



**NEW ENGLAND PUBLIC POLICY CENTER
FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF BOSTON**

Critical Issues for the Fiscal Health of New England Cities & Towns

<http://goo.gl/2VrCtg>

A small interactive seminar targeted to municipal officials and executives of municipal associations in the New England states.

Thursday, April 7, 2016

Harvard Faculty Club, 20 Quincy Street, Cambridge, MA

6:30-8:30 p.m. Reception and Dinner for participants and faculty

Friday, April 8, 2016

Lincoln House, 113 Brattle Street, Cambridge, MA

8:00 - 9:00 a.m. Sign-in and Continental Breakfast

9:00 – 9:15 a.m. Introduction

- *Joan Youngman*, Senior Fellow and Chair, Department of Valuation and Taxation, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy
- *Robert Triest*, Vice President and Director, New England Public Policy Center, Federal Reserve Bank of Boston
- **Moderator for the Day:** *Daphne A. Kenyon*, Fellow, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy

9:15 – 10:45 a.m. Economic Outlook and Fiscal Structure

- *Robert Triest*, Vice President and Director, New England Public Policy Center, Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, “Regional Economic Update”
- *Christiana McFarland*, Research Director, National League of Cities, “Cities and State Fiscal Structure: How Is New England Different?”
- *Bo Zhao*, Senior Economist, New England Public Policy Center, Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, “Local Option Taxes: Promises and Limitations”

10:45 – 11:00 a.m. Break

11:00 – 12:00 noon City Fiscal Sustainability: Lessons Learned

- *Michael Lawson*, Independent Consultant and Member of the Research Team for the George Mason University Fiscal Sustainability Project, “What Lessons Can We Draw from Baltimore’s Resilience and San Bernardino’s Fiscal Crisis?”
- *Peder Schaefer*, Associate Director, Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns, “Models for Identifying and Addressing Municipal Fiscal Stress”

12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

Lunch

1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

Financing Issues and Options

- *Ronald W. Rakow*, Commissioner of Assessing, City of Boston, “Meeting the Challenge: Examples of Boston’s Fiscal and Economic Development Initiatives”
- *Lourdes German*, Fellow, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, and Director of the Civic Innovation Project, “Accessing Capital Markets for Capital Needs: From the Basic to the Cutting Edge”
- *Richard England*, Visiting Fellow, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy and Professor of Economics, Paul College of Business and Economics, University of New Hampshire, “Current-Use Assessment of Rural Land in New England: Equity Effects and Reform Proposals”

2:30 – 2:45 p.m.

Break

2:45 – 3:45 p.m.

Local Government Technology: Opportunities and Risks

- *Adam Chapdelaine*, Town Manager, Arlington, Massachusetts, “Using Technology to Promote Transparency and Increase Citizen Trust”
- *Marc H. Pfeiffer*, Assistant Director and Senior Policy Fellow, Bloustein Local Government Research Center, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, “Managing Cyber and Five Other Technology Risks: What Municipal Officials and Senior Executives Need to Know”

3:45 p.m.

Adjourn