

NEW ENGLAND ASSOCIATION OF REGIONAL COUNCILS (NEARC)

2009 NEARC ANNUAL CONFERENCE

October 22 – 24, 2009

The Mount Washington Hotel and Resort

Bretton Woods, New Hampshire

FINAL - 2009 CONFERENCE PROGRAM

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22ND – NEARC CONFERENCE DAY #1 EVENTS:

**THANKS TO OUR CONFERENCE DAY #1 SPONSOR: URS CORPORATION
AND JACOBS ENGINEERING GROUP**

- 12:00 – 5:00 p.m. Conference Registration
- 12:15 – 12:45 p.m. Conference Welcomes and Opening Remarks
- Welcome to the 2009 NEARC Conference – David Danielson, President of the New England Association of Regional Councils and Board Member of the Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission, Manchester, New Hampshire
 - Welcome to New Hampshire and the Host Region for NEARC's 2009 Conference – Raymond Burton, Councilor, State of New Hampshire Executive Council and Michael King, Executive Director, North Country Council, Bethlehem, New Hampshire
- 12:45 – 1:10 p.m. A Brief Orientation to The Mount Washington Hotel and Resort – One of New England's Historical Gems and Premier Destinations
- 1:10 – 2:30 p.m. Spotighting the Northern Forest Sustainable Economy Initiative: Pursuing a Strategy to Achieve Economic Resurgence in the Northern Reaches of New England and New York
- Moderator: Kevin Geiger, AICP, Senior Planner, Two Rivers-Ottauquechee Regional Council, Woodstock, Vermont
- Panelists:
- Joe Short, Program Manager, Northern Forest Center, Concord, New Hampshire
 - Michael King, Executive Director, North Country Council, Bethlehem, New Hampshire
 - Robert Thompson, Executive Director, Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments, Auburn, Maine
- 2:30 – 3:50 p.m. Getting Our Tracks Together: An Evolving Rail Plan for New England to Connect and Compete in the 21st Century
- Moderator: Tim Brennan, Executive Director, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, Springfield, Massachusetts
- Panelists:
- George N. Campbell, Commissioner, New Hampshire Department of Transportation
 - Joseph F. Marie, Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Transportation

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22ND (continued)

3:50 – 5:20 P.M. New England Economy Building: The Strategic Role of the Defense Technology Initiative (DTI) in Promoting a \$14 Billion Asset

Moderator: Larry Zabar, Executive Vice President, The New England Council, Boston, Massachusetts

Panelists:

- Donald M. Quenneville, Executive Director, Defense Technology Initiative
- Additional Panelists Representing Various Branches of the Military Services

5:20 – 5:30 p.m. CLOSING REMARKS – CONFERENCE DAY #1 ENDS

5:45 – 7:15 p.m. Reception at the Mount Washington Hotel – Dinner on Your Own

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23RD – NEARC CONFERENCE DAY #2 EVENTS:

THANKS TO OUR CONFERENCE DAY #2 SPONSORS: PUBLIC SERVICE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE AND HDR INC.

- 8:00 – 1:00 p.m. Conference Registration
- 7:30 – 8:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast
- 8:00 – 9:15 a.m. **STORMWATER MANAGEMENT: HOW ARE NEW ENGLAND'S COMMUNITIES AND REGIONS STEPPING UP TO THE NON-POINT SOURCE CHALLENGE?**
Moderator: John D. Pagini, AICP, Consultant Planner, Coventry, Connecticut
Panelists:
- Jillian E. McCarthy, Nonpoint Source Specialist, New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services
 - Dr. Robert Rosen, Director, Stormwater Lab, University of New Hampshire
 - Robert L. Moylan Jr., Commissioner, Department of Public Works and Parks, City of Worcester
- 9:15 – 10:20 a.m. **CONTEMPLATING THE FUTURE PROSPECTS OF RURAL NEW ENGLAND**
Moderator: Peter Gregory, Executive Director, Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Regional Council, Woodstock, Vermont
Panelists:
- Rhonda Shippee, Acting Regional Director, U.S. Department of Agriculture for Vermont and New Hampshire
 - Pat McDermott, Economic and Community Development Manager, Public Service of New Hampshire
 - Jay Healy, Regional Director, U.S. Department of Agriculture for Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island
- 10:20 – 10:30 a.m. **A.M. BREAK – 10 MINUTES**
- 10:30 – 12:30 p.m. **AWAITING "NEXT T": AN UPDATE ON THE STATUS AND TIMETABLE FOR CONGRESSIONAL ACTION ON A NEW, MULTIYEAR FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION LAW**
Moderator: Lyle Wray, Executive Director, Capitol Region Council of Governments, Hartford, CT
Panelists:
- Staff Representative Jon Lenicheck, District Director from the Office of U.S. Congressman Michael Capuano, Member of the U.S. House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee
 - Anne D. Stubbs, Executive Director, Council of Northeast Governors (CONEG)
 - Matt Chase, Executive Director, National Association of Development Organizations (NADO)
 - Erika Young, Transportation Director, National Association of Regional Councils (NARC)
- 12:30 – 2:15 P.M. **NEARC AWARDS LUNCHEON AND KEYNOTE SPEAKER**
Topic: Chasing Climate Change: New Hampshire's Efforts to Implement a Climate Action Plan and Contribute to a New England Regional Effort to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions
Speaker:
- Tom Burack, Commissioner, New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23RD (continued)

2:30 – 4:00 p.m.

INNOVATIONS IN REGIONAL, SHARED SERVICES – HOW REGIONAL COUNCILS ARE WORKING WITH CITIES AND TOWNS TO ENHANCE PUBLIC SERVICES WHILE SAVING PUBLIC DOLLARS – THE NEXT WAVE

Moderator: Neal Allen, Executive Director, Greater Portland Council of Governments, Portland, Maine

Panelists:

- Jocelyn Mathiasen, Special Projects Coordinator, Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG), Hartford, Connecticut
- Stephen Daly, Director of Municipal Governance, Metropolitan Area Planning Council, Boston, Massachusetts
- David Preece, Executive Director, Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission, Manchester, New Hampshire

4:00 – 4:10 p.m.

Conference Program for Day #2 Wrap-up – Tim Brennan, NEARC Coordinator

4:00 – 6:30 p.m.

Free Time

6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

NEARC RECEPTION WITH KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Recommended Topic:

- Keynote Speaker: Stephen P. Barba, Plymouth State University, “The History of Hospitality in the North Country: The Story of New Hampshire’s Grand Hotels”

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24TH – NEARC CONFERENCE DAY #3 EVENTS

THANKS TO OUR CONFERENCE DAY #3 SPONSOR: PB AMERICA, INC.

- 7:30 – 8:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast
- 8:30 – 9:45 a.m. TECH TOPICS: SPOTLIGHTING NEW TECHNOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS THAT CAN BENEFIT REGIONS AND THEIR MEMBER COMMUNITIES
- Moderator: Tim Brennan, Coordinator, New England Association of Regional Councils and Executive Director, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, Springfield, Massachusetts
- Panelists:
- Gary Roux, Principal Planner/Transportation Section Manager, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, Springfield Massachusetts (Digital Transportation Tools Including GPS and Sidewalk Management Using CarteGraph Software)
 - Jennifer March-Wackers, Senior Program Manager – Municipal Services, Capitol Region Council of Governments, Hartford, Connecticut (CRCOG's Efforts to Create an Online Building Permits Program)
- 9:45 – 11:00 a.m. RENEWABLE ENERGY – WHAT REGIONAL COUNCILS NEED TO KNOW AND CAN DO
- Moderator: Hank Barton, Secretary/Treasurer, New England Association of Regional Councils and Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, Springfield, Massachusetts
- Panelists:
- Robert Dean, Director of Regional Services, Franklin Regional Council of Governments, Greenfield, Massachusetts (Pursuing a Municipal ESCO to Achieve Energy Savings for Member Communities and School Districts)
 - Eric Steltzer, Energy Policy Analyst, New Hampshire Office of Energy and Planning
- 11:00 – 11:30 a.m. Federal Policy Reports and Updates from Washington, DC
- Steve Cassano, President, National Association of Regional Councils (NARC), Washington, D.C.
 - Matt Chase, Executive Director, National Association of Development Organizations (NADO), Washington, D.C.
- 11:30 – 12:15 p.m. NEARC Annual Business Meeting and Elections
- Election of NEARC Officers and Executive Committee Members for 2009 – 2010
 - Update on a Proposed New England Compact and the Potential for Federal Legislation Being Introduced in Congress in 2010
 - NEARC Member Dues and Budget for FY 2010
 - 2010 NEARC Conference Dates and Location to be Hosted by Connecticut
- 12:15 – 12:30 p.m. NEARC Conference Raffle, Announcements and Conference Wrap-up
- NEARC Annual Raffle
 - Other Important NEARC Business and Announcements
 - 2009 NEARC Annual Conference Adjourns