MARCH 10-11, 2016
University of Denver Sturm College of Law

2016 HOME STUDY
REGIONAL PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

The Rocky Mountain Land Use Institute Presents the 25th Annual Land Use Conference

EXAMINING THE PAST
EXPLORING THE FUTURE
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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.
#WhatDoWeWant? #WarmCookies: Civic Engagement Can Be Fun!

**Description**
Does the thought of public meetings give you heartburn? Have you ever wondered if there’s a way better understand what residents want and how to get there? Experience how Denver’s Warm Cookies of the Revolution reinvents the art of civic dialogue, fostering meaningful conversation on polarizing issues, hot topics, and cultivating civic pride. Our focus will be “Where do we want to be in 25 years?” This interactive session combines video from events like Stupid Questions, Stupid Talents; Tax Day Carnival; Neighborhood Olympics, or Civic Stitch & Bitch; real world applications; and opportunities to apply these ideas for civic engagement.

**Speaker Information**

**Moderator:**
Heidi Aggeler  
Managing Director, BBC Research & Consulting  
Denver, CO  
Heidi Aggeler is a Managing Director of BBC Research & Consulting and leads the firm’s housing and human services practice areas. Heidi’s practice focuses on assessments of fair housing, workforce and affordable housing demand analyses, and human service needs assessments, including child care. Prior to joining BBC, Heidi worked for the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC). Ms. Aggeler has been invited to speak about her work conducting housing market studies and fair housing research at conferences held by HUD, the American Planning Association, Housing Colorado, and many state housing and civil rights agencies.

**Speakers:**  
Evan Weissman  
Founder, Warm Cookies of the Revolution  
Denver, CO  
Evan Weissman is a graduate of Colorado College and a founding member of the Buntport Theater. He brings his love of sharing stories and his passion for community building to his nonprofit civic health club, Warm Cookies of the Revolution. Evan encourages the community to answer the questions “What do we want?” and “How do we get there?” by hosting events that are creative and fun, and include lots of delicious warm cookies and milk...and LEGOS...and mix tapes... and laughter. Warm Cookies of the Revolution will be a Creative in Residence at the Denver Art Museum this fall.

Jen Garner  
Senior Consultant  
BBC Research & Consulting  
Denver, CO  
Jen Garner is a Senior Consultant with BBC. She is a skilled market and policy researcher with a proven track record for lending innovation and insight to a wide ranging portfolio of projects, with an emphasis on housing and special needs populations. Jen’s efforts focus on conducting effective and innovative outreach and public input strategies, leveraging her extensive experience conducting market research for the private and public sectors. She is a Past President of the Colorado American Marketing Association
**ALBUQUERQUE TACKLES EVERYTHING FROM ABC TO Z**

**DESCRIPTION**
This session will explore the Albuquerque ABC-Z project -- an ambitious 2-year project to update the Albuquerque / Bernalillo County Centers and Corridors comprehensive plan, as well as the city's zoning and subdivision controls and technical development standards.

**SPEAKER INFORMATION**
**MODERATOR:**
Don Elliott  
Director, Clarion Associates  
Denver, CO  
Donald L. Elliott is a Director with Clarion Associates, LLC, a land use consulting firm with offices in Denver and Chapel Hill, and affiliate offices in Chicago, Cincinnati, and Philadelphia. Don's practice focuses on land planning and zoning, growth management, and international land and urban development issues. He has also advised numerous local governments in Russia on land use issues, served as the Democracy and Governance Advisor to the United States Agency for International Development in Uganda for two years, and performed independent research on Indian urbanization and slum upgrading in Delhi for two years. He has managed planning and zoning projects that have been state level award recipients from the American Planning Association in Colorado, Arizona, and Pennsylvania. Don teaches graduate level course on Land Use Regulation at the University of Colorado at Denver School of Architecture and Planning. He is the author of A Better Way to Zone (Island Press 2008), co-author of The Rules that Shape Urban Form (APA 2012) and The Citizen’s Guide to Planning (APA 2009) and has served as the editor of Colorado Land Planning and Development Law for over 20 years. Don is a member of the Denver Planning Board.

**SPEAKERS:**
**Suzanne Lubar**  
Planning Director, City of Albuquerque  
Albuquerque, NM  
Suzanne Lubar is an experienced attorney and the recently appointed planning director of the Albuquerque, New Mexico, Planning Department. Under her leadership, the department has rebuilt its commitment to balancing neighborhood, business, and administration interests to create an efficient, effective, and responsive land use system for the city. She also initiated the ambitious ABC-Z project to update the city's comprehensive plan and zoning/development controls.

**Scott Fregonese**  
Senior Consultant, Fregonese Associates  
Portland, OR  
Scott has been a planner for 37 years and is the founder of Fregonese Associates. He works with communities to develop prioritized strategies and actions that enable their vision to take shape through an actionable plan. John has led or taken part in nationally significant regional plans, including the Compass Blueprint Growth Vision for the Southern California Association of Governments, Envision Utah, the Sustainable Places Project in Austin, Louisiana Speaks and Sustainable Development for the Louisiana Coast Handbook. John also led the East Baton Rouge Parish Comprehensive Plan. Under his leadership, Fregonese Associates developed the Envision Tomorrow scenario planning software that was later made an open source planning tool through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. John currently heads the firms efforts to update the Albuquerque/Bernalillo Centers and Corridors Comprehensive Plan.
COMMUNITIES & DEVELOPMENT VS. RAILROADS & HAZARDOUS CARGO: HOW CAN WE ALL GET ALONG?

DESCRIPTION
Railroads have long crossed through many communities – they supply needed commodities and transport services and in many places railroads founded those communities. Many towns and cities are seeing much wanted redevelopment of former industrial lands close to rail lines. But changes in hazmat cargos and headlines about rail incidents have people and communities taking note in Colorado and across North America and asking “what if it happened here”. This session will explore communities and development in close proximity to railways, changes in hazmat transport from growing US oil & gas production, the federal regulatory framework and local/state options involving emergency preparedness and land use authority.

SPEAKER INFORMATION
MODERATOR:
Jack Paterson
Attorney, JA Paterson LLC
Denver, CO
Jack Paterson is an attorney working in environment, energy and hazardous materials. Mr. Paterson practices in hazmat transportation before the U.N. Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, International Civil Aviation Organization and the U.S. Department of Transportation. He has over twenty years of experience in the chemicals and fuels industries and is the author of a safe handling guidance bulletin for the methanol industry. He is also staff to Denver City Councilmember At-Large Deborah Ortega. Mr. Paterson is a graduate of the International Law Program of University of Denver Sturm College of Law and practices before state, federal and international forums.

SPEAKERS:
Allison Fultz
Partner, Kaplan Kirsch & Rockwell LLP
Washington, DC
Allison Fultz focuses her practice on transactional and regulatory matters relating to transportation and infrastructure projects. She represents public transportation bodies, state and municipal governments, and private entities in connection with the use and regulation of unmanned aerial vehicles, and stands before numerous federal agencies, state, and federal courts in connection with the acquisition and abandonment of railroad rights-of-way, rails-to-trails proposals, fixed-guideway transit project development, airport development, environmental reporting, and agency rulemaking. Allison advises clients on coordinated land use and multi-modal transportation planning and development, historic preservation issues, and construction-related matters. She has extensive experience with federal procurement programs managed or funded by the Federal Transit Administration, Federal Railroad Administration, Federal Highway Administration, and Federal Aviation Administration.

Philip Hunt
Planning Coordinator, Denver Office of Emergency Management & Homeland Security
Denver, CO
As a member of the Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security since early 2013, Philip Hunt’s primary responsibilities include leading the development of the City’s all-hazard risk assessment, all-hazard mitigation plan, and emergency operations plan. He also assists with the coordination of the Denver Local Emergency Planning Committee and implements a variety of emergency management and homeland security grant programs. Prior to joining the city, Mr. Hunt worked for the Virginia Department of Emergency Management where he assisted in the statewide response to emergencies such as Hurricane Irene, Hurricane Sandy, and the 2011 Virginia Earthquake, as well as in the planning of various special events such as the 2009
Deborah Ortega
Councilwoman At-Large, Denver City Council
Denver, CO
Deborah “Debbie” Ortega has dedicated her life to serving the citizens of Denver. She was recently re-elected as an at-large member of the Denver City Council, and previously represented City Council District 9 from 1987 to 2003, during which time Ms. Ortega led the efforts to have three neighborhoods declared an EPA Superfund site to clean up environmental contamination from decades of industrial operations in the area. Councilwoman Ortega is committed to ensuring that the impact of city decisions on all segments of our community are considered as we strive to create a sustainable community with economic and housing opportunity for all. She serves as Vice-Chair of the Finance & Services and Business Development Committees and as a member of the Governance & Charter Review Committee. In addition to her civic engagements, Ms. currently serves as the Chair of Del Norte Neighborhood Development Corporation and has served on many community boards including the Colorado Latino Forum and Latina Safehouse.

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 panelist will discuss the challenges and opportunities of transportation planning.

SPEAKER INFORMATION
MODERATOR:
Andy 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.

REGIONAL COLLABORATION IN THE WEST: COMPARING SALT LAKE CITY, DENVER & LAS VEGAS

DESCRIPTION
The U.S. Departments of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Transportation (DOT) and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) awarded grants to the Salt Lake City (2010, $5mil), Denver (2011, $4.5mil) and Las Vegas (2011, $3.5mil) regions through the Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant Program, which supported locally-led collaborative planning and implementation activities region-wide. The Wasatch Choice for 2040 Consortium, Denver’s Sustainable Communities Initiative (SCI), and Las Vegas’ Southern Nevada Strong formed partnerships of government, public and private sector organizations that worked collaboratively to review, augment, create and implement their respective regional visions. This session will compare the three regions’ experiences and lessons learned and the net result of those efforts today.

SPEAKER INFORMATION
MODERATOR:
Flo Raitano
Director of Partnership Development & Innovation, Denver Regional Council of Governments
Denver, CO
Flo is actively involved in all agency programs and services, helping make recommendations on long-range activities; identifying opportunities to leverage cross-program strengths; developing stronger teams through feedback, coaching and mentoring; developing and maintaining collaborative external relationships; and creating new partnership opportunities for DRCOG. She previously served as special projects manager where she was involved with the Sustainable Communities Initiative grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and Metro Vision 2040 regional plan activities.
**Speakers:**

**Brad Calvert**  
Metro Vision Manager, Regional Planning & Operations, Denver Regional Council of Governments  
Denver, CO  
Brad Calvert is the Metro Vision Manager with the Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG). In this role he leads the effort to develop and implement Metro Vision, the DRCOG Board of Director’s roadmap to the future. Metro Vision’s most basic purpose is to safeguard for future generations the region’s many desirable qualities and to serve as a framework for addressing shared issues. As Metro Vision Manager, he found opportunities to apply lessons from the Sustainable Communities Initiative to the broader regional planning framework. He has eighteen years of professional planning experience with a variety of organizations including regional planning agencies, environmental non-profits, a local government and a university.

**Raymond Hess**  
Director of Planning Services  
Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada  
Las Vegas, NV  
Raymond Hess has a Bachelors degree in environmental science and a Masters degree in public administration. He was a Peace Corps volunteer in Cote d’Ivoire west Africa and a redevelopment coordinator in Brooksville, FL. He began transportation planning in Bloomington, IN in 2005. He was the manager of planning in the Metropolitan Planning division of the Regional Transportation Commission from 2012 to 2015. Currently, he is the Director of Planning Services at the RTC.

**Ted Knowlton**  
Deputy Planning Director, Wasatch Front Regional Council  
Salt Lake City, UT  
Ted Knowlton is Deputy Director at the Wasatch Front Regional Council (WFRC) the long range transportation agency for the Salt Lake and Ogden Metropolitan Areas. Ted’s career has focused on helping metropolitan areas coordinate local and regional plans. This includes county and multi-county integrated land use and transportation planning efforts in Chicago, Denver, Los Angeles, as well as a variety in the Salt Lake City region. His local planning experience includes leading the development of the Wasatch Choice for 2040 vision, the Salt Lake metropolitan area’s officially adopted four-county vision. Before joining WFRC, Ted was the Planning Director at Envision Utah -- an organization referred to by the Washington Post as the “gold standard” of regional visioning. Ted is an Adjunct Professor in the College of Architecture + Planning at the University of Utah and has a Masters in Urban and Regional Planning from Portland State University.

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**Resilient Communities: Learning from the World’s Best**

**Description**

Communities throughout the West are facing a host of challenges related to climate change: water shortages, wildfires, violent storms, flooding, and landslides. This session will provide a detailed look at the planning and land use regulatory tools that cities around the world, that are on the cutting edge of climate change and adaption, are using to meet these challenges. It will draw on the results of the international 100 Resilient Communities (100RC) project being funded by the Rockefeller Foundation which includes seventy cities world-wide, including Sydney, Phnom Penh, Juarez, Accra, and Belgrade and Boulder, Dallas, Tulsa, New Orleans, and El Paso in the United States as well as Norfolk, VA, widely recognized as being the U.S. city most threatened by climate change. The 100RC project focuses not only on the shocks—fires, floods, etc.—but also the stresses that weaken the fabric of a city on a day-to-day basis such as chronic water shortages, high unemployment, and inefficient public transportation systems. It provides financial assistance to its network cities to establish a chief resilience officer, expert support for development of a comprehensive resilience strategy, and connections with its global network of member cities.
**Speaker Information**

**Moderator:**
Chris Duerksen  
Senior Counsel, Clarion Associates  
Poncha Springs, CO

Chris Duerksen, Esq, Senior counsel at Clarion Associates, a national land use planning and zoning firm. Mr. Duerksen has worked on numerous land use plans and development codes throughout the West, the United States, and internationally. He has also collaborated with the 100RC Project in a workshop to discuss land use regulatory tools to promote hazard resiliency. He is the author of many books and articles on land use planning and zoning.

**Speakers:**

Amy Armstrong  
Director of City Relationships, 100 Resilient Cites  
New York, NY

Amy Armstrong is the Director of City Relationships for 100 Resilient Cities, Pioneered by The Rockefeller Foundation, where she helps set the strategic vision for 100RC’s partnership with cities and directs a team of resilience professionals who collaborate with member cities to develop and implement their resilience strategies. She brings diverse experience working across local government, academia and non-profit sectors on urban planning and resilience policy. She holds a B.A. in Political Science from Reed College; an MSc in Social Policy and Planning from the London School of Economics; was a New York City Urban Fellow and a Coro Leadership New York Fellow; and served as Adjunct Faculty at The New School for Management and Urban Policy.

Craig Richardson  
Director  
Clarion Associates  
Chapel Hill, NC

Craig Richardson is a Director at Clarion Associates, a national land use planning and zoning firm. He has extensive experience rewriting development codes, and in recent times rewriting codes in communities that will be dramatically affected by climate change issues such as flooding, violent storms, and sea level rise. He is currently leading the code rewrite effort in Norfolk, VA and Prince George’s County MD, having successfully completed major code rewrites in Biloxi MS, Currituck County, NC, and Daytona Beach FL—all communities addressing significant climate change issues.

George Homewood  
Director, City of Norfolk Department of City Planning  
Norfolk, VA

George Homewood, AICP, CFM, currently serves as the Director of City Planning for the City of Norfolk, Virginia. He has previously served as the Director of Community Development for New Kent County, Chief Planner for York County, and Assistant Planner for James City County. Mr. Homewood has also been a project manager for the US Army and was self-employed as the co-owner of a scuba diving business. Mr. Homewood is the current President of the Virginia chapter of the American Planning Association; he was Vice-President Policy & Legislation of the APA Virginia Chapter and is a member of APA Legislative Policy Committee and the APA Emerging Issues Task Force. Mr. Homewood is the co-author of Hazard Mitigation Policy Guide, adopted in 2014 and Freight Policy Guide scheduled for 2016. Outside of work, he serves on the Swimming & Diving Rules Committee of the National Federation of State High School Associations.
THE ROLE OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION IN THE LAND USE APPROVAL PROCESS

DESCRIPTION
The growing power of neighborhood associations in the development process is frequently overlooked in discussions of that process. Often when these associations oppose a development, the elected official representing the area in which they are located will oppose the development, in order to court his electorate, even when the proposed development meets all of the requirements of zoning for the area. Although the "usual" opposition is to the location of a Walmart or other "big box" store in an area, increasingly, opposition is to affordable housing proposed in an upscale, or even a middle class community. Our speakers today will address the recent Boulder affordable housing proposal and the ordinances it generated, as well as the more usual big box proposal in areas in which homeowners feel threatened by the development.

SPEAKER INFORMATION
MODERATOR:
Anita Miller
Attorney, Anita P. Miller, Attorney at Law, LLC
Albuquerque, NM
Anita Miller teaches Land Use Law as an Adjunct Professor at the University of New Mexico School of Laws and College of Architecture and Planning. She recently retired as an Assistant City Attorney specializing in Land Use Law at the City of Albuquerque and is continuing her private practice as a land use lawyer in New Mexico.

SPEAKERS:
Wil Toor
Transportation Program Director, Southwest Energy Efficiency Project
Boulder, CO
Will Toor is director of the transportation program at the Southwest Energy Efficiency Project (SWEEP), a Colorado based nonprofit that advocates for energy efficiency in six southwestern states. In this role he works to advance both smart growth transportation strategies and electric vehicles. Prior to working at SWEEP, Will spent 15 years in local government, as mayor of Boulder and as Boulder County Commissioner. He serves on the Colorado Air Quality Control Commission. He is co-author of the books Finding A New Way: Campus Transportation for the Twenty-First Century, and Transportation for Sustainable Campus Communities. He received his Ph.D. in physics from the University of Chicago in 1992.

David Gehr
Deputy City Attorney, City of Boulder
Boulder, CO
David Gehr is the Deputy City Attorney of the Boulder City Attorney's Office. He primarily advises the city council, city manager, and a number of boards and commissions. He is also involved in the management of the City Attorney's Office staff and outside counsel arrangements. Presently his focus is on energy, electric utility municipalization, and environmental, social, regional growth, and sustainability issues. He provides the city with a broad range of legal services including, litigation, contract and ordinance drafting, transactional work and administrative hearings. David's assignments also include advising city departments, boards and commissions, and the city council on land planning, utilities, regulatory compliance, and real estate issues. The issues include municipal finance, tax, ratemaking, construction and infrastructure, comprehensive planning, plan implementation, zoning, growth management, historic preservation, affordable housing, and land development approvals. David began working for the office in 1990. Prior to joining the City Attorney's Office, he earned his B.A. in political science, Master of Community and Regional Planning and law degrees from the University of Nebraska.
STEWARDSHIP DEVELOPMENT: THE CURE FOR URBAN SPRAWL

DESCRIPTION
Building community requires intentional long term planning and implementation through stewardship development. Come hear Brad Buchanan, Planning Director with the City and County of Denver along with Grant McCargo, CEO with Bio-Logical Capital, LLC and CEO of Urban Villages speak about the past, present and future of the city, how we are shaping it today, and the importance of stewardship development in the creation of our cities. Attendees will learn about the successes, hurdles and challenges of robust long term planning efforts as well as case studies for catalytic projects and placemaking.

SPEAKER INFORMATION
MODERATOR:

Brad Buchanan
Executive Director, Community Planning and Development - City and County of Denver
Denver, CO
Brad Buchanan, FAIA is the Executive Director of Community Planning and Development for the City and County of Denver. Brad has 33 years of experience in the planning, design, construction and development of projects focused on advancing the principals of equity and healthy communities. Brad has been the planning director for the City of Denver since March of 2013. Brad is also a farmer and rancher in Strasburg, Colorado. Brad and his family’s Flying B Bar Ranch raise grassfed cattle and focus on humane ranching practices. His experience of this urban/rural duality uniquely informs his perspective on issues like urban density, mobility, water use and open space facing our communities. He is focused on the urgency of understanding and communication of the challenges for both of these environments and how they must work together to successfully navigate the future of community building in our region.

SPEAKERS:

Brad Buchanan
Executive Director, Community Planning and Development - City and County of Denver
Denver, CO
Brad Buchanan, FAIA is the Executive Director of Community Planning and Development for the City and County of Denver. Brad has 33 years of experience in the planning, design, construction and development of projects focused on advancing the principals of equity and healthy communities. Brad has been the planning director for the City of Denver since March of 2013. Brad is also a farmer and rancher in Strasburg, Colorado. Brad and his family’s Flying B Bar Ranch raise grassfed cattle and focus on humane ranching practices. His experience of this urban/rural duality uniquely informs his perspective on issues like urban density, mobility, water use and open space facing our communities. He is focused on the urgency of understanding and communication of the challenges for both of these environments and how they must work together to successfully navigate the future of community building in our region.

Grant McCargo
CEO
Biological Capital
Denver, CO
Bio-Logical Capital is a land investment, development, and conservation company. We deliver lasting value and strong returns by investing for the long term and integrating sustainable, land-based business like renewable energy, real estate, and agriculture with ecological restoration and conservation. We call this Stewardship Development. Old-school land investment and development uses a “deplete and move on” model that maximizes a single revenue stream in the short term at the expense of nature, people, communities, and long-term economic value.
Susan Powers
President, Urban Ventures LLC
Denver, CO

Susan Powers is President of Urban Ventures, LLC, a Denver real estate development company that has built multiple mixed income and mixed use projects in and around downtown Denver over the past 17 years with a focus on the creation of unique communities for residents to live a healthy life. She is an active advocate for the development of affordable housing in Denver and is leading the redevelopment of a former convent property into a model mixed income, healthy neighborhood. She is also leading the STEAM on the Platte development of an adaptive reuse of a former industrial property on the Platte River. She serves on the Board of Directors of Denver Health and Hospital, Downtown Denver Inc., and Denver Bike Share.