

# Regional Sustainable Development Fellowship

## Meeting 1 Cohort 1 September 17-19, 2008

### Draft Agenda

#### Wednesday, September 17, 2008

##### **Setting the Stage for Regional Sustainable Development**

**3:00 pm – 5:30 pm**

Speakers: Brian Bosworth and Stephen Michon, with Curtis Johnson and Mick Fleming

How does the new regional sustainable development agenda differ from traditional economic development and how do the imperatives for regional prosperity, growth management, and green consciousness define this difference? This session will introduce the Fellows to the principles of the Fellowship, why chambers are leading this agenda, and how the Fellowship will build knowledge and expertise in the practice of regional sustainable development. The session will also serve as an introduction to the Fellowship goals. We will:

- Walk through the Fellowship purpose and goals
- Define RSD and the lens from which we view regional development
- Provide an overview of how chambers are moving the agenda and leading in their regions
- Provide an overview of Meeting 1 and its learning goals

##### **Group Dinner**

**6:00 pm – 8:00 pm**

The dinner is a chance for Fellows to get to know one another, network and continue the conversation from the afternoon.

#### Thursday, September 18, 2008

##### **Regional Competitiveness and Social Cohesion**

**8:00 am – 10:00 am**

Speaker: Manuel Pastor, Professor of Geography and American Studies and Ethnicity, University of Southern California

Manuel Pastor, an economist by training and author of the influential book *Regions that Work: How Cities and Suburbs Can Grow Together*, will present and lead a discussion that examines how socio-economic division affects business

competitiveness and regional growth. He'll challenge us with data that show the costs of social separation, and the benefits of building new partnerships in the region. We'll also grapple with two visions of regional sustainable development – one that unearths the economic potential in disadvantaged areas (finding immediate and mutual economic interests) and one that takes into account a wider array of interests, and may involve short-term costs and uncertainty, but leads to new economic transformations.

**Regional Competitiveness and the Sustainable, Efficient**

**Use of Resources & Infrastructure**

**10:00 am – 12:00 pm**

Speaker: Curtis Johnson, President, The Citistates Group

While Pastor sets the stage for the human capital side of the regionalism and sustainable development agenda, Johnson will introduce us to the principles that guide the physical, land use and resource dimensions of sustainable growth. He'll talk about how a new American imperative for regional success has emerged – one that moves from a model of region building that encourages low efficiency and generates high impact on infrastructure and resources to a new model that is highly efficient and minimizes impact. Based on this model, how are region's finding new ways to cooperate and organize for more sustainable use of their water, air, energy and natural resources? How does this model affect the complex tangle of land use and transportation decisions in today's regions? What will be the new growth patterns shaping regional competitiveness?

**Lunch**

**12:00 pm – 1:00 pm**

**Regional Action Project Workshops**

**1:00 pm – 3:00 pm**

Facilitators: Stephen Michon, Brian Bosworth and Curtis Johnson

During the first part of our RAP workshop Fellows will be center stage. Fellows will share baseline information contained in the PowerPoint presentations prepared prior to Meeting 1. These "mini" presentations will serve as a baseline from which Fellows can better understand each others' chambers and regional context. Next, Fellowship staff will facilitate a group exercise during which we will test out elements of regional sustainable development as they apply to your regions. Finally, Fellowship staff will outline the goals and expectations for the Regional Action Project. We will provide you with examples of RAPs developed by previous Fellows as a way to give you a better idea of what to expect. One goal of the workshop is to help you identify key opportunities and projects that may serve as your RAP.

**Site Visit: The Metro's Port and Alameda Corridor**

**3:00 pm – 5:30 pm**

The purpose of the site visit is to give the Fellows a learning experience that exemplifies the principles of regional sustainable development, see a tangible development project in the region we are visiting and takes us outside of the usual "classroom" format. We will explore the decision that the region had to make to fundamentally change the trajectory of the port system and the region's competitiveness in this sector -- the former model was one that was low transit efficiency and high impact on environment to a model that achieves increased

efficiency of transporting goods in and out of the port, lowers impact on the environment and maintains a key competitive asset to the region's economic well-being. We'll also see the enormity of the project with a tour of the workings of the port, the new multi-modal connections developed, and how the Alameda Corridor project works.

**Dinner on Your Own/Hospitality Suite**

**6:00 pm**

Fellows will have dinner on their own, with the Hospitality Suite available for snacks, drinks, and networking.

## **Friday, September 19, 2008**

**Business Institutions and Decision-Making for  
Regional Sustainable Development**

**8:00 am – 10:00 am**

Speaker: Frank Beal, Executive Director, Chicago Metropolis 2020

Frank Beal will present the argument for regional institution building – how to organize business-based constituencies, what kind of partnerships need to be built, how to analyze complex regional issues (such as the analysis that went behind its work on the jobs-housing mismatch) and how to position the institution to affect change.

**Regional Action Project Workshops/Meeting Wrap**

**10:00 am – 12:00 pm**

Facilitators: Stephen Michon and Curtis Johnson

Fellows will continue from yesterday's RAP workshop with Stephen Michon and Curtis Johnson facilitating. During this segment we will outline the goals and expectations for the Regional Action Project product. We will provide you with examples of RAPs developed by previous Fellows as a way to give you a better idea of what to expect. One goal of the workshop is to help you identify key opportunities and projects that may serve as your RAP. We'll end with a wrap up and agenda for next steps.

**Meeting Adjourns**

**12:00 pm**