

# A SHORTCOURSE

## ON LOCAL PLANNING



Department of Commerce  
Innovation is in our nature.

SHORT COURSE NEWS

November 2014



Planning Association  
of Washington



American Planning Association  
Washington Chapter



### Book now for 2015 Short Courses

If your community is approaching a comprehensive plan update, training a new contingent of planning commissioners, or examining specific local issues and would like a broad view, the Short Course on Local Planning is available. E-mail [Anne.Fritzel@commerce.wa.gov](mailto:Anne.Fritzel@commerce.wa.gov) or call 360.725.3064 to request a short course in your area.

### APA Washington newest Short Course partner

Commerce and PAW are pleased to welcome the Washington Chapter of the American Planning Association as a new Short Course partner. *This expanded partnership sends a united message that planning works in Washington, and that successful communities don't happen by accident.* Other partners have been contributing over the long term. Since 2009, the Washington Cities Insurance Authority (WCIA), a liability insurance risk pool, has also been supporting the Short Course program because education is recognized as a tool for reducing land-use liability.

### New Short Course videos on the Web

The Department of Commerce, in coordination with partners, has produced a series of 10-minute videos that cover all the topics in the Short Course on Local Planning. These videos are intended to provide short course information on demand, rather than waiting for an in-person Short Course to be held locally. The first videos in the 10-part series will be ready this fall. Also added this year to our video listings are Special Short Course videos on Urban Forestry, Economic Development, Sustainable Development and Infill Development for Small Cities. See these on the [Short Course web site](#).

### Open Public Meetings Act training now required

The Short Course has long included information on the Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA). As of July 1, 2014 (ESB 5964), training on the OPMA is required for every member of a governing body. In light of this new law, Commerce worked with the Office of the Attorney General to assure the Short Course includes required information for Planning Commissioners and other board members. Elected officials and public records officers require additional training on the Public Records Act. These trainings are also available for viewing on-line at [atg.wa.gov/OpenGovernmentTraining.aspx](http://atg.wa.gov/OpenGovernmentTraining.aspx).

### Thank you 2014 Short Course presenters!

In 2014, eighteen Short Courses on Local Planning were presented in all corners of the state, serving more than 550 people. Audience members included planning commissioners (one third), state and local government staff (another third), and elected officials (20 percent). We extend a big thank you to all **the organizations** that hosted the course, and to all the presenters including **attorneys** Mike Connelly, Ken Harper, Bob Mack, Jeff Myers, Phil Olbrechts, Elizabeth Tellessen, and Grant Weed and **planners and special guests** including Ryan Andrews, Jennifer Aylor, Chaz Bates, Leonard Bauer, Thera Black, Chris Branch, Amy Buckler, Gary Christenson, Larry Cort, Gregg Dohrn, Megan Duvall, David Ginther, Greg Griffiths, Cari Hornbein, Laura Hudson, Gretchen Kaehler, TJ Kieran, John Klingele, Anne Knapp, Mark Lahaie, Kerry Lyste, Robin McClelland, John McDonagh, Gary Mabley, Bill Mandeville, Scott Missal, Deborah Munkberg, Stephen Neuenschwander, Ferdouse Oneza, Christy Osborn, Emil Pierson, Karen Scharer, Morgan Shook, Beth Spadoni, Amy Tousley, Joe Tovar, and Bill Trimm.

Since 1977, the  
*Short Course on  
Local Planning* has  
been training  
citizen planners.

The Short Course is an opportunity for planning commissioners, local government staff, elected officials, and community members to learn about our state's legal framework for land use planning, community development, comprehensive planning, & public involvement in the planning process.

[www.commerce.wa.gov/growth](http://www.commerce.wa.gov/growth)  
360.725.3064