



## Meet RIC: Introducing the Homeland Security Regional Innovation Cluster

### SPEAKER BIOS

LISTED IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

**Welcome** President Obama appointed L. Preston Bryant, Jr. as chairman of the National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC) in September 2009 for a six-year term. Mr. Bryant is Senior Vice President for Economic and Infrastructure Development in the Richmond office of McGuireWoods Consulting. He advises on a wide range of issues including water and wastewater facilities, conventional and renewable energy, and commercial and industrial development.



**L. Preston Bryant, Jr.**  
Chairman  
National Capital Planning Commission

Mr. Bryant previously served as Secretary of Natural Resources in the cabinet of former Virginia Governor Timothy Kaine. In this role he oversaw the Commonwealth's environmental, recreational, wildlife, and historic resources agencies. Prior to his cabinet service, Secretary Bryant served in the Virginia House of Delegates for ten years. He also served as a manager and partner at Hurt & Proffitt, Inc., a Virginia-based civil engineering, surveying, and planning firm.

Mr. Bryant received his B.A. in English from Randolph-Macon College, a Master's of Humanities from the University of Richmond, and an M.A. in Modern British Literature from the University of London.

**Opening Remarks** Carol Mitten is the Executive Director for Headquarters Consolidation in the Office of the Undersecretary for Management at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

**Carol Mitten**  
Executive Director for Urban Affairs  
and Headquarters Consolidation

Prior to joining DHS, Ms. Mitten was chief of the Land Resources Program Center for the National Capital Region at the National Park Service (NPS). Prior to the NPS, she was Amtrak's project manager for the redevelopment of Penn Station in New York City, which serves 500,000 passengers daily on three railroads. She moved to Amtrak after running the Office of Property Management for the District of Columbia Government under Mayor Anthony Williams. She also served Mayor Williams on the DC Zoning Commission, including seven years as chairman. Ms. Mitten's diverse real estate experience builds on a 20-year career as a commercial real estate appraiser. She is a graduate of Ohio State University.

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**Moderator**

David J. Robertson has been the executive director of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) since April 2003. Founded in 1957, COG is an association of 19 local governments in the Washington area that develops sound regional responses to such issues as the environment, affordable housing, economic development, health and family concerns, population growth, public safety, and transportation.



**David Robertson**

Executive Director  
Metropolitan Washington  
Council of Governments

Prior to his appointment as executive director, Mr. Robertson served as director of COG's Department of Human Services, Planning and Public Safety from 1990 to 2002. In this capacity, Mr. Robertson was responsible for managing a wide range of public policy and technical activities, including fostering partnerships with area businesses, non-profit and philanthropic organizations. Since September 11, 2001, Mr. Robertson has led COG's homeland security and emergency preparedness planning efforts. Mr. Robertson has held several technical and management positions at COG since 1986. Prior to coming to COG, Mr. Robertson worked for the National Association of Home Builders and U.S. Representative David Bonior of Michigan.

Mr. Robertson received a Master of Urban Planning degree from George Washington University, and holds a Bachelor's degree from Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan.

## PANELISTS BIOS

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**Panelist**

Barry Johnson serves as Senior Advisor and Director of Strategic Initiatives for the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) within the U.S. Department of Commerce. In this position, he plays an active role in a number of White House-convened taskforces formed to coordinate and align federal investments in regional economies.



**Barry A.E. Johnson**

Senior Advisor and Director  
of Strategic Initiatives  
U.S. Department of  
Commerce, Economic  
Development Administration

With more than 20 years of business experience as an entrepreneur and corporate executive with a focus on public-private partnerships, Mr. Johnson's portfolio includes the development of policy to support the advancement of regional innovation clusters as a key framework for organizing 21st century economic development. Prior to his appointment to the Obama Administration, Mr. Johnson was founder and managing principal at Acresh Development, a public-private real estate development and advisory firm. He also has an extensive background in starting innovative new businesses within media giants such as the Walt Disney Company and Sony Music Corporation. He was formerly founding president of MSBET, a joint venture between Microsoft Corporation and BET Holdings.

Mr. Johnson earned an M.B.A. from the Harvard Business School after receiving B.S. degrees in Economics and Political Science from Yale College.



**Christian S. Johansson**

Secretary, State of Maryland  
Department of Business and  
Economic Development

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**Panelist** Christian Johansson was appointed secretary by Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley in early 2009. He oversees Maryland's nearly 250-employee business agency and its \$85.6 million budget. During his tenure, he has helped the governor craft strategic plans and form councils targeting Maryland's competitive business strengths in rapidly growing industries such as biotech, cybersecurity, IT and foreign direct investment. As secretary, he has worked with elected officials, business owners and employers to put long term unemployed Marylanders back to work with programs like the Job Creation & Recovery Tax Credit. Other initiatives include helping to craft federal legislation for a \$1.5 billion credit provision to the Small Business Jobs Act, and InvestMaryland, an initiative to fuel venture capital investment.

Before joining the agency, he served for six years as CEO of the Economic Alliance of Greater Baltimore. An entrepreneur and management consultant, he also served on President Obama's transition team and the Executive Committee for Urban and Metropolitan Policy. In 2010, Secretary Johansson was recognized as an Innovator of the Year by The Daily Record and a Special Advocate at the Top 100 MBE Awards.

Secretary Johansson earned a B.S. from Brown University and an M.B.A. from Harvard University.



**Terry Holzheimer, FAICP**

Director, Arlington  
Economic Development

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**Panelist** Terry Holzheimer was named director of Arlington Economic Development (AED) in March 2005. A veteran of the department since 1996, he previously headed AED's Business Investment Group, focusing on business retention, recruitment, and economic research. He also was responsible for Arlington's small business development efforts through AED's BizLaunch Center.

Before coming to Arlington, Mr. Holzheimer served as Loudoun County's director of economic development from 1989-96. His career also includes heading a management consulting firm, Development Advisory Service, Inc., which provided services to local governments throughout the country in housing and economic development. Earlier, he worked for the National League of Cities, consulting with city and county governments on redevelopment and rehabilitation programs.

Mr. Holzheimer has a Ph.D. from George Mason University in Public Policy, with a specialization in regional development. He holds a B.A. in Economics from the University of Florida. He is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) College of Fellows and is certified in economic development by the International Economic Development Council. He is a member of the adjunct faculty at Virginia Tech, teaching in urban affairs and planning.



**Harriet Tregoning, AICP**

Director, District of Columbia  
Office of Planning

**Panelist** Harriet Tregoning is the Director of the District of Columbia Office of Planning, where she works to make DC a walkable, bikeable, eminently livable, globally competitive and sustainable city. Her priorities include re-writing the city's zoning code for the first time in 50 years, planning the revitalization of the poorest part of the District as part of the consolidation of the Department of Homeland Security's Headquarters at the National Historic Landmark St. Elizabeths campus, and collaborating with her transportation colleagues to bring the nation's largest bike-sharing program to DC (launched September 2010 with 1,000 bikes).

Prior to this position, Ms. Tregoning was the director of the Governors' Institute on Community Design and co-founder, with former Maryland Governor Glendening, and executive director of the Smart Growth Leadership Institute. She served Governor Glendening as both Secretary of Planning and then as the nation's first state-level Cabinet Secretary for Smart Growth. Before her tenure in Maryland state government, Ms. Tregoning was the director of Development, Community and Environment at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Ms. Tregoning's academic training is in engineering and public policy. She was a Loeb Fellow at the Harvard University Graduate School of Design for 2003-2004.

**Closing Remarks**



**Christina Gabriel, Sc.D**

Project Manager, Homeland  
Security Regional Innovation  
Cluster, Carnegie Mellon  
University

Dr. Christina Gabriel of Carnegie Mellon University (CMU) is working with a group of federal agencies and the District of Columbia to design a homeland security regional innovation cluster growth strategy that also promotes urban economic revitalization near the new St. Elizabeths campus development. Funding is provided by the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA). She also is president of the Pittsburgh-based University Energy Partnership, a collaboration among five major research universities to support an energy-related regional innovation cluster. In 2010, Dr. Gabriel was appointed by U.S. Secretary of Commerce Gary Locke to the National Advisory Council on Innovation and Entrepreneurship.

Between 2006 and 2010, Dr. Gabriel led innovation economy grant making at The Heinz Endowments, where she capitalized on the research strengths of universities, medical centers, corporate and governmental laboratories to promote economic growth and opportunity. From 1998 to 2006, she worked at CMU, eventually becoming Vice Provost and Chief Technology Officer. Dr. Gabriel previously directed industry-university collaborative centers programs at the National Science Foundation and became the deputy head of the \$350 million engineering directorate.

Dr. Gabriel received masters and doctoral degrees in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and an undergraduate degree from the University of Pittsburgh.