

## Speaker Bios

### Economic Development Track



#### **Tim Chrisman**

Executive Director at Association for Space Finance | Foundation for the Future

Tim is a former CIA intelligence officer who supported the National Space Council. He is a retired Army intelligence officer, and former intelligence advisor to the Joint Staff at the Pentagon. He holds two master's degrees - one in Intelligence Studies, and one in International Relations and Affairs from American University. Mr. Chrisman is the author of the book *Humanity in Space* and of various articles about the expanse of our civilization in space. Tim's next challenge and mission is to make space accessible, survivable, and ultimately, boring enough to be routine.



#### **Bailey DeVries**

Bailey DeVries is Associate Administrator in the U.S. Small Business Administrator's Office of Investment & Innovation. In this role, Ms. DeVries serves as a senior executive providing guidance and leadership for programs that provide the high-growth small business community with access to financial capital and R&D funds to support innovation. Ms. DeVries is an experienced private markets, institutional asset management, and government contracting executive with over 17 years of combined experience in business strategy, asset management, government contracting, and investments. She most recently served as a Venture Partner at Trail Mix Ventures (TMV) where she dedicated her time to the firm's financially inclusive investments.



#### **Rosemarie Hepner**

Rosemarie Hepner serves as Director of the ULI Terwilliger Center for Housing. For the Center, Ms. Hepner manages the housing awards program, supports the Housing Opportunity Conference, assists with research and publications, and collaborates with ULI's other departments and District Councils on projects. Before joining ULI in 2017, she worked for two international development nonprofits, most recently as the International Capital Markets Specialist at Habitat for Humanity International. Ms. Hepner holds a Master's in City and Regional Planning from The Catholic University of America's School of Architecture and Planning, where her research focused on low-income housing practices and design. Ms. Hepner also holds a B.A. from The George Washington University's Elliott School of International Affairs.

### Speaker Bios



#### **Brittney Kohler**

Transportation and Infrastructure Policy Lead | The National League of Cities

Brittney is the Program Director for Transportation & Infrastructure Services with the National League of Cities. She has more than a decade of experience specializing in infrastructure policy, and now she is working to improve infrastructure throughout the country. Kohler previously worked with the U.S. Department of Transportation, Amtrak, and the American Society of Civil Engineers. In the coming year, she will continue working to advance the state of infrastructure through education and advocacy.



#### **Stacy Nakintu**

Stacy is a research and data analyst in the Counties Futures Lab for the National Association of Counties. She gathers and analyzes primary or secondary data from various sources for developing reports, maintaining and updating the data behind County Explorer, and for policy stats for NACo's advocacy and communication efforts. She also responds to research requests for information and data, performs data analyses, and provides support for research projects, workshops and online products on trend analyses. As a member of the research team, Stacy also drafts research reports, briefs and other publications. Stacy previously worked as a NACo

research intern.

Stacy earned a Bachelor of Science in mathematics and a Bachelor of Arts in economics from the University of Maryland, College Park, in 2015. She also holds a Master of Science degree in applied economics from The George Washington University.



#### **Mara Stark-Alcala**

Government Affairs, FRA

Stark-Alcalá brings more than 10 years of varied transportation legislative experience to FRA through her past positions with the ASLRRRA, Chambers, Conlon & Hartwell (CC&H), the American Public Transportation Association (APTA), and on the staff of the U.S. Senate Committees on Appropriations and Environment and Public Works (EPW). In her prior position as Senior Associate with CC&H, ASLRRRA's long-time government affairs firm, Stark-Alcalá worked across the transportation industry, advocating for many of the firm's public transportation, municipal, commuter and freight railroad clients in addition to ASLRRRA. At ASLRRRA, she was responsible for focusing full-time on the varied Congressional affairs issues facing short line railroads, including tax policy, infrastructure grant programs and surface transportation policy. Stark-Alcalá is a graduate of Stanford University with a B.A. in Political Science.

## Speaker Bios

### Defense and Cyber Track



#### **Ivan Bolden**

Senior Director with over 40 years of Military and DoD Civilian leadership experience in public to public and public to private partnerships, housing privatization, installation management, budget, training, portfolio asset management, human capital, acquisition, and strategic planning. Able to establish, lead and motivate multi-discipline high impact teams with diverse talents and a collaborative spirit. He has an extensive understanding of Federal Grant writing and the application/selection process and is recognized within the Department of Defense and Congress as the subject matter expert on partnerships. Skilled negotiator with exceptional analytical abilities.

Outstanding experience in working with local, state, and federal elected officials. Superb at getting the message across with the media.

#### **Carla Coulson**



Ms. Carla K. Coulson was selected for the Senior Executive Service (SES) in June 2013. In her role as the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations, Housing and Partnerships, she develops and oversees Army-wide policies, programming guidance and strategies for a host of critical installation programs and services for Soldiers, Families, and Civilians. Ms. Coulson has over 42 years of experience in facilities engineering and installation management gained from a variety of assignments within the Departments of the Army and Defense, both in the United States and abroad. She served in command and supporting positions as an Army Engineer officer for over 28 of those 42 years, retiring in December of 2005 at the rank of Colonel.



## Speaker Bios



### **Preston Dunlap**

Mr. Preston C. Dunlap is the Chief Architect of the Department of the Air Force. First to hold this position, Mr. Dunlap is charged with working across the Air and Space Force, and in partnership with the Department of the Navy and Army, to transform technology development and acquisition so the Air Force not only designs, develops, and buys the right mix of future capability but does so more rapidly and with the power of interoperability. Key family of systems initiatives include Multi-domain Operations, Advanced Battle Management System, and Next Generation Air Dominance.



### **Brig. Gen. Troy L. Endicott**

Brig. Gen. Troy L. Endicott is the Assistant Deputy Chief of Space Operations for Operations, Cyber, and Nuclear, United States Space Force, the Pentagon, Arlington, Virginia. As the Space Force's Deputy Chief Operations Officer, he is responsible for formulating policy that advances space operations, sustainment, cyber and nuclear-related efforts for the service.

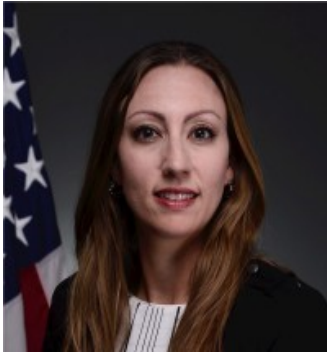
Brig. Gen. Endicott was commissioned in 1994 through the ROTC program at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. His career includes assignments as an airborne reconnaissance acquisitions officer, space operator, instructor, and combat planner; four-star speechwriter; major command and numbered air force executive officer; and Secretary of the Air Force's space policy lead. He deployed four times during operations Northern Watch, Iraqi Freedom, and Enduring Freedom as a space weapons officer and commanded one of the Air Force's first expeditionary space units in Iraq. He also commanded the 21st Operations Support Squadron, 21st Operations Group, the 460th Space Wing, and was the installation commander of Buckley Air Force Base in Aurora, Colorado.



### **Paul Farnan**

Mr. Paul Farnan has been the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations, Energy and Environment since October 2021; he is also serving as the Acting Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations, Energy and Environment. Prior to his appointment, he served with U.S. Northern Command, performing COVID-19 response operations. He has also served in the operational energy office in the Pentagon and as a senior civilian advisor to the commanding general in Afghanistan, where he focused on civil-military cooperation. He was on active duty for nine years as a Naval helicopter pilot; he is still an officer in the Naval Reserve.

## Speaker Bios



### **Toniann Fisher**

Director of Operational Energy Resilience at the Office of the Secretary of Defense. She is the division lead with over 20 years of federal government/diplomatic service and private sector consulting in national security policy and programs, arms control, security cooperation, humanitarian and refugee affairs, foreign policy and defense. Demonstrated team leader, mentor/coach, program manager, policy analyst and strategist.



### **Rachel Jacobson**

As ASA (IE&E), she is the primary advisor to the Secretary of the Army and Chief of Staff of the Army for all matters related to Army installation policy and oversight, and coordination of energy security and management. In addition, she is responsible for policy and oversight of sustainability and environmental initiatives; resource management, including design, military construction, operations and maintenance; Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC); privatization of the Army real estate portfolio and installation Safety and Occupational Health programs. Ms. Jacobson is an experienced environmental lawyer, having previously served at the Department of Defense during the Obama-Biden Administration as the Deputy General Counsel for Environment, Energy and Installations. Prior to joining DoD, Ms. Jacobson served as a political appointee at the Department of the Interior, first as Principal Deputy Solicitor and then as Acting Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks.



### **Connor Jeffers**

Connor Jeffers is a Military Legislative Assistant from the office of Congressman Jason Crow. Prior to that Connor was the Military Legislative Assistant for Congressman Anthony Brindisi, member of the House Armed Services Committee, covering: Defense, Foreign Affairs, Homeland Security, Intelligence Space, and Veterans' issues. In his previous role, he was Legislative Aide for Senator Joe Donnelly covering: Defense, Foreign Affairs, Space, and Veterans issues.

## Speaker Bios



### **Mark Montgomery**

Mark Montgomery serves as senior director of the Center on Cyber and Technology Innovation, where he leads FDD's efforts to advance U.S. prosperity and security through technology innovation while countering cyber threats that seek to diminish them. Mark also directs CSC 2.0, an initiative that works to implement the recommendations of the congressionally mandated Cyberspace Solarium Commission, where he served as executive director. Previously, Mark served as policy director for the Senate Armed Services Committee under the leadership of Senator John S. McCain, coordinating policy efforts on national security strategy, capabilities and requirements, and cyber policy.



### **Andrew Napoli**

Mr. Napoli serves as the Assistant for Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) policy and property conveyance for the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Installations, Energy, and Environment). He reviews the programming, budgeting, and execution of the Army's prior BRAC and 2005 BRAC environmental and caretaking functions. He also provides policy direction and oversight for the Assistant Secretary on stationing, property conveyance and future BRAC rounds (if authorized by Congress). The Army has over 80,000 acres of property to convey. For the past three years (April 2009 to March 2012), he was the Army's Legislative Liaison for installations, energy, real-estate, and BRAC issues.

## Day on the Hill



### **Senator Michael Bennet**

U.S. Senator for Colorado

Senator Bennet has represented Colorado in the United States Senate since 2009. Michael has built a reputation of taking on Washington dysfunction and working with Republicans and Democrats to address our nation's greatest challenges – including education, climate change, immigration, health care, and national security. He currently serves on the Finance Committee, the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry and the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence which oversees the intelligence activities and programs of the U.S. government. He also serves as a ranking member on the subcommittee on Energy, Natural Resources and Infrastructure, and Forestry and Natural Resources; and as a member of the subcommittee on Taxation and IRS Oversight Conservation, Jobs, Rural Economic Growth, and Energy Innovation, and Nutrition, Specialty Crops, Food and Agriculture



## Speaker Bios



### **Nadeam Elshami**

Nadeam Elshami served for 25 years in Congress, beginning his career in the Senate mailroom and departing as chief of staff to House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-CA). He successfully negotiated historic legislation on behalf of Democratic leadership by developing sound policy and deft messaging, and by leveraging his bicameral, bipartisan relationships. Today, Nadeam remains front and center in the nation’s most pressing policy debates, navigating complex caucus politics to thread the needle on issues related to health care, emerging technology, energy, transportation and infrastructure.



### **Senator John Hickenlooper**

U.S. Senator for Colorado

Senator Hickenlooper was elected to represent Colorado in the U.S. Senate in 2020, and previously served as Mayor of Denver (2003-2011) and Governor of Colorado (2011-2019.) He currently serves on the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions, The Commerce Committee, and the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.



### **Jack Howard**

Mr. Howard is Senior Vice President for Strategic Advocacy at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, responsible for maximizing the Chamber’s advocacy tools—including lobbying, regional operations, and voter education efforts—to grow the number of pro-business champions on Capitol Hill. With more than 25 years of government service, Howard served in the White House as deputy assistant to President George W. Bush. He worked in the Office of Legislative Affairs where he coordinated the efforts of senior-level White House officials, Cabinet departments, and agencies to secure congressional passage of President Bush’s legislative priorities.

## Speaker Bios



### **Congresswoman Kat Cammack**

Congresswoman Kat Cammack proudly serves Florida's 3rd Congressional District as the youngest Republican woman in the 117th Congress.

Kat is a third-generation sandblaster who grew up on a cattle ranch and she understands the hard work and determination it takes to run a small business, navigating labor challenges, interpreting regulation, and more. A proud alumna of the Naval War College, Kat knows the issues and constituents of Florida's 3rd intimately, having served as the longtime former deputy chief of staff for the district prior to her election in 2020.



### **Melissa Kuipers**

Melissa Kuipers Blake leads negotiations for her clients with policymakers in Washington, D.C., and in state capitols across the country. She brings the dynamic combination of deep relationships at the federal, state and local level with an unmatched talent for deal-making. Described as a "power lobbyist" by Colorado Politics, Melissa is a hard-charging advocate and political strategist in Congress and with governors, attorneys general and mayors throughout the U.S. Melissa began her lobbying career in the halls of the Florida State Capitol in Tallahassee and still has significant political relationships throughout the state. She's sought out for her subject matter expertise, campaign fundraising prowess and ability to craft successful political strategies from start to finish.



### **Congressman Doug Lamborn**

Representing Colorado's 5th Congressional District Representative Lamborn has served in the U.S. House of Representatives since 2006. Colorado's Fifth District, based in Colorado Springs, is one of our nation's most military-intensive congressional districts and the home to more than 100,000 veterans who have served our country with distinction and honor. Representative Lamborn serves as a high-ranking member on the House Armed Services Committee and a former member for ten years of the Veterans Affairs Committee. He currently serves as the Ranking Member of the Readiness Subcommittee of the House Armed Services Committee and the House Natural Resources Committee and its subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands, and the Energy and Mineral Resources subcommittee.



## Speaker Bios



### **Dr. William McBride**

Dr. William McBride is the Vice President of Federal Tax Policy & Stephen J. Entin Fellow in Economics at the Tax Foundation, where he leads our efforts to research, model, and reform the U.S. tax code. Dr. McBride has more than ten years of experience analyzing a variety of economic and policy issues. Most recently, he served as a manager in the National Economic and Statistics (NES) group at PricewaterhouseCoopers where he worked on numerous projects, including economic impact analyses, industry surveys, U.S. federal and state tax revenue estimates, and general quantitative analyses. He also has experience researching and modeling the economics of taxation and issues related to tax reform at the state, federal, and international levels.



### **David Reid**

David Reid is deeply embedded in Democratic politics and draws on his personal network on the Hill, in the Biden administration, and throughout the business community to build coalitions that drive policy success for clients. He works hand in glove with clients to lead complex public policy efforts related to infrastructure, hospitality, gaming, health care, technology, telecommunications, and arts and entertainment.

David leverages his extensive political finance experience to maximize the impact of clients' political giving. He also leads Brownstein's bipartisan political operation, setting the industry

standard for political engagement each cycle with Republican and Democratic congressional and national campaign committees and candidates. He serves as a Deputy National Finance Chair of the Democratic National Committee and is a member of the Finance Committee of the Democratic Governors Association.



### **Brian Wild**

Brian Wild is a Republican advocate who served at the highest levels in Congress and the White House, including as a former senior advisor to now-Minority Leader of the House Kevin McCarthy (R-CA). During his time serving for House leadership under Speaker John Boehner (R-OH), Brian coordinated policy among all Republican offices, committee chairs and the private sector. Now, he identifies and secures champions for his clients across the Republican conference, from key members of the Freedom Caucus and the Problem Solvers Caucus to leadership offices in both the House and the Senate. He also builds consensus among third-party

validators, including think tanks, advocacy groups, trade associations and corporations.

**Speaker Bios**  
**Closing Reception**



**Chris Meagher**

Chris Meagher currently serves as White House Deputy Press Secretary. He is a former newspaper reporter and current communications professional who has served in the highest level in politics and government. A graduate of Michigan State University and the Santa Barbara College of Law, he most recently served as an adviser to Pete Buttigieg – first for Buttigieg’s historic presidential campaign and later at the U.S. Department of Transportation – as an adviser to Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, and on campaigns in California, Colorado, Montana, and Chicago. Prior to that, he worked as a political reporter in Santa Barbara, California.

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