

APA Ohio

Ohio Chapter of the American Planning Association

Biennial Report FY 2014 and FY 2015



American Planning Association
Ohio Chapter
Making Great Communities Happen
The First Statewide Association of Citizens &
Planners



President's Report

I am pleased to provide this report of the Chapter's activities during FY 2014 and FY 2015 (July 1, 2013-June 30, 2015).

APA Ohio is a statewide, non-profit association of citizens and professional planners committed to promoting and enhancing planning and the quality of planning for all governmental entities in order to maintain and improve the quality of life for all Ohioans. APA Ohio is a state chapter of the American Planning Association (APA).

APA Ohio operates under the guidance of a volunteer Board of Trustees according to an adopted set of Bylaws. Administrative operations are well managed by the Chapter's Executive Director, a position filled by Christine Dersi Davis, AICP since January 2011. Key responsibilities of the Executive Director include office and organizational administration, fiscal management (in conjunction with the Chapter Treasurer) website and newsletter management, board meeting management, conference coordination, and section support.

The Board adopted a Strategic Plan in October 2011 to guide our efforts toward achieving the APA Ohio mission—advancing the art, science and profession of good planning, physical, economic and social, to create vibrant communities that offer better choices for where and how people work and live in order to maintain and improve the quality of life for all Ohioans. Our objectives are to:

- **Inform** - Encourage widespread planning information to and education of public officials, professional citizen planners, the general public and media.
- **Advocate** - Serve in an advocacy role in legislative and policy issues.
- **Promote** - Increase public awareness and support of the planning process and planning profession among the public and members of related professions. Tell the planning story.
- **Serve** - Provide value-added services to both existing and new members.

Beyond these objectives, specific "to do" items developed at our **2014 Summer Board Retreat** have become our Work Program over the last year. These goals are to:

- Add a **definition of comprehensive planning to the Ohio Revised Code**
- Develop a "**Great Places in Ohio**" program
- Collect anecdotes from planners around the state to "tell the planning story" in Ohio
- Launch the **#BecauseWePlan** campaign
- Reactivate the Legislative Committee
- Create a citizen planner training program

The information included on the following pages is intended to provide an overview of the services and benefits provided to APA Ohio members during FY 2014 and FY 2015. Our goal is to exceed the expectations of our members. When we fall short, we expect your feedback.

I am proud to serve as APA Ohio President and look forward to future successes for our Chapter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Todd M. Kinskey'.

Todd Kinskey, AICP
Chapter President



Executive Director’s Report

Great things are happening here at APA Ohio! It is my pleasure to work daily with the APA Ohio Board’s twenty (20) members, eleven (11) Board committees, and APA Ohio’s six (6) Sections. As the one and only staff person to APA Ohio, it is my primary directive to support the above entities and, more specifically, to manage the following:

- Office & Organizational Administration
- APA Ohio Website
- The Ohio Planner’s News (Quarterly Newsletter)
- Outreach (Social Media & Email Communication)
- Board & Committee Meetings
- Finance & Investments
- Organization Development
- Sponsor/Advertiser Development & Support
- Membership Development
- Conference Coordination
- Networking & Section Support

Some of the larger initiatives that we’ve been working on at the ground level here at APA Ohio are summarized below. I urge you to contact me at any time should you want more information, or if you would like to get involved.

APA Ohio Website

In the summer of 2014, APA Ohio underwent its 3rd (and final) website remodel since 2011. As our members are spread geographically throughout the state, our website is the primary method of communication and outreach with members. We wanted to get it right!

The website is updated at least once a day with calendar events, news items, workshop information and registration, job postings, and much more. Take some time to peruse all that APA Ohio has to offer online at **www.ohioplanning.org**.

Membership Acknowledgement & Outreach

Coming out of the 2014 Board Retreat was a charge to acknowledge members for their membership, provide tangible benefits to members, and increase communications on the benefits available to members. Recent items stemming from this charge is providing a member rate at APA Ohio sponsored functions, acknowledgement of membership through an APA Ohio member ribbon attached to name badges, increased communication to membership via a weekly eNEWS newsletter (email), and frequent postings on the social media outlets Facebook and Twitter.

New members, both national and Ohio only, receive a welcome letter indicating their Section affiliation, benefits and links to more information, and a #BecauseWePlan sticker with an explanation of the initiative.

APA Ohio Listserv



The APA Ohio Listserv was deactivated with the change of website platforms in 2011. Its use had declined, and many members found the misuse of the listserv a nuisance and therefore unsubscribed. In early 2015, due to a reignited interest from members to have a listserv back, a new and improved version was launched! To learn more, visit **www.ohioplanning.org/listserv**.

Planning Webcast Series



In 2015, the Planning Webcast Series entered into its seventh (7th) year! The Series offers over forty-five (45) webcasts per year and has almost fifty (50) sponsoring APA Chapters and Divisions. The Series is run by myself as moderator of sessions, and Northern New England APA Professional Development Officer Benjamin Frost, AICP as session coordinator. Sessions are most Fridays and are worth 1.5 CM credits. When applicable, Law and Ethics credits are applied. To learn more and receive free access as a benefit to your APA Ohio membership, visit **www.ohioplanning.org/planningwebcast**.

I look forward to working with the initiatives in progress and those in the future! Again, feel free to contact me with any questions or comments at info@ohioplanning.org.

Best,

Christine Dersi Davis, AICP
Executive Director



APA Ohio Board of Directors

The Board is composed of 16 at-large members elected from the general membership plus the Section Directors or their designated representatives. At least four of the at-large trustees shall not be professional planners, but individuals interested in furthering the goals and objectives of APA Ohio. All board members volunteer their time.

APA Ohio has been well-served by its Board. We would like to thank all of the past board members who have created and maintained a great organization.

2014 Election Results

Vince Papsidero, AICP, Chair, Nominating & Teller Committee

Elections for the Board of Trustees took place between September 17 and October 17, 2014. A total of eight (8) seats were up for re-election (2 citizen planner seats and 6 professional planner seats), with a slate of ten (10) well-qualified candidates presented. Fifteen percent of our membership voted in the election, with the following results:

Citizen Planners:

- Kyle Ezell, AICP, Associate Professor of Practice, Knowlton School of Architecture, Ohio State University
- Dan Kennedy, Citizen Planner

Professional Planners:

- Joyce Braverman, Planning Director, City of Shaker Heights
- Katherine Keough-Jurs, AICP, Senior Planner, City of Cincinnati
- Ann Klavora, AICP, Principal Planner, City of Shaker Heights
- Paul Logue, AICP, Planner, City of Athens
- Nancy Reger, AICP, Assistant Director/Transportation, Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission
- Kimberly Wenger, AICP, Planning Director, City of North Olmsted

Per the bylaws, the new Board took their seats at the December 2014 meeting and officers were elected. Officers took office January 1, 2015.

The next APA Ohio Board election will occur in 2016.

APA Ohio FY2015 Board of Trustees

Executive Committee

President: Todd Kinskey, AICP

Director, Hamilton County Planning & Development Department

Vice President: Kimberly Wenger, AICP

Planning Director, City of North Olmsted

Treasurer: Rachel Ray, AICP

Economic Development Administrator, City of Dublin

Secretary: Nancy Reger, AICP

Assistant Director/Transportation, Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission

Professional Development Officer: Kyle Ezell, AICP

Associate Professor of Practice, Knowlton School of Architecture, Ohio State University

Past President: Ann Klavora, AICP

Principal Planner, City of Shaker Heights

At-Large Trustees

**Christopher Anderson, AICP
(Cincinnati Section Representative)**

Community Development Director, City of Forest Park

Joyce Braverman

Planning Director, City of Shaker Heights

**Kelly Brooker Scocco
(Central Section Director)**

Assistant Director, Building & Zoning Services, City of Columbus

**Tim Davis
(Miami Valley Section Director)**

Planning & Zoning Manager, City of Troy

Marianne Eppig

Manager of Research and Communications, Greater Ohio Policy Center

David Edelman, PhD, FAICP

Professor, School of Planning, University of Cincinnati

**Jerry Egan
(Akron Section Director)**

Owner, Egan Consulting LLC

Kyle Ezell, AICP

Associate Professor of Practice, Knowlton School of Architecture, Ohio State University

**Patrick Etchie, AICP
(Northwest Section Director)**

Chief Planner, Mannik & Smith Group

Kristin Hopkins, AICP

Principal Planner, CT Consultants

Dan Kennedy

Citizen Planner

Katherine Keough-Jurs, AICP

Senior Planner, City of Cincinnati

Paul Logue, AICP

Planner, City of Athens

Wendy Moeller, AICP

Principal/Owner, Compass Point Planning

Chris Ronayne, AICP

President, University Circle, Inc.

**Matthew Schmidt, AICP
(Cleveland Section Representative)**

Green Infrastructure Program Manager, Trust for Public Land

Eric Wagner

Zoning Administrator, Monclova Township

Jordan Yin, PhD, AICP

Professor, CSU Levin College of Urban Affairs



2014 and 2015 Financial Reports

Rachel Ray, AICP, Treasurer

As a non-profit organization, APA Ohio relies on two primary sources for operating income—chapter dues and conference income.

FY 2014 (July 1, 2013-June 30, 2014)

INCOME			EXPENSES		
Dues	\$30,317.30	15%	APA National	\$2,965.14	1%
Advertising	\$175.00	0%	APA Leadership Meetings	\$1,426.90	1%
Workshops	\$0.00	0%	Contracted Services	\$41,200.00	19%
Interest	\$128.80	0%	Reimbursables	\$2,324.91	1%
Publications	\$651.06	0%	Insurance, Legal, Accounting	\$1,884.00	1%
Conference	\$11,216.07	5%	Meeting Expenses	\$789.57	0%
Other*	\$162,542.59	79%	Webcast Expenses	\$6,169.50	3%
TOTAL	\$205,030.82		Committee Expenses	\$1,076.20	1%
			Website	\$1,967.50	1%
			Conference Support	\$2,150.00	1%
			Merchant Fees (Online)	\$3,412.87	2%
			Other*	\$153,571.91	70%
			TOTAL	\$218,938.50	

FY 2015 (July 1, 2014-June 30, 2015)

INCOME			EXPENSES		
Dues	\$33,227.00	55%	APA National	\$4,645.00	7%
Advertising	\$1,175.00	2%	APA Leadership Meetings	\$2,903.00	4%
Workshops	\$1,200.00	2%	Contracted Services	\$40,800.00	58%
Interest	\$45.00	0%	Reimbursables	\$1,230.00	2%
Publications	\$330.00	0%	Insurance, Legal, Accounting	\$3,038.00	4%
Conference	\$11,870.00	20%	Meeting Expenses	\$3,288.00	5%
Other*	\$12,541.00	21%	Webcast Expenses	\$3,092.00	4%
TOTAL	\$60,388.00		Committee Expenses	\$1,054.00	1%
			Website	\$7,395.00	10%
			Conference Support	\$1,000.00	1%
			Merchant Fees (Online)	\$2,270.00	3%
			TOTAL	\$70,715.00	

* Includes online transaction fees, 2013 State Conference & Section event pass-through funds, Webcast income, etc.

2015 Dues Increase

At the November 21, 2014 Board meeting, the APA Ohio Chapter Board of Trustees began exploring an increase to the Chapter’s membership dues. APA Ohio dues have not changed since 2006, when individual annual membership rates increased from \$35 to \$45. The Board approved this increase on April 24, 2015, for implementation on October 1, 2015. The recommendation is based on the following three primary considerations:

- APA Ohio has increased its member services in recent years, principally through managing online event registrations and administering the highly successful webcast consortium; however, the Chapter’s two primary sources of income (membership rates and conference profits) have remained flat.
- APA Ohio has adopted an imbalanced budget with expenses exceeding income over the previous three fiscal years (FY 2013, 2014, 2015).
- In recent years, APA National has recommended that Chapters standardize their membership dues. Currently, APA encourages Chapters to adopt a percentage-based dues rate (25%, 35%, or 45% of national dues, which are based on member salary); however, APA is considering requiring Chapters to standardize their dues within the next few years.

The APA Ohio Chapter Treasurer has recommended to the Board of Trustees that the Chapter dues increase as follows:

Category	Existing Rate	Proposed Rate
National Individual Membership	\$45/year	25% of National Dues
Chapter-Only Individual Membership	\$45/year	\$55/year
Student Membership	\$15/year	\$15/year
Retired Membership	\$15/year	\$15/year

Note: APA National charges their membership dues based on member salary. The Chapter membership would be 25% of the APA dues only, not including any additional fees for AICP or other Division memberships.

Audit Committee

Chair: Rachel Ray, AICP

The Treasurer serves as the Chair of the Audit Committee, convening the committee when necessary. At a minimum, an audit is recommended whenever a new Treasurer is elected and/or when a new Executive Director is contracted. While an audit can be conducted by an accountant, it is not necessary for an organization the size of the APA Ohio Chapter. The purpose of a Chapter audit is to provide documentation of proper money handling for the Chapter’s membership, and provide clarity and security for Board members and Chapter administrators handling money through the documentation of ethical, transparent, and proper financial management procedures.

- The current Chapter Treasurer, Rachel Ray, took office in January 2013.
- An audit was completed by the Audit Committee and adopted by the Board in September 2014, with recommendations implemented through the preparation of a Chapter Financial Administration Guide and (recommended) amendments to the Chapter Bylaws.

A draft Chapter Financial Administration Guide will be presented to the Board for adoption at the December 2015 meeting, with amendments to the Chapter Bylaws to follow in cooperation with the Governance Committee and Nominating/Teller Committee.



APA National Recognition

Ohio was well represented at the APA National Planning Conferences in Atlanta (2014) and Seattle (2015). The **APA National Planning Excellence and Achievement Awards** are presented annually to honor the best planning efforts and individuals that create communities of lasting value. Four Ohio projects and organizations were honored over the past two years:

Daniel Burnham Award for a Comprehensive Plan (2014)

Plan Cincinnati: A Comprehensive Plan for the Future Cincinnati, Ohio

Plan Cincinnati is the first plan for the city of Cincinnati in more than 30 years. The three year process began in 2009, one year after the city's planning department was re-established. Instead of trying to make Cincinnati like other cities, Plan Cincinnati focuses on what makes Cincinnati unique — its urbanity. The plan focuses on revitalizing Cincinnati's neighborhood centers and corridors while improving citizen's physical health and quality of life. In a shift from traditional comprehensive plans, Plan Cincinnati is organized around five initiatives — compete, connect, live, sustain, and collaborate. The result is a plan that is more conceptual and is not a strict parcel-by-parcel approach. The plan emphasizes mixed-uses, and defines areas where compact walkable development should be reinforced or established.

Development of the plan was achieved through a "process of discovery," letting the process itself guide the plan's direction. Oversight was provided by a mayor-appointed steering committee that included representatives from community organizations, businesses, nonprofits, and institutions. Neighborhood summits, public open houses, and special youth outreach helped ensure that Plan Cincinnati was a plan that represented the citizens of Cincinnati and successfully involved stakeholders of various ages, backgrounds, and geographies.

National Planning Excellence Award for Innovation in Economic Development & Planning (2014)

East Franklinton Creative Community District Plan Columbus, Ohio

A nine-month planning process that began in 2011 focused on specifically attracting and retaining young 'creative class' residents who cannot afford the city's increasingly gentrified neighborhoods. The East Franklinton Creative Community District Plan, prepared by an interdisciplinary team led by Goody Clancy, calls for creating of an arts and innovation district on 200 acres of distressed, partly industrial land just west of downtown Columbus.

Measures to ensure the district's residents can remain in the area include affordability mandates for new development, freezing of existing property taxes for existing residential parcels, and artist live/work tax credits.



As many as 2,000 new lofts, live/work houses, and single-family houses will be built, along with nearly 50,000 square feet of stores, cafes, and galleries. There is potential for more than 100,000 square feet of adaptive reuse of industrial buildings for artist studios and entrepreneur/small business incubator space. The new district is projected to become home for 3,600 to 4,800 new residents. Already under development are the adaptive reuse of two warehouses and one new mixed-use project.

National Planning Achievement Award for Public Outreach (2014)

Pop Up City: Temporary Interventions for Community Engagement Cleveland, Ohio



An underutilized parking deck on the site of Cleveland's former Hippodrome Theater is re-envisioned as a performance space and downtown destination.

Kent State University's Cleveland Urban Design Collaborative (CUDC) develops temporary interventions that gauge community support for new projects and policies before making significant political or financial commitments. Pop Up City enables citizens to envision future development alternatives based on actual experiences. The process raises awareness of opportunities and helps build consensus around a development vision. In the past three years, temporary interventions have explored alternatives for public space design and highlighted some of Cleveland's underutilized properties in an entertaining manner. Pop Up City increases public participation and generates better long-term development outcomes. For example, more than 8,000 citizens participated in the Detroit-Superior bridge project that a comprehensive transportation planning process to convert the infrastructure into usable public space.

Daniel Burnham Award for a Comprehensive Plan (2015)

Vibrant NEO 2040

Northeast Ohio Sustainable Communities Consortium

Vibrant NEO 2040 was a three-year regional planning initiative led by the Northeast Ohio Sustainable Communities Consortium (NEOSCC) to determine the vision of the future for four metro areas that include 12 counties in Northeast Ohio. Vibrant NEO is the first regional plan

ever implemented in the northeastern part of the state, which includes five MPO/COGs for Cleveland, Akron, Canton, and Youngstown.

Vibrant NEO is more than a plan; it is a toolbox for planners focusing on local or regional initiatives. It includes policy recommendations, guidelines, best practices, and benchmarks for plans small and large. The effort specifically tackled issues relevant to planners, including shrinking cities, regional sustainability, digital engagement, and advanced Geographic Information System (GIS) modeling and analysis. More generally, Vibrant NEO answered three important questions: What course is Northeast Ohio on? What future does Northeast Ohio want for itself? How do we make that future a reality?

AICP Outstanding Student Awards and Student Project Awards

APA also honored recent planning school graduates. The **AICP Outstanding Student Awards** are awarded annually to recognize outstanding attainment in the study of planning by a student who is being graduated from an accredited program. Congratulations to the following award recipients:

Cleveland State University

- *Ann Thompson, Master's (2014)*
- *Michael Mears, Master's (2015)*

Ohio State University

- *Ronni Nimps, Master's (2014)*
- *Johanna Maria van den Berg, Bachelor's (2014)*
- *Tyler W. Ponder, Master's (2015)*
- *Victoria M. Darah, Bachelor's (2015)*

University of Cincinnati

- *Kate E. Esarey, Master's (2014)*
- *Zachary Sunderland, Bachelor's (2014)*
- *Ellen Deatrck, Master's (2015)*
- *Justin Lightfield, Bachelor's (2015)*

The **AICP Student Project Awards** recognize outstanding class projects or papers by a student or group of students in Planning Accreditation Board-accredited planning programs that contribute to advances in the field of planning. The **Award for Contribution of Planning to Contemporary Issues** was awarded to a group of Ohio students in 2015:

Irishtown Greenway: A Strategic Plan for the Flats West Bank

Cleveland State University

- *Student Project Team: Juleian Curtis, Nikki Glazer, Dion Harris, Dean Ibsen, Kyle Krewson, Andrew Lang, Shiqi Lu, Darrick Matthews, Michael Mears, Matthew Moss, Caylen Payne, Scott Schirg, Steve Sump, Ann Thompson*
- *Faculty Advisers: Jim Kastelic and Wendy Kellogg*



PLAN4Health

An American Planning Association Project

Through an overarching collaborative strategy that brings together members of the American Planning Association and the American Public Health Association (APHA), the Plan4Health project aims to build local capacity to address population health goals and promote the inclusion of health in non-traditional sectors.

Coalitions made up of APA chapters, APHA affiliate groups, and others work to set a new paradigm for healthy planning. By leveraging complementary expertise and influence, this project seeks to expand innovative tactics to addressing tough problems.

Plan4Health is supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The American Planning Association's Planning and Community Health Center is an awardee of the CDC's National Implementation and Dissemination for Chronic Disease Prevention funding opportunity. Plan4Health is one community within the larger project — sharing lessons learned and expertise with the American Heart Association; the National Women, Infants, and Children; Society for Public Health Education; and Directors of Health Promotion and Education. Please visit www.plan4health.us for more information.

Eighteen local communities were selected during the first round (February 2015 – April 2016) of project funding. **Ohio was one of only three states (Indiana and Illinois being the others) to have two communities selected for the program: Columbus and Summit County (Akron).** Both communities featured extensive coalitions that have been working on community health issues. As part of the program, each community is charged with creating Community Action Plans identifying milestones, tasks, timeline and staffing responsibilities to implement its strategies. Look for more information about their efforts online and in newsletters.



Membership

The Membership Committee is responsible for developing activities to expand and serve the membership of the Chapter. The committee is also responsible for implementing the Chapter's goals for increasing diversity in participation amongst the Board and in Chapter activities.

Chair: Kelly Brooker Scocco

Membership Retention and Appreciation

Efforts have been made to continually provide members with tangible benefits, advertise these benefits in the most effective manner, and to recognize and thank our members for being a part of APA Ohio.

Renewal letters are sent out one (1) month in advance of an APA Ohio only member's renewal date (national members belonging to APA Ohio receive renewal letters via APA National) thanking them for being a part of the organization, and letting them know what's on the horizon in the coming year.

New members at both the National and Ohio only level receive welcome letters thanking them for joining, letting them know which Section they belong to, and giving them a brief introduction of the organization and the general benefits available to them. Each new member also receives a #BecauseWePlan sticker with a brief explanation of the initiative.

Most recently, APA Ohio purchased membership ribbons to accompany name badges at the 2015 State Conference. It is the intent to continue this practice through Planning and Zoning Workshops across the state to not only acknowledge our members, but to advertise to potential new members.

Membership Trends

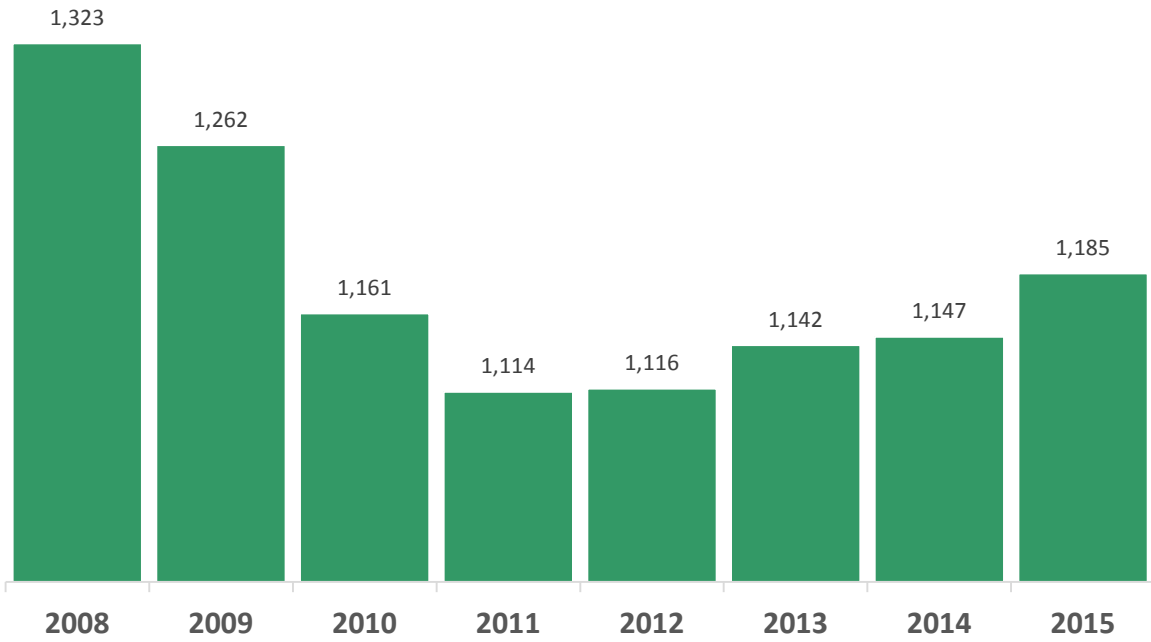
Overall membership has remained relatively constant, although the impacts of the recession and less ability to pay for membership dues are reflected in the drop in 2011 and 2012. Total membership has consistently been on the rise since 2013, with 1,185 members to date.

Section Membership

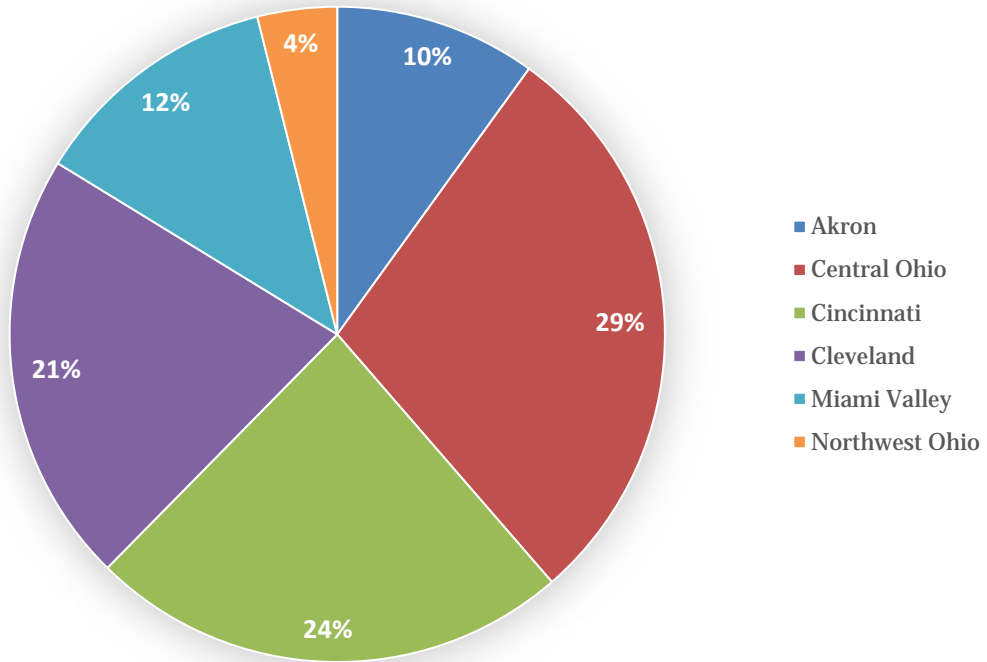
Akron	109
Central Ohio	314
Cincinnati	260
Cleveland	234
Miami Valley	135
Northwest Ohio	43

Section memberships do not match total number due to timing of membership renewal processing.

2015 APA Ohio Membership



2015 APA Ohio Membership by Section





Professional Development

The Education Committee is responsible for identifying appropriate educational programs that may be offered during workshops, conferences, webinars, or other forums. The committee also works with the Sections and the Conference Committee to identify emerging topics or issues that may need to be addressed during educational programming.

Co-Chairs (2014-July 2015): Kristin Hopkins, AICP and Jordan Yin, AICP
Chair (July 2015-Current): Kyle Ezell, AICP

The Chapter supports our members through a variety of professional development activities. APA Ohio provides general educational programs for all members and continuing education that qualifies for certification maintenance credits for AICP members.

Educational Programs, Training & AICP Certification Maintenance Activities

The Webcast Consortium, established in 2008, has continued to grow over the past two years. Reorganized in 2011, the Consortium is now officially managed by APA Ohio Executive Director Christine Dersi Davis, AICP with assistance from the Northern New England Chapter Professional Development Officer Benjamin Frost, AICP. The Consortium currently includes 35 Chapters and 14 Divisions nationwide. Access to the monthly webcasts is free to APA Ohio members and is a great membership benefit. Each year, at least two webcasts qualify for Law and two webcasts qualify for Ethics certification maintenance (CM) credits. There are currently one of each available for Distance Education CM credits.

	FY 2014	FY 2015
Webcasts	38	39
Participants	9,500	9,750
CM Credits Available	57	58.5

The Ohio Chapter and its Sections regularly organize education events for members across the state, including state and regional planning conferences, local Planning & Zoning Workshops and individual events. Between July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2015, the Chapter received CM credits for over 175 hours of instruction.

Key events included:

- APA Ohio Statewide Planning Conference (Cleveland), September 2013
- Northwest Ohio Planning & Zoning Workshop (Toledo), October 2013
- Akron Planning & Zoning Workshop, May 2014
- Trails & Greenways Conference (Cleveland), June 2014
- Great Placemakers Conference (Columbus), September 2014
- Planning For Sign Code Success Workshop (Columbus), September 2015
- Annual Planning & Zoning Workshops in Cincinnati, Central Ohio, Cleveland, Columbus, Miami Valley and Northeast Ohio

AICP Exam

The Chapter provides resource materials to assist members in preparing for the AICP exam, including the *Chapter Presidents Council Study Manual*, and also provides reduced rate scholarships for two exam applicants.

Congratulations to the following fifty-four (54) APA Ohio members who passed the exam between November 2013 and May 2015:

Nov 2013 Exam	May 2014 Exam	Nov 2014 Exam	May 2015 Exam
Samantha Doering	Amelia Costanzo	David Becker	Michael Blackford
Bruce Donnelly	Elliott Doza	Daniel Geroni	Meghan Chaney
Ann Marie Kerby	Christopher Germain	Robert Henwood	Sylvia Chinn-Levy
Patricia Kessler	Stuart Moynihan	Nathaniel Kaelin	Tyler Clark
Rekha Kumar	Lynn Muter	Caroline Nardi	Christine Dersi Davis
Joshua Lewandowski	Alex Peppers	Ami Parikh	Lauren Falcone
Jonathan Millea	Omar Peters	Samuel Perry	Dawn Johnson
Jeffery Pesler	Bryce Sylvester	Andrew Reynolds	Kyle May
Valerie Robbins	Jon White	Richard Stein	Ryan Noles
Ryan Smalley		Micah Stryker	Alex Pesta
Taylor Stuckert		Daniel Suerdieck	Brett Porter
Scott Ulrich		Ian Thomas	Justin Robbins
Hayfaa Wadiah		Robert Ware	Jason Russell
James Weaver		John Yung	Megha Sinha
			Gregory Soltis
			Stephen Thielen

Advanced Specialty Certification

Six members of APA Ohio have received Advanced Specialty Certifications. Advanced Specialty Certification enables AICP–credentialed planners to be recognized for their knowledge, experience, and leadership skills in specialized areas of planning. There are three certifications available – Certified Environmental Planner (CEP), Certified Transportation Planner (CTP), and Certified Urban Designer (CUD). Congratulations to the following APA Ohio planners who have received advanced specialty certifications:

Charles Kessler, AICP	Certified Environmental Planner (CEP)
Greg Heaton, AICP	Certified Environmental Planner (CEP)
David Plante, AICP	Certified Environmental Planner (CEP)
Kimberly Burton, AICP	Certified Transportation Planner (CTP)
Daniel Prevost, AICP	Certified Transportation Planner (CTP)
Andrew Schwartz, AICP	Certified Urban Designer (CUD)

AICP Exam Participant Survey – Summary of Findings

Beginning in 2013, APA Ohio has conducted a survey of Ohio members who have been approved to take the AICP exam. Once the testing period is opened, APA Ohio sends a survey invitation link to all those who have been approved to take the exam. Our hope is to develop a robust database of information on how much time and effort it takes to both apply for and study for the AICP exam, and advice on the best study materials and test taking tips.

To date, a total of 42 members have participated in the survey; the results are summarized below:

Pass Rate of Respondents

Of the 42 respondents, 40 had taken the test and 35 passed. Of those that passed the exam, five had taken the exam one time previously.

Application Preparation

On average, the respondents spent approximately 11 hours to prepare the application over a two week period, though the median was 9 hours and the range was from a few as 3 hours to as many as 35.

Test Preparation

The average number of hours spent studying was 70, close to the median of 60 hours. However, there was quite a range of responses, with one person studying about 3 hours and another studying over 300 hours. Of the 31 people who responded about the period over which they studied, the average was about 10.5 weeks, though the median was only about 8 weeks.

Resources used (sorted by frequency of response):

- Practice exams
- Notecards and/or online flashcards
- Planetizen course
- AICP Exam Prep 3.0
- *Planning Magazine*
- Study guides
- AICP Code of Ethics
- APA Planning Prep website
- Took a pretest to identify weaknesses (see <http://planningprep.com> which offers a number of practice exams and feedback on strengths and weaknesses)
- CD study manual published by the Chapter President's Council available from APA Ohio

Advice for Future Test Takers

The survey provides respondents an opportunity to share their studying advice on what worked and didn't work for them. Not surprisingly, test takers have provided a wide range of tips to the open-ended question. A summary of recommendations and their frequency are highlighted in the table below. Common suggestions:

- Start early
- Use common sense/practical knowledge
- Go beyond APA/AICP Review material
- Don't rely on APA's Planning Prep website

Conferences

APA Ohio (previously named the Ohio Planning Conference, or OPC) was founded in Cleveland on October 20, 1919 as the first Ohio State Conference on City Planning. Among the attendees was OPC co-founder Alfred Bettman, the author of the famous amicus brief in support of the *Village of Euclid v. Ambler Realty* U.S. Supreme Court case of 1926 that legitimized zoning.

The October 1919 conference included the standard program we enjoy today, even a mobile workshop where “...delegates enjoyed an automobile trip to points of city planning interest in Cleveland.”

Today, the biennial APA Ohio Planning Conference is conducted in odd-numbered years. Since the 1980s, the chapter has coproduced a three-state regional conference with the Kentucky and Indiana chapters of APA. This Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana (OKI) Conference takes place in even-numbered years and rotates between the three states to provide expanded opportunities for educational and networking exchange.

2013 APA Ohio Planning Conference

The 2013 APA Ohio Planning Conference was held September 25-27 at the brand new Cleveland Convention Center. The conference theme was **Planning for the New Normal**. The opening plenary session was a panel of new and emerging leaders of MPOs and regional planning agencies throughout Ohio, discussing “Disruption & Innovation: The Changing Face of Regional Planning.” The luncheon keynote speaker was **Andrew Howard, AICP, Team Better Block**. A total of 447 individuals attended the event.

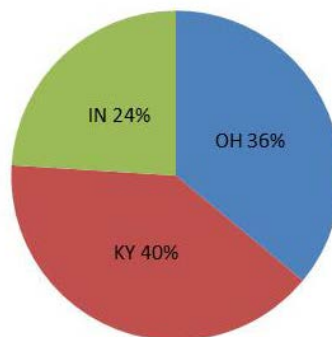


*Andrew Howard, AICP
Team Better Block*

2014 Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana (OKI) Regional Planning Conference

The 2014 OKI Conference was hosted by the Kentucky Chapter at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Lexington, KY on October 1-3. The conference theme of **Reimagining Communities** was illuminated by keynote speaker **Mitchell Silver, FAICP, Commissioner for the New York City Department of Parks & Recreation**. All three states were well represented with an almost equal distribution of attendees.

2014 OKI Conference
total attendance = 316





Awards / FAICP Honors

The Awards/FAICP Committee is responsible for running APA Ohio's biennial awards program that corresponds with the Chapter's State Conference. The committee is also responsible for identifying a list of potential Fellows of the American Institute of Certified Planners (FAICP) nominees.

Co-Chairs: *Joyce Braverman and Jennifer Evans-Cowley, PhD, AICP*

- Presented seven awards at the 2013 APA Ohio Planning Conference (Cleveland)
- Reviewed award categories and materials, and solicited 2015 nominations through newsletter, web and email; received 27 nominations
- Invited the APA Michigan chapter to serve as the awards jury
- 2015 awards will be presented at the 2015 APA Ohio Planning Conference (Toledo)
- Reviewed the list of members eligible for FAICP and made recommendations to Board; selected four members to prepare 2016 FAICP applications

2013 Ohio Planning Awards

The 2013 APA Ohio Planning Awards were announced on September 27, 2013 at the APA Ohio Planning Conference in Cleveland. Seven exemplary projects were honored in 7 categories, selected from 29 high-quality nominations. The New Jersey chapter of APA served as the awards jury.

President's Award: Outstanding Planner

Norman Krumholz, FAICP

Norm Krumholz's planning career spans 50 years, starting with his first job as a Planning Teaching Assistant at Cornell University. Prior to that, he received a Journalism degree (1952), which has contributed to his success in writing 5 books and 60 chapters or articles. Norm is a former Planning Director for the City of Cleveland and has been a Professor at the Levin College of Urban Affairs, Cleveland State University since 1985. Norm's work has impacted most planners in Ohio. Norm has served APA and has been recognized by APA. He was president of APA from 1986 to 1987; President of AICP from 1999 – 2001; is a Fellow of the AICP; and in 1990 APA awarded him the Distinguished Leadership Award. In 2007, he received the Cleveland Arts Prize – Lifetime Achievement Award for Design.



Awards Committee Co-Chair Joyce Braverman and APA Ohio President Ann Klavora, AICP, present the President's Award / Outstanding Planner to Norm Krumholz at the 2013 APA Ohio Planning Conference.

Comprehensive Planning / Large Jurisdiction

Plan Cincinnati: A Comprehensive Plan for the Future

City of Cincinnati

On November 21, 2012 Cincinnati City Council adopted Plan Cincinnati, the City's first comprehensive plan in over 30 years. The guiding document was created by and for the leaders, citizens, and children of Cincinnati throughout 3 years of community conversations, meetings and events. The awards jury stated that the "comprehensive plan is truly comprehensive and does a remarkably good job of describing and planning for many details throughout the city."



The Plan Cincinnati process included significant public participation—residents truly had significant input in the vision of the future of their City.

Comprehensive Planning – Small Jurisdiction

X-Plan

City of Xenia

The X-Plan was an unprecedented planning and community outreach effort due to its comprehensiveness, strategic nature and level of community participation. The project has elevated the city's profile within the region and provided new direction and tools the city staff, leaders and stakeholders. The jury recognized this plan by commenting "the Xenia plan is genuinely the best small community plan I have ever read – from its nearly organic participation process through to implementation."

Outstanding Community Planning

City of Solon Master Plan

City of Solon

This award recognizes several years of sustained community planning. The master plan for the City of Solon, adopted in October 2010, marked a significant point in Solon's planning history. 1975 was the last time a comprehensive master plan was adopted. The plan serves as a tool for staff when meeting with developers, business owners, residents and elected officials and when reviewing new projects.

Focused Planning Project

Big Darby Town Center Master Plan

Franklin County Planning, City of Columbus, Brown Township, Prairie Township

The plan utilizes a combination of strategic recommendations for development and conservation to avoid the negative effects of unchecked growth and sprawl. The primary goal of the plan is to respond to increasing development pressure in the Big Darby Creek which is a state and national scenic corridor. The jury noted "this was a truly creative plan that is practical and well written."

Focused Built Project

Livingston Park and Corridor Improvements

MKSK, Nationwide Children's Hospital, City of Columbus



Livingston Park is a 9 acre park located on the south side of downtown Columbus. The park serves nearby residents. The master plan was created to preserve the character and utility of Livingston Park as a neighborhood amenity. The awards jury stated that "This is a well-built project that incorporates strong planning principles."

The renovation of the historic Livingston Park celebrates the rich history of the park and the Near Southside neighborhood.

Planning Students

Pop Up Rockwell

Kent State University Cleveland Urban Design Collaborative, Spring 2012 Urban Design Graduate Studio

Pop Up Rockwell was a temporary transformation of Rockwell Avenue in downtown Cleveland, designed to test complete and green street improvements in real world conditions. Students were charged with the task of researching, designing, construction, installing and assessing a set of physical improvements within a 4 block corridor. The jury noted "what makes the Rockwell submission stand out is that it demonstrates innovation and transferability that is worth emulating by seasoned professionals."

Fellows of the American Institute of Certified Planners (FAICP) 2014 Inductees

Congratulations to Ohio planners Robert N. Brown and Vincent A. Papsidero on their acceptance into the College of Fellows of the American Institute of Certified Planners (FAICP). Fellowship is granted to planners who have been members of AICP and have achieved excellence in professional practice, teaching and mentoring, research, public and community service, and leadership. These two Ohio professionals are part of a national class of only 40. Their induction is well deserved and took place at the 2014 APA Conference in Atlanta.

Robert N. Brown, FAICP Cleveland, Ohio



For the 38 years of his city planning career, Robert N. Brown has consistently focused on improving the built environment and the quality of life in urban communities. Bob has worked as City Planning Director in Cleveland, Ohio for the past nine years. His notable accomplishments in 28 years with the city include preparation and implementation of the Civic Vision 2000 Citywide Plan, establishment of a system of design review for Cleveland's neighborhoods, and leadership in "reimagining a more sustainable Cleveland" through pioneering work in land use planning that pairs intensive urban development with urban agriculture and green space expansion.

Vincent A. Papsidero, FAICP Columbus, Ohio



Throughout his 30-plus-year career, it has been the goal of Vince Papsidero, AICP, to promote a strong planning ethic that builds upon technical expertise and community consensus. He has successfully coalesced diverse opinions toward common visions in urban, suburban and rural settings. A strong proponent of the profession and the ways planning benefits places, Vince has dedicated himself to comprehensive planning and its implementation through regulations, design guidelines and public investments. Through his leadership the practice of planning was transformed in the nation's 15th largest city, Columbus, Ohio, and a long overdue urban ethic was imbedded into this dynamic community.



Governance Committee

The Governance Committee reviews the APA Ohio Code of Regulations on an ongoing basis and develops guidelines, governance plans, or written policies for the operations of the Chapter. The Governance Committee is also responsible for working with the rest of the Board to draft the APA Ohio Strategic Plan.

Chair: Wendy Moeller, AICP

The APA Ohio Governance Committee worked with APA Ohio Treasurer Rachel Ray to review a draft of the new APA Ohio Chapter Financial Management Guide. This guide will serve as the basic rules and practices for the chapter's financial management and accounting.

Legislative Committee

The Legislative Committee monitors pending state legislation of interest to the Chapter and its members and participates in APA Legislative matters. The Legislative Committee is a forum for discussing legislative issues related to planning and zoning in Ohio and develops recommendations to the Board.

Chair: Todd Kinskey, AICP

In 2014-2015 the Legislative Committee and the APA Ohio Board was much more focused in its effort to address legislative issues.

- Made a concerted effort to encourage members with legislative/legal knowledge to run for election to the Board of Trustees, in order to stay more in tune with legislative and judicial issues.
- Prioritized amending the state planning legislation to define “comprehensive plan.” Currently working with a graduate class at Ohio State University to develop some alternatives.
- Collaborated with Ohio State University to study the potential implications of the *Apple Group Ltd. v. Granger Twp. Board of Zoning Appeals* case on townships in Ohio. The results of the study will be presented at the APA Ohio Conference in Toledo in September 2015.
- Reviewed how other APA Chapters monitor and respond to proposed legislation in an effort to be a better advocate and to add value to members of APA.



Communications Committee

The Communications Committee is responsible for production of the Chapter newsletter and for overseeing and updating the chapter's website activities in conjunction with the Executive Director.

Chair: Ann Klavora, AICP

Website

The APA Ohio website was switched to a new service provider after an unsatisfactory experience with our previous provider. APA Executive Director Christine Dersi Davis was instrumental in ensuring a smooth transition. The new website allows APA Ohio and its Sections to publicize and take registrations for events; maintain the membership database; and distribute eNEWS blasts.

The Ohio Planner's News

Four (4) quarterly issues of the *Ohio Planner's News* were distributed via email during the 2014 fiscal year, and all issues are accessible to members on the APA Ohio website. FY2015 is slated to produce the same number of editions.

APA Ohio eNEWS

To maintain the effort of providing succinct and applicable information to members, the APA Ohio eNEWS is sent every Wednesday to all APA Ohio members, and are section specific.

APA Ohio Listserv

After several years of dormancy, the APA Ohio Listserv was reinstated in 2015 in response to member demand. To subscribe/unsubscribe, visit www.ohioplanning.org/listserv.

Social Media

APA Ohio has become more active on social media, both at the statewide Chapter level and at the local Section level. This is a great way to find information about APA Ohio events and announcements.

You can find, follow, post and interact with us on:

- **Facebook**—like us at www.facebook.com/APAOhio. All members are welcome to post events and share articles or news. Many sections also have their own facebook pages, including:
 - Cleveland
 - Cincinnati
 - Central Ohio
- **Twitter**—follow us at [#becauseweplan](https://twitter.com/becauseweplan)

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APA Ohio Sections

The APA Ohio Chapter includes six sections organized geographically: Akron, Central Ohio, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Miami Valley and Northwest Ohio. Sections typically organize informal luncheons with speakers, and sponsor workshops and social functions to allow members to stay current on local planning issues. Each Section is represented on the APA Ohio Board of Trustees.

Accomplishments and events during FY 2014 and FY2015 for each section are summarized below.

Akron Section

Director: Jerry Egan

- Partnered with Summit County Health Department to receive 1 of 14 national grants from the Center for Disease Control project with the American Planning Association and the American Public Health Association. The project, Plan4Health, will foster collaboration among the planning and health communities around access to good nutrition and active living.
- 11 Section lunch meetings with presentations, including topics such as: City of Medina redevelopment initiatives (8/15); Summit County Health in All Policies initiative (11/14); Summit Metro Parks development initiatives (4/14); and a tour of the East End redevelopment project of the former Goodyear World Headquarters in Akron (9/13).
- Planning and Zoning Workshop, May 2014
- 48 bi-monthly newsletters of area planning news with media links for Medina, Portage, Stark, Summit and Wayne counties.

Central Ohio Section

Director: Kelly Brooker Scocco

- APA-OSU Knowlton School of Architecture Student Presentation and Awards Joint Event, April 2014
- Central Ohio Planning and Zoning Workshops, June 2014 and June 2015
- OSU Mentor Program, 2014 and 2015
- Co-Sponsor hosting Peter Calthorpe to present the findings of Insight2050, November 2014
- Joint Design Professionals Social Gathering at Wolf's Brewing, June 2015

Cincinnati Section

Director: Katherine Keough-Jurs, AICP

- "Becoming AICP" Brown Bag Lunch for local professionals, October 2013
- Discovering the Power of Storytelling in conjunction with Xavier University, A Small Group, Cincinnati Civic Engagement Works, and Hamilton County Planning Partnership, November 2013
- David J. Allor Planning and Zoning Workshops, January 2014 and January 2015



Work and play at the APA Cincinnati Holiday Party

- Resume Workshop for students at University of Cincinnati, March 2014
- World Town Planning Day Event in Forest Park, November 2014
- Holiday Party with Northern Kentucky Section of Kentucky APA, December 2014
- Workshop: Planning and Zoning, A Legal Framework, February 2015
- Happy Hour with University of Cincinnati Students at Keystone Bar, February 2015
- "A Case Study in Branding, Planning and Urban Design." Partnered with AIA on a tour of the new dunhumbly building, April 2015
- Workshop on the New Zoning Code in Cincinnati. In conjunction with AIA Cincinnati Urban Design Committee, June 2015

Cleveland Section

Director: Kimberly Wenger, AICP

- Hosted the 2013 APA Ohio State Planning Conference September 25-27, 2013 with an attendance of over 400!
- Winter Networking Event, Lago East Bank featuring Adam Fishman of Fairmount Properties, December 2013
- Spring Networking Event, Market Avenue Wine Bar featuring Brian Zimmerman of the Cleveland Metroparks, May 2014
- Annual Goodtime III Boat Cruise, June 2014 and June 2015; social/networking event with affiliated design professionals
- Northeast Ohio Planning & Zoning Workshop, June 2014 and June 2015
- WTS/APA Scranton Flats Towpath Tour & Happy Hour, August 2014
- APA Cleveland Planning & Zoning Workshop, October 2014
- Fall Networking Event, Press Wine Bar featuring Grace Gallucci of NOACA, December 2014
- Awarded two \$1,000 scholarships to Cleveland State University students in 2014
- Approved stipends for Cleveland State University students to attend the APA National Conference in Atlanta 2014 (approved \$100 to six CSU students) and Seattle 2015 (approved \$125 to seven CSU students)
- "Day in the Life of a Planner" Panel, March 2015, Cleveland State University
- Provided support and responsiveness to CSU and PAB through re-accreditation process; CSU MUPDD Accreditation Process, 2013-2014

Miami Valley Section

Director: Tim Davis

The past two years were very successful years for the Miami Valley Section. The Miami Valley Section continues to improve upon its objectives by providing professional development while increasing educational opportunities for its members, local jurisdictions, elected officials, and various local planning boards.

The Miami Valley Section successfully hosted the 27th and 28th Annual Miami Valley Planning and Zoning Workshops. All sessions in the workshops were approved by the American Institute of Certified Planners for AICP CM credits.

In addition to the workshop, the Miami Valley Section offered webcasts in 2014-2015 covering various planning topics, including: Health Equity and Planning Ethics, November; Safe Mobility

Planning, January 2015; Sustaining Places through the Comprehensive Plan, February 18; and Urban Design, Sustainability, and the Environment, March 2015.

Northwest Ohio Section

Director: Patrick Etchie, AICP

The Northwest Ohio Section continues to engage our community and professional planners, leaders, and peer professions in northwest Ohio to offer dialogue and guidance on planning. In the period from 2013 through 2015 our local section has been engaged with the following key events:

- Northwest Ohio Section Organizational/Social Meetings - These meetings are held approximately every couple of months to engage members and peer professions throughout northwest Ohio as we move around meeting locations to various popular eating establishments to conduct our organizational business and to then socialize with fellow planners/peer professions. In 2014 these were replaced with monthly meetings of the 2015 APA Ohio Statewide Planning Committee that has been preparing for the conference being held in Toledo, as we are the host section. The regular organizational/social meetings will begin again post 2015 conference wrap up.
- Annual Planning & Zoning Workshop (2013) - On October 25, 2013 our local section held our Annual Northwest Ohio Planning & Zoning Workshop. The event was an all-day workshop held at the Owens Community College in Perrysburg, Ohio and was well attended by planners, architects, community leaders, local governments, and professional planners from all over the 16-county region of northwest Ohio and some attendance from southeast Michigan.
- 2014 Making Balanced Growth Work in Your Community - In 2014 the Northwest Ohio Section teamed up with the Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments (TMACOG) and the Balanced Growth Program to hold a co-sponsored workshop to provide hands-on experience and interactive workshops for attendees to provide perspectives from both the review agency and developers on what balanced growth means to them. The workshop purpose was to have both sides engage each other and learn new ways to work together for the benefit of communities and to promote proper planning for sustainable growth.
- 2015 APA Ohio Statewide Planning Conference - The Northwest Ohio Section of APA Ohio is the host section of the 2015 Conference that will be held September 23-25, 2015 in Toledo.