



November 4-6, 2026 | Salt Lake City, Utah

Elevating Innovation from the Ground Up

Wednesday, November 4th

8:00am - 4:30pm	Onsite Check-in at Salt Lake City Marriott Center
10:00am - 11:00am	Pre-Conference Session "Lead Without Speaking – The Importance of Nonverbal Communication" Erick Rheam
11:15am - 12:45pm	New Member/First Time Attendee Luncheon
1:00pm - 1:15pm	Conference Welcome Karla Organist, NREDA President Kris Williams, 2026 NREDA Annual Conference Chair
1:15pm - 2:15pm	"Rise Above Chaos and Discover Significance" Erick Rheam
2:15pm - 3:15pm	30-Day AI Challenge Panel Josh Seidemann
3:15pm - 3:30pm	Networking Break
3:30pm - 4:30pm	"Millennials and Entrepreneurship through Acquisition (ETA)" Diane Hartz Warsoff
4:30pm - 4:45pm	Closing Remarks
6:00pm - 8:00pm	President's Reception

Thursday, November 5th

8:00am – 5:00pm	Onsite Check-in at Salt Lake City Marriott Center
8:00am – 9:00am	NREDA Breakfast & Awards Ceremony
9:00am – 9:15am	Networking Break
9:15am – 10:15am	Breakout Sessions • Session 1: “NIMBYism” Lindsay Diehl • Session 2: Rural Housing Panel: “Programs, Funding Sources, New Development, and Revitalization” Lisa Hurley, Heather Presley-Cowen • Session 3: “Understanding the New Legislation on Opportunity Zones and New Market Tax Credits” Thane Hutcheson, Michael O’Mara
10:15am – 10:30am	Networking Break
10:30am – 11:30am	Breakout Sessions • Session 1: “NIMBYism” (<i>Repeat Session</i>) • Session 2: Rural Housing Panel: “Programs, Funding Sources, New Development, and Revitalization” (<i>Repeat Session</i>) • Session 3: The Bureau of Indian Affairs Division of Energy and Mineral Development
11:30am – 12:30pm	NREDA Lunch & Learn Ryan Mack, Visit Salt Lake
12:30pm – 12:45pm	Networking Break
12:45pm – 1:45pm	“Elevating the Pipeline: Developing the Community Leaders of Tomorrow, Today” Tamien Dysart
1:45pm – 2:00pm	Networking Break
2:00pm – 5:00pm	Mobile Classrooms • Double Decker Bus Tour of Salt Lake City • Gateway Mall Tour • Temple Square and Family Search Library Tour
5:00pm – 6:30pm	Networking Reception

Friday, November 6th

8:00am – 10:00am Onsite Check-in at Salt Lake City Marriott Center

8:30am – 9:30am NREDA Annual Business Meeting Breakfast

9:30am – 9:45am Networking Break

9:45am – 10:45am Site Selector Panel

Lindsay Diehl

Alex Patrick

Chris Wimsatt

10:45am – 11:45am Closing Keynote

Charlie Smith

11:45am – 12:00pm Conference Closing Remarks

Karla Organist, NREDA President

Kris Williams, 2026 NREDA Annual Conference Chair

SAVE THE DATE

2027 NREDA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

PITTSBURGH, PA

NOV. 3RD - 5TH



Mobile Classrooms

Thursday - November 5th 2:00pm-5:00pm

Double Decker Bus Tour of Salt Lake City

This double decker bus is fully enclosed on both decks. The route/itinerary covers Temple Square, the Cathedral of the Madeleine, the Utah State Capitol, a scenic drive through the Wasatch Foothills, This Is the Place Heritage Park and the Pioneer Center, and a tour of downtown Salt Lake City's development corridor — all with live expert commentary woven throughout.

Gateway Mall Tour

An overview of how The Gateway has successfully pivoted and evolved in response to market changes since the development of a competing shopping center just a few blocks away.

- Discussion of open, pending, & recently completed redevelopment at the center.
- Insights into strategies for attracting new businesses and retaining existing tenants.
- Perspectives on drawing visitors to the center and encouraging repeat visitation.
- Considerations on how external factors—such as surrounding area development, economic shifts, weather patterns, and changing consumer and business needs—are currently impacting the center.

Temple Square and Family Search Library (Limit of 40 Attendees)

Located in the heart of downtown Salt Lake City, historic Temple Square is one of the most popular tourist destinations in Utah and is the world headquarters of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

The five-city-block area draws millions of visitors from all over the world because of its research libraries, cultural activities and historic buildings. The centerpiece of the square is the Salt Lake Temple, the product of four decades of construction in the 19th century.

West of the main Temple Square block, those interested in learning more about genealogy flock to the Family History Library, the largest library of its kind in the world. Next door is the Church History Museum, which tells the story of the worldwide Church through educational exhibits and programs.