

GREATER ST. LOUIS INC. BROOKINGS

Regional Inclusive Growth Network Convening St. Louis, MO June 11 – 13, 2024

Meeting Objectives

- See how the St. Louis region is tackling inclusive economic growth—both regionally and hyper-locally-- through key public-private partnerships and targeted investments.
- Learn about the Brookings Bass Center’s theory of change for reducing spatial inequities both *within* and *across* cities.
- Inform future Network-wide learning sprints by identifying members’ interests related to the future of their downtowns and key neighborhood districts.

Day One: Tuesday, June 11th

Travel notes: Attendees are responsible for arranging their own transportation from the airport to the [Hilton St. Louis at the Ballpark](#) (1 S Broadway, St. Louis, MO 63102). Please note, there will be a Greater St. Louis, Inc. welcome table in the lobby of the hotel from 2:30 PM to 6:00 PM providing swag bags, baseball tickets, and directions to the Busch Stadium Premium Party Suite.

6:15 PM Group leaves from the hotel lobby to walk over to the game

We will gather in the hotel lobby starting at 6 PM to walk over to the welcome reception at the ballpark, leaving at 6:15 PM. If you are unable to join the group walk, instructions and your tickets will be provided at the Greater St. Louis, Inc. welcome table that will be present in the hotel lobby from 2:30 PM to 6:00 PM.

6:30 PM Welcome Reception and St. Louis Cardinals Baseball Game

Busch Stadium Premium Party Suite, 700 Clark Ave, St. Louis, MO 63102

Join us for a night at the ballpark, hosted by our network partner, Greater St. Louis, Inc! We will be in one of the private suites at the Cardinals' game for an evening of sports and networking. A buffet dinner will be provided.

Day Two: Wednesday, June 12th

Day begins at:

Greater St. Louis Inc. Headquarters

One Metropolitan Square, Suite 2200

211 North Broadway, St. Louis MO 63102

Please note: The hotel is walking distance from the venue.

8:30 AM Buffet Breakfast

9:00 AM **Welcome to St. Louis**
Sam Murphey, Chief Strategy Officer, Greater St. Louis, Inc

9:10 AM **Convening Scene Setting and Network Discussion**
Xavier de Souza Briggs, Senior Fellow, Brookings Metro
Jade Arn, Director of Engagement, Brookings Metro

10:15 AM **Break**

10:30 AM **Transformative Placemaking: Hyperlocal Solutions for Equitable Communities**
Tracy Hadden Loh, Fellow, Brookings Metro

The [Center for Transformative Placemaking](#) is the “hyperlocal” policy solutions hub within Brookings Metro, focused on producing actionable research to reduce spatial inequities both *within* and *across* cities and regions. Transformative placemaking aims to grow more communities of opportunity in which all residents—regardless of zip code, race, or income—have equitable access to employment, housing, green space, and affordable transportation.

In this presentation, Brookings Metro Fellow, [Tracy Hadden Loh](#), will present the Center’s overall theory of change for building prosperous and equitable regions, starting with [hyperlocal activity centers](#). She will introduce two key tools from which to implement transformative placemaking – one focused on [inclusive downtown recovery](#) and the other on [cultivating inclusive economic development in historically underinvested, majority-minority neighborhood districts](#).

11:45 AM **Networking Lunch**

Travel to site visit by chartered bus

1:00 PM **Inclusive Growth in St. Louis: From the core to the suburbs**

Join us as we tour the region and visit a few of the local organizations leading the way to inclusive growth in the region. This tour will take us from Downtown St. Louis to the [Cortex](#) Innovation District through beautiful [Forest Park](#) over to [Delmar DivINe](#) for a guided tour of the mixed-use development for social innovators that provides office space, shared services and other resources for nonprofits, foundations and community support organizations. Delmar DivINe’s mission is to provide a collaborative, innovative space that transforms the community. From Delmar DivINe the tour will take us to Ferguson Missouri, a suburban community approximately 12 miles from Downtown St. Louis to visit [Refuge & Restoration Marketplace](#). A local nonprofit founded in 1999 with a focus on cultivating innovation and brilliance to produce socioeconomic change agents for the future. The tour will end at the [Ferguson Community Empowerment Center](#).

3:30 PM **Inclusive Growth in St. Louis: Reflections on 10 Years Since the Killing of Michael Brown**
Jason Hall, CEO, Greater St. Louis, Inc.
Gabe Gore, Circuit Attorney, City of St. Louis
Michael McMillan, President & Chief Executive Officer, Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis
Lakesha Mathis, Vice President of Strategy, Greater St. Louis Inc. (*Moderator*)

This summer marks the tenth anniversary of the killing of Michael Brown, and unarmed 18-year-old Black man, by a white police officer, Darren Wilson, in Ferguson, a suburban community approximately twelve miles from Downtown St. Louis. Brown's death ignited protests, international media coverage, and calls for change to the social and economic conditions that impede progress, equity, and safety in the St. Louis metro. To that end, Missouri Gov. Jay Nixon appointed sixteen members to an independent group, known as the Ferguson Commission, to examine those conditions, engage with citizens and experts, and issue an "unflinching" report containing specific, practical policy recommendations for making the metro area a strong, fairer place for everyone to live. Published in 2015, the [Ferguson Commission report](#) directly informed the development of the *STL 2030 Jobs Plan*, the creation of Greater St. Louis, Inc., and GSL's early policy agenda. Moderated by GSL Vice President [Lakesha Mathis](#), this panel discussion will reflect on the impact of Brown's killing – and the public response to it. Leaders will discuss ongoing efforts to drive inclusive economic growth in St. Louis. The discussion will take place at the [Ferguson Community Empowerment Center](#), operated by the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis. The center is found on the site of a gas station that was destroyed in a protest the night after Brown was killed.

5:00 PM **Break**

6:00 PM **Network Dinner at Panorama**
On the top floor of the St. Louis Art Museum (SLAM)

In the evening, we will have our network dinner at the Panorama, a St. Louis jewel found on the top floor of the St. Louis Art Museum (SLAM) inside Forest Park. The evening will feature a welcome address by **Tishaura Jones, Mayor of St. Louis**, followed by **Jason Hall, CEO of Greater St. Louis Inc.**, who will share an overview and history of our host organization, detailing its creation and evolution. The Panorama serves dishes inspired by the Museum's art collection and regional ingredients with sweeping views of the park and overlooking the famous Art Hill.

8:00 PM **Adjourn for the day**

Day Three: Thursday, June 13th

Venue Address:
Greater St. Louis Inc. Headquarters
One Metropolitan Square, Suite 2200
211 North Broadway, St. Louis MO 63102

Travel Note: *Transportation to the St. Louis Lambert International Airport from Greater St. Louis, Inc. will be provided at the end of the convening. If you wish to take the shuttle, please bring your luggage to the venue.*

8:15 AM **Buffet Breakfast**

8:45 AM **Welcome**
Neal Richardson, CEO, [St. Louis Development Corporation](#)

9:00 AM **Discovery Session: Hyperlocal Priorities, Gaps, and Aspirations**
Tracy Hadden Loh, Fellow, Brookings Metro

In this interactive module, Tracy Hadden Loh and Brookings colleagues will facilitate break-out discussions to learn from Network members what their most pressing hyperlocal policy needs are, introduce opportunities for deeper learning through follow-on sprints, and begin understanding which sprint may be best suited for their region. We will be looking to discover what regions want to know about their current hyperlocal priorities, gaps, and aspirations.

10:30 AM **Break**

10:45 AM **Public-Private Collaboration: Making Downtown St. Louis Safe, Vibrant, & Beautiful**

Jared Boyd, Chief of Staff, City of St. Louis Mayor's Office

Dr. Daniel Isom, Former Chief of Police, City of St. Louis, Former Director of Public Safety, Missouri Department of Public Safety and current Vice President Corporate Safety & Security, Ameren

Carolyn Kindle, President, Enterprise Mobility Foundation

Kurt Weigle, Senior Vice President and Chief Downtown Officer, Greater St. Louis, Inc.
(Moderator)

The COVID-19 pandemic ushered in a period of disruption and uncertainty for American downtowns. Yet, downtowns still house economic, cultural, and physical assets that are vital to broader regional economies. How can local leaders navigate this pivotal moment for their downtowns? Moderated by GSL's Chief Downtown Officer, [Kurt Weigle](#), this panel of local leaders will discuss a renewed public-private partnership that is seizing opportunities and addressing generational challenges to make Downtown St. Louis safe, vibrant, and beautiful. At the center of this strategy is a focus on two particularly problematic vacant properties: the Millennium Hotel and the Railway Exchange.

11:45 PM **Wrap Up and Thank You**

Joe Parilla, Senior Fellow and Director of Applied Research, Brookings Metro

12:00 PM **Adjourn and takeaway lunch provided**