



Agenda: Summer 2018 Annual Meeting

Grand Rapids, MI

Wednesday, August 22

3:00 – 5:00pm **Steering Committee Meeting** – Members only
Cascade Room, Founders Brewery Headquarters, 235 Grandville Ave, SW
From the gift shop, take elevator up to 2nd floor.

5:00 – 7:00pm **Welcome Reception**
Centennial Room, Founders Brewery Headquarters, 235 Grandville Ave, SW
From the gift shop, take elevator up to 2nd floor.

7:00 – 9:00pm **Welcome Dinner**
Bistro Bella Vita, 44 Grandville Ave, SW

Thursday, August 23

7:30 – 8:30am **Registration & Breakfast**
Steelcase Conference Room, 2nd fl, Grand Rapids Chamber, 250 Monroe Ave, NW

8:30 – 9:00am **Welcome & Introductions**
Joel Rogers, COWS
Mayor Rosalynn Bliss, Grand Rapids, MI

9:00 – 10:45am **Equitable Economic Development**
Tracey Ross, PolicyLink
Tyler Bump, Portland, OR
Kara Wood, Grand Rapids, MI
Moderator: Mayor Zach Vruwink, Wisconsin Rapids, WI

10:45 – 11:00am **Break**

11:00 – 11:30am **Innovation Showcase**
Moderator: Mike Kasperzak, Former Mayor, Mountain View, CA

11:30 – 12:30pm **Lunch**
Ralph Becker, former Mayor, Salt Lake City, UT, will join us to talk about his research on qualities of successful and effective mayors.

12:30 – 2:30pm **The Water/Energy Nexus: Aiming for Net Zero Water Utilities**
Neal Elliott, American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy
Alison Sutter, Grand Rapids, MI
Mayor Mike Wiza, Stevens Point, WI
Moderator: Mayor Pete Buttigieg, South Bend, IN

2:30 – 3:00pm **Break**

3:00 – 5:00pm **Tours of Grand Rapids**
We have some exciting opportunities to tour the city of Grand Rapids by bus, bike and your own two feet! All tours will leave from the JW Marriott at 3pm and return to the hotel at 5pm. Please dress comfortably for the weather and activity.

3:00 – 5:00pm	<p><i>Pick from one of the three tour options - sign-up at the registration table at the meeting:</i></p> <p>Green Infrastructure: Grand Rapids is nationally recognized for their green infrastructure streetscapes. This tour will explore community-centered projects, from bioswales to porous pavement, by bus with opportunities to get off and see projects up close.</p> <p>Equitable Development: The Roosevelt Park neighborhood is one of the city’s most diverse neighborhoods and, like much of the city, is experiencing growth and development. Neighborhood partners will guide us on a walk, learning about the neighborhood history and a resident-informed revitalization project. The tour will take a bus and drop off attendees for a 1 mile walk through the neighborhood.</p> <p>Grand Rapids River Restoration: This dynamic tour will show off the Grand River and its adjacent parks and recreational spaces, while learning about current efforts to restore the river’s overall health and, most recently, its rapids as a catalyst for economic, environmental, and equity benefits. This is a 4 mile biking tour – bikes/helmets provided.</p>
6:00 – 7:00pm	<p>Reception <i>L3vel (3rd fl), The B.O.B., 20 Monroe Ave, NW</i></p>
7:00 – 9:00pm	<p>Dinner and Keynote Richard Rothstein, Economic Policy Institute <i>L3vel (3rd fl), The B.O.B., 20 Monroe Ave, NW</i></p>

Friday, August 24

8:00 – 9:00am	<p>Breakfast <i>Steelcase Conference Room, 2nd fl, Grand Rapids Chamber, 250 Monroe Ave, NW</i></p>
9:00 – 10:45am	<p>The Benefits of Healthy Urban Forests Karen Firehock, Green Infrastructure Center Inc. Stephanie Adams, Friends of Grand Rapids Parks Mayor Pam Hemminger, Chapel Hill, NC Moderator: Mayor Rosalynn Bliss, Grand Rapids, MI</p>
10:45 – 11:00am	<p>Break</p>
11:00 – 12:30pm	<p>Walking Tour: Art in Downtown Grand Rapids Grand Rapids has long been a mecca for art enthusiasts, from its world-renowned Art Prize to its art museums and installations. We’ll take a walking tour of downtown and learn how art has shaped Grand Rapids’ culture and economy (~1 mile walk).</p>
12:30 – 1:15pm	<p>Lunch</p>
1:15 – 3:00pm	<p>From Buzzword to Reality: Smart Cities in Practice Melanie Nutter, Nutter Consulting Josh Naramore, Grand Rapids, MI Josh Carpenter, Birmingham, AL Eric Finch, Spokane, WA Moderator: Mayor Suzanne Jones, Boulder, CO</p>
3:00 – 4:00pm	<p>Steering Committee Meeting – Members only</p>
6:00pm	<p>Optional: Dinner & Comedy Club <i>Join us for dinner at the Downtown Market (no-host), then a show at Dr. Grin’s Comedy Club (10:30pm)! Comedy club tickets are complimentary for the first 20 attendees - sign-up to secure your tickets at registration table at the meeting. Meet in the JW Marriott lobby at 6pm (0.9 mi walk to Downtown Market).</i></p>