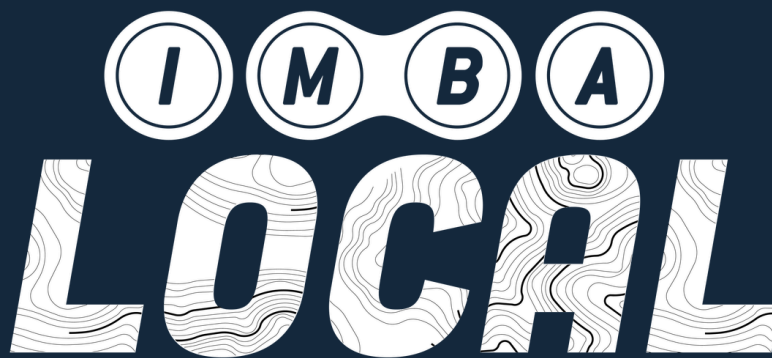




Leadership Summit

AGENDA

Santa Fe, New Mexico | October 8 & 9, 2026

Stronger Organizations Build Better Trails
Scaling Impact

Summit Speakers



Karina Armijo

Director
New Mexico Outdoor
Recreation Division



Aaron Clark

Policy Manager
IMBA



Carl Colonias

Program Manager
New Mexico Outdoor
Recreation Division



Anthony Duncan

Director of Local Programs
IMBA



Patrick Kell

Senior Partnerships Manager
IMBA



Kalem Lenard

Cañon Consulting
Formerly BLM
Royal Gorge Field Office



Jason Robertson

Swiftwater Consulting
Formerly USFS Region 2



Dave Wiens

Lead Trail Champion
IMBA

Wednesday, October 7, 2026

5:30 - 7:00 PM | Welcome Reception at Coffee Lodge - Glorieta Adventure Camp

Kick off the summit, pick up your materials, and connect with fellow attendees at our Welcome Reception, hosted at the Coffee Lodge inside Glorieta Adventure Camp. Unwind from your travels and enjoy happy hour with refreshing drinks, light bites, and conversation.

Thursday, October 8, 2026

Building the Foundation

8:00 - 8:30 AM | Registration, Breakfast, Networking at New Mexico Hall - Glorieta Adventure Camp

8:30 - 9:00 AM | Welcome to the IMBA Local Summit

Anthony Duncan - IMBA Director of Local Programs

We will kick off by aligning our vision and defining the goals for the program ahead. In this interactive opening, you will benchmark your current standing, identify partnerships, and think about your 90-day goal to maximize your impact.

9:00 - 9:30 AM | Opening Keynote: Shifting from Recreation to Community Infrastructure

Karina Armijo - New Mexico's Outdoor Recreation Division Director

Explore the critical shift in perspective needed to reframe outdoor recreation not just as leisure activity, but as crucial infrastructure that builds community. One of the leading pieces of outdoor recreation infrastructure which is currently lacking in many places are high-quality trails systems for walking/hiking, trail running, mountain biking and in some places, equestrian and traditional motorized use. Learn how to leverage an evolving landscape to secure broader public support, stronger funding, and deeper civic integration for local trail systems that will contribute to community health and wellness, while also being a robust economic driver.

9:30 - 10:15 AM | Panel: Building Public and Private Partnerships

Moderator: Aaron Clark - IMBA Policy Manager

Panelists

- Carl Colonias - New Mexico's Outdoor Recreation Division Director Program Manager
- Jason Robertson - Swiftriver Consulting, Formerly USFS Region 2
- Kalem Lenard - Canon Consulting, Formerly BLM Field Office

Explore how local trail nonprofits can build relationships to become partners for land management agencies and state offices. Representatives from the BLM, USFS, and the O-REC office will share firsthand insights into what they need from local groups to cut through red tape and accelerate quality trail development.

10:15 - 10:30 AM | Break

10:30 - 11:00 AM | Shaping Perception: Strategic Positioning for Trail Organizations

Dave Wiens - IMBA Executive Director

Define what your organization does and just as importantly, what it does not do to establish a clear, focused identity in your community. This session explores how your trail organization might be perceived and provides strategies to leverage your brand to unlock funding, attract volunteers, and avoid mission creep.

11:00 - 12:00 PM | Building a Sustainable & Scalable Trail Organization

Anthony Duncan - IMBA Director of Local Programs

Tackle the balance between community demand and organizational capacity by identifying the triggers that signal readiness to scale. Participants will audit their organizational sustainability, from volunteer recruitment to budgeting, and walk away with the framework to guide their growth.

12:00 - 1:00 PM | Lunch

1:00 - 2:00 PM | No Money, No Trails: Building a Real Funding Strategy

Patrick Kell - IMBA Senior Partnerships Manager

Demystify the funding landscape by learning to distinguish between capital for one-off trail projects and the sustainable revenue needed to keep your organization running. By exploring the psychology of donors to understand why funders invest, you will walk away with actionable, diversified strategies to fuel both your trails and your operations.

2:00 - 3:00 PM | What's Changing on Federal Lands and Why It Matters to You

Aaron Clark - IMBA Policy Manager

Navigate the complex world of federal policy shifts by unpacking the latest USFS reorganization, NEPA reform, and travel management updates. This session gets straight to the so what, revealing how these top-down changes impact the timelines, approvals, and success of your local trail projects.

3:30 PM | Group Ride led by Fat Tire Society

After a day in the classroom, jump on your bike and join the group ride led by the Fat Tire Society. It's the perfect chance to shake off your legs, explore Glorieta's legendary singletrack, and connect with fellow attendees.

Friday, October 9, 2026

Building the System

8:00 - 8:30 AM | Breakfast, Networking

8:30 - 9:15 AM | The Opportunity Ahead: A Connected Trail Vision for New Mexico

Dave Wiens - IMBA Executive Director

Discover the power of a coordinated statewide trail system and why cohesive, state-level organizing is important for driving meaningful change regardless of your home state. By contrasting the high costs of fragmentation against the economic, health, and community benefits of alignment, this session showcases how unified advocacy unlocks massive opportunities for local networks.

9:15 - 9:30 AM | Break

9:30 - 10:30 AM | Strategy Labs: Solving the Scale Problem (Sessions 1 & 2)

Participate in hands-on breakout labs designed to tackle the operational bottlenecks holding your organization back from scaling. Over two interactive rotations, you will choose between building organizational structure, securing sustainable funding, or developing stewardship models that prevent volunteer burnout.

1. Build: Building Local Organization
2. Fund: Discuss funding
3. Maintain: Stewardship models that don't burn out volunteers.

10:30 - 10:45 AM | Break

10:45 - 11:15 AM | Strategic Planning for Local Organizations

Anthony Duncan - IMBA Director of Local Programs

Break down the core elements of strategic planning and learn how to translate big-picture visions into manageable, everyday operations for your trail organization. This session provides the practical tools needed to establish clear milestones, align your board, and move toward a strategy that keeps your trail organization resilient.

11:15 - 11:45 AM | Turning Inspiration into Action

Anthony Duncan - IMBA Director of Local Programs

Reflect on your summit insights to finalize your top priorities, target partners, and a 90-day action plan before heading home. Leave the summit with clear, immediate steps and momentum for your trail organization.

11:45 - 12:30 PM | Lunch

1:00 PM | Group Ride Led by Fat Tire Society

Cap off the summit with our closing group ride, celebrating the connections made on and off the trail. Led by the Fat Tire Society, this final lap through Glorieta Adventure Camp is the perfect high-energy send-off.

* Agenda is subject to change.

Contact Us

For questions, please contact IMBA Local:

local@imba.com

Event logistics and registration:

www.imba.com/event/imba-local-leadership-summit