



# GETTING TO **zero** FORUM

May 10-12, 2023  
Minneapolis, MN  
Live & Virtual

## **Submission Guide**

### **2023 Getting to Zero Forum Call for Speakers**

We are currently seeking speaker submissions for review and consideration for placement in our 2023 Getting to Zero Forum program. Please understand that due to the high number of submissions and limited numbers of slots, we cannot accept full panels for a 90-minute Breakout Session (see Panel Session description below). Please use this guide as you work on your submission.

When you are ready to submit, please use our submission platform:  
<https://www.softconf.com/m/qtz2023/> and submit by September 30th, 2022.

**Questions?** Contact Leada Fuller-Marashi at [leada@newbuildings.org](mailto:leada@newbuildings.org).

#### **Parameters**

- All sessions will be 90-minutes long.
- Submissions for Panel Sessions cannot include more than two presenters. These will be combined with other speakers on related topics to create a full session. The moderator and speakers will work together to ensure an overarching theme and smooth speaker transitions.
- For Charrette and Solutions Lab submissions, you can include additional speakers in the presentation description. This should cover content to fill the entire 90 minutes. Multiple speakers from the same organization in one session are highly discouraged.
- We will not accept more than two speakers from one organization for inclusion in the program, with limited exceptions.
- We will not accept speakers with a repeated topic from the 2021 Forum.
- Each speaker will only be featured once in the program, with limited exceptions for speakers presenting on two different topics or in two different roles (i.e., speaker and moderator).

#### **Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion**

We are ever mindful of the need for equity, diversity, and inclusion in the Getting to Zero community and are working to ensure that the opportunity to share knowledge – in the various forms of research, case studies, program outcomes, interactive activities, and more – is available to everyone. This year, we are requiring submissions to include demographics information for presenters to help our program advisors develop more diverse sessions.

For the first time we will also have a scholarship fund available to support speakers with environmental justice expertise to attend the event. We endeavor for each Getting to Zero Forum to be more inclusive than the one before and will continue to seek ways to realize that goal.

## Session Types

Panel Session: Panels will include approximately three (3) individual presentations on a related theme including case studies, technology applications, research findings, etc. to tackle challenges that will disrupt the status quo or offer breakthroughs in cost-effective, repeatable solutions. Panels will be facilitated by a moderator and conclude with 10-15 minutes of Q&A.

Solutions Lab: Experimental learning environments on specialized topics. Built to explore issues in greater depth, these information-intensive sessions aim to provide tactical knowledge of how-to's and actionable steps. Attendees should leave with a list of tools, resources, and/or action plans in hand. For a solutions lab, you must have a full 90-minute session to propose.

Charrette Format: Facilitators will introduce the theme and set up problem statements for discussion. Grouped participants will be assigned one problem statement for discussion and interactive solution-finding. For a charrette session, you must have a full 90-minute session to propose.

## Topic Areas

Below are the priority topics for the 2023 Forum program. We recognize the challenges with categorizing this work as presentation topics can cross over between multiple topics. However, we ask that you choose the most relevant subject when submitting. Submissions also do not need to be bound by these topics. Please choose "other" for topics that don't fit the description below.

### Building-Grid Integration:

- Peak load management
- Buildings as grid assets
- Microgrids
- Time-of-use and locationally-specific carbon emissions
- Renewables, storage, and EV charging

### Codes and Policy:

- Existing building performance standards
- Code and policy roadmaps to zero carbon buildings
- Equity centered policy development practices and outcomes
- Local, state, regional, and federal level policies

### Design Innovation and Building Performance:

- Prefabricated construction
- Feasibility for decarbonizing affordable housing
- Best practices in building system controls
- Strategies highlighting co-benefits of resiliency, health, and productivity as decision drivers
- Operating to net zero goals/occupant engagement (including metering/monitoring)
- Building envelope improvement through Passive House and other strategies
- Addressing unique climates
- Scaling existing building retrofits
- Real life examples of mistakes made and lessons learned

### Electrification:

- Equitable electrification
- Electrification code and policy trends, challenges, and opportunities
- Leading technologies and trends, particularly for existing buildings
- The building/vehicle nexus
- High priority building types and end uses
- Grid implications of electrification
- Health and air quality and appliance regulations

### Embodied Carbon:

- Cutting embodied carbon in products – strategies, tools, datasets, and product alternatives and efficiencies
- Building embodied carbon reduction strategies – reuse, product selection, construction, end-of-life, and whole carbon accounting
- Accounting and disclosing carbon emissions through the life-cycle
- Voluntary and regulatory policies for embodied carbon
- Measuring and reporting at building, portfolio, corporate, and community levels

### Finance and Development:

- Value propositions for tenants, owners, and developers
- Encouraging developer and homebuyer interest with unique funding models: incentives, rating agency approaches, interest rates, etc.
- Transforming portfolios to zero carbon
- Public sector and private sector financing strategies and pathways

### Market Development:

- Ensuring an equitable transition for low-income households
- Increasing market share by scaling technologies and manufacturing while controlling costs
- Innovative programs driving speed and scale
- Workforce development and training

Other: Enter details in presentation description.

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## **Submission Requirements**

**Describe the level of material to be presented.**

- Introductory
- Intermediate
- Advanced

## **Learning Objectives (250 word maximum)**

List four (4) learning objectives for this presentation or session. Please number each learning objective on a separate line. Learning objectives will be used to secure AIA credits for the conference.

## **Brief Description (50 word maximum)**

Please provide a brief description of your proposed presentation topic.

**Presentation Description (250 word maximum)**

Please provide a detailed description of the content in your presentation. If selected, this description will be incorporated into the conference promotional materials.

**Cost Information (100 word maximum)**

Describe any available building construction and operations cost data, key funding mechanisms, and strategies pursued on the project. Are you able to share this information publicly?

**Equity (150 word maximum)**

Does your presentation address equity? If it does, please explain how.

**Impact (100 word maximum)**

Why is this presentation important?

***If your submission includes two presenters, please provide presenter information and demographics information for both. If your submission includes more than two presenters, please provide demographics information for two of them.***

**Presenter Information**

Name

Email

Phone Number

Professional Title

Organization

Speaking Experience

**Which categories best describe you? Select all that apply.**

Options:

American Indian or Alaska Native

Asian-- For example, Chinese, Filipino, Asian Indian, Vietnamese, Korean, Japanese

Black or African American

Hispanic or Latinx

Middle Eastern or North African

White

Some other race, ethnicity, or origin

**What is your gender identity?**

Male

Female

Non-binary/other

**Speaker Biography (150 word maximum)**

**Release Agreement**

By signing the release agreement, you are confirming that:

I am authorized by my employer to contribute to the 2023 Getting to Zero Forum and have the authority to grant the rights granted herein. If I have included in my contribution any materials in which

another person or entity has rights, I have obtained written permission from that person or entity to use, copy, distribute, perform, record, publicly display, and create derivative works from such materials, as well as the further right to grant such rights to the Forum.

As a contributor to the Getting to Zero Forum, I grant the non-exclusive, royalty free, and irrevocable right and license:

1. To use, copy, distribute, perform, record, publicly display, and create derivative works from my presentation proposal submission, presentation, presentation materials, and other documents related to my presentation, in all forms, including written, audio, video, and electronic media, whether now or known or hereafter created. I further grant the Forum the right to edit such materials to the extent that the Forum deems such editing to be necessary.
2. To use my name, likeness, voice, and biographical and other information concerning me solely in connection with the distribution, performance, or public display of my presentation.
3. I further understand that all right, title, and interest in and to the presentation materials will be and shall remain my exclusive property, subject only to the license granted herein.