



CALL FOR SESSION PROPOSALS

The EcoDistricts Summit is the premier gathering of leaders dedicated to big ideas and a worldwide movement to transform entire neighborhoods. Ours is the biggest network of such leaders in the world, and we want you to be part of it.

The EcoDistricts Summit gathers 500+ leading municipal policymakers, developers, business leaders, planners, financiers and community leaders – people with decision-making power about the future of cities. Plenary sessions and panel discussions are carefully curated to introduce conference participants to cutting-edge projects and thought leadership in green buildings, smart infrastructure, and community action.

ECODISTRICTS IN BOSTON

We are excited to move this year's event to Boston, one of the world's great transformational cities. This year we will explore how we, as urban leaders, can remake our cities from the neighborhood up. To guide the conversation, we would like to see proposals in the following tracks:

- TRACK 1.* **Capacity Building:** Community engagement, governing strategies and public policies that support district-scale sustainability.
- TRACK 2.* **Planning & Assessment:** Inspiring district-scale assessments and plans, and integrated tools that support district-scale sustainability assessment and planning.
- TRACK 3.* **Project Implementation & Finance:** Financing mechanisms and public / private partnerships for delivering innovative EcoDistrict projects.

- TRACK 4. Behavior & Choices:** Innovation strategies, programs and tools that unlock community and individual action.
- TRACK 5. District-Scale Solutions:** Inspiring case studies of district-scale or neighborhood sustainable projects presented in a multi-stakeholder panel format.
- TRACK 6. Innovation:** Leading edge research, community-based initiatives and sustainability innovations from North American and global leaders.
- TRACK 7. Idea Lab:** A forum designed for practitioners to share implementation issues, seek feedback, and apply knowledge from sessions. If you have an in-progress EcoDistrict project that could benefit from the Idea Lab, please submit a session proposal describing the key questions and issues. A limited number of projects will be selected for the Idea Lab, which will be open throughout the Summit.

Below are core topic areas for education sessions. We expect that submissions might include multiple topics or topics not listed.

- Climate adaptation and resilient communities
- Community engagement
- Equity and inclusion
- District and project governance and legal structures
- Technology innovation
- District-scale project development and delivery
- District-scale finance
- Biophilia
- Cross-discipline / sector and/or jurisdictional collaboration
- District energy and water systems
- Smart grid
- Urban design and neighborhood planning
- Behavior change
- District-wide community development
- Urban ecology and ecosystem services
- Infrastructure
- Health and wellbeing

To view the past Summit programs visit: <http://ecodistricts.org/summit/past-reports>

YOUR ROLE

We invite you to shape the conference by proposing an educational session. You are encouraged to propose a format that maximizes learning through participant and audience interaction. Session formats including roundtable discussion, workshop, pecha kucha, debate, and traditional panel (panelists and moderator) or lecture format. Non-traditional sessions may pose a significant question or challenge for participants to address. All educational

KEY DATES

- 6.07** Call for proposals is released
- 7.19** Deadline for submissions
- 8.09** Accepted proposals announced
- 8.23** Presenter acceptance deadline

sessions are 90 minutes long.

GOALS OF EDUCATION SESSIONS

- Create a forum for increasing knowledge about next generation urban sustainability practices and technologies at the district or neighborhood scale.
- Provide a place to share innovative ideas and best practices about financing and delivering neighborhood sustainability projects.
- Share valuable insights about: neighborhood organizing; integrated performance assessment; green building, infrastructure, and behavior practices to reduce resource consumption; new sources and structures for project finance; and policy mechanisms to support sustainable neighborhood development.
- Build a community of practice around neighborhood scale solutions, and share knowledge around implementation of EcoDistricts.

All presenters will receive a discounted conference registration fee. Discount code will be provided upon acceptance.

EDUCATION SESSION POLICIES

- We may reach out to presenters to curate sessions for the conference and reserve the right to suggest alternative combinations of speakers or topics to most effectively shape conference content.
- Accepted presenters/moderators who are not able to attend must notify EcoDistricts immediately by contacting Teague Douglas at teague@ecodistricts.org. Replacements may be suggested, but must be approved by EcoDistricts. EcoDistricts reserves the right to modify or cancel any session based on a change in presenters/moderators.
- Information about speaker preparation will be sent following the presenter acceptance deadline on August 23, 2013.

EVAULATION CRITERIA

- Scalability and replicability of strategy or approach
- Contribution of new information
- Demonstration of built projects or executed process, and learning from implementation
- Expertise and experience of presenters
- Equity outcomes and direct community benefit of projects
- Relevance to EcoDistricts framework

SUBMITTAL OUTLINE

Proposals must be submitted to summit@ecodistricts.org by **July 19, 2013**. Save the file as a single PDF with file name structured as [Track #][Session Title]

1. Title (no more than 10 words)
2. Abstract (50-100 words) to be included in conference program
3. Session Description (no more than 200 words) that includes content to be covered, project examples, and approach to session format with a brief agenda describing how you will use the 90 minutes. Creative formats are encouraged to increase audience interaction.
4. One Sentence about how this presentation will influence the district-scale sustainability movement
5. Learning Objectives 2 to 3 action-oriented objectives or takeaways
6. Presenter Bios (no more than 100 words) that includes name, title, company, email, phone, address, and experience of each presenter
7. Point of Contact/Moderator with contact information for session leader
8. Conference Track (listed above) that best fits proposed content

CONTACT

Please direct questions to Teague Douglas, Program Manager at teague@ecodistricts.org.

ABOUT ECODISTRICTS

Around the world, more people live in cities than ever before. How we live in cities is one of the great challenges of our time.

Our new name, EcoDistricts (formerly Portland Sustainability Institute), sums up our shared vision for creating sustainable cities from the neighborhood up. Our larger scope is designed to better serve you, the growing number of innovative practitioners and policymakers who are making a demonstrable impact in your communities and helping to grow the global green neighborhood movement.

Urban development leaders of all stripes, from mayors to universities to affordable housing providers, see EcoDistricts as the key to solving many of their pressing challenges. In response, we're creating a powerful convening, advocacy, technical assistance and research platform to inform and drive EcoDistrict innovation - strategic in nature, collaborative in approach and practical in application. The EcoDistrict Framework is a toolkit for communities to move these issues forward.

At EcoDistricts you'll find people, tools, services and training to help cities and urban development practitioners create the neighborhoods of the future — resilient, vibrant, resource efficient, and just.