



Governmental Research Association 2016 Annual Policy Conference

*Conference Agenda
July 24 – 27, 2016*

Hosted by:



Sunday, July 24, 2016

Conference begins on Sunday
Evening at Embassy Suites (Conference Hotel)

1:35pm – 4:30 pm	Optional Pirates vs. Phillies baseball game, PNC Park
4:30pm – 5:00pm	Registration
5:00pm – 6:30pm	Welcome and GRA Member Roundup
6:30pm – 8:00pm	Reception

Monday, July 25, 2016

With the exception of the 8:00 trustees meeting, morning sessions will be held at the Heinz 57 Center (directly across Sixth Avenue from Embassy Suites)

Lunch and afternoon session in redeveloped East Liberty neighborhood

8:00am – 8:30 am	Trustees Meeting (Ollie's, 25 th Floor, Embassy Suites)
8:30am – 10:00 am	Session #1: Pittsburgh – The Comeback City <i>Moderator Bill Flanagan (Allegheny Conference on Community Development)</i>
10:00am – 10:15 am	Break
10:15am – 11:45 am	Session #2: How GRA Organizations Contribute to Community Development <i>Moderator: Will Bernstein (PEL of Greater Pittsburgh)</i> <i>Panelists: Sanjeev Baidyaroy (Allegheny County Department of Human Services), Joe Peterangelo (Public Policy Forum), Ben Stuart (Boston Municipal Research Bureau)</i>
12:00pm	Leave for Lunch
12:30pm – 1:30 pm	Lunch: Ace Hotel, East Liberty <i>Luncheon Speaker: Clair Hosteny (East End Development Partners)</i>
2:00pm – 3:30 pm	Session #3: Urban Redevelopment (session held at Kelly Strayhorn Theater) <i>Moderator: Brian Jensen (PEL of Greater Pittsburgh)</i> <i>Panelists: Malik Bankston (Kingsley Association), Ted Melnyk and Kendell Pelling (East Liberty Development, Inc.)</i>

Tuesday, July 26, 2016

With the exception of the 8:00 presidents meeting, morning sessions will be held at the Heinz 57 Center (directly across Sixth Avenue from Embassy Suites)

Evening Awards Dinner will be held at the Omni William Penn Hotel (one block from Embassy Suites across Mellon Square)

- 8:00 am – 8:30 am Presidents Meeting (Ollie's, 25th Floor, Embassy Suites)
- 8:30 am – 10:15 am **Session #4: Minimum Wage, Paid Family Leave**
Moderator: Kent Gardner (CGR)
Panelists: Kriss Sjoblom Washington Research Council), Phyllis Resnick (Colorado Futures Center), Kent Gardner (CGR), Brian Jensen (PEL of Greater Pittsburgh)
- 10:15 am – 10:30 am Break
- 10:30 am – 12:00 pm **Session #5: Recovery School Districts: What works, what doesn't and why**
Moderator: Peter Reichard (Bureau of Governmental Research)
Panelist: Craig Thiel (Citizens Research Council of Michigan), Joe Yeado (Public Policy Forum)
- 12:00 pm Adjourn for lunch (on your own)
- 12:00 pm – 5:30 pm Free Time
- 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm **Optional Lunch: Regional Transportation Visioning** (at Omni William Penn Hotel)
The Regional Transportation Alliance of Southwestern Pennsylvania (RTA), a public-private civic initiative, is soliciting input from stakeholders, innovators, and other regions as it prepares a draft vision of future transportation development for public discussion. Panelists from various GRA organizations will share their transportation visioning experiences.
- 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm **Optional Session: New Pension Accounting Standards** (TBD)
What information are state and local governments reporting under the new pension accounting standards? GASB senior research manager Dean Michael Mead will explain how to find that information and what it means, using actual examples from governments that have implemented GASB Statement 68.
- 5:30pm – 6:30 pm Cocktails (at Omni William Penn Hotel)
- 6:30pm – 8:30 pm Awards Dinner (at Omni William Penn Hotel)
Keynote Speaker: Former Mayor Tom Murphy, Urban Land Institute

Wednesday, July 27, 2016

With the exception of the 8:00 trustees meeting, morning sessions will be held at the Heinz 57 Center (directly across Sixth Avenue from Embassy Suites)

- 8:00am – 9:00 am Trustees Meeting (Ollie's, 25th Floor, Embassy Suites)
- 9:00am – 10:15 am **Session #6: Making Our Research Matter**
Moderator: Mebane Rash (EducationNC)
Panelists: Joe Adams (Public Affairs Research Council of Alabama), Pope "Mac" McCorkle (Duke University, Sanford School of Public Policy)
- 10:15am – 10:30 am Break
- 10:30am – 12:00 pm **Session #7: GRA Award Winner Presentations**
- 12:00 pm Conference Adjourns