



TENTATIVE AGENDA

8 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.

Policy Academy Welcome

8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Opportunities and Challenges in Water Infrastructure

The session will open with some scene-setting macro thoughts. The speakers will highlight flashpoints impacting water opportunities: infrastructure gap, climate stress, current state of innovation, and emerging solutions and business models to address challenges.

Speakers:

- **Radhika Fox**, CEO, U.S Water Alliance
- **Nathan Allen**, executive director, WaterStart

9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

Communicating the Value of Water: Rate Setting and Affordability Issues

Communicating the value of water not only to the public, but to decision makers and elected officials, is critical to assuring financial sustainability of water systems and providing affordable water to consumers. This session will explore strategies to consider the financial needs and conditions of the utility while addressing affordability of rates.

Speakers:

- **Gregory Pierce**, senior researcher, Luskin Center for Innovation, University of California at Los Angeles
- **Glenn Barnes**, associate director, Environmental Finance Center, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

10:45 a.m. – 11 a.m.

Break

11 a.m. – Noon

The Power of Data to Unlock Opportunity

The drought has highlighted the significant need for better systems, software, and data to track and manage a changing landscape. This session will include some of the latest thinking from various innovation companies that are using the power of data and analytics to help better manage and operate water resources.



Noon – 1:30 p.m.

Water = Jobs: The Economic Opportunity of Investing in Water Infrastructure

The speaker will discuss the benefits of investing in water infrastructure, from job creation to sparking economic activity across the country

Speaker:

- **Alexander Quinn**, director of sustainable economics, Hatch

1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Beyond Flint: The Future of Water Quality Issues in the United States

Communities from Flint, Michigan, to New York have experienced tragic lapses in water quality. Consumer confidence in drinking water is understandably shaken. Hear from our speakers on national trends in water quality testing, monitoring and reporting, challenges faced by utilities with different water sources, common myths about water quality, and best practices in communicating consumer confidence results and community outreach.

2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Strengthening Flood Resilience Through Integrated Water Management

Floods can strike suddenly, devastating communities and rarely confining themselves to one political jurisdiction. Hear from our speakers on how they are using integrated water management to tackle flooding challenges and reduce future flood risks in their regions.

Speakers:

- **Tyler Antrup**, city of New Orleans
- **Grant Davis**, director, California Department of Water Resources



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3:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.

Break

3:45 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Managing Water During Times of Drought

Increasingly states are battling drought that has led to water shortages. Hear from industry leaders and state policymakers on the gravity of the situation. Speakers will discuss government actions—new policies, new mandates, what’s to come, opportunities to improve the water industry—and impact on counties, cities and industries.

Panelists:

- **John Entsminger**, general manager, Southern Nevada Water Authority
- **Kathryn Sorensen**, director, Phoenix Water Services Department

5 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.

Closing Words and Wrap