

BE A PRESENTOR AT THE 2023 IOWA DOWNTOWN CONFERENCE

The Iowa Economic Development Authority's Iowa Downtown Resource Center will present the annual Iowa Downtown Conference on August 1-3 in Sioux City. The Conference is the state's premier conference for professionals and volunteers involved in downtown and historic commercial district revitalization in Iowa. General Sessions, concurrent breakout sessions and hands-on educational training will occur throughout the conference, as well as informational tours, networking opportunities and an exhibit hall.



SCOPE OF SERVICES

If you have a high-quality presentation that would be appropriate for downtown/Main Street district economic development professionals and volunteers, we urge you to consider submitting a session proposal. Breakout sessions are one-hour. Session proposal should fit into one of the following categories:

Commerce: Acknowledging how commerce is the main driver for communities large and small, we will need to focus on the many areas that create vibrant commercial districts. What opportunities lie ahead, and what challenges may impact our downtowns? Consider submitting sessions around the following topics:

- Entrepreneurship and Building a Business-Friendly Ecosystem
- Future of Work
- Adaptive Reuse
- Attainable and Affordable Downtown Housing
- Infrastructure and Public Improvements

Community: As a community of place management professionals, our daily work involves collaborating with people in our communities. The leadership role we take as conveners of both the public and private sectors in our communities is paramount to the success of our downtowns, neighborhood districts and organizations. Consider submitting sessions around the following topics:

- Community Engagement
- Innovative Public-Private Partnerships
- Equity and Inclusion
- Downtown Planning
- User, Stakeholder and Owner Interests

Culture: Recognizing a community's unique and diverse set of customs, traditions, and heritage are essential to our work in place management. How does one engage members of the community to be involved in the success of a district? Consider submitting sessions around the following topics:

- Placemaking and Placekeeping
- Cultural Heritage Tourism
- Cultural Events and Festivals
- Storytelling
- Designing Inclusive Districts

TIMELINE

March 13, 2023 — PROPOSALS DUE ONLINE by noon

March 22-24, 2023 — NOTIFICATION OF SELECTION via email

July 20, 2023 – PRESENTATION MATERIALS DUE

August 1-3, 2023 — IOWA DOWNTOWN CONFERENCE IN SIOUX CITY

COMPENSATION

Costs of preparation of the proposal are solely the responsibility of the applicant.

The success of this conference is dependent on the expertise offered to attendees by volunteer presenters. **Presenters will receive a complimentary registration (\$150 value)**, and upon request and submission of receipts, additional compensation will include either:

- Lodging (one night at a pre-approved location and not to exceed \$119 plus tax) **OR**
- Mileage (roundtrip @ \$.39/mile)

For professional trainers and service providers, being selected as a workshop presenter should be considered an opportunity to connect with potential future clients.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Please use the online form to submit a session proposal at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CallforPresenters_2023.

- If you would like to review the form before you proceed, a pdf is available [here](#).
- All “required” fields in the online form must be completed.
- You will be asked to upload bios and photos for all presenters.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

All submitted proposals may be treated as public record unless the applicant requests the information be treated as confidential in accordance with the public records laws of the State of Iowa at the time the proposal is submitted.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The applicant agrees:

- Staff may copy the proposal for purposes of facilitating the evaluation of the proposal or to respond to requests for public records and represents that such copying will not violate the rights of any third party;
- It will not bring any claim or have any cause of action against the committee based on any misunderstanding concerning the information provided herein or concerning the failure, negligent or otherwise, to provide the applicant with pertinent information as intended by this “Call for Session Presenters.”

EVALUATION

Proposals will be reviewed by the Iowa Downtown Conference Planning Committee, which will consider all information provided in the proposal when making selections and may consider relevant information from other sources.

Selections will be made using the following criteria (listed in no particular order):

- Completeness of proposal submission
- Relevancy of the presentation to the audience

The Iowa Downtown Conference Planning Committee reserves the right to utilize program staff, committee members and other professional contacts as trainers/facilitators for any session planned for the conference, with or without submission of a proposal at any time.

QUESTIONS?

Carol Lilly at carol.Lilly@iowaeda.com or 515.348.6177

Feel free to share this message if you've heard someone present at a conference or workshop that you feel would be a great addition to the Iowa Downtown Conference schedule.