



April 19 - 21, 2017
The Curtis Hotel
1405 Curtis Street | Denver, Colorado
DRAFT Agenda - April 7, 2017

Wednesday, April 19

- 1:30 - 2:00 pm Registration & Networking**
- 2:00 - 2:30 pm Welcome / Introductions**
- Sanah Baig, Program Director, National Association of Counties
 - Brett Schwartz, Program Manager, National Association of Development Organizations
 - Angela Martinez, Regional Director, US Economic Development Administration, Denver Regional Office
- 2:30 - 3:15 pm Putting Things in Perspective: Lessons from the Coal Industry Transition**
- Erik Pages, President, EntreWorks Consulting
- 3:15 - 3:30 pm Networking Break**
- 3:30 - 5:00 pm From Downturn to Transition: Case Studies in Economic Diversification**
- Erik Pages, President, EntreWorks Consulting (moderator)
 - Jack Forinash, Principal, Epicenter - Green River, Utah
 - Duane Miller, Executive Director, LENOWISCO Planning District Commission - Wise, Va.
- 5:00 - 6:30 pm Welcome Reception Co-Sponsored by Colorado Department of Local Affairs**

Thursday, April 20

8:30 – 9:00 am Breakfast & Networking

9:00 – 10:15 am Best Practices from Appalachia and Around the Region

- Brett Schwartz, Program Manager, National Association of Development Organizations (moderator)
- Heidi Binko, Executive Director, Just Transition Fund
- Karen Fabiano, Appalachian Regional Commission
- Michelle Haynes, Executive Director, Region 10
- West End Economic Development Council, Colo. (invited)

10:15 – 10:30 am Networking Break

10:30 – 11:45 am Concurrent Facilitated Training Sessions

Agriculture & Food Systems:

- Becca Jablonski, Assistant Professor and Food Systems Extension Economist, Colorado State University
- Jennifer Watkins, Director of Operations, Alliance for Rural Impact

Broadband and Infrastructure:

- Greg Winkler, Regional Manager, Colorado Department of Local Affairs
- Michelle Haynes, Executive Director, Region 10 - Delta County, Colo.

11:45 – 12:00pm Break and Get Lunch

12:00 – 1:30 pm Lunch Plenary: Building Your Community to Strengthen Your Economy

- Clark Anderson, Community Builders

1:30 – 2:45 pm Concurrent Facilitated Training Sessions

Arts and Creative Placemaking

- Kiley Arroyo, Executive Director, Cultural Strategies Council
- Margaret Hunt, Director, Colorado Creative Industries

Entrepreneurship and Workforce Development

- Stephan Weiler, William E. Morgan Endowed Chair, Professor of Economics, Colorado State University
- Erik Pages, President, EntreWorks Consulting

2:45 – 3:00 pm Networking Break

- 3:00 – 4:00 pm** **Philanthropic and Non-Profit Support for Place-Based Economic Development**
- Katherine Pease, Principal, KP Advisors (moderator)
 - Fraser Nelson, Director of Strategic Partnerships, Sorenson Impact
 - Leah Rausch, Director of Rural Partnerships, Community Resource Center
 - Samantha Albert, Co-Director, Regional Partnerships Program, El Pomar Foundation
- 4:00 pm** **Conclude for the Day**
- 5:00 pm** **Informal Networking Opportunity**

Friday, April 21

- 8:00 – 8:30 am** **Breakfast & Networking**
- 8:30 – 9:30 am** **State and Local Leaders Working Together to Foster a Stronger Regional Economy**
- Angela Martinez, Regional Director, US Economic Development Administration, Denver Regional Office (moderator)
 - Irv Halter, Executive Director, Colorado Department of Local Affairs
 - Jim Atchison, Executive Director, Southeastern Montana Development Corporation
 - Mark Christensen, Commissioner, Campbell County, Wyoming
- 9:30 – 9:45 am** **Mapping County Data: An Introduction to NACO's County Explorer Tool**
- Jack Morgan, Program Manager, National Association of Counties
- 9:45 – 10:00 am** **Networking Break**
- 10:00 – 11:30 am** **Conversation Café**
- Learn from your peers and share your own successes and challenges in economic diversification during rotating small group discussions on topics such as housing, transportation, tourism, brownfields, youth engagement, and more.
- 11:30 – 11:45 am** **Get lunch**
- 11:45 – 12:45pm** **Lunch Plenary: Building Meaningful Partnerships**
- Linda Langston Director of Strategic Relations and Former President, National Association of Counties
- 12:45 – 1:00 pm** **Upcoming Technical Assistance Opportunities**
- 1:00 pm** **Adjourn Forum**

This agenda is tentative and subject to change. Please contact Sanah Baig, NACo Program Director at SBaig@naco.org or Brett Schwartz, NADO Program Manager, at bschwartz@nado.org with any questions.