Working together to build a strong community.
www.FortWorthTexas.gov

American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) and Certification Maintenance (CM) are available for select conference workshops.
# Table of Contents

NUSA President’s Message .................................................................................................................. 4
NUSA Board of Directors .................................................................................................................... 5
Welcome to Fort Worth ......................................................................................................................... 6-9
Working Behind the Scenes ................................................................................................................. 10-11
Keynote Speakers ................................................................................................................................. 12
Plan your Virtual Experience ................................................................................................................. 13
Conference at a Glance ......................................................................................................................... 14-15
Workshops at a Glance ......................................................................................................................... 16-17
Workshop Tracks ................................................................................................................................. 18-19
Workshop Descriptions ......................................................................................................................... 20-30
Neighborhood Pride Tours ................................................................................................................. 31-32
Networking Sessions ............................................................................................................................. 33-34
Ways to Register .................................................................................................................................. 35-36
Friends,

On behalf of the NUSA 2021 Board of Directors, thank you for joining us for the Neighborhoods, USA Conference on Neighborhood Concerns! Last year, our team took on the challenge of hosting the first 100% Virtual NUSA Conference. Thanks to the wonderful partnerships and neighbors in Fort Worth, we are confident this will be an amazing experience for everyone who attends.

For twenty years, Fort Worth has been my home. It is an honor to be volunteering with NUSA and working with the city’s Community Engagement Office to bring the NUSA experience to the neighborhood leaders and city staff working together to build stronger neighborhoods.

It is also a privilege to be part of a volunteer board dedicated to bringing new opportunities and resources to neighborhoods across our country. I encourage you to consider running for the board or hosting a future conference in your city. It will be an experience you will never forget!

This conference would not be happening were it not for the hundreds of partners assisting our efforts. Elected officials, city staff and subject matter experts across the country joined Fort Worth neighbors, businesses, and staff to bring you accredited workshops, engaging networking/roundtable discussions, neighborhood pride tours, award ceremonies and inspiring keynote speakers.

We chose our theme “Steering Neighborhoods Forward” two years ago. For most of us, these words now embody a different meaning. It has been slower than we had hoped, but our cities, businesses, family, friends, and neighborhoods are moving forward. It has been both difficult and heart-warming to hear your stories of faith, family and communities uniting during this unprecedented time.

We no longer take for granted those we care about, and we value partners, old and new, who stepped up in ways we never could have imagined. It is my hope that this conference will help us learn from the past, while planning to achieve a brighter future by working together.

Welcome to Fort Worth!

Catherine Huckaby
NUSA 2021 President
President
Catherine Huckaby
Fort Worth, Texas

Vice-President
Precious McKesson
Omaha, Neb.

Secretary
Simone Peterson
Bradenton, Fla.

Asst. Secretary
Joyce Cox
Memphis, Tenn.

Treasurer
Sandy Becker
Little Rock, Ark.

Asst. Treasurer
Craig Thomas
West Valley, Utah

Sgt-at-Arms
Dwight Pridgeon
Little Rock, Ark.

Parliamentarian
Loretta Buckner
Wichita, Kan.

Orlando Robinson, Jr.
Midfield, Ala.

Hal Barnes
Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Paul Gambill
Erie, Penn.

Elton Gatewood
Fircrest, Wash.

Ian Randolph
Memphis, Tenn.

Anne-Marie Taylor
Indianapolis, Ind.

Charmaine Clark
Columbia, SC

Henry Nickel
San Bernardino, Calif.

Dora Sims
Birmingham, Ala.

Elise Bowers
Anna, Texas

Reba Taylor-Hill
Indianapolis, Ind.
WELCOME FROM THE CITY MANAGER

NUSA members,

For more than twenty years, the City of Fort Worth has been an active member of the Neighborhoods, USA organization. Fort Worth is grateful to have benefitted from NUSA’s commitment to building strong communities and honored to be hosting the NUSA 2021 Conference.

Each year city councilmembers, staff and neighborhood leaders look forward to attending the conference to support award recipients, attend workshops and network with grassroot and city leaders across the country. As the 13th largest city in the country, we have encouraged city staff to serve on the NUSA Board of Directors and proudly supported several during their service as officers.

Our ongoing relationship and experiences with NUSA members have broadened our scope of resources, partnership opportunities and laid the groundwork for many successful city programs and community engagement initiatives.

Although the unprecedented pandemic forced us to pivot from our original plans for the conference, our Community Engagement Team quickly took advantage of the opportunity to host the first virtual NUSA Conference. Over the past few months, they have incorporated many of your suggestions to enhance this year’s conference, while maintaining the valued history of the NUSA organization.

We look forward to this unique opportunity to learn more about the most effective city initiatives and neighborhood success stories in our nation, while establishing strong connections for innovative solutions to the challenges many communities are facing.

David Cooke
City Manager
WELCOME FROM THE MAYOR

NUSA members,

Fort Worth is thrilled to host NUSA 2021 and welcome you to our great city! Our neighbors and staff have been busy working behind the scenes to plan this conference for almost two years and are excited to see this come to life.

Together, we are unified by the belief that neighborhood associations are vital allies in helping achieve our mission of working together to build strong communities. As the longest-serving mayor of Fort Worth, I have seen the positive impact that active and engaged neighbors can make in their city.

The past twelve months have given Fort Worth substantial challenges, but it has also empowered us to seek out creative approaches to connect with and assist the communities we serve. It has also brought many new faces and innovative ideas to the table and we know we are not alone. Cities across our nation have joined hands with their neighbors, churches, schools, and area agencies to find resourceful solutions to emerging challenges. These stories of ingenuity need to be shared with others and the NUSA conference will give everyone the platform to do so.

Although NUSA 2021 cannot be the in-person conference we had originally envisioned, the 100% virtual format will encourage new partners seeking ways to make a difference in their community to join our NUSA family. With your help, we can use this interactive forum to bring fresh perspective and ideas back to our communities.

There has never been a better time to invite your family, friends, and neighbors to be a part of NUSA. Join us May 19-22, 2021 as we collaborate to “Steer Neighborhoods Forward”.

Mayor Betsy Price
“A city’s foundational vitality comes from its neighborhoods. A neighborhood’s participation in the civic process involves effective lines of communication between city and elected officials. The diverse communities of District 2 require active attention from their council member. Local government must do right through the equitable delivery of public services, infrastructure, public safety, and promoting economic investment that leads to prosperity.”

- Carlos Flores, District 2 Councilmember

“Welcome to Fort Worth! Neighborhoods are the backbone and heart of our city. Fort Worth is fortunate to have a diverse collection of neighbors who care about the city and strive every day to make a difference in their community. I know you will be welcomed here so explore and enjoy all that Fort Worth has to offer.”

- Brian Byrd, District 3 Councilmember

“The fabric of our city is made up of many wonderful neighborhoods throughout Fort Worth. District 4 boast over 100,000 community members; each with their own unique need. Over the years, our office has built many strong relationships with our registered neighborhood leaders to ensure their voice is being heard at the city council level. We will continue to work with our community leaders for a better Fort Worth.”

- Cary Moon, District 4 Councilmember

“I am proud to extend a virtual welcome to NUSA. The goal of achieving the spirit of neighborhood is guaranteed when we have neighborhood leaders engaged. NUSA inspires creativity and is a great incubator for the sharing of ideas that flow freely when neighborhood leaders unite.”

- Gyna Bivens, District 5 Councilwoman
“We appreciate and count on our neighborhood leaders. Our council office takes a grassroots approach and works with our Community Engagement Department personnel and neighborhood leadership; it becomes a communication and information flow chart to all constituents. Ultimately, neighbors share with neighbors, and having an informed and educated community is something we value and is just one of the many reasons we think that Fort Worth is the greatest city!”

• Jungus Jordan, District 6 Councilmember

“The opinions and responses of our neighborhoods, via HOAs or NAs, is the lifeblood of managing this City. This communication with the City Council representative is key and integral for that individual to incorporate that message to the decision process. These HOAs or NAs make the difference in the quality of life in our city.”

• Dennis Shingleton, District 7 Councilmember

“Neighborhoods are the backbone of every city. As elected officials, we look to our neighborhoods and its leaders to be our partners in community revitalization, to share their perspective when projects are being proposed or when we miss the mark. Thank you for using your time, talent and yes, your treasures to make neighborhoods across our country strong, safe, and great places to live.”

• Kelly Allen Gray, District 8 Councilwoman

“Neighborhoods are the foundation of every city. In Fort Worth the engagement cultivated through interacting with and supporting neighborhood associations fosters a collaborative effort to create a shared vision to shape and build the best city for all who call THIS city home.”

• Ann Zadeh, District 9 Councilwoman
Hosting a national conference requires years of planning, building collaborative partnerships and thousands of hours to execute. Thank you to the core group who supported this vision from the very beginning. NUSA 2021 would not be happening, were it not for your continued dedication!

Assi, Ruth
Butler, Tabitha
Costa, Fernando
Cram, Barry
Delgado, Darcie
Edwards, Tracy
Gibbs, Madelyn
Gorman, Julie
Gutt, Michelle
Huckaby, Catherine
Kent, Dot
MacGregor, Jason
Nomura, Aya
Pinner, Brenda
Trigona, Paul
City Manager, David Cooke
Mayor Betsy Price
Fort Worth City Council
Neighborhood Engagement & Revitalization Alliance (NERA)
Team NUSA 2021
Visit Fort Worth

Special thanks to all city staff, volunteers, neighbors, partner organizations and sponsors who will be assisting our team in the weeks and months ahead. Your names will be included in a comprehensive list in the printed and online versions of the NUSA 2021 Program Booklet in May.

“After participating in NUSA, I hope attendees are encouraged, have learned new ways to engage their neighbors and motivated to keep moving forward as we all work to conquer these unparalleled times.”

- Tabitha Butler, Citywide Volunteer Program Coordinator
“I hope city staff will gain a greater knowledge, understanding and appreciation on how neighborhood associations function in our city. They play a vital role in developing, implementing, and organizing events/programs for their neighbors to become a united voice for their community.”

- Tracy Edwards, Community Engagement Liaison

“I hope NUSA facilitates an experience where attendees learn something new. Aside from this, I hope the relationships that develop through workshops, small groups, and creative outlets can broaden our network and scope of learning for years to come.”

- Barry Cram, Community Engagement Liaison

“I hope that neighborhoods and staff take away the importance of collaboration/learning from each other. Many of us live and work for our cities; why not help recognize what we need in our neighborhoods and get involved to make our community better.”

- Brenda Pinner, Community Engagement Liaison

“NUSA 2021 in Fort Worth will be jam-packed with ideas, information, resources and connections you can use all year. Imagine, tapping into potential solutions for your community’s goals in one place!”

- Dot Kent, Community Engagement Liaison

“NUSA provides an exceptional opportunity for neighborhoods to share successful practices, ideas and information with each other! Make new friends-renew relationships-have fun-enjoy the weekend together “lifting” up one another to achieve great things in all neighborhoods!”

- Madelyn Gibbs, Community Engagement Liaison

“My hope is that Neighborhood Leaders and city staff will leave the NUSA Conference with new ideas, feeling reenergized and ready to implement and conquer new challenges!”

- Ruth Assi, Community Engagement Liaison
KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

The NUSA 2021 keynote speakers represent an exceptional spirit of neighborliness and a desire to make communities better. Their stories exemplify the value of seeing obstacles as opportunities and remind us that building strong relationships should always be the foundation of every effort to create lasting change.

Pastor Chris Freeland
Pastor Chris Freeland has been the Lead Pastor at Doxology Church in Fort Worth, TX since 2011. Originally from Columbia, MO, Chris has a music degree from Oklahoma State University, and ThM and Doctorate of Ministry degrees from Dallas Theological Seminary. Together, he and his wife Kari have three young children.

Jakayla Dixon
Jakayla Dixon is a student at Texas Christian University and the founder and CEO of Feel the Color, which merges fashion, technology, and accessibility. She is passionate about creating a world where individuals with disabilities know no limits. Jakayla’s heart is to showcase the importance of connecting both innovation and disability while creating a more just and inclusive world. At 15, Dixon won the Fort WorthDanny Scarth Trailblazer Award for her company’s work in raising awareness and improving life opportunities for persons with disabilities.

Daniel Guido
Daniel “Guido” Guido currently serves as vice president of a railroad engineering design firm. Guido and his wife of 20 years, Chelsea, are parents to four children. Guido is the 2020 Fort Worth Neighbor of the Year for his outstanding service and positive effect on the lives of families with the Bike Gangs of Fort Worth.

Did You Know?
The City of Fort Worth Community Engagement Office hosts The Mayor’s Community Engagement Workshops & Neighborhood Awards. This one-day annual event provides informational workshops and networking opportunities for leaders of 300 registered neighborhood associations, city staff, and elected officials in our city. The Neighborhood Awards Luncheon showcases the outstanding efforts of neighbors, registered neighborhood associations and city staff in sixteen categories.
PLAN YOUR VIRTUAL EXPERIENCE

This year’s conference offers more flexibility for participants than ever before! Here’s a few tips to consider before you register.

PREVIEW THE CONFERENCE AT A GLANCE AND WORKSHOPS AT A GLANCE ON PAGES 14-17
Note that most events take place during the day, on Thursday and Friday.

PREREGISTRATION ISN’T REQUIRED FOR ALL EVENTS
Participants ONLY have to preregister for workshops and Neighborhood Pride Tours held on Thursday and Friday.
Preregistration is not required to participate or attend any of these activities:
- Running for the NUSA Board workshop (Wed.)
- How to Host a NUSA Conference workshop (Wed.)
- Prize-winning NUSA 2020 Programs (Wed.)
- Welcome from Mayor Betsy Price (Wed.)
- Keynote Speeches (Thurs. - Sat.)
- Networking Sessions (Wed. - Sat.)
- Open Chat Forums (Fri. - Sat.)

HOW TO CHOOSE
Register to attend the workshops and tours you have the most questions about or want to actively participate in during the Q&A portion of the session.
All workshops, neighborhood pride tours, keynote speeches and awards ceremonies will be recorded during the conference and made available to all participants until August 31, 2021.

NEW WAYS TO INTERACT

NETWORKING
Opportunities to network using live or private chat sessions will be available throughout the conference.

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS
Participants can attend 30-45 minute small group discussions to share resources, best practices and brainstorm.

“Neighborhoods are the building blocks of any city, and as Fort Worth continues to grow it is imperative that we do so together. I have seen the collaboration between our neighborhood associations firsthand, and it has allowed us to better engage the needs of our residents and ultimately build a better quality of life for all of Fort Worth.”

• Mayor Betsy Price
## 2021 Conference At-A-Glance

### Wed., May 19, 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RUNNING FOR THE NUSA BOARD WORKSHOP</td>
<td>2 - 3 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOSTING A NUSA CONFERENCE WORKSHOP</td>
<td>3 - 4 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRIZE-WINNING NUSA 2020 PROGRAMS</td>
<td>2 - 5 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WELCOME FROM MAYOR BETSY PRICE</td>
<td>5 - 5:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NETWORKING SESSIONS: CITY PRIDE</td>
<td>5:30 - 6:30 p.m.</td>
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### Thurs., May 20, 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Event Time</th>
<th>Break</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NETWORKING SESSIONS: CONSERVATION, PRESERVATION &amp; REVITALIZATION</td>
<td>7 - 7:45 a.m.</td>
<td>7:45 - 8 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OPENING/KEYNOTE SPEAKER</td>
<td>8 - 9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>9:30 - 9:45 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WORKSHOP SESSION 1</td>
<td>9:45 - 11 a.m.</td>
<td>11 - 11:15 a.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>WORKSHOP SESSION 2</td>
<td>11:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>12:30 - 2 p.m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NETWORKING SESSIONS: BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>NUSA 2021 AWARD FINALISTS PRESENTATIONS</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>LUNCH</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WORKSHOP SESSION 3</td>
<td>2 - 3:15 p.m.</td>
<td>3:15 - 3:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WORKSHOP SESSION 4</td>
<td>3:30 - 4:45 p.m.</td>
<td>4:45 - 5 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEIGHBORHOOD PRIDE TOURS</td>
<td>5 - 6:30 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>OPEN CHAT FORUMS</td>
<td>6:30 - 7:30 p.m.</td>
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## 2021 Conference At-A-Glance

### Fri., May 21, 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Event Time</th>
<th>Break</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NETWORKING SESSIONS: DIVERSITY, EQUITY &amp; HEALTH</td>
<td>7 - 7:45 a.m.</td>
<td>7:45 - 8 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OPENING/KEYNOTE SPEAKER</td>
<td>8 - 9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>9:30 - 9:45 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WORKSHOP SESSION 5</td>
<td>9:45 - 11 a.m.</td>
<td>11 - 11:15 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WORKSHOP SESSION 6</td>
<td>11:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>NETWORKING SESSIONS: LESSONS LEARNED</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NUSA 2021 AWARD FINALISTS PRESENTATIONS</td>
<td></td>
<td>12:30 - 2 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>LUNCH</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>NEIGHBORHOOD OF THE YEAR AWARDS CEREMONY</td>
<td>2 - 3:15 p.m.</td>
<td>3:15 - 3:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WORKSHOP SESSION 7</td>
<td>3:30 - 4:45 p.m.</td>
<td>4:45 - 5 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEIGHBORHOOD PRIDE TOURS</td>
<td>5 - 6:30 p.m.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>OPEN CHAT FORUMS</td>
<td>6:30 - 7:30 p.m.</td>
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### Sat., May 22, 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Event Time</th>
<th>Break</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NETWORKING SESSIONS: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT</td>
<td>7 - 7:45 a.m.</td>
<td>7:45 - 8 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NUSA GENERAL MEETING</td>
<td>8 - 9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>9:30 - 9:45 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PROGRAM OF THE YEAR &amp; WHO’S WHO AWARDS CEREMONY</td>
<td>9:45 - 11 a.m.</td>
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## Workshops at-a-Glance

### Thurs., May 20, 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Event Time</th>
<th>Workshop Titles</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1       | 9:45 - 11 a.m.   | FWISD Community Collaborations and Strategic Initiatives: Empowering the Community to Make Positive Changes in their Lives  
Employing the Homeless for the Beautification of our City and Neighborhoods  
From Vision to Reality: Dumping Ground to Community Park  
Partnering with Municipal Government for Neighborhood Equity  
Re-Envisioning Services: Evolving Programming During Covid 19  
The Art of Adulting  
Turn Social Distancing into Distant Socializing – Building Community During a Pandemic |
| 2       | 11:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. | Before Disaster Strikes  
Building Safe Neighborhoods with Crime Stoppers  
Crafting Community through Public Arts  
Lasting Stability! One Neighborhood at a Time  
Neighborhood Leadership Academy: Increasing the Knowledge-base of Community Leaders  
Fort Worth’s Urban Village Development Program  
Uplifting our Community - Volunteers & Law Enforcement Working Together |
| 3       | 2 - 3:15 p.m.    | Can You Hear Me Now? – How to Ensure your Presentation to a Council, Board or Commission is Heard and Received  
Connect and Empower Your Residents through a Neighborhood Registry  
Creating More Equitable Communities: Fort Worth’s Task Force on Race and Culture  
Neighborhood Improvement Strategy: A Comprehensive Community Initiative  
Neighborhood Partnerships: Building Support for Affordable Housing  
Supporting Residents’ Bulky Disposal Needs in COVID Times  
They Got What You Want. You Got What They Need. |
# Workshops at-a-Glance

**Fri., May 21, 2021**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Event Time</th>
<th>Workshop Titles</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 4       | 9:45 - 11 a.m.      | A Different Kind of National Night Out  
Engaging the Community through the Fort Worth Independent School District’s Racial Equity Committee  
Lessons Learned: Reinventing Law Enforcement in the 21st Century  
Neighborhood Revitalization through Preservation, Design and Advocacy  
Parliamentary Procedure – The Key to Efficient and Productive Meetings  
Prioritize and Revitalize: Learn What Goes into Community Development and Revitalization with UrbanPlan!  
Navigating Equity Work at the Community Level |
| 5       | 11:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. | Innovation & Impact: A Whole-Community Approach  
Engagement Starts with Us  
Expanding Housing that Addresses Homelessness Through Public-Private Partnerships  
Healthy Neighborhoods, Healthy Community  
Accelerating Community Engagement Opportunities for Individuals with Disabilities: A Neighborhood Case Study  
Simple Approaches to Neighborhood Improvements  
Volunteer Recruitment & Retention - How to Find and Keep Your Most Valuable Assets |
| 6       | 3:30 - 4:45 p.m.    | The Six Tenets of Grant Writing  
Build It and They Will Come  
How to In-Vest in Your Neighborhood!  
Leveraging Public Participation to Create Thriving Communities.  
Real Talk with the Office of the Police Oversight Monitor  
How Parties, Parking and Port-a-Potties led to Good Neighbor Program and Partnerships  
When the Gown Supports the Town: Fostering Mutually Beneficial Relationships Between College Students and Neighborhoods |
| 7       | 5 - 6:15 p.m.       | A Coffee Milk Shake  
Color Me Collaborative: Understanding Personalities  
Community Designed Investment: Leveraging Engagement to Unite Citywide Goals and Neighborhood Needs  
Creating Successful Leadership Transitions  
Creative Tools for Neighborhood Partnerships  
Maintaining Service Continuity during Uncontrollable Circumstances  
How We Used Place Base Non-profit Management to Increase Access to Resources for Low-Income Communities |
NUSA is proud to provide CM credits for many of the workshops during this conference. When CM credits are available, they are noted at the end of the workshop title. More information about AICP’s CM program can be found at www.planning.org/cm.

Coping Through Crisis
Neighborhood associations and cities have learned a lot about the strength of their organizations and programs while managing through crisis. Taking advantage of an opportunity to analyze and reflect from those experiences is pivotal to the future growth of all organizations. Workshops will focus on programs implemented and takeaways from their response to crisis and disaster.

Developing New Leadership Skills
To help neighborhoods and communities prosper, leaders must expand on and use new skills. Workshops will focus on developing new leadership skills including volunteer recruitment at a grassroots level, mentoring new leaders, board leadership development, Robert's Rules of Order, leading neighborhood meetings, running for boards, getting acquainted with grant writing, presenting before council or commissions and more.

Driving Revitalization into Your Neighborhood
Neighborhood Revitalization is the action of bringing new vitality and lifting communities up. Workshops will shed light on how programs advocating for neighborhood improvement get formed and funded, recruit volunteers, and promote community.

Enhanced Participation Through Diversity and Community Engagement
To achieve enhanced participation, organizers must enable an environment that encourages diversity and community engagement. Workshops will highlight how to define community engagement, include diverse communities, build trust with all neighbors, attain resources for language barriers and immigrant communities, and expand on challenges faced to enhance the quality of life for all communities.

Expanding Your Communication Efforts
Expanded communication is the even exchange of information to keep neighbors empowered. Workshops will concentrate on successful communication efforts by grassroots organizations, cities, faith-based organizations, and neighborhoods.

Making Partnerships Your Priority
Prioritizing partnerships is an integral part of all successful initiatives. Workshops will spotlight significant partnerships that lead to positive outcomes with neighborhood associations and alliances, local governments, public and private schools, colleges and universities, businesses, faith-based organizations, non-profits, local agencies and other key stakeholders.

American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) and Certification Maintenance (CM) are available for select conference workshops.
Workshop Tracks

Prize-Winning NUSA 2020 Programs
Workshops will highlight prize winning NUSA programs from the past. Workshops include award recipients from the Best Neighborhood Program (BNP and Neighborhood Program of the Year (NOTY category. BNP recognizes outstanding programs implemented to improve neighborhoods by a government entity in physical or social revitalizations. NOTY recognizes exceptional accomplishments by neighborhood organizations in physical or social revitalizations and for multi-neighborhood projects.

These special workshops will be presented on Wed., May 19, 2-5 p.m. and do not require advance registration. Participating programs and times will be listed on the conference website.

The Neighborhoods, USA (NUSA) Organization
Workshops will introduce new members to NUSA and its current Board of Directors, share how to become a member of the board and the benefits of hosting a future conference.

These special workshops will be presented on Wed., May 19, 2-4 p.m. and do not require advance registration.
Turn Social Distancing into Distant Socializing - Building Community During a Pandemic CM 1.25
Session 1
Like many counties across the nation, the pandemic forced neighbors in Orange County to withdraw from the social groups they typically relied upon. This workshop outlines four key principles of community building leaders can use to maintain personal well-being and group success when working to improve their community. Includes creative ways to engage with neighbors and strengthen social networks to make neighborhoods stronger than ever.
Allison M. Rice, AICP
Orange County Government, Neighborhood Services Division, Orlando, Florida

Before Disaster Strikes CM 1.25
Session 2
Learn how to help your neighbors after a disaster by starting a Community Organizations Active in Disaster Alliance. We help communities make the best of local resources in a disaster by creating effective relationships prior before disasters strike.
Elisa Bowers
Misti Townsend, M.Ed.
Anna, TX and Texas Division of Emergency Management

Supporting Residents’ Bulky Disposal Needs in COVID Times
Session 3
For over twenty years, neighborhood associations in the City of Vancouver have organized cleanup events, where residents come together to dispose of unwanted items while strengthening community relationships. Although they had to cancel many planned events, learn how the city pivoted during the pandemic to offer a one-time alternative curbside program to deliver essential services to neighbors while disposing of bulky items.
Liz Erickson, Solid Waste Analyst
Solid Waste Dept., City of Vancouver, WA

A Different Kind of National Night Out
Session 4
Learn how the Fircrest neighborhood association partnered with the City of Vancouver and the Vancouver Police Department to provide an educational and entertaining activity for National Night Out 2020, while keeping the community safe from exposure to COVID-19.
Margaret Milem
Judi Bailey, City of Vancouver Neighborhoods Coordinator
Office of Neighborhoods, City of Vancouver, WA
Lessons Learned: Reinventing Law Enforcement in the 21st Century

Session 4
Panelists will present a list of current challenges to law enforcement and provide options for agencies to increase positive interactions with the public. Panelists will discuss the role of re-entry and reintegration programs to build community trust and productive engagement.

Brian Biery
Darryl Qualls
Keith Roberts
Chris Finney
DBK Group, Pacific Oaks College, Pasadena, CA

The Importance of Volunteerism in the Face of COVID-19

Session 4
COVID-19 has impacted the world in so many ways. Many people face new challenges as they lose jobs, gain new employment, adjust to virtual lifestyles, and more. Volunteerism in communities has taken a new face in many ways. Join us to learn ways that communities can still support those in need while additionally facing the challenges that COVID presents.

Lindsay Turman
Richardson, TX

Innovation & Impact: A Whole-Community Approach

Session 5
Learn how the 13th largest city in the country mobilized a "whole-community" approach during the COVID-19 pandemic and served families by launching a quality child care search tool and partnered with business leaders to provide solutions and critical support for working parents.

Sara Redington, Director of Strategy and Communications
The Miles Foundation, Fort Worth, TX

Maintaining Service Continuity During Uncontrollable Circumstances

Session 7
Discover how City of Fort Worth, its partners, and outside contractors worked together to deliver service continuity during the unprecedented challenge of COVID-19.

Christian Harper, Contract Services Administrator
Fort Worth Code Compliance Dept., City of Fort Worth, TX

Developing New Leadership Skills

The Art of Adulting

Session 1
Learn how to develop a personalized program for your city to help young adults better understand how cities provide public services. The Art of Adulting is a series designed by the City of Rowlett to educate ages 17-20 about local government and their responsibilities as members of our democracy.

Elisa Bowers
Anna, TX
Neighborhood Leadership Academy: Increasing the Knowledge-base of Community Leaders
Session 2
Resident leaders are often on the front line of neighborhood organizing, addressing concerns, and connecting neighbors with information about community programs and services. Tallahassee’s Neighborhood Leadership Academy and Neighborhood Leadership Roundtable programs give community leaders a broad understanding of the inner-workings of their city government, while empowering them to be effective leaders through networking and community engagement.

John E. Baker, Manager, Neighborhood Affairs
Kilisha Fain, Neighborhood Services Coordinator
Division of Neighborhood Affairs, City of Tallahassee, FL

Can You Hear Me Now? How to Make Sure your Presentation to a Council, Board or Commission is Heard and Received CM 1.25
Session 3
How do you make every second count when you only have three minutes to get your case in front of your city’s Council, Board or Commission? This presentation provides practical advice from a presenter who’s witnessed thousands of public presentations during her tenure as the City Secretary of Fort Worth. Learn to make your best presentation within a short time frame and what you can do before the presentation to bolster your case.

Mary J. Kayser, TRMC, MMC, City Secretary
City Secretary Office, City of Fort Worth, TX

Parliamentary Procedure – One of the Best Ways to Save Time and Have an Efficient, Productive Meeting CM 1.25
Session 4
Learn how to use Parliamentary Procedures to host deliberate and intentional meetings. Discover tools to run effective meetings, get more done in less time, and ensure everyone gets a fair shake in the decision-making process.

Mary J. Kayser, TRMC, MMC, City Secretary
City Secretary Office, City of Fort Worth, TX

Volunteer Recruitment & Retention - How to Find and Keep your Most Valuable Assets
Session 5
Learn how to tackle the most challenging tasks for community groups. This workshop will share easy steps to attract new members, keep them involved, and create a plan to keep them engaged. Participants will develop a “elevator pitch” for their organization and leave prepared for action!

Melinda McGoldrick, Energize Program Manager
Nikki Drake, Energize Our Neighborhoods Coordinator
City of Boise, ID

The Six Tenets of Grant Writing CM 1.25
Session 6
The world of grant writing can be frustrating. Attend this workshop to learn the basics of grant writing and create a solid strategy.

Shaniqua Rischer, Principal
Rischer Consulting, Fort Worth, TX

Creating Successful Leadership Transitions
Session 7
Learn to create successful leadership transitions within your organization. Whether you struggle to let go of control or you’re crying out for someone to take it from you, navigating a leadership transition is a tricky business. A good ending, smooth handoff and powerful beginning characterize the three phases of leadership transitions explored during this workshop.

JT Auldridge, Project Manager
Fort Worth Transportation & Public Works Dept., City of Fort Worth, TX
From Vision to Reality: Dumping Ground to Community Park
Session 1
The need for beautification efforts and routine clean-up exists in many neighborhoods. How can communities move beyond quick fixes to long-term solutions that address the root cause of the issue? Learn how the City of Boise is changing a canal bank from dumping ground to community park with visioning events, resident feedback, project identification while tackling external barriers and leveraging inter-agency coordination.

Nikki Drake, Energize Our Neighborhoods Coordinator
Leon Letson, Grow Our Housing Program Manager
City of Boise, ID

Crafting Community through Public Arts CM 1.25
Session 2
Looking to engage neighbors, encourage vibrant change, build emotional connections, develop shared places and instill pride? Public Art projects creatively improve the places people call home, engage diverse audiences and provide opportunities for communities to share talents and resources. The City of Garland’s Office of Neighborhood Vitality shares their experience, walking through project phases and steps from public engagement, ideation and installation.

Nancy Tunell
Office of Neighborhood Vitality, City of Garland, TX

Neighborhood Improvement Strategy: A Comprehensive Community Initiative CM 1.25
Session 3
The Neighborhood Improvement Program (NIP) is a data-driven community improvement program leveraging neighborhood assets and deficits to create strategies that lead toward improving community vitality. Discover how Fort Worth monitors the program’s effect on residents and identifies opportunities for targeted public investment to improve safety, aesthetics and quality of life for neighborhoods.

Victor Turner, Director
Neighborhood Services Dept., City of Fort Worth, TX

Prioritize and Revitalize: Learn What Goes into Community Development and Revitalization with UrbanPlan! CM 1.25
Session 4
Has your neighborhood experienced recent development or revitalization? Did you understand all the changes and have a voice in decisions? Did you have effective tools and knowledge to make your opinions heard? Join the Urban Land Institute’s Urban Plan Workshop and gain a deeper understanding of your role in shaping your community.

Yolanda Jackson, Communityscape
Murl Richardson, Preferred Real Estate Investments, Inc.
Christy Thurston Mead, ULI Dallas-Fort Worth
Fort Worth's Urban Village Development Program CM 1.25
Session 4
The Urban Village concept envisions businesses, entertainment options, homes, shops, and parks – all within walking distance of each other in an area with a vibrant look and feel that reflects the history, culture, and heritage of those who call it home. A successful Urban Village attracts visitors as well as local neighborhood residents to an active, recognizable place with its own unique and positive attributes. Attend this session to learn about the successes and challenges experienced by Fort Worth’s Urban Village Development Program.

Eric Fladager, AICP, CNU-A, Planning Manager
Planning and Data Analytics Department, City of Fort Worth, TX

Simple Approaches to Neighborhood Improvements CM 1.25
Session 5
The workshop assists residents in planning and implementing neighborhood improvements by using simple steps that are inclusive and representative of neighbors. Hear ways to help neighbors mobilize, organize, and sustain a neighborhood organization to carry-out the improvements.

Elton Gatewood, Ph.D., Consultant/Urban Strategist
City of Tacoma, WA

Place Base Non-Profit Management to Increase Access to Resources for Low-Income Communities CM 1.25
Session 7
Discover how a community of partners are working hand-in-hand to elevate a once struggling neighborhood along the Las Vegas Trail in Fort Worth. The LVTRISE group formed to improve the lives of people living in the area by increasing safety, education, quality housing, employment, wages, family stability, physical health, and mental well-being.

Willie Rankin, Executive Director
LVTRISE, Fort Worth, TX

Enhanced Participation Through Diversity & Community Engagement

FWISD Community Collaborations and Strategic Initiatives: Empowering the Community to Make Positive Changes in Their Lives
Session 1
The Fort Worth ISD Community Collaborations and Strategic Initiatives Team fosters an environment of community empowerment in historically underperforming and underserved areas of Fort Worth. Learn how three departments within the FWISD Division of Equity and Excellence help achieve this: the Family Action Center, Adult Education and Literacy, and Student Engagement and School Completion.

Mia Hall, Executive Director
Christopher Riddick, Director of Student Engagement and School Completion
Carlos Walker, Director of the Family Action Center
Charles Hodges, Director of the Family Action Center
Nydia Lewis, Director of Adult Education
Fort Worth ISD Division of Equity & Excellence, Fort Worth, TX
Partnering with Municipal Government for Neighborhood Equity CM 1.25
Session 1
Neighborhood Equity efforts are well-meaning, but unless carefully planned and executed alongside local government, they can cause more discord than harmony. This workshop will give participants an understanding of how to define equity from a local government perspective and an overview of how municipal equity policy and law that affects city resource allocation to your neighborhood. Hear practical advice and strategies for partnering with cities to develop an Equity Plan for your neighborhood that includes the authentic voice of your unique community.

Christina Brooks, MNA, MCA, Director
Diversity & Inclusion Dept., City of Fort Worth, TX

Lasting Stability! One Neighborhood at a Time CM 1.25
Session 2
The Texarkana Neighborhoods Stabilization Plan looks to revitalize, facilitate, and support vibrant, thriving neighborhoods and provide a high quality of life for its residents. The program helps empower communities by giving them a united, collective voice as they work with the city on their issues, concerns, and needs. This workshop will help other cities find methods to collect information, identify the needs of their community to create educational workshops and focus groups to empower their residents.

David Orr
Daphne Ryan
Vashil Fernandez
Community Development, City of Texarkana, TX

Creating More Equitable Communities: Fort Worth’s Task Force on Race and Culture CM 1.25
Session 3
In response to strained police-community relations in 2017, the City of Fort Worth appointed a task force of diverse community leaders to plan a set of practical strategies for addressing these issues. Unlike many similar efforts, Fort Worth’s race and culture initiative has enjoyed broad community support and produced positive results. Learn how your community can benefit from current successes.

Fernando Costa, Assistant City Manager
City Manager’s Office, City of Fort Worth, TX

Engaging the Community through the FWISD’s Racial Equity Committee CM 1.25
Session 4
The Fort Worth ISD Racial Equity committee is working to address inequity and disproportionality by examining policies and procedures and recommending changes to achieve the district’s mission of preparing ALL students for success in college, career and community leadership. Learn about the work required to achieve district-wide equity transformation, including challenges and lessons learned in a large urban district. Hear how the committee includes community voice when developing policy and procedural changes.

Sherry Breed, Chief of Equity and Excellence Division
Dr. Dorene Benavidez, Executive Director Equity and Professional Development
Fort Worth ISD, Division of Equity & Excellence, Fort Worth, TX

Real Talk with the Office of the Police Oversight Monitor CM 1.25
Session 6
Formed to enhance positive community-police relations, the Police Oversight Monitor has encountered many successes and challenges in its first year of operations in the City of Fort Worth. Through effective collaborations and partnerships with community stakeholders and law enforcement, the OPOM seeks to make local law enforcement more transparent, accountable, and responsive to the community.

Kim Neal, Police Monitor
Office of the Police Oversight Monitor, City of Fort Worth, TX
Accelerating Community Engagement Opportunities for Individuals with Disabilities: A Neighborhood Case Study CM 1.25

Session 5

Individuals with disabilities face health inequities and exclusion from key public health programming, due to lack of accommodations. Despite the health inequities, limited research exists examining how grass-roots partnerships among academia and neighborhoods via community micro-grants can facilitate communities where all members can live, work, and play. This workshop will focus on the partnership among the 99 Neighborhoods of Birmingham, the University of Alabama at Birmingham, and the National Center on Health Physical Activity and Disability, to implement a virtual program for individuals with disabilities.

Esraa Al Dalwood, MENTOR Program Consultant & COVID-19 Disease Investigator
LaQuan Jackson, CEO Team No Brakes
Mikiayla Key, MENTOR Intern
Theodore Debro, President of Huffman Neighborhood Association
Walladean B. Streeter, President, Bush Hills Neighborhood
University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, AL

Engagement Starts with Us
Session 5

Discover how the Community Engagement Office created an internal Hispanic employee workgroup to help the city focus on the needs of Hispanic employees and residents. Learn how the office is expanding their outreach efforts, creating new goals and building stronger relationships with the help of this newly created team.

Ruth Assi, Community Engagement Liaison
Brenda Pinner, Community Engagement Liaison
Community Engagement Office, City of Fort Worth, TX

How to In-Vest in your Neighborhood!
Session 6

Join the Garden of Eden Neighborhood Association as they showcase four types of investment they use in their community: Health and Safety, Neighborhood Pride, Collaboration, and Generation Next. Learn how these investments have helped them organize, increase participation, and educate their neighbors.

Brenda Sanders-Wise
Trina Sanders
Garden of Eden Neighborhood Association, Fort Worth, TX

Navigating Equity Work at the Community Level CM 1.25
Session 4

Government Alliance on Race and Equity (GARE is a national network of governments working to achieve racial equity and advance opportunities for all. To fulfil the vision of pursuing a world class quality of life and an inspired future for the City of Raleigh, it is necessary to be intentional in transforming policies and practices that have historically led to systemic disparities. Also, to have a shared understanding of what those disparities look like in day-to-day city business. This workshop will discuss effective tools, strategies, and approaches used by the Government Alliance on Race and Equity (GARE.

Linda Graham Jones, Community Engagement Administrator
City of Raleigh Housing and Neighborhoods Department, Community Engagement Division, Raleigh, NC

A Coffee Milk Shake
Session 7

Working with ethnic communities can help build strong, collaborative neighborhoods! This class will uncover ways to expand your network by learning how to reach out to the Vietnamese families in your city.

Martin Kruming
Global Neighborhood Project
San Diego, CA
Community Designed Investment: Leveraging engagement to unite citywide goals and neighborhood needs CM 1.25
Session 7
In 2019, the City of Boise purchased a parcel of land at the intersection of two busy arterials and planned to develop the site as an asset for their housing land trust. They recognized the need for community input prior to site planning and launched an effort with the Energize team to engage the community in the look and feel of the potential development and transform the busy corridor. This panel discussion will share the steps they took to reach the surrounding neighbors and stakeholders.

Melinda McGoldrick, Energize Program Manager
Deanna Dupuy, AICP, Comprehensive Planner
Leon Letson, Grow Our Housing Program Manager
City of Boise, ID

Build It and They Will Come
Session 6
Promise of Peace Gardens establishes practical and sustainable gathering spaces that engage diversity while creating equity!

Elizabeth Dry, Founding Director
Promise of Peace Gardens, Dallas, TX

EXPANDING YOUR COMMUNICATION EFFORTS

Re-Envisioning Services: Evolving Programming During Covid 19
Session 1
Learn about a virtual programming model the Fort Worth Public Library quickly adopted and embraced over a year ago that developed a support structure putting a premium on collaboration and innovation during the pandemic.

Jana Hill, Adult Services Manager
Trevor Naughton, Regional Librarian Supervisor
Fort Worth Public Library, City of Fort Worth, TX

Uplifting our Community - Volunteers & Law Enforcement Working Together
Session 2
The Vancouver Police Department’s Neighbors on Watch (NOW) program is an effective collaboration between community members and Neighborhood Police Officers (NPOs). NPOs act as liaisons to our community to work closely on a multitude of projects. Together, they open doors to community-based policing. This workshop includes an overview of NOW and stories about their unique partnership with NPOs.

Mayor Anne McEnerny-Ogle
Jordan Macfarlane, Police Volunteer Program Coordinator
Sam Abdala
Officer Brian Schaffer
City of Vancouver, WA

Connect and Empower Your Residents through a Neighborhood Registry
Session 3
The Raleigh Neighborhood Registry opens a line of communication between the city and its neighborhoods, community watch groups, and garden clubs. See how they have accomplished this through community engagement, registration, training, mapping, and other benefits. This workshop will show their online tools and their benefits.

Kaylah Dell Nance
Housing and Neighborhoods Dept., Community Engagement Division, Raleigh, NC
Leveraging Public Participation to Create Thriving Communities CM 1.25
Session 6
The mission and vision of the City of Raleigh focuses on creating and sustaining thriving communities by enhancing the way they engage with residents. In a growing city with over 450,000 residents, successful community engagement meets important needs for community members, decision-makers and stakeholders. Learn how to use International Association of Public Participation (IAP2) to leverage relationships with external partners to create a paradigm shift in the way you communicate and engage neighbors.

Linda Graham Jones, Community Engagement Administrator
Sheila Lynch
City of Raleigh Housing and Neighborhoods Department, Community Engagement Division, Raleigh, NC

Color Me Collaborative: Understanding Personalities
Session 7
Understanding the value of personality assessments is an important part of professional development in the workplace and opens lines of communication with neighborhood leaders. During this workshop, assessments will determine your “color personality”. Understanding differing personalities allows participants to view how participants see themselves and others and how to work with all personality types.

Lindsay Turman, Community Services Administrator
City of Richardson, TX

MAKING PARTNERSHIPS YOUR PRIORITY

Employing the Homeless for the Beautification of our City and Neighborhoods CM 1.25
Session 1
The City of Fort Worth currently employs homeless or previous homeless individuals to pick up litter in targeted neighborhoods and along city right-of-ways. The program goal is to decrease litter and homelessness and create a pathway to potential full-time employment. Hear success stories and how to deploy this type of program in your city.

Oneil Johnson, District Superintendent
Code Compliance Dept., City of Fort Worth, TX

Building Safe Neighborhoods with Crime Stoppers CM 1.25
Session 2
The Crime Stoppers program has an extensive history of giving neighbors the opportunity to provide anonymous tips to report information about serious crimes in through community. Discover how to implement this program, ways to provide anonymous tips and the proven value of Crime Stoppers.

Barb Bergin, Chair Crime Stoppers USA
Crime Stoppers USA, Orlando, FL

Neighborhood Partnerships: Building Support for Affordable Housing
Session 3
This workshop highlights how effective, small group community meetings can be in educating and combatting NIMBY.

Mary-Margaret Lemons, FWHS President
Fort Worth Housing Solutions, Fort Worth, TX
They Got What You Want. You Got What They Need.
Session 3
Don’t be taken advantage of and don’t miss out on the exposure your organization needs. In every community relationship there are mutual benefits to discover that are not always in the form of a monetary ask. Learn how to audit your organization’s offerings to create a valuable menu of appealing options for your targeted partner list.
Christy Garrard, Executive Director
Issaquah Highlands Council, Seatle, WA

Neighborhood Revitalization through Preservation, Design and Advocacy CM 1.25
Session 4
Over the past 20 years, historic neighborhoods and commercial districts throughout Fort Worth have seen a resurgence. This workshop will focus on how to use strategic city polices, historic preservation tools, design district guidelines, and community advocacy to revitalize neighborhoods and commercial districts, using successful examples from Fort Worth.
Laura Voltmann, Senior Planner, City of Fort Worth, TX
Jerre Tracy, Executive Director, Historic Fort Worth, Inc.
Justin Newhart, Senior Planner, City of Fort Worth, TX

Expanding Housing that Addresses Homelessness Through Public-Private Partnerships CM 1.25
Session 5
Representatives from the City of Fort Worth, First Presbyterian Church, the Paulos Foundation, and private developers will present a unique partnership that is producing new housing and helping to revitalize mixed-use and commercial neighborhoods while helping to end homelessness for people with disabilities using innovative neighborhood friendly designs.
Flora Brewer
The Paulos Foundation, Fort Worth, TX

Healthy Neighbors – Healthy Community CM 1.25
Session 5
The North Texas Area Community Health Centers provides education and health necessities to the neighborhoods they serve. Hear how they are creating healthier communities by understanding their needs and developing stronger partnerships.
Mary Lou Martinez
North Texas Area Community Health Centers, Inc., Fort Worth, TX

How Parties, Parking and Port-a-Potties led to Good Neighbor Program and Partnerships CM 1.25
Session 6
The TCU Neighbor to Neighbor program is a partnership between the City of Fort Worth, Texas Christian University (TCU), Fort Worth City Council, and nine neighborhood associations surrounding the campus. These partners make up a working committee dedicated to providing resources and building positive relationships with TCU neighbors, homeowners and student renters.
Tabitha Butler, Citywide Volunteer Program Coordinator
Community Engagement Office, City of Fort Worth, TX
When the Gown Supports the Town: Fostering Mutually Beneficial Relationships Between College Students and Neighborhoods CM 1.25
Session 6
Each semester, universities introduce hundreds of students to their host communities, adding diversity in race, age, and ethnicity to the local culture. The relationship between year-around residents and incoming students is often a challenging one. This session will highlight how the City of Tallahassee has involved students in community building, providing win-win scenarios for students and the community.

John E. Baker, Executive Director Equity and Professional Development, City of Tallahassee, FL
April Jackson, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Department of Urban and Regional Planning, Florida State University
Robyn Wainner, Neighborhood Services Coordinator, City of Tallahassee, FL

Creative Tools for Neighborhood Partnerships CM 1.25
Session 7
Take your organization to the next level by using a 360° approach. Discover how to create partnerships, grow your meeting attendance, and expand your reach by looking outside of your existing neighborhood by using the neighborhood profile workbook. When completed, it will serve as the most accurate and relevant resource available for use by neighborhood organizations.

Cindy Light, Neighborhood Relations Supervisor
Office of Communications and Neighborhood Relations, City of Orlando, FL

The Neighborhoods, USA Organization

Running for the NUSA Board of Directors
Are you ready to make a difference by helping to build stronger, healthier, and safer neighborhoods and communities? Attend this workshop to meet current officers, hear about the time commitments involved, benefits and opportunities to use your skill sets.

Ian Randolph, NUSA Boardmember
Dora Sims, NUSA Boardmember
Craig Thomas, NUSA Boardmember

Hosting a NUSA Conference
Is your city ready to consider hosting a future NUSA Conference? Attend this workshop to learn hosting requirements, how to submit a bid proposal and tips from board members who have been a part of it all!

Loretta Buckner, NUSA Boardmember
Joyce Cox, NUSA Boardmember
Paul Gambill, NUSA Boardmember
Elton Gatewood, NUSA Boardmember
Precious McKesson, NUSA Boardmember

Workshop presenters biographies will be available on the NUSA 2021 Conference website and included in the printed NUSA 2021 Event Booklet in May.
Neighborhood Pride Tours

Cowboys, Culture & Compromise
As Fort Worth’s world-class cultural district grows and thrives, protecting nearby neighborhoods proves equally important as economic development, the arts and tourism.

One Size Doesn’t Fit All: Approaches to Neighborhood Improvement
Fort Worth’s Neighborhood Services Department finds that identifying community members’ needs and wants upfront leads to greater success in the end, when tackling neighborhood improvements. See how this pilot program has evolved over time.

Preserving Neighborhood History through Urban Villages
See how historic preservation and adaptive reuse can bring neighborhoods back to life. Tour three artsy, tasty and funky urban villages located in Fort Worth’s central city medical district.
Neighborhood Pride Tours

Neighborhoods in Transition: Tools for Positive Change
As older neighborhoods decline, a variety of tools can help transform blight to bright. This tour features three west side success stories—an enclave of high-density, low-income apartments; a highly engaged, historically Black neighborhood; and aging suburbs flanking a premier commercial corridor.

Community Engagement Solutions: Bike Gangs, Core Teams, Javas and More
How typical and not-so-typical community engagement techniques foster neighborhood feedback, civic involvement, volunteerism and buy-in.

Maintaining Neighborhood Character as a Development Goal
When developers come knocking to create the next “it” neighborhood, gentrification fears abound. How resident, business, municipal and faith-based partnerships can play a role in maintaining a neighborhood feel. Tour one of Fort Worth’s newest urban villages just minutes from downtown.

Fort Worth’s Multi-Cultural Melting Pot
From cowboys to vaqueros... chilaquiles to spanakopita... mariachis to theater, golf and drive-in movies. Fort Worth’s north side is a melting pot of art, entertainment, history and culture.
**How it Works**

- Plan to arrive 5 minutes early so sessions can start on time.
- Visit the Virtual Lobby.
- Join the “Group Room” with the topic/question you are interested in discussing.
- Topic/question will be announced by a trained facilitator.
- Let the networking begin!

### Session Options

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Start Time</th>
<th>Session Tracks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed., May 19</td>
<td>5:30 - 6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>City Pride</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs., May 20</td>
<td>7 - 7:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Conservation, Preservation &amp; Revitalization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs., May 20</td>
<td>1 - 1:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Building Relationships</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri., May 21</td>
<td>7 - 7:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Diversity, Equity &amp; Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri., May 21</td>
<td>1 - 1:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Lessons Learned</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat., May 22</td>
<td>7 - 7:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Community Engagement</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Session Tracks

**Building Relationships**
- How can city officials and neighbors better recognize when a neighbor is in distress?
- How can we improve relationships between police and community?
- How did COVID-19 change the role of faith-based organizations?
- How does your organization cultivate new and younger leaders?
- How has your city improved relationships between neighbors and municipal courts?
- What do you think about the role of faith-based organizations moving forward?

**City Pride**
- What are your top 3 sites on a driving tour of your city?
- What is a restaurant in your city that would help visitors get an idea of the diversity of the city?
- What is something about your community that most people would find surprising?
- What has been the most contentious issue in your city over the past couple of years, and what was one positive thing you learned from it?
- How do you think residents describe your city when they visit with people outside your area?
- What is one positive word that residents who love your city would use to describe it?
- Where do you go for an afternoon of peace in your city?
NETWORKING SESSIONS

Session Tracks

Community Engagement
- What is an innovation/tool your city uses to enhance engagement?
- What is the best way your city communicates with neighborhoods?
- What is the best way your neighborhood leaders communicate with neighbors?
- What is your best tip for using online/virtual programming for community engagement?
- What is your best social media tip for community engagement?
- What is the best new or innovative resource a nonprofit has offered in your city?

Conservation, Preservation & Revitalization
- Let’s talk about habitat conservation!
- How can we reduce our ecological footprint?
- What is the best way to ensure your neighborhood becomes involved in the development or revitalization process?
- Let’s talk about historical preservation!
- How does your city/neighborhood work with developers?
- How would you define smart revitalization?
- What is the future of public transportation?

Diversity, Equity & Health
- What is something your city or neighborhood has done to combat racism?
- What are some creative and successful diversity and inclusion events?
- What type of tax incentives does your city offer to minority-owned businesses?
- What type of tax incentives does your city offer to increase affordable housing options?
- How has your city addressed disease progression in underserved communities?
- How do we start a conversation about race, diversity, cultural beliefs and inclusion in our ever-changing communities?
- How can we create healthier communities?

Lessons Learned
- How did your city/neighborhood provide civic engagement among the underserved population during COVID?
- How does your city use neighborhood associations as communications networks during disasters?
- How has your city used resources to help populations who are struggling during disasters?
- How do you set work/personal priorities in unprecedented times?
- How the COVID pandemic changed our society for the better?
- How did you recruit, maintain, and encourage volunteers during COVID?
Ways to Register

Important Dates

February 15 - April 1, 2021
Early Bird Registration $200 per participant
• Also includes a Special Event Package mailed to you, one week before the conference!

Beginning April 2, 2021
Late Registration $250 per participant

Ways to Register

• (Easiest/Preferred Method) Register and pay online at www.nusa.org and receive your confirmation email with workshops and tours instantly.

• Print, complete and mail the Registration Form below and a check/money order to:

NUSA 2021 Registration
P.O. Box 281
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33302-0281
(NOTE: Make sure your envelope is postmarked before April 1 to receive Early Bird pricing)

• Group Registrations - If you/your city plans to submit payment on behalf of a group, please visit www.nusa.org/conferences to download a Group Registration Form or email president@nusa.org for more information. Group registrations received after April 1 will not receive the Special Event Packages or Early Bird pricing.
REGISTRATION FORM

Your Contact Information

Name: ________________________________________________________________

Organization: __________________________________________________________

Mailing Address: __________________________________ City/State/Zip: ______________________

Email Address: ______________________________________ Phone Number: ______________________

Tell Us About Yourself

Check all that apply: _____ Attendee _____ Sponsor _____ Awards Finalist _____ Presenter _____ Volunteer

Is this your first NUSA Conference: _____ Yes _____ No

What best describes your current interest in neighborhoods?

_____ grassroots advocate _____ governmental official

What is your age range? _____ Younger than 21 _____ Between 21-34 _____ Between 51-64 _____ Over 65

How would you identify your ethnicity?

_____ White _____ Black, African American _____ Hispanic or Latino _____ Asian or Pacific Islander

Your Workshop and Neighborhood Pride Tour Preferences

Thursday, May 20

1st Choice ______________________________________________________________

2nd Choice ______________________________________________________________

Session 1: _____________________________________________________________

Session 2: _____________________________________________________________

Session 3: _____________________________________________________________

Session 4: _____________________________________________________________

Neighborhood Pride Tour 1: ______________________________________________

Friday, May 21

1st Choice ______________________________________________________________

2nd Choice ______________________________________________________________

Session 6: _____________________________________________________________

Session 7: _____________________________________________________________

Neighborhood Pride Tour 2: ______________________________________________

MAIL TO:
NUSA 2021
P.O. Box 281
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33302-0281

36