















2018 Commercial Real Estate & Government Day Speakers

Wednesday, January 31st, 2018



Daniel Meyer, DNR Secretary

Secretary Meyer represented the 34th district in the state assembly from 2001-2013 and was a member of the Natural Resources committee, Veterans and Military Affairs committee and served on the Joint Committee on Finance for four terms including time as vice chair of that committee in 2007 and 2011.

An avid outdoorsman who enjoys hunting, fishing, biking and hiking, Secretary Meyer was a strong advocate for the environment during his time in the legislature especially in the area of protecting our lakes against invasive species.

A former executive director of Eagle River Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Center, Secretary Meyer currently resides with his family in Eagle River where he was also the mayor from 1997-2001.



Mark Hogan, Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation CEO

Mark R. Hogan is secretary and CEO of the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation (WEDC), Wisconsin's lead economic development organization.

Mark's work experience includes almost four decades at M&I Marshall & Ilsley Bank and BMO Harris Bank. He retired in 2010 as M&I's executive vice president and chief credit officer before signing on to serve as senior adviser to BMO Harris in 2011.

A Green Bay native, Mark earned a bachelor's degree in finance from the University of Notre Dame and received his MBA from Marquette University.

Mark is a board member for the Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority (WHEDA). His extensive civic activity also currently includes serving on the boards of the Children's Hospital and Health System, Divine Savior Holy Angels High School and the Cristo Rey Jesuit High School in Milwaukee, as well as the Archdiocese of Milwaukee Finance Council. He has also served on the boards of the Better Business Bureau of Wisconsin, the Milwaukee County Historical Society, Marquette University High School and Mount Mary University, among others.



Tricia Braun, Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation Deputy Secretary/COO

Tricia Braun is chief operating officer for the WEDC. Previously WEDC's vice president of economic and community development, Tricia brings nearly 20 years of economic development leadership experience in three states. Before joining WEDC in November 2013, she was the director of economic development in Riverside, Calif., a city of more than 300,000 people. In that role, she oversaw the attraction and subsequent construction of numerous major commercial and industrial projects that brought thousands of new jobs and several hundred million dollars in new capital investment to Riverside. She was also a key leader in efforts to develop Riverside's economic development strategy, "Seizing Our Destiny," a collaboration-based movement centered on improving the overall quality of life in the region. Prior to becoming COO in February 2015, Tricia served as vice president, and before that regional development and attraction director.

A graduate of the University of Wisconsin-River Falls, Tricia has also served as community development director in Zumbrota, Minn., and as executive director of the River Falls Area Chamber of Commerce



Evan Goyke, Wisconsin State Representative

Evan Goyke is an American lawyer, an instructor at Marquette University and former assistant state public defender, who is a member of the Wisconsin State Assembly. He was first elected in 2012 as a Democrat, succeeding fellow Democrat Tamara Grigsby.

Representative Goyke grew up in Madison, moving to Milwaukee to attend Marquette University Law School. Prior to his election in 2012, he served as an attorney in the Office of the Wisconsin State Public Defender as an Adjunct Professor of Law at Marquette.

Representative Goyke serves for the 18th Assembly District. For the 2017-2018 Legislative Session Representative Goyke series as a Ranking Member for the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee, Ranking Member of the Family Law Committee, as well as the Corrections, Veteran and Military Affairs and Housing Committees.



Alberta Darling, Wisconsin State Senator

Senator Alberta Darling was elected to the Wisconsin State Assembly in 1990 and the State Senate in 1992. A resident of River Hills, she represents Wisconsin's 8th Senate District. Alberta entered public service with a commitment to protecting, educating, and improving the lives of children.

Milwaukee Magazine named Senator Darling one of the Most Influential People in Milwaukee. The magazine declared her as "arguably the most powerful woman in state government." Alberta has won both the Iron Lady Award and the Margaret Thatcher Award from RightWisconsin.

Senator Darling serves as the co-chair of the Joint Committee on Finance, the state's budget-writing committee. Her leadership helped turn the state's finances around from a multi-billion dollar deficit to a multi-million dollar surplus. She remains dedicated to creating an economic climate that retains and attracts high-quality job opportunities for Wisconsin workers and families while remaining fair and responsible to taxpayers.



Roger Roth, Wisconsin State Senator

Born in Appleton, Roger went to St. Mary's Central High School in Menasha and is a graduate of UW-Oshkosh. Following graduation from UW-Oshkosh, Roger continued to lead the family construction business, building homes across Northeastern Wisconsin, and joined the Wisconsin Air National Guard. He served four tours in the Middle East, having been deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and three times in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Roger continues to serve in the Wisconsin Air National Guard holding the rank of 2nd Lt.

In 2006, Roger was elected to represent the 56th Assembly District, and was later elected as State Senator of the 19th Senate District in 2014. In his first term as a State Senator, Roger served as the chair of the Workforce Development, Public Works, and Military Affairs Committee. For the 2017-18 legislative session, Roger's Senate colleagues elected him as President of the Senate, at the age of 38, Roger is tied for the youngest senator to hold the position.

He has authored numerous bills including legislation that reforms the state civil service system, empowers victims of domestic violence, authorizes state prosecution of anyone impersonating military service for personal gain, and helps promote veteran-owned businesses.



Tom Larson, WRA Senior Vice President of Legal and Public Affairs for WRA, Chief Lobbyist for NAIOP Wisconsin

Tom Larson, Senior Vice President of Legal and Public Affairs, is the chief lobbyist for the Wisconsin REALTORS® Association and NAIOP Wisconsin. Mr. Larson began his career with the WRA in 1996, and oversees the WRA's lobbying, political operations and legal services.

Tom has been actively involved in the creation and enactment of numerous state laws and policies impacting property owners and the real estate industry. He is a member of the Wisconsin State Bar, admitted to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court, and often serves on various committees and task forces for the State of Wisconsin and the National Association of REALTORS®.