

Host Committee
Coordinating Call

July 1, 2025



POLICY FORUM 2025



SEPTEMBER 30, 2025 • MUSIC CITY CENTER • NASHVILLE, TN

Driving Tennessee's Prosperity

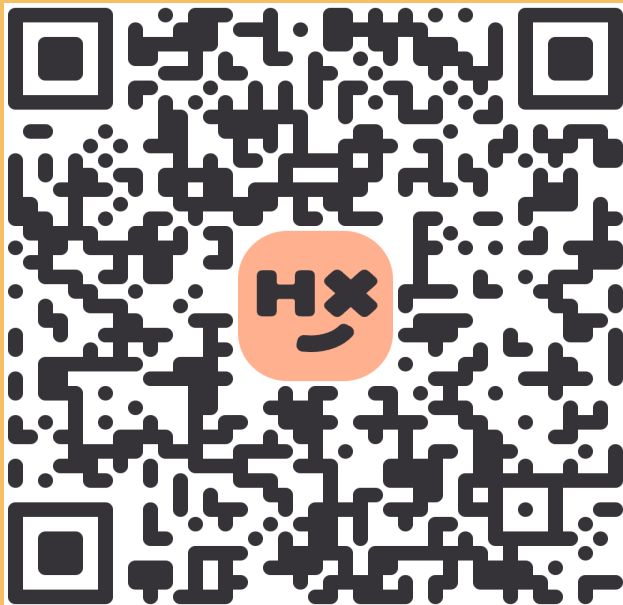
Today's Discussion

- Introductions
- Goals for the Policy Forum
- Event Agenda & Logistics
- Host Committee Responsibilities
- Subcommittees
- Next Steps

Current Host Committee Members

- **Nicole Austin**, Chief Public Affairs Officer, *Kingsport Chamber of Commerce*
- **Hal Cato**, CEO, *Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee*
- **Dhathri Chunduru**, Director of Research and Planning, *Tennessee Housing Development Agency*
- **Stephanie Coleman**, President and CEO, *Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce*
- **Dr. Alfred Degrafinreid**, President and CEO, *Leadership Tennessee*
- **Kevin DuBose**, Director, *Housing & Neighborhood Development, City of Knoxville*
- **Tammi Ford**, Vice President, *Blount Partnership*
- **Matt Largen**, President and CEO, *Williamson, Inc.*
- **Maeghan Jones**, President, *Community Foundation of Greater Chattanooga*
- **Dr. Bill Lyons**, Professor Emeritus, *UT Baker School of Public Policy and Public Affair*
- **Dr. Kimberly McCorkle**, Provost, *East Tennessee State University*
- **Anna McQuiston**, Executive Director, *MidSouth Development District*
- **Mayor Paul Montgomery**, *City of Kingsport*
- **Ashley Northington**, Senior VP, *RW Jones Agency | Chair, Moving Forward*
- **Dr. Carol Rothstein**, President, *Jackson State Community College*
- **Dr. Mina Sartipi**, Director, *Center for Urban Informatics and Progress, UT Chattanooga*
- **Lesley Searce**, President and CEO, *United Way of Greater Chattanooga*
- **Gary Shorb**, Executive Director, *Urban Child Institute*

Event Logistics



Scan to register

Policy Forum

September 30 | 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Music City Center

201 Rep. John Lewis Way S

Nashville, TN 37203

Code for free registration: **THINKTNFREE**

VIP Welcome Reception

September 29 | 5:00-7:00 p.m.

AC Hotel Rooftop

410 Rep. John Lewis Way S

Nashville, TN 37203

Hotels

AC Hotel

410 Rep. John Lewis Way S, Nashville, TN

Cambria Hotel

118 8th Ave S, Nashville, TN

Agenda

- 8:00-8:30 AM:** Networking & Breakfast
- 8:30-9:00 AM:** Welcome Speaker
- 9:00-10:15 AM:** **What's Next for Tennessee's Economy** – Panel of business leaders explore what's on the horizon for the state's economy
- 10:15-10:30 AM:** Break
- 10:30-12:00 PM:** Morning Panels (**Housing & Childcare**)
- 12:00-1:15 PM:** Lunch Session – **Regional leaders** explore how our state's regions are thriving
- 1:15-2:45 PM:** Afternoon Panels (**Transportation & Workforce Development**)
- 2:45-3:00 PM:** Break
- 3:00-4:00 PM:** Closing Session – **Making Politics Work for Tennesseans:** Bipartisan leaders explore how we can be builders together

Host Committee Responsibilities

- Help **promote** the event within your networks,
- Lend your **name** in support of the event (on printed and digital materials), and
- Provide **feedback** on panels and other aspects of the event agenda

Subcommittees

Workforce Development

Nicole Austin
Stephanie Coleman
Alfred Degrafinreid
Matt Largen
Carol Rothstein
Kimberly McCorkle

Housing

Dhathri Chunduru
Bill Lyons
Tammi Ford
Mayor Montgomery
Kevin Dubose

Childcare

Gary Shorb
Lesley Searce
Hal Cato

Transportation

Mina Sartipi
Anna McQuiston
Ashley Northington

Next Steps

Subcommittee Calls

Tuesday, July 22 & Wednesday, July 23

Please complete the Doodle Poll



<https://doodle.com/group-poll/participate/ej6lW2ye/vote>