4th International Conference
October 13th and 14th, 2017

Session Descriptions

Carson Community Center
801 East Carson Street
Carson, CA 90745
Plenary Session Descriptions

Friday, October 13th

9:30am-10:45am
Grounding our Work with Vision, Possibility, and Direction
Community and worker organizing combined with research, coalition building, and policy advocacy have begun to shift the debate about how our global goods move to and through our communities. Speakers will share their reflections on what it will take to advance an agenda for port and freight communities that addresses the needs and aspirations of communities and workers, advances equitable community-driven development, and achieves zero emissions and improvements to public health, the workplace, local communities and the planet. What issues must be central to building healthy and resilient communities? What accomplishments are crucial to build upon, particularly in these challenging political times? What challenges must be addressed in order to seize opportunities and develop strategies for zero emissions and healthy communities and a thriving workplace?

2:45pm-4:00pm
From Local to Global: Highlighting Points of Connection, Contention, and Collaboration
The negative impacts of the global supply chain have no borders yet differ in important ways within and outside the U.S. This plenary examines how communities impacted by ports and freight organize themselves in an international context and how policy addresses these issues at a global scale. Panelists will provide examples and perspectives on how the points across the globe are interdependent, and suggest examples of international collaboration.

Saturday October 14th

9:30am-10:45am
Impact! National Collaborations and Campaigns in the United States
Lessons learned from national campaigns that have worked on reducing the impacts from global trade, trucking, oil pipelines, and power generation. Hear perspectives on collaborative work on a national scale.

2:45pm-4:00pm
The Power In Unity: Movement Forward
Plenary Description: This panel will engage conference participants with report backs and findings from the previous sessions on movement building. The panelist will convey highlights and next steps items identified by a wide range of movement leaders. The panelist will close out the conference, inspiring attendees to actively engage in building; a stronger movement, more power and unity.
Breakout Session Descriptions

Friday October 13th, 1:00-2:30pm

**Leveraging Scientific Research for Community Action: Health Impacts and Goods Movement**
This panel will discuss recent scientific evidence on the health of children and communities due to emissions from the movement of goods via ports, rail and trucks. Panelists will highlight research along with how community organizations across the United States have used science for advocacy, community organizing and policy change.

**Hip Hop Caucus: Survival in America's Urban Jungle**
From victim to hero, Jordan “Hustle” Eversley is from the gang saturated streets of the “Eastside” of Chicago. And while growing up there was always an obvious adversary. But it’s the unseen enemy that does the most damage. Jordan will not only speak on the focus needed to survive gang culture and systemic racism, but also the day to day battle fighting climate change and pollution in one of America’s greatest cities.

**Zero Emission Truck Technology Overview**
This session explores the current state of technology for zero-emission heavy-duty vehicles. Panelists will discuss opportunities and barriers for deployment as it relates to vehicle range and cost. Questions around the performance, weight, and life cycle emissions of electric vehicles compared to other technologies will also be addressed.

**The Power In Unity: Movement Vision (Part 1)**
This panel will engage conference participants in a dialogue that will examine the need to advance movement building across alliances, coalition and networks. The speakers, representing a wide range of movement leaders, will explore the state of the movement, the intersections, the challenges and the future of the movement for environmental, economic, and social justice.

**Technology Solutions and Strategies to Reduce Pollution**
From the ship to the terminal and throughout the supply chain, government, industry, and community leaders are using innovative approaches to meet the triple bottom line. This session will cover the use of technologies and efficiencies to reduce pollution at ports and throughout the freight system. From the ship to the terminal and throughout the supply chain, leaders are using innovative approaches to meet the triple bottom line. The speakers will discuss their technology and the benefits to reducing toxic pollution.
**We Are Seeds**
While trauma is intergenerational, so is resiliency. In this workshop, participants will engage in a movement and storytelling activity that explores the journey immigrants and refugees have taken to survive new lands, and demonstrate that even in the face of displacement, people have always found ways to create home wherever roots are planted. Participants will walk away with improv theater games they can use as a way to build community, and gain a different perspective on how to address environmental justice through the arts.

**Using Civil Rights Laws for Environmental Justice**
This workshop will explain the rights and remedies afforded by Title VI of the federal Civil Rights Act of 1964, and state civil rights laws, including California Government Code Section 11135. We will provide examples of complaints filed under those provisions in the ports and good movement context from New York and California, and provide a candid assessment of the benefits and challenges associated with each approach. Key take-aways will be: A practical understanding of how Title VI and California’s civil rights law work; examples of how these laws can be used as advocacy and organizing tools; and clarity about the limitations of these approaches.

**Jobs Labor, and Clean Air in Freight**
From the perspective of workers, environmental advances present challenges. These include placing the burden of emission reductions on workers and small businesses, and job losses as the freight systems change. This session will explore the opportunities for the workforce in the operation of zero emission freight transportation, construction of infrastructure, and manufacturing of equipment. Representatives from labor and environmental coalitions will share examples of issues such as misclassification of the workforce, automation as a result of electrification, and quality of jobs in manufacturing and construction.

**Amplifying Resident Voices by Documenting Port of Los Angeles Off-Port Impacts**
The Harbor Community Benefit Foundation (HCBF) commissioned a study, conducted by Raimi + Associates (R+A) and the Civic Engine, to understand off-port impacts of the Port of Los Angeles on the communities of San Pedro and Wilmington. The study was required by a settlement between the Port and a group of community-based organizations and individuals that challenged the approval of the Tra-Pac Terminal in 2008. Panelists will share findings from the study and the importance of documenting some of the less-commonly acknowledged impacts of ports, including increased concentration of polluting and hazardous land uses and constraints on community-serving land uses.
Saturday October 14th, 11:00am-12:30pm

Zero Emission Policy: Barriers and Opportunities
This panel will explore policy considerations related to zero-emission and emission control technologies throughout the transportation and freight system. This session will draw on policies that have encouraged or discouraged the use of zero-emission technologies at ports, major corridors and throughout the transportation system. Panelists will explore the barriers and opportunities to advancing the deployment of zero-emission and emission control technologies.

T-Shirt Printing 101
Printing made easy.

Using Low Cost Sensors and Community Monitoring to Assess Local Air Quality
USC Environmental Health Centers will lead a workshop showcasing the uses of low cost air pollution sensors across the country. Sensors will include Particulate Matter (PM) sensors that are both mobile and stationary, and ultrafine particle counters. Community based organizations that have used low cost sensors will share some of the work and activities that they have done with the sensors and taking it to the next step with community monitoring. Planning community based activities for educational purposes as well as considerations for planning for collecting data for policy change will be discussed. Experts will also discuss the strengths and limitations of these devices to understand air pollution and its implication for the health of communities. Participants will have a chance to see the sensors up close and how they work. Materials that have been developed for using the sensors will be shared.

The Power In Unity: Movement Visioning (Part 2)
This session will be a series of small group dialogues as a follow up to the Friday 1:00 p.m. panel “The Power In Unity: Vision for the Movement (part 1).” The purpose is to engage conference participants in continued dialogue that will examine the need to advance movement building across alliances, coalition and networks. Participants will explore the state of the movement, intersections, challenges, the future of the movement, and next steps.

Leveraging Brownfields to Promote Healthfields in Freight Impacted Communities
Brownfields to Healthfields (B2H) is a community driven approach for remediating contamination and securing essential services and amenities to strengthen community health, equity, sustainability and resiliency. This approach leverages the resources for brownfields redevelopment to bring health care, food equity, renewable energy, green spaces and recreation, and education and job training into overburdened and underserved communities. The Moving Forward Network launched a B2H national project with the US EPA's Office of Environmental Justice in 2016. This panel will
provide an overview of B2H and share emerging success stories and promising practices gleaned by MFN community leaders. It will help other freight impacted communities learn how to apply this approach and become part of this national project.

**Long Beach Alliance for Children with Asthma: Health, Knowledge, and Leadership**

In this workshop, participants will learn through interactive activities and demonstrations the history of Long Beach Alliance for Children with Asthma (LBACA), and the LBACA socio-ecological model which includes a Community Health Worker program and a Community Engagement team. LBACA focuses on improving health outcomes for families with children with asthma inside the home through a robust program, and outside the home through leadership training to become health promoters and advocates. This workshop will highlight LBACA’s success and challenges to cultivating community engagement, and give insight to how this model can be replicated.

**Building Environmental Justice and Cumulative Impacts into Local Decision Making**

Cities are often the first lines of defense in local efforts to review and make decisions about development with environmental justice implications. There are many ways in which local plans, reviews and approvals can shape the riskscape of environmental justice communities. For example, municipal approvals from entities like zoning and planning boards are often required to build facilities that have the potential to contribute to cumulative environmental burdens in local communities. In many instances, municipal authorities are precluded from considering environmental issues that are the purview of state and federal entities. We’ve seen in the last twenty-five years since the issuance of the federal Executive Order 12898 on Environmental Justice, federal agencies and all fifty states adopt some form of environmental justice policy, program or legislation. Despite progress on efforts to better understand the scientific and regulatory implications of cumulative impacts of environmental burdens in environmental justice communities, there is still a lack of clarity on how to implement a cumulative impacts framework in state and federal environmental decision-making. Thus it is important to consider how all levels of government can proactively pursue an environmental justice agenda that considers the cumulative impacts of existing and proposed development practices. Cities can shape environmental conditions on the ground well into the future through land use planning and decision making, zoning rules, provision and oversight of public health and transportation services, enforcement of nuisance laws, as well as public processes that allow for more direct involvement and engagement of impacted communities.

**Love Wins! Grand Strategy & Art of War for Social Movement**

Love Wins! is an affirmation of the work we all do to protect the things that are beyond price, i.e. sacred, against forces that seek to commodify everything and everyone. It is a presentation on grand strategic principles and grand tactical concepts from Col. John R. Boyd’s briefing “On Winning and Losing.” (Col. Boyd is credited with updating Sun Tzu’s Art of War.) The presentation combines key lessons from Boyd’s work with 14 years of Artful Activism and applies key principles to building
power through nonviolent social movement. The result is a valuable framework for understanding the intersecting battles we all fight. Key concepts include the principles of Grand Strategy, the domains of attrition, maneuver, and moral conflict, the deconstruction of “political calculus,” motherhood & mismatch, spectrum of allies tool, and considering the variety of ways people act as agents of change. In addition, the workshop will show strategic use of creative tactics that make your campaigns more visible, fun and effective. From hands on experience of building techniques for giant reusable banners for overpasses, marches, balloon lifts, and kayaktivists, to light projection and flexible light panels, presenters will show you how and why to use artful activism to keep your campaigns sustainable, fun and effective.

**Community-Based Planning and Development: Strategies for Working with Policymakers**

Port, freight, and other environmental justice communities across the country face the daily challenge of industrial pollution that threatens their health and everyday lives. In response, community-based organizations and advocates have pushed for planning processes and development projects that address environmental and health issues as well as advance development that meets community needs. This panel will present examples and lessons of how planning, development, and investment strategies can advance community visions and meet community needs. How can community-based organizations and advocates drive investment and development toward community visions for their neighborhood? How can local, state, and federal agencies work with community partners toward this end in the short and long term?

**Community Planning Campaigns: Clean Up Green Up and Green Zones**

With support of the Liberty Hill Foundation, the LA Collaborative for Environmental Health & Justice won an ordinance to establish the Clean Up Green Up (CUGU) program in the City of LA and the establishment of the Green Growth Corridor program in the City of Commerce. These two efforts are working to implement ground-breaking programs and activities to improve community health by reducing exposure to toxic contaminants from industrial and transportation sources, while pursuing strategies to support local businesses and transition towards a green and sustainable economy. Facilitated by Liberty Hill, the LA Collaborative consists of Communities for a Better Environment, Coalition for a Safe Environment, East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice, Pacoima Beautiful and Union de Vecinos and focuses upon Boyle Heights, Pacoima, Wilmington and the City of Commerce. These policy initiatives have significant support from residents in the affected areas, as well as a diverse set of public health, labor, local business, environmental and social justice organizations. Geographically-defined “Green Zones” are proposed for these EJ neighborhoods at a historic moment when the State of California is advancing visionary climate change policies intended to also benefit disadvantaged communities with improved community health, jobs, cost savings and improved quality of life.
Introduction to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) & California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

Ever wanted to know more about CEQA, NEPA, EIRs, EISs, EAs? Have you ever felt overwhelmed or frustrated participating in the CEQA or NEPA process? Want to become more engaged in writing comment letters on port/rail/other projects? Well, come join us as we discuss some of our most important environmental laws: the National Environmental Policy Act and the California Environmental Quality Act! It will be more fun than it sounds! Three takeaways: The basics about the CEQA and NEPA process, opportunities for public participation, engaging in policy with confidence and hope.

Saturday October 14th, 1:00-2:30pm

10 Tips for Effectively Engaging in the Legal Administrative Processes

During this 90-minute workshop styled for “beginners,” we will share 10 common tips for community members to engage in public processes related to permitting, rulemakings, environmental reviews, and other policy enactments that can impact our families and our neighborhoods. Participants will leave the workshop with the basic steps for building a community-lead campaign to effectuate change. We will discuss the importance of identifying the decision maker, drafting written comments, focusing your “ask,” key partnerships, and community mobilizing, among other topics. (See companion workshops on drafting comment letters, the CEQA/NEPA process, and Civil Rights Laws for a deeper dive into specific laws and advocacy strategies)

Solutionary Rail: Rail Electrification as an Intersection Just Transition Strategy

Could railroads be the key to unlocking solutions to some of the greatest challenges of the 21st century? Unique among modes of long-haul transport, rail can be electrified. So, why not power trains with renewable energy? Might a clean, modernized, higher-speed rail network draw freight and passengers off the highways and back onto the tracks? Could electrifying the railroads actually open new transmission corridors and increase the supply and reliability of electricity from wind and solar? Could rail electrification be part of remaking the intermodal freight system entirely? Might it provide the foundation for a fully decarbonized, just, and sustainable freight transport system that no longer poisons trackside communities? If the rest of the world is already electrifying their railroads, why isn't the US? After three years of inquiry with experts and stakeholders, the Backbone Campaign published “Solutionary Rail - A people-powered campaign to electrify US railroads and open corridors to a clean energy future.”
Breaking the Fourth Wall: Brownfields to Healthfields in Action

Brownfields to Healthfields (B2H) is a powerful, inventive approach to remediate contamination (e.g. brownfields) and secure essential services (e.g. health care, food equity, physical infrastructure) for communities impacted by freight transport. Driven by community leaders, it fosters collaborations with other sectors who share the community’s vision for equity, health, resilience and sustainability. This workshop will bring together community leaders who are or plan to apply B2H with potential partners who share the community’s vision. These partners will address brownfields remediation and technical support, health care access, food and community farming, community solar, and other Healthfields resource topics. The workshop will provide an opportunity to explore problems associated with brownfields and how these problems hinder environmental, health and economic vitality; opportunities to secure resources for remediation and revitalization of brownfields; approaches to engage the full range of public, private, academic and non-governmental stakeholders –traditional and non-traditional- that are needed for community revitalization.

Screening Tools, Public Health Data and Goods Movement

This panel will examine screening tools used to measure threats to health and the environment. 1) California Environmental Health Tracking Program (CEHTP) Blood Lead Level Maps: CEHTP conducted an analysis comparing estimates of the true number of lead-poisoned children with the numbers of children diagnosed with lead poisoning and reported to the CDC from 1999-2010. To display the results of the analysis they created an interactive map that displays projections for elevated blood lead level rates at the sub-county level and the proportions of successfully identified cases at the state level. Participants of this workshop will learn to how these interactive maps to inform childhood lead prevention; 2) State of California's CalEnviroScreen: CalEnviroScreen is an environmental justice mapping tool that helps identify California communities that are most impacted by many sources of pollution, and where people are most vulnerable to the effects of pollution. The tool uses environmental, health, and socioeconomic information to produce scores for every census tract in the state. The scores are mapped so that different communities can be compared. Areas with higher scores experience higher pollution burdens than areas with lower scores; and, 3) US EPA's EJSCREEN: EJSCREEN is an environmental justice mapping and screening tool that provides EPA with a nationally consistent dataset and approach for combining environmental and demographic indicators. EJSCREEN users choose a geographic area; the tool then provides demographic and environmental information for that area. All the EJSCREEN indicators are publicly-available data. EJSCREEN simply provides a way to display this information and includes a method for combining environmental and demographic indicators into EJ indexes.
Gaining Media Attention: Identifying and Pitching Your Story
A news story needs to catch the attention of the reader. But first it must catch the attention of the media. In this workshop, learn useful strategies you can use to promote your work and tell your story. Discuss how to reach the reporters who cover your field of work, and communicate how your issues are newsworthy and connect to the values of the community. This workshop is led by Ira Arlook, Chief of Advocacy Campaigns at Fenton Communications, a social change communications agency, working with the Moving Forward Network.

Youth and Community Based Research
This workshop will focus on one model of community engaged research: the Marina Pando Social Justice Research Collaborative (MP-SJRC). MP-SJRC is a program of East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice that organizes in East LA/Southeast LA/Commerce and West Long Beach. Three years ago members of the organization developed this program to engage local residents and young people in the production of collaborative research with the organization. This model has specifically sought to support/develop the capacity of members who are also college students or recent graduates to activate their academic skill set in the service of environmental justice movement building. Through a close working relationship between program staff, organization staff, and members, this program takes knowledge production out of the university institution by being completely independent of any university. While most community engaged research is premised on outside academics coming into a community, this program instead considers research a particular tool that community organizations themselves can use to further their campaigns and membership development. During this session you will get to meet and hear participants present their research and learn about some of the successes and challenges of the program. You will also be asked to assess your (or your organization's) ability to use this model to produce research with your members.

Storytelling for Your Advocacy Work
Storytelling is a critical and strategic tool to amplify organizing, integrate messaging with movement building, and build the movement’s capacity to shift public opinion. This workshop, led by artists and storytellers from the Center for Storybased Strategy, will provide skills and practice to help participants create more effective social change narratives and design strategies to change the story around your issue. The workshop will focus specifically on how to use your story to influence policy and decisionmakers and strengthen advocacy campaigns. Note: Participation is limited to 25.

Using Your Political Power to Get The Change You Seek
Learn from others’ experience about effective ways to inform and then move public officials to your side. Sharpen your “insider” and “outsider” strategy skills to build your credibility, power and get results. Learn techniques for engaging public officials, getting them to take public positions, and take action.
Environmental Justice, Climate, and Development: Perspectives from Funders
Hurricane Harvey, much like Hurricane Katrina, brought certain devastation to Houston and other communities in the Gulf region. Many other communities across the US and the world face similar conditions of environmental racism, historic disinvestment, and lack of protections for human health and the environment. In the wake of the destruction of Hurricanes Harvey and Irma, and Maria, important questions arise, particularly for foundations who fund grassroots-led efforts to address climate change and the impacts in low-income communities of color: What are funders doing to support community-based development planning and projects that model environmental and climate justice? What are the ways funders work with the field partners to advance environmental and climate justice? What are the best practices? How can funders and the field work more closely together to achieve environmental and climate justice?

How to Submit Comment Letters on Project Environmental Impact Reports: Tips and Strategies
Presentation will focus on how to prepare written public comments, what information to include, and examples of information. The reality is that project Environmental Impact Reports and Statements (EIR/EIS) are now over 5,000 pages long, making it nearly impossible to read and comment. The presentation will describe tips for prioritizing areas of concern and how to prepare boilerplate public comment points in advance. Examples of information to be shared include: photographs of negative community impacts, GIS maps of project location alternatives, Health Impact Assessment expert opinion letters, documenting the number of container storage yards, identifying all air emission sources, community based noise studies, identifying all greenhouse gas sources, mitigation measure proposals, public health bibliographies, whale ship strikes information, establishing mitigation funds, best available control technologies, and zero emission technology mitigation measures.

Zero Emission Technology Demonstrations
View an example of zero-emission vehicles up close from Toyota. A representative from the company will be on hand to provide information and answer questions.

Field Trip to Electric Rail Demonstration Site: Catenary System by Siemens
An on-site visit to a demonstration of the eHighway system, which combines the efficiency of railway with the flexibility of trucks, on a public road close to Port of Long Beach in Carson. The public road demonstration includes several trucks, one of which is being provided in collaboration with Mack, a brand of the Volvo Group. The hybrid trucks in this project are equipped with various alternative fuel technologies, like for example a LNG-hybrid and a fully electric truck (both from TransPower). Using a one-mile-long road with contact lines going in both directions, it will collect data and evaluate the benefits of eHighway operations for Southern California, especially for the intensely used road freight operations connecting the nearby ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach with local rail yards. Here the potential of reducing local air pollution is a major motivator for realizing the project.