Networking @ New Partners

This year, in addition to the Thursday kickoff reception, lunches and other conference breaks, we’ve added six networking sessions that are offered outside the regular conference hours. These informal gatherings will focus on equitable development, the challenges of smart growth in small towns and rural areas, real-time sustainability and smart-growth strategies for achieving community health. Check out all of the model indoor parklets and great high-tech/high-touch planning tools at the Fab Lab!

Thursday Reception  5:30-6:30 pm
Join us in the Landmark/Majestic Foyers to kick off the conference!

Beers with Engineers  6:30-9:00 pm
“How Communities Are Being Planned” discussion plus local craft beers, wine and hors d’oeuvres! Join us as we cover a range of topics about improving our streets and our communities, including designing bike lanes, calming traffic, planning for self-driving cars, fostering equity in transportation, navigating your transportation department, and more. [HOK, 10 South Broadway, Suite 2200]

Friday Morning  7:15-8:45 am

How Can We Continue to Advance Equitable-Development Strategies to Support Inclusive Communities?
Join us to talk about effective ways we can continue to advance innovative efforts in housing, sustainable development and land use, environmental protections, transportation, fair housing and community resilience that are helping to build stronger, healthier and more inclusive communities across the country. [Majestic G]

Smart Growth in Rural Communities and Small Towns
Smart growth is happening all across the country — from rural communities and small towns to big cities and suburban areas. Building on conference themes, this session will include small group discussions on economic diversification, demographic change, rural-urban connections and more. [Majestic F]

Sustainability Goes Digital
Come find out how the Internet of Things and cloud-based energy/sustainability management can give you better real-time command of your energy use, allowing you to set and track benchmarks and save money as well as provide metrics for reducing greenhouse-gas emissions. [Majestic A]

Smart-Growth Strategies to Boost Local Economies
Smart Growth America has created some exciting new ways to help local governments apply smart-growth strategies to strengthen their downtowns. SGA’s vice president for economic development will be on hand to discuss those strategies and also some of the anti-displacement tactics that SGA has championed. [Majestic H]

Friday Fab Lab  10:00 am-4:00 pm

An Interactive Open House of High-Tech/High-Touch Tools for Smart-Growth Planning
This year, we’ve added a variety of tech innovators to our popular Technology Fair to create a unique, hands-on Fab Lab for you. Experiment with new technologies and tools that might apply to real-life scenarios you encounter in your work and your community. With a focus on fabrication technology and the maker movement, the Fab Lab will showcase innovative high-tech tools and how inexpensive low-tech/high-touch tools can activate and enhance public spaces with minimal time and effort. [Majestic Foyer]

Network Your Lunch Breaks!

Saturday Morning  7:15-8:45 am

Planning for Public Health
Come meet your colleagues working on planning, health and built-environment issues around the country. Discuss your experiences implementing planning and health projects or how you’d like to get started. Exchange information with other professionals about their experiences with smart-growth practices — what worked, what didn’t, and insights gained. Identify core competencies for staff to work on planning and health issues. [Majestic G]

T4A’s Smart Cities Collaborative: The Equity Connection
Transportation for America, a program of Smart Growth America, recently launched The Smart Cities Collaborative to guide cities through the challenging terrain of new mobility. SGA’s director of strategic partnerships will be on hand to discuss T4A’s leadership in this field and its goals for achieving triple-bottom line outcomes in this emerging field by bringing cities together. [Majestic F]

...and don’t miss any of the Indoor Parklets and Sponsor Displays!

NewPartners.org