

CLIMATE RESILIENCE

& ADAPTATION

Symposium

Friday, February 6, 2015
University of Texas at Arlington

WELCOME



The Institute of Urban Studies at the University of Texas at Arlington and the Midwest Section of the American Planning Association welcome you to the Climate Resilience & Adaptation Symposium! Today will provide a forum for learning about climate vulnerability, sharing best practices in resilience planning, and identifying collaborative solutions for adaptation given the specific impacts of climate change in our region.



American Planning Association
Texas Chapter | Midwest Section

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Robin Rather CEO | Collective Strength

Robin Rather specializes in market research and strategy for a range of business, non-profit and governmental clients and is a recognized advocate for sustainability and related policy issues. Rather has recently served as lead consultant on projects that involve renewable energy strategies, water conservation, the future of healthcare, non-point pollution, community values, citizens' definitions of a healthy economy, and corporate trends. She also conducted one of the first major surveys of US sustainability experts on global trends and recently traveled to Beijing as part of a delegation meeting with the environmental, academic and policy leaders in China.



Theresa O'Donnell Director of Planning and Neighborhood Vitality | City of Dallas

The new Planning and Neighborhood Vitality Department at the City of Dallas is designed to explore opportunities to strengthen and redevelop Dallas as a 21st century city of livable, desirable neighborhoods in the robust and highly competitive North Central Texas economy. O'Donnell serves as the director of this department, overseeing its initial scope of long-range land use planning, transportation planning, housing and community development, and urban design. Through the coordination of key external partners, organizations, and agencies, Dallas will address the challenges common to aging neighborhoods as well as the more pernicious conditions of blight and poverty that threaten the long term viability of certain inner-city neighborhoods.



Katharine Hayhoe Climate Scientist

Katharine Hayhoe, atmospheric scientist and associate professor in the Department of Political Science and director of the Climate Science Center at Texas Tech University, part of the Department of Interior's South-Central Climate Science Center. Katharine's research focuses on developing and applying high-resolution climate projections to evaluate the future impacts of climate change on human society and the natural environment. She has published over 100 peer-reviewed publications and served as lead author on key reports for the U.S. Global Change Research Program and the National Academy of Sciences. Most recently, Katharine served as lead author for the 2014 Third U.S. National Climate Assessment and was named Time Magazine's 100 Most Influential People of 2014.



Betsy del Monte, FAIA, LEED BD+C Principal | Transform Global

Formerly a Principal and Director of Sustainability for The Beck Group, an integrated architecture, construction and development firm, Betsy has 30 years of experience in high-performance architecture and environmental responsive design. Betsy is also an adjunct professor at the SMU School of Engineering where she created and teaches a Masters degree program in Sustainability and Development. She has been a visiting lecturer at several other universities including Rice University, University of Virginia, and University of Texas.



Rio Grande A **What Planners Should Know About Stormwater**

Stormwater is an integral part in changing the way our communities are designed and a vital resource that is often overlooked. This session will present a number of topics that planners should know about stormwater. This includes stormwater basics, challenges on green field sites versus redevelopment sites, regulatory policies that are changing the way stormwater is handled, recommended ordinance language to drive low impact design for both new development and redevelopment sites, and the financial aspects that show the strong business case for implementing low impact development.

- Speakers**
- Lesley Brooks, P.E., CFM, Project Manager, Freese and Nichols Stormwater Management Group*
 - Kelly Dillard, P.E., CFM, Associate and Manager, Freese and Nichols Stormwater Management Group*
 - Wendy Shabay, AICP, AIA, Urban Planner and Associate, Freese and Nichols*

Rio Grande B **Conservation and Reestablishment of the Green Network**

This panel will discuss two important green network aspects: land conservation and the urban tree canopy.

The Trust for Public Land's "Climate-Smart Cities" program helps cities understand how parks and open space play a critical role in climate resiliency. Utilizing unique data-driven analysis, TPL works collaboratively with partner cities to create a powerful GIS tool that helps them prioritize their land conservation efforts in the context of improving climate resiliency.

The City of Plano's Urban Forest Ecosystem Assessment was conducted in 2014 to better understand the structure and function of its trees. The results of this study provide a snap-shot of how both public and private trees work everyday and how the City of Plano will utilize this invaluable study to make professional management decisions that will help maximize the benefits of its urban forest and combat local climatic and environmental challenges.

- Speakers**
- Micah Pace, M.S., Certified Arborist and Urban Tree Consultant, Preservation Tree Services*
 - Angela Kralik, Urban Forester, City of Plano*
 - Robert Kent, North Texas Area Director, The Trust for Public Land*

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RESEARCH | EXTENSION**



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Red River **Adaptation Strategies for Climate Change at the Municipal and Regional-Scale**

Our region has a number of climate adaptation practices already in use related to transportation infrastructure, regional watershed, floodplain management, and the use of low impact development techniques. In addition, the City of Denton's energy efficiency and sustainability planning and implementation are successful municipal-level initiatives that can be replicated in other communities. Learn from speakers with extensive experience related to climate change adaptation and resiliency strategies from both the municipal and regional levels as we discuss the best practices and actions to address climate change.

- Speakers**
- Yekang Ko, PhD, Assistant Professor, UT Arlington Department of Urban and Public Affairs*
 - Tamara Cook, AICP, Manager of Environmental Development, North Central Texas Council of Governments*
 - Fouad Jaber, PhD, PE, Associate Professor & Extension Specialist, Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension Center Biological and Agricultural Engineering Department*
 - Katherine Barnett, Sustainability and Special Projects Administrator, City of Denton*
 - Ali Adil, Doctoral Student, UT Arlington Department of Urban and Public Affairs*
 - Ann Foss, Doctoral Student, UT Arlington Department of Urban and Public Affairs*



Rio Grande A Leveraging Solar Energy

With proper implementation, the use of solar energy will help to improve air quality by decreasing the amount of fossil fuel power generation needed and therefore, reduce emissions that contribute to the region's air pollution and ozone nonattainment status. This session will focus on the region's initiative to increase awareness and use of solar energy through an expedited permitting process, financial incentives, and other innovative cost saving techniques.

Speakers
Tamara Cook, AICP, *Manager of Environmental Development, North Central Texas Council of Governments*
Larry Howe, *Co-Founder, Plano Solar Advocates*
Mike Stockard, *Director of Energy Efficiency, Oncor Electric Delivery*

Rio Grande B The North Texas Challenge: Water

One indisputable fact for North Texas: drought has become a way of life. Landscape conservation, the wise and efficient use of current water supplies, and reuse strategies are estimated to comprise about 25 percent of the future water supply. However, these strategies alone will not be sufficient to support the projected rapid growth expected within the region. This panel of water experts will discuss how our region is facing this challenge through numerous regional water management strategies and local municipal landscaping conservation measures.

Speakers
Patrick Dickinson, *Program Coordinator, Texas A&M AgriLife Research & Extension Center Urban Water Program*
Amy Karllela, P.H., *Hydrologist, Freese and Nichols, Inc., Project Manager for Region C Water Plan*
David H. Marshall, P.E., *Director of Engineering and Operations Support, Tarrant Regional Water District*

Red River Learning from Coastal Resilience: From Rapid Response to Long-Term Adaptation

This panel will explore a long-range planning tool serving the Texas Coast and a local adaptive project in one coastal community being developed with the support of NOAA's Sea Grant Universities program. Texas Sea Grant will demonstrate its Community, Health, and Resources Management (CHARM) interactive model, which helps decision makers to involve the public with planning for vulnerable coastal environments. Participants will explore regional and local strategies to identify vulnerabilities that require long-term planning for adaptation; communicate the need for resilience in layman's terms; and develop long-range community solutions to mitigate flooding, transportation, and public safety challenges.

Speakers
Kim Miller, AICP, *Planner, AllenES*
Steven Mikulencak, AICP, *Program Coordinator, Texas Coastal Watershed Program at Texas A&M University*

Rio Grande A Adaptation and Resilience and the Law

The session will, first, set out the current framework of the law in the United States as it relates to planning goals of mitigation, adaptation and resilience, and speculate about ways in which the law may itself adapt in the future to address those goals. Secondly, the session will focus on environmental conditions that may be anticipated to impact North Texas and consider potential localized responses, along with the challenges to implement responses to those conditions. Finally, the session will raise issues concerning the professional liability of planners that can arise out of an alleged failure to appropriately anticipate conditions brought about by a changing climate.

Speakers
Michael B. Gerrard, *Professor and Director of the Sabin Center for Climate Change Law, Columbia Law School*
Ann Drumm, *Attorney and Independent Environmental Advocate*
John Slavich, *Attorney, Guida, Slavich, & Flores Environmental Law Firm, P.C.*

Rio Grande B Sustainability Partnerships through Higher Education Institutions

The University of Texas at Arlington (UTA) and the University of North Texas (UNT) are actively engaged in greening facility operations, promoting innovative research, supporting and encouraging student initiatives, implementing environmentally and sustainability focused curriculum, and sponsoring public service initiatives. Through these initiatives, the universities offer a unique partnership to communities. This panel will feature the sustainability directors of the two universities who will further discuss the innovative programs and contributions to our communities.

Speakers
Meghna Tare, *Director, UT Arlington Office of Sustainability*
Todd Sprinks, PhD, *Director, University of North Texas Sustainability*

Red River Moving Forward with Energy Efficiency

This panel will provide an opportunity for attendees to hear how and why two local governments, the DFW International Airport, Dallas 2030 District (a private sector driven program), and an electric utility are incorporating and incentivizing energy conservation and efficiency programs in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. The panel participants will highlight their organizations' energy efficiency goals, partners, outcomes, and lessons learned, providing a diverse set of potential programs that could be implemented by other communities to reduce energy costs and encourage energy efficiency in the commercial and residential sectors.

Speakers
Jim Razinha, P.E., *LEED AP, Facilities Manager, City of Plano*
Michelle Long, *Smart Energy Loan Coordinator, City of Plano*
Sam Steel, CEM, CSDP, LEED AP, *Administrator of Sustainability Programs, City of Fort Worth*
Gerald J. Kettler, P.E., CCP, CPMP, CIAQM, BEMP, LEED AP, *Chair, Dallas 2030 District*
Jerry R. Dennis, CEM, CEP, *Energy Manager, Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport*
Mike Stockard, CEM, *Director of Energy Efficiency, Oncor Electric Delivery*



SCHEDULE

8:15 - 9:45 am

**WELCOME &
KEYNOTE SPEAKERS**
Bluebonnet Ballroom
(First Floor)

10:00 - 11:30 am

BREAKOUT SESSIONS
Second Floor

11:40 am - 1:10 pm

**LUNCH &
KEYNOTE SPEAKERS**
Bluebonnet Ballroom
(First Floor)

1:30 - 3:00pm

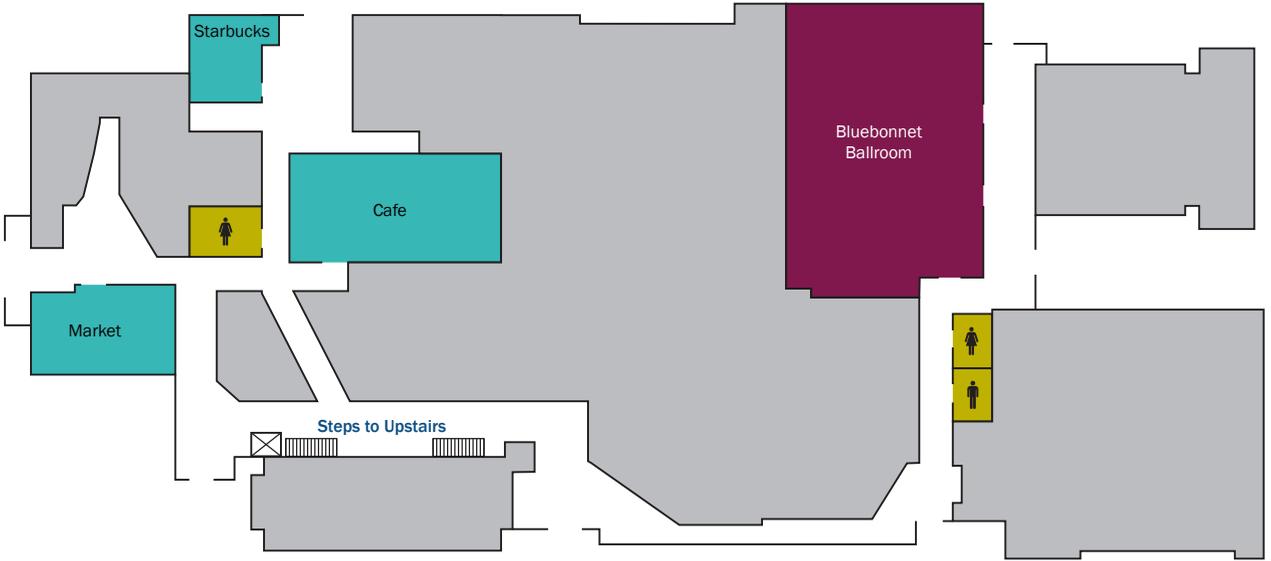
BREAKOUT SESSIONS
Second Floor

3:15 - 4:45pm

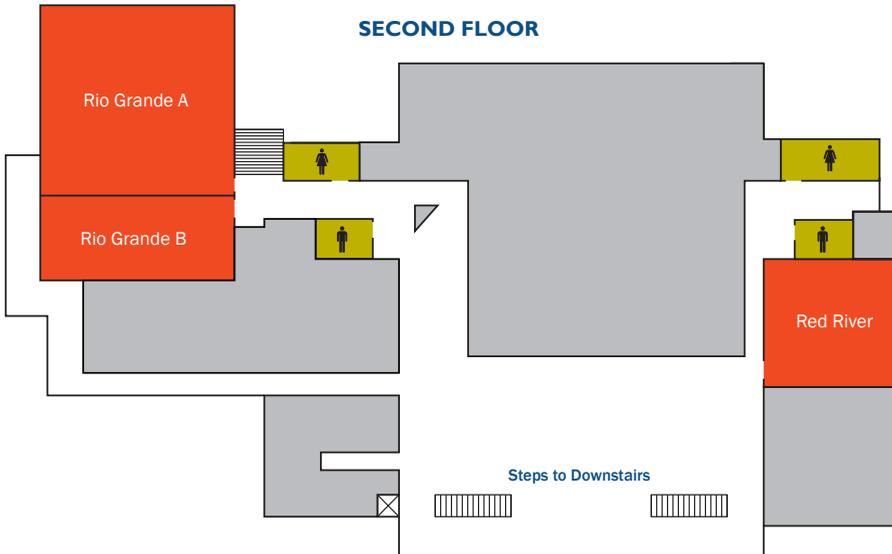
BREAKOUT SESSIONS
Second Floor

E.H. HERFORD UNIVERSITY CENTER MAP

FIRST FLOOR



SECOND FLOOR



PROMOTIONAL PARTNERS

