



## REGIONAL ECONOMIC SUMMIT

Port of New Orleans Auditorium

Wednesday, April 15, 2015

# Program

8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.  
Auditorium Lobby

Registration  
Welcome Reception & Continental Breakfast

9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.  
Auditorium

Metro New Orleans Workforce Development & Retention

- **Abhay Patel**, Director of Business Development & Industry - New Orleans Business Alliance
- **Jana Sikdar**, Executive Director - GNO, Inc.
- **Jessica Shahein**, Executive Director – 504Ward

○ 45 Minute Presentation / 15 Minute Q & A

10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.  
Auditorium Lobby

Break

10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.  
Auditorium

Statewide Business Development

- **Iftikhar Ahmad**, Director of Aviation – Louis Armstrong International Airport
- **David Conner**, Vice President of Economic Development & International Services - Alliance for Southwest Louisiana Business Development
- **Karen Parsons**, AICP Principal Planner - Regional Planning Commission for Jefferson, Orleans and Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Tammany, Tangipohoa Parishes

○ 45 Minute Presentation / 15 Minute Q & A