



COSCDA
Council of State Community
Development Agencies

AGENDA

VIRTUAL
2021 PROGRAM MANAGERS
TRAINING CONFERENCE
Community Development, Housing, and
Homelessness

March 15-18, 2021





Message from the President

March 15, 2021

Dear COSCALA Member:

Welcome to COSCALA's 2021 (virtual) Annual Program Manager's Conference.

On behalf of the COSCALA board and staff, I want to thank you for your attendance at the Conference to expand your knowledge and expertise in the programs that we administer. Our agenda is filled with opportunities to stimulate your professional development and hear from many officials from the federal government, subject matter experts on a variety of relevant topics, your colleagues along with COSCALA partners in Washington, DC.

Last year at this we were just wrapping up COSCALA's 2020 Program Manager's Conference, by all accounts a resounding success...many of us arrived back in our home states to a much different world. Here we are one year later, still in the midst of a global health crisis that have impacted us as individuals as well as how we carry out the broad community development priorities in our respective states. This conference will offer you tools to respond to existing needs while equipping you to anticipate and shape the future realities.

This virtual conference is being offered as four separate program tracks: Community Development, Housing, Homelessness, and Disaster Recovery. We have also interspersed several cross-cutting topics. Over the next four days, we will hear from many national experts, as well as panel sessions that include COSCALA members, who will showcase their work in support of communities across our great nation. While we are not gathering in person and miss out on face to face networking opportunities, I encourage you to take advantage of the resources offered during our time together.

Finally, I must note that strong member participation is the key to COSCALA's ongoing success in the worlds of housing, homelessness, and community development and disaster recovery. **Even in this virtual environment, this gathering reaffirms that for COSCALA, the whole is greater than the sum of its parts.** Together, we create synergies that result in outcomes beyond what we can do working only in your States—peer resources are identified, future training needs are prioritized, best practices are shared. Together, we renew the process of creating and refining our agendas for continuous improvement on behalf of the communities we serve.

I want to especially thank the COSCALA staff for organizing this year's virtual event and to the committees who shaped the content. We will be vigilant in assisting COSCALA members to continuously improve their effectiveness and extending the benefits of our programs. And, again, we thank each of you for making attendance at this important training conference a priority.

Sincerely,

Steve C. Hardin
President

COSCDA Board of Directors



Steven Hardin
President



Alison George
Vice President



Deborah Johnson
Treasurer



Rebecca Frawley Wachtel
Secretary



Keith Heaton
Immediate Past President



Suzanne Barnard
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Kathy Possinger
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Erik Johnston
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Jean Noble
Member-at-Large



Cindy Stone
Regional Representative – Eastern

Christine Whitz



Regional Representative –
Mid-Western



Traci Watts
Regional Representative –
Southern



Pauletta Bourne
Regional Representative –
Western

COSCDA Staff



Dianne Taylor
Executive Director
(202) 293-5820 ext. 114
dtaylor@coscda.org



Angel Billingsley
Operations and Office Manager
(202) 293-5820 ext. 110
Abillingsley@coscda.org



Ed Geiger
Conference Training Coordinator
(202) 293-5820 ext. 117
egeiger@coscda.org



Michael Lightfield
Comptroller
(202) 293-5820 ext. 112
mlightfield@coscda.org



Josh Shumaker
Director of Advocacy and Federal Programs
(202) 293-5820 ext. 116
jshumaker@coscda.org

Monday, March 15, 2021

10:15 a.m. Eastern 9:15 a.m. Central 8:15 a.m. Mountain 7:15 a.m. Pacific	GoToWebinar Registration
10:30 a.m. Eastern 9:30 a.m. Central 8:30 a.m. Mountain 7:30 a.m. Pacific	Welcome and Opening Remarks Welcome to COSCDA 2021 Program Managers Training Conference. Moderator: <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ Steven C. Hardin, COSCDA President and Community Development Director, Mississippi Development Authority
	State Engagement - Leadership During a Global Crisis A Panel of COSCDA Member Agency Directors will share their states response to the multiplicity of issues faced during this global pandemic; the congressional response to the allocation of dollars; unclear implementation directives; mounting racial tension and record unemployment along with the challenge to address ongoing unmet needs at the state level. Presenters <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ Seila Mosquera-Bruno, Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Housing (DOH)❖ Christopher Nunn, Commissioner, Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) Moderator: <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ Josh Hanford, Commissioner, Vermont Department of Housing & Community Development
12:00 p.m. Eastern 11:00 a.m. Central 10:00 a.m. Mountain 9:00 a.m. Pacific	Break

<p>12:15 p.m. Eastern 11:15 a.m. Central 10:15 a.m. Mountain 9:15 a.m. Pacific</p>	<p>Community Development Session Alternative Uses of CDBG-CV & HUD CARES Act Requirements Update</p> <p>COSCDAs members will share creative uses of CDBG-CV funds. HUD staff will provide an update regarding concerns and significant issues that states should address in managing CDBG-CV allocations.</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Robert C. Peterson, Director, State and Small Cities Division (OBGA) U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development ❖ Christine Whitz, COSCDA Board Member and Director, CDBG Programs Michigan Economic Development Corporation ❖ Valerie D. Moore, CDBG Section Chief, Rural Economic Development Division, North Carolina Department of Commerce ❖ Ann Karlene Kroll, Director of Grants Management, Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development, Department of Housing and Community Development <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Jean Noble, COSCDA Board Member and Director, Grants Division, Arkansas Economic Development Commission
<p>1:30 p.m. Eastern 12:30 p.m. Central 11:30 a.m. Mountain 10:30 a.m. Pacific</p>	<p>Break</p>
<p>2:00 p.m. Eastern 1:00 p.m. Central 12:00 p.m. Mountain 11:00 a.m. Pacific</p>	<p>Community Development Session Recovery Housing and Support Act Update</p> <p>This session will be a combination of an overview describing the characteristics of Recovery Housing as well as providing key elements of the Support Act funding provided by OBGA.</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ B. Corey Schwartz, Deputy Director, State and Small Cities Division (OBGA), U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development ❖ Carrie Kronberg, Community Development Consultant, ICF, Inc. <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Katherine Easterly Martey, Executive Director, New Hampshire Community Development Finance Authority
<p>3:00 p.m. Eastern 2:00 p.m. Central 1:00 p.m. Mountain 12:00 p.m. Pacific</p>	<p>Break</p>

<p>3:15 p.m. Eastern 2:15 p.m. Central 1:15 p.m. Mountain 12:15 p.m. Pacific</p>	<p>Joint Session Section 3 Transition and Implementation Advice</p> <p>This session will cover transition issues and critical steps to implement the new Section 3 regulation. COSCDA has asked HUD staff to provide practical advice with concrete examples of how to meet the new requirements, particularly in rural areas.</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Joshua Furman, Regional Affordable Housing Specialist, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development ❖ James Castle, Community Planning & Development Specialist, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Cindy Stone, COSCDA Board Member and Director, Community Programs. Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development
<p>4:15 p.m. Eastern 3:15 p.m. Central 2:15 p.m. Mountain 1:15 p.m. Pacific</p>	<p>Break</p>
<p>4:30 p.m. Eastern 3:30 p.m. Central 2:30 p.m. Mountain 1:30 p.m. Pacific</p>	<p>HUD OBGA Senior Officials Session</p> <p>The Director of the Office of Block Grant Assistance will provide an update on program guidance, regulations, and the funding outlook affecting the Community Development Block Grant Program, as well as NSP and SUPPORT Act funding.</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Jessie Handforth Kome, Director Office of Block Grant Assistance (OBGA) U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development ❖ Robert Peterson, Director, State and Small Cities Division (OBGA) U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Suzanne Barnard, COSCDA Board Member and Director for Community Development Block Grant Programs, Texas Department of Agriculture

Tuesday, March 16, 2021

10:15 a.m. Eastern 9:15 a.m. Central 8:15 a.m. Mountain 7:15 a.m. Pacific	GoToWebinar Registration
10:30 a.m. Eastern 9:30 a.m. Central 8:30 a.m. Mountain 7:30 a.m. Pacific	Plenary Session COSCD A Partner Organization Presentation & Legislative and Regulatory Update Hear from one of COSCD A’s key partners in the advocacy work to support community development, housing and homelessness programs. Also, COSCD A staff will provide an update on Congressional actions and legislation being debated on the Hill, and program changes being developed by HUD and other federal agencies. Presenters: <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ Benson F. “Buzz” Roberts, President/Chief Executive Officer, National Association of Affordable Housing Lenders (NAAHL)❖ Josh Shumaker, Director of Advocacy and Federal Programs, COSCD A Moderator: <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ Deborah Johnson, COSCD A Board Member and Director, Office of Community Development, Maine Department of Economic and Community Development
12:00 p.m. Eastern 11:00 a.m. Central 10:00 a.m. Mountain 9:00 a.m. Pacific	Break

<p>12:15 p.m. Eastern 11:15 a.m. Central 10:15 a.m. Mountain 9:15 a.m. Pacific</p>	<p>Joint Session Emergency Housing Needs</p> <p>This session will provide an update on the U.S. Department of Treasury’s Emergency Rental Assistance Program under the Coronavirus Relief Fund as well as HUD resources (CDBG, CDBG-CV, ESG, ESG-CV) that can provide emergency housing assistance. This session will cover key program requirements and provide an opportunity for questions and answers regarding those requirements.</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Jenni Miller, Manager of HUD Programs, Missouri Housing Development Commission ❖ Marlisa Grogan, Senior Program Specialist, Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development ❖ James E. Höemann, Director, Entitlement Communities Division, (OBGA), U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Janice Waddell, COSCDA Board Member and Section Chief, Grants Management, California Department of Housing and Community Development
<p>1:30 p.m. Eastern 12:30 p.m. Central 11:30 a.m. Mountain 10:30 a.m. Pacific</p>	<p>Break</p>
<p>2:00 p.m. Eastern 1:00 p.m. Central 12:00 p.m. Mountain 11:00 a.m. Pacific</p>	<p>Housing Session Housing Trust Fund – Program Examples & Strategic Issues</p> <p>This session will outline the Housing Trust Fund with one or two COSCDA member(s) providing examples of how the program operates in their states. This session will be an opportunity to cover strategic issues for states to consider in administering the program and promote the expanded funding that is expected in 2021.</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Diane A. Thompson, Assistant Director Program Policy Division, Office of Affordable Housing Programs, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development ❖ Willie Fobbs, Associate Director of Housing, Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development ❖ Andy Proctor, Housing Development Manager, Colorado Department of Local Affairs, Division of Housing <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Barbara Richards, Manager, Residential Revitalization, Ohio Development Services Agency, Office of Community Development

3:00 p.m. Eastern 2:00 p.m. Central 1:00 p.m. Mountain 12:00 p.m. Pacific	Break
3:15 p.m. Eastern 2:15 p.m. Central 1:15 p.m. Mountain 12:15 p.m. Pacific	Housing Session Environmental Review for HOME/Housing Trust Fund This session will focus on how states should coordinate the environmental review for projects funded by both HOME and Housing Trust Fund (HTF) program. HTF has different requirements than other HUD programs. Presenters: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Lauren Hayes Knutson, CPD Program Environmental Clearance Officer, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development ❖ Lauren McNamara, Environmental Review Division Director, Office of Environment, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Moderator: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Julia Zaffarano, Housing Portfolio Manager, Colorado Department of Local Affairs
4:15 p.m. Eastern 3:15 p.m. Central 2:15 p.m. Mountain 1:15 p.m. Pacific	Break
4:30 p.m. Eastern 3:30 p.m. Central 2:30 p.m. Mountain 1:30 p.m. Pacific	HUD OAHP Senior Officials Session The Director of the Office of Affordable Housing Programs and staff will provide an update on program guidance, regulations, and funding outlook affecting the HOME Investment Partnerships and Housing Trust Fund programs. Presenters: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Virginia Sardone, Director, Office of Affordable Housing Programs, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development ❖ Peter Huber, Deputy Director, Office of Affordable Housing Programs, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Moderator: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Rebecca Frawley Wachtel, COSCDA Board Member and Tax Credit and HOME Program Director, Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development

Wednesday, March 17, 2021

10:15 a.m. Eastern 9:15 a.m. Central 8:15 a.m. Mountain 7:15 a.m. Pacific	GoToWebinar Registration
10:30 a.m. Eastern 9:30 a.m. Central 8:30 a.m. Mountain 7:30 a.m. Pacific	Crosscutting Plenary Session Program Administration in the Pandemic and Future Implications This session will present information on how to manage the changing work patterns necessary in response to the pandemic but has potential benefits even after the pandemic is over. The topics to be covered include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Managing Remote Workers– Electronic Signatures and Document Filing– Remote Project Monitoring Presenters: <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ Dr. Barbara Larson, Executive Professor of Management, Northeastern University❖ Keli Reynolds, Manager, Single Family Production and HCA Support, Kentucky Housing Corporation❖ Scott LaMountain, Program Director, CDBG Economic Development, NYS Homes and Community Renewal, Office of Community Renewal❖ Janelle Dickey, Financial Analyst, State of Louisiana, Division of Administration, Office of Community Development-Local Government Assistance Moderator: <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ Alison George, COSCDA Board Member and Housing Director, Colorado Department of Local Affairs, Division of Housing
12:00 p.m. Eastern 11:00 a.m. Central 10:00 a.m. Mountain 9:00 a.m. Pacific	Break

<p>12:15 p.m. Eastern 11:15 a.m. Central 10:15 a.m. Mountain 9:15 a.m. Pacific</p>	<p>Homelessness Session Effective Uses of ESG-CV & HUD CARES Act Requirements Update</p> <p>This session will have COSCDA members’ present effective uses of ESG-CV funds. HUD staff will also provide a brief update (10-15 minutes) regarding concerns and significant issues that states should address in managing ESG-CV allocations.</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Marlisa Grogan, Senior Program Specialist, Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development ❖ Gordon Levine, Continuum of Care Manager, Louisiana Balance of State Continuum of Care, Louisiana Housing Corporation ❖ Steve DiLella, Director, Individual and Family Support Program Unit, Connecticut Department of Housing <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Shaye Rabold, CoC Planning and Technical Administrator, Kentucky Housing Corporation
<p>1:30 p.m. Eastern 12:30 p.m. Central 11:30 a.m. Mountain 10:30 a.m. Pacific</p>	<p>Break</p>
<p>2:00 p.m. Eastern 1:00 p.m. Central 12:00 p.m. Mountain 11:00 a.m. Pacific</p>	<p>Homelessness Session HOPWA Program Uses for Homelessness</p> <p>This session will provide a brief overview of the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) Program. This session will be an opportunity to understand how to coordinate these resources to meet homelessness needs. COSCDA members will provide examples of how the program operates in their states.</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Rita Harcrow, Director, Office of HIV/AIDS Housing, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development ❖ Kathie M. Hiers, Chief Executive Officer, AIDS Alabama ❖ Russell Goodman, Program Specialist, State of Utah, Department of Workforce Services, Housing and Community Development Division, Homeless Programs Office <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Tricia Davis, Homelessness Program Manager, Utah Department of Workforce Services, Housing and Community Development Division
<p>3:00 p.m. Eastern 2:00 p.m. Central 1:00 p.m. Mountain 12:00 p.m. Pacific</p>	<p>Break</p>

<p>3:15 p.m. Eastern 2:15 p.m. Central 1:15 p.m. Mountain 12:15 p.m. Pacific</p>	<p>Joint Session Implementing Racial Equity Action Steps</p> <p>This session will focus on how states can implement action steps to assure racial equity occurs. This session provides next step suggestions that go beyond analysis of data that was covered in a previous COSCDA conference session. The presentation will include an example from one COSCDA member state.</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Lisa Coffman, Senior Program Specialist, Special Needs Assistance Programs (SNAPS), Office of Community Planning and Development, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development ❖ April Mitchell-Gasque, Special Needs Assistance Programs (SNAPS) Specialist, Office of Community Planning and Development, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development ❖ Felicity Gasser, Housing and Community Development Specialist II, California Department of Housing and Community Development <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Nichele Carver, Associate Director, Homeless and Special Needs Housing, Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD)
<p>4:15 p.m. Eastern 3:15 p.m. Central 2:15 p.m. Mountain 1:15 p.m. Pacific</p>	<p>Break</p>
<p>4:30 p.m. Eastern 3:30 p.m. Central 2:30 p.m. Mountain 1:30 p.m. Pacific</p>	<p>HUD SNAPS Senior Officials Session</p> <p>The Director of the Office of Special Needs Programs will provide an update on program guidance, regulations, and funding outlook affecting HUD’s Homelessness programs.</p> <p>Presenter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Karen DeBlasio, Director, Program Coordinator & Analysis Division, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Kathy Possinger, COSCDA Board Member and Director, Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic Development

Thursday, March 18, 2021

10:15 a.m. Eastern 9:15 a.m. Central 8:15 a.m. Mountain 7:15 a.m. Pacific	GoToWebinar Registration
10:30 a.m. Eastern 9:30 a.m. Central 8:30 a.m. Mountain 7:30 a.m. Pacific	Plenary Session Political Outlook for 2021 This session will highlight Congressional priority for community development and housing programs, also offer projections on the political direction of Congress and the new Biden Administration. In addition, an overview of reform legislation on disaster recovery and the future of CDBG-DR will also be presented. Presenters: <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ Senator Chris Van Hollen, Maryland❖ Kyle Kondik, Managing Editor, (Sabato’s Crystal Ball) University of Virginia❖ Marion Mollegen McFadden, SVP, Public Policy, Senior Advisor, Resilience, Enterprise Community Partners, Inc. Moderator: <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ Steven C. Hardin, COSCDA President and Community Development Director, Mississippi Development Authority
12:00 p.m. Eastern 11:00 a.m. Central 10:00 a.m. Mountain 9:00 a.m. Pacific	Break
12:15 p.m. Eastern 11:15 a.m. Central 10:15 a.m. Mountain 9:15 a.m. Pacific	Disaster Recovery Session Grant Management Systems Discussion of best practices and lessons learned regarding systems for managing grants and the data necessary for successful program implementation and reporting. This presentation will also outline the records and processes necessary for a successful, efficient grant closeout, which will help grantees begin preparing now for that closeout at the end of the grant process. Presenter: <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ Ilene Klement, Senior Manager, Mpact-Consulting Moderator: <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ Heather Lagrone, Senior Deputy Director, Community Development & Revitalization, Texas General Land Office

1:30 p.m. Eastern 12:30 p.m. Central 11:30 a.m. Mountain 10:30 a.m. Pacific	Break
2:00 p.m. Eastern 1:00 p.m. Central 12:00 p.m. Mountain 11:00 a.m. Pacific	<p>Disaster Recovery Session (Part 1) Innovative Program Implementation</p> <p>This session will provide a look at some example innovative approaches to program selection, design, and implementation to spur discussion of out-of-the-box ideas that can address community development/recovery needs in ways that may not have been common in the past.</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Alison Brizius, Director of Climate and Environmental Planning, City of Boston ❖ Chris Busch, Assistant Deputy Director for Climate Change & Environmental Planning, Boston Planning & Development Agency ❖ Taylor Connolly, Director of Communications & Community Engagement, City of Boston ❖ Marybeth Groff, State Hazard Mitigation and Climate Adaptation Plan Coordinator, Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Rebecca Frawley Wachtel, COSCDA Board Member and Tax Credit and HOME Program Director, Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development
3:00 p.m. Eastern 2:00 p.m. Central 1:00 p.m. Mountain 12:00 p.m. Pacific	Break
3:15 p.m. Eastern 2:15 p.m. Central 1:15 p.m. Mountain 12:15 p.m. Pacific	<p>Disaster Recovery Session (Part 2) Innovative Program Implementation</p> <p>This portion of the session will highlight the Process of Building Trust, Capacity and Partnerships at the State and Local Level for Louisiana’s Watershed Initiative</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Alex Carter, Resilience Planning Manager, State of Louisiana, Division of Administration, Office of Community Development ❖ William Wicker, Resilience Planning Analyst, State of Louisiana, Division of Administration, Office of Community Development

	<p>This portion of the session will offer a cache of buyout approaches for participants to consider; this is now trending as a key mitigation tool.</p> <p>Presenters: Five Approaches to Buyout Programs – Legal and Programmatic Considerations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Chad Carson, PMP, State of Louisiana, Division of Administration, Office of Community Development ❖ Portia Johnson, Attorney, State of Louisiana, Division of Administration, Office of Community Development <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Jane K. Brogan, Chief Policy and Research Officer, Governor's Office of Storm Recovery, New York, NY
<p>4:15 p.m. Eastern 3:15 p.m. Central 2:15 p.m. Mountain 1:15 p.m. Pacific</p>	<p>Break</p>
<p>4:30 p.m. Eastern 3:30 p.m. Central 2:30 p.m. Mountain 1:30 p.m. Pacific</p>	<p>HUD OBGA / DR Senior Officials Session</p> <p>The Director of the Disaster Recovery and Special Issues Office will provide an update on program guidance, regulations, and other issues affecting HUD’s Disaster Recovery programs.</p> <p>Presenter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Tennille Smith Parker, Director, Disaster Recovery and Special Issue Division, Office of Block Grant Assistance, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Patrick Forbes, Executive Director, State of Louisiana, Division of Administration, Office of Community Development