

PLACES

ELLENSBURG • OCTOBER 6-8, 2026

PLACE-BASED LEADERSHIP KARRIE'S ITINERARY



KARRIE POLINSKY

**BOARD PRESIDENT AND RETAIL
MERCHANT
GIG HARBOR WATERFRONT
ALLIANCE**

I'm excited to attend the PLACES Conference wearing both my board president and retail merchant hats. I look forward to discovering fresh ideas, strengthening partnerships, supporting our director, and turning collaboration into action that drives economic growth and creates a downtown where people want to linger, connect, shop, and enjoy our community.

Itineraries are generally focused on classroom sessions and mobile tours. Some itinerary writers have added special events and restaurants they're looking forward to. You'll also be able to catch them throughout the week at conference-wide events not included on these itineraries.

Please note: Mobile tours (denoted with 🚌) are separately ticketed—be sure to purchase tickets at registration if you'd like to join!

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7

9:00-10:00 AM | MORE THAN A LOGO: DEFINING PLACE IDENTITY ACROSS CENTRAL WASHINGTON

Kittitas County Historical Museum

10:30-11:30 AM | THROUGH LINES: TURNING SHARED VALUES INTO SHARED ACTION

The INK by Gallery One

11:30 AM-1:30 PM | LUNCH

I'll be eating at the Early Bird Eatery (412 N Main St) today!

1:30-2:30 PM | DOUBLE-HEADER: BIG MOMENT, BOLD WAYFINDING: PHYSICAL AND DIGITAL DONE RIGHT AND GROWING TOGETHER: A COMMUNITY VISION FOR PUBLIC SPACE

Dining Room, Ellensburg IOOF Lodge #20

3:00-4:30 PM | SHARED LEADERSHIP FOR STRONGER MAIN STREETS: ALIGNING BOARDS AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

Elks Grand Ballroom, Hotel Windrow

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8

9:00-10:00 AM | DOUBLE-HEADER: FROM BARE BONES TO SUSTAINABLE: HOW A SMALL NONPROFIT ADDED HEALTH BENEFITS AND CULTURAL ADVOCACY IN WASHINGTON: BUILDING POWER FOR ARTS, HERITAGE, AND SCIENCE

Kittitas County Historical Museum

10:30-11:30 AM | DOUBLE-HEADER: EVENTS AS A GATEWAY: USING DOWNTOWN EVENTS TO DRIVE BUSINESS DISCOVERY AND BRINGING A HISTORIC COMMUNITY TRADITION BACK TO LIFE: THE PENDLETON STREET FAIR MODEL

Elks Grand Ballroom, Hotel Windrow

11:30 AM-1:30 PM | LUNCH

I'll be eating at Palace Cafe (323 N Main St) today!

1:30-2:30 PM | FROM FEDERAL INVESTMENT TO COMMUNITY IMPACT: OTHELLO'S PLACEMAKING STORY

Kittitas County Historical Museum

3:00-4:00 PM | BUILDING COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS TO DRIVE LOCAL ECONOMIC GROWTH

The INK by Gallery One