



Draft Conference Program
NACCED 50th Annual Educational Conference and Training
Growing Stronger Together
September 8-11, 2025
Hosted by Maricopa County, AZ
Sheraton Mesa Hotel at Wrigleyville West

Monday, September 8

12:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Registration

1:30 pm – 2:30 pm

Coffee for First Time Attendees & Overview of NACCED Conference

Sponsored by Allegheny County

First-time and seasoned attendees are welcome to participate in this get-to-know you session. Meet NACCED's leadership and staff, learn more about the week's program and events, and enjoy a coffee with new and future colleagues.

2:30 pm – 4:00 pm

Board Meeting (*open to all attendees*)

5:30 pm – 8:30 pm

Pre-Conference Gathering – details to be confirmed

Tuesday, September 9

7:30 am – 4:00 pm

Registration

8:00 am – 8:45 am

Breakfast

8:05 am – 8:10 am

Introduction to NACCED Conference: **David Sacks**, NACCED President, and **Jamie Macfarlane**, Maricopa County, AZ

8:10 am – 8:30 am	Welcome from Local Elected Officials
8:30 am – 10:15 am	<p>Opening General Session: Briefing from US Department of Housing and Urban Development</p> <p><i>Sponsored by Neighborly Software</i></p>
10:15 am – 10:30 am	Break
10:30 am – 12:00 pm	<p>General Session: BABA</p> <p>This session will provide an overview of the Build America, Buy America (BABA) provisions under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) as they apply to HUD grant-funded infrastructure projects. Attendees will gain an understanding of BABA’s domestic sourcing requirements for iron, steel, manufactured products, and construction materials; HUD’s phased implementation and current enforcement policies; and how grantees can determine applicability, request waivers, and meet compliance through documentation and reporting. The session will also highlight recent HUD guidance and practical steps for integrating BABA into procurement and project oversight.</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Maggie Blake, Civitas LLC ○ Erich Chatham, Civitas LLC ○ Grace Orr, Civitas LLC <p><i>Sponsored by Civitas</i></p>
12:00 pm – 1:30 pm	Lunch on your own
1:30 pm – 2:45 pm	<p>Concurrent Sessions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing Track <p>Turning Public Assets into Affordable Housing</p> <p>This session will explore how counties can creatively leverage publicly owned land and buildings to address the growing demand for affordable housing. Panelists will share innovative strategies, case studies, and tools that unlock the potential of underutilized assets to deliver positive housing outcomes. Attendees will gain insights into successful collaborations between local governments and private partners to learn best practices for implementation in their own communities.</p> <p>Moderator:</p>

- **Jennifer Daniels**, Arlington County, VA

Speakers:

- **Tory Gunsolley**, Harris County, TX
- **Terry Hickey**, Baltimore County, MD
- **Colby Sledge**, Grounded Solutions Network

- **Leadership and Management Track**

Subrecipient Management and Training

Attendees will learn from our panel best practices for monitoring, training, and supporting subrecipients across a range of federal and local programs. Whether you're new to subrecipient oversight or looking to refine your approach, this session will provide practical tools and insights to strengthen your county's partnerships and program performance.

Speaker:

- **Ben Sturm**, The Cloudburst Group

- **Community and Economic Development Track**

Next-Level Workforce: Innovation, Inclusion, and Impact

The Maricopa County Workforce Development Division is a nationally recognized team of workforce development experts. This workshop offers a deep dive into effective data-driven strategies that have transformed communities and catalyzed career pathways in one of the nations most unique counties. Attendees will gain practical insights into high-impact programming, employer engagement, and innovative solutions for skills development. Whether you're aiming to improve outcomes for youth, adults, or dislocated workers, this session equips you with the tools and inspiration to lead with vision and deliver lasting impact.

Speaker:

- **Jared Beard**, Maricopa County, AZ

2:45 pm – 3:15 pm

Break: Meet the Exhibitors!

Take the “Passport to Win” found in your conference tote bag to each exhibitor for their signature in order to have a chance at winning a prize.

3:15 pm – 4:30 pm

Concurrent sessions

- **Housing Track**

Best Practices of Housing Rehab

From property management and cost estimation to ensuring code compliance and preserving housing quality, this session will provide attendees with the tools and insights needed to navigate the complexities of rehab work. Practitioners will share real-world examples and lessons learned, offering guidance on how to streamline operations, maintain strong homeowner relationships, and achieve lasting impact in communities.

Moderator:

- **Marcos Ysmael**, Pima County, AZ

Speakers:

- **Paisley Pogue**, Shelby County, TN
- **Tony Reis**, Pima County, AZ
- **Victoria Snelling**, Shelby County, TN
- **Joel Viers**, Pima County, AZ

- **Leadership and Management Track**

Leadership in Disaster Recovery

- **Community and Economic Development Track**

NEPA 101

This breakout session will focus on the basic environmental compliance requirements for federally funded projects. The session will cover the basics of determining the level of review, project set up, methods of showing compliance, and utilizing the HUD Environmental Review Online System (HEROS). Additional attention will be given to the regulatory changes that occurred in 2024, including the new mandatory Federal Flood Risk Management Standard, changes in publication requirements, and radon detection.

Speakers:

- **Spencer Christian**, Civitas LLC
- **Kyle Jenkins**, Civitas LLC
- **Peter Neiger**, Civitas LLC

5:00 pm – 6:30 pm

John C. Murphy Scholarship Fund Silent Auction and HOME Program 35th Anniversary Celebration

Sponsored by ZoomGrants

7:30 pm Board of Directors Dinner (invite only)

Wednesday, September 10

7:30 am – 1:30 pm Registration

8:00 am – 9:00 am Breakfast

8:30 am – 9:30 am General Session: The Future of Affordable Housing

This forward-looking discussion will examine emerging trends, local policy approaches and funding strategies shaping the future of affordable housing development. Attendees will gain a deeper understanding of how communities can adapt to shifting needs, harness new technologies and build more inclusive, resilient housing systems. Join us for this inspiring conversation on what lies ahead and how we can collectively shape a modernized affordable housing future.

Speaker:

- **Harrison Martin O'Brien**, Cloudburst

Sponsored by The Cloudburst Group

9:30 am – 10:30 am Washington Update

Our annual Washington Update will highlight the latest from the 119th Congress, what is top of mind to look out for from the Trump Administration and regulatory decision-making impacting NACCED members. Join us for a fireside chat to hear about recent happenings in Washington, D.C.

Speakers:

- **Josh Brandwein**, National Association for County Community and Economic Development
- **Mike Matthews**, National Association of Development Organizations

10:30 am – 10:45 am Break

10:45 am – 12:00 pm **Concurrent Sessions**

- **Housing Track**

Options for the Development of Homeownership Properties
Attendees will have the opportunity in this session to delve into effective models and strategies for creating sustainable homeownership opportunities in today's challenging housing market. Panelists will share

case studies and practical tools for navigating financing and partnership development to expand homeownership pathways for low- and moderate-income families.

Moderator:

- **Josh Beck**, Kane County, IL

Speakers:

- **Stephanie Brewer**, Newtown Community Development Corporation
- **Will Stoker**, Fannie Mae
- **Eric Wolverton**, Habitat for Humanity of Northern Arizona

- **Leadership and Management Track**

Hiring and Building a Team

Assembling and retaining a strong, mission-driven team is more important than ever. Attendees will learn from our panel practical guidance on recruiting, onboarding and developing staff to support high-performing housing, community and economic development programs. From crafting effective job postings to fostering a supportive workplace culture, this session will cover key elements of team building and leadership. Attendees will hear from experienced professionals about strategies for managing turnover, promoting professional growth and aligning team structures with county goals.

Moderator:

- **Jim Johnston**, Allegheny County, PA

Speakers:

- **Mitchell Glasser**, Orange County, FL
- **Linda Jenkins**, Los Angeles County, CA
- **Jamie Macfarlane**, Maricopa County, AZ

- **Community and Economic Development Track**

Fair Housing Best Practices

Ensuring access to housing is a cornerstone of community development. This session will highlight effective strategies for promoting compliance with fair housing laws. Panelists will share examples of outreach, education and enforcement efforts that have made a measurable impact. Attendees will gain practical insights into incorporating fair housing practices into county program design, community engagement and organizational culture.

Speaker:

- **Heidi Aggeler**, Root Policy Research

12:00 pm – 12:15 pm

Break

12:15 pm – 2:30 pm

Awards Luncheon & NACCED Annual Business Meeting

Reclaiming Land, Rebuilding Trust: Who Owns the Land and Housing in America's Counties? Should We Care?

Across the United States, the very foundation of land and housing ownership is shifting. With investors now owning a quarter of the single-family housing stock and institutional buyers claiming 30% of mobile home park sites, communities are grappling with displacement, affordability crises, and diminished local control. Meanwhile, policymakers at all levels are urgently seeking ways to reclaim land for public use and build housing that serves people—not just profit.

In this transformative session, Dr. George “Mac” McCarthy of the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy will introduce "Who Owns America," a powerful platform that tracks land and housing ownership at the parcel level. Learn how this innovative tool enables counties to make informed, data-driven decisions to shape equitable land and housing policies.

Speaker:

- **George McCarthy**, President and CEO, the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy
- Presentation of NACCED Awards of Excellence & Scholarship
- Election of Officers and Directors
- Preview of 2026 Conference
- Winners of Exhibitor Passport to Prizes announced

2:45 pm - 4:45 pm

Special Session: Davis Bacon Review

Aurora will offer an in-depth look at requirements, challenges and best practices associated with implementing the Davis-Bacon Act in housing and community development projects. This session will go beyond the basics to explore procedural examples for apprentices, conformance, and other processes that do not pop up day-to-day. Attendees will gain valuable insights into maintaining accurate documentation, conducting effective monitoring, and navigating recent updates to federal labor standards.

Speaker:

- **Aurora Escott**, LCPtracker

5:00 pm	Meet in the Sheraton lobby to walk to the closing Conference-Wide Event
5:30 pm – 7:30 pm	Conference-Wide Closing Event: The Pheonix Zoo

Thursday, September 11

9:00 am – 12:00 pm	Tour of Local Affordable Housing, Community, and Economic Development Projects
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Meet in the Sheraton lobby at 8:30 am to take the bus to first location

Make sure to stay until Thursday for the final tour, which will showcase local community development projects.