

Transit-Oriented Development: Environmental and Public Benefits

Tuesday, February 27, 2018
The Lyceum, Hartford, CT



Speaker Bios

Beth Osborne, *Vice President for Technical Assistance, Transportation for America*

Beth is Transportation for America's Vice President for Technical Assistance. She was previously at the U.S. Department of Transportation, where she served as the Acting Assistant Secretary for Transportation Policy and the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Transportation Policy. At DOT, Beth managed the TIGER Discretionary Grant program, the Secretary's livability initiative, the development of the Administration's surface transportation authorization proposal, and the implementation of MAP-21. Before joining DOT, Beth worked for Sen. Tom Carper (DE) as an adviser for transportation, trade and labor policy, as the policy director for Smart Growth America and as legislative director for environmental policy at the Southern Governors' Association. She began her career in Washington, DC, in the House of Representatives working as a legislative assistant for Rep. Ron Klink (PA-04) and as legislative director for Rep. Brian Baird (WA-03).

Melissa Kaplan-Macey, *Connecticut Director, Regional Plan Association*

Melissa Kaplan-Macey leads RPA's research, planning and advocacy activities in Connecticut. An expert in land use planning and community engagement, Melissa has extensive experience in building collaborative relationships with community partners in order to leverage resources and create actionable policy. Prior to joining RPA, Melissa was principal of Collaborative Planning Studio and, previously, was a senior associate at BFJ Planning. Melissa is an adjunct professor in the urban planning program at New York University's Robert F. Wagner School of Public Service and is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners. She also is a registered Professional Planner in the State of New Jersey. She holds a master's in urban planning from New York University's Wagner School of Public Service and a bachelor's in urban studies from Brown University.

Kerry O'Neill, *Vice President, Residential Programs, CT Green Bank*

Kerry has responsibility for the portfolio of single family and multifamily clean energy financing programs at the Connecticut Green Bank as well as low-to-moderate income initiatives. The Green Bank is a state quasi-public agency whose mission is to scale up investment in clean energy and deployment and drive economic development. In its first 5 years, the Green Bank has mobilized over \$1 billion in investment, including \$180 million in residential financing. Prior to joining the Green Bank, Kerry was Senior Advisor at the Clean Energy Finance Center, a non-profit organization she co-founded. The center developed innovative approaches to attract greater private and public sector capital to finance energy efficiency and renewable energy. Kerry also co-founded Earth Markets, a consulting firm that developed and managed community-based social marketing programs to accelerate demand for energy efficiency. Previously, Kerry was EVP of Transaction Management, Product Development and Strategy at Clayton Holdings, an industry-leading provider of credit risk analytics and due diligence services in the mortgage-backed securitization market. She has held senior roles in operations, marketing and strategy in the e-commerce, direct marketing, and educational services sectors. Kerry earned a BS in computer science and engineering from MIT and a master's degree from NYU Tisch School of the Art's Interactive Telecommunications Program.

Bruce Becker, *President, Becker + Becker*

Bruce Redman Becker is president of Becker + Becker, an integrated sustainable development, planning, preservation and architecture firm with offices in Fairfield, Connecticut and Manhattan. Becker + Becker plans and implements projects that have a social and environmental value, creating mixed-use and mixed-income communities to revitalize neighborhoods and restore historic buildings for new uses. Most recently, the firm completed a LEED® Platinum, net-zero energy TOD, 777 Main, in downtown Hartford; and the 1st LEED Platinum Neighborhood Development in Connecticut, 360 State, in New Haven, which incorporates the 1st fuel cell in the world to power an apartment building. Over the past 25 years since Bruce has designed and developed more than 1,250 units of affordable housing and 2,500 units of market rate housing, including the 500 unit Octagon project on Roosevelt Island and 652 unit Times Square Hotel supportive housing project in Manhattan. He was formerly Board Chair of the Harlem School of the Arts and the Institute of Architecture and Urban Studies, and served on the AIA's National Affordable Housing Task Force. Bruce was also a founding director of the CT Renewable Energy and Efficiency Business Association, serves as board chair of Elm City Food Cooperative and is an active member of the Westport Electric Car Club. Bruce wrote the chapter on Project Delivery as Architect and Developer in the AIA Architect's Handbook of Professional Practice. In addition to being a registered architect, Bruce is a LEED Accredited Professional and member of the US Green Building Council and Urban Land Institute. Bruce graduated from Amherst College and received MBA and Master of Architecture degrees from Yale. He lives with his wife Kraemer and two teenaged sons in a net-zero energy restored farmhouse in Westport, Connecticut.

Richard Andreski, *Bureau Chief of Public Transportation, Connecticut Department of Transportation*

Rich Andreski is Bureau Chief, Public Transportation for the State of Connecticut. He is a 19-year veteran of public transportation, having served in a variety of roles with the NJ Transit Corporation and Connecticut Department of Transportation. In his role as bureau chief, Mr. Andreski is responsible for the statewide public transportation system including New Haven Line and Shore Line East rail services, Connecticut's bus rapid transit service known as CTfastrak, other bus and paratransit services, Connecticut River ferry services and regulatory compliance for taxi, livery and household goods companies. These transportation services carry more than 84 million people annually. Mr. Andreski is motivated by a mission of public service, working to ensure public transit remains relevant in a rapidly evolving transportation industry. He is focused on the successful start of Hartford Line rail service next year, a new high-speed train service between Springfield, MA and New Haven, CT. He is also working to improve the overall customer experience by deploying new technologies such as smartcard and mobile fare systems, integrating services through improved facility design, and unifying the branding and marketing of trains and buses throughout the state. Mr. Andreski has experience in rail and bus operations, program management, organizational development, community & stakeholder outreach, transportation policy and planning.

Juliet Burdelski, *Director of Economic Development, City of Meriden*

Ms. Burdelski is a public policy and planning professional who has worked for over 20 years in the private, non-profit and government sectors. As Director of Economic Development for the City of Meriden, Ms. Burdelski is the City's point person for economic development. Primary responsibilities include fostering economic development in Meriden in order to sustain and grow the tax base and assisting the City implement critical infrastructure improvements that are necessary to support and sustain economic growth. Ms. Burdelski also oversees the implementation of the Transit Oriented Development (TOD) program being used to foster economic development and increased transit use in Meriden. Prior to her current role, Ms. Burdelski served as the City's Grants Administrator from 2007-2011 and as the TOD Pilot Project Manager from 2011-2012. Before joining the City of Meriden, Ms. Burdelski worked in the private and non-profit sectors as a planning consultant specializing in transportation, energy and the environment. Ms. Burdelski holds a Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Political Science from Miami University and a Master of Urban Planning (MUP) from the University of Michigan.