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Coverage Request

IEDC's Federal Economic Development Forum
Building a Competitive Future Through Innovative Partnerships

WASHINGTON, DC (March 7, 2011) – The International Economic Council (IEDC) will hold its Federal Economic Development Forum, March 20-22, 2011 at the Westin Alexandria in the Washington, DC metro area. Themed *Building a Competitive Future Through Innovative Partnerships*, the Forum will focus on the emerging importance of partnerships in federal economic development policy.

The November election results have changed the balance of power in Washington, and the economic development profession is maneuvering to remain at the top of the list of the new Congress' priorities. A renewed focus on regionalism and innovation within federal agencies is leading more communities to collaborate to meet mutually beneficial economic development goals.

Featured speakers include:

- **Mark E. Doms**, Chief Economist, Economics & Statistics Administration, US Department of Commerce, Washington, DC
- **Geri Fiala**, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Employment and Training Administration, US Department of Labor, Washington, DC
- **Donna J. Gambrell**, Director, Community Development Financial Institutions, US Department of the Treasury, Washington, DC
- **Pedro Garza**, Austin Regional Director, Economic Development Administration, Austin, TX
- **Brian P. McGowan**, US Deputy Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development, Economic Development Administration, US Department of Commerce, Washington, DC
- **Elizabeth D. Osborne**, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Transportation Policy, US Department of Transportation, Office of the Secretary, Washington, DC
- **John D. Porcari**, Deputy Secretary, US Department of Transportation, Washington, DC
- **Melinda Wittstock**, Founder, CEO, and Bureau Chief, Capitol News Connection
- **Victor Vasquez**, Deputy Under Secretary, United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development - Office of the Under Secretary, Washington, DC

IEDC is also offering discussion sessions with officials from federal agencies about programs that impact economic developers. Representing organizations include:

- US Department of Commerce, Washington, DC
- USDA Rural Development, Washington, DC
- Office of Sustainable Communities, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Washington, DC
- Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization, Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response, EPA, Washington, DC
- White House Council on Automotive Communities and Workers, Washington, DC
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Washington, DC
- Office of Disaster Planning, US Small Business Administration, Washington, DC
- US Department of Housing and Urban Development, Washington, DC
- Community & Economic Development Research & Policy, Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, Atlanta, GA

Featured session topics include:

- Grasping Federal FDI Initiatives

- Maintaining U.S. Competitiveness
- Growing from Within: Supporting Small Businesses
- Taking the Agriculture Industry to the Next Level
- Creating Jobs in the New Economy

The International Economic Development Council (IEDC) is the premier membership organization dedicated to helping economic development professionals create high-quality jobs, develop vibrant communities and improve the quality of life in their regions. Serving more than 4,500 members, IEDC represents the largest network of economic development professionals in the world. IEDC provides a diverse range of services, including conferences, certification, professional development, publications, research, advisory services and legislative tracking. Visit our website to learn more: www.iedconline.org.

To attend, please download our **Media Free Registration Form** and fax it back to (202) 223-4745 with attention to Earnestine Jones.

Conference Website: <http://www.iedconline.org/FederalForum/index.html>

Program Outline: <http://www.iedconline.org/FederalForum/Program.html>

About IEDC: http://www.iedconline.org/?p=About_IEDC

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