

Consortium for Scenario Planning

2023 Conference

February 1 – February 3, 2023
Phoenix, AZ, United States

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1

12:30 – 1:00 p.m.

Registration

1:00 – 2:15 p.m.

Welcome and Keynote: Future Trends for Planners (Combined Room A & B)

In January 2023, the American Planning Association and the Lincoln Institute released an annual trend report that shares existing, emerging and potential trends that are relevant to planners. This session will highlight some trends from the report and discuss how planners can use foresight to navigate change and prepare for an uncertain future.

Speakers:

Kathryn Lincoln, Chair of the Board and Chief Investment Officer, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy

Heather Hannon, Associate Director of Planning Practice and Scenario Planning, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy

Petra Hurtado, Director of Research and Foresight, American Planning Association

Joseph DeAngelis, Research Manager, American Planning Association

2:15 – 2:30 p.m.

Break

2:30 – 3:45 p.m.

BREAKOUT SESSIONS I

Exploratory Scenario Planning 101: A Hands-On Introductory Workshop (Room A)

Communities need new tools to support flexible strategies and deal with uncertain futures. Scenario planning engages community members in developing a range of possible futures for which they can create flexible strategies. This process can be adjusted to a region’s technological and personnel capacity in surfacing resilient planning interventions for a range of different future conditions. Session attendees will learn the basics and conduct a mock scenario planning exercise to identify trends and driving forces, develop strategies, and highlight the best options to address possible outcomes.

Speakers: Heather Hannon, Associate Director of Planning Practice and Scenario Planning, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy
Ryan Maye Handy, Policy Analyst, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy

Case Study: Lessons Learned in the Twin Cities, Minnesota (Room B)

This presentation will delve into the scenario exploration framework used in the Metropolitan Council’s 2050 regional planning process, with highlights including institutional aspects of scenario planning and its use in policy making. Presenters will also focus on the technical aspects of scenario modeling, such as the two models used in this process and their results, and discuss how the Council may use this exploration and apply the broader lessons learned from using a scenario framework for long-range regional planning.

Speakers: Ellen Esch, Senior Data Scientist, Metropolitan Council
Todd Graham, Principal Forecaster, Metropolitan Council
Baris Gumus-Dawes, Senior Researcher, Metropolitan Council
Dan Marckel, Planning Analyst, Metropolitan Council

3:45 – 4:00 p.m. **Break**

4:00 – 5:15 p.m. **BREAKOUT SESSIONS II**

Case Study: Lessons from a Decade of Model-Driven Scenario Planning (Room B)

The National Center for Smart Growth at the University of Maryland, College Park, has become one of the nation's premier think tanks using scenario planning to assess the interface of land use, transportation, and environmental policies. In this session, presenters will synthesize lessons learned in modeling scenarios for four major projects over the past decade, which cover the process,

tool, and scenario design aspects of the projects and also the substantive planning insights derived from these regional-scale assessments.

Speakers: Uri Avin, Affiliated Research Professor, National Center for Smart Growth at the University of Maryland

Gerrit Knaap, Director, National Center for Smart Growth at the University of Maryland

Just Futures: Equitable Revitalization and Climate Resilience in Lakewood, Ohio (Room A)

This session will share lessons from an ongoing pilot project using LegacySP, a scenario planning toolkit designed for communities that have experienced population loss and economic disinvestment. The project asks key questions like: How can the community maintain and increase affordable housing? How has the availability of affordable housing changed over time? How can scenario planning help? Panelists include researchers from the University of Illinois and the Lincoln Institute, who chronicled and managed the pilot as a model for scenario planning in legacy cities.

Speakers: Arnab Chakraborty, University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign

Ryan Maye Handy, Policy Analyst, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy

5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

Reception: O.H.S.O. Brewery

10810 N. Tatum Blvd. #126
Phoenix, AZ 85028

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2

8:00 – 8:45 a.m. **Continental Breakfast**

8:45 – 9:45 a.m. **The Future of Water Along the Colorado River (Combined Room A & Room B)**

The Colorado River serves 40 million people in seven states—and is expected to lose a substantial amount of its water flow over the next 30 years. Many of the cities and farmers that rely on the river faced reductions in water use throughout 2022 that could drastically change what they grow and how they grow in the future. In this session, Babbitt Center for Land and Water Policy Director Jim Holway discusses the uncertainties facing these communities and how scenario planning can help them navigate the future.

Speaker: Jim Holway, Director, Babbitt Center for Land and Water Policy

9:45 – 10:15 a.m. **Break**

10:15 – 11:30 a.m. **BREAKOUT SESSION III**

During two concurrent virtual panels, the recipients of the Lincoln Institute’s 2022 awards to study food systems and scenario planning will discuss their resulting work. Food systems have always been defined by uncertainty, from unpredictable weather to shifting consumer proclivities, but escalating threats like climate change, resource depletion, and economic crises present new and unprecedented global challenges. Six research projects are applying scenario planning to anticipate these forces and plan for their effects on various communities around the world, from Wisconsin to the West Bank.

Scenarios for Food Systems (A) (Room A)

Project: Nourishing Our Future: Scenarios for Tackling Lima’s Peripheries’ Food Concerns

Speakers: Gabriela Rengifo Briceno, Sociologist and Research Assistant, Prospective Group for Public Policy at the Pontifical Catholic University of Peru

Carolina Zegarra, Landscape Architect, Alimentando Futuros

Project: Land, Foodways, and Kinship in Sites of Territorial Conflict: The Case of the Palestinian Enclaves

Speakers: Gabriel Cuellar, Professor in Practice, University of Minnesota

Athar Mufreh, Lecturer, University of Minnesota School of Architecture

Project: Bridging the Mount Horeb “Hub” and Rural “Spokes” of South-Central Wisconsin’s Regional Food System

Speakers: Catie DeMets, Doctoral Candidate, University of Wisconsin–Madison
Jules Reynolds, Graduate Researcher, University of Wisconsin–Madison

Scenarios for Food Systems (B) (Room B)

Project: Scenario Planning and Changing Food Systems
Speaker: Angela Hansen, Founder, Food Systems Foresight
Project: Young Farmer Organizing Handbook: Scenario Planning
Speaker: Carolina Mueller, Coalition Manager, National Young Farmers Coalition
Project: Scenario Toolkit for Bioregional Food Systems Planning
Speakers: Kristi Tatebe, Research Associate, Kwantlen Polytechnic University Institute for Sustainable Food Systems
Kaelan Watson, Research Associate, Kwantlen Polytechnic University Institute for Sustainable Food Systems

11:30 – 1:00 p.m.

Lunch and Lightning Talks (Lounge area & Room B)

Lightning talks are an opportunity for attendees to stand up and share short updates about their recent or upcoming work, research, or events related to scenario planning. Please sign up in the lobby during breakfast!

Advisory Board Meeting (Grand Canyon Conference Room)

Consortium for Scenario Planning advisory board members will convene separately for a working lunch.

1:00 – 2:15 p.m.

Breakout Session IV

Case Study: Strategies for Transportation, Road Pricing, and Emissions (Room A)

As transportation and land use planning become more complex, we need better planning tools that offer robust analysis, including of the combined effectiveness (or ineffectiveness) of strategies designed to achieve decarbonization, equity, resilience, sustainability, and other societal goals. System dynamics are one such tool; they help teams organize strategies, better understand interrelationships, and forecast effectiveness. In this session, representatives from the largest U.S. metropolitan planning organization will discuss its partnership with a global engineering firm to investigate the long-term effects of electric-vehicle adoption, telework, transit investment, and road pricing strategies on revenue and emissions.

Speakers: Sarah Dominguez, Program Manager, Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG)
Richard Chavez, National Long-Range and Strategic Planning Lead, WSP USA
Sara Khoeini, Lead Consultant, WSP USA

Just Futures: Envisioning an Accessible, Equitable, Efficient Pioneer Valley (Room B)

In fall 2021, UMass partnered with the Pioneer Valley Transit Authority (PVTA) on an equity-focused network redesign as part of a two-year project funded by a Helping Obtain Prosperity for Everyone (HOPE) grant from the Federal Transit Administration and the U.S. Department of Transportation. The resulting scenario planning process involved analyzing multi-scalar land use, population, economic, and planning trends with a 20-year planning horizon to develop a set of key drivers (climate change, politics, funding, history, generational priorities, and global impacts) whose varying potential outcomes informed four distinct scenarios and responding transit network redesigns.

Speakers: Camille Barchers, Assistant Professor of Regional Planning, University of Massachusetts Amherst
Bo Carpen, Teaching Assistant in Regional Planning, University of Massachusetts Amherst

2:15 – 2:45 p.m. **Break**

2:45 – 4:00 p.m. **Breakout Session V**

Case Study: Designing a Comprehensive Communications Tool for Scenario Processes (Room B)

Plan RVA has designed a comprehensive scenario planning process tool that enables users to communicate the risk and opportunities of each scenario to different program areas, including housing, environment, community development, emergency management, and transportation. The tool’s creation required establishing a broad set of models that evaluate the quantitative performance of different scenarios regarding land use, mobility and accessibility, building and mobile emissions, land cover, energy and water consumption, community health, and system resiliency.

Speakers: Sulabh Aryal, Transportation Planning Manager, PlanRVA
Chet Parsons, Director of Transportation, PlanRVA

Just Futures: Building Equity and Displacement Analysis into Scenario Development (Room A)

Scenario planning processes can anticipate future inequities and identify strategies to redress historical ones, but these processes must carefully account for contemporary housing markets, neighborhood changes, and disparities in outcomes. Cascadia Partners' multi-dimensional methodology for assessing vulnerability to displacement, demographic and market change, and access to opportunity enables cities to respond to the many forms of inequity and has already been applied to projects in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Sacramento, California; Fort Collins, Colorado; and Missoula, Montana. Presenters will share lessons learned from the challenges and successes of these analyses, along with what's next for the methodology.

Speakers: Jamin Kimmell, Partner, Cascadia Partners
Julia Michel, Senior Associate, Cascadia Partners
Paul Runge, Senior Associate, Cascadia Partners

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3

8:00 – 9:00 a.m. **Breakfast**

9:00 – 10:15 a.m. **Breakout Session VI**

Case Study: Using Modeling Tools to Improve Engagement in the Colorado River Basin (Room A)

Quantitative models can support participatory methods that explore a large range of factors to create and assess the implications of complex scenarios, with methods that range from quick, iterative comparisons of single “what if” scenarios to methods that assess large ensembles of highly complex scenarios. This session will look at WaterSim, an interactive tool that enables both “what if” exploratory analysis of single complex scenarios and assessment of large ensembles of complex scenarios—up to hundreds. Following an overview of methods and the tool, with hands-on exploration, presenters will answer questions and solicit comments and critiques.

Speakers:

Ray Quay, Research Professional, Arizona State University

Patrick Welch, Policy Analyst, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy

Just Futures: Exploring Restorative Justice for Lakeland, Maryland (Room B)

In fall 2022, the Community Planning Studio, the Partnership for Action Learning in Sustainability (PALS), and the University of Maryland’s Planning Office collaborated to explore restorative justice for Lakeland, a historic Black community devastated by urban renewal in the mid-twentieth century. Examining housing and land use, community infrastructure, and climate change adaptation and mitigation, the project engaged current Lakeland residents and diaspora to consider three scenarios that imagined what Lakeland would look like in 2032. Findings were presented to stakeholders for consideration in the local ongoing restorative justice process.

Speakers:

Redowan Kabir Kaushik, Graduate Student, University of Maryland, College Park

Elizabeth Mekonnen, Graduate Student, University of Maryland, College Park

10:15 – 10:30 a.m. **Break**

10:30 – 11:15 a.m. **Unconference Session I (Combined Room A & Room B)**

Create your own participant-driven session! Ideas will be solicited on a board in the lobby throughout the conference, and conference organizers will post the

proposed “unconference” sessions for participants to choose from and attend. Suggest a topic or enjoy selecting from fellow conference attendees’ sessions.

11:15 – 11:30 a.m.

Break

11:30 – 12:15 p.m.

Unconference Session II (Room A & Room B)

12:15 – 1:15 p.m.

Lunch and Farewell
