

FEDERAL POLICY TOWARDS REGIONS
Friday, May 6th, 2005 • 8:00 –9:30 am

An increasing number of federal agencies are working to promote regional collaborations. During this session, agency representatives will discuss how they are working to promote regionalism through various initiatives.

PANELISTS



Randall Kempner (moderator) is Vice President for Regional Innovation at the Council on Competitiveness. Randall brings over a decade of work in the field of national and international development consulting to the Council. In his work leading the Council's regional innovation program area, Randall has directed regional economic development initiatives in Central New Mexico, Northeast Ohio, Rochester, New York, St. Louis, West Michigan, Wilmington, Delaware and the Inland Northwest region of Washington and Idaho.

Randall has an extensive international background, having led comprehensive competitiveness projects in Bermuda, Colombia, El Salvador, and Peru. He has worked in a wide variety of industry clusters including agro-industry, apparel, biotechnology and tourism.

Randall is a frequent speaker on competitiveness and regional innovation throughout the Americas. Recently, Randall has presented at the 2004 Economic Development Administration National Conference, the 2004 National Governor's Association Annual Meeting, and the National Association of Regional Councils' nationwide telecast on Regional Economic Development.

Randall graduated from the University of Texas at Austin with a M.B.A and an M.P.Aff. He earned his Bachelor's degree in Government from Harvard University.

Geoffrey Anderson is currently the Acting Chief of Staff for the EPA's Office of Policy, Economics and Innovation. Until recently, he served as the Director of the Development, Community, and Environment Division at the EPA which is home of the Agency's smart growth work. Geoff received his Master's degree with a concentration in Resource Economics and Policy at Duke University and came to work at the EPA in 1994. In 1996 he helped to create the Smart Growth Network, a network of more than 30 partners dedicated to improving the way we grow. The Network provides information and tools for smart growth and acts as a conduit for best practices/policies dissemination. Geoff's work has included principal authorship of "Why Smart Growth: a primer," "Transportation and Environmental Impacts of Brownfields vs. Greenfields Development," and "Transportation and Environmental analysis of the Atlantic Steel Redevelopment," as well as contributions to Getting to Smart Growth volumes 1 and 2. He assumed the role of Division Director in 2000, overseeing the division's outreach, technical assistance, research, and policy activities.

Sandy Baruah serves as Chief of Staff of the U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration, the domestic economic development arm of the Commerce Department. The mission of the Economic Development Administration (EDA) is to lead the federal economic development agenda by promoting innovation and competitiveness, preparing American communities for growth and success in a worldwide economy.

As Chief of Staff, Sandy functions as a principle representative of EDA to both internal and external audiences and serves as a senior advisor to the Assistant Secretary of Economic Development on a host of policy, strategic and operational matters. In addition, his role includes responsibility for the Office of Strategic Initiatives, which is responsible for EDA's policy formation and review, and the Office of Chief Counsel, EDA's legal office.

In addition to his day-to-day operations duties, Sandy is the agency's point person on implementing the President's Management Agenda, which is President Bush's aggressive effort to bring accountability and private sector performance measurement principles to the Federal Government. As part of this effort, Sandy serves as co-leader of EDA's Balanced Scorecard effort, which provides a framework for EDA's strategic vision and establishes performance measurements. He also is actively engaged in EDA's reorganization and Congressional reauthorization plans. Sandy represents the agency and the department before the White House, the Congress, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development in Paris, France and other forums on a broad range of economic development issues

Prior to joining President Bush's team at the Commerce Department, Sandy spent seven years with Portland, Oregon-based corporate management consulting firm Performance Consulting Group. As a business consultant, Sandy worked on engagements with clients such as Walt Disney World, Intel, Key Bank, Citizens Bank and others.

Sandy's previous government service includes work with U.S. Senator Bob Packwood and service to the Bush "41" Administration, with positions in the office of the Secretary of Labor and the Secretary of the Interior. He is married to Lisa with a son, Isaac. The Baruahs currently live in Falls Church, Virginia but consider Portland, Oregon home.



George Schoener currently serves as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Transportation Policy in the Office of the Secretary of Transportation. As the senior career official in the organization, Mr. Schoener is responsible for providing leadership in the development of national transportation policy, including the development of the Administration's surface transportation legislation. In this position, Mr. Schoener also provides leadership in developing and implementing national freight transportation policies and programs.

Prior to this position, Mr. Schoener worked with the Federal Highway Administration in a variety of planning, engineering, and policy positions and was the Director, Office of Planning. In this position, Mr. Schoener was responsible for overseeing the development and implementation of transportation plans and programs for over 300 metropolitan areas across the United States.

Mr. Schoener worked with the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee during the development of the landmark Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) of 1991. He also directed the development of the Department's legislative proposals for planning and environment, which were included in the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21).

He is a graduate of the University of Minnesota with a Bachelors Degree in Civil Engineering and a graduate of the Pennsylvania State University with a Masters Degree in Civil Engineering.