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WESTERN PLACES/WESTERN SPACES
EXAMINING THE PAST, EXPLORING THE FUTURE

The Rocky Mountain Land Use Institute was established to conduct education and research programs on legal and public policy issues related to land use and development. For 25 years, RMLUI has been leading a discussion in the West about the challenges presented by growth and innovative ideas for addressing them.

In celebration of its 25th year, RMLUI is pausing to look back and examine lessons learned that can guide our actions and policies as we move forward into the next 25 years.

This year’s Western Places/Western Spaces conference will address the transformative land use legal and policy developments in the Rocky Mountain West that have influenced the shape of our communities today. We will also explore the trends and innovations—like demographic shifts, climate change, and economic forces—that are likely to affect the future of the West.

RMLUI will continue to advance the dialogue on some recurring themes from past conferences—urban growth and density, regional planning and conservation, water, and housing—and consider emerging challenges facing the region.

In addition, RMLUI is offering an optional workshop on Wednesday, March 9. Linking Land Use & Water: Tools to Grow Water-Smart is a day-long workshop that seeks to bring together land use planners, water providers, policy makers, lawyers, and others to explore the legal framework that underlies efforts to regulate water use and best practices that local communities can use to integrate water and land use planning to maximize water efficiency and conservation.

ABOUT THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN LAND USE INSTITUTE

The Rocky Mountain Land Use Institute seeks to elevate the law, policy and practice of sustainable development in the West to promote nature-friendly, prosperous and equitable communities. Through innovative research, education and professional development programs and its renowned annual conference, the Institute trains and connects students and professionals across disciplines, sectors and regions to build the sustainable development field while creating new possibilities for the future of the West’s landscapes and livelihoods.

ABOUT THE STURM COLLEGE OF LAW

The University of Denver Sturm College of Law is a top 100 law school with nationally ranked programs in environmental and natural resources law, legal writing, clinical training, international law, trial advocacy and tax law. At the heart of the law school’s mission is the integration of skills and professional identity with a balanced curriculum. Our goal is to graduate practice-ready, client-focused students who understand and embrace the responsibilities of legal practice, both as a representative of the client and as a professional committed to improvement of the law and the community.
CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT IN LAND USE: HOW FAR HAVE WE COME?

DESCRIPTION
This session is an opportunity to learn strategies for effective community outreach and engagement around land use and zoning issues from experts in the field. Panelists will discuss how strategies have continued to change and adapt and how these changes impact results. They will also discuss strategies for engaging the public.

SPEAKER INFORMATION

MODERATOR:
Mary Kay Peck
Principal
MKPeck Associates
Clearwater, FL
Mary Kay Peck, FAICP, principal of MKPeck Associates, specializes in planning and management services. Peck has 30 years of local government experience as a city manager, assistant city manager, community development director and planning director. During her tenure as Henderson, Nevada city manager, the city was recognized by the International Association for City and County Managers for outstanding customer service and for its efforts in measuring and improving performance. Throughout her career, Ms. Peck has managed award winning projects, including the Southern Nevada Regional Planning Coalition Regional Plan, the Downtown Henderson Investment Strategy, the Henderson Visual Interactive Code, and the Springhill, Montana, Community Plan. While president of the American Planning Association, Peck laid the foundation for the organization’s first communication plan and led its first membership growth strategy, resulting in a 23 percent increase. She has given numerous presentations a throughout the United States and around the globe on a variety of topics, including leadership, management excellence and city planning. Peck serves as an adjunct professor at St. Petersburg College, teaching an introductory city planning course. For her work in community service and leadership, Peck has been honored as a Fellow of the American Institute of Certified Planners.

SPEAKERS:

Patience Crowder
Assistant Professor of Law & Director of the Community Economic Development Clinic, University of Denver Sturm College of Law
Denver, CO
Professor Patience Crowder joined the DU faculty in 2010 to create and teach the Community Economic Development Clinic. Prior to joining the faculty, she was the Wellspring Assistant Clinical Professor of Law at Tulsa College of Law, where she formed and taught a transactional legal clinic. Her scholarship examines the impact of contract, corporate, and local government law in transactional advocacy for the public interest, particularly the revitalization of inner-city and underserved communities. Her articles have been published by the Tennessee Law Review, the Journal of Affordable Housing & Community Development Law (reprint), and the Georgetown Journal on Poverty Law & Policy. She earned her J.D. from Rutgers School of Law – Newark, where she was an Articles Editor of the Rutgers Law Review, and her B.A. in sociology from Georgetown University.

Jennifer Schaufele
Executive Director, Denver Regional Council of Governments
Denver, CO
Jennifer Schaufele, a former Florida transportation executive, is the Executive Director of the Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG), the first woman to be selected for that position with the 52-year-old regional planning agency. In this capacity, she reports to a member board made up of representatives of 46 city and 9 county members, one of the three oldest councils of governments in the United States. An accomplished governmental director with more than fourteen years of service with the Broward County, Florida Board of County Commissioners, Ms. Schaufele also served as the Director of the Broward County Metropolitan Planning
Organization. She has a proven record of leadership and management of large and multifaceted public sector agencies, experience in advocating for legislation and new funding from Congress and the state legislature, and a commendable history of serving the needs and policy direction of elected boards. Ms. Schaufele directs the work of a 98-member staff engaged in long-range planning for transportation and land use, water quality, advocacy for the region’s elderly population, and offering services ranging from commuter assistance to the recruitment of police officers and fire service personnel. A graduate of Nova Southeastern University in Davie, Florida, Ms. Schaufele holds a B.S. in professional management and business administration. Ms. Schaufele is married and has an adult son whose family also live in the Denver region. An avid gardener, she and her husband enjoy traveling, outdoor activities, and entertaining friends and family.

THE EVOLUTION OF THE ENERGY/LAND USE NEXUS: A 25-YEAR PERSPECTIVE

DESCRIPTION
This panel will discuss the transformative changes in technology and energy policy that have resulted in myriad new legal issues associated with land use for the purposes of generating and delivering energy products and services. The rapid rise in deployment of renewable energy sources, the advances in horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing technology and other transformative changes in the past quarter-century have created new issues and have necessitated new thought and innovation in the legal structures that support our energy-related activities. Similarly, and on a parallel path, policies and public concerns about climate change and environmental issues are driving the energy sector toward changes in the way energy products and services are created and delivered and the ways in which land is used to meet our energy needs.

SPEAKER INFORMATION
MODERATOR:
Mark Safty
Partner, Holland & Hart
Denver, CO
Mark Safty is a Partner and the head of the Energy & Infrastructure Practice at Holland & Hart, LLP in Denver Colorado. In his 30 years with Holland & Hart, Safty has worked on the development and financing of dozens of power generation facilities and supporting infrastructure across the spectrum of technologies and around the world. Since 2000 his practice has focused almost exclusively on renewable energy development and finance.

SPEAKERS:

KK DuVivier
Professor, University of Denver Sturm College of Law
Denver, CO
K.K. DuVivier is a tenured full Professor of Law at the University of Denver Sturm College of Law. She has taught full-time at the law school level since 1990, including ten years at the University of Colorado School of Law before joining the Denver Law faculty in 2000. Her current research and teaching focuses are energy and renewable energy law, with a special emphasis on wind, solar, and energy efficiency. Her first book, The Renewable Energy Reader, was published in 2011 (http://RenewableEnergyReader.com). Her next book, an Energy Law text, is due out in 2016. Professor DuVivier worked as a field geologist before law school, and after earning her JD, she practiced for eight years, first in natural resources law at the law firms of Sherman & Howard and Arnold & Porter, then as an Assistant City Attorney in the land use and revenue section for the City and County of Denver.
Jocelyn Hittle
Denver Program Development Director, Colorado State University System
Denver, CO

Jocelyn is the Director of Denver Program Development at Colorado State University. She is primarily focused on the National Western Center and CSU’s emerging collaboration with DIA. Jocelyn sits on the Mayor’s Sustainability Advisory Council, and works closely with the City and technical experts to ensure CSU’s Denver projects are showcases for state-of-the-art sustainability practices. Prior to joining CSU, Jocelyn was the Associate Director of PlaceMatters, a national non-profit think tank based in Denver and focused on informed, inclusive decision making in planning and sustainability. She has also worked for the Orton Family Foundation and Sightline Institute. She has a degree in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology from Princeton and a Masters in Environmental Management from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies.

FEDERAL PUBLIC LANDS: THE HEART OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN WEST

DESCRIPTION
Federal public lands comprise over 50% of the American West landscape, define the identity and character of the region, and are the primary reason the West is the fastest growing region in the country. This session begins by reflecting on what has changed since the last comprehensive review of federal public land law and policy was completed in 1970. It will highlight what is and is not working, and whether it is time to convene another comprehensive review of public land law, policy, and governance, or whether other approaches to reform are potentially more effective.

SPEAKER INFORMATION
MODOERATOR:
Bob Keiter
Wallace Stegner Professor of Law; Director, University of Utah S. J. Quinney College of Law, Wallace Stegner Center for Land, Resources and the Environment
Salt Lake City, UT

Bob Keiter is the Wallace Stegner Professor of Law, University Distinguished Professor, and founding Director of the Wallace Stegner Center for Land, Resources, and the Environment at the University of Utah S.J. Quinney College of Law. His books include To Conserve Unimpaired: The Evolution of the National Park Idea (2013); Keeping Faith with Nature: Ecosystems, Democracy, and America’s Public Lands (2003); Reclaiming the Native Home of Hope: Community, Ecology, and the West (1998); The Wyoming State Constitution (2016/1993); The Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem: Redefining America’s Wilderness Heritage (1991). He has served on the boards of the National Parks Conservation Association, Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation, Greater Yellowstone Coalition, Sonoran Institute, and the University of Utah’s Institute for Clean and Secure Energy.

SPEAKERS:
Ann Morgan
Public Lands Consultant
Denver, CO

Ann Morgan has been a leader in the non-profit sector as well as in federal and state government and private industry. Her career has focused on natural resource management and conservation and she has helped to protect and conserve millions of acres in the West. Currently a consultant, she has served as Rocky Mountain Regional Executive Director with National Wildlife Federation, Vice President of Public Lands with The Wilderness Society, Bureau of Land Management State Director in Colorado and Nevada, Director in the Washington State Department of Natural Resources, and Project Manager at Pacific Gas and Electric Company. She has a Bachelors of Science from the University of California Berkeley and a Masters in Business
Administration from Golden Gate University. Ms. Morgan currently serves on the Board of Conservation Science Partners and on the Advisory Council for the University of Colorado Getches-Wilkinson Center for Natural Resources, Energy and the Environment.

Rebecca Watson
Shareholder, Welborn Sullivan Meck & Tooley, P.C.
Denver, CO
Rebecca Watson counsels energy, oil and gas, renewable and mining companies on environmental regulatory compliance to result in timely project approvals and represents clients in federal court and before state agencies and commissions, Congress, and the Departments of the Interior, Energy and the U.S. Forest Service. Prior to joining Welborn Sullivan Meck & tooley, Ms. Watson served as the Assistant Secretary for Lands and Minerals Management during President George W. Bush's first term. In that position she led 12,000 employees, managed a budget of over $1 billion and provided policy guidance to three bureaus—Bureau of Land Management, Minerals Management Service, and Office of Surface Mining—which together have the responsibility for management of federal energy resources. Ms. Watson has received numerous professional recognitions, including Colorado Super Lawyers (2015), Best Lawyers in America, Energy Law and Natural Resources (2013-2016), Top Denver Lawyers, Natural Resources, Top Women in Energy (2014), and was honored by the Boone and Crockett Club for her work in conservation while at the Interior (2005). She began her legal career as a Federal District law Clerk in Wyoming and as an associate and partner in a Sheridan, Wyoming law firm. Ms. Watson has been a partner and counsel in two Washington D.C. law firms and was a managing partner of a law firm in Helena, Montana. She has testified before Congress repeatedly, is a frequent speaker, and has written numerous articles on natural resources and federal environmental law and energy policy.

HOUSING IN THE WEST: LOOKING BACKWARD AND FORWARD

DESCRIPTION
Over the past 25 years, issues of fair and affordable housing in the nation and the West have become increasingly complex from both a practical and legal perspective. But have we really made any progress on ensuring that housing is attainable for all people within our communities? This session will review some of the demographic and economic changes that have occurred over the past 25 years, as well as the legal tools we have used to respond to those changes. We will analyze whether those legal tools have made a difference and what, if any, approaches to providing fair and affordable housing might be more effective over the next several decades.

SPEAKER INFORMATION
MODERATOR:
Brian Connolly
Attorney, Otten Johnson Robinson Neff & Ragonetti, P.C.
Denver, CO
Brian Connolly’s practice focuses on the regulatory aspects of the real estate development process, and includes the representation of both public- and private-sector clients in matters relating to land use, zoning, planning, and development entitlements. Prior to practicing law, Mr. Connolly was an urban planner in the planning department of a highly-populated suburban county in New York State. He reviewed numerous large-scale development proposals for consistency with municipal codes and countywide planning policies and managed the county’s economic and population research functions. He has also worked in planning capacities at the federal and municipal government levels. Mr. Connolly is the co-author of two books: Group Homes: Strategies for Effective and Defensible Planning and Regulation (ABA Publishing 2014); and The Michigan Sign Guidebook: The Local Planning and Regulation of Signs (Scenic Michigan 2011). Mr. Connolly is a regular speaker at conferences on these topics, including at national and state conferences of the American Planning Association, American Bar Association, and Rocky Mountain Land Use Institute.
**Speakers:**

Dwight Merriam  
Partner, Robinson & Cole  
Hartford, CT  
Dwight Merriam founded Robinson+Cole’s Land Use Group in 1978. He represents land owners, developers, governments, and individuals in land use matters. Mr. Merriam is a Fellow and past president of the American Institute of Certified Planners, a former director of the American Planning Association (APA), a former chair of the APA’s Planning and Law Division, past chair of the American Bar Association’s Section of State and Local Government Law, and a Fellow of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors. He teaches land use law at the University of Connecticut School of Law and at the Quinnipiac School of Law and has published over 200 articles and nine books.

Arthur Nelson  
Professor of Planning and Real Estate Development, University of Arizona  
Tuscon, AZ  
Professor Nelson has conducted pioneering research in public finance, development policy, smart growth, economic development, and metropolitan development patterns. He has written more than 20 books, 100 refereed articles, and 300 other works. Prior to academia, Dr. Nelson managed his own West Coast consultancy in planning and management. In 2000, his professional planning, education, and research accomplishments were recognized with election to the College of Fellows of the American Institute of Certified Planners. Dr. Nelson’s current work focuses on how demographic economic forces along with shifts in housing preference will reshape America’s metropolitan areas for the rest of this century.

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**Local Governments’ New Prominence in Environmental Protection**

**Description**

The past twenty-five years have seen a surge in new forms of local government environmental regulation throughout the Mountain West. This panel will explore and identify components of the new local environmentalism, which include enhanced efforts: to protect access to open space; to recognize and plan for natural hazards; to address climate change through greening building regulations and infrastructure; to respond to the reemergence of extractive industries; and to engage in regional governance of land use planning. The panel will also evaluate the relative successes of these local environmental efforts and offer thoughts on how the movement will evolve in the twenty-five years to come.

**Speaker Information**

**Moderator:**

Stephen Miller  
Associate Professor, University of Idaho College of Law  
Boise, ID  
Stephen R. Miller is a law professor at the University of Idaho College of Law in Boise. Prof. Miller’s recent academic works include First Principles for Regulating the Sharing Economy, which was recently published by the Harvard Journal on Legislation and will be the subject of a forthcoming TED Talk. In 2015, he served as a consultant on United States’ land use governance to the Paris-based Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). He is currently working on a grant from the U.S. Forest Service to investigate land use planning as a tool to mitigate wildfire in the wildland-urban interface. Prof. Miller can be found at Land Use Prof Blog and @LandUseProf.
**SPEAKERS:**

**Barbara Green**  
Partner, Sullivan Green Seavy LLC  
Denver, CO  
Barbara Green is a founding partner in the law firm Sullivan Green Seavy L.L.C. where she practices environmental law and land use law. Ms. Green represents clients in matters involving land use planning and development, water development, water quality regulation, oil and gas development, mining, and enforcement and permitting. Ms. Green has prepared numerous land use regulations for local governments, including the Model Land Use Code for Colorado's Small to Medium Sized Counties. She represents clients in a variety of state rulemaking proceedings dealing with water quality and natural resource extraction. As a member of the west slope negotiating team, she helped bring about the historic Colorado River Cooperative Agreement between the Denver Water Board and the west slope of Colorado. In addition, Barbara's practice includes litigation and rulemaking related to local government authority over oil and gas development, and she served on the first Governor’s Task Force on state and local regulation of oil and gas development. Ms. Green is a member of the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board and University of Denver Water Law Review Advisory Council. She holds a B.A. from Northwestern University, an M.P.A. from the University of Colorado in Boulder, and a M.H. from University of Colorado at Denver. Before attending law school Ms. Green was the Oak Creek Town Manager and Steamboat Springs Assistant City Manager.

**Edward Thomas**  
President, Natural Hazard Mitigation Association  
Fort Collins, CO  
Attorney Ed Thomas is a Disaster Risk Reduction Specialist. His primary concern is the prevention of misery to disaster victims, to the public purse, and to the environment. Ed is the President of the Natural Hazard Mitigation Association; and an elected member of both the Fellows of the American Bar Association Foundation; and the Council of the State and Local Government Section of the American Bar Association. In addition, Ed serves on the Advisory Committee of the Natural Hazards Center of the University of Colorado. Ed is an author and frequent lecturer on Emergency Management issues, especially the Constitutional and Legal Aspects of Floodplain Regulations. Designated as a “National Treasure” Ed has received numerous national and international awards.

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**MOBILITY IN THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN WEST: TRANSPORTATION PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE**

**DESCRIPTION**

When considering how land use in the Rocky Mountain West has changed over the last 25 years, one of the most important elements of that change has been transportation. Expanded highways and roadways have continued to influence land use development, especially on the high-growth urban fringe and in rural areas, while increased investment in rail and bus transit systems have spurred considerable transit-oriented development in metropolitan areas, such as Denver, Salt Lake City, and Phoenix. This session looks at the shifting priorities in managing transportation options in the West. From trains to complete streets to infrastructure, the panelists will discuss the challenges and opportunities of transportation planning.
**Speaker Information**

**Moderator:**

Andrew R. Goetz
Professor & Chair, University of Denver Department of Geography & the Environment
Denver, CO

Andrew R. Goetz is Professor and Chair of the Department of Geography & the Environment at the University of Denver, a faculty member in the Intermodal Transportation Institute and the Urban Studies Program at the University of Denver, and a research associate in the National Center for Intermodal Transportation and Economic Competitiveness (NCITEC). He has published numerous journal articles, book chapters, and research reports on topics including transportation infrastructure and urban/economic growth, rail transit systems, smart growth planning, and transit-oriented development, among other topics. He is a member of the Statewide Freight Advisory Council at the Colorado Department of Transportation, and has served on the Denver International Airport (DIA) Community Focus Group, the Transportation Advisory Committee for the City and County of Denver’s Strategic Transportation Plan, and the Transportation Advisory Committee for the Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG). He received the 2010 Edward L. Ullman Award from the Association of American Geographers for Significant Contributions to Transportation Geography. Professor Goetz received a BA from Northwestern University, MA from Kent State University, and PhD from Ohio State University.

**Speakers:**

**Tim Baldwin**
Owner & Principal, Rocky Mountain West Transit & Urban Planning
Denver, CO

Tim Baldwin, AICP, leads Rocky Mountain West Transit & Urban Planning. With more than 35 years in transportation, transit, and community planning and public policy, he has focused his career on helping communities find the best paths forward in sustainable, beneficial planning practices. Mr. Baldwin’s specialties are neighborhood-focused station area planning and transit-oriented development planning, transit system and corridor options development and evaluation, urban circulator planning, and policy and funding development and analysis—all with a focus on linking land use and transportation. He is currently leading the Colfax Corridor Connections project for the City and County of Denver and has led corridor planning and transit-oriented development plans throughout the Rocky Mountain West. He is a member of the Urban Land Institute and the National Steering Committee of Rail~Volution, the nation’s premier land use and transportation conference.

**Will Toor**
Director, Transportation Program
Southwest Energy Efficiency Project
Boulder, CO

Will Toor serves as the director of the transportation program at the Southwest Energy Efficiency Project (SWEEP). Prior to working at SWEEP, he was elected to the Board of County Commissioners of Boulder County, Colorado in 2004, and was re-elected in 2008. Prior to being elected County Commissioner, Mr. Toor served as Mayor of Boulder, Colorado from 1998-2004. He represented both the City of Boulder and Boulder County on the Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) from 1998-2012, and served as chair in 2005.
PRIVATE LAND CONSERVATION: 25 YEARS PAST & FUTURE

DESCRIPTION
Private land conservation has grown dramatically in the West over the last 25 years, resulting in the protection of millions of acres of important scenic views, mountain valleys, prime agricultural lands, and wildlife habitat. This panel will first be a reflection on the lessons learned during that success. The panel will also discuss the future of private land conservation for the next 25 years and its challenges and opportunities from three panel members who have been key participants in this field for the last 25 years.

SPEAKER INFORMATION
MODERATOR:
Fred Cheever
Professor, University of Denver Sturm College of Law
Denver, CO
Federico Cheever is Professor of Law at the University of Denver Sturm College of Law. He came to Denver as an Associate Attorney for the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund in 1987, and began teaching at the University of Denver College of Law in 1993, specializing in environmental law, wildlife law, public land law, land conservation transactions and property, and served as the Hughes/Rudd Research Professor at the University of Denver College of Law in 2002. Professor Cheever writes extensively about the Endangered Species Act, federal public land law and land conservation transactions. He has recently co-authored a natural resources casebook, Natural Resources Law: A Place-Based Book of Problems and Cases, with Christine Klein and Bret Birdsong.

SPEAKERS:
Larry Kueter
Attorney, Law Office of Lawrence R. Kueter
Denver, CO
Lawrence R. Kueter is an attorney in Denver, Colorado. Since 2011 his law practice has been limited to land conservation, and since 1990, he has been involved in over five hundred conservation transactions conserving over three quarters of a million acres of land. He has been legal counsel to the Colorado Cattlemen’s Agricultural Land Trust since its creation in 1995. With his involvement with the CCALT and the Partnership of Rangeland Trusts, he has been at the center of the movement in the Rocky Mountain West to create land trusts that are affiliated with statewide cattlemen’s and stock growers associations. In 2004 and 2005, he co-chaired the Land Trust Alliance's Standards and Practices Program Design Steering Committee and he was a member of the Board of Directors of the Land Trust Alliance from 2006 through 2015. He was the founding chair of the Land Trust Accreditation Commission and served in that role from 2006 through 2014. In September, 2013 he was awarded the Kingsbury Browne Conservation Leadership Award by the Land Trust Alliance and the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy

Bill Silberstein
Partner, Kaplan Kirsch & Rockwell
Bill Silberstein is a partner in the law firm of Kaplan Kirsch & Rockwell LLP. Bill Silberstein has built a land conservation practice that has a national reputation for excellence. Mr. Silberstein earned a bachelor's degree in conservation and focused his law education at the University of Colorado on environmental issues. He is a frequent lecturer and author on conservation easements and other conservation topics. He has represented landowners and conservation organizations in hundreds of conservation easement transactions and in over 30 IRS audits of conservation easements. Mr. Silberstein is a member of the Land Trust Alliance Conservation Defense Committee and is counsel to Colorado Coalition of Land Trusts.
TRANSFORMATION IN PUBLIC FINANCE: LESSONS LEARNED

DESCRIPTION
Over the past twenty-five years, financing of public infrastructure and big land use projects has undergone a radical shift. Come learn how times have changed, what lessons can be learned from those shifts, and what challenges we face in the future.

SPEAKER INFORMATION

MODERATOR:
Mary Jo Dougherty
Shareholder, McGeady Becher P.C.
Denver, CO
Mary Jo Dougherty joined McGeady Becher P.C. (formerly McGeady Sisneros P.C.) and began her special district practice in 1999, coming to the Firm with ten years of legal experience in the areas of real estate and municipal finance. She has been a shareholder of the Firm since 2001. She is a 1992 graduate of the University of Denver Sturm College of Law and received the Order of St. Ives. Ms. Doughery enjoys speaking on the topics of special districts and municipal finance.

SPEAKERS:
Diane Barrett
Denver Mayor’s Office, City of Denver
Denver, CO
Diane Barrett’s portfolio comprises all of the development and redevelopment projects in Denver, Colorado, including the region-wide FasTracks projects and related transit-oriented development. A lawyer for nearly twenty-five years, Ms. Barrett practices primarily in the areas of project finance, public finance and land use/development. Denver’s mayor, Michael B. Hancock, created the position of Chief Projects Officer when he took office in 2011 and appointed Ms. Barrett to fill it. She currently oversees more than 40 active projects, a number of which are valued at between $500 million and $1 billion.

Susan Demmitt
Attorney, Gammage & Burnham
Phoenix, AZ
Susan Demmitt concentrates her practice in the areas of land use, development law and real estate transactions. She brings to Gammage & Burnham a unique background that includes education and professional experience as an architect and urban planner. Prior to attending law school, Ms. Demmitt worked for over a decade as a land use consultant for some of the most respected land use attorneys in Phoenix, allowing her to build close relationships with a wide-ranging network of developers, consultants, and city officials. She has extensive experience managing land use entitlement cases that range from complex master-planned communities with projected ten- to fifty-year build-outs to single user developments with rigid project timelines. Her experience extends to negotiating annexation and development agreements, formation of special taxing districts, transactional counseling, development permitting, administrative proceedings and strategic oversight of public outreach campaigns involving collaboration with neighborhood organizations, political action groups and local media. Ms. Demmitt earned her JD from Arizona State University, where she was a Pedrick Scholar, and her bachelor’s degree from Kansas State University, where she graduated from the College of Architecture, Planning and Design.
TRUE WEST: PROMISE FULFILLED OR DRY MIRAGE

DESCRIPTION
In 2003, the Rocky Mountain Land Institute, in collaboration with the American Planning Association, published the acclaimed book, True West: Authentic Development Patterns for Small Towns and Rural Areas. It examined positive historic western development patterns and then through a series of detailed case studies throughout the West, explored planning and legal tools and techniques to produce developments worthy of our unique landscape and heritage. In this session, co-authors Chris Duerksen and James Van Hemert summarize the lessons of True West and in squint-eyed fashion revisit several of the case study communities and developments to determine the good, the bad, and ugly—what went right and what went wrong. From this experience they make recommendations for the next 25 years of growth and development in the Intermountain West.

SPEAKER INFORMATION

SPEAKERS:

Chris Duerksen
Senior Counsel, Clarion Associates
Poncha Springs, CO
Christopher Duerksen, Esq., is senior counsel at Clarion Associates LLC, a land use consulting firm he founded and served as managing director of from 1991 to 2010. He has represented local governments, nonprofits, and the private sector in a variety of land-use and zoning matters and specializes in smart growth and sustainable development code revisions, historic preservation, natural resource protection strategies, and airport-area development. Mr. Duerksen has completed ground-breaking sustainable code diagnosis, revisions and model ordinances for cities, counties, regional governments such as Salt Lake City, Washington, D.C., Tucson, AZ, and the Capitol Region (Hartford, CT) Council of Governments. Mr. Duerksen co-founded the Rocky Mountain Land Use Institute at the University of Denver Sturm College of Law where he conceived the Model Sustainable Development Code project. He has written and spoken extensively on land use issues across the United States and has authored many books and articles on land use and conservation issues, including True West: Authentic Development Patterns for Towns and Rural Areas, Nature Friendly Communities, and Saving the World Through Zoning: The Sustainable Community Development Code. He is a former member of the board of Scenic America and the Sonoran Institute and served two terms on the city council in Fredericksburg, Virginia. Mr. Duerksen directed the Gateway/ Stapleton Development Office for the City of Denver prior to founding Clarion Associates. He is currently conducting smart growth and sustainable code audit workshops for Smart Growth America and free-lance writing about fishing, kayaking, and conservation issues for outdoor magazines such as Florida Sportsman. His outdoor adventures and peregrinations can be followed on his blog at hooknfly.com.

James van Hemert
Principal, van Hemert & Co.
Vancouver Island, BC
With 25 years of community and regional planning experience, James has a successful track record in empowering communities to create resilient and healthy futures. His practice focuses on healthy community strategies, implementation tools such as zoning bylaws, and facilitating public engagement. He is a thought leader in planning healthy communities and co-authored the Planning Healthy Communities Practice Guide for the Canadian Institute of Planners and developed and taught one of the first graduate level courses on planning healthy communities at the University of Colorado. He directed the prestigious Rocky Mountain Land Use Institute in Denver where he convened conferences on critical planning themes and developed innovative tools such as the Sustainable Community Development Code to help communities implement plans for healthy and sustainable futures.
WATER’S ROLE IN SHAPING THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN WEST

DESCRIPTION
This session provides an overview of the importance of water to the economy, environment, and society in the states comprising the Rocky Mountain West. It offers an introduction to the availability and use of the region’s water resources and the legal framework that governs their allocation and use among its diverse peoples. The panelists will also discuss important regional trends associated with uses of water over the past 25 years, including urbanization, environmentalism, climate change, demographic transformation, and shifting cultural values. It concludes by offering a view of future directions for the region’s water future.

SPEAKER INFORMATION
MODERATOR:
Larry MacDonnell
Senior Fellow, Getches-Wilkinson Center
Boulder, CO
LAWRENCE J. MACDONNELL is an attorney and consultant in Boulder who retired in 2013 as a professor of law at the University of Wyoming College of Law where he taught water law, public land law, and natural resources law. He is also a senior fellow at the Getches-Wilkinson Center and a member of the adjunct faculty at the University of Colorado School of Law. He was the first director of the Natural Resources Law Center at the University of Colorado School of Law, a position he held between 1983 and 1994. Between 1995 and 2009 he worked as an attorney and consultant in Boulder, Colorado. His work focused primarily on water resources and on ways to make natural resource development more environmentally compatible. His publications include numerous books, law review articles, other journal articles, and research reports. He has given over 250 invited presentations. He is married, with three daughters.

SPEAKERS:
Gregory Hobbs
Co-Director Environment & Natural Resources Program, University of Denver Sturm College of Law
Denver, CO
Justice Gregory Hobbs is currently the Co-Director of the Environment & Natural Resources Program at the Sturm College of Law after serving for twenty years on the Colorado Supreme Court. For more than two decades before his appointment to the bench, Justice Hobbs practiced water law, environmental law, land use, and transportation law. From 1992 to 1996, he was a partner with Hobbs, Trout & Raley P.C.; prior to that, he spent thirteen years as a partner with Davis, Graham & Stubbs. He served as assistant attorney general for the State of Colorado Natural Resources Section from 1975 to 1979, and also worked for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in the early 1970s. Justice Hobbs authored 283 majority opinions during his tenure with the Colorado Supreme Court (1996–2015). He has written extensively on numerous environmental topics including water law, the Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District, air quality, water and legal education, and paleohydrology at Mesa Verde. The author of five books—most recently Into The Grand (2012)—Justice Hobbs is well known for his insightful analysis of environmental issues and his humor.

James Lochhead
CEO and Manager, Denver Water Department
Denver, CO
Jim Lochhead is recognized as one of the nation’s foremost water rights and natural resources attorneys. He is the former executive director of the Colorado Department of Natural Resources. He also was a shareholder at Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, where he worked on issues relating to water rights, interstate water matters, Endangered Species Act, public lands and natural resources, zoning, land use and real estate development. Lochhead received both his bachelor’s degree in environmental biology and his law degree from the University of Colorado.
Tom Romero
Professor of Law & Assistant Provost of IE Research and Curriculum Initiatives, University of Colorado Sturm College of Law
Denver, CO

Tom Romero is an Associate Professor of Law and is Affiliated Faculty with the Department of History. He teaches and researches in the areas of the legal history of the American West, Latinos and the law, school desegregation in multiracial contexts, property, land use, water law, and urban development and local government in the United States and Latin America. His work on such topics have appeared in the Colorado Law Review, the Utah Law Review, the New Mexico Law Review, the Albany Law Review, the Journal of Gender, Race, and Justice, the Temple Political and Civil Rights Law Review, the Seattle Journal for Social Justice, the Oregon Review of International Law, and the Chicano-Latino Law Review, among others. A native Denverite and undergraduate alum of the University of Denver, Dr. Romero is graduate of the University of Michigan where he received his J.D. and Ph.D. in history.