

ULI Nashville Virtual Technical Assistance Panel - Panelist Bios



Dr. John Vick (Chair) – Dr. John Vick serves as the Evaluation and Assessment Director for the Office of Primary Prevention at the Tennessee Department of Health. Dr. Vick works at the intersection of public health and the built environment, facilitating the development of health-promoting, equitable, and livable communities. He brings an interdisciplinary perspective to the public health field, with a background in applied research, chronic disease epidemiology, urban planning, and community engagement. In his current role at the Tennessee Department of Health John develops practical data systems, frameworks, and projects to inform the department’s primary prevention efforts. His work is interdisciplinary and collaborative, reaching across sectors to develop and leverage partnerships with government agencies, universities, non-profits, and community groups. Dr. Vick holds a Ph.D. in Community Research and Action from Vanderbilt University, and a B.A. in Psychology from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. He is a 2018 Salzburg Global Fellow and a 2019 Tennessee Government Management Institute Fellow.



Clay Haynes (Panelist) – Clay Haynes is the founder of Public Square, a sustainable real estate investment + development company that focuses on the adaptive reuse of historic structures. Public Square is a purpose driven company that develops with intent. We have an acre for acre commitment – for each acre or property we develop, we offset it with an acre in permanent natural space easement. Clay is also a licensed general contractor and launched a construction company in 2012 to direct all aspects of the construction process. Guided by the core belief that to those who are given much, much is expected, Clay seeks to contribute his time to organizations that equitably strengthen community. He serves as the board chair for the Nashville Arts and Culture Commission and is a member of the SouthArts board of trustees. He created and currently serves on the advisory board for Startup Gallatin, an organization cultivating the next generation of entrepreneurs in his hometown. Clay is passionate about conservation and is an active member of the next 30 committee with the Southern Environmental Law Center. He holds a degree in political science from Washington University in St. Louis and a certificate of French Language from the University of Paris Sorbonne.



Kevin Augustyn (Panelist) - Kevin Augustyn is a Vice President in the North American CMBS, Global Structured Finance group at DBRS Morningstar. DBRS Morningstar is a credit rating agency and investment research firm headquartered in Chicago, Illinois. In his role at DBRS Morningstar, Mr. Augustyn covers several esoteric finance instruments and leads Morningstar’s effort to provide credit ratings for CPACE (Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy) loans on a national basis. He also serves on the firm’s ESG methodology subcommittee. Before joining DBRS Morningstar, Mr. Augustyn’s career has been

focused on urban infill development in Chicago, leading teams responsible for the redevelopment of Piper's Alley and the North Pier as well as the development of River East Center and other large projects. He has over 25 years of real estate development and finance experience with several national real estate development firms and financial institutions including Bank of Montreal, Trammell Crow Companies, OPUS and CIII Capital Partners.



Erica Weeks (Panelist) – Erica Weeks serves as the Associate Principal and Director of Sustainability, Hastings Architecture. Weeks came to Tennessee to pursue her Bachelor of Architecture at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. After living and working in Palo Alto, California for five years, Weeks returned to Nashville in 2011 and joined Hastings as a LEED Project Coordinator. As Director of Sustainability, Weeks educates the studio, as well as other architects, owners, and contractors, about sustainability and LEED process. She's had a major influence on Hastings' knowledge of sustainability – saving energy, water, specifying materials – influencing the qualities of end products and changing the face of Nashville's built environment. Weeks is an avid proponent of green building and evidence-based design. She earned her first LEED AP credential in 2006 and was one of the first 100 people in the country to earn EDAC credential (Evidence-Based Design Accreditation and Certification), earned to show an in-depth knowledge of the application of research on design issues. In 2017, Weeks was named one of the Nashville Business Journal's Women of Influence, in the category of Inspiration/Mentoring, for her focus on support of professional education within Hastings Architecture.



Sadhu Johnston (Panelist) – Sadhu Johnston was the City Manager of Vancouver, BC from March 2016 until January 2021 where he was responsible for managing the operations of the City, including oversight of a budget of over \$1.6B and over 7,000 staff. As City Manager he spearheaded initiatives to address the growing housing and climate change crisis in Vancouver. He was the Chief Environmental Officer of Chicago and Deputy Chief of Staff to Mayor Richard M. Daley, until he was appointed Deputy City Manager of Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada in 2009. Johnston previously served as the Executive

Director of the Cleveland Green Building Coalition. He is co-author of The Guide to Greening Cities published by Island Press in 2013. In 2008, Johnston co-founded the Urban Sustainability Directors Network (USDN) and served as the Chair of the Executive Committee of STAR, community sustainability rating system. Johnston served on the selection committee for the Partners for Places Fund, a partnership between USDN and the Funders Network for Smart Growth and Livable Communities as well as the Greenest City Fund in partnership with the Vancouver Foundation.



Adam Freed (Panelist) – Adam Freed serves as a Principal at Bloomberg Associates. Prior to joining Bloomberg Associates, Adam was the Deputy Managing Director of The Nature Conservancy’s Global Water Program, where he worked to help cities have safe, sustainable, and reliable water supplies. From 2008 to 2012, Adam served as the Acting and Deputy Director of the New York City Mayor’s Office of Long-Term Planning and Sustainability, overseeing the implementation of PlaNYC and related sustainability initiatives and developing the city’s first climate resilience program. As part of PlaNYC, the City planted almost one million trees, created more than 240

new community playgrounds, enacted the nation’s most aggressive green buildings legislation, achieved the cleanest air quality in over 50 years, announced the largest expansion of its recycling program in 25 years, launched a \$2 billion green infrastructure program, and lowered its greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) by 14%." In addition to his time with City government, Adam was an Assistant Comptroller in the Office of the New York State Comptroller, where he led the review of large-scale economic development projects and crafted corporate governance strategies for the \$150 billion New York State Common Retirement fund.



Jillian Burgess (Panelist) – Jillian Burgess serves as the Senior Building Enclosure Consultant at RWDI. A skilled project manager, Burgess has contributed to the design and delivery of high-performance building enclosures for buildings around the world. Our clients benefit from the depth of her technical knowledge – especially in building performance modeling – as well as the breadth of her project experience. Burgess’s work has focused in particular on balancing daylight and heat gain in glass facades, and on developing a holistic understanding of the life cycles of various building-enclosure assembly types. A

LEED accredited consultant, Burgess believes in the power of rigorous energy analysis to drive outstanding building performance.



Abena Ojetayo (Panelist) - Abena Ojetayo is the Director of Housing & Community Resilience for Florida’s capital city, Tallahassee. In that capacity, she directs the City’s affordable housing, human services, code enforcement and sustainability programs in a cohesive strategy to build community resilience. She has worked in multiple sectors and in various countries, including working as an energy and infrastructure planner of a town in Greece following a devastating earthquake, and managing an urban design team for the flood prone Anam New City, Nigeria, a project that was recognized by the Clinton Global Initiative as a promising approach

to international sustainable development. Before moving to Tallahassee, Abena worked on climate action planning at Cornell University and supported the green building and infrastructure design effort for its NYC Tech Campus in the aftermath of Superstorm Sandy. She moved to Tallahassee in 2014 to serve as Florida A&M University’s first Chief Sustainability Officer and the founding Executive Director of their Sustainability Institute, tasked with building sustainability across all academic and operational aspects of the university. Abena has an interdisciplinary background, receiving a Bachelor’s degree in civil engineering and a Master’s in engineering management, both from Cornell University.