ETcompetes! Speakers Series

**Tuesday, April 30**
6-7:30 p.m.
Pellissippi State Community College
10915 Hardin Valley Road
Knoxville, TN 37932
Goins Building Auditorium

This event is free and open to the public. RSVP to 215-2694 or contact@planeasttn.org

More information is available on the PlanET website.

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**ETcompetes! Speakers Series 2013 Begins April 30**
PlanET is beginning a speakers series that will include national and regional speakers who will address many of the issues and opportunities identified at the ETcompetes! symposium held in January.

![Chuck Marohn](image)
Our first speaker is Chuck Marohn from Strong Towns, a non-profit, non-partisan organization that helps America's towns achieve financial strength and resiliency. He brings his Curbside Chat program to East Tennessee and addresses the causes and impacts of the current economic crisis. Curbside Chat examines case studies on the finances of America’s development patterns, reviews “dead ideas” of the suburban era we need to shed and proposes strategies for adjusting to the new realities we face.

Please join us as Mr. Marohn discusses how local governments have failed to consider the long-term returns on public investments, adopting a pattern of development that creates massive maintenance costs.

Attendees will learn more about:
* Increasing your town’s financial resiliency
* Maximizing the return on your community’s investments
* Building places worthy of admiration

This event is free and open to the public. RSVP to 215-2694 or contact@planeasttn.org.

We are seeking continuing education and professional development credits for those who attend this series (PE, MTAS & CTAS, AIA, AICP).

More information is available on the PlanET website.

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**PlanET Perspectives Guest Blog Series**
Every few weeks, a different East Tennessee leader will share ideas and strategies that can help make the region stronger, more resilient and competitive place to call home. Our first guest contribution is:

**Encouraging the Next Generation of Skilled Workers**
Jennifer Evans, Vice President of Public Policy, Knoxville Chamber
Students Share Their Visions for the Future
How would you change your community for the future?
Six students from Austin-East High School answered that question last Saturday as a part of PlanET's Digital Storytelling project.

PlanET worked with a project team that included Project GRAD Knoxville, the Carpet Bag Theatre Inc., the Knox County Health Department, and East Knoxville Community Organizer, Mickeeya Harrison to better understand how youth, particularly in East Knoxville, want their communities to look and feel in the years to come.

The students began working on the project early this year with the goal of exploring and formulating their own views on issues related to the environment, transportation, housing and neighborhoods, individual and community health, and the local and regional economy.

After creating their own digital stories relating how they want their communities to grow, they worked with the Carpet Bag Theatre, Inc. to brainstorm ideas and select images and sounds to enhance their stories.

"The goal is to ultimately instill these students with enough know-how and skill in their project area to be able to talk to other youths about these issues, help them tell their own stories, and eventually show how the youth in different regions and communities see their areas," said Sherith Colverson, outreach coordinator for Plan East Tennessee.

All the videos are available on PlanET's YouTube channel.