

National Rural Transportation Peer Learning Conference

August 24 – 26, 2011 | Washington, DC

Visit www.NADO.org to register and for regular updates, including AICP Certification Maintenance information.

Wednesday, August 24

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Workshop: Sustainable Communities Approaches

This session would provide a demonstration and discussion on approaches to planning for sustainable communities in smaller towns and rural and small metro regions, and how federal resources can support regions that are seeking to implement these approaches. Sponsored by the Environmental Protection Agency and Appalachian Regional Commission.

1:00 – 2:00 p.m. Opening Plenary: Emerging Issues in Transportation

Hear from transportation industry leaders about their perspectives on the state of transportation today, issues to be addressed in the future, and resources and data of interest to regional planning and development organizations.

2:00 – 3:00 p.m. Special Plenary Session: How to Compete for TIGER Grants and Other Federal Funding

U.S. Department of Transportation Officials will provide information about the recently announced TIGER grants, as well as additional federal funding opportunities from USDOT and its partners.

3:15 – 4:45 p.m. Breakout Sessions

- **Lessons Learned from Starting an RPO**

Learn about developing and enhancing relationships between state DOTs and rural and small metro regions, as well as best practices for rural planning such as integrating RPO tasks with other program areas.

- **Transportation and Air Quality**

New ozone standards will soon be released, with many new areas in rural and small metro regions likely to exceed the limit. Learn the basics of air quality conformity and what it means for regional transportation planning.

- **Advanced RPO Networking**

This free-flowing discussion will be directed by participants to share experiences among planning practitioners in states with long-established rural planning programs.

5:00 – 6:30 p.m.

Excellence in Regional Transportation Awards Reception

Thursday, August 25

8:00 – 8:30 a.m.

Networking Breakfast

8:30 – 10:30 a.m.

RPO America Peer Symposium: Sharing Innovations in Regional Transportation Planning

Former MaineDOT Commissioner David Cole will start this special session by describing the new partnership opportunities between regions and the state that emerged during his tenure. Also hear about innovative work programs from RPOs and small MPOs in several states and share your experiences during the symposium.

10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Breakout Sessions

- **Regional Approaches to Sustainable Development**

Integrate planning programs in your region to leverage planning and project funds, streamline decisionmaking, and coordinate across areas such as economic development, housing, land use, disaster preparedness, and regional transportation.

- **Addressing Regional Transit through Planning**

With the third report of FTA's Transit at the Table series on multimodal transportation planning set to be released soon, hear examples from states that are successfully working across lines in rural regions with transit agencies, regional planning organizations, and state DOT staff.

- **Freight and Regional Economic Development**

Public and private investments in freight facilities may drive economic growth. This session will explore examples where this has occurred and tips for working with the private sector in your region.

12:00 – 1:30 p.m.

Luncheon: Future of Statewide and Metropolitan Planning

With the nation's surface transportation authorization operating under short-term extensions and needing general fund support for the past two years, many are questioning the future of the industry. Hear insider perspectives on reauthorization proposals and what they will mean for planning and projects.

1:45 – 2:45 p.m.

Breakout Sessions

- **Peer Accountability**

With funding for planning and projects becoming increasingly tighter, states are carefully weighing their budget decisions. This discussion-oriented session will explore examples of peer mentoring networks developed among RPOs, COGs, and MPOs to improve accountability and their relationships with state DOTs.

- **Data for Regional Transportation Planning**

Learn about ways geography and Census data interact, including transportation planning boundaries, urban areas, metropolitan statistical areas and other geographic levels.

- **Rural Transportation Safety**

Fatalities across the nation have decreased in the past few years, but rural areas continue to experience a disproportionate share of serious crashes. Hear about resources and programs that are addressing safety in different ways.

3:00 – 4:15 p.m.

Scenario Planning Training Session

Scenario planning is increasingly being used as a tool to assist with regional visioning and development of an integrated planning initiative with broad-based public input. Learn the steps to conduct scenario planning and hear a case study where it's been used successfully.

4:30 – 5:00 p.m.

RPO America Annual Business Meeting, immediately followed by the National RPO Council of Peers Meeting

In this plenary session, hear from NADO staff about regional transportation legislative issues. The business meeting will also include an election of new officers, for which all NADO members can vote, and the announcement of a new term of RPO Council members.

5:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Networking Reception

Friday, August 26

8:00 a.m. Excellence Awards Photo Session

8:15 – 10:00 a.m. Networking Breakfast and Conversation Café

Through this facilitated discussion session, learn from your peers about their challenges and successes in regional transportation planning practice related to a variety of topics, such as Safe Routes to School, public health, regional food systems, freight, sustainable development, statewide planning and more.

10:15 – 11:45 a.m. Closing Plenary: Federal Town Hall

In this town hall discussion, a panel of USDOT staff will discuss emerging issues and the future direction of the agency. This panel provides an opportunity for an inside perspective and chance to ask questions about national-level transportation issues and planning practice affecting regional planning organizations and their state DOT partners.

12:00 – 2:30 p.m. Mobile Workshop: Corridor Development and Transit-Oriented Development in Arlington

Travel to Arlington's Ballston neighborhood to learn about the county's approach to encouraging economic development along a major roadway that is also well served by public transit. With a range of housing nearby, as well as a mall, office space, restaurants and parks, Ballston has emerged as a vibrant neighborhood centered on the local Metro stop and in easy reach of downtown Washington, DC.

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AUGUST 24 – 26, 2011 • WASHINGTON, DC

Register Online at www.NADO.org

Or Fax/Mail Registration Form Below and Payment to:
NADO • 400 N. Capitol St, NW • Suite 390 • Washington, DC 20001
Tel: 202.624.7806 • Fax: 202.624.8813 • Email: Info@nado.org

Conference Registration:

- ☐ \$225 - Early-Bird Rate (By August 1)
- ☐ \$275 - Regular Rate (After August 1)

Optional Workshop Registration:

- ☐ Free - Sustainable Communities Approaches, Wednesday, August 24, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
- ☐ \$20 - Mobile Workshop: Corridor and Transit-Oriented Development in Arlington, Friday, August 26, 12 – 2:30 p.m. (*fee includes boxed lunch*)

Registrant Contact Information:

Full Name: _____

Nickname (for badge): _____

Title: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

City / State / Zip: _____

Tel: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____ Cell (*on-site contact only*): _____

☐ Check here if you have any ADA requirements or dietary needs. A NADO staff person will contact you to see how we can meet your needs.

Hotel Information: Marriott Metro Center • 775 12 St., NW • Washington, DC, 20005 • 800.228.9290
Hotel rate: \$170 single/double • *Hotel Room Block Deadline: **August 1***

Staff Contacts: Carrie Kissel • 202.624.8829 • ckissel@nado.org
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Cancellation policy: A \$50 administrative fee will be assessed for cancellations. Cancellations must be made in writing by August 8, and refunds will not be given for registrations canceled after that date.
NADO reserves the right to cancel any conference-related event.