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From April through August 2017, CMAP and our partners are hosting monthly ON TO 2050 Alternative Futures Forums, to engender debate about the challenges and opportunities our region will face by 2050. Topics include Changed Climate, Walkable Communities, Innovative Transportation, Transformed Economy, and Constrained Resources. Participants will influence the policy emphases of the ON TO 2050 comprehensive regional plan as it proceeds toward adoption in October 2018.

Learn more about the region's Alternative Futures and register for the forums at [www.cmap.illinois.gov/onto2050/futures](http://www.cmap.illinois.gov/onto2050/futures).

Follow #2050BigIdeas on Twitter @ONTO2050 to add your big ideas for the region's future.

# ON TO 2050 FORUM



## ALTERNATIVE FUTURES: THRIVING IN A CHANGING CLIMATE

● APRIL 6, 2017

● PEGGY NOTEBAERT  
NATURE MUSEUM

# THRIVING IN A CHANGING CLIMATE

**April 6, 2017**

**Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum**

**2:30 p.m.** Check-in

**3:00 p.m.** Program

## *Welcome*

Deborah Lahey  
President & CEO  
Chicago Academy of Sciences/  
Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum

Joseph C. Szabo  
Executive Director  
Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

## *Panel Discussion*

### *Moderator*

Michael Hawthorne  
Investigative Reporter  
Chicago Tribune

### *Panelists*

Thomas A. Wall  
Infrastructure and Preparedness Analyst  
Risk and Infrastructure Science Center,  
Argonne National Laboratory

Kimberly Wasserman-Nieto  
Executive Director  
Little Village Environmental Justice Organization

Karen Weigert  
Senior Fellow for Global Cities  
Chicago Council on Global Affairs

**4:00 p.m.** Responses to written audience questions

**4:20 p.m.** Conclusion

## *Closing Remarks*

Kristen Pratt  
Sustainability Manager  
The Chicago Academy of Sciences/  
Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum



**Michael Hawthorne** is a Chicago Tribune investigative reporter who focuses on public health and the environment. In 2013, Hawthorne and two colleagues were finalists for the Pulitzer Prize for Investigative Reporting. Their stories exposed a deceptive, decades-long campaign by the tobacco and chemical industries to promote the use of harmful, ineffective flame retardants in household furniture. Other stories by Hawthorne have prompted new laws and health reforms at the federal and state levels. Before joining the Tribune in 2004, Hawthorne wrote for the Columbus Dispatch, Cincinnati Enquirer, Champaign News-Gazette, and the Daytona Beach News-Journal.



**Thomas A. Wall** is an infrastructure and preparedness analyst with the Risk and Infrastructure Science Center at Argonne National Laboratory. He currently leads Argonne's Climate Impact Data and Decision Support effort, which aims to leverage Argonne's deep capabilities in climate science and modeling, advanced computing, infrastructure risk analysis, and decision science to provide actionable climate impact information to the engineering and planning communities, to industry, and to state and local government. Wall previously led the Department of Homeland Security's Regional Resilience Assessment Program.



**Kimberly Wasserman-Nieto** is the executive director of the Little Village Environmental Justice Organization (LVEJO), where she has worked since 1998. Wasserman-Nieto joined LVEJO as an organizer and helped build a new playground and community gardens, remodeled a local school park, and forced a local polluter to upgrade facilities to meet current laws. As executive director, she has worked with organizers to reinstate a job access bus line, built on the recent victory of a 23-acre park to be built in Little Village, and continued the decade-long campaign that won the closure of the two local coal power plants. She is also chair of the Illinois Commission on Environmental Justice and in 2013 was the recipient of the Goldman Prize for North America.



**Karen Weigert** is a senior fellow for global cities at the Chicago Council on Global Affairs. She focuses on climate, energy, and sustainability. Weigert served as the first chief sustainability officer for the City of Chicago from 2011 to 2016. In that role she guided Chicago's sustainability strategy and implementation, bringing innovative, practical solutions throughout the work of the city. Prior to her appointment, she served as senior vice president of ShoreBank (later Urban Partnership Bank), where she built a national consumer group that generated deposits to support environmental sustainability and community development. Weigert also served as an appointee in the Clinton administration focused on global environmental issues and agriculture.