

AGENDA



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Event Overview

As the world looks to take more urgent action on climate change, the United States will play a key role. For years the U.S. has struggled to pass federal climate legislation but in August 2022, the U.S. Senate passed The Inflation Reduction Act, which included bold measures to fight climate change and cut US carbon emissions by 40% by 2030, resulting in significant implications for global greenhouse gas emissions and the U.S.' standing in the world.

As the U.S. emerges from the pandemic, it is our shared responsibility to deliver a green and digital recovery and ensure U.S. cities, major emission contributors, become smarter and more sustainable. This conference will bring together a range of stakeholders, including city, state and federal government representatives, as well as national and international businesses, to elevate the role of technology in the fight against climate change. We will examine the various initiatives by technology companies to reduce their own carbon emissions and explore ways technology can become an enabler to drive climate action throughout U.S. cities. The conference will also examine the work to date by the federal government and city governments, and the resources available to businesses to help support wider climate goals.

All speakers will participate in-person unless otherwise stated.

8:30am – 9:15am: Registration, Networking & Exhibition

9:15am – 9:30am: Welcome Address
Rika Nakazawa, Best-selling author & Technologist **(confirmed)**

9:30am – 10:10am: SESSION ONE: KEYNOTES

9:30am – 9:40am: Keynote Address: View from the House of Representatives
Rep. Buddy Carter (R-GA), Member of the Select Committee on Climate Change and Vice Chair of the Communications and Technology Committee, U.S. House of Representatives **(virtual, confirmed)**

9:40am – 09:50am: Keynote Address: View from the House of Representatives
Rep. Mariannette Miller-Meeks (R-IA), Member of the Energy and Commerce Committee, U.S. House of Representatives **(virtual, confirmed)**

09:50am – 10:10am: Keynote Address: View from the Department of Transportation
Dr Robert Hampshire, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Research & Innovation;
and Chief Science Officer, U.S. Department of Transportation **(confirmed)**

10:10am – 10:35am: Networking & Refreshments
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10:35am – 11:05am: Green Data Centers – In conversation with...
Moderator: **Tom Lawler**, CEO, The Digital Climate Alliance and Managing
Partner, COEFFICIENT **(confirmed)**
Jim Connaughton, Chairman of the Board, Nautilus Data Technologies
(confirmed)
Amy Serpliss, Federal Solutions, Schneider Electric **(confirmed)**

11:05am – 12:20pm: SESSION TWO: U.S. Climate Change Recovery

The U.S. Senate passed the Inflation Reduction Act in August 2022, which includes over \$300 billion for energy and climate reform. The world welcomes these important climate measures, but many argue that the U.S. needs to do more. Additionally, with the Republicans now controlling the House and the Democrats controlling the Senate, this need to achieve more by working together is of utmost importance if the US is going to realize its climate goals. This session will explore the extent of the Inflation Reduction Act's impact on tackling climate change, as well as other new and existing federal government policies, together with policies at municipality and State level. Participants will also examine the work by technology companies in reducing their own emissions, and whether all stakeholders need to go further to reach national and global climate objectives.

- How is the federal government tackling climate change? How are Democrats and Republicans working together?
- What support do innovators need from policymakers?
- What role are US cities and States playing to meet national climate goals?
- Which US cities and States are leading the way in combatting climate change and what can others learn from them?
- What companies have been successful in reducing their emissions and what lessons can they share to support other businesses? What are some key examples?

Moderator: **Sasha Mackler**, Executive Director Energy Program, Bipartisan Policy Center **(confirmed)**

Speakers:

Shelby Rust Busó, Chief Sustainability Officer, City of San Diego **(confirmed)**

Sonia Brubaker, Chief Resilience Officer, City of Miami **(confirmed)**

Daniel Conner, Chief of Staff at Department of Energy & Environment, The District of Columbia **(confirmed)**

Josh Sawislak, Managing Director, Government & Public Services Practice, Deloitte Consulting **(confirmed)**

12:20pm – 1:20pm: Networking Lunch

1:20pm – 2:20pm: AFTERNOON KEYNOTES

Moderator: **Rebecca Klar**, Tech Reporter, The Hill **(confirmed)**

- 1:20pm – 1:40pm: Keynote Address: View from the U.S. House of Representatives
Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC), U.S. House of Representatives **(confirmed)**
- 1:40pm – 2:00pm: Keynote Address: View from Industry
Nathalie Capati, CEO, Jasmine Energy **(confirmed)**
- 2:00pm – 2:20pm: Keynote Address: View from the FCC
Geoffrey Starks, Commissioner, Federal Communications Commission **(confirmed)**

2:20pm – 3:40pm: SESSION THREE: Technology as an enabler to drive climate action throughout cities and across industries

Despite only taking up a small amount of land, US cities account for over 80% of the country’s population and as a result, are significant emission contributors. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the primary sources of U.S. emissions include Transportation (27%), Electricity Production (25%), Industry (24%), and Commercial & Residential buildings (13%). Technology can be an enabler to drive climate action across industries and throughout urban environments. This session will carefully consider the different technologies and solutions that are available now and those exciting future technologies that are anticipated to have a positive impact on climate action. Participants will discuss the work that needs to be done in order to roll out these technologies and the support that is required at every level.

- What future networks and technologies will best support the fight against climate change and what industries and applications will lead the way?
- Specifically, what role can 5G, 6G and other key technologies, such as AI, play?
- What support do innovators need from policymakers at federal, state and city level?
- How are policymakers supporting the roll out of future technologies?
- How are city and State governments working with federal policymakers to support innovation?
- What regulatory and political environment is required to support businesses meet their targets?

Moderator: **Brent Skorup**, Senior Research Fellow, Mercatus Center, George Mason University **(confirmed)**

Speakers:

- Dr Vanessa Chan**, Chief Commercialization Officer and Director of the Office of Technology Transitions, U.S. Department of Energy **(confirmed)**
- Shiva Goel**, Legal Advisor, Federal Communications Commission **(confirmed)**
- Akshay Malik**, Smart Cities Director, City of Philadelphia **(confirmed)**
- Denise Lee**, Vice President Engineering Sustainability Office, Cisco **(confirmed)**
- Alison Pascale**, ADMT Division, Volkswagen Group of America **(confirmed)**
- David Lieberman**, Director, U.S. Government Relations, Bentley Systems **(confirmed)**

3:40pm – 4:00pm: Networking & Refreshments
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4:00pm – 4:15pm: Keynote Address: View from the U.S. Senate
Senator Sheldon Whitehouse, U.S. Senator for Rhode Island (D-RI); and Co-Chair of the Senate Climate Change Task Force, U.S. Senate **(confirmed)**

4:15pm – 5:00pm: SESSION FOUR: Fireside Discussion – Funding the U.S. Climate Goals

Climate change is a long-term challenge that will require strategic and sustained investment over many decades. Finance drawn from public, private and alternative sources is a critical enabler for solving climate change and speeding up America's green and sustainable ambitions. This session will assess the current landscape of climate finance in the United States, including the main actors in the market, the primary investment sectors and investment gaps. Participants will consider the various public and private financial resources available to businesses and cities and learn how to access those funds equitably. This session will also explore how private funds and other sources of finance are supporting companies and cities achieve their own climate goals and ultimately support wider US objectives.

- Is the current climate investment sufficient to meet US climate goals?
- What are the main sources of climate finance in the US?
- Is additional public and private finance required to meet climate goals?
- Who are the main actors in the market? What can we learn from them?
- What help is available to support companies and Public Administrations access public funds?
- What are the primary sectors of climate investment?
- What are the economic benefits to investing in key climate sectors?
- What sectors require additional climate investment and why?
- What is being done to mobilise finance to tackle climate change?
- What additional support is available to the next generation of entrepreneurs and technology companies?
- What government support is available to ensure there is no digital discrimination?

In conversation with:

Moderator: **Dr Sweta Chakraborty**, Climate Behavioral Scientist | TV Contributor | Author | CEO, We Don't Have Time US **(confirmed)**

David Lu, Co-Founder & CEO, Clarity **(confirmed)**

James Maloney, Founder & Managing Partner, Tiger Hill Partners **(confirmed)**

Nathalie Capati, CEO, Jasmine Energy **(confirmed)**

5:00pm – 5:10pm:

Closing remarks and next steps

Rika Nakazawa, Best-selling author & Technologist **(confirmed)**