



tomorrow's pioneers in economic development

JOIN NEXT 2025:

A leadership conference for emerging economic developers

Consultant Connect is excited to present NEXT, our 2025 mini-conference designed for emerging leaders in economic development. NEXT brings together 20-25 trailblazers eager to share best practices, discuss innovative strategies, and grow professionally as a close-knit cohort.

Equal parts professional development and fun, "NEXTers" form a strong network, providing invaluable support to each other as they rise in the field. You'll learn from top site selectors and industry experts, exploring new ideas and strategies to enhance the profession, develop personally, and shape the future.

WHY ATTEND NEXT?

- **Professional Growth:** Engage in sessions that offer cutting-edge insights and practical strategies.
- **Networking:** Build lasting connections with fellow emerging leaders and industry experts.
- **Innovative Ideas:** Discover new approaches to advance your career and the economic development field.

For Returning Participants:

If you attended NEXT in 2023 or 2024, join us again in 2025 to reconnect with peers and delve into new material that builds on last year's learnings.

For New Participants:

Welcome! We are thrilled to have you join a cohort of economic developers ready to take the next step in their leadership journey.

TOPICS:

Built for emerging economic developers

NEXT is returning to its roots in 2025! This year's mini-conference will take place in Kalamazoo, Michigan—the birthplace of Consultant Connect and our cherished NEXT program. NEXT is dedicated to blending the best in economic development practices with impactful leadership development training. Led by Carla Sones, president of Consultant Connect and a certified Gallup Strengths coach, the sessions will equip you with actionable insights and practical skills to excel. Plus, hear directly from 1-2 site consultants as they share innovative best practices shaping the industry. All this and more awaits you at NEXT 2025!



July 16-18

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Radisson Plaza Hotel*

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Only 25 seats available for 2025

Price is \$3,500 per seat which includes your hotel stay, Gallup Strengths Assessment, and two executive coaching sessions.