

# EcoDistricts **SUMMIT** **10 YEAR** ANNIVERSARY

NOVEMBER 4-5, 2019 • PITTSBURGH, PA

## **CALL FOR PROPOSALS**

### **November 4-5 | Pittsburgh, PA**

#### [ECODISTRICTS SUMMIT OVERVIEW](#)

At EcoDistricts, we are advancing a new model of urban and community development to empower just, sustainable, resilient neighborhoods for all. Through our programs, events, and our certification standard, we accelerate sustainable urban development throughout North America and beyond. For far too long, urban development has focused on real estate and infrastructure, rather than on comprehensive investments that embrace the needs and challenges facing neighborhoods and cities. We believe that when we prioritize positive outcomes in equity, resilience, and climate protection, we can design innovative, scalable solutions from the neighborhood up.

The annual EcoDistricts Summit is the world's only leadership event exclusively focused on neighborhood- and district-scale sustainability. It draws a diverse audience spanning municipal government, architecture, design, engineering, urban planning, urban development, civic engagement, community and economic development, and infrastructure design. Attendees represent a mix of project and district typologies including neighborhood revitalization, brownfields, institutional campuses, commercial districts and mixed-use projects.

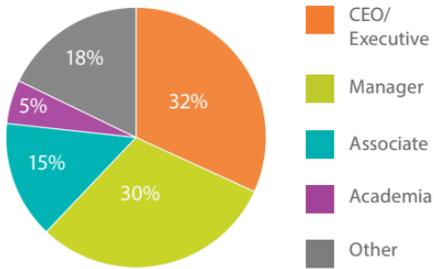
Through an experiential program designed to inspire, inform and activate, the Summit seeks to drive meaningful, sustainable impact in cities worldwide. Plenaries, hands-on sessions, a Block Party and collaborative networking experiences will help participants discover how communities worldwide are leveraging the power of the neighborhood- and district scale to build vibrancy, scale success, and set the path for the sustainable cities of tomorrow.

#### [WHY PITTSBURGH?](#)

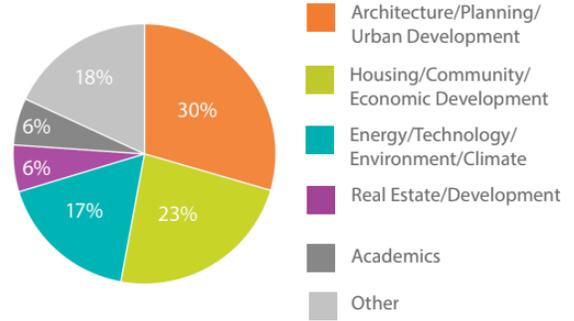
Pittsburgh is a legacy city leading the way in urban regeneration as it rebuilds its economy and urban realm. What started in 2011 as a community-led effort to develop a sustainability framework in the Larimer neighborhood and Millvale, PA has led to a number of diverse and nationally recognized neighborhoods and boroughs pursuing an ecodistrict agenda, including Etna, Sharpsburg, Homewood, Hazelwood, Swissvale, Braddock, Aliquippa, and others.

# Who Attends the Summit?

ATTENDEE TITLE BREAKDOWN



ATTENDEE INDUSTRY BREAKDOWN



**2,300**  
ATTENDEES

**1,052**  
ORGANIZATIONS

**334**  
CITIES

**16**  
COUNTRIES

TO DATE

# Powered by EcoDistricts Certified and the EcoDistricts Protocol

The EcoDistricts Protocol is a powerful framework to guide urban and community development from planning to implementation. It's a powerful way to move projects from vision to reality, and puts equity, resilience and climate protection at the heart of every decision. To help communities gain traction using the protocol, we launched in 2016, EcoDistricts Certified in 2016. EcoDistricts Certified is the standard designed to spark a new generation of projects committed to implementing comprehensive equitable and sustainable development best practices. We ask each session proposal to clearly highlight how they are addressing key elements found in the EcoDistricts Certified standard:



For more details, download the EcoDistricts Protocol at <https://ecodistricts.org/protocol>

# SUBMIT YOUR SESSION PROPOSAL

This Call for Proposal helps us build a dynamic and diverse Summit program that represents the latest trends, policies and projects that advance equitable and sustainable neighborhood- and district-scale development.

## Session Proposal Details

### CORE TOPIC AREAS

Below are potential topic areas for sessions. We encourage submissions that explore how these topics intersect.

- Equitable development best practices
- Neighborhood-scale resiliency
- District scale net zero energy and water and climate action
- Comprehensive ecological design
- Creative and cultural placemaking
- Next-generation green building and infrastructure
- Neighborhood-scale health and wellness
- Smart districts and the role of technology
- Collaborative and community governance
- Innovative project financing

### DESIGNING YOUR SESSION

The EcoDistricts Summit is committed to designing a highly participatory and impactful program. In order to do this, we prioritize submissions that employ formats that maximize learning through audience interaction and engagement. We also prioritize submissions that embrace our core values of diversity, equity and inclusion. This is demonstrated by the inclusion of people, projects, organizations and strategies that directly engage with and positively impact low income communities and communities of color. To provide some guidance, we suggest the following formats and goals to help you design a creative, innovative and fun session:

### SAMPLE SESSION FORMATS

- Roundtable Discussion — Structured discussion involving participants and speakers
- Rapid-Fire Talk — Short, inspiring TED-style presentations
- Workshop — Participants apply tools and skills to a problem
- Panel Discussion — Moderated discussion by panel members with Q&A
- Other — Think outside of the box! We welcome non-traditional session ideas

## SESSION LENGTH OPTIONS

- 15 minute rapid-fire talk — May be combined into a series of presentations on similar topic, or combined with others proposals to create a larger session
- 60-minute session — Gives participants a deep dive into a specific topic related to urban neighborhood and district-scale regeneration. Sessions should be highly interactive and may include up to 4 speakers, including an optional moderator.
- 90-minute session — Gives participants a deep dive into a specific topic related to urban neighborhood and district-scale regeneration. Sessions should be highly interactive and may include up to 4 speakers, including an optional moderator.

## DESIRED SESSION OUTCOMES

- Create a forum to increase knowledge of next-generation urban sustainability practices and technologies at the district or neighborhood scale
- Share valuable insights about: district-scale project governance, implementation and performance; innovative practices in equity, resilience and climate protection in the public, private and civic sectors; and best practices around place, prosperity, health and wellbeing, resource restoration, living infrastructure and connectivity
- Build a community of practice around neighborhood-scale solutions and share knowledge around implementation of sustainable district-scale development

**For inspiration and to see examples of past EcoDistricts sessions, please visit:**

- <http://www.summit.ecodistricts.org/2018-program/>
- <http://www.summit.ecodistricts.org/2017-program/>
- <http://www.summit.ecodistricts.org/2016-program/>

# How to Submit

Proposals are submitted through the online portal at [www.summit.ecodistricts.org](http://www.summit.ecodistricts.org). You may begin the submittal application and return to your saved proposal at any time before the submission deadline. All proposals must be finalized and submitted by Friday, March 15, 2019 at 11:59 pm PST.

## PROPOSAL OUTLINE

The following is an outline of the proposal information required:

1. Point of Contact
2. Speaker Information (See Below for More Details)
3. Title (no more than 60 characters)
4. One-sentence Overview
5. Core Topic Areas
6. Session Length (90-, 60- or 15-minute presentation)
7. Session Format
8. Public Session Description (50-100 words) to be included in conference program
9. Abstract (no more than 300 words) that includes content to be covered and approach to session format
10. Agenda
11. Learning objectives: four action-oriented objectives or takeaways

## REVIEW SUMMIT POLICIES

Please review the Summit Policies before submitting a proposal. The Summit Policies include information on session standards, applicant responsibilities and describes the program review process. You will be asked to agree to the Summit Policies before proceeding. Click “Next” when finished.

## POINT OF CONTACT

A point of contact must be identified for each proposal. This person will be responsible for the following:

- Communicate key deadlines and events to speakers
  - Ensure all speakers are registered for the Summit
  - Organize one (or more) preparatory phone call(s) with speakers to organize the presentation and session materials to ensure cohesiveness
- Liaise with EcoDistricts staff to provide additional or updated information and prepare for the presentation

## SPEAKER INFORMATION

First Name	Work Telephone
Last Name	Cell Phone (to be used if needed at the Summit)
Role: Presenter, Moderator and/or Point of Contact	Contact Information of Administrator
Address 1	Contact (optional)
Address 2	Title/Position
City	Organization
State	Credentials
Postal Code	Bio (300 words or less)
Country	Headshot
Email Address	

- Previous Speaking Experience: List up to three recent speaking engagements in the following format: Event Title, Session Title, Date, Audience Size, Length
- Presenter Video: Provide the URL if available (optional)
- Have you spoken at the EcoDistricts Summit before? If so, which years?
- Have you ever given an interactive education or training session?

## ADDITIONAL SPEAKERS

You will need to enter the above information for each of your speakers and moderator (optional):

- 15-minute proposals are limited to one speaker
- 60- and 90-minute session proposals are limited to four speakers including an optional moderator

## TITLE

Enter a title using no more than 60 characters.

## ONE-SENTENCE OVERVIEW

Provide one sentence about how this presentation will influence the district-scale urban regeneration movement.

## PUBLIC SESSION DESCRIPTION (50-100 WORDS)

Provide the core information that will be presented at the session and include why someone should attend your session. This description will be included in conference program.

## ABSTRACT (NO MORE THAN 300 WORDS)

Provide the content that will be covered, describe the session format and how the content will be delivered, and explain why the identified speakers are qualified to present this content.

## AGENDA

Describe how you will use the allotted time.

## LEARNING OBJECTIVE INFORMATION

Provide three learning objectives that are actionable, achievable and measurable. Tip: Complete the sentence, “Upon completion, participant will be able to...” Limited to 30 words or less for each objective.

## SUBMIT PROPOSAL

Once you have entered all required information, you must click on the “Submit” button. Once you click "Submit", you will see an “Edit Response” link on the confirmation page. You can edit your responses as many times as you need using this unique link. All proposals must be finalized and submitted by Friday, March 15, 2019 at 11:59 pm PST

# Evaluation Criteria

The EcoDistricts National Advisory Council (comprised of EcoDistricts staff and volunteer industry experts) and the EcoDistricts Summit Host Committee (composed of Pittsburgh area leaders) will review all session proposals. The committee will use the following criteria:

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

# Contact

If you have questions, please contact Sierra Winegarner at [sierra@socialenterprises.net](mailto:sierra@socialenterprises.net). You can learn more about the EcoDistricts Summit at [www.summit.ecodistricts.org](http://www.summit.ecodistricts.org).