



Water Finance Forum - "Financing Resilient and Sustainable Water Infrastructure"

December 2, 2015 | Iselin, NJ | Last Updated: November 10, 2015

Agenda

8:30-9:00am

Registration

Session 1

9:00-9:30am

Welcome and Introduction

Welcome from Region 2 and EPA's Water Infrastructure and Resiliency Finance Center.

Jeff Gratz, *EPA Region 2, Deputy Director for Clean Water Division*

Jim Gebhardt, *Director for EPA's Water Infrastructure and Resiliency Finance Center*

Session 2

9:30-10:30am

Communicating Utility Needs to Customers: Getting Community Buy-in for Financing Needs

Share successful communication campaigns and community engagement efforts that focus on local drivers.

Sonia Brubaker, *Program Manager for EPA's Water Infrastructure and Resiliency Finance Center, Value of Water campaigns and community engagement efforts*

Rich Henning, *Senior Vice President of Communications for United Water Importance of community buy-in for innovative financing*

10:30-10:45am

Break

Session 3

10:45am-12:00pm

Financing Sustainable and Resilient Infrastructure

Hear from a utility on how planning helped to finance needed infrastructure.

Andrew Kricun, P.E., BCEE, *Executive Director/Chief Engineer of Camden County Municipal Utilities Authority*

Interact with a panel of experts on:

- Importance of upfront planning for financial sustainability.
- Using asset management practices to inform capital decisions.

Panel:

Kellie Kubena, *Director of Engineering and Environmental Staff for USDA Rural Development, Rural Utilities Service*

New Jersey Environmental Infrastructure Trust (invited)

New Jersey Department of Environmental Quality (invited)

New Jersey Water Association (invited)



Session 4
12:00-1:00pm

Networking Lunch - Lunch provided

Session 5
1:00-2:15pm

Assessing Financial Health

Hear how to measure healthy financial indicators.

Glenn Barnes, *University of North Carolina Environmental Finance Center*

Session 6
2:15-3:15pm

Group Discussion - Setting Rates for Resilient Management

Discuss how rate frameworks help with financing sustainable infrastructure projects.

Discussion questions:

- What challenges are communities facing when making long-term infrastructure decisions?
- What does a sustainable rate structure look like to you?
- If you were suddenly given a budget increase, what would you spend it on?
- What are the best ways to communicate financing and management needs to your board/decision makers, and your customers?

Session 7
3:15-3:30pm

Conclusion

Take-aways from the discussions

Suggestions for the Water Infrastructure and Resiliency Finance Center

Jim Gebhardt, *Director for EPA's Water Infrastructure and Resiliency Finance Center*

Session 8
3:30-4:30pm

Networking with Peers and Funders - Light refreshments provided

Talk one-on-one with:

- Funders/funding experts about local finance needs
- Utility peers on financing experiences
- The Water Infrastructure and Resiliency Finance Center to hear about services and activities