

Focus on Collaboration

2011 Federal Agency Update

The theme of the 5th Annual Federal Agency Update, “Collaboration among Agencies,” showcased agency partnerships and success stories that demonstrated the synergy created by working together. Held in Washington, DC on February 1-2, the venue offered interactive sessions presented by local, state and Federal agencies and other industry practitioners.

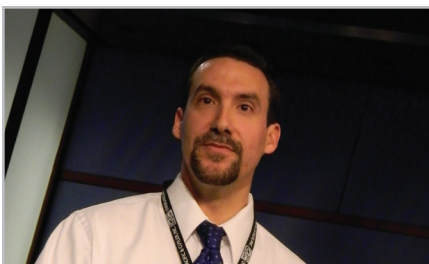
More than 120 attendees participated in the educational sessions, which ranged from alternate energy development and transmission line projects to the laws and regulations governing construction of roads in and around national parks. The new format, in which sessions were held back-to-back in one centralized location, provided a unique venue for peer-to-peer exchange.

In addition to the sessions, IRWA unveiled plans for participating in the 2012 World Congress, and an evening networking reception gave everyone a chance to connect after a full day of educational sessions.

The event was made possible through the generous contributions of underwriters and our Federal partner. Special thanks to the Federal Highway Administration, Office of Real Estate Services, Overland, Pacific & Cutler, Inc., H.C. Peck & Associates, Inc., Universal Field Services, Inc., Contract Land Staff, LLC, O.R. Colan Associates, Inc., Perches Land Services, Inc., Percheron Acquisitions, LLC, Spitzer & Associates, Inc., Pinnacle Consulting Management Group, Inc., and Roland Resources, Inc.



A panel discussion on livable and sustainable communities outlined the DOT/HUD/EPA partnership and other initiatives. Panelists included from left, Kate Mattice, FTA’s Director, Policy Review and Development; Joshua Geyer, HUD’s Office of Sustainable Housing and Communities; Matthew Dalbey, Ph.D, EPA’s Director, Federal/State Division, Office of Sustainable Communities; and Arnold Feldman (right), FHWA’s Team Leader, Program Development, Office of Real Estate Services.



Lucas Lucero, Branch Chief, Rights of Way, Bureau of Land Management spoke on alternative energy development and renewable energy goals, and gave an update on wind energy, solar energy and transmission line projects.



Scott Whiteford, Director of Real Estate, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers presented an update on USACE real estate regulations, stimulus projects and how lessons learned through streamlining their processes can be incorporated into standard processes.



Caroline Clayton, Choice Neighborhoods Initiative, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development discussed implementation of the Choice Neighborhoods Initiative and how the program works to revitalize distressed housing and transform communities.



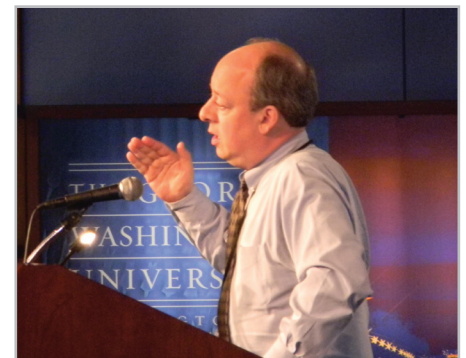
IRWA International President, Ken Davis, SR/WA thanked underwriters, staff and agency partners for their collaboration in organizing sessions and speakers.



IRWA International Secretary and FAU Task Force Planning Chair, Lisa Harrison, SR/WA, R/W-URAC, R/W-RAC, R/W-NAC welcomed attendees and encouraged interactive participation at each session.



IRWA's Executive Vice President Mark Rieck, International Vice President Patricia Petitto, SR/WA, R/W-RAC; FHWA's new Director, Office of Real Estate Services Nelson Castellanos, and Janis Gramatins, Team Leader, FHWA Office of Real Estate Services. Janis presented recent advances in FHWA's right of way programs, including the Every Day Counts Initiative, designed to shorten project delivery, enhance road safety and protect the environment.



Elliott Black, Deputy Director, Federal Aviation Administration, Office of Airport Planning and Program Development spoke on meeting the nation's need for safe, efficient and sustainable airports, outlining emerging navigation and operational systems to meet demand through 2020.



Stan Gimont, Office of Block Grant Assistance, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development discussed grants available to 270 states and local governments to mitigate the negative impact of the nation's economic decline and to stabilize and revitalize communities.



Wade Hannum, Director, Performance and Worklife Policies Division, General Services Administration outlined the implications of teleworking in enabling performance, success and meeting sustainability goals.



Lee Dickinson, Special Park Uses Program Manager, National Park Services, shared on the laws and regulations that govern the construction and maintenance of roads in and around the 394 national parks.