Livable Regions and Communities in Appalachia

Date: August 16, 2012

Location: California University of Pennsylvania
Convocation Center
250 University Avenue, California, PA 15419

Parking: Participants must park in Lot 11 at California University. Please print and display the attached parking pass on your dashboard.

Purpose: The purpose of this workshop is to share information about opportunities available to Appalachian communities to consider strategies that can enhance community vitality and economic competitiveness. The goals are to share resources and discuss opportunities and challenges for Local Development Districts, local governments, and their partners to support long-term community goals.

Agenda

8:15 a.m. Registration and Networking

8:45 a.m. Welcome and Introductions
- Neil Fowler, Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (PA)
- Earl F. Gohl, Appalachian Regional Commission (DC)
- Matt Power, Maryland Department of Planning (MD)

9:00 a.m. Introduction to Livable Communities Concepts and Options for Implementation
This session will provide an overview of approaches to linking economic development strategies with land use planning, natural resources management, and transportation systems in rural and small town settings to support long-term resiliency. Panelists will describe how they are working at the regional and local scale in southwestern Pennsylvania to think through short- and long-term strategies for quality economic development and community development issues. 1.50 AICP CM credits approved
- Kathy Nothstine, National Association of Development Organizations (DC)
- Lew Vilotti, Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission (PA)
- Kent Edwards, McCollom Development Strategies (PA)

10:30 a.m. Break

10:45 a.m. Supporting Small Town Revitalization
Hear about opportunities for helping small town communities identify those positive assets that can support initiatives to enhance quality of life, improve the built and natural environment, and broaden economic prospects. 1.25 AICP CM credits approved
- Dawn Seeburger, Environmental Resources & Consulting, LLC (WV)
- Cheryl Morgan, Auburn Urban Design Studio (AL)
- Moderator: Greg Faulkner, Appalachian Regional Commission (DC)
12:00 p.m.  Luncheon Discussion: Federal Resources to Support Livable Communities
Over lunch, hear about federal resources available to support the implementation of livable communities initiatives. Participate in a facilitated discussion to respond to the ideas presented in the morning session, ask questions, and offer your thoughts about how these approaches can work in your community.
- Ed Fendley, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Sustainable Communities (DC)
- Amy Fox, Federal Highway Administration (WV)
- Todd Colley, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development (PA)

1:15 p.m.  Managing the Impacts of Natural Gas Drilling
Natural gas drilling in the Marcellus Shale has significant physical, social, and economic impacts for communities that sit atop this important resource. This session will outline these potential impacts and help participants to think through how communities can address the drilling boom in a way that supports long-term positive outcomes.
- Kathy Brasier, Pennsylvania State University (PA)
- **Moderator: Kathy Nothstine, National Association of Development Organizations (DC)**

1:45 p.m.  Building Diverse Partnerships around Asset-Based Economic Development
This session will discuss how multiple types of stakeholders have formed broad partnerships to nurture community and economic development strategies using a systems-based approach to land use, natural resources, food systems, transportation, infrastructure, economic development, and more. 1.50 AICP CM credits approved
- Leah Smith, Pennsylvania Association for Sustainable Agriculture (PA)
- Bill Atkinson, Maryland Mountain Trails/Great Allegheny Passage (MD)
- Mary Lee Stotler, Pennsylvania Downtown Center (PA)
- **Moderator: Greg Faulkner, Appalachian Regional Commission (DC)**

3:15 p.m.  Concluding Remarks
- Earl F. Gohl, Appalachian Regional Commission (DC)

3:30 p.m.  Adjourn

This workshop was convened by the Appalachian Regional Commission, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Office of Sustainable Communities, and USDA Rural Development, in partnership with the NADO Research Foundation and the Development District Association of Appalachia. It is the third in a series of three workshops convened in Appalachia in 2012. Workshop materials and additional information will be posted on [www.NADO.org/arcworkshops](http://www.NADO.org/arcworkshops) and at [www.ARC.gov](http://www.ARC.gov).

For more information, contact Greg Faulkner at Appalachian Regional Commission at gfaulkner@arc.gov or Kathy Nothstine at NADO Research Foundation at knothstine@nado.org.