

**CAPITALS ALLIANCE** 2008  
WASHINGTON, DC



Conference Program

# Greening the World's Capital Cities

**SEPTEMBER 15-18, 2008**

Hosted by the National Capital Planning Commission

In Collaboration with the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts and the National Building Museum



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# Greening the World's Capital Cities

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Chairman John V. Cogbill, III

The National Capital Planning Commission is honored to host the sixth gathering of Capitals Alliance—an international forum for capital city planners from around the world. Founded by

Brasilia, Canberra, Ottawa, and Washington, DC in 2001, the Alliance enables a valuable exchange of information on issues and challenges that are unique to national capitals.

This year, Capitals Alliance will highlight the timely and important topic of creating a more sustainable planet. Today, capital cities face a significant challenge to develop and promote green and sustainable policies that will be viable now and in the future. By 2050, three-fourths of the world's population is expected to reside in cities. Capital cities, as the seat of government, will need to play a vital role in creating and maintaining sustainable communities.

Throughout the week of September 15-18, we will explore ways to put more national capitals on the road to a greener and more sustainable future. We have assembled some of the world's most respected leaders in the field who will share their knowledge and discuss strategies behind successful green practices. We hope that you can join us for what promises to be a thought-provoking examination of the development of sustainable national capitals across the globe.

John V. Cogbill, III  
Chairman,  
National Capital Planning Commission

## Monday, September 15 Planning for Sustainability

Sustainable communities promote economic growth, enhance the overall quality of life, and conserve environmental resources. But achieving policies that are viable now and in the future will require a proper balance of economic, social, and environmental strategies. The National Capital Planning Commission, in partnership with the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts, examines this delicate but necessary balance that is vital to creating a greener world.

9:00 AM National Press Club, Ballroom

### Keynote Address: Understanding the Complex Relationship Between Cities, People, and the World



Join us at the National Press Club for the conference's opening keynote address by **Herbert Girardet**. The celebrated author, documentary filmmaker, and recipient of a United Nations Global 500 Award for Outstanding Environmental Achievements discusses the role of capitals in leading the way toward a more sustainable future. *Continuing Education Credits: 1 LU (AIA) / 1 CM (AICP)*

10:30 AM - 12:30 PM National Press Club, Ballroom

### Panel Discussion: What it Means to be Green



Everyone wants to be green these days, but what does that really mean? This session explores the most important aspects of developing and implementing urban sustainability programs. Hear from our panel of experts as they distinguish between reality and rhetoric. Participants include **Frances Beinecke**, president of the Natural Resources Defense Council; **Thomas Hicks**, vice president of LEED Neighborhood Development and International Programs at the U.S. Green Building Council; and **Jim Huffman**, associate principal with Busby Perkins+Will. **George Hawkins**, director of Washington, DC's Department of the Environment, will moderate. *Continuing Education Credits: 2 LU (AIA) / 2 CM (AICP)*

# Tuesday, September 16 For the People By the People



“Think globally, act locally” has been a slogan of the environmental movement for a generation, but putting this ideal into practice has proven difficult. Building sustainable communities—like all good urban policymaking—requires people and partnerships in order to succeed. The National Capital Planning Commission and the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts team up to explore strategies for success.

**9:00 AM** Donald W. Reynolds Center, Nan Tucker Auditorium

## Featured Address: Promoting and Sustaining Smart Growth Policies



**Robert Stacey**, executive director of 1,000 Friends of Oregon, will discuss how this venerable Smart Growth advocacy organization has united citizens, developers, and planners for over 30 years to promote and sustain some of the most progressive land-use policies in the United States.

**10:00 AM -12:00 PM** Donald W. Reynolds Center, Nan Tucker Auditorium

## Panel Discussion: Building Momentum for Change



Creating and achieving sustainable urban environments requires significant changes in our daily behavior and habits. Public support is therefore essential to the planning process. Hear from experts who have led successful campaigns as they discuss how citizens can be the chief advocates and beneficiaries of sustainable development initiatives.

Speakers include grassroots activist **Majora Carter**, founder and executive director of Sustainable South Bronx; Urban Land Institute fellow and former mayor of Pittsburgh, **Tom Murphy**; attorney **Daniel K. Slone**, a promoter and adviser of Smart Growth development projects; and policymaker **Harriet Tregoning**, director of the DC Office of Planning. **Robert Stacey** will moderate the discussion. *Continuing Education Credits: 2 LU (AIA) / 2 CM (AICP)*

**5:00 PM - 7:30 PM** National Capital Planning Commission

## Poster Session and Reception

Delegates will highlight capital city sustainability initiatives and learn about projects that are underway elsewhere in the world. All posters will later be on public display in the Great Hall of the National Building Museum. Immediately following the poster session, we will hear from delegates of the founding member cities, regarding exciting sustainability initiatives in their respective capitals.



# Wednesday, September 17

## Capitals Leading the Way



Abu Dhabi



Ottawa

By the year 2050, three-fourths of the world's population is expected to live in cities. The consequences of this shift—strained resources, traffic congestion, and pollution—will reduce our quality of life and contribute to global climate change. Clearly, the time has arrived for cities to lead the way to a more sustainable future.

**8:30 AM - 11:15 AM** National Capital Planning Commission

### Capital Cities Leading the Way

Capital cities have unique challenges and opportunities associated with being a seat of government. In this session, delegates from national capitals will present on the challenges of creating sustainable capitals that serve as models nationwide. Topics range from developing environmentally friendly transit systems to incorporating energy efficient practices in new and refurbished buildings.

*Continuing Education Credits: 2.45 LU (AIA) / 2.45 CM (AICP)*



**6:30 PM - 8:30 PM** National Building Museum, Great Hall

### World Leaders on Sustainability



Respected leaders from around the world will share their views on making the world more sustainable. Washington, DC Mayor **Adrian Fenty** will provide opening remarks, followed by a panel discussion highlighting the innovative approaches to greening our capitals. Speakers include U.S. Congressman **Earl Blumenauer**; Mayor **Sten Nordin** of Stockholm, Sweden; and **Cassio Taniguchi**, the former mayor of Curitiba, Brazil. **Marcel Beaudry**, former mayor of Hull, Canada, and the former chairman of Canada's National Capital Commission will facilitate the discussion. This event is in collaboration with the renowned National Building Museum as part of its series *For the Greener Good: Conversations that will Change the World*. To register for World Leaders, please visit [www.nbm.org](http://www.nbm.org). *Continuing Education Credits: 1.5 LU (AIA) / 1.5 CM (AICP)*

# Thursday, September 18 Green Capitals

ATF Building, Washington DC

Capital city architecture inspires us to reflect on the values and ideals of a nation. What effect will embracing sustainability policies have on capital city architecture? The National Capital Planning Commission and the National Building Museum join together for a day of intriguing discussions designed to explore the impact of green practices on national capitals.

**9:00 AM - 11:30 AM** *National Building Museum, Great Hall*

## **Panel: Impact of Green Design on Architecture & Public Space**



Join us for a discussion with prominent professionals and academics on the effect of green design on architecture and public space, as more cities embrace sustainability. Panelists include **Diana Balmori**, landscape architect and member of the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts; **Laurel Colless** executive director of the Energy Efficiency Partnership of Greater Washington; **Richard Moe**, president of the National Trust for Historic Preservation; and **David L. Winstead**, commissioner of the Public Buildings Service of the U.S. General Services Administration. **Roger K. Lewis**, practicing architect, educator, and award-winning journalist will moderate. *Continuing Education Credits: 2.5 LU (AIA) / 2.5 CM (AICP)*

**1:00 PM - 2:00 PM** *National Building Museum, Great Hall*

## **Featured Address: Building a City that Fosters our Green Goals**



How can national capitals shape green cities that also are beloved urban centers? How do we build a city that fosters environmentally sound behavior? **Larry Beasley**, distinguished practice professor of planning at the University of British Columbia and retired director of planning for Vancouver, explains how “experiential planning” can help national capitals become models for the best urbanism their countries have to offer. *Continuing Education Credits: 1.5 LU (AIA) / 1.5 CM (AICP)*

**2:00 PM - 2:30 PM** *National Building Museum, Great Hall*

## **Closing Afternoon Remarks**

Founding members of the Capitals Alliance reflect upon the discussions of the week and suggest ways the participants can maintain a meaningful dialogue on the subject of sustainable capital cities and green design.



## FALAH AL AHBABI



Falah Al Ahababi serves as general manager of the Urban Planning Council in Abu Dhabi, the capital of the United Arab Emirates. Created in 2007, the UPC is leading efforts to create a new green capital district that will establish Abu Dhabi as a global national capital renowned for its architecture as well as its sustainable features. As general manager, Mr. Al Ahababi ensures that

development proposals are consistent with the overarching plan for the development of the city.

## DIANA BALMORI



Diana Balmori is a noted landscape scholar and principal of Balmori Associates, a landscape and urban design firm in New York City. She is a faculty member at Yale University in the School of Architecture and the School of Forestry and Environmental Studies. Dr. Balmori has written extensively on cities, the environment and the history of design. She is a senior fellow of the

Dumbarton Oaks Garden and Landscape History Institute at Harvard and is presently serving a second term on the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts in Washington D.C.

## LARRY BEASLEY



As the retired director of planning for Vancouver, Larry Beasley is highly regarded for his land use and transportation plans that transformed Vancouver's inner city and revitalized its neighborhoods. He is the recipient of numerous awards, and is currently a distinguished practice professor of planning at the University of British Columbia. He also serves as chairman of the

Advisory Committee on Planning, Design and Realty for the National Capital Commission in Ottawa and as a special adviser to the Urban Planning Council in Abu Dhabi.

## MARCEL BEAUDRY



Marcel Beaudry served as chairman of Canada's National Capital Commission (NCC) from 1992 until 2007. Prior to his tenure at NCC, Mr. Beaudry served as mayor of Hull, Canada. A lawyer by profession, he has served on the boards of numerous companies, financial institutions, universities and charities, including the Board of Governors at the University of Ottawa.

## FRANCES BEINECKE



Frances Beinecke is the president of the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) where she has worked for more than 30 years. Under her leadership, NRDC has launched campaigns to curb global warming, reduce America's oil dependency, revive the world's oceans, save endangered wild places, stem the tide of toxic chemicals, and accelerate the greening of China. She is the recipient of numerous environmental awards.

## EARL BLUMENAUER



Congressman Earl Blumenauer (D-Oregon, 3rd District) was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1996. A member of the Select Committee on Energy Independence and Climate Change, he is a strong advocate for the environment and sustainable development. He first served in the Oregon House of Representatives and spent ten years on the Portland City Council. His innovative accomplishments in transit, planning, and the environment have helped Portland earn an international reputation as one of America's most livable cities.

## MAJORA CARTER



In 2001, Majora Carter founded the nonprofit environmental justice solutions corporation Sustainable South Bronx (SSBx). Under her leadership, SSBx launched the South Bronx Greenway; started a green-roof installation business; pioneered a highly successful green-collar job training and placement system; and spearheaded local and state laws that fuel demand for these jobs. She has received widespread recognition, including a MacArthur "genius" Fellowship, and is currently advising cities, communities, foundations, and businesses on how to unlock their green-collar economic potential.

## LAUREL COLLESS



Laurel Colless is executive director of the Energy Efficiency Partnership of Greater Washington—a program based at Virginia Tech that is devoted to helping communities become more green. The Partnership's goal is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in existing buildings in the region by 20 to 50%. Ms. Colless sits on the board of the Institute for Sustainable Communities and is a member of the Steering Committee of the Women's Conservation Forum at Conservation International. Previously, she served as director of financial communications and corporate reporting for Nokia in Helsinki, Finland. She is married to Pekka Lintu, Finland's ambassador to the United States.

## ADRIAN FENTY



Adrian Fenty is the fifth elected mayor of the District of Columbia. He assumed office on January 2, 2007, having previously served on the DC City Council. Fenty is a native Washingtonian with a long record of public service. Under his leadership, the city is working to be a model green metropolis known for conserving its resources and minimizing its ecological footprint. He has created the Mayor's Green Team, a collaborative effort among District agencies to establish DC as a leader on green issues including climate change, greening government buildings, and recycling.

## HERBERT GIRARDET



Renowned author, consultant, documentary filmmaker, and recipient of a United Nations Global 500 Award for Outstanding Environmental Achievements, Herbert Girardet currently serves as director of programmes at the World Future Council, an international advocacy group championing the right to a sustainable future. He is senior adviser to the pioneering Dongtan Eco-City project on Chongming Island, Shanghai and an honorary fellow of the Royal Institute of British Architects.

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**GEORGE HAWKINS**

As director of the Department of the Environment for the District of Columbia, Mr. Hawkins is responsible for strengthening environmental protection standards. He launched and chairs the Mayor's Green Team, and chairs the Green Building Advisory Council, which oversees the implementation of the nation's most progressive green building law. He is also a member of the Mayor's Green Collar Jobs Advisory Committee, and a board member of the Washington Area Sewer Authority (WASA), which runs the world's largest advanced wastewater treatment plant.

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**STEN NORDIN**

A twenty-year veteran of municipal, regional, and national politics, Sten Nordin was elected mayor of Stockholm in April 2008. Mr. Nordin previously served as Stockholm's vice-mayor responsible for traffic and real estate and as a member of the Swedish parliament. Stockholm is a leader in promoting green initiatives, and in 2006 it became the second European city to implement a congestion charge. Recently named by *Reader's Digest* as the greenest, most livable city in the world, Stockholm aspires to be the most transit-accessible capital in the world and entirely free of fossil fuels by 2050.

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**THOMAS HICKS**

As a vice president of the U.S. Green Building Council, Tom Hicks oversees the Council's LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) program, a benchmark system for the design, construction, and operation of energy efficient buildings. Mr. Hicks previously served at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, managing the Energy Star for Buildings & Plants program.

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**DANIEL K. SLONE**

As an attorney and consultant, Daniel Slone has worked for more than 20 years to build new urban and smart growth communities throughout the United States. He has helped localities develop regulatory policies to facilitate sustainable development and he serves as the national counsel for many prominent organizations devoted to sustainable development practices, including the U.S. Green Building Council and the Congress for New Urbanism. He also serves on the board of the National Charrette Institute.

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**JIM HUFFMAN**

As an associate principal with Busby Perkins + Will for more than 21 years, Jim Huffman's portfolio includes urban planning, commercial, and residential design projects for both public and private interests. He has been instrumental in the success of key sustainability projects, including the LEED Platinum Dockside Green Development in Victoria. Currently Mr. Huffman is design principal of the GM Place Tower, a 23 story tower that is targeting LEED Platinum certification and projected to be the first carbon-neutral office building in North America.

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**ROBERT STACEY**

Bob Stacey is executive director of 1,000 Friends of Oregon, a 30-year-old public advocacy group for smart growth approaches to land-use planning. Long active in city, regional, and state-level policymaking, Mr. Stacey has served as the director of Portland's Bureau of Planning; executive director of policy and planning at Portland's regional transit agency; senior policy advisor on urban growth management to Oregon Governor Barbara Roberts, and chief of staff to U.S. Congressman Earl Blumenauer.

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**ROGER LEWIS**

Roger K. Lewis, FAIA, is a practicing architect, planner, educator, and author based in Washington, DC. Professor emeritus of architecture at the University of Maryland School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation, he is also an award-winning journalist. "Shaping the City," his illustrated column on architecture and urban design, has appeared in *The Washington Post* since 1984. A frequent guest lecturer and panelist at

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**CASSIO TANIGUCHI**

From 1997 to 2005, Cassio Taniguchi served as mayor of Curitiba, Brazil, a city recognized as a model for good urban planning and progressive ecological policies. As Curitiba's mayor, and in his previous capacity as the city council's chief engineer, Mr. Taniguchi was a driving force behind expanding the city's park system, implementing a rapid bus system, and improving the city's economic base through the recruitment of nonpolluting industries. He is now Brazil's secretary for the Department of Urban and Environmental Development.

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conferences and symposiums, he serves regularly on regional and national design award juries and design review committees.

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**HARRIET TREGONING**

Harriet Tregoning, director of the DC Office of Planning, is currently spearheading initiatives to restore the city's waterfront, upgrade its water and sewer system, refit buildings with green roofs, and create green-collar jobs. Ms. Tregoning served in Maryland as the nation's first state-level cabinet secretary for Smart Growth, and prior to that, she helped launch the National Smart Growth Network at the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

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**RICHARD MOE**

As the seventh president of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Richard Moe is the leader of America's historic preservation movement, which aspires to save the nation's historic places and create more livable communities. Since Mr. Moe assumed the presidency in 1993, the National Trust has become an outspoken advocate of controlling sprawl and has launched initiatives to demonstrate preservation's effectiveness as a tool for community revitalization.

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**DAVID L. WINSTEAD**

As Commissioner of Public Buildings for the General Services Administration, Mr. Winstead oversees a real estate portfolio of more than 340 million square feet in 8,000 public and private buildings accommodating more than one million federal workers. His career spans more than 30 years in the public and private sectors during which time he served as the State of Maryland's secretary of transportation and as executive director of the Washington/Baltimore Regional Association, a private sector economic development alliance. Prior to his arrival at GSA, he was a partner with the law firm Holland & Knight. Mr. Winstead has also been active in numerous professional organizations including the Urban Land Institute and the Washington Board of Trade.

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**TOM MURPHY**

Tom Murphy is a senior resident fellow at the Urban Land Institute and a former mayor of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. As mayor, he led efforts to secure funding for a new convention center that is the first and largest LEED certified convention center in the world. Mr. Murphy also oversaw the development of new riverfront trails and urban green space as well as the transformation of more than 1000 acres of blighted, abandoned industrial properties. In

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2002, Murphy received the Outstanding Achievement of City Livability Award from the U.S. Conference of Mayors.



**Capitals Alliance** is an international organization for capital city planners and policymakers launched in 2001 by Brasilia, Canberra, Ottawa, and Washington, DC. The Alliance provides a forum to address the unique planning challenges that confront national capitals. For more information and to register, please visit [www.CapitalsAlliance.org](http://www.CapitalsAlliance.org).

#### Founding Members:

**National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC)**, host of Capitals Alliance 2008, is the federal government's central planning agency for the capital of the United States of America. NCPC provides overall planning guidance for the National Capital Region by reviewing the design of federal projects and memorials, developing and promoting a long-range vision for the city, and monitoring capital investments by federal agencies. Visit NCPC's website at [www.ncpc.gov](http://www.ncpc.gov).

**National Capital Authority (NCA)** is an Australian Government statutory agency charged with creating a national capital that symbolizes Australia's heritage, values, and aspirations. Its key responsibilities are to manage the National Capital Plan; create public places and memorials that symbolize Australia's values, culture and stories; maintain some of Australia's most valuable cultural assets and national land; and promote awareness of Canberra as the national capital. Visit the NCA website at [www.natcap.gov.au](http://www.natcap.gov.au).

**National Capital Commission (NCC)** is a Crown corporation of the Government of Canada. The NCC was created in 1959 as the steward of federal lands and buildings in the National Capital Region (NCR). Its mandate includes coordinating the policies and programs of the Government of Canada and approving the design of buildings and land use, as well as any changes in use, relating to federal lands in the NCR. Visit the NCC website at [www.capcan.ca](http://www.capcan.ca).

**Office of the Secretary of Urban and Environmental Development (SEDUMA)** is the federal agency responsible for planning and coordinating the development of cities throughout Brazil, with a focus on the national capital of Brasilia. Visit SEDUMA's website at [www.seduma.df.gov.br](http://www.seduma.df.gov.br).

Conference sessions are open to the public. All sessions are free of charge, except the World Leaders forum at the National Building Museum. We ask that you RSVP for each session to ensure the availability of seating. Visit [www.CapitalsAlliance.org](http://www.CapitalsAlliance.org) to register or email [CapitalsAlliance@ncpc.gov](mailto:CapitalsAlliance@ncpc.gov).



Completed in 1887 to house the Pension Bureau, today's home for the **National Building Museum** is recognized as an engineering marvel. The Italian Renaissance design of the **Great Hall**, with its soaring Corinthian columns, makes it a favored site for gala events, including Presidential Inaugural Balls.



**The National Press Club** has been a prominent gathering place in Washington for 100 years. Founded in March 1908 to promote free press, the National Press Club has welcomed leaders from across the globe.



**The Donald W. Reynolds Center for American Art and Portraiture** is a National Historic Landmark, built in 1836 to house the U.S. Patent Office. One of the nation's finest examples of Greek Revival architecture, the building has undergone an extensive renovation that showcases its most dramatic architectural features including vaulted galleries illuminated by natural light.

## Partner Organizations

**The U.S. Commission of Fine Arts (CFA)**, established by Congress in 1910, provides expert advice to the President, Congress, and agencies of the Federal and DC governments on matters of design and aesthetics to preserve the dignity of the nation's capital. Seven presidentially appointed members serve on the Commission for a term of four years.

**The National Building Museum** is America's premier cultural institution dedicated to exploring and celebrating architecture, design, engineering, construction, and urban planning. The non-profit institution was created by Congress in 1980 and is housed in the former U.S. Pension Bureau building, completed in 1887. It hosts numerous exhibits and lectures and is recognized for its commitment to promoting sustainable building practices.