



# Future Forward: Accelerating Change Together

Online, April 15-16, 2024 | Zoom (Live) PT \* *all sessions/speakers subject to change*

## VIRTUAL CLIMATE SUMMIT | PROGRAM SCHEDULE

### MONDAY, APRIL 15

9:00-11:00 AM

#### SESSION 1: DOUBLE KEYNOTE

*Moderator: Jamie Marié Stroble* | Director of Climate Action & Resilience, The Nature Conservancy of Washington; Seattle Planning Commissioner & Former Co-Chair; Founder of the King County Climate Justice Framework

**Baja** | Sr. Director, Direct Support & Innovation, Urban Sustainability Director's Network (USDN)  
**Sudha Nandagopal** | Advocate and Power Building Strategist for a Just Climate Future

12:00-2:00 PM

#### SESSION 2: FOSTERING GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

*Moderator: Laura Durgerian* | Senior Associate, Landscape Architect & Urban Designer, Mithun

**Mami Hara** | CEO, US Water Alliance

**Phillip Rodbell** | National Program Lead, Urban Sustainability Research, U.S. Forest Service

**Tim Lehman** | Indigenous Planning Strategist, City of Seattle, OPCD

### TUESDAY, APRIL 16

9:00-11:00 AM

#### SESSION 3: COMMUNITY RESILIENCE IN A CHANGING CLIMATE

*Moderator: Xio Alvarez* | Designer, LMN Architects

**César García** | Co-Executive Director, Lake City Collective

**Jessyn Farrell** | Director, Office of Sustainability and Environment, City of Seattle

**Jim Hanford FAIA, LEED AP BD+C** | Principal, The Miller Hull Partnership

**Manuel Castaneda AIA** | Architect, The Miller Hull Partnership

12:00-2:00 PM

#### SESSION 4: BUILDING FOR WELLBEING

*Moderator: Angie Scott, PhD, Allied ASID* | Community Concept & Health Equity Lead, IWBI

**James Miller, PhD** | Associate Professor, Urban and Environmental Planning & Policy, Western Washington University

**Kimberly Seigel** | Research Manager, Senior Associate, Perkins&Will

**Lindsay Schack AIA, CPHC** | Principal Architect, Love | Schack Architecture

**Teresa McGrath** | Chief Research Officer, Healthy Building Network

## VIRTUAL CLIMATE SUMMIT | **SPEAKER BIOS**

### SESSION I: DOUBLE KEYNOTE



**Moderator: Jamie Marié Stroble, Director of Climate Action & Resilience, The Nature Conservancy of Washington; Seattle Planning Commissioner & Former Co-Chair; Founder of the King County Climate Justice Framework** | Jamie is a strategic changemaker with a focus on advancing environmental and climate justice through systemic change at grassroots, local government, and statewide levels. Based in Seattle, she brings over 16 years of experience as an environmental justice policy advocate, program director, community builder, educator, and facilitator. As Climate Director for TNC Washington, Jamie spearheaded successful advocacy for HB1181 and climate resilience

integration into comprehensive planning. Serving as King County's inaugural Climate Equity lead from 2016-2021, she established the county's first climate justice framework and convened the Climate Equity Community Task Force to amplify frontline communities' voices in policy-making. With nearly 8 years on the Seattle Planning Commission and roles on the UW EarthLab Advisory Board, the Healthy King County Coalition Built Environment Workgroup, Noio Pathways, and the board of youth organizing non-profit FEEST, Jamie remains dedicated to fostering frontline community capacity and BIPOC & youth leadership in decision making spaces.



**Baja, Senior Director, Direct Support & Innovation, Urban Sustainability Director's Network (USDN)** | Baja (she/ki) is an energy rooted in empathy, love, and compassion. She coaches, facilitates, and leads workshops, retreats, and trainings that nurture heart-centered self- and collective-liberation while supporting deeper connectivity to nature's genius and with other species. By vocation, Baja is the Senior Director of Direct Support & Innovation with the Urban Sustainability Directors Network (USDN) and in that role is responsible for identifying, leading, and supporting innovative projects that actively transform local government processes, shifts power to community, and centers racial and environmental justice. She holds a Masters of Urban Planning and a Masters of Science from the

University of Michigan and a Masters in Biomimicry from ASU. In 2016, she was recognized by the Obama Administration as a Champion of Change for her work on climate and equity. She is also a certified breath worker who supports the energetic shift into more heart-centered wisdom, liberation, and collective care.



**Sudha Nandagopal, Advocate and Power Building Strategist for a Just Climate Future** | Sudha, a leader with over 20 years of cross-sector experience, is a champion for climate justice and democratizing power. As CEO of SVPI and founder of Reimagine Giving, Sudha transformed a global philanthropic network to prioritize funding grassroots leadership. She founded Seattle's Equity & Environment Initiative, fostering frontline community-led environmental decision-making. Sudha serves as the inaugural Board Chair of Sunrise Project Inc and Board member of Taproot Earth, two global entities focused on advancing a just climate future. In her leadership, Sudha champions an

ecosystem approach to advancing justice amidst complexity. Her enduring vision is to create the conditions for joyful connection and power sharing, fostering systemic transformation while embodying curiosity, collaboration, and collective learning for community and personal transformation. Sudha remains steadfast in her focus on fostering audacious efforts for climate justice, power-shifting governance, and community-driven philanthropy.

## SESSION 2: FOSTERING GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE



**Moderator: Laura Durgerian, Senior Associate, Landscape Architect & Urban Designer, Mithun |**

As a landscape architect and urban designer at Mithun, Laura's work spans shoreline adaptation, public realm, higher education, housing, transit and district-scale planning. In each project, she works to honor lived experiences and place attachments, while shaping healthier and more resilient places. She is particularly interested in co-created climate adaptive design that supports communities through disruption and place change, which is represented in research projects that have investigated post-earthquake "emotional infrastructure" and "managed retreat" through the lenses of place attachment, equity, and community capacity-building. She holds a bachelor's in landscape architecture from Cornell University, and a master's in landscape architecture and urban design & planning from the University of Washington. Bringing together drawing and writing with background in math and outdoor education, she enjoys the collaborative unpacking of complex spatial challenges across scales, informed by diverse lived and learned expertise.



**Mami Hara, CEO, US Water Alliance |** Mami Hara is the 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, advancing sustainable practices through cultivating leaders and partnerships, workforce development, inclusive community participation, science-based decisions and planning, and knowledge sharing. In her public sector and private practice roles, Mami has guided the planning and implementation of award-winning green infrastructure, sustainability, economic development, and waterfront programs across the country. Prior to serving at the Alliance, Mami was the 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 1.3 million regional customers. Mami also served as first deputy commissioner of Philadelphia Water, where she helped shepherd the groundbreaking green infrastructure program, *Green Cities, Clean Waters*. Additionally, Mami worked as a principal with Wallace Roberts & Todd, LLC, leading seminal projects such as *GreenPlan Philadelphia*, and developing environmental justice-centered, open space, and infrastructure plans for underserved communities in the northeastern United States. Mami co-founded a peer-to-peer network for cities and utilities advancing green infrastructure programs, and she 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.



**Phillip Rodbell, National Program Lead, Urban Sustainability Research, U.S. Forest Service |**

Phillip Rodbell is national program leader for urban sustainability research at the USDA Forest Service where he supports a network of 70+ scientists studying the social, economic, and ecological impacts of trees and forests where people live, work, and recreate. Previously, he served for nearly 20 years as regional urban forester for the agency's Eastern Region, supporting federally funded action to plant and improve community trees and forests in the Midwest, New England, and Mid-Atlantic areas of the United States. He has 40 years of experience in federal program management, nonprofit action, state program administration, and local government consulting, including three years of international experience with the U.S. Peace Corps in Honduras, Central America. Phillip is a Certified Arborist and has a M.S. in Forestry from North Carolina State University and a B.S. in Forest Resources from the University of Washington in Seattle.



**Tim Lehman, Indigenous Planning Strategist, City of Seattle, OPCD |** Northern Arapaho Landscape

Designer and Urban Planner. I have lived in the Seattle area for over 30 years and has been passionately working with Indigenous communities across the United States for 15 years. I feel that it is our job as planners and designers to help empower the citizens and communities we work for on current social and environmental issues. We are a means to an end of acutely impoverished urban communities, environmental degradation and social injustices that are a result of misappropriated urban development and a current planning system that is not working for disadvantaged communities. My work reflects who I am, and I want to turn the communities I work for into places that citizens are

happy to call home. I have a Master's in Landscape Architecture and a Master's in Urban Design and Planning and a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Geography, all from the University of Washington. I am currently the Indigenous Planning Strategist for the City of Seattle's Office of Planning and Community Development. I am also currently a Lecturer, reviewer, researcher, and mentor for the University of Landscape Architecture Program.



## SESSION 3: COMMUNITY RESILIENCE IN A CHANGING CLIMATE



**Moderator: Xio Alvarez, Designer, LMN Architects** | Xio Alvarez (she/they) is a designer at LMN Architects in downtown Seattle, where she works on projects that bridge between planning and architecture. In addition to project work, she co-leads the firm's resilience research group. She is interested in leveraging quantitative data about climate, geography, and the built environment with qualitative experiences and stories of neighborhoods and places to tell more complicated and nuanced stories about what it means to adapt to change.



**César García, Co-Executive Director, Lake City Collective** | César García co-founded Lake City Collective (LCC) along with his partner Peggy Hernández; both are proud parents of three kids and a cute Chihuahua-mix. He has lived in different built and climate environments, from a vecindad (shabby one-room multifamily units characterized by a central patio, lavaderos, and a network of clotheslines) in Mexico City where he grew up-- under a corrugated asbestos-cement roof-, to the beautiful and massive Ciudad Universitaria campus (Design team: Arq. Mario Pani et al), where he attended college at UNAM, a UNESCO World Heritage site. In the US, he went from the Tenderloin in

San Francisco to South Park and Lake City in Seattle. Everywhere he has been, regardless of weather, language, or building codes, his life centers around the same environmental elements: pollution and gente del pueblo. Cesar is also a founding member of the Environmental Justice Committee (Seattle Office of Sustainability and the Environment, circa 2017), where he learned about the EJ work... it all clicked. Today, after countless hours of advocacy & hard work alongside community members and in partnership with City departments and foundation support, LCC has led efforts to renovate the polluted Little Brook Park (Design team: SiteWorkshop, construction: 2025) and is starting a capital campaign to build their LCC Multicultural Resilience Center in their home barrio of Little Brook (Design team: Miller Hull Partnership).



**Jessyn Farrell, Director, Office of Sustainability and Environment, City of Seattle** | Jessyn Farrell, J.D., is a leader in building public consensus on difficult issues related to the environment, housing, transportation, and the economy. A long-time environmental advocate, Jessyn's career has spanned the public, private, non-profit, and philanthropic sectors as a state legislator from the 46th District, Executive Director of Transportation Choices and most recently as the Director of the Office of Sustainability and Environment (OSE) for the City of Seattle. As a legislator, Jessyn passed ground-breaking legislation on oil-by-rail safety, affordable housing near transit centers, education supports

for low-income and homeless youth, protections for pregnant workers and restrictions to cell-phone use while driving. As Director of OSE, Jessyn leads efforts to reduce climate pollution and ensure a clean and healthy environment for all residents of Seattle. She has three kids, a dog, two cats and is working on her first book.



**Jim Hanford FAIA, LEED AP BD+C, Principal, The Miller Hull Partnership** | Jim Hanford joined The Miller Hull Partnership in 2005 and is currently principal and leader of the firm's sustainability team. Jim's role on projects is primarily as building performance leader, where he helps develop project goals, design ideas, and integrated solutions for energy performance, daylighting, ventilation, comfort and mechanical system integration. His role extends through delivery of technical design and beyond to post-occupancy evaluation, tracking and reporting energy performance at each stage. He has contributed to many of Miller Hull's highest performance projects, including the Bullitt Center, the

Kendeda Building for Innovative Sustainable Design, and Loom House.



**Manuel Castaneda AIA, Architect, The Miller Hull Partnership** | Manuel's decade as an Architect and Project Manager is marked by work that has touched all scales and settings. From infrastructural to political, regional to international, his projects all contain highly complex programs while considering context, technology, and nature. Believing that architecture is at its best when contributing meaningfully to communities and culture, Manuel has relished working on some of Miller Hull's most wide-reaching projects, including the U.S. State Department facility at Juba, the Iona Wastewater Treatment Plant, and the Lake City Collective Cultural Center. His commitment to helping communities access sustainable design is what drives his practices.

Manuel is devoted to improving the built environment in all facets and played a role in his neighborhood's development group for many years as a member of the Seattle Design Review Board. He has also been active in AIA Seattle, operating as the

Chair of the Northwest Residential Press Committee until 2021.

## SESSION 4: BUILDING FOR WELLBEING



**Moderator: Angie Scott, PhD, Allied ASID, Community Concept & Health Equity Lead, IWBI** | Dr. Angie Scott is the Community Concept Lead, Health Equity Lead, and creator of the award-winning WELL Equity Rating at the International WELL Building Institute (IWBI). Before joining IWBI, she was an Assistant Professor of Interior Design. Scott has worked in the interior design profession as a practitioner, educator, and researcher for over 20 years. She earned a Ph.D. in interior design with a concentration in evidence-based design from the University of Minnesota. Her research takes a salutogenic approach to cultural well-being and interior environments and well-being as occupant support in residential environments. Through these perspectives, she focuses on mental health (stress reduction) and occupant satisfaction. Dr. Scott holds a DEI Workplace Certificate from the University of South Florida and was named an inaugural ASID Ones To Watch Award Winner and Scholar.



**James Miller, PhD, Associate Professor, Urban and Environmental Planning & Policy, Western Washington University** |

James Miller, Ph.D., is an Associate Professor of Comparative Indigenous Studies in the Department of Urban and Environmental Planning & Policy at Western Washington University. A Kanaka Maoli scholar, architect, and community planner, Dr. Miller's work explores the built environment through a lens of Indigenous futures and decolonial theory. He runs the design lab, 'Ike Honua, centering Indigenous knowledge in building resilient communities through architectural and planning frameworks. Dr. Miller's research examines the creation of culturally supportive environments through Indigenous design knowledge. He is currently investigating Indigenous, place-based models for building community resilience in response to the housing crises. Dr. Miller holds a Ph.D. in Sustainable Architecture from the University of Oregon with a focus in climate change adaptation and cultural sustainability, a Master of Architecture from the University of Oregon, and a Bachelor of Architecture from the University of Notre Dame.



**Kimberly Seigel, Research Manager, Senior Associate, Perkins&Will** | Kimberly has dedicated her career to working on interdisciplinary teams tackling some of the built environment's most pressing sustainability challenges, with a particular focus on decarbonization strategies. At the global design firm, Perkins&Will, Kimberly wears many hats. As Research Manager, she bridges the gap between various practices and the innovative research happening across the firm. She also co-leads research efforts in partnership with the Healthy Building Network, looking at the intersection of embodied carbon and health of building materials. She holds a Master of Environmental Management degree from Duke University's Nicholas School of the Environment and a B.A. in Environmental Studies from the University of California, Santa Barbara.



**Lindsay Schack AIA, CPHC, Principal Architect, Love | Schack Architecture** | Lindsay Schack established her career as an Architect and an educator by combining her knowledge of architectural technology with her background in psychology and research. In addition to private practice, Lindsay has instructed at Montana State University's School of Architecture in design studio and research seminars and as a guest lecturer. Lindsay has delivered lectures on sustainability at the Universidad Latina in Costa Rica and for Fine Homebuilding Magazine. Lindsay is Co-Founder of Love|Schack Architecture, a regional design firm that specializes in low energy design using natural materials, and has sponsored Certified Passive House Tradesperson training in Montana and Wyoming in 2018, 2022

and 2023. Lindsay is a Certified Passive House Consultant, is certified by the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards, a LEED-Accredited Professional and a member of the American Institute of Architects. Lindsay is the 2023 Chair of the AIA Knowledge Community for Small Project Design, and is the Architect of the first Passive House projects in Idaho, Montana and Wyoming.



**Teresa McGrath, Chief Research Officer, Healthy Building Network** | Teresa McGrath, Chief Research Officer, leads Healthy Building Network's Research strategies. With prior experience in government, NGO and industry, she brings a wealth of holistic knowledge and multi-sector experience to our team. Teresa led the Chemical Management Program for Sherwin-Williams, the largest paints and coatings company in the world, where she focused on hazards reduction and transparency, and assisted business units in meeting sustainability and green chemistry goals. She also spent nine years as the Senior Managing Toxicologist at NSF International's Green Chemistry Programs, and two years at the Environmental Protection Agency in the Design for the Environment (DfE) Branch of the Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics (OPPT).

### CLIMATE SUMMIT PLANNING TEAM



**Erin Ishizaki, AIA, AICP, Partner, Mithun** | Erin Christensen Ishizaki, AIA, AICP, is nationally recognized for advancing sustainable, healthy development. An urban planner and architect with over 20 years' experience, she leads plans, strategies, and urban design for public, private, non-profit, and institutional clients. Erin's practice is inspired by connections – to place and to each other – in support of strong economies and resilient environments. As a Partner at Mithun, Erin brings creative thought leadership and a proven track record to directing complex projects with experience in transit-oriented development, housing, and high-performance districts. Her collaborative, listening approach has resulted in award-winning projects including an APA Sustainable Communities Division Award of Excellence, APA Los Angeles Award of Excellence, and an EPA National Smart Growth Award for the widely published Mariposa Redevelopment Plan. Erin was recognized by the Urban Land Institute as a Global 40 Under 40 Professional regularly contributes to discourse and publications on urbanism, health and well-being, and the transformative power of design.



**Emily Evenson, Sr Associate + Sr Project Architect, Weber Thompson** | Emily deeply believes that housing is a basic human right. This philosophy has driven her 14-year career as an Architect, drawing her to clients and projects that pursue affordable and equitable housing. She embeds a passion for sustainability into her work as well, which in turn, underscores the direct connection between climate change, health, and equity in our communities. Emily received her Certified Passive House Design credential in 2017, her Living Future Accreditation in 2023 and has been embedded in Weber Thompson's sustainability leadership for the last five years. Her overarching goal is to create positive change for our communities and lessen our built environment's impact on the Earth.



**Gina Ciganik, CEO, Healthy Building Network** | Gina is recognized as a national leader in advancing human and environmental health. A champion of equity and environmental justice, Gina is an innovator with a proven track record of creating leading-edge, nationally recognized sustainable spaces where we live, work, and play. Prior to HBN, Gina was Vice President at a real estate development firm, where she spent two decades creating thousands of healthy, high-performance affordable homes. In 2021 she received a Women in Sustainability Leadership Award (WSLA), one of the most prestigious global awards honoring leadership in sustainability. Gina was named one of the 2023 Top Women Leaders in Minnesota by Women We Admire. She authored a chapter in the 2023 Regenerative Materials Movement book. Gina completed the Achieving Excellence program at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government and holds a B.S degree in Housing from the University of Minnesota.





**Lylianna Allala, Climate Justice Director, City of Seattle, Office of Sustainability & Environment**

Lylianna Allala serves as the City of Seattle's first Climate Justice Director in the Office of Sustainability & Environment. In this role, she develops strategy and oversees implementation of Seattle's [Equity & Environment Initiative](#) as well as [Seattle's Green New Deal](#), initiatives co-designed by communities overburdened by the impacts of racial, economic, and environmental injustice. Prior to joining the City of Seattle in 2019, Lylianna led climate & environmental policy & outreach for U.S. Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal. She is dedicated to working across difference to co-develop solutions that will lead us to a more equitable and just world. She has a B.A in English from Winona State University, a certificate in Non-Profit Management from Georgetown University and a certificate in Wetland Science and Management from the University of Washington. Lylianna is a 2019 [Henry M. Jackson Fellow](#), on the boards of [The Nature Conservancy, Washington](#), Seattle's [Short Run Comix & Arts Festival](#) and is a co-creator of [Growing Old](#), a podcast that explores what it would look like within the next 50 years for Seattle to become a place where both trees and humans grow old. In 2023, she was recognized by [Crist's](#) annual [50 Fixers List](#) as a climate leader driving fresh solutions to our planet's biggest problems in the policy & advocacy real.



**Justin Schwartzhoff, AIA LFA, Associate + Carbon Research Lead, LMN Architects** | Justin is an

architect and the embodied carbon research lead at LMN architects in Seattle. He heads the applied research team providing guidance and developing workflows for projects seeking deep carbon reductions. Justin also leads the writing and research for LMN's "Path to Zero Carbon" series, exploring the current state of carbon accounting and what will be necessary to achieve a zero-carbon future. He is also a member of the Carbon Leadership Forum Seattle Hub Steering Committee, who curate monthly educational sessions for industry experts, and a member of the ILFI Energy + Carbon Technical Advisory Group.



**Sarah Moore, MEP Principal, Buro Happold** | Sarah Moore is a principal at Buro Happold and leads the MEP engineering team based out of Seattle. In Sarah's 20 years of experience, she's served as energy modeler, code and sustainability consultant, MEP design engineer, and multi-discipline project manager. She's had the opportunity to work on a wide range of project types, from a gut renovation and re-clad of a midtown Manhattan 2M sf office tower, to a new Ivy League performing arts center, to a new flagship retail + manufacturing space for a global retailer, to phased retrofits of hospital and lab systems requiring continuous operation through construction. Sarah's most recent experience focuses around existing building optimization, especially decarbonization and electrification, real estate

repositioning, COVID response, and health and wellness improvements for occupants and communities. She seeks intelligent win-win solutions that serve the needs of each customer while leading toward a sustainable, healthy, and equitable future.



**Patrice Carroll, Strategic Advisor, City of Seattle, Office of Planning and Community**

**Development** | Patrice Carroll is a Strategic Advisor for the City of Seattle, Office of Planning and Community Development. Patrice focuses on long-range planning including the update to the City's comprehensive plan and station area planning the future 130th light rail station and the 145th bus rapid transit station. Before coming to Seattle, Patrice worked as a planner in public, private, and nonprofit sectors in Philadelphia, Calgary and Sydney. In Philadelphia, Patrice led a series of complex multi-

sector partnerships for federal, state, and city government including USDA's Urban Resources Partnership, a federal initiative to restore urban environments in underserved communities and PA DCNR's TreeVitalize, a multi-partner investment to restore tree cover in the 5-county Philadelphia region. Patrice holds a Master of City Planning degree from the University of Pennsylvania