

Tuesday, February 7

7:00 am - 7:30 am
Congressional Prep Session (at Hotel)
Coffee Served

7:30 am
Depart by taxi or Metro for the Hill (transportation costs supported by NARC)

On The Hill
8:00 am - 1:00 pm
Presentations by Key Committee Members and Staff, Continental Breakfast, Training Session, and Meet & Greet Box Lunch

8:00 am - 9:00 am
Continental Breakfast
Congressional Remarks

9:00 am - 10:30 am
Appropriations, Authorizations, and Budget Process
The relationship of Appropriations, Authorizations, and Budget is a dynamic and challenging process. Hear from congressional staff at the negotiating table on what it takes to get bills passed and sent to the President for signature.

10:30 am - 12:00 pm
Optional NARC arranged or Individual Congressional visits

12:00 pm - 1:00 pm
Box Lunch Congressional Remarks

1:30 pm - 3:00 pm
Optional Meeting at EPA Headquarters
Steve Johnson, EPA Administrator, is expected to host.

Afternoon open
Additional Congressional visits

Save the Dates

Please mark your calendars for these upcoming NARC conferences:

40th Annual Conference and Exhibition
June 17-20, 2006
Westin Riverwalk Hotel
San Antonio, TX
1.800.937.8461 or 210.224.6500
\$149 single/double occupancy

*****NEW DATES*****
Executive Directors Conference
September 13-16, 2006
Sheraton New Bern
New Bern, NC
1.800.326.3745 or 252.638.3585
\$110 single/double occupancy
*****PLEASE UPDATE YOUR CALENDAR*****

Washington Policy Conference
February 4-6, 2007
Omni Shoreham Hotel
Washington, DC

41st Annual Conference and Exhibition
June 23-26, 2007
Rosen Shingle Creek Resort & Golf Club
Orlando, FL

Washington Policy Conference
February 3-5, 2008
Omni Shoreham Hotel
Washington, DC

42nd Annual Conference and Exhibition
June 14-17, 2008
Des Moines Marriott Downtown
Des Moines, IA



National Association of Regional Councils



2006 Washington Policy Conference

February 5-7, 2006
Omni Shoreham Hotel
Washington, DC

Regional Approaches: Policies for the Future

Registration \$495,
with personal guest \$590

Hotel Registration Information

Omni Shoreham Hotel
2500 Calvert Street, NW
Washington, DC 20008

For Reservations, call 888.444.6664 or 202.234.0700

\$185 single/double occupancy

14.5% tax (subject to change)

Rooms are available Saturday, February 4 through Tuesday, February 7, 2006



NARC
Building Regional Communities



**APPALACHIAN
REGIONAL
COMMISSION**

The Conference is made possible through the co-sponsorship of the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC), a federal state partnership that works with the people of Appalachia to create opportunities for self-sustaining economic development and improved quality of life in a thirteen state area. NARC appreciates the special partnership with ARC that allows bringing to practitioners a national event of regional significance.



General Information

Conference Registration

The conference registration desk is located at the East Registration Desk in the East Lobby of the Hotel. Conference registration entitles you to attend all scheduled meetings, sessions, and social functions, including the Opening Reception and the General Luncheon.

Guest Registration

Guest registration includes the Opening Reception, Breakfast, and Activities on The Hill.

Registration Hours

Saturday, February 4: 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Sunday, February 5: 7:00 am - 5:00 pm
Monday, February 6: 7:00 am - 5:00 pm

Name Badges

Name badges are required for admission to all conference activities. Please check at the Registration Desk if a badge needs to be replaced.

Special Services

Special services will be provided upon request and pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) so all registrants may fully participate in the conference. Please notify Marcy Cording (marcy@narc.org) of any special service needs or dietary requirements.

Message Board

An information board will be located at the NARC Registration Desk for those who wish to leave a message for a conference participant. Paging will not be allowed.

Smoking Policy

All NARC activities are non-smoking. NARC respectfully requests that participants limit smoking to designated areas identified by the hotel only.

Contact NARC

National Association of Regional Councils
1666 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 300
Washington, DC 20009
202.986.1032 (phone) 202.986.1038 (fax)
marcy@narc.org

Saturday, February 4

3:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Registration

Draft Conference Agenda

Regional Approaches: Policies for the Future

Sunday, February 5

7:00 am - 5:00 pm

Registration

8:00 am - 11:00 am

Policy Development Committees (formerly Working Groups):

These sessions bring together peers to discuss, in an informal setting, the accomplishments to date of the association, pending legislation and policy, and propose new directions for NARC.

Environment

Community and Economic Development

Transportation: At this session, NARC staff will introduce NARC's new transportation advocacy and technical assistance program.

Homeland Security

11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Transportation Executive Committee (TEC) (*members only*)

This session is the first meeting of NARC's new Transportation Executive Committee (TEC). It is open only to members and will be establishing NARC's transportation issue committees, advocacy, and technical assistance agenda for the coming year.

12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

Lunch on own

1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Regional Futures Institute

Regional Strategies & Policies for Emergency Response

1:00 pm - 1:15 pm

Policy Coordination Committee

3:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Tomorrow's State Associations

4:00 pm - 5:30 pm

Executive Directors Committee meeting

6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Open and Welcome

Randall Morris, NARC President
Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton, *invited*
Mayor Anthony Williams, *invited*

7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Opening Reception

Monday, February 6

7:00 am - 5:00 pm

Registration

8:00 am - 8:55 am

Plenary Session:

Deputy Secretary David Sampson, Department of Commerce, *invited*

9:05 am - 10:50 am

Concurrent Sessions:

An Update on Strengthening America's Communities Initiative (SACI)

In 2005, the administration proposed SACI as a plan for consolidating eighteen federal programs that promote economic development in the nation's communities. The fiscal 2006 budget did not include funds for the implementation of SACI. Hear from the Department of Commerce's senior economic development policy maker about the administration's future plans and come prepared with questions.

Rulemaking and Guidance: Implementation of

SAFETEA-LU Listening Session

Federal agencies are currently drafting rules and guidance for provisions in SAFETEA-LU. This session will provide insight into the process and allow participants the opportunity to provide input to agency officials.

The Future of Water Quality Planning

With scarce resources for domestic spending, funding for Water Quality Programs is at risk. This session will focus on the administration's perspective, in particular the 2007 congressional budget request. Congressional Committee Staff will provide insights to potential hurdles that will have to be overcome to maintain the core water programs at adequate funding levels.

11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Concurrent Sessions:

Serving the Needs of Seniors

Regional Councils serve as Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) and administer programs that provide valuable services for America's seniors. The White House Conference on Aging held in December 2005 is the 5th conference held to assess challenges of changing demographics and their impact on how to best address the concerns of older Americans.

The Future of Multimodalism

Air transport, passenger rail, and other intercity transportation play an important mobility role in the United States. These modes have unique challenges and growth opportunities in the near future. Representatives of passenger rail, airlines, and transit providers will discuss how we can shape a national policy to move people more efficiently.

Air Quality Roundtable

The passage of SAFETEA-LU will mean changes to how we implement conformity through the regulatory process. NARC continues the series of integrating air quality and transportation planning workshops that provide information on the conformity process and how it will change. FHWA, EPA, and Congressional representatives will discuss what this means.

Monday, February 6 (cont.)

12:10 pm - 1:30 pm

Keynote Luncheon:

Secretary Michael Chertoff, Department of Homeland Security, *invited*

1:40 pm - 3:10 pm

Concurrent Sessions:

The Challenges of Homeland Security and Community

Preparedness The ongoing threats of acts of terrorism and unanticipated events such as natural disasters require a coordinated strategy and response across the nation's communities. Regional approaches are critical to a seamless interface of services, resources, and supplies. The devastation caused by hurricanes Katrina and Rita reminded the nation of the critical nature of responding timely and effectively.

Freight and Goods Movement Policy Freight and goods movement is critical to the economy of the United States. Freight systems have become severely congested due to just-in-time delivery, consolidated operations, and overseas trade. To accommodate future growth and maintain our quality of life, major investment is needed in the goods movement system. This session will present the outlook for a national goods movement policy, including solutions to freight congestion issues.

Investment Decisions for Operations (Elected Officials)

FHWA is conducting a survey from the Joint Program Office on User Needs Assessment. They are interested in hearing how elected officials make investment decisions and what resources they use in their decision making.

3:20 pm - 4:45 pm

Concurrent Sessions:

Workforce Development for a Global Economy

Competitiveness in the global economy means having a trained workforce to meet new demands. Assuring Americans have the skills set to effectively compete in the world market place supports the nation's economic position. The workforces reauthorization act will be an agenda item for the second session of the 109th Congress.

The Future of Transportation Finance

As the need for transportation infrastructure exceeds the public funds currently available, innovative solutions to transportation finance are being proposed and experimented with. This session will bring together a panel of experts on transportation finance including public/private partnerships, new government programs, and transportation user fee systems.

The Synergy of Cooperative Conservation, Green

Infrastructure, and Landcare

The White House Summit on Cooperative Conservation encouraged innovative strategies of collaboration at the local, state, and federal levels. NARC has ongoing projects on Green Infrastructure and Landcare and is working toward getting more of these types of projects on the ground. The session will be an inspiration to all.

5:00 pm - 6:30 pm

Board of Directors meeting