

PROGRAM AGENDA

MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF REGIONS TRAINING WORKSHOP: ROLE OF LOCAL ELECTED/POLICY OFFICIAL BOARD MEMBERS SOARING EAGLE CASINO/RESORT HOTEL • MT. PLEASANT, MICHIGAN

THURSDAY, JANUARY 22

1:30 pm. **Welcome and Introductions**

Linda Preston, MAR President, Supervisor, Pokagon Township

1:45 pm **Overview of Workshop/Town Hall Meeting**

Diane Rekowski, Executive Director, Northeast Michigan Council of Governments
Chair, MAR Strategic Planning Committee

2:00–3:00 pm **Positioning Michigan's Regions for the Future**

Matthew Chase, Executive Director, National Association of Development Organizations

- Global, National and Statewide Trends and Case Studies
- Roles of Local Policy Officials in State Associations of Regional Councils

3:00-3:20 pm Networking Break

3:20-4:00 pm **Federal Perspective: Policy Making in Economic Development**

Introduction: Sandeep Dey, Executive Director, West Michigan Shoreline
Regional Development Commission

Guest Speaker: Robert Sawyer, Regional Director, U.S. Department of
Commerce, Economic Development Administration, Chicago Regional Office

4:00-5:30 pm **Conversation Café: Local Officials Perspective on the Path Forward
for Michigan's Regional Councils and Economic Development Districts**

Moderator: Matthew Chase, Executive Director, National Association of Development
Organizations

- Event participants will engage in a moderated discussion about how Michigan compares to global and national trends in multi-state and sub-state regional collaboration and cooperation for strategy development, program development and project implementation.

6:30 pm **Networking Event (Dinner at Hotel)) Guest-Led Dinner Conversation**

Introduction: Sue Fortune, Executive Director, East Central Michigan Planning
and Development Regional Commission

Guest Speaker: James Collison (retired), EDA Representative for Michigan, U.S.
Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration, Chicago
Regional Office

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23

8:00 am Networking Breakfast

8:45-10:15 am **Real World Experience: Lessons Learned from Local Elected and Policy Officials Engaged in Regional Council Partnerships, Programs and Projects**

Moderator: Linda Preston, MAR President, Supervisor, Pokagon Township

- An elected /policy official from each regional council will describe partnerships, programs and projects their local community was involved in cooperation with their respective regional council.

10:15-10:30 am Networking Break

10:30-Noon **Conversation Café: Shaping a Path Forward for Local Elected/Policy Official Involvement in the Michigan Association of Regions.**

Moderator: Matthew Chase, Executive Director, National Association of Development Organizations

For registration/hotel information, contact Mary Seeger, Executive Assistant, at the West Michigan Shoreline Regional Development Commission, at (231)722-7878x21, or email mseeger@wmsrdc.org

December 9, 2008