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A Publication of the American Planning Association Washington Chapter

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June President's Report

By Jill Sterrett, FAICP



Jill Sterrett—President, APA Washington

As I'm nearing the end of my term as Chapter President, I am reflecting back on some of the successes of this 2-year period. I have been fortunate to have a great Board of Directors to work with, and many of these successes are due to their efforts.

Connections with National APA—Previous chapter presidents had not been able to attend national leadership meetings regularly because of budget constraints and schedule conflicts. I have had the good fortune to attend these twice-yearly events, and I believe that the Chapter has benefitted from that participation. I always returned with new ideas on national issues affecting planning, awareness of changes at national APA, and information on activities that other chapters are undertaking that influence our direction.

I was lucky that my term coincided with Mitch Silver's national presidency. If you caught his presentation at the 2011 conference, you know what an inspiration he can be. I applaud his efforts at

"One APA" that is resulting in more linkages between chapters and divisions, and between levels of the organization.

Communications Outward—Our chapter has initiated new steps to reach beyond the planning community to educate others on the value of planning. These efforts include:

- Hiring a communications advisor to help us connect with the media;
- Appointing a volunteer Press Officer (Robin McClelland) to develop those media relationships over the next few years;
- Getting proclamations passed in 2012 by 35 cities recognizing their citizen planners and staff as part of National Community Planning Month; and
- Developing a Speakers Bureau to address planning commissions and city councils on topics such as demographic trends and climate change.

Member Services—Improved the organization and retrievability of our archived records (again, thanks to Ivan). We are one of the larger chapters in the nation, with over 1200 members. Chapter leaders recognize that our primary role is to serve those members. Our recent achievements include:

- Establishing a membership benefits program that, among other things, clearly differentiates services for members only from those offered to others. Ferdouse Oneza led this effort.
- Hosting great annual conferences (such as Portland in 2011 and Olympia in 2012) that provided a wealth of information, CM credits, and networking opportunities, all to help our members in their work. Thanks to Chad Eiken in 2011 and Deborah Munkberg in 2012 for leading those events.
- Supporting experienced planners with study sessions to prepare for the AICP exam. Thirty-three planners have passed the exam in the last 18 months, and the May 2013 results are yet to come.

Thanks to those who served as instructors, and to Nancy Ecklund who organized the study sessions.

- Guiding our Chapter's planning leaders through the bi-annual FAICP nomination process. We were pleased to have Mark Kulaas inducted as an FAICP honoree in 2011.

Legislative efforts—We have a very active legislative committee (headed by Esther Larsen and Josh Peters) that reviews and takes positions on proposed legislation that affects planning in our state. The committee also conducts a bill proposal process to develop new legislation. With leadership from Joe Tovar and Kamuron Gurol, we are developing a legislative effort that will take a comprehensive look at planning laws in our state. It is our intent to coordinate disparate laws where they exist, and to address emerging issues that are not well-founded in current law.

Community Planning Action Teams (CPAT)—CPAT helps small jurisdictions address planning issues through a charrette process. It has been led by Paula Reeves and Kristian Kofed for many years, and is now transitioning to Bob Bengford's care. During the past two years, CPAT started a new program of providing speakers on planning topics to neighborhood planning groups in the Puget Sound region.

Organize the Organization—As one of the goals established in our 2011 strategic plan, the Board of Directors has:

- Updated the bylaws to allow the Board more flexibility to modify committee structures and membership as the Chapter's needs change;
- Established a policy record for continuity in decision-making;
- Created a Board Handbook for reference and to get new board members up to speed quickly on their duties (thanks to Ivan Miller); and
- Improved the organization and retrievability of our archived records (again, thanks to Ivan).

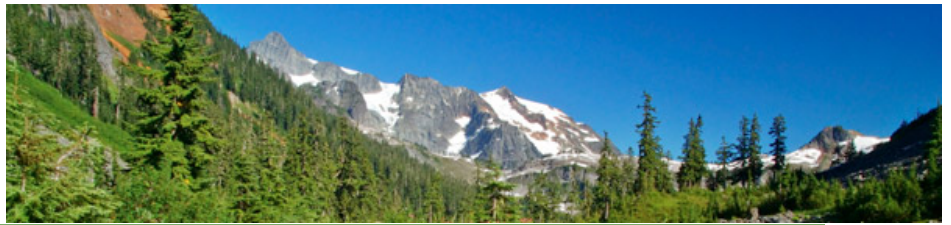
Financial Stability—The Chapter had serious financial problems when I took office. That condition was due to the recession, loss of membership, poor conference attendance and an outdated membership fee structure. Under Scott Greenberg, we adopted a new fee structure that addresses the revenue needs of the Chapter. With that change and successful conferences in 2011 and 2012, we are back on a sound financial footing.

These are just a few of our accomplishments over the past two years. We will be preparing a State of the Chapter report later this year to give the full picture. By then, we will have even more successes to report about, including:

- The Daniel Burnham Big Ideas Forum
- Launch of the Speaker's Bureau for City officials,
- The first Youth Summit on Climate Change,
- The 2013 state conference, and
- Results from the continuing actions described above.

Finally, I want to offer special thanks to the leadership group. Ivan Miller (both years), Scott Greenberg (2011), and Laura Hudson (2012) helped make solid decisions, took on special projects, and helped me become better organized! I am very pleased to hand over the gavel to Ivan, our incoming president, to continue the work we have begun.

Thanks to all of you members who have volunteered for tasks, participated in events, and provided feedback on my newsletter articles. You made the whole job worthwhile!



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Legislative Update

By Michael Shaw



The 2013 legislative session ended on April 28th, and the first special session started on May 13th. The first day of special session lasted only a few hours. The House adjourned before noon, and only a handful of senators had appeared in Olympia.

The Legislature began what is referred to as a "rolling recess." The budget negotiators are so far from reaching a deal that instead of bringing all the legislators to Olympia, only a few will stay and formally adjourn each day's proceedings. Because they are technically still in session, the legislators

cannot fundraise, but the rolling recess saves the State from paying the legislators per diem. Some lobbyists are speculating on whether a deal is possible before the end of the fiscal year, June 30th.

The negotiations are particularly tough this time because the House and the Senate passed budgets that were very different in how they were structured: The House raised \$1.3 billion in additional revenue, while the Senate generated over \$1 billion in additional spending for basic education within current revenues. The rhetoric on both sides is harsh regarding the other's budget assumptions and spending. Neither side believes the other's budget proposal is sustainable.

The Governor has held several press events pushing for action on a transportation revenue package, and on his DUI bill. The transportation revenue package appears stuck until an operating budget deal is made. It is not clear whether the Governor would call for another special session to pass a transportation measure. The DUI bill has been substantially reworked, but may not pass unless funding can be found to support its provisions. It is unlikely the Legislature will stay to work on either proposal once a budget deal is made.

Only 352 bills passed the Legislature, the fewest such number in a regular session since 1983. If a budget cannot be adopted prior to the end of June, this Legislature may be remembered as ineffective as any in recent memory.

Michael Shaw is the APA Washington lobbyist



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APA Washington's membership recruitment drive

For the first time, APA Washington is launching a membership recruitment drive. Growing our membership helps strengthen the Chapter's excellent services—conferences and trainings, community assistance teams, relevant newsletter and website content, legislative programs, and more.

The recruitment drive will run concurrently with the APA Washington's 2013 Statewide Conference registration period, from **June 15th to October 2nd**. Chapter members who recruit new members during this window will be eligible for the following discounts on their conference registration fee:

- \$30 discount for each regular and chapter-only member recruited; and
- \$15 discount for each student member recruited.

Note that a new member is defined as anyone who has not been a member of APA Washington in the previous 12 months.

Don't miss this opportunity to save money on your conference registration fee! Bring your co-workers, staff and friends into the APA Washington community during the membership recruitment drive. They will then enjoy networking, training, participating in the legislative process, and many more benefits!

There are just a few simple steps:

- **For the new member:** Direct the new member to: <http://www.planning.org/join/planners/>. From this link, they can download an application form in pdf, or "[join online](#)". For Chapter-Only membership, they can write "Chapter-Only" across the front of a regular membership application form and submit it, along with the fee (currently \$83) to the National APA office.
- **For the recruiter:** When the recruiter registers for the state conference, the registration form will have a field to fill in the name of the new member(s) recruited. As soon as the new member's name shows up on our membership list, a rebate check will be sent to the recruiter.

For additional information, contact the Chapter office at office@washington-apa.org or Ferdouse Oneza, AICP, Membership Committee Chair, at foneza@gmail.com



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Meet the Press

By Robin McClelland, FAICP

APA Washington has a lot going on. This summer, Paula Reeves heads up a Youth Climate Summit; the fall conference will showcase Bellevue; a membership renewal drive is underway; and, the host committee for the 2015 APA National Conference in Seattle is at work.

Our efforts are newsworthy, if we get the word out to the right places. This is the challenge of the chapter's interest in forming an Office of Press Agent. I agreed to serve in this capacity on a temporary basis to help set things in motion, and to seek a permanent agent to fill the office.

Any takers? If you have experience working with the media, can write a press release, and are willing to seek opportunities to place us in the news, this may be your job. It could be lots of fun. The "bones" are in place, thanks to outgoing Chapter President Jill Sterrett who engaged the public relations firm, Natalie Quick Consulting, to perform the initial work. Natalie prepared a strategic communications plan, provided a media contact list, and conducted a Media 101 Training session last spring. She outlined how to craft and refine our messages for different media outlets. All of these materials are available for establishing our press office.

If you are interested, please contact me at (206) 546-1717 or robinsink@comcast.net. I will gladly work with a few good planners who would like to take on this job for the chapter.

We have great stories to share with the public about the role planning plays in our communities. Please offer to help spread the word.



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AICP/Certificate Maintenance News

By Nancy Eklund, AICP

CONGRATULATIONS TO NEW AICP MEMBERS



This past November saw a first in many years for APA Washington planners taking the AICP Exam—**100 percent** of those who sat for the exam passed!! This is an awesome number when you consider that, across the country, only 63 percent passed. Be sure to congratulate our newly-certified members on this professional and personal achievement!

Kathleen Baker, AICP
Angie Brewer, AICP
Amalia Cody, AICP
Kevin Cricchio, AICP
John Donahue, AICP

Carolyn Johnson, AICP
Wesley Kirkman, AICP
James Mc Hendry, AICP
Kell McAboy, AICP
Valerie Smith, AICP

AICP EXAM DEADLINES, SCHOLARSHIP

If you are thinking of taking the AICP Exam, please take note of these approaching deadlines:

- Exam application window opens: June 4th
- Early Bird Application Deadline: June 18th
- Final Application Deadline: July 30th
- Testing Window: November 4th through 18th

AICP REDUCED FEE SCHOLARSHIP

ALSO, if you are interested, the APA Washington is able to offer two Reduced Fee Scholarships for the November AICP exam. Please download the application from the [AICP page](#) of the Chapter website and submit it no later than Friday, July 12th. There is a specific process APA wants scholarship recipients to follow when submitting their applications. If you are interested, please contact me at (206) 495-1443 or at nancy.e eklund@boeing.com. Scholarship recipients will be notified by July 17th. Recipients pay the fees as follows:

- First Time applicants: \$135 (\$70 application fee + \$65 exam fee)
- Previously approved applicants: \$65 (exam fee only)

THANK YOU TO AICP EXAM PREP PARTICIPANTS & DONORS

We extend thanks to the certified planners who generously contributed their time to lead segments of the 2013 AICP Exam Prep Session that was held at this past March. Twenty-three planners registered for the day-long class held at South Seattle Community College. Please thank the following members for their

contributions to enhancing the planning profession:

James McHendry, AICP
(Huitt-Zollars)

Katie Baker, AICP
(City of Puyallup)

Rick Sepler, AICP
(City of Port Townsend)

John Doan, AICP
(City of Tumwater)

Michael Hubner, AICP
(Puget Sound Regional Council)

Kevin O'Neill, AICP
(Seattle Department of Transportation)

Tim Trohimovich, AICP
(Futurewise)

Chris Comeau, AICP
(Bellingham Public Works Engineering)



Nancy Eklund, AICP is the Chapter Professional Development Officer

American Planning Association **Washington Chapter**

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COMPREHENSIVE BICYCLE PLANNING AND DESIGN

Sunday, August 25th through Thursday, August 29th



Initiative for Bicycle and Pedestrian Innovation
Center for Transportation Studies
Portland State University

The course covers the fundamentals of bikeway planning and design through an intensive week of interactive classroom and field experience. Instructors will integrate topics such as transit access and connections, bridges, trail crossings, and other special features into the daily discussions.

More information, including costs and registration instructions, can be found at:
<http://www.pdx.edu/ibpi/upcoming-courses>.

REGIONAL SHORT COURSE ON LOCAL PLANNING

June 5th, 2013, 6:30PM to 9:30PM

Co-Hosted by: The Cities of Olympia and Tumwater

Olympia City Hall Council Chambers

601 E Fourth Ave,
Olympia, WA

Offered by the State Department of Commerce and the Planning Association of Washington, the Short Course on Local Planning is a great training opportunity for local officials to learn more about comprehensive planning and community development, and how to be involved in the land use planning process.

Everyone is welcome to attend, and there is no charge. Registration is required: <http://www.wciapool.org/>

For more information about the Short Course, visit www.commerce.wa.gov/growth. Contact Katie Madsen at Katiem@wciapool.org (206) 575-6046 if you have questions about registration.



Department of Commerce
Innovation is in our nature.



Planning Association of Washington

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON—ONLINE MIPM

The University of Washington Department of Urban Design and Planning offers a Master of Infrastructure Planning and Management (MIPM). This fully-accredited online degree program is intended for working professionals throughout the nation. The curriculum blends strategic planning and systems theory, making it unique from programs that only teach conventional emergency management methods. The MIPM program is guided by an advisory board of UW faculty and professionals in the field.

Prospective students are invited to apply through July 15th. For admissions information, visit the website: <http://www.infrastructure-management.uw.edu/mipm/admissions>, or call (206) 685-6447.

[View pdf flyer.](#)

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