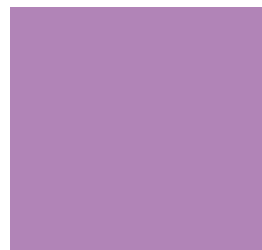




National Rural Transportation Peer Learning Conference



**April 24 – 26, 2013
Greenville, SC**



Thank you to our sponsors



Also visit additional conference exhibitors in the registration area:

Easter Seals Project Action, Federal Highway Administration & Federal Transit Administration Transportation Planning Capacity Building Program, LeFleur Transportation, Rural Assistance Center, Strategic Highway Research Program 2, Transit Cooperative Research Program, and URS Corporation.

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Welcome

to the 2013 National Rural Transportation Peer Learning Conference

Welcome to Greenville, South Carolina, and thank you for joining your peers for the 2013 National Rural Transportation Peer Learning Conference. Each year, this unique event convenes rural and small metropolitan transportation planners, professionals, and stakeholders to discuss practical issues and topics, engage one another through information exchange and networking opportunities, and learn from national experts. Workshops, plenary addresses, and best practice sessions will cover a wide variety of multimodal transportation topics. Conference organizers have also applied to offer AICP Certification Maintenance credits for the training sessions and workshops.

During our opening plenary, we are pleased to be joined by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Smart Growth Program, Director John Frece, Federal Highway Administration, South Carolina Division, Planning and Environmental Manager Patrick Tyndall, and City of Greenville Community Planner Wayne Leftwich. On Thursday, a plenary session of short presentations addressing how rural and small metro regions and their state partners can improve mobility. South Carolina Deputy Secretary of Commerce George Patrick III will discuss how the state has positioned itself in the global economy during Thursday's luncheon keynote. Friday's closing session will discuss how the 2012 surface transportation authorization Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century (MAP-21) is being implemented and is shaping transportation practice.

Throughout the conference, special networking events will allow attendees to share information with peers. On Wednesday evening, the Excellence in Regional Transportation Awards Showcase and Reception provides attendees the opportunity to learn about innovative projects in several different states. Thursday afternoon's longer workshop training sessions offer opportunities to engage in in-depth and interactive learning settings and to become familiar with the host region through training outside the hotel. Finally, the Conversation Café on Friday morning will allow participants to engage in facilitated discussion on specific topics of interest, ranging from freight planning, to local and regional participation in statewide planning, to incorporating safety in transportation planning. And as always, informal conversations with other attendees throughout the three-day event will allow new ideas to be shared and collaborations to form. Enjoy the conference!

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Schedule at a Glance

Wednesday, April 24

- 9:30 – 11:00 a.m. Concurrent Workshops
- RPO Models: State-Regional Relationships in Transportation Planning
 - GIS and Technology Tools for Transportation
- 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Lunch on Your Own
- 1:00 – 2:15 p.m. Opening Plenary: Putting Federal Resources to Work to Create Vibrant Regions
- 2:30 – 3:45 p.m. Concurrent Breakout Sessions
- Public Participation and Engagement
 - Rural Transportation Safety
- 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. RPO America Annual Business Meeting, followed by the National RPO Council of Peers Meeting
- 5:00 – 6:30 p.m. Excellence in Regional Transportation Awards Reception

Thursday, April 25

- 7:30 – 8:00 a.m. Networking Breakfast and Excellence Awards Photo Session
- 8:00 – 9:30 a.m. Plenary Session: RPO America Peer Symposium
- 9:45 – 10:45 a.m. Concurrent Breakout Sessions
- Developing Long-range Transportation Plans
 - Meeting Mobility Needs through Regional Transit Solutions
- 11:00 a.m. – Noon Concurrent Breakout Sessions
- Healthy, Active Transportation
 - Freight and Economic Development: Understanding Freight Flows

Thursday, April 25 (cont'd)

- Noon – 1:30 p.m. Plenary Luncheon: Positioning Regions for the Global Economy
- 1:45 – 5:00 p.m. Concurrent Workshops
- BMW Freight and Economic Development Tour
 - Downtown Greenville Economic Development Walking/Cycling Tour
 - Road Safety Audit Workshop
 - Getting a Perspective on the Human Landscape: Data, Public Involvement, and Project Development
- 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. Network Appalachia: Access to Opportunity

Friday, April 26

- 8:00 – 8:30 a.m. Networking Breakfast
- 8:30 – 10:00 a.m. Conversation Café: Facilitated Small Group Discussions
- 10:15 – 11:30 a.m. Closing Plenary: Future Directions for Federal Surface Transportation Program

Join the online dialogue!

Use the tag #NADOrpo on Twitter and follow us at @RPOAmerica and @NADOWeb. Share your comments and conference photos at www.Facebook.com/RPOAmerica.

Visit www.RuralTransportation.org for speakers' presentation materials and other resources.

Full Conference Schedule • Wednesday, April 24

9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Conference Registration	Regency Foyer
9:30 – 11:00 a.m.	Concurrent Workshop Sessions RPO Models: State-Regional Relationships in Transportation Planning <i>Learn about the language defining Regional Transportation Planning Organizations in MAP-21, models states have used to set up their regional planning processes, and what the fundamental responsibilities are.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rita Seto, Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Regional Commission (VT)• Katie Caskey, Minnesota DOT• Ronda Allis, Region 9 RDC (MN)• Elina Zlotchenko, North Carolina DOT• Moderator: Carrie Kissel, NADO	Regency D
	GIS and Technology Tools for Transportation <i>Learn the latest in applications and innovations that make technology available to assist with transportation planning, such as asset management, project tracking, and mapping population data from local partners.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Matthew Long, Pennsylvania DOT• Josh King, Land-of-Sky Regional Council (NC)• Karyl Fuller, Isothermal Planning and Development Commission• Greg Ulp, GeoDecisions• Moderator: Bret Allphin, Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley RDD	Regency E
11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Lunch on Your Own	
1:00 – 2:15 p.m.	Opening Plenary: Putting Federal Resources to Work to Create Vibrant Regions <i>Hear how federal agencies are working together to deliver programs and resources to assist communities in rural and small metro regions, and from a local perspective how to overcome obstacles and to focus on implementation.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Opening Welcome and Moderator: Misty Casto, Buckeye Hills Hocking Valley Regional Development District and Second Vice President, Development District Association of Appalachia• Patrick Tyndall, Federal Highway Administration, South Carolina Division• John Frece, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency• Discussant: Wayne Leftwich, City of Greenville	Regency C
2:30 – 3:45 p.m.	Concurrent Breakout Sessions Public Participation and Engagement <i>Gathering input from the public is not easy. Learn about techniques to engage stakeholders and build consensus to guide future regional plans.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kim Thurlow, New River Valley PDC (VA)• Peter Keating, Chittenden County RPC (VT)• Moderator: Brian Carver, Bear River AOG (UT)	Regency D
	Rural Transportation Safety <i>Despite overall declines in fatalities in the U.S., over half of fatal crashes are still occurring in rural areas. This session will focus on practices to incorporate safety into rural and small metro transportation planning work.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jesse Day, Piedmont Triad Regional Council (NC)• Libby Thomas, University of North Carolina Highway Safety Research Center• Stuart Thompson, Federal Highway Administration• Moderator: Nathan Miller, Upper Valley-Lake Sunapee Regional Commission (NH)	Regency E

Wednesday, April 24 (cont'd)

4:00 – 5:00 p.m.	RPO America Annual Business Meeting, immediately followed by the National RPO Council of Peers Meeting <i>All attendees are encouraged to attend the meetings and join the discussion of how regional transportation planning organizations in rural and small metro areas can demonstrate their value in the planning process. Hear a legislative update on MAP-21 implementation and reauthorization.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Special Guest Presentation: Kathy Ruffalo, Ruffalo & Associates	Regency D
5:00 – 6:30 p.m.	Excellence in Regional Transportation Awards Showcase <i>Participants will share information about promising new practices that are making a difference in regions across the nation.</i>	Regency C

Thursday, April 25

7:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Conference Registration Open	Regency Foyer
7:30 – 8:00 a.m.	Excellence in Regional Transportation Awards Photos	Atrium Lobby
7:30 – 8:00 a.m.	Networking Breakfast	Regency C
8:00 – 9:30 a.m.	Plenary Session: RPO America Peer Symposium <i>Through a series of several short presentations, presenters will focus on the theme, how can rural and small metro regions and their partners work on planning and project implementation to improve mobility for people and goods?</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jack Cebe, Alta Planning + Design• Pat Steed, Central Florida Regional Planning Council• Paul Black, Land-of-Sky Regional Council and French Broad River MPO (NC)• Chris Cummings, Oregon DOT• Moderator: Amy Kessler, North Central Pennsylvania Reg. Planning and Development Commission	Regency C
9:45 – 10:45 a.m.	Concurrent Breakout Sessions Developing Long-range Transportation Plans <i>Incorporating public and local official input into a vision leads to the development of a long-term plan to guide transportation system priorities. Learn from promising practices and how MAP-21, with its new performance measurement requirements, may change future plan updates.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jake Gilmer, Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission (VA)• Darrel Johnson, Virginia DOT• Moderator: Sara Brown, South Central Tennessee Development District Meeting Mobility Needs through Regional Transit Solutions <i>Regional planning organizations, transit agencies, and others are increasingly turning to mobility management strategies and regional services to ensure people can travel where they need to go.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ginnie Kozak, Lowcountry Council of Governments (SC)• Doug Pilant, Tillamook County Transportation District (OR)• Moderator: Robert Rychel, Middle Georgia Regional Commission	Regency D Regency E
11:00 a.m. – Noon	Concurrent Breakout Sessions Healthy, Active Transportation <i>Having access to a safe transportation network with multiple modes can enhance communities and livability. Learn about resources and case studies of how to improve mobility through active transportation.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rachel Beyerle, Easter Seals Project Action• Elijah Sharp, New River Valley Planning District Commission (VA)• Moderator: Lindsey Knutson, Upper Minnesota Valley Regional Development Commission	Regency D

Freight and Economic Development: Understanding Freight Flows

Regency E

Learn how freight currently moves, how various future economic scenarios may place different demands on the transportation network, and what regional organizations can do to address freight. Session co-sponsored by the Appalachian Regional Commission.

- Paula Dowell, Cambridge Systematics
- Mark Burton, University of Tennessee-Knoxville
- Moderator: Fred Rader, Mid-Ohio Valley Regional Commission (WV)

Noon – 1:30 p.m.

Plenary Luncheon: Positioning Regions for the Global Economy

Regency C

In this plenary address, South Carolina Deputy Secretary of Commerce George Patrick III will discuss how the state has positioned itself in the global economy. He has extensive experience working with business, political, and military leaders as well as numerous federal, state and private entities, and has served in the South Carolina Department of Commerce since 2011.

- Keynote Address: George B. Patrick III, Deputy Secretary, South Carolina Department of Commerce
- Moderator: Steve Pelissier, South Carolina Appalachian Council of Governments

1:45 – 5:00 p.m.

Concurrent Workshops

BMW Freight and Economic Development Tour

Lobby

South Carolina's ground transportation sector has been a major economic growth engine responsible for 84,000 jobs in the state. BMW decided to locate its first manufacturing facility outside Germany in Spartanburg in 1992, which was intended to manufacture vehicles for export. Now with 7,000 direct jobs and an extensive supplier network, the company is a major part of the automotive sector, with its significant economic and transportation impacts on the Upstate region and the whole state. Learn about these issues during a plant tour and presentation. (Pre-registration required, \$25 fee)

Downtown Greenville Economic Development Walking/Cycling Tour

Lobby

During a walking tour, participants will learn how Greenville's master planning process and public private-partnerships have sparked revitalization of the city's now vibrant downtown space. Following the walking tour, participants will have the option to continue on a cycling tour to see the multi-use paved paths that have gained popularity and increased the area's livability. (Pre-registration required, \$15 fee)

Road Safety Audit Workshop

Regency D

Learn the fundamentals of conducting a Road Safety Audit (RSA) in this hands-on workshop. An RSA is the formal safety performance examination of an existing or future road or intersection. It is used to estimate and report on potential road safety issues and identify opportunities for improvements in safety for all road users. After in-hotel instruction by Dan Nabors, VHB, and Stuart Thompson, FHWA, attendees will go to Travelers Rest, SC, for a setting appropriate for rural and small urban safety issues. (Pre-registration required, \$25 fee)

Getting a Perspective on the Human Landscape: Data, Public Involvement, and Project Development

Regency E

In this workshop, participants will learn WHERE to obtain data on the human and built environment, HOW data is used in transportation decision-making and their LIMITS of use, and use of field validation to improve quality and enhance project outcomes. Training will be led by Jeff Moore, Kentucky Transportation Cabinet, and Anne Morris, Anne Morris & Associates.

5:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Network Appalachia: Access to Opportunity

Dogwood

In a region known for its chronic economic distress, reliable, safe, and cost-efficient access to both domestic and global markets is essential for economic and employment success in the years ahead. Join in the dialogue with the Appalachian Regional Commission on developing a multimodal, multi-jurisdictional, and multi-sector transportation network that can stimulate economic and employment success into the very heart of the 21st century. Then, join the group for an informal dinner immediately following the session. Local Development District staff are encouraged to attend.

No formal evening events are planned after the workshops, but for more networking opportunities, come to the Hyatt Regency Lobby at 6:00 p.m. to meet up with other attendees for informal group dinners. Also, participants may be interested in attending the 7:05 p.m. game of the Greenville Drive (Red Sox affiliate) against the Lakewood Blue Claws (Phillies affiliate) at Fluor Field, which is modeled after Fenway Park and named "Ballpark of the Year" in 2006 by Ballparks.com. Tickets start at \$9 and can be purchased at the box office. A free downtown trolley to Fluor Field runs past the Hyatt along Main Street before and after the game.

Friday, April 26

8:00 – 8:30 a.m.	Networking Breakfast	<i>Regency C</i>
8:30 – 10:00 a.m.	Conversation Café: Facilitated Small Group Discussions <i>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. Participants will have the opportunity to network in two different discussion groups during the session.</i>	<i>Regency C</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Byways, Tourism, and Economic Development</u> Facilitator: Bethany Remmers, Northwest Regional Planning Commission (VT)• <u>Local and Regional Participation in Statewide Planning</u> Facilitator: Jason Ray, Harry S Truman Coordinating Council (MO)• <u>Engaging with Freight Issues</u> Facilitator: Randall Embry, Kentuckiana Regional Planning and Development Agency (KY)• <u>Aging Populations and Rural Transportation</u> Facilitator: Robert Hiatt, Three Rivers Regional Commission (GA)	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning</u> Bob Kuipers, Northwest New Mexico Council of Governments• <u>Regional Transit and Coordination</u> Facilitator: Jason Kelly, Northern Arizona Council of Governments• <u>Transportation Safety</u> Facilitator: Zach James, Southeast Iowa Regional Planning Commission	
10:15 – 11:30 a.m.	Closing Plenary: Future Directions for the Federal Surface Transportation Program <i>Six months into MAP-21 implementation, hear how the new legislation is shaping transportation practice, with updates from federal agency staff that focus on significant policy issues for rural and small metropolitan areas and for planning at RTPOs, MPOs, state DOTs, and their partners.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Harlan Miller, Federal Highway Administration, Office of Planning• Stefan Natzke, Federal Highway Administration, Office of Human Environment• Stuart Thompson, Federal Highway Administration, Office of Safety• Moderator: Joe McKinney, NADO	<i>Regency C</i>

RPO America Subscribers

Special thanks to the following organizations for providing voluntary contributions to NADO and RPO America to support rural transportation research and training efforts, outreach, and tracking of federal policies.

GEORGIA

Georgia Association of Regional Councils

IOWA

Southeast Iowa RPC
Iowa Northland Regional COG

MISSISSIPPI

Southern Mississippi PDD
Three Rivers PDD

MISSOURI

Mo-Kan Regional Council
Mark Twain Regional COG
Boonslick RPC

NORTH CAROLINA

Lumber River COG
Mid-East Commission

OHIO

Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley RDD

OKLAHOMA

South Western Oklahoma Dev. Authority

PENNSYLVANIA

North Central Pennsylvania RPDC

SOUTH CAROLINA

Upper Savannah COG

TENNESSEE

First Tennessee Development District

TEXAS

Capital Area COG
Brazos Valley COG

VERMONT

Chittenden County RPC
Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee RC
Southern Windsor County RPC
Rutland RPC

WEST VIRGINIA

West Virginia Assn of Regional Planning and Dev. Organizations

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2013 National Rural Transportation Peer Learning Conference

Conference Speakers

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2011 – 2013 National RPO Council of Peers

The National RPO Council of Peers serves as the leadership of RPO America. The RPO Council provides advice, input, and ideas to the NADO Board of Directors, transportation policy task force, and staff. Council members are appointed by the NADO president, with the advice and consent of the NADO board.

Ronda Allis, Region 9 Dev. Commission (MN)

Stu Anderson, Iowa DOT

Allison Beasley, Southern Mississippi PDD

Kevin Belanger, South Central PDC (LA)

Tom Bliss, Mo-Kan Regional Council (MO/KS)

Kurt Brummett, Three Rivers PDD (MS)

Misty Casto, Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley RDD (OH)

Tim Conklin, Western Arkansas PDD

Chris Craig, First Tennessee Development District

Randall Embry, Kentuckiana Planning and Development Agency (KY)

Blaise Emerson, Black Hills COG (SD)

Kelli Fairless, Valley Regional Transit (ID)

Chris Fetzer, Northern Arizona COG

James Gilmer, Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission (VA)

Jana Harris, Southwestern Oklahoma Development Authority

Robert Hiett, Three Rivers Regional Commission (GA)

Richard Hunsaker, Region XII COG (IA)

Sheldon Johnson, Northwest RPC (WI)

Amy Kessler, North Central Pennsylvania RPDC

Marjorie Kirn, Merced County AOG (CA)

Mark Lester, South Carolina DOT

John Marshall, Western Piedmont COG (NC)

Travis Marshall, North Carolina DOT

Gena McCullough, Bi-State Regional Commission (IL/IA)

Nathan Miller, Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Commission (NH)

Susan Moe, FHWA, Minnesota Division

Kelly Murray, Illinois Association of Regional Councils

O.J. Papucci, Santee-Lynches COG (SC)

Michael Parks, Brazos Valley COG (TX)

Len Pavelka, Benton-Franklin COG (WA)

Mike Pennington, Tri-County Council for the Lower Eastern Shore of Maryland

Tom Piper, South Alabama RPC

Fred Rader, Mid-Ohio Valley Regional Council (WV)

Jim Reed, Central Texas COG (TX)

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Bethany Remmers, Northwest RPC (VT)

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Lisa Sandt, Lee-Russell COG (AL)

Shawn Seager, Mountainland AOG (UT)

Lesah Sedillo, North Central New Mexico EDD

Paula Strauss, Tennessee DOT

Dana Ternus, Northwest Missouri Regional COG

Scott Turnoy, Mid-Columbia EDD (OR)

Richard Zink, Southern Tier West Regional Planning and Development Board (NY)

2013 Excellence in Regional Transportation *Awards*

GEORGIA

River Valley Regional Commission,
Mobility Management;
Prison to Peanuts Bicycle Adventure

Three Rivers Regional Commission,
Regional Mobility Management

KENTUCKY

**Kentuckiana Regional Planning and
Development Agency,**
Vanpooling Services

MAINE

Eastern Maine Development Corporation,
*Linking the Rural Regions of Four Counties in
Maine to Enhance Transportation Opportunities and
Improve Quality of Life*

NORTH CAROLINA

**Isothermal Planning and Development
Commission,** *Pockets of Rural Poverty*

Kerr-Tar Regional Council of Governments,
North Carolina Lakes District

**French Broad River Metropolitan Planning
Organization and Land-of-Sky Regional
Council of Governments,**
From Cradle to Construction – Project Tracking

**Piedmont Triad Regional Council and
Piedmont Triad Rural Planning Organization,**
Rural Comprehensive Speed Management Planning

Western Piedmont Council of Governments,
Annual Air Quality Conference

PENNSYLVANIA

**North Central Pennsylvania Regional Planning
and Development Commission,**
Engage North Central Pennsylvania

SOUTH CAROLINA

Lower Savannah Council of Governments,
*Lower Savannah Regional Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan;
Resuscitation of Transit (and Senior) Services in
Allendale, SC*

Lowcountry Council of Governments,
*Regional Mobility Management in the Lowcountry –
From Cooperation to Consolidation*

VERMONT

**Chittenden County Regional Planning
Commission,**
*Transportation Surveys: Attitudinal Changes and
Trends in Chittenden County, VT, 2000 – 2012*

VIRGINIA

**New River Valley Planning District
Commission,**
*Regional Transit Organization Study – Regional
Transit Coordinating Council*

*An awards program of NADO's RPO America and the NADO Research Foundation's
Center for Transportation Advancement and Regional Development*

Upcoming Events



August 24 – 27, 2013
NADO Annual Training Conference
San Francisco, California



March 23 – 25, 2014
Development District Association of
Appalachia Annual Meeting
Arlington, Virginia



March 24 – 26, 2014
NADO Washinton Policy Conference
Arlington, Virginia