



School of Public Affairs

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO DENVER

Rocky Mountain West Convening of Habitat 3 Panel Moderators and Speakers

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Salin Geevarghese, Deputy Assistant Secretary for International and Philanthropic Innovation



Salin Geevarghese was appointed by Secretary Shaun Donovan as HUD's Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Office of International and Philanthropic Innovation (IPI) within the Office of Policy Development and Research. In this role, Salin leads an innovation team that is charged with engaging philanthropic and other cross-sector partners - both internationally and domestically - to harness and apply best practices, programs and policies for the benefit of our communities and aligning our common efforts. Prior to this appointment, Salin was appointed Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Housing and Communities. In that role, he was responsible for advancing housing and communities that increase affordability, cost savings, efficiency, and quality of life, while also expanding regional economic growth and opportunity around the nation. A recognized expert and leader, Salin has consulted, spoken, and written widely on public education issues, civil rights and equity issues, community and economic development, and civic innovation and engagement efforts.

Paul Teske, Dean & Distinguished Professor, University of Colorado at Denver, School of Public Affairs



Paul Teske is Dean of the School of Public Affairs (SPA). Teske was designated a University of Colorado Distinguished Professor in 2008, one of 70 across the 4 campus system. He received the 2005 Distinguished Research Award from the 270 college member groups NASPAA/ASPA and he also won the 2005 Excellence in Research and Creative Activities award from CU Denver. Teske's research has centered on education policy, regulatory policy, and urban policy, with 8 books, more than 50 articles, and 20 book chapters on these topics. Teske's research has been funded with more than \$5 million dollars, including grants from the National Science Foundation, National Academy of Education, Brookings Institution, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Manhattan Institute, American Enterprise Institute, Smith Richardson Foundation, Walton Family Foundation, Daniels Fund, and Rose Community Foundation. His research has been discussed in media outlets including the Denver Post, New York Times, New York Post, Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel, Chicago Tribune, Education Week, and National Public Radio.

Rick Garcia, Regional Administrator, Region VIII, U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development



Rick M. Garcia serves as Regional Administrator for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Region VIII in the Administration of President Barack Obama. He also served as Senior Advisor to HUD Secretary on Sustainability, where he assisted in the department's role in the Federal Partnership on Sustainability and the Sustainable Communities Initiative. Prior to joining HUD, Mr. Garcia was elected to the Denver City Council, where he served for two terms. Throughout his tenure, he made economic revitalization, access to new transit projects and business development his priorities. Mr. Garcia was an elected RTD Board Commissioner and is credited for bringing necessary stability and credibility to the RTD board, which led to the voter's successful passage of the FasTracks initiative. Mr. Garcia earned his Master of Public Administration Degree from the Harvard Kennedy School and holds a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from Columbia College.



School of Public Affairs

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO DENVER

Securing Housing Options for All

Kelly D. Edmiston, PhD – Senior Economist, Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City



Kelly D. Edmiston is a senior economist at the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City. He conducts research on issues involving regional economic growth and development, housing, community development, consumer finance, public finance, and poverty. He also advises Federal Reserve officials, provides written commentary for academic journals and Federal Reserve publications, and provides information and analysis to policymakers, community leaders, the media, and the general public. Prior to joining the Federal Reserve, he was Assistant Professor of Economics, Senior Associate at the Fiscal Research Center, and Senior Associate at the International Center for Public Policy at the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies at Georgia State University. He has also worked extensively for the World Bank and USAID. He holds a BA and a PhD from the

University of Tennessee.

Dace West – Director, Mile High Connects



Dace West is the Executive Director of Mile High Connects, a broad based collaborative working to ensure that the Metro Denver regional transit system fosters communities that offer all residents the opportunity for a high quality of life. Dace provides leadership and partner support around the organization's research, policy advocacy, organizing, grant-making and integration efforts. Prior to her work at Mile High Connects, Dace served as the Director of the Denver Office of Strategic Partnerships, an office created by Denver's Mayor in 2004 to serve as a liaison between the City and its nonprofit sector. While at DOSP, Dace was instrumental in creating the Denver Transit Oriented Development Fund, an acquisition fund to preserve affordable housing near transit; coordinated over \$10 million of direct investments while leveraging an additional \$50 million for energy efficiency upgrades for affordable housing and commercial facilities, and managed multiple large-scale collaborative efforts. Throughout her career, Dace has brought high level expertise in pulling together diverse partners across a variety of issues to work toward common, comprehensive goals and create real change for stronger communities.

The Honorable Ralph Becker - Former Mayor, Salt Lake City, Utah



Ralph Becker was Mayor of Salt Lake City from 2008-2015. In 2015 he was President of the National League of Cities. He served as State Planning Coordinator under Governor Scott Matheson, served on the Salt Lake City Planning Commission for seven years, and served 11 years in the Utah House of Representatives with five years as Democratic Leader. He co-owned Bear West consulting for more than 20 years and has been a member of the Planning faculty for 30 years at the University of Utah where he received post-graduate degrees in Law and Planning. Ralph's received his undergraduate degree from the University of Pennsylvania. Ralph is married to Kate Kopischke, has two sons and grandchildren in Salt Lake City, and enjoys outdoor activities in his free time.



School of Public Affairs

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO DENVER

Economic Mobility and Social Equity

Benoy Jacob, PhD – Assistant Professor, School of Public Affairs, University of Colorado Denver



Benoy Jacob is an Assistant Professor and the Director for the School's Center for Local Government Research and Training. Benoy also directs the School's Certified Public Management Program. Benoy's research focuses on the growth and governance of cities; in particular, issues of public finance, state and local relationships, and social diversity and equity. His work has been featured in *Urban Affairs Review*, *the National Tax Journal*, and *Public Administration Review*. Benoy also serves on the Executive Committee for ASPA's Section on Intergovernmental Administration and Management, and the Executive Committee for the National Certified Public Management Association. Benoy's work has been supported by the Rockefeller Foundation, the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, and ASPA's Center for Accountability and Performance. Recently, Benoy has also worked on applied research projects for the Denver Regional Council of Governments, and the Colorado Municipal League.

Jennifer Irving - Director of Regional Equity, Thunder Valley Community Development Corporation



Jennifer S. Irving is an enrolled member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe located on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota. She holds a Bachelor's of Science in Human Biology from Chadron State College in Nebraska. She received her Master's in Public Health in Community Health Education from the University of Minnesota. After 7 years in Minnesota, Jennifer relocated back to the Northern Plains where the majority of her work was at the Northern Plains Tribal Epidemiology Center of the Great Plains Tribal Chairmen's Health Board located in Rapid City, SD. During that time, Jennifer was accepted and graduated from the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists Applied Epidemiology Fellowship program. She then worked for her tribe as the Tribe's Epidemiologist and later as the Legislative Liaison to the Oglala Sioux Tribe President. Currently, Jennifer is the Director of Regional Equity at the Thunder Valley Community Development Corporation.

Gabriel Guillaume - Executive VP of Local Initiatives and Strategy, LiveWell Colorado



Gabriel Guillaume joined LiveWell Colorado in March 2010 as the vice president of community investments. He served as interim CEO from October 2013 to August 2014 and became the executive vice president of programs and strategy in October 2014. In this role, he supports the operationalization, integration and evolution of LiveWell Colorado's programming while maintaining relationships with the organization's primary funders and serving as a liaison to current and prospective partners. He also supports the implementation, tracking and evaluation of the organization's strategic plan, initiatives, and programming and works with the CEO to ensure the board of directors' awareness of and involvement in this work. For the past 15 years,

Gabriel has worked with nonprofits, community groups, government agencies and the private sector around critical social issues such as affordable housing, health and economic equity through community development, leadership development and advocacy methods. He has a passion for multi-sector collaborative approaches to profound systemic problems and is committed to building the capacity of community members to advocate for, lead and mobilize resources as a means to effectively pursuing economic and health equity.



School of Public Affairs

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO DENVER

Sustainable and Resilient Urban & Rural Development

Peter Park - LLC, City Planning and Design



Peter J. Park is a city planner who has led innovative private and public sector practice for over 20 years. He served as the Manager of the Community Planning and Development Department for the City and County of Denver and was responsible for Denver's planning, zoning, construction permit and inspection services. Prior to his post in Denver, he served as City Planning Director in Milwaukee where he was instrumental in establishing a disciplined approach to comprehensive planning, raising awareness of design, creating the Milwaukee Development Center, and streamlining development review procedures. Mr. Park specializes in innovative solutions that balance development needs with unique context, site, and design quality concerns. His integrated approach to comprehensive planning, urban design, and development review has created clear visions for sustainable urban development, places of high quality design, and streamlined permitting systems.

Clark Anderson - Principal, Community Builders, Glenwood Springs, CO



Clark Anderson is co-founder and Executive Director of Community Builders, which works to create great places and prosperous communities in the American West. For the past decade, Clark has helped communities throughout the Western US better align their local planning, transportation, economic development and natural resource management goals. Community Builders, a Colorado-based nonprofit organization, provides training, research and direct assistance to help local leaders address a wide range of community planning and economic development issues. Community Builders includes a transportation initiative called New Mobility West, which helps communities and DOTs in the Intermountain West create transportation systems that build more prosperous local economies. Community Builders also leads the Colorado Brownfields Partnership, which provides outreach and technical assistance housing to help communities clean-up and reuse brownfields sites throughout the state. He holds a bachelor's degree in biology from the University of Colorado and a master's in geography from the University of California, Davis.

Molly Urbina – Executive Director, Colorado Resilience and Recovery Office



Molly Urbina was appointed Executive Director of the Colorado Resiliency and Recovery Office by Gov. John Hickenlooper in February 2014. The Colorado Resiliency and Recovery Office leads the collaboration with our federal partners and Congressional delegation along with cooperation from all our state agencies and local governments to streamline funds and flood recovery efforts to those in greatest need after the unprecedented flooding in September 2013. In her role as Executive Director, Molly coordinates with these partners to secure funding, develop long-term plans and prepare for Colorado's unpredictable events that impact all parts of the state -- leading the Governor's mission to build Colorado back better and stronger from this historic flooding event and other disasters. Prior to her current appointment, Urbina served as the Deputy Manager of Denver's Community Planning and Development Department from 2005 to 2013. She oversaw the city's planning and zoning functions encompassing broad city visioning and tactical plan implementation. She was integral in the drafting and enactment of the Denver form based zoning code, passed by Denver City Council in 2010.



School of Public Affairs

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO DENVER

Rob Bennett – *President, National EcoDistricts*



Rob is the founding CEO of EcoDistricts. He is a recognized leader in the sustainable cities movement with 17 years of experience shaping municipal sustainable development projects and policy at the intersection of city planning, real estate development, economic development and environmental policy. Prior to EcoDistricts, Rob was the Executive Director of the Portland Sustainability Institute, a non profit founded by Mayor Sam Adams to accelerate sustainability policy and project innovation in Portland and worked for the Clinton Foundation supporting climate action in cities throughout North America. From 1998 to 2005, Rob worked for the cities of Portland, Oregon and Vancouver, Canada developing green development market transformation initiatives including catalytic development projects such as Lloyd Crossing (now the Lloyd EcoDistrict in Portland), Brewery Blocks (Portland), South Waterfront (Portland), and the 2010 Olympic Village (Vancouver). Rob was a founding board member of the Cascadia

Green Building Council and was a board member of REACH Community Development, one of the Pacific Northwest's largest and most innovative nonprofit affordable housing providers. Rob has presented throughout the United States and abroad on topics such as green economic development, sustainable municipal innovation, and green building policy.