

KANSAS PLANNING



American Planning Association
Kansas Chapter

Making Great Communities Happen

A Publication of the Kansas Chapter of the American Planning Association

Summer 2013

President's Message

Lisa Koch, AICP

Happy Summertime, Kansas Planners! Your Executive Committee is hard at work planning for the 2013 APA-Kansas Conference, which will take place October 3-4 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Manhattan. In the past few weeks, you have received emails soliciting sponsorships, sessions and award nominations. I hope you will consider supporting the Kansas Chapter by sponsoring or submitting a session or award nomination. It is your efforts that make our conference so successful!

It was a pleasure to see many Kansas planners at the APA Conference. I was there to participate in the Chapter President's Council. Thanks to Rob Richardson from the Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas for representing the Kansas Chapter at the APA Chapter Delegate Assembly! Many thanks as well to the college students who were also in attendance and representing the Kansas Chapter. A few of them have provided recaps of their time and experiences at the conference, which you can read on the following pages.

Until the next newsletter, thank you for all you do to support planning in Kansas. Please feel free to contact me with questions or suggestions. I can be reached at kochls@pbworld.com or 913-754-5557.

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Save the Date
Kansas Planning Conference
October 3 - 4, 2013
Manhattan

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Keynote Speakers—Kansas Planning Conference

We are excited to present to you our two Keynote Speakers for this year's Kansas Planning Conference!



Shane J. Lopez, Ph.D.

Senior Scientist, leading researcher on hope, and author of *Making Hope Happen*

Shane J. Lopez, Ph.D., author of *Making Hope Happen*, is the world's leading researcher on hope. His mission is to teach people that investing in their future pays off today. Dr. Lopez is also one of the most vocal advocates of the psychological reform of America's education system. He helps schools function less like impersonal factories and more like dynamic human development centers that enable students to achieve the meaningful futures they say they really want, including a good job and a happy family.

Dr. Lopez is a Gallup Senior Scientist and Research Director of the Clifton Strengths Institute. He is chief architect of the [Gallup Student Poll](#), a measure of hope, engagement, and wellbeing that taps into the hearts and minds of U.S. public school students to determine what drives achievement. It is available at no cost to public schools or districts interested in using it to start a hope conversation in their community. More than 1 million students have participated since its inception.

Dr. Lopez researches the links between hope, strengths development, academic success, and overall wellbeing and collaborates with scholars around the world on these issues. He specializes in hope and strengths enhancement for students from preschool through college graduation, advocating a whole-school strengths model that also builds the strengths expertise of educators, parents, and youth development organizations. He is coauthor of the statistical reports for the [Clifton StrengthsFinder](#) and the [Clifton Youth StrengthsExplorer](#). A prolific author, Dr. Lopez has published more than 100 articles and chapters and 10 books. These include *Positive Psychology: The Scientific and Practical Explorations of Human Strengths*, winner of the SAGE Press Book of the Year Award (with C.R. Snyder and Jennifer Teramoto Pedrotti); *The Handbook of Positive Psychology* (with C.R. Snyder); *Positive Psychological Assessment: A Handbook of Models and Measures* (with C.R. Snyder); *Positive Psychology: Exploring the Best in People*; *The Encyclopedia of Positive Psychology*; and *The Psychology of Courage: Modern Research on an Ancient Virtue* (with Cynthia Pury).

Dr. Lopez is a Fellow of the American Psychological Association. A professor of education for a decade, he is now professor of business at the University of Kansas.



Jerry V. Mitchell, Ph.D.

Professor, Cal Poly Pomona, *Planning for Happiness*

Dr. Mitchell received a JD in Law from the University of Illinois and worked as staff attorney for a regional planning commission in the upper peninsula of Michigan for five years. There he worked on a wide range of land use and environmental issues for rural local governments and assisted in administering state and federal grants. He successfully sued the state over unfunded local governmental mandates. He then completed a Ph.D. in Environmental Planning at the University of Michigan which he financed by being an attorney for citizen groups opposing new landfills or surrounding superfund sites. He was a NIMBY (Not In My Backyard) attorney. Dr. Mitchell became interested in environmental psychology and his dissertation focused on perception of risk at contaminated sites. His recent happiness studies are a return to an earlier interest in studying perceptions, now through a different lens. Dr. Mitchell taught at the graduate program in planning and at the law school at the University of Iowa for two years and then spent four years at Florida State University before settling at Cal Poly Pomona in 1990. Dr. Mitchell teaches courses in planning law, environmental policy, and professional seminars. He is also on the faculty of the Center for Regenerative Studies where he teaches courses in global environmental policy. The teaching load in the CSU system is very high and he teaches three courses a quarter or nine a year. Most of his research is keeping up in the areas he teaches. Dr. Mitchell's published research interests have included environmental risk assessment, property rights in an ecological age, and most recently the study of happiness or subjective well being and the potential use of such studies and lens in planning.

Call for Sponsors—Kansas Planning Conference

Dear Chapter Members,

The Kansas Chapter of the American Planning Association (KS APA) is once again in the planning stages for the annual state Planning conference. This year the conference will be held in Manhattan, KS October 3-4 at the Hilton Garden Inn. We are looking for partners who are interested in supporting practicing Planners and Planning initiatives throughout The State of Kansas. You are already well aware that KS APA is a member- driven, non-profit entity that promotes Planning and supports professional Planners through programming, education, professional development and even advocacy efforts. Sponsorship of the 2013 KS APA conference is a great way to increase visibility into your organization's planning activities and allows the KS APA to keep the cost of attending the conference manageable for our members and affiliates alike. We hope you will see the benefit to be gained from supporting this year's conference, which is fast approaching.

Sponsorship Levels and Benefits

We have a range of sponsorship levels and benefits and trust that one of them will meet your organization's needs and goals. Sponsorship levels include Gold (\$750), Silver (\$500) and Bronze (\$250), as well as opportunities to sponsor a Mobile Workshop and/or Break-Out Session and to advertise in the conference program.

Sponsorship Deadline

In order to allow adequate time to plan for, process and print conference materials with sponsor information, the deadline for sponsorship commitments is end-of-business **Monday, August 5, 2013**.

We'd love to have your support for this year's Planning conference. If you would like a copy of the 2013 Conference Sponsorship Package, please contact Ryan McKay at ryan.mckay@brrarch.com. Thanks for all you do in support of Planning and related professions.

Session Proposals & Presentations

The Kansas Chapter of the American Planning Association announced its call for session proposals & presentations for the 2013 Planning Conference. We received several proposals for sessions and presentations and are excited about how things are shaping up. Bonnie Johnson, Kansas APA Professional Development Officer will be in contact with presenters by July 27th. If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact Bonnie Johnson at bojo-john@ku.edu or 785-864-7147.

Conference Lodging

Book your hotel room now at the Hilton Garden Inn for a special rate of \$109 per night. Register with the hotel directly by calling 785-532-9116 and reference "American Planning Association." You can also register online at www.manhattanks.hgi.com and enter the group code "APA." The cutoff date to receive the special rate is **September 11, 2013**. The hotel is attached to the Manhattan Conference Center where the 2013 Kansas Planning Conference will be held.

APA-Kansas Chapter Awards

Recognizing Great Planning in Kansas



All APA-Kansas members are invited to nominate a person, group, institution, or organization for one of the 2013 APA-Kansas Chapter Awards. Awards are made in the following categories:

- **Ad Astra Award**, for an individual or institution making a significant long-term contribution to the field of planning in Kansas.
- **Pioneer Award**, recognizing creativity and innovation in using planning to meet a community need or solve a public problem, in urban or rural areas.
2012 Pioneer Award winner: City of Andover, US-54/400 Corridor Study
- **Sodbuster Award**, recognizing an individual, appointed official, or an elected official who has advanced or promoted the cause of planning in the public arena.
- **New Horizon Award**, recognizing a student or student group that pushes the boundaries of planning in creative and innovative ways.
2012 New Horizon Award winner: Jonathan Knight (KSU)



Help us to celebrate great planning in Kansas by nominating an outstanding planning effort. **Award nominations are due by 5:00 p.m., August 7, 2013.**

The City of Overland Park receives the 2011 Urban Pioneer Award.

General Awards Information

- Entries must include a two-page statement that specifically addresses the criteria in the order requested under each category.
- Entries must include the end product (plan, project, etc.) and any necessary supporting documents.
- Entries must include at least one, but no more than three one-page letter(s) in support of the entry. The letter(s) should offer support for the value of the nominated effort and may not be written by the nominator of the submission, by the nominated individual or by anyone who directly worked on the project.
- Entries receiving awards become the property of APA-Kansas and will not be returned.
- **Entries must be submitted electronically.** One complete application (include all supporting documents) must be submitted in PDF format **no later than 5:00 PM on August 7, 2013.**

Awards will be presented at the Awards Luncheon during the Kansas Planning Conference, October 3-4 in Manhattan. Recipients of awards will receive an engraved plaque and a certificate and will be featured on the APA-Kansas website as well as in the APA-Kansas newsletter.

The Awards Committee is under no obligation to grant an award in any category or may elect to move a nomination to a different category. Nominators of submissions will be notified confidentially in September. Official announcements of submissions receiving awards will be made after all nominators have been notified.

Any questions about the awards categories, criteria, or submission requirements may be directed to Sara Copeland, AICP, at scopeland@nkc.org or 816-412-7852.

Student Wrap-Up: 2013 National APA Conference

Mehraz Khaleghi—Graduate Student (PhD) Environmental Planning Kansas State University

The conference was helpful and the city was amazing!

2013 was my first experience attending APA National Conference. I'm a first year graduate (PhD) student, in environmental planning program, at Kansas State University. From a top down view, as a beginner in this field who has been born and raised in Tehran, Iran, the whole conference, including different perspectives and approaches, was very interesting to me. Unlike most American cities my hometown has a bigger portion of Jane Jacobian's features for an ideal city. Participating in this conference helped me with my courses, career and concerns.

By the conference time, I was supposed to write an economic development proposal for Union, Nebraska, a village with the population of 233 in 2010. First, I had not believed in any proposal that could revive such a small village and help it to grow. Participating in two of the sessions addressing urban revitalization and other related topics thoroughly changed my mind. It gave me a great idea on how to not only help this village to grow but also to help it become a favorable destination for tourists.

I'm looking forward to joining the profession rather than staying in the academia in future. Technical assistance being offered at the conference helped me a lot in this respect. A resume clinic, speed dating and talking with experts from various well-known firms in the exhibition area, were sessions that provided great opportunities for me personally to see where I'm standing (in the profession) right now, where I want to be and how I can get there.

I had received resume services before from different groups but the one I got from experts at the conference made my resume prominently concise and clear. At the speed dating session, a professional recommended that fresh graduates (students like me in 2-3 years) join the public sector for their first 3-4 years of professional experience. However, he warned them not to stay more than that. By the recruiting time, private sectors are looking for young energetic individuals with knowledge in the public sector. Therefore, in future when they want to join the private sector, they'll be more likely to get hired under his recommended circumstance.

What I have done so far is following my interests. I did my bachelor in architectural engineering back home, my masters in project management at Northwestern University and currently I'm doing my PhD in environmental planning at Kansas State University. I was always concerned about my scattered background. Talking to different representatives from different companies and consulting firms from all around the country, has made me much more confident in what I'm doing. According to my conversation with a senior engineer at Parsons Brinckerhoff, there is a huge need for people who can take interdisciplinary roles in planning and related fields. Hence, people like me who are coming from different backgrounds can fill the gaps and contribute a lot to the profession.

I do recommend that all the students participate in as many APA conferences as possible during their academic years. Although I could only attend the first three days of the previous conference, I learned a lot and got a lot out of this event. It might look expensive for people like us to participate, specifically when you don't receive enough funding, but in my opinion it is totally worth attending and experiencing such new things.

Matt Buchanan—M.U.P. Candidate, University of Kansas

This year's National APA Conference was my first, and I can happily report that it exceeded my expectations. These expectations were already very high, knowing that Chicago's rich planning history would create the perfect learning environment. Several of the sessions and workshops I attended took advantage of our location and showcased the many planning lessons the city has to offer. And in my opinion, the speakers and conference organizers were able to use and share these lessons in a manner that was relatable to planners working in a wide variety of specializations in communities of all sizes and dispositions.

The first conference event I attended was a four-hour workshop highlighting the Main Street program. Prior to attending the workshop, my own limited experience with the program gave me the impression that it was a government subsidized organization for small rural communities that essentially performed the same functions as a Chamber of Commerce. The speaker shared that Main Street is actually a program that was launched by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. It provides much broader services focused on neighborhood organization, promotion, design, as well as economic restructuring. This four-point approach has brought substantial revitalization in both rural and urban neighborhoods nationwide. While the work Main Street offices perform can vary depending on local goals and needs,

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Student Wrap-Up: 2013 National APA Conference

Student Wrap-Up (continued, Matt Buchanan)

they all rely on the same approaches and principles designed to strengthen our neighborhoods.

Another workshop I attended was a bus tour of the city. My initial expectation was that it might just be a typical bus tour; however, I soon discovered that it was a genuine workshop tailored for planners by planners. Our guide was an outspoken planner working for the City of Chicago who was happy to share both the city's planning successes as well as its tremendous failures. We saw the bulldozed lands of the proposed Olympic Village that never was, which may one day become the site of a Presidential library, or a casino (they're not sure yet). We saw the grounds that had once been Daniel Burnham's iconic White City of the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition. And of course there were the

dozens of skyscrapers Chicago is so well known for—as well as their controversial planning stories often involving public outrage, social injustice and shady backroom deals. While this workshop clearly focused on Chicago, I was still impressed with how relatable many of these lessons were, even to us planners from Small-town, America.

In addition to these two workshops, the several sessions I attended were also more-or-less relatable to planners everywhere. Even the sessions covering issues pertaining to new urbanism and sustainable infrastructure (which may seem like a pipe dream to some of us in rural KS) demonstrated how elements of these concepts can be applied anywhere. One great lesson I learned at my first APA conference is that even though we all work in a wide variety of large and small cities, in a wide variety of specializations more diverse than your typical profession, we planners have more in common than we sometimes think.

Jacque Lumsden—M.U.P. Candidate, University of Kansas

The theme for this year's APA National Conference, "Plan Big" truly speaks to the mentality of many planners and the ideals that come with the profession. As a student attending the National Planning Conference in Chicago, I had the opportunity to understand that the idealism I have for creating change exists among many others, who are not okay with the status quo. Often times, it is hard to realize this feeling exists through text and lecture alone, but interaction with those who are also planning for action, is a rewarding experience and made for an exciting trip to Chicago.

The time spent was rewarding both in session and out of session. The session sponsored by Growing Food Connections, was particularly interesting. It is those without a voice that I want to plan for, and that was the theme of the session. Understanding food accessibility and security, and problems currently facing the food industry, is important in providing a basic right of healthy food for everyone. A problem facing many communities is food insecure households which can lead to health problems and diminished quality of life in later years. In planning for future generations, it is important to try and curb these issues by creating healthy communities through effective planning. Attending this session I saw the many other planners who share the same passion for healthy communities that I have.

While the sessions were informational, the time spent in the city and networking with other planning professionals was perhaps the most rewarding experience. I had the opportunity to enjoy lunch with fellow planning students and two practicing planners living in the Chicago area. It was enjoyable to exchange stories and hear how their career has been, as well as how they got started. Also interesting was enjoying lunch one day at a restaurant near the conference, and sitting next to an older gentleman also attending the conference. He shared stories of his first time at the National APA Conference 30-some years ago. It was evident through our discussion that his passion still existed after all of these years. It is that passion that was evident, which offered excitement for what is to come in my career.

Finally, the passion for planning was clear at perhaps one of my most memorable times of the trip. A group of fellow KU students and I were at dinner following the alumni reception. With our planning bags in tow and our badges, it was clear we were attendees at the conference. A gentleman, also attending the conference, was on his way to a table when he stopped near our table. He looked around, smiled, and said something to the effect "it is good to see all you young people and know the profession is in good hands." Leaving Chicago, I felt inspired; inspired to create healthy communities, inspired to make a difference, inspired to plan with a purpose, and most importantly, inspired to plan big for the future generations to come.

Professional Development Officer Update

Bonnie J. Johnson, AICP

Professional Development Officer

A “Refreshed” Exam and Taking the AICP Exam

At the National APA conference, I went to a session for Professional Development Officers on upcoming changes to the AICP exam. The May 2013 AICP exam was the same exam that people have taken for a while now, but the November 2013 exam will be “refreshed” (meaning there are some new questions). A major exam update was conducted in 2008 and in January of 2013 an Exam Refresh Task Force re-examined the questions. The exam is computerized and consists of 170 multiple-choice questions which are taken from a pool of 600-plus. The Task Force evaluated the questions and eliminated ones that were outdated or underperforming and added new questions to the pool. They were particularly interested in adding questions about planning issues that have come to light since 2008. AICP has posted a revised reading list for people who will be taking this new exam - <http://www.planning.org/certification/examprep/selectedreading.htm> .

At another session on taking the AICP exam, the advice for getting ready for the updated questions was to look through recent PAS Reports and the last couple years of *Planning* magazine (2008 to 2013) looking for what seems new or “trending”. As far as I can tell, there will be new questions related to sustainability, green infrastructure, hazard mitigation, climate change, planning for the Baby Boomers, and “right-sizing” cities or planning for declining cities. Also, take a look at what the 2010 U.S. Census is telling us about changes in demographics and where people are living – check out the *USAToday* website on the 2010 Census: <http://usatoday30.usatoday.com/news/census/index> . Hint – the University of Kansas’ Art and Architecture Library and K-State’s Weigel Architecture Library gets PAS Reports – you can’t check them out but you can go to these libraries and study them! The KU library is behind the Spencer Art Museum, 1301 Mississippi Street in Lawrence and the K-State library is at 323 Seaton Hall in Manhattan.



The next AICP exam application deadline is July 30, 2013 with the next available testing window being November 4 – 18. Once your application is approved you actually have 2 years or 4 exam windows (1 in May and 1 in November each year) to take the exam. The application fee is \$70 and the exam fee is \$425. If your application to take the exam is not approved, the exam fee of \$425 is refundable but the \$70 application fee is not. Check out the AICP website to get details and access the online form: <http://www.planning.org/aicp/> .

Community Service and Ethics - Advice from the APA Ethics Session Toolkit

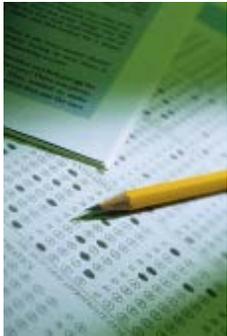
Question: “There was a rush of invitations for me to join organizations outside of work such as the Kiwanis Club, Toastmasters, Chamber of Commerce, etc. upon being promoted to planning manager. Is there a balance of work and leisure clubs that does not violate the code of ethics? Isn’t the power of these social networks also important to our work as planners?”

Answer: “Participation in these community service organizations is an excellent opportunity to enhance the place in which you live and work. The appropriate step is to clearly, and repeatedly articulate, a separation of work and community service. Do not engage in business-related activities, including ‘private’ business-related discussions. Make every effort to ensure above board openness in your community service activities.” *APA Ethics Session Toolkit*, page 17.

AICP Exam – Need more information? Session ideas for the state conference? - Drop me a line.

If you need any assistance with applying for the exam, taking the exam, getting your CM credits, or presenting at the state conference, let me know. I can be reached at bojojoh@ku.edu or 785-864-7147. Professor, University of Kansas, Dept. of Urban Planning, 1465 Jayhawk Blvd., Room 418, Lawrence, KS 66045-7626.

APA Kansas Chapter Planning Topics Survey Results



A BIG “Thank You” to all 135 of you who completed the survey. Your feedback is greatly appreciated and will be used for planning the upcoming state conference and other educational events. Here are the survey questions with the results.

1. Which title best describes you:

Public Sector Professional Planner = 57%	Private Sector Professional Planner = 16%
Planning Commissioner or other Appointed Or Elected Public Official = 4%	Student = 7%
	Other = 16% (academics, retired, other public sector work)

2. How long have you been a Kansas Chapter member? 11 years = average, high = 53 years, low = 6 months

3. Are you AICP? Yes = 63%, No = 37%

4. Here is a list of possible topics for conference sessions, CM-credit events, and other educational opportu-

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Bicycle Planning = 35% | 14. Pedestrian Issues = 25% |
| 2. Comprehensive Planning = 33% | 15. Urban Design = 24% |
| 3. Land Use Planning = 30% | 16. Cost of Development = 23% |
| 4. Capital Improvement Programs = 28% | 17. Mixed Land Use = 23% |
| 5. Economic Development = 28% | 18. Neighborhood Planning = 23% |
| 6. Community Development = 27% | 19. Demographic Analysis & Forecasting = 22% |
| 7. Community Indicators & Performance
Measures = 27% | 20. Development Review = 22% |
| 8. Transportation – Land Use Connection = 27% | 21. Annexation = 20% |
| 9. Infill and Redevelopment = 27% | 22. Ethics = 19% |
| 10. Law = 27% | 23. Transit Oriented Development = 19% |
| 11. Zoning Codes and Ordinances = 26% | 24. Politics and Planning = 19% |
| 12. Citizen Participation = 26% | 25. Site Plan Review = 19% |
| 13. Downtown Planning = 25% | 26. Census Data = 19% |

5. Did we miss a topic you would like to see covered? Topics suggested by more than one person:

- Agri-tourism
- How cities and schools can work together on location decisions
- Health Impact Assessments
- Market analysis – return on investment
- Nonconforming uses – Board of Zoning Adjustments

6. To what extent does each of the following training formats appeal to you?

(1 = “Does not appeal to me at all” To 5 = “Greatly appeals to me”)

Most popular to least -	Average
Lunchtime session (1 hour)	3.70
Half day session	3.70
Full day session (see below to select best day)	3.42
1 ½ - 2 days	2.97
3 or more days (conference or mini-conference)	2.75

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APA Kansas Chapter Planning Topics Survey Results

7. If you like the option of a full day session, which day of the week is best?

Monday = 8%, Tuesday = 9%, Wednesday = 11% Thursday = 21%, Friday = 45%, Saturday = 7%, Sunday = 0%

8. To what extent does each of the following training methods appeal to you?

(1 = "Does not appeal to me at all" To 5 = "Greatly appeals to me")



Most popular to least -	Average
Presentation with group discussion	3.88
Case studies	3.81
Mobile workshops	3.71
Panel	3.58
Presentation with "hands-on" exercises	3.57
Lecture	3.54
Webinar	3.52
PowerPoint-type presentation	3.35
Online course	3.15
Video	3.12
Written study guide	2.61

9. Which location in the state is most convenient for you?

Northeast Kansas/KC Metro Area = 71% Central Kansas = 10%
 Southeast Kansas = 0% West Kansas = 2%
 Wichita Metro Area = 12% Other = 5% (Manhattan, Lawrence, Johnson Co., Wichita, South Central)

10. What other comments or information do you have for us regarding educational opportunities? Brief list -

- High turnover in commissions means any orientation sessions or the basics of site plan review, law, ethics are good.
- Planning in tense political environments.
- Oil wells and future development.
- Tree removal as part of utility work.
- More opportunities besides the conference for workshops.
- More no cost CM credit opportunities.
- Speakers on successful implementation of visions/comprehensive plans and including them in CIPs.
- Hard to commit to come when CM credits are "Pending".
- Bring back the Spring Symposium.
- Planning for U.S. Postal Service for new development.
- Cover core planning topics then team-up with other organizations to get into more depth.
- Remember small towns and rural planning.
- Mobile workshops on KS history.
- Get out to western Kansas.
- Networking opportunities.
- Joint conferences in KC metro are good for those who can't go to national conference.

Get Involved in YOUR APA

APA Kansas

APA Kansas is in need of participants across the state. Joining a committee is a great way to get involved and make the most of your membership. APA Kansas is proud to offer these committees. Please consider joining one and feel free to contact the committee chairs with any questions.

Professional Development Committee: Chaired by PDO Bonnie Johnson, the PD Committee charged with developing programming for emerging and AICP planners. Their main role is to identify sessions for the chapter conference and submit those sessions for Certification Maintenance Credits. This committee also selects the scholarship recipients for the chapter conference.

Bonnie Johnson: bojojohn@ku.edu

Communications Committee: Chaired by Newsletter Editor Jennifer Schwaller, the Communications Committee is charged with developing the quarterly chapter newsletter and upcoming conference materials.

Jennifer Schwaller: jennifer.schwaller@stvinc.com

Special Initiatives Committee: Co-Chaired by Vice President Chad Bunger and Secretary Stephanie Watts. This committee leads special projects undertaken by the chapter.

Chad Bunger: bunger@ci.manhattan.ks.us

Stephanie Watts: swatts@ksdot.org

Regional Programs Committee: This committee is Co-Chaired by our three At-Large Representatives, which serve a specific portion of the state. This committee develops smaller-scale programming that is targeted to their specific membership regions. The regions are as follows:

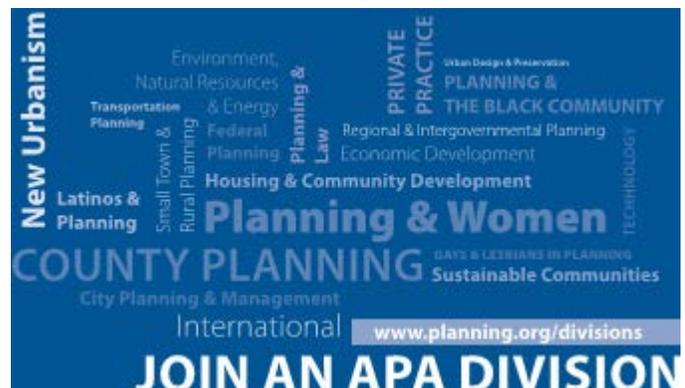
Eastern Kansas—Eric Pollom, epollom@miamicountyks.org

Central Kansas—John Schlegel, jschlegel@wichita.gov

Western Kansas—Roberto Becerril, rbecerril@garden-city.org

APA Divisions

In addition to opportunities with APA Kansas, you are also encouraged to explore APA divisions at the national level. APA divisions provide specific focus to the challenges we face at the state and local levels. Working together, division and chapter members can provide strong educational materials with case studies supporting focused, more technical material. Divisions include New urbanism, Planning & Women, Transportation Planning, Housing & Community Development, and many more.



Last but Not Least

COMMITTEE CONTACTS

APA Kansas is in need of participants across the state. If you are an APA Kansas member, get involved and *make the most of your membership!*

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New Metropolitan Planning Organization

For the first time in more than three decades, the State of Kansas has designated a new Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). MPOs are responsible for transportation decision-making and cooperative planning in urban areas over 50,000 in population. With the 2010 Census, the Manhattan Urbanized Area reached the 50,000 population threshold, triggering the creation of the Flint Hills Metropolitan Planning Organization (FHMPPO). The FHMPPO is a three county area, comprised of portions of Geary, Riley and Pottawatomie Counties, as well as the cities of Manhattan, Junction City, Ogden and Grandview Plaza. The FHMPPO is housed by the Flint Hills Regional Council (FHRC) which was voluntarily formed in 2010. While the MPO is housed within the FHRC, it has a separate decision-making body known as the Policy Board, comprised of locally elected officials from each of the three counties, the cities of Manhattan and Junction City, and a Kansas Department of Transportation representative. For more information on the FHMPPO, please visit their website at www.flinthillsregion.org/fhmpo

Look for the Kansas Chapter of the American Planning Association on LinkedIn (www.linkedin.com), Facebook (www.facebook.com), and Twitter (twitter.com/APA_KS).