



## October 15 – 18, 2022 | Pittsburgh, PA

### Saturday, October 15, 2022

<b>8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Conference Registration</b>	<b>Ballroom Foyer</b>
<b>9:00 – 11:00 a.m.</b>	<b>NADO Research Foundation Advisory Committee</b>	<b>Rivers</b>
<b>11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.</b>	<b>NADO Executive Committee Meeting and NADO Research Foundation Board Meeting</b>	<b>Rivers</b>
<b>12:45 – 3:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Mobile Workshop</b>	
	<b>Brownfields Tour: A Visit to Hazelwood Green &amp; RIDC Mill 19</b>	<b>Lobby</b>
	<p>Hazelwood Green is located on 178 acres along the Monongahela River, part of Pittsburgh’s Greater Hazelwood neighborhood and the historic site of Jones &amp; Laughlin Steel Company’s first industrial plant. RIDC Mill 19 is the first development on the Hazelwood Green site and is now home to advanced manufacturing and autonomous innovation partners including Carnegie Mellon University’s Advanced Robotics for Manufacturing and Manufacturing Futures Initiative, Catalyst Connection, and Motional. Pre-registration required. Visit the Conference Registration Desk to learn if there are available seats on the tour. <b>Meet in the lobby at 12:45 p.m., bus will leave promptly at 1:00 p.m.</b></p>	
<b>1:30 – 3:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Learning Labs</b>	
	<b>Sharing your RDO’s Impact through Effective Storytelling</b>	<b>King’s Garden 4</b>
	<p>RDOs across the country are making a difference daily in their regions, yet many communities are not aware of the critical roles RDOs have in bringing these programs and services to their regions. Savvy RDOs have crafted strategies to share their work with all of their stakeholders: residents, local businesses and governments, nonprofit organizations and academic institutions, elected officials at all levels, and others impacted by their work. The benefits of engaging funders and recipients of the RDOs programs and services is immeasurable. This interactive session will incorporate training from a subject matter expert and real examples from RDOs.</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Erica Allison</b>, Founder, Formation PR, Hendersonville, NC</li> <li>• <b>Lindsay Vanderbilt</b>, Director of Communications, East Texas COG, Kilgore, TX</li> </ul>	
	<b>EDD Speed Networking and Listening Session</b>	<b>King’s Garden 5</b>
	<p>During this interactive speed networking session, you will have the opportunity to discuss your current work with your Economic Development District, troubleshoot challenges, and learn what other organizations are doing — all during short one-on-one conversations with your peers.</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Brett Schwartz</b>, Associate Director, NADO Research Foundation, Washington, DC</li> <li>• <b>Ciara Ristig</b>, Senior Program Manager, NADO Research Foundation, Washington, DC</li> </ul>	

4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

**NADO 101**

**Commonwealth 1**

Learn about NADO's governance and structure, key programs, meet leadership and staff, and learn about member benefits.

- **Joe McKinney**, Executive Director, NADO, Washington, DC

5:00 – 6:30 p.m.

**Welcome Reception Hosted by the NADO Board**

**Commonwealth 2**

Join your peers from around the country for light hors d'oeuvres and beverages to catch up before heading out to enjoy dinner at one of Pittsburgh's many restaurants.

**Sunday, October 16, 2022**

7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

**Conference Registration**

**Ballroom Foyer**

8:00 – 9:30 a.m.

**SERDI Council of Peers Fall Planning Meeting**

**King's Garden 1**

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

**Learning Labs**

**Becoming an Effective EDD Leader: Skills Building for New and Emerging Leaders**

**King's Garden 4**

Designed for executive directors in the position for less than three years, and for EDD staff on track to become executive directors, this workshop will provide participants with insights into becoming an effective RDO leader. Come prepared to participate in group exercises as well as meet new peers.

- **Steve Etcher**, Manager, MarksNelson, Kansas City, MO
- **Laura Lewis Marchino**, Executive Director, Region 9 EDD of Southwest Colorado, Durango, CO
- **Misty Crosby**, NADO President and Senior Executive in Residence for Local Government Services, Voinovich School of Leadership, Ohio University, Athens, OH

**Brownfields: Redeveloping for Resilience**

**King's Garden 5**

This session, led by the Technical Assistance for Brownfields (TAB) team, will highlight how communities are viewing their brownfields redevelopment through the lens of resilience. It will discuss case studies on brownfields redevelopment in response to negative climate change impacts, how to leverage resources for a successful project, as well as tips from a successful US EPA brownfields grant recipient.

- **Jacob Keeney**, Assistant Executive Director, Business Development Corporation of the Northern Panhandle, Weirton, WV
- **Blase Leven**, Director of TAB Programs, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS
- **Colette Santasieri**, Executive Director, New Jersey Institute of Technology TAB, Newark, NJ
- **Katie See**, Brownfields Redevelopment Specialist, West Virginia University TAB, Morgantown, WV
- **Marvin Six**, Executive Director, Business Development Corporation of the Northern Panhandle, Weirton, WV

12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

**NADO Office Hours**

**Traders**

Stop by to meet NADO Operations Manager Krystal De Leon to learn how to use our new online member forum, navigate the MyNADO portal, upgrade your membership, pay membership dues, and ask any membership questions you may have.

12:45 – 3:00 p.m.

**Mobile Workshop**

**Pittsburgh's Downtown Riverfronts—A Walking Tour of Revitalization in Action**

**Lobby**

Riverlife is a nonprofit organization formed in 1999 to create a plan for the redevelopment of Pittsburgh's downtown riverfronts. The 3-mile tour will be led by Riverlife staff and will take participants on a walking tour to the West End Bridge to see this development in action. **Meet in the lobby at 12:45 p.m., tour will leave promptly at 1:00 p.m.**

- **Gavin White**, Director of Projects and Planning, Riverlife, Pittsburgh, PA

**1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

**Learning Labs**

**Equity, Inclusion, and Regional Development Organizations**

**King’s Garden 4**

Explore how regional organizations can incorporate equity and economic inclusion principles into their plans, programs, and outreach efforts to ensure that all residents have an opportunity to be a part of shaping their community’s future.

- **Deirdre Shaw**, Knowledge Manager, New Growth Innovation Network, Kissimmee, FL
- **Jessica L. González Martínez**, Inclusive Economic Development Advisor, New Growth Innovation Network, Philadelphia, PA

**Strengthening Partnerships Between States and Economic Development Districts**

**King’s Garden 5**

This technical assistance hands-on session will focus on state-EDD alignment best practices and how to build a collaborative relationship with state economic development departments – from planning to program implementation.

- **Bob Isaacson**, Senior Vice President for Economic Policy and Research, CREC, Arlington, VA
- **Mereb Hagos**, Program Manager, CREC, Arlington, VA
- **Brendan Buff**, Director of Rural Development, CREC, Arlington, VA

**1:30 – 3:00 p.m.**

**Executive Director Roundtable**

**King’s Garden 2**

New executive directors (those holding the position for up to three years) are encouraged to attend this roundtable session to meet other new executive directors, and “seasoned” executive directors. Enhance your professional peer network while discussing EDD management, overcoming challenges, new opportunities and much more.

**3:15 – 4:45 p.m.**

**NADO Membership Regional Chapter Meetings**

All NADO members are encouraged to attend their chapter meeting to talk about issues of importance to your regions, and to NADO.

Central.....Rivers	East.....Kings Garden 1	Midwest.....Brigade
Southeast.....Ballroom 3	Southwest.....Ballroom 4	West.....Kings Plaza

**5:00 – 6:30 p.m.**

**Welcome Party**

**Commonwealth 1&2**

All conference attendees and their registered guests are to catch up with old friends and meet new ones over beverages and hors d'oeuvres.

**9:00 p.m.**

**After Dinner Karaoke**

**Ballroom 2**

Before calling it a night, be sure to stop by the Karaoke party to let your inner musician go free, enjoy the unknown musical talents of your peers.

**Monday, October 17, 2022**

**7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

**Conference Registration**

**Ballroom Foyer**

**7:30 – 8:30 a.m.**

**DDAA Breakfast**

**King’s Garden 5**

All attendees from a Local Development District located in the 13-state Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) footprint are invited to attend this breakfast and hear from ARC’s leadership.

**8:30 – 11:45 a.m.**

**Brownfields Office Hours**

**Traders**

Bring your brownfields questions and receive on-the-spot advice from the experts from the Technical Assistance to Brownfields (TAB) Program. This can include very general questions about where to start or to take the next step to address vacant or blighted properties in town, to more detailed discussions about draft applications you may be writing for environmental assessment or cleanup funding from the Environmental Protection Agency.

**9:00 – 10:15 a.m.**

**Conference Welcome and Opening Plenary  
The Future Started Yesterday**

**Grand Ballroom 1**

An increasing rate of change makes the already challenging work of doing good even more difficult. We are all trying to make the world a better place but are often using yesterday's information to do so. What if we could predict the future and prepare for the coming realities that will impact our clients and our communities? Join philanthropic futurist Trista Harris as she takes us on an interactive journey where she'll uncover tools to create the future.

- **Trista Harris**, President, FutureGood, Santa Monica, CA
- **Misty Crosby**, NADO President and Senior Executive in Residence for Local Government Services, Voinovich School of Leadership, Ohio University, Athens, OH

**10:15 – 10:30 a.m.**

**Networking Break**

**Ballroom Foyer**

**10:30 – 11:45 a.m.**

**Concurrent Sessions**

**Metrics for Success**

**Ballroom 3**

What does progress in your community or region look like? How do you decide what to measure? Traditional economic metrics may not tell the whole story of how regions are changing over time. In this interactive session, RDO planners, local officials, and other attendees will work through identifying and measuring change.

- **Melissa Levy**, Founder and Principal, Community Roots, Hinesburg, VT
- **Moderator: Alene Carr**, Executive Director, Southeastern Illinois Regional Planning and Development Commission, Harrisburg, IL

**Tapping into BIL Funds**

**Ballroom 4**

Learn how rural and small metro regions and communities can prepare for opportunities to apply for planning or implementation funding available through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

- **Alex Clegg**, Transportation Specialist, U.S. Department of Transportation, Washington, DC
- **Rob Hyman**, Transportation Policy Analyst, U.S. Department of Transportation, Washington, DC
- **Moderator: Kevin Adam**, Legislative Liaison, Arizona Rural Transportation Advocacy Council, Phoenix, AZ

**Equity and Regional Economic Development**

**King's Garden 4**

Learn about best practices and strategies to incorporate equity and economic inclusion into CEDS planning and other regional development efforts. The session will highlight examples from a recent technical assistance project and from RDOs who will share their best practices and approaches.

- **Jessica L. González Martínez**, Inclusive Economic Development Advisor, New Growth Innovation Network, Philadelphia, PA
- **Maura Kay**, Analytics Consultant, Fourth Economy, Pittsburgh, PA
- **BJ Allen**, Deputy Director, Region Five Development Commission, Staples, MN

**EDDs and States: Collaborating for Success**

**King's Garden 5**

With historic amounts of federal funds being allocated to support pandemic recovery, state government and regional Economic Development Districts need to work well together now more than ever. This session will share examples of strong EDD-state alignment, provide space for participants to share their experiences, and include information about an opportunity to participate in a Policy Academy to further elevate alignment and collaboration.

- **Bob Isaacson**, Senior Vice President for Economic Policy and Research, CREC, Washington D.C.
- **Mereb Hagos**, Program Manager, CREC, Washington D.C.
- **Cindy Hultz**, Executive Director, Mark Twain Regional Council of Governments, Perry, MO
- **Caroline Smith**, Economic Development Manager, Apalachee Regional Planning Council, Tallahassee, FL

## Conversation Café: RDO Board Roundtable

King's Garden 2

RDO boards are comprised of local leaders from all sectors: government, nonprofit, business, academic, and social services. Join your peers for a casual conversation about your roles on the board, learn how others have overcome similar challenges, and share your insights into RDO governance.

12:00 – 1:30 p.m.

### Luncheon Plenary

Ballroom 1

#### **Rust Belt to Smart Belt: Autonomy, Economic Development, and STEM Education Models for Inclusion, Change, and Vibrant Communities**

Rural and rust belt regions are untapped and often excluded sources of innovation, development, and partnership. Research reveals high barriers to shared prosperity for both rural and urban communities. Economic development districts are at the forefront of creating innovative models to meet the diverse, equitable, and inclusive workforce for the 21st century. The Northwest Commission has partnered with schools, community members, higher education, and industry to re-envision workforce development through STEM education. Their collective work has extended the robotics corridor deep into rural communities in Northwest Pennsylvania. Ecosystem partners are leveraging resources and expertise to increase equity and access to previously underserved communities.

- **Rachel Burcin**, Carnegie Mellon Robotics Institute, Pittsburgh, PA
- **Tim Heffernan**, Innovation Institute for Tomorrow, Pittsburgh, PA
- **Gina Masciola**, WQED Media, Pittsburgh, PA
- **Lisa Kay Schweyer**, Mobility 21 University Transportation Center, Pittsburgh, PA
- **Moderator: Jill Foys**, Executive Director, Northwest Commission, Oil City, PA

1:45 – 4:45 p.m.

### Mobile Workshop

Lobby

#### **The Carrie Blast Furnaces: Then and Now**

Declared a National Historic Landmark in 2006, Carrie, as it's affectionately known, entices visitors to marvel at the scale and legacy of its industrial might. A remnant of the legendary U.S. Steel Homestead Steel Works, the Carrie Blast Furnaces are a vestige of Pittsburgh's 20th-century domination of the steel industry. On the tour, you'll hear stories about the site's technology (including why it is nationally significant) as well as get to know the culture of its workers. You'll also learn a bit about the iron-making process, from the movement of the raw materials to the tapping of the furnaces that produced fiery molten iron. The tour will also highlight how creatives, from guerrilla artists and graffiti writers to curators and designers, have been inspired by—and left their mark on—this revered landscape, highlighting contemporary art installations, graffiti murals, the Iron Garden, and the famous Carrie Deer. Must pre-register; visit the Conference Registration Desk about availability. **Meet in the lobby at 1:45 p.m., bus will leave promptly at 2:00 p.m. Closed toe shoes are required.**

1:45 – 3:15 p.m.

### Concurrent Sessions

Ballroom 3

#### **CEDS, Resilience, and Recovery Showcase**

Resilience planning and recovery will require regions to think creatively in the face of new and emerging threats. This session will highlight different examples of how regions across the country have responded to current challenges in creative and collaborative ways by enhancing their CEDS process, embracing resilience and hazard mitigation planning, promoting diversification, and forging new partnerships.

- **Geri Gamber**, Executive Director, Southeastern Utah Economic Development District, Price, UT
- **Emily Hathcock**, Associate Director of Planning & Development, Barren River Area Development District, Bowling Green, KY
- **Michelle Jordan**, Executive Director, Top of Alabama Regional Council of Governments, Huntsville, AL
- **Amy Kessler**, Director of Community Development & Regional Planning, North Central Pennsylvania Regional Planning and Development Commission, Ridgway, PA
- **Eric Sexton**, Executive Director, Barren River Area Development District, Bowling Green, KY
- **Moderator: Brett Schwartz**, Associate Director, NADO Research Foundation, Washington, DC

## **Broadband: Digital Inclusion**

**Ballroom 4**

Regional partners and local communities have been working for years to establish and expand high speed broadband services in rural areas across the country. The Coronavirus Pandemic helped significantly advance these efforts as the need to work and learn remotely became critical. As states begin to make significant advances in broadband funding and planning – frequently resulting in increased service availability, many are asking ‘what’s next?’ This session will introduce the concept of ‘digital inclusion’ which encompasses not only broadband service availability, but also access to connected devices, and digital literacy for end users. Addressing digital inclusion is a critical step in reducing the digital divide for rural communities.

- **Dr. Roberto Gallardo**, Director, Purdue Center for Regional Development
- **Erica Anderson**, Economic and Community Development Director, Land of Sky Regional Council, Asheville, NC
- **David Richardson**, Executive Director, Lumber River Council of Governments, Pembroke, NC
- **Moderator: Bret Allphin**, Senior Program Manager, NADO Research Foundation, Washington, DC

## **Riverside Development**

**King’s Garden 5**

Riverlife is a nonprofit organization formed in 1999 to create a plan for the redevelopment of Pittsburgh’s downtown riverfronts. Join the Riverlife team and your peers for a conversation about riverfront development and coalition building and learn from other RDOs who are working to overcome challenges in reimagining and enlivening riverfronts in their communities.

- **Maria Riley**, Riverfront Projects Manager, Riverlife, Pittsburgh, PA
- **Chun (Pure) Zheng**, Community Engagement Coordinator, Riverlife, Pittsburgh, PA

**1:45 – 4:30 p.m.**

### **Learning Lab**

#### **EDD Leadership Lab: Reaching New Heights**

**King’s Garden 4**

Designed for EDD executive directors—seasoned, new, or those on course to assume a leadership role—this interactive session will focus on three key factors for assuring a strong EDD: an active and engaged board, a strong and committed team of professionals, and a state association that advocates for EDDs at the state level and provides resources to EDDs directly. Attendees will participate in group discussions and exercises and share their experiences as they are guided through an afternoon of learning from a subject matter expert and from each other.

- **Steve Etcher**, Manager, MarksNelson, Kansas City, MO

**1:45 – 3:15 p.m.**

### **Nominating Committee**

**King’s Plaza**

All NADO members are invited to attend and hear from the candidates for NADO’s Board of Directors Officer positions.

**1:45 – 3:15 p.m.**

### **NADO Office Hours**

**Traders**

Stop by to meet NADO Operations Manager Krystal De Leon to learn how to use our new online member forum, navigate the MyNADO portal, upgrade your membership, pay membership dues, and ask any membership questions.

**3:15 – 3:30 p.m.**

### **Networking Break**

**Ballroom Foyer**

**3:30 – 4:30 p.m.**

### **Concurrent Sessions**

#### **CEDS 101 and Best Practices**

**Ballroom 3**

The Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) is a locally-based, regionally-driven economic development planning process and document that creates the space for your region to identify its strengths and weaknesses and brings together a diverse set of partners to generate good jobs, diversify the economy, and spur economic growth. An effective CEDS allows a region to maximize its economic development potential, as well as engage with the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) and other federal partners. During this 101 training, you’ll learn more about the “what and why” of the CEDS, CEDS planning fundamentals, best practices, and latest trends. *This session is intended primarily for new EDD staff working on the CEDS for the first time and as a refresher for CEDS veterans.*

- **David Ives**, AICP, Deputy Director, Performance, Research and National Technical Assistance Division, U.S. Economic Development Administration, Washington, DC
- **Jessica Metta**, Executive Director, Mid-Columbia Economic Development District, The Dalles, OR
- **Brett Schwartz**, Associate Director, NADO Research Foundation, Washington, DC

### **Building Regional Economies through Workforce Development**

**Ballroom 4**

Tackling workforce challenges is a priority for RDOs nationwide. This session will share examples of innovative ways RDOs are engaged in workforce skills development across their regions, including supporting and encouraging entrepreneurs, facilitating apprenticeships in critical industries, and providing personal and professional assistance to employees to improve retention and keep businesses in the region.

- **Pete Conrad**, Superintendent of the Henderson County Water District/ Chairman of the GRADD Water Management Council, Owensboro, KY
- **Emily Gojkovich**, Deputy Director, Southwest New Mexico Council of Governments, Silver City, NM
- **Dana Keller**, Executive Director, Mexico Area Chamber of Commerce, Mexico, MO
- **Moderator: Cindy Hultz**, Executive Director, Mark Twain Council of Governments, Perry, MO

### **Conversation Café/Listening Session: Ingredients for Successful Project Funding**

**King's Garden 2**

NADO members and their staff serve as critical coaches and guides for local project development in communities across the nation. Network with peers and discuss effective approaches to fostering local projects from idea to funding.

**5:00 – 6:00 p.m.**

### **Impact Award Reception**

**Commonwealth 1&2**

All attendees are invited to attend this reception to learn about the 2022 Aliceann Wohlbruck Impact Award projects. This year's class of awardees includes 107 projects from 71 NADO members in 28 states. Many will be on hand to share the details of the project! Light snacks and beverages will be provided.

## **Tuesday, October 18, 2022**

**7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

### **Conference Registration**

**Ballroom Foyer**

**7:30 – 8:30 a.m.**

### **Plenary Breakfast**

**Grand Ballroom 1**

Leadership from the US Economic Development Administration (EDA) will provide insights into and updates about EDA's current programs. All conference attendees and their registered guests are invited to attend.

- **Craig Buerstatte**, Deputy Assistant Secretary, U.S. Economic Development Administration, Washington, DC
- **Misty Crosby**, NADO President and Senior Executive in Residence for Local Government Services, Voinovich School of Leadership, Ohio University, Athens, OH

**8:45 – 10:00 a.m.**

### **Concurrent Sessions**

#### **Main Streets and Placemaking**

**Ballroom 3**

Economic recovery and resilience efforts are growing across the country, and emphasis on downtown redevelopment and programming is at the center of these efforts. As public funding options continue to diversify for local communities, learn how downtown redevelopment, main street programming, and placemaking can provide significant benefits to a region's overall economic and community development efforts.

- **Julie Fitzpatrick**, Executive Director, Pennsylvania Downtown Center, Harrisburg, PA
- **Cerisse Grijalva**, Transportation Planner, Southwest New Mexico Council of Governments, Silver City, NM
- **Wanda Christian**, Economic & Community Development Coordinator, Northeast Mississippi Planning and Development District, Booneville, MS
- **Moderator: John Byers**, Community & Economic Development Director, Three Rivers Planning & Development District, Pontotoc, MS

## Housing and RDO Roles

Ballroom 4

RDOs are increasingly incorporating housing into their CEDS and programming with the end goal of assuring that affordable and accessible housing is available for current and future residents. This session will explore examples of RDO housing programs and partnerships with local and state partners that are achieving success.

- **Jennifer Wilsie**, Director of Housing, New River Valley Regional Commission, Radford, VA
- **Mike Norris**, Executive Director, Southeast Iowa Regional Planning Commission, West Burlington, IA
- **Ed Nusser**, Executive Director, City of Bridges Community Land Trust, Pittsburgh, PA
- **Moderator: Sherry Long**, Assistant Executive Director, Western Piedmont Council of Governments, Hickory, NC

## Outdoor Recreation and the Economy

King's Garden 4

Outdoor recreation can be a major economic engine for communities and regions. The Bureau of Economic Analysis calculates the economic output of outdoor recreation to be \$689 billion, in addition to creating millions of jobs. During this session, attendees will participate in training from the Outdoor Recreation Roundtable on how to create an environment that both promotes outdoor recreation and the local/regional economy. The training will include best practices that enable community-centric, place-based sustainable economic development around outdoor recreation assets.

- **Chris Perkins**, Senior Director, Outdoor Recreation Roundtable, Washington, DC
- **Davitt Woodwell**, President, Pennsylvania Environmental Council, Pittsburgh, PA

## Conversation Café: Maximizing Available Funding Opportunities

King's Garden 2

As additional resources from both state and federal partners continue to become available for local communities, what assistance do RDO partners and communities need to capture and maximize these resources? Share your feedback with NADO staff, representatives from resource partner agencies, and peers from across the country as we work to identify solutions to these challenges.

9:30 – 10:30 a.m.

### NADO Office Hours

Traders

Stop by to meet NADO Operations Manager Krystal De Leon to learn how to use our new online member forum, navigate the MyNADO portal, upgrade your membership, pay membership dues, and ask any membership questions you may have.

10:30 – 11:45 a.m.

### Concurrent Sessions

#### Planning Ahead for Aging: Age-Friendly Communities and Regions

Ballroom 3

Age-friendly places take proactive steps to become more livable for all ages, including older adults. In this session, learn about roles that RDOs, local elected leaders, aging programs, and area partners can play in creating plans, policies, and programs that are more inclusive and livable for older residents and all residents.

- **Laura Poskin**, Executive Director, Age-Friendly Greater Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA
- **Rebecca Delphia**, Advisor, AARP Livable Communities, Washington, DC

#### Strength in Numbers: Best Practices for State Associations

Ballroom 4

Statewide associations of regional development organizations have a diverse range of missions, programs, budgets, and organizational structures. During this session, learn more about the value of building and maintaining a strong stateside association and best practices to leverage them to advocate, educate, and collaborate on behalf of regional organizations in your state.

- **Jill Foys**, Executive Director, Northwest Commission, Oil City, PA
- **Charlie Baker**, Executive Director, Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission, Winooski, VT
- **Deb Smith**, Regional Economic Planner, Clearwater Economic Development Association, Lewiston, ID
- **Dodd Snodgrass**, Executive Director, Clearwater Economic Development Association, Lewiston, ID
- **Shane Whitehair**, Executive Director, Region VII Planning and Development Council, Buckhannon, WV



### Resiliency Means Business! Resources to Assist Your Water Utilities with Preparedness

King's Garden 4

New tools from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Environmental Finance Center Network, and others have been created and updated to assist community water utilities with developing resilience in the face of heightening threats from both natural hazards and malevolent acts like cyberattacks. COGs, EDDs, RPCs and other regional organizations are well-positioned to serve as technical assistance providers to support these small and rural utilities. During this session, you'll learn more about resiliency issues facing these systems and hear about readily available capacity building resources as part of the Environmental Finance Center Network's programs, supported under a cooperative agreement with US EPA.

- **Jack Kartz**, PhD, Senior Advisor & Emeritus Director, New England Environmental Finance Center, Portland, ME

### Conversation Café: Leveraging Opportunities for Coal Communities

King's Garden 2

Connect with your peers from coal communities to share economic diversification, workforce, and resilience strategies to address the impacts of a changing energy market. You'll also learn more about how to get involved in the new US EDA-funded *Building Resilient Economies in Coal Communities Initiative* that has the goal of empowering communities to develop new ideas, approaches, and fundable projects to transform local and regional economies.

### USDA Office Hours

Traders

USDA officials will be available to answer your questions about USDA programs. Walk in anytime during this session to learn about new funding opportunities, discuss challenges applying for USDA funds, or ask questions about whether specific needs in your community align with USDA funding sources.

12:00 – 1:30 p.m.

President's Award Luncheon

Grand Ballroom 1

All conference attendees and their guests are invited to attend this luncheon and celebrate the 2022 President's Award honoree.

2:00 – 3:15 p.m.

NADO Annual Business Meeting

Commonwealth 1

3:15 – 4:30 p.m.

NADO Board of Directors Meeting

Commonwealth 2

All NADO members are encouraged to attend these meetings to learn more about the governance of your Association.

5:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Farewell Reception

King's Garden 5

Don't leave Pittsburgh without saying farewell to your friends at the closing reception!

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*Thank you to our conference sponsors and exhibitors (as of Oct. 8, 2022)!*



Stop by the *NADO Resource Table* and the *NADO Swag Store* located near the conference registration desk!

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Engage in conversations during the ATC on LinkedIn, Twitter, and Facebook. Be sure to use #NADOATC22.