

# 6 PLANET 1 FORWARD 0 SUMMIT 2 SUSTAINABLE CITIES

The George Washington University

April 21-22, 2016

[www.planetforward.org](http://www.planetforward.org)

## **About the Sustainable Cities Summit**

Anchored around Earth Day, the 2016 Planet Forward Summit on Sustainable Cities will engage a diverse group of leaders (mayors, civic leaders, innovators, academics, journalists, private sector leaders and college students) in a conversation that captures the innovation stories on the front lines of urbanization, population growth and climate change. The 2016 Summit will address four key topics: Mobility, Built Environment, Water and Food -- with climate change being the cross-cutting issue throughout.

## **Audience Profile**

- Attendees are primarily working in or studying the fields of journalism, environmental protection, NGOs, policy, innovation and academia. Approximately half of the audience will be students.
- We expect an audience size of **approximately 250 people in general session** and a large live stream audience on <http://www.planetforward.org/>
- The students at this conference are highly interested in climate change, city innovations and public policy and are attending because of their keen interest in solutions to cities' climate challenges.

Registered students and faculty are anticipated from: American University, Claflin University, Columbia, CUNY, George Mason University, GWU, Georgetown, Howard University, Iowa State, Jackson State University, Johns Hopkins University, Middlebury College, MIT, Mount Holyoke College, Northwestern, NYU, Old Dominion University,

Purdue University, Sewanee: The University of the South, Texas A&M, Tougaloo College, The Ohio State University, University of Arizona, University of Colorado Boulder, University of Florida, University of Illinois, University of Lagos, Akoka (Nigeria), University of Maryland, University of Maryland University College, University of Maryland-Eastern Shore, University of Michigan, University of Minnesota, University of Mississippi, University of New Haven, University of Pennsylvania, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Vanderbilt, Vassar College, Wesleyan University

## **Event speakers**

Headlining speakers are:

- **Gina McCarthy**, EPA Administrator
- **Melodee Colbert-Kean**, President of the National League of Cities, sitting Joplin, Missouri, Councilwoman
- **Tom Lovejoy**, Prominent Rainforest Expert and Biologist, George Mason University Professor

Other speakers include mayors, architects, scientists, NGOs, farmers, business leaders and sustainability superstars:

- **Che Axum**, University of the District of Columbia
- **Mayor Tommy Battle**, Huntsville, Ala.
- **Enock Chikava**, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- **Mark Edge**, WEMA, Monsanto
- **David Enders**, International Journalist (VICE Media, McClatchy Newspapers)
- **Dr. Royce Francis**, The George Washington University
- **Jordan Goldstein**, Gensler Architects
- **Sharlene Leurig**, Texas Environmental Flows Project
- **Mayor Jeri Muoio**, West Palm Beach, Fla.
- **Chris Policinski**, Land O'Lakes, Inc.
- **Frank Sesno**, School of Media and Public Affairs and Planet Forward
- **Megan Smith**, King County (Washington) Executive Office

## **Storyfest 2016**

In our second Planet Forward Storyfest student storytelling contest, we invited college students from around the world to submit their ideas on urban sustainability innovations.

We received more than **90 submissions**, including blog posts, infographics, images and videos that were featured on the Planet Forward website and social media platforms. Twelve finalists moved on to our team of expert judges: Christian Amolsch, Gensler Architects; David Enders, International Journalist (formerly of VICE Media and McClatchy); Sommer Mathis, CityLab; and Betty Hudson, Hudson & Associates (formerly of National Geographic).

Three grand prize winners will be selected from our finalists to receive \$500 and an all expenses paid trip to New York City to visit the U.N. headquarters and share their innovation stories with development experts from around the world.

Storyfest 2016 is sponsored by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and The Kavli Foundation.

### **Summit Sponsors**

Land O'Lakes, Inc., The Kavli Foundation, the National League of Cities, World Food Program USA, Monsanto, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and The George Washington University Sustainability Collaborative

## AGENDA

### **Summit Day One: Thursday, April 21, 2016**

8:30 AM - Welcome!

- **Frank Sesno**, Director, GW School of Media and Public Affairs; Host & Creator, *Planet Forward*

8:40 AM - Keynote: The Future of Sustainable Cities

- **Melodee Colbert-Kean**, President, National League of Cities; City council member and former Mayor, Joplin, Missouri
- Audience Q&A

9:10 AM - Panel: Rethinking Water: Solutions for a 20th Century Infrastructure

- **Melodee Colbert-Kean**, President, National League of Cities; City council member and former Mayor, Joplin, Missouri

- **Dr. Royce Francis**, Assistant Professor of Engineering and Applied Science, The George Washington University
- **Sharlene Leurig**, Director, Texas Environmental Flows Project
- **Jeri Muoio**, Mayor, West Palm Beach, Florida

10:00 AM - Keynote Presentation

- **Gina McCarthy**, Administrator, US Environmental Protection Agency

11:05 AM - Presentation: Lungs of the Earth: Needed More Than Ever

- Presenter: **Tom Lovejoy**, rainforest expert and biologist, George Mason University Professor

11:30 AM - Panel: Mobility: How Will We Get Around Our Future Cities?

- **Tommy Battle**, Mayor, Huntsville, Alabama
- **Julie Felgar**, Managing Director, Environmental Strategy & Integration, Boeing
- **Megan Smith**, Environmental Policy Advisor, King County, Washington State

12:15 PM - Lunch Break & Presentation

1:30 PM - Return to Jack Morton Auditorium

1:40 PM - Presentation: Future of Buildings and Environment

- **Jordan Goldstein**, Regional Planning Principal, Gensler Architects

2:05 PM - Panel: Urban Agriculture: New Voices, New Partnerships

- **Che Axum**, Dir. of the Center for Urban Agriculture & Gardening Education, University of the District of Columbia
- **Enock Chikava**, Senior Program Officer, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- **Mark Edge**, Director of Water Efficient Maize for Africa (WEMA) Partnerships, Monsanto
- **Chris Policinski**, President and CEO, Land O'Lakes, Inc.
- MODERATOR: Frank Sesno

2:50 PM – Panel: How do we ensure equitable, sustainable cities?

- **Jeri Muoio**, Mayor, West Palm Beach, Florida
- **Melodee Colbert-Kean**, President, National League of Cities; City council member and former Mayor, Joplin, Missouri
- **Tommy Battle**, Mayor, Huntsville, Alabama
- **Megan Smith**, Environmental Policy Advisor, King County

3:20 PM – Planet Forward STORYFEST Presentation

- Judge: **Christian Amolsch**, Senior Associate, Gensler Architects
- Judge: **David Enders**, International Journalist, (former VICE Media, McClatchy)
- Judge: **Sommer Mathis**, Editor, CityLab
- Judge: **Betty Hudson**, former COO, National Geographic Society

3:40 PM – Presentation of Awards

- **AJ Markanday**, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
- **Frank Sesno**, GW
- Winners 1, 2, and 3

4:00 PM -- ADJOURN – Reception

## **Summit Day Two: Friday, April 22, 2016**

### **Session 1: 9:00 AM - 10:15 AM**

1. Tech & Smart Cities
  - Participants: TBD
2. International Food Systems
  - Participants: Land O'Lakes – Africa Trip 2015 GFC students
3. The Future of Mobility
  - Participants: Cooper Martin, NLC
4. How Gensler is Building Future Cities
  - Participants: TBD
5. How to Identify & Craft Compelling Stories
  - Participants: Tougaloo College professors

## **Session 2: 10:30 AM - 11:45 AM**

1. Equitable Cities: A Grassroots Effort
  - Participants: TBD
2. WEMA Showcase
  - Participants:
    - Mark Edge, Director of WEMA Partnerships
    - Enock Chikava, Senior Program Officer, Gates Foundation
3. Mobility: Shared Economy
  - Participants: Colin Hughes, Institute Transportation & Development Policy
4. To Build or Not to Build: The Ultimate Question
  - Participants: TBD
5. Equipment 101
  - Participants: Planet Forward Staff

## **Session 3: 12:00 PM- 1:30 PM (lunch provided)**

1. Climate & Urbanization
  - Participants: TBD
2. DC Urban Gardens/Farms
  - Participants: TBD
3. Future of Mass Transit (International)
  - Participants: TBD
4. Future Cities
  - Participants: Megan Smith, Environmental Policy Advisor, King County
5. Communicating Science
  - Participants:
    - Brittany Watts, SolarCity
    - Other participants TBD