



EDA Update

Volume 1; Issue 6

Sign up for the July 17 EDA Webcast Now!- 2:30 p.m. EST

To Register: <http://edabroadcast.haverstick.biz>

Seeing the Green: Bolstering Economic Development Strategies with Environmental Responsibility

[Join](#) host Deputy Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development Benjamin Erulkar and our guests to learn how economic regions can strengthen their competitiveness through innovative and "green" sustainable development strategies.

Guests will discuss regional strategies for conserving energy and increasing energy efficiency, while also boosting economic competitiveness.

Panelists include:

- Tom Darden, President, Cherokee Investment Partners
- Ted Wysocki President and CEO, Local Economic & Employment Development (LEED) Council (Chicago)
- W. Paul Farmer, FAICP, Executive Director and CEO, American Planning Association
- Nancy McKeever, I-PLACE3S/Sustainable Energy Program Manager, California Energy Commission

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U.S. Chamber of Commerce Business Civic Leadership Center (BCLC)

The role and view of the business community in economic and community development has dramatically evolved over the decade.

Issues of interest include global competition, tight labor markets and environmental sustainability. In response, the Business Civic Leadership Center (BCLC), an affiliate of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, was established to advance the role of business in communities through a variety of programs and services.

BCLC creates networks that bring together corporate foundation heads and corporate citizenship professionals to communicate on common issues, share information and identify partnership opportunities. Currently, the BCLC has three active networks - the Corporate Community Investment Program (CCI), the Disaster Assistance and Recovery Program and Global Corporate Citizenship.

The CCI program, established in May 2007, aims to advance the dialogue and partnerships among business leaders, policy makers, charitable organizations, economic developers and community planners. In fact, the U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration (EDA) awarded a grant to the BCLC in October 2007, to examine the role of the business community in economic and community development. As part of this grant, BCLC is in the process of completing two unique tasks:

- 1) **Conducting a survey** – in partnership with Indiana University's Center on Philanthropy – to uncover trends in how, where, and why companies invest in their local communities; and
- 2) **Hosting community forums** – which bring national companies together with

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APA's Economic Development Toolbox Part Five: *Visioning Economic Development*

A visioning process for sound economic development planning yields a statement of what an economic region hopes to become.

To support the implementation of the vision, economic development studies can help to define goals and objectives while also defining boundaries that make the planning strategy realistic and attainable. These studies, and the actions taken subsequent to them, help to move a region toward realizing its economic development vision.

www.planning.org/eda/#5

Coming Soon!

September 9-10, 2008

EDA's Denver and Seattle regional offices will host the Peak Performance in Economic Development Conference at the Denver Convention Center in Denver, Colorado. [\[Website\]](#)

October 19-22, 2008

IEDC 2008 Annual Conference, Atlanta [\[Website\]](#)

November 17-23, 2008

Global Entrepreneurship Week [\[Website\]](#)

EDA Reauthorization

EDA is pleased to announce that the Department of Commerce sent Congress a legislative proposal to reauthorize EDA for five years. EDA's current authorization expires September 30, 2008. The proposed reauthorization legislation is good

local chambers of commerce, government agencies and civic organizations to identify opportunities for corporate citizenship to assist with local challenges and create positive change in the community.

Research results from the survey are anticipated to be released in the fall 2008. Additionally, BCLC has completed the first set of forums which were held in Boca Raton-Del Ray Beach, Florida; Houston, Texas; San Jose, California; Rochester, New York; and Chapel Hill, North Carolina. Findings from the forums will be used to develop a suite of best practices and recommendations for better community sustainability.

In addition to the CCI Program, BCLC's two additional networks provide an opportunity to address specific challenges and opportunities for businesses engagement. The Disaster Assistance and Recovery Program works to mobilize efforts to aid economic recovery following nature disasters. In 2007, some of the most civically engaged companies, including Microsoft, Office Depot and UPS, joined BCLC's working group, an expert network of disaster assistance providers and economic recovery specialists, to bolster corporate efforts to be an effective, long-term partner to communities that have suffered a major disaster. Its most recent report on this subject, "[On the Brink: Re-engineering the Nation's Disaster Response Processes](#)," was released on Tuesday, July 1, and features 27 contributions from corporate, government, nonprofit, and academic experts.

BCLC's Global Corporate Citizen Program, provides information and facilitates public-private partnership opportunities to help companies implement more effective and meaningful social and community initiatives in developing countries across the globe.

For more information on BCLC visit: <http://www.uschamber.com/bclc/default>

**Save The Date: – September 10, 2008
2:30 p.m. -- Special One-Hour EDA Telecast/Webcast**

An in-depth view of strengthening American competitiveness through cluster development will be explored with premier guests:

- Karen G. Mills, President, MMP Group
- Michael Porter, Bishop William Lawrence University Professor, Harvard University
- Deborah L. Wince-Smith, President, Council on Competitiveness



American Planning Association

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news for the economic development community because it includes new provisions that offer investment recipients more local control over revolving loan funds and construction grants. These provisions demonstrate how EDA is listening to, and acting upon, the economic development community's calls for improved EDA programs to meet the changing needs of the 21st century economy.

Please monitor www.eda.gov for more information as this legislation progresses through Congress.