



INSTITUTE FOR
Sustainable
Communities

PARTNERSHIP FOR RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

Peer Learning Workshop

Hilton Garden Inn, Detroit, MI | September 14-15, 2017

AGENDA

WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES

- To celebrate the four projects within the Partnership for Resilient Communities
- To provide rich opportunities for the project teams to collaborate with local leaders and practitioners to develop innovative solutions for their communities
- To build a national coalition of leaders committed to projects and policies focused on energy and water equity

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14 | DAY 1

11:30 – 12:15 PM Registration and Lunch

12:15 – 12:30 **Welcome Address**
Tessa Kaneene, *Senior Program Officer, Institute for Sustainable Communities*

12:30 – 1:00 **Project Introductions**
Eastside Community Network of Detroit
Living Classrooms Foundation of Baltimore
Larimer Consensus Group of Pittsburgh
Westside Housing Organization of Kansas City

1:00 – 1:15 Q&A

1:15 – 1:30 **Keynote: Equity in Practice: How We Move from Words to Action**
Sarida Scott, *Executive Director, Community Development Advocates of Detroit*

1:30 – 2:00 Discussion

2:00 – 2:45 **Panel: The Power of Government and Community Collaboration**
Leaders from Baltimore, Dearborn, and Detroit will discuss efforts in their cities to advance social, economic, and environmental justice. After they highlight their regions' rich histories and distinct challenges, we will discuss the work we can—and must—do together to create just, inclusive, and resilient cities.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14 | DAY 1 (CONTINUED)

Moderator:

Christopher Forinash, *Director of U.S. Program Implementation, Institute for Sustainable Communities*

Panelists:

Anne Draddy, *Sustainability Coordinator, City of Baltimore*

Joel Howrani Heeres, *Sustainability Director, City of Detroit*

Dave Norwood, *Sustainability Coordinator, City of Dearborn*

2:45 – 3:00

Discussion

3:00 – 3:15

Break and Refreshments

3:15 – 4:00

Breakout Session I: Green Stormwater Management Strategies

Breakout Session II: Solar Energy Strategies

We will break into two groups to dive deeper into how the projects within this partnership and invited local leaders are addressing issues of water equity and energy equity in Detroit and beyond.

4:00 – 4:15

Discussion

4:15 – 4:30

Resilience in Detroit

Suzanne Cleage, *Director of Neighborhood Growth, Eastside Community Network*

Donna Givens, *President and CEO, Eastside Community Network*

To preface the community tour, Eastside Community Network will share the unique challenges and opportunities facing Detroit's neighborhoods and highlight the efforts of their organization and others to ensure Detroit's resilient future.

4:30 – 6:00

Community Tour

Eastside Community Network will lead a tour to visit the neighborhoods they serve and the projects they are implementing, the Riverfront, and RecoveryPark.

6:00 – 8:00

Networking Reception - Salons C and D, Hilton Garden Inn

Join us for an evening of celebration and conversation! A cash bar and hors d'oeuvres will be provided.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 | DAY 2

- 8:00 – 8:45 AM** **Breakfast and Discussions**
Join us for inspiring and informal conversations led by our invited guests.
- 8:45 – 9:00** **Welcome Address**
Tessa Kaneene, *Senior Program Officer, Institute for Sustainable Communities*
- 9:00 – 9:45** **Panel: Workforce Development**
Leaders from Landforce and Living Classrooms Foundation share their workforce development models to empower, educate, and employ residents through the creation of training and opportunities rooted in disrupting the cycle of poverty and building sustainable neighborhoods.
- Moderator:*
Tessa Kaneene, *Senior Program Officer, Institute for Sustainable Communities*
- Panelists:*
Steve Bountress, *Vice President, Living Classrooms Foundation*
Thomas Guentner, *Program Manager, Landforce*
John Huffington, *Director of Workforce Development, Living Classrooms Foundation*
Ilyssa Manspeizer, *Executive Director, Landforce*
- 9:45 – 10:00** **Discussion**
- 10:00 – 12:00 PM** **Technical Implementation Clinics**
Each project team will sit with invited guests to talk through specific project details and discuss challenges and opportunities to inform and inspire their project’s implementation and impact.
- 12:00 – 1:00** **Lunch**
- 1:00 – 1:45** **Breakout Sessions: Round I**
1. Community Leadership – Salon A
Yusef Ali, *Larimer Resident and Board Member, Larimer Consensus Group*
Stanley Holbrook, *Director, Larimer Consensus Group*
- How do we ensure our projects are truly led by the community? This session will highlight effective approaches to meaningfully elevating the voice, wisdom, and experience of the community as decision makers. Through formal roles, forums, boards, and positions, residents can own, shape, and lead projects in their communities.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 | DAY 2 (CONTINUED)

2. **Workforce Development** – Salon B

Anna Kohn, *Nonprofit Manager, RecoveryPark*

How do we provide economic opportunities to those who face substantial barriers to employment? This session will feature the work of RecoveryPark, an organization helping veterans, returning citizens, challenged workers, those in recovery, and other marginalized citizens return to the workforce and assist in the revitalization of Detroit.

3. **Equitable Planning Practices** – Salon C

Suzanne Cleage, *Director of Neighborhood Growth, Eastside Community Network*

How do we ensure the growth and development of our cities is imagined using equity as a lens? This session will highlight approaches to community and city planning that put people first, include voices and neighborhoods sometimes ignored, and ensure our futures are continually brighter and more inclusive than our pasts.

1:45 – 2:00

Break and Refreshments

2:00 – 2:45

Breakout Sessions: Round II

1. **Government and Community Collaboration** – Salon A

Donna Givens, *President and CEO, Eastside Community Network*

How do we ensure our communities and our policymakers see one another as strong assets and productively work together to develop equitable policy and implement inclusive projects? This session will continue the discussion from Thursday's panel to dive deeper into specific approaches, case studies, challenges, and partnerships.

2. **Youth and Adult Education** – Salon B

Cherie Brooks, *Founder and Executive Director, Power52 Foundation*

Rob Wallace, *CEO and Co-Founder, Power52 Energy Solutions*

How do we ensure the next generation has the tools and knowledge to become leaders in this field and thrive in their communities? This session will highlight effective models, from youth programming to educating adults with barriers to employment and education.

3. **Funding and Financing** – Salon C

Gloria Ortiz-Fisher, *Executive Director, Westside Housing Organization*

How do you fund and finance projects focused on equity and the environment in an era with increasingly limited resources for this work? This session will dive into innovative financing, fundraising, and funding models that ensure communities and organizations continue to thrive and grow.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 | DAY 2 (CONTINUED)

2:45 – 3:00

Break and Refreshments

3:00 – 3:45

Breakout Sessions: Round III

1. Measuring Impact – Salon A

Tessa Kaneene, *Senior Program Officer, Institute for Sustainable Communities*

How do we measure these projects in terms of the social, economic, environmental, and health impacts within the communities we serve? This session will discuss and highlight strategies, metrics, and indicators that resonate with our residents, with ourselves, across sectors, and with current and potential funders.

2. Dissemination and Replication – Salon B

Nicole Enright, *Program Officer, Institute for Sustainable Communities*

How do we translate the work we do across scales and across communities? This session will focus on models for integrating our work into broader city-wide initiatives, replicating across regions, and inspiring and informing residents, organizations, and leaders across the nation.

3. Communicating Resilience – Salon C

Beth Gibbons, *Managing Director, American Society of Adaptation Professionals*

In community resilience practice, we must "meet people where they are" not just physically, but also in the language and the messengers we choose to engage. This session will focus on how we avoid expertizing our work through language choice and authentic community leadership.

3:45 – 4:15

Project Team Huddles

Project teams will discuss new insights to apply to their work, establish immediate next steps, and revisit long-term goals.

4:15 – 4:45

Takeaways

Project teams will present their next steps, and everyone will be invited to discuss key takeaways from the workshop.

4:45 – 5:00

Wrap-Up

Tessa Kaneene, *Senior Program Officer, Institute for Sustainable Communities*