



2023 CIFA Summit on Water Infrastructure

A National Conversation on the Future of Water Infrastructure

Tuesday, April 11

1:30 – 5:00 pm CIFA Members Meeting (Members Only)

Wednesday, April 12

8:00 – 9:00 am Networking Breakfast

9:00 – 9:45 am Welcome to the Conversation
CIFA President, Jeff Walker, Texas Water Development Board

Opening Conversation about the Future of Water
Radhika Fox, Assistance Administrator, U.S. EPA Office of Water

9:45 – 10:15 am PISCES-AQUARIUS Recognition Ceremony

10:15 – 10:30 am Break

10:30 – 11:15 am Conversation about the Future of Clean Water
Dr. Andrew Sawyers, Director, U.S. EPA Office of Wastewater Management

11:15 am – Noon Conversation about Future of Drinking Water
Dr. Jennifer McLain, Director, U.S. EPA Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water

Noon – 1:30 pm Networking Lunch

1:30 – 2:15 pm Insight into the State of the Economy
Ken Simonson, Chief Economist, Associated General Contractors of America

2:15 – 2:45 pm Insight into the State of the Municipal Markets
Mark T. Kim, Chief Executive Officer, Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board

2:45 – 3:15 pm Break

3:15 – 3:45 pm Insight into Plans for Oversight
Sean O'Donnell, Inspector General, U.S. EPA

3:45 – 4:45 pm Conversation about Technical Assistance

- George Hawkins, Moonshot Missions
- Mami Hara, U.S. Water Alliance
- Olga Morales-Pate, Rural Community Assistance Partnership (RCAP)
- Tim Male, Environmental Policy Innovation Center (EPIC)

4:45 – 5:00 pm A Few Last Words

Thursday, April 13

8:00 am – Noon CIFA Members Meeting (Members Only)

1:30 – 5:00 pm State SRF Workgroup (SRF and EPA Staff Only)

Friday, April 14

8:00 am – 2:00 pm State SRF Workgroup (SRF and EPA Staff Only)

PISCES-AQUARIUS Recognition Ceremony

Learn how the Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds (SRFs) are overcoming obstacles, increasing collaboration, engaging communities and implementing innovative approaches to financing to build water infrastructure that protects public health and the environment.

Recognition Categories:

- Environmental and Public Health Protection
- Innovative Financing
- System Partnership
- Problem Solving
- Community Engagement

Bios



Radhika Fox, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Radhika Fox is the Assistant Administrator for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Water. The Office of Water works to ensure that drinking water is safe, wastewater is safely returned to the environment, and surface waters are properly managed and protected. Prior to joining EPA, Radhika served as Chief Executive Officer for the U.S. Water Alliance, Director for policy and government affairs for the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, and the Federal Policy Director at PolicyLink. Radhika has used her 20+ years of experience to address the most salient water issues facing the nation – including climate change, affordability, equity, governance, innovative finance, and the evolution of the One Water movement. Radhika holds a B.A. from Columbia University and a Masters in City and Regional Planning from the University of California at Berkeley where she was a HUD Community Development Fellow.



Andrew Sawyers, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Andrew Sawyers is the Director of the Office of Wastewater Management at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Before his recent appointment to that position he served as Deputy Director of the Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water. Prior to EPA he was the Deputy Director for the Maryland Water Quality Financing Administration, managing Maryland's Chesapeake Bay Restoration Fund and the Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds. Andrew has a Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins University.



Dr. Jennifer McLain, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Jennifer McLain is the Director of the Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water and has 20 years of experience at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in both the Office of Water and the Office of Pesticide Programs. Jennifer joined EPA after earning a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Notre Dame and a Ph.D. in Chemistry from Princeton University.

Sean O'Donnell, Inspector General, U.S. EPA

Sean W. O'Donnell was sworn in as the Inspector General of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on January 27, 2020. Prior to becoming the Inspector General, Sean spent 15 years at the U.S. Department of Justice, most recently as a prosecutor in the Criminal Division's Money Laundering and Asset Recovery Section. Over his career at the DOJ, he handled a wide range of criminal and civil matters, such as commercial and governmental fraud, corruption, and national security matters, earning him numerous awards and honors, including the Attorney General's Award and the Executive Office for United States Attorneys Director's Award. Early in his career, Sean clerked for U.S. Circuit Judge Raymond Gruender on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit and U.S. District Judge Harry Lee Hudspeth on the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas. He also spent time in private practice, working on intellectual property and antitrust litigation, among other matters. Mr. O'Donnell has a bachelor's degree in economics from Texas A&M University, a bachelor's degree in mathematics from the University of Washington, and a master's degree in economics and a law degree from the University of Texas at Austin.

Ken Simonson, Chief Economist, Associated General Contractors of America

Ken Simonson has been Chief Economist for the Associated General Contractors of America, the leading construction trade association, since 2001. He provides insight into the economy and what it implies for construction and related industries through frequent media interviews, presentations, and the *Data DIGest*, his weekly one-page e-newsletter that goes to more than 20,000 subscribers. Ken has over 40 years of experience analyzing, advocating and communicating about economic and tax issues. He currently serves as an advisor to the Census Bureau's construction data re-engineering initiative. He is a Fellow and past president of the National Association for Business Economics, and he is co-director of the Tax Economists Forum, a professional meeting group he co-founded in 1982. Ken has a BA in economics from the University of Chicago, and an MA in economics from Northwestern University.

Mark T. Kim, Chief Executive Officer, Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board

Mark T. Kim is President and Chief Executive Officer of the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board (MSRB), the principal regulator of the \$4 trillion municipal securities market. Before becoming CEO, Mark

was the Chief Operating Officer from 2017-2020 and served on the MSRB Board of Directors from 2015-2017. Prior to the MSRB, Mark was Chief Financial Officer for the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority (DC Water). Under his direction, DC Water won multiple Deal of the Year awards for its creative and innovative bond financing program. Previously, Mark served as Assistant Comptroller for Public Finance and then Deputy Comptroller for Economic Development for the City of New York. Prior to his public service, Mark was an investment banker at several financial services firms including UBS and Goldman Sachs. Mark holds a Ph.D. in public policy from Harvard University, a law degree from Cornell Law School and a bachelor's degree from Northwestern University.

George Hawkins, Moonshot Missions

George is the former CEO of DC Water and previously held positions in federal, state and local government, as well as non-profits and teaching roles.

Mami Hara, US Water Alliance

Mami Hara is CEO of the US Water Alliance, a national nonprofit organization advancing policies and programs that build a sustainable water future for all. Mami brings over three decades of experience in land and water management, fostering sustainable and equitable policies and practices through cultivating leaders, partnerships, and workforce, and community centered participation, planning, and management. Prior to serving at the Alliance, Mami was General Manager and CEO of Seattle Public Utilities, which provides solid waste, drainage, and wastewater services for Seattle residents and businesses, as well as drinking water for 1.4 million regional customers. Mami also served as First Deputy Commissioner of Philadelphia Water, where she helped foster the groundbreaking green infrastructure program, Green Cities, Clean Waters. Additionally, as a principal with a leading urban design and planning firm, Mami led seminal projects such as GreenPlan Philadelphia, and impactful environmental justice-centered, open space, infrastructure, and development plans for underserved communities across the eastern US. Mami has helped to build and lead networks including the Green Infrastructure Leadership Exchange, a peer-to-peer network for cities and utilities advancing green infrastructure programs, and has been an advisor to several environmental, philanthropic, planning, and design advocacy organizations. Mami taught at PennDesign, Temple School of Architecture, and the Department of Urban Studies and Planning at MIT, and she holds degrees from the University of Pennsylvania and Harvard University.

Olga Morales-Pate, Rural Community Assistance Partnership (RCAP)

Olga Morales-Pate was appointed as Chief Executive Officer the Rural Community Assistance Partnership (RCAP) in October 2022. Olga worked as Assistant Director of the Community & Environmental Program at the Rural Community Assistance Corporation (RCAC), the Western RCAP, since 2018 where she led a team of 32. She previously held other environmental and rural development positions with RCAC; and led the environmental inspection team at the Army's White Sands Missile Range and was an environmental scientist for the New Mexico Environment Department. In 2008, President George W. Bush appointed Morales-Pate to the EPA's National Drinking Water Advisory Council (NDWAC), where she established strong working relationships with the agency while leading advisory efforts on issues, such as climate change, hydraulic fracturing, carbon sequestration, and harmful algae blooms and cyanotoxins among others.

Tim Male, Environmental Policy Innovation Center (EPIC)

Tim Male founded the Environmental Policy Innovation Center in 2017. Prior to launching this startup, he served as an Associate Director at the White House Council on Environmental Quality, Vice President for Conservation Policy at Defenders of Wildlife, Director at National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, and Co-Director of agriculture policy at Environmental Defense Fund. He holds degrees in science from Yale

University and the University of Hawaii. His writing has appeared in the Wall Street Journal, Washington Post, Science magazine and a diversity of peer-reviewed journals. He has received a Marshall Memorial Fellowship and AAAS Science and Technology Policy Fellowship (declined). He also ran for office and won, serving three terms as a city councilmember and leading the successful effort for that city to become the first in the country to lower its voting age to 16.