

Smart Growth in America's Heartland

12th Annual New Partners for Smart Growth

Building Safe, Healthy, Equitable
and Prosperous Communities

February 7-9, 2013

Kansas City, Missouri



presented by





New
Partners
2013

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A National Conference. with a Midwest Flavor.

This year, the New Partners Conference makes its way to America's heartland — Kansas City, MO. Long acclaimed for its legendary jazz, blues and barbecue, Kansas City is now striving to implement a vision of smart growth and sustainability that promotes economic vitality, environmental quality and social equity.

The conference's trip to the Midwest underscores an expansive diversity ripe for innovative smart-growth strategies and opportunities — for industrial big cities, suburban neighborhoods, small towns and rural agriculture, stretching across the Great Plains to the Great Lakes to Appalachia.

Home to industrial giants, thriving small businesses and a rich history of agricultural life, the core of the American vision is still here in these Midwest communities, challenging us to take smart growth to new places.

The 12th annual New Partners conference will explore practical strategies for identifying and overcoming barriers to more sustainable development in the Midwest and the rest of the nation.

The Midwest is a place where great solutions — unique to the Middle America context — are being applied (like Chicago, Minneapolis, Milwaukee and Kansas City) and where there are exciting opportunities to get it right. It's home to turnaround urban success stories and metropolitan areas striving to revitalize. Its communities are "green" — from farms, urban gardens and parks to innovative green businesses and sustainable jobs.

Its transportation tells the story of big-city transit, suburban transportation networks, the waterways of the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers, and the great freight systems that connect the country.

Big City. Small Town. Rural Community.

On the Agenda

The 3-day program includes over 90 sessions and 400 speakers, spanning more than a dozen topic tracks.

■ Plenaries

The Arrival of the 21st-Century American City
Why Leave It to the Liberals?
Conservative Views on Smart Growth

Smart Growth and Your Tax Dollar,
Making Sense of It All

Closing Plenary: A Governor's View on
Smart Growth – from Both Sides of the Aisle

■ Session Topics include:

Green Economic Development:
Smart-Growth Tools in Small Communities

Solutions from Heartland Communities:
Advancing Energy Efficiency and Sustainability

Adapting Cities to WaterWorld – Smart Growth
Techniques for Rainwater Management

Freight Rail – On the Right Track to
Sustainability

Building Community while Greening the City:
The Parklet Revolution

Park-Oriented Development: The Next Big Thing
Moving Beyond Cars: Critical Lessons in
Rebuilding Former Auto Communities

A Nation of Vibrant Communities:
Through the Lens of Urban Trees

Small Housing Trends: Recession Survival
Tactics and Moving Forward

Intercity Passenger Rail in America

Water, Water Everywhere: Protecting and
Enriching Great Water Highways

Greening Rural Communities

Land Banking: Pathways toward Sustainable
Urban, Suburban and Rural Land Reclamation

Cities and Regions in Transition: Building New
Economies and Repositioning for the Future

Growing Resilient Communities through
Local and Regional Food Systems

Building Rural Wealth

Art Projects Creating Vibrant Rural Places

Move that Bus...Smart-Growth Lifestyles

New Approaches to Engaging Industrial
Neighbors in Community Planning

Bike Sharing and Active Transportation
for Communities Large and Small

New School, Old School, Closed School –
Properly Siting, Repurposing, Valuing Schools

Born in a Small Town: Transportation Success
Stories from Rural America

Planning and Implementing Smart Growth
in Native Communities

Building Capacity for Equitable Transit-Oriented
Developments in Diverse Communities

Complete Streets in Missouri

Building Community Resilience
Before and After Disasters

Designing Healthy Environments

Rust Belt Resurgence: Committed Leadership
and Cooperation in Gary and Northwest Indiana

Infrastructure Finance: Innovative Tools

Partnership for Sustainable Communities:
Case Studies in Environmental Justice

New Strategies for Equitable Smart Growth:
The Promise of Place-based “Green Zones”

Treading New Ground: Addressing Segregation
and Fair Housing in Sustainable Communities

Avoid 20 Most Common PlaceMaking Mistakes

Rural Sustainability: Design and Strategy

Howling Winds and Ominous Skies: Disaster
Resilience in the Age of Climate Change

15 Ways to See Smart Growth in the KC Region

OPTIONAL TOURS

Don't just talk about smart growth – come to the conference and see it! Beyond the great sessions, New Partners also offers 15 optional tours of local model projects on Thursday morning and afternoon – and Sunday morning, if you want to stay an extra day.

The tours explore global trade, urban farming, fast buses, solar installations, what to do with rain, artistic infrastructure, and innovative redevelopment in older suburbs and green zones.

Take a walk around KC's Downtown, check out food trucks and fun in the Power & Light District, or catch a little jazz at 18th & Vine.

Check out the full list of tours on the next page.

W Wednesday Workshop

PRE-CONFERENCE

Sustainable Neighborhoods, Thriving Residents: Strategies for Building Equitable Communities

■ February 6 • 1:00-6:30 p.m.

Communities across the country are knitting together planning, infrastructure investment, development policies, job training, business assistance and other approaches to capitalize on local assets, revitalize neighborhoods, create jobs, and encourage inclusive, enduring economic growth.

This popular, pre-conference workshop will explore how low-income, minority, tribal and other overburdened communities are integrating land use and economic development strategies to renew their neighborhoods and build residents' skills and wealth.

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Optional Tours of Local Model Projects

All tours carry a small fee to cover transportation costs and refreshments. Visit the conference web site for tour details and fees. Space on each tour is limited, and pre-registration is required.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7 MORNING TOURS

- Tour 1 – Kansas City, Kansas: Melting Pot in “The Dotte”
- Tour 2 – What 1893 KC Can Tell Us about Our American Cities Today
- Tour 3 – Kansas City’s Low-Cost/ High-Benefit BRT – The MAX
- Tour 4 – A Look at Marlborough: A Community Focused on Holistic Solutions
- Tour 5 – Green Impact Zone: A Model of Concentrated Capacity Building
- Tour 6 – Global Trade and Local Community: A Tour of Argentine Neighborhoods

AFTERNOON TOURS

- Tour 7 – First Suburban Redevelopment Strategies in the Kansas City Metro
- Tour 8 – Development Tools...Historic Preservation, the Arts and Infrastructure
- Tour 9 – 18th & Vine Jazz District: A Walk through the Past into the Future
- Tour 10 – Rain to Recreation: Lenexa’s Strategy for Stormwater Management
- Tour 11 – Kansas City Municipal Farm: Urban Agriculture and Sustainable Transformation
- Tour 12 – KC Regional Solar Installations

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10 MORNING TOURS

- Tour 13 – Kansas City Walk Audit with Walkability Guru Dan Burden
- Tour 14 – Smart Growth Can Be Fun: City Market, Food Trucks, Power & Light District, Crossroads
- Tour 15 – Distributing Local, Good Food: The Good Natured Family Farms Experience



Special Features

Technology Fair: An Interactive Demonstration of Public Engagement Tools for Smart Planning

Pick up your breakfast on Friday morning and take a stroll through the Technology Fair, where you’ll be able to try out cutting-edge tools for scenario planning and public engagement and talk to leading tool users and developers about how to put these tools to work for you. Over the past few years, an impressive set of tools has emerged to address a number of planning needs, including mapping and alternative analysis tools to aid planning, interactive and data-rich 3-D visualization, and online tools and mobile apps to engage stakeholders typically not reached through public meetings. PlaceMatters, along with the Open Source Planning Tools Collaborative, has organized this open house to bring together leading tool developers and users to demonstrate and discuss their value in smart planning.

New Partners Takes the “Parklet” Indoors!



In recent years, a number of communities have begun experimenting with “parklets” – temporarily turning the asphalt of parking spaces into small, on-the-street spots of greenery and seating – to enliven the streetscape experience and provide more outdoor seating for restaurants and cafes. The New Partners conference will showcase five parklet model experiences inside the

Kansas City Convention Center, to demonstrate for participants what a parklet is, and how it can transform a couple of under-utilized parking spaces into exciting opportunities for creating more vibrant (parking) spaces in your community.

The Doctor Is In – the Midwest: EPA’s Smart Growth Prescriptions to Create Sustainable Communities

Do your streets need a diet? Are you experiencing unwanted growth? Or maybe a population hemorrhage? Do you need an infill transplant? Have any other built environment ailment?

The EPA, along with a team of national smart growth experts, has created a Building Blocks Toolbox of smart growth-related concepts and strategies that can assist your community in creating better public spaces, more vibrant, mixed-use districts and a healthier attitude toward what it means to be a sustainable community.

During the conference, the EPA’s Office of Sustainable Communities will be holding 20-minute “office hours” to match your ailment with a prescription from the toolbox. Check out the list of tools: epa.gov/smartgrowth/buildingblocks.htm#tools. Email nelson.kevin@epa.gov to sign up in advance for an “office visit” with the national experts who developed these Building Blocks.



THE 12TH ANNUAL **NEW PARTNERS FOR SMART GROWTH** CONFERENCE

Special Features

Networking Opportunities

While the program and speakers get high marks from participants every year, year after year the number one reason why participants flock to this conference is to network with their peers and many others outside their disciplines in a truly dynamic and inspirational learning environment. The conference will include informal networking activities that will be scheduled throughout the conference, on a variety of smart growth and sustainable communities issues.

Coming Attractions: Optimize Your Engagement

Attention Smart Growth Fans! In the coming weeks, we will be rolling out our online town hall forum sponsored by MindMixer. This platform will allow you to interact with us and each other to solve smart-growth challenges, share best practices, and help set the direction for the future of our movement. Stay tuned for our launch and we look forward to hearing from you.

Accreditation – Get Credit for Conference Sessions

The LGC is currently pursuing the availability of accreditation for AICP planners, architects, landscape architects and attorneys. Visit the conference web site for more details.

Midwest Joins National Conversation on Smart Growth

Share your photos, videos, presentations and thoughts about the future of our communities – what’s already happening where you live! Join the Smart Growth Network’s National Conversation blog. Submit your posts and follow the conversation today: smartgrowth.org/nationalconversation

  **Follow the Conference on Facebook at facebook.com/newpartnersconference and Twitter @NewPartnersConf**

Presented by the Local Government Commission • Supporters include:



Register Now!

newpartners.org

Visit the conference web site for registration information and more details about these and many other exciting sessions!

■ Conference Scholarships

The LGC is sponsoring a fund to provide a limited number of need-based scholarships to cover registration fees, to be given to participants who would not otherwise be able to attend. Priority will be given to individuals representing small nonprofits, community-based and grassroots organizations, and local governments. Please visit the conference web site for details on eligibility and how to apply.

■ Conference Location

Sessions will be at the Kansas City Convention Center, with guest rooms across the street at the Marriott Kansas City Downtown Hotel. The group rate until Jan. 14, 2013, is \$119 single/double occupancy. Call (877) 303-0104 to make a reservation and indicate you are attending the New Partners Conference.

■ For Conference Information

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