



ANNUAL MEETING

Tuesday, August 10, 2021 – Thursday, August 12, 2021

The Commons
Columbus, Indiana

AGENDA

TUESDAY, AUGUST 10

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| 12:00 p.m. – 12:30 p.m. | Registration |
| 12:30 p.m. – 12:45 p.m. | Welcome and Introductions
Matt Greller , Chief Executive Officer, Aim
Mayor Matt Gentry , City of Lebanon, ICOM President
Mayor Jim Lienhoop , City of Columbus |
| 12:45 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. | ICOM Business Meeting
<i>Mayors Only</i> |
| 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. | The Right Balance: Utility Rates & Aging Infrastructure

Please join our panelists for an in-depth discussion about how deferred maintenance and stagnate utility rates have led to many communities to receiving mandates from Federal and State agencies. In a post-pandemic world, cities and towns are faced with the |

requirement for a substantial rate increase at a time when their constituents are still reeling from the effects of the global pandemic. To facilitate the discussion on this critical and pertinent subject, we have brought in the experts to explain the various funding options that may be available.

Moderator:

Gary Smith, Partner, Reedy Financial Group, P.C.

Panelists:

Kim Blanchet, Partner, Barnes & Thornburg

Bill Harkins, Program Director, Indiana State Revolving Fund

Rochelle Owen, Director of Community Programs, USDA Rural Development

Eric Reedy, President, Reedy Financial Group P.C.

2:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Columbus Past: J. Irwin Miller

Placemaking before Placemaking was cool. How one man's challenge to build the best community of its size in the country created today's Columbus.

Speaker:

Mayor Jim Lienhoop, City of Columbus

3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

Break

3:15 p.m. – 3:40 p.m.

Walk to Library Plaza / Downtown Exploration

A tour guide from the Visitors Center will provide a narrated walk as we head to the City and Architectural Bus Tour.

3:40 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

City and Architectural Bus Tour

Discover how a small midwestern city became a modern, architectural destination. The tour highlights several significant sites including four of the community's seven National Historic Landmarks. Learn how historic and modern buildings create a vibrant urban landscape through intentional re-utilization efforts and creative design solutions.

Speaker:

Tour Guide, Columbus Area Visitors Center

5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Pump House: Riverfront Project

Recognizing the overlooked asset in the midst of its downtown, Columbus Riverfront Project uses a holistic approach to address safety and environmental concerns while providing pedestrian connectivity, river access, recreation, and economic development for the downtown.

Speaker:

Heather Pope, Director of Redevelopment, City of Columbus

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Dinner at Columbus Pump House

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

Registration & Breakfast

9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Place-based Economic Development, from New to Norm

Less than ten years ago the world was just starting to understand how important building quality places is to the attraction of both people and employers. A lot has

changed since then. Placemaking is an increasingly key component of for communities as they develop their strategies for growth and resiliency. With a workforce that is growing ever-more mobile, quality places with safe streets, vibrant parks, strong community support, and more, will emerge as leaders in the race for talent. This informative workshop will offer the latest information and perspective on the place-based economy.

Speaker:

David Terrell, Executive Director of Indiana Communities Institute & Director of RUPRI Center for State Policy, Ball State University

10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

Break

10:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Introduction to Downtown Development

Columbus has achieved a world-renowned distinction for design and urban innovation and continues the goal to actively shape the physical environment of the downtown. Join us while we discuss current projects underway and how we strive to continually evolve and redefine downtown.

Speakers:

Jeff Bergman, Planning Director, City of Columbus

Jason Hester, President, Greater Columbus (Indiana) Economic Development Corporation

Heather Pope, Director of Redevelopment, City of Columbus

11:30 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

A Working Lunch: All Things ARPA

Grab your lunch and take a seat! Let's use this unstructured time to have a roundtable style

discussion regarding all things ARPA including hot topics and recent happenings.

12:45 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

De-escalation in Times of Extremism and Polarization

While cities have long dealt with major public safety events such as rallies, demonstrations, protests of all kinds, as well as angry and unpredictable citizens, our polarized public discourse has presented increased challenges. The void of online civility has become somewhat commonplace, leaving many numb to the way we address our neighbors with different opinions, as well as other contrasts. This comfort level has left many emboldened to espouse extreme views in public settings, sometimes creating unsafe situations. Experts from the Indiana State Police will be on-hand to offer detailed advice for local officials in their handling of the growing extremes in Hoosier cities. Mayors will also be invited to ask questions about specific circumstances and offer first-hand accounts of how fringe views have impacted their communities.

Speaker:

Doug Carter, Superintendent, Indiana State Police

2:00 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.

Break

2:15 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

Taking the Mystery Out of Insurance

No one wants to talk about insurance: with the lingo, exclusions, and subparagraphs it is difficult to understand and purchasing it for your city or town is a pain. What if you could just talk, in plain English to some insurance guys in a bar? What would you want to know? We will talk about some insurance basics, how and why you can get sued, war stories and new laws affecting you.

Speakers:

Tim Drury, Manager, Risk Management Services, Bliss McKnight, Inc.

Scott Lage, Vice President – Claims, Bliss McKnight, Inc.

Frank Pinson, Vice President – Sales, Bliss McKnight, Inc.

3:15 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Break

3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Creative Development Solutions in Columbus

Full speed ahead! Despite a once in a lifetime pandemic, rising construction costs and labor shortages, many cities, including Columbus, have many projects in the pipeline and are committed to flexible, innovative, and creative solutions for our communities. Our goal is to share a few of our projects with you.

Speakers:

Jeff Bergman, Planning Director, City of Columbus

Mary Ferdon, Director of Administration and Community Development, City of Columbus

Mayor Jim Lienhoop, City of Columbus

Heather Pope, Director of Redevelopment, City of Columbus

5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Reception – Columbus City Hall Plaza

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Dinner – Columbus City Hall Plaza

THURSDAY, AUGUST 12

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

Breakfast

9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Practical Information about Renewable Energy in the Hoosier State

It has been established that the race for talent and population growth is fundamentally tied to the quality of place in our communities. However, when you think about quality of place, are you including the commitment your city makes to sustainability strategies and practices? This workshop will review renewable energy policies in Indiana and how partnering with your local utility can help municipalities invest in smart energy strategies. Further, presenters will discuss how changes to the regional grid and Indiana's state policy discussion are changing as we all plan for a more sustainable future.

Speaker:

Mike Roeder, Vice President of Government Affairs – Regulatory, CenterPoint Energy

10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

Break

10:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Exhibit Columbus

An overview of the Exhibit Columbus / Landmark Columbus will be discussed followed by a walking tour of a few favorite Exhibit Columbus projects that are currently underway.

Speaker:

Richard McCoy, Executive Director, Landmark Columbus Foundation

11:30 a.m.

Adjourn