Agenda: Winter 2019 Policy Meeting
Friday, January 25 - Saturday, January 26
Equality Center, Human Rights Campaign, 1640 Rhode Island, NW, Washington, DC

Friday, January 25

11:30 – 1:00pm  Steering Committee Meeting, Members only

1:00 – 2:00pm  Registration

2:00 – 2:15pm  Welcome & Introductions
Joel Rogers, COWS

2:15 – 4:00pm  Valuing Women’s Health
With federal health care funds slashed, state politics unpredictable, and stark racial disparities prevalent in health outcomes, what can be done on the local level to ensure that women have access to quality health care? This panel will explore the role that cities can play in protecting and promoting women’s health.
Kimberlee Wyche-Etheridge, Meharry Medical College
Joneigh Khaldun, Detroit, MI
LaQuandra Nesbitt, Washington, DC
Luke Bronin, Mayor, Hartford, CT
Moderator: Rosalynn Bliss, Mayor, Grand Rapids, MI

4:00 – 4:15pm  Break

4:15 – 6:00pm  Climate Change & Transportation Emissions
As cities prepare for climate change, reducing the transit-related carbon footprint of a city can go a long way in reducing a municipality’s carbon output. While reducing gas vehicles through promoting electric vehicles is a key step, it is not sufficient.
Laura Jay, C40 Cities
Jessica Finn Coven, Seattle, WA
Libby Schaaf, Mayor, Oakland, CA
Jacob Frey, Mayor, Minneapolis, MN
Moderator: Suzanne Jones, Mayor, Boulder, CO

6:00 – 6:15pm  Break

6:15 – 7:00pm  Innovation Showcase
Moderator: Zach Vruwink, Mayor, Wisconsin Rapids, WI

7:00 – 7:30pm  Reception

7:30 – 9:00pm  Dinner and Keynote
Michael Nutter, former Mayor, Philadelphia, PA
Moderator: Joel Rogers, COWS
Saturday, January 26

8:00 – 8:30am  Breakfast

8:30 – 10:15am  Community Engagement: New Models, Old Rules or Old Models, New Rules?
A healthy relationship between municipal government and residents is a critical component of a strong democracy. Many cities are starting to think outside of the box to encourage community engagement that is authentic and equitable. This panel will provide city leaders with good ideas to improve their community engagement, whether through the use of the latest technology or by simply innovating tried and true techniques.
Shari Davis, Participatory Budgeting Project
Jon Robinson, West Sacramento, CA
Sherman Lea, Sr, Mayor, Roanoke, VA
Chokwe Lumumba, Mayor, Jackson, MS
Moderator: Betsy Hodges, former Mayor, Minneapolis, MN

10:15 – 10:30am  Break

10:30 – 12:15pm  Building a Strong, Diverse, and Resilient Local Business Community
Small, local businesses are a crucial component of thriving cities, but many need support to survive in today’s world of mega-companies and conglomerates, and when neighborhood change risks raising rents, sometimes resulting in displacement. This panel will examine how cities can reduce the regulatory burden for small businesses, increase access to business capital, strengthen local procurement policies, and provide educational opportunities to business owners and workers. We will also address how cities can support populations affected by historical disinvestment or intentional disadvantage to cultivate a thriving, unique local business community that benefits everyone.
Stacy Mitchell, Institute for Local Self-Reliance
Thomas Hoye, Mayor, Taunton, MA
Vi Lyles, Mayor, Charlotte, NC
Moderator: Stephen Benjamin, Mayor, Columbia, SC

12:15pm  Closing Remarks & Adjourn

12:15 – 12:45pm  Steering Committee Meeting, Members only

12:45 - 2:00pm  Optional: Guided tour of Evicted Exhibition, with Sarah Leavitt, Curator with the National Building Museum. A collaboration with Matthew Desmond, best-selling author of Evicted, this exhibit offers an immersive experience into the world of low-income renter eviction.

Each year more than 2.3 million Americans, most of them low-income renters, face eviction. While it used to be rare, forcible removal has become ordinary, with families facing eviction from the most uninhabitable apartments. Ms. Leavitt will provide an introduction to the eviction crisis, background on the exhibition, and related implications for city leaders.

*The tour is full, but please stop by the registration desk if you would like to join the waitlist.*
*The tour includes a light lunch and transportation to and from the National Building Museum, 401 F St NW.*