting the Foundation to Tackle Energy Finance** with Trenton Allen, *Sustainable Capital Advisors*. This session will provide an introduction and overview to financing renewable energy projects.


4. **Data – Who has it, where can you get it, and who can help?** with Elizabeth Doris, *NREL*. Data is critical to understand your opportunities and track your progress, but getting and analyzing it can be time consuming and expensive. This interactive session will provide an opportunity to discuss your data needs and challenges, to learn about tools and support available from NREL, and to share lessons and experiences with other participants.

5. **Planning for Energy Equity** with Jamie Stroble, *King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks* and Kim Powe, *Puget Sound Sage*. Low-income and minority groups are often underrepresented in energy planning, yet they often have the most at stake. This session will be an opportunity to share experiences and talk about how to achieve outcomes that benefit all members of a community.

3:45 – 4:45 PM  **Team Huddles**

Teams meet privately to discuss the status of their efforts, identifying accomplishments and challenges. Each team will have time to discuss goals for this workshop and strategize about how to maximize the impact of what they gain and the connections they make.

4:45 – 5:15  **Report Out & Structured Networking**

5:15 – 6:30  **Reception**

Cash bar and light *hors d’oeuvres*

7:00 – 8:00  **Dinner (self-organized)**

Meet in the hotel lobby every hour on the hour, between 6-8 PM.
Theme: Explore and Inspire

8:00 – 9:00 AM  Breakfast with Champions

9:00 – 9:15  Opening Remarks & Today’s Objectives
Debra Perry, ISC

Three members of our resource team will share their national perspective on emerging trends, innovations, and the opportunities for cities and metro regions to accelerate the transition to renewable energy.

Moderator: Deb Perry, ISC
Panelists:
Jodie Van Horn, Director, Strategic Relations, The Sierra Club
Elizabeth Doris, Laboratory Program Manager, NREL
Ben Paulos, Principal, Paulos Analysis

10:15 – 10:30  Break

10:30 – 11:45  Breakout Sessions: Round 2
1.  Reaching Low-Income Communities with Ben Paulos, Paulos Analysis; Margaret Hansbrough, City of Chicago and Lisa Rosintoshki, City of Fort Collins. This session will share ideas and experience on how people of all income levels can participate and benefit from the transition to renewable energy.

2.  Creating a Renewables-Ready Community with Riana Ackley, ICLEI; Kathryn Sheps, Simon Fraser University Centre for Dialogue; Chad Laurent, Meister Consulting Group; and Deborah Stone, Cook County. As renewable energy technologies become cost effective, they are growing rapidly. What can you do to get your community ready for blast-off? Learn about how to activate your stakeholders, accelerate implementation and receive national recognition.

3.  Understanding the Utility Perspective with Neil Placer, Placer Consulting Services; Kim Stoker, CPS; and Jennifer Montague, ComEd (invited). Utilities are central to energy system transformation. This session, with representatives from municipal- and investor-owned utilities, will discuss how they tick and how local governments can engage with them.

4.  Buying Green Power with Mark Pruitt, The Power Bureau, Julie Benabente, City of San Jose and Cody Hooven, City of San Diego. Can your community leverage its buying power and create support for renewables through community choice aggregation or other means of green power procurement? This session will focus on how communities are supporting renewable energy with their buying power.
5. **Public-Private Partnerships to Accelerate the Renewable Energy Market** with Robert Cox, *OCI Solar Power* and Dana Villeneuve, *New Belgium Brewery*. The transition to a clean energy future will require a collaborative effort across the public and private sectors. This session will explore how businesses are advancing renewable energy and opportunities for partnership.

11:45 – 1:00 PM    Lunch & Networking

1:00 – 2:00    Team Huddle 2
Teams meet to discuss how they can take action on the new information and ideas they are acquiring at the workshop.

2:00 – 4:30    Site Visit – Robert W. Galvin Center for Electricity Innovation at Illinois Institute of Technology
This tour offers a firsthand look at the nation's first Perfect Power microgrid. The $14 million project has equipped IIT's microgrid with a high-reliability distribution system for enhancing reliability, new sustainable energy sources (roof-top solar panels, wind generation units, flow batteries and charging stations for electric vehicles), and smart building automation technology for energy efficiency and demand response. Get a preview at [http://www.iitmicrogrid.net/galvincenter.aspx](http://www.iitmicrogrid.net/galvincenter.aspx)

*Dinner: On your own*
Theme: Strategize and Commit

7:30 – 8:30 AM  Coffee with Counterparts

8:30 – 8:45  Opening Remarks & Today’s Objectives
Debra Perry, ISC

8:45-10:00  Breakouts Round 3

1. Catalyzing Community Solar with Deb Perry, ISC; Vito Greco, Elevate Energy; and Gary Cuneen, Seven Generations Ahead. Community solar is gaining traction around the country as a means to deploy larger-scale solar, reduce costs, and make solar energy possible for people of all incomes regardless of whether they own a sunny roof, but it is not without its challenges. This session will explore what communities large and small are doing to support community solar.

2. Tomorrow’s Energy System with Kim Stoker, CPS and Paul Kazmierczak, National Grid. This is an era of rapid change in the electric sector, with new IT-enabled technologies disrupting traditional practices. We’ll learn from experts about how distributed generation, smart grid, electric vehicles, and batteries can help reach clean energy goals.

3. Communications and Messaging: Talking about Your Target with Jodie Van Horn, Sierra Club; Mayor Bruce Bassett, City of Mercer Island, WA; and Kathryn Sheps, Simon Fraser University Centre for Dialogue. Effective communications can help generate political and financial buy-in, motivate the private sector, and garner community support. This session will be an opportunity to share what works and get new ideas you can use in your communications back at home.

4. Regional Collaboration with Jason Liechty, Broward County Environmental Planning and Community Resilience Division, Rachel Brombaugh, King County Executive Office, and Lisa Rosintoski, City of Fort Collins. Banding together with your neighbors can make it easier to reach energy goals — or maybe harder. Come learn about three ways cities and regions are collaborating, how they are benefitting, and what pitfalls to avoid.

5. Financing Part 2 with Trenton Allen, Sustainable Capital Advisors. This session will focus on specific tools and strategies that are helping cities turn their renewable energy goals into realities. Come prepared to share your experiences and challenges.

10:00 – 10:15  Break

10:15 – 11:15  Huddle 3
Teams meet to discuss insights they have acquired at the workshop and how their new knowledge will advance their work. Team leaders prepare brief reports on three specific actions they will take to put this new information into practice when they return home.

11:15 – 12:00PM  Team Report Outs & Closing Remarks