

THE OHIO PLANNER'S NEWS



American Planning Association
Ohio Chapter

Making Great Communities Happen

The First Statewide Association of Citizens & Planners

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America's First Statewide Association of Citizens & Planners

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Ohio CALENDAR

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 6-July 1

APA Ohio Planning Award Nominations

May 6-20

AICP Spring 2019 Exam Window

May 17

Central Ohio P&Z Workshop
Dublin OH

May 31

Design Cruise Line Happy Hour
Cleveland OH

June 11

APA Cincinnati Lunch & Learn
Cincinnati OH

June 14

Northeast Ohio P&Z Workshop
Youngstown OH

June 14

APA Ohio Board of Trustees Meeting
Dublin OH

For a full list of events and deadlines, visit www.ohioplanning.org/events.

Shaker Van Aken District Receives National Planning Award

By Joyce Braverman



A long-term planning effort to establish a true downtown in Shaker Heights received the Gold 2019 National Planning Achievement Award for Implementation from the American Planning Association (APA). The award recognizes the Van Aken District for implementing an 18-year sustained planning process to generate economic development. The Van Aken District is one of only 20 Achievement Award recipients in the country this year.

I had the honor of representing the City of Shaker Heights during the award ceremony at the National Conference in San Francisco, along with Ann Klavara, AICP, Principal Planner and Jason Russell, RMS Corporations (RMS) Neighborhood General Manager. Together, we represented a team of city planners, economic development professionals, city officials, and developers who have worked together to plan and implement the project since 2000.



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FIRST WORD

News from San Francisco

The 2019 National Planning Conference was held over four days in April, and it appears to have been a great success, with full sessions, sold-out mobile workshops and sunny, mild weather.

- The conference was the debut of APA's new executive director, Joel Albizo, with less than a week on the job and still learning names. He replaced Jim Drinan, who during his tenure made APA nimbler and innovative, Joel comes to APA with an extensive background in association management, including the Society of Actuaries, where he led an award-winning corporate branding campaign. (If you think planning is hard to explain...)
- For all there was to love about San Francisco, the expense of staying there was a frequent topic of conversations. The gap between rich and poor is especially stark in San Francisco, and terribly poignant. The surroundings emphasized for me the importance of equity in planning. Coincidentally or not, equity is being proposed by the AICP Commission as a mandatory certification maintenance topic, joining law and ethics.
- At this year's Awards Luncheon, the City of Shaker Heights was honored with the National Planning Achievement Award for Implementation (Gold) for the City's Van Aken District redevelopment, a project that has come to fruition after many years of planning.

This award makes me especially happy for a couple of reasons. I grew up in next-door Beachwood, and "Van Aken" evokes fond memories of riding the Rapid, going to movies, and accompanying my dad on trips to the hardware store. It's exciting when friends and colleagues—Shaker Heights Planning Director Joyce Braverman and Principal Planner Ann Klavora, as well as Van Aken District General Manager Jason Russell—are recognized for excellence on the national stage. Congratulations!

Board of Trustees Transitions

Speaking of Jason Russell: it was with regret that we accepted his resignation from the Board at the end of April. Jason had been a Trustee since 2015 and helped reinvigorate the Chapter's policy and legislative platform. We were glad to appoint Megha Sinha, AICP to the seat being vacated by Jason. Megha is a senior associate at nbbj in Columbus and is a member of the executive committee for the Central Ohio Section. She also received the most votes among the runner-up candidates in the 2018 Board election. Leah Hollstein, PH.D, also joined the Board, appointed to represent the University of Cincinnati DAAP/School of Planning, where she is an Assistant Professor.

With these appointments, the Board is at its full complement with all 24 positions filled. We also have lots of fresh perspectives from the seven trustees who are new this year.

How Do You Become a Leader?

It's a good question. My take: "leadership" isn't a rare talent—it's a skill set that can be taught and learned. Leadership training, mentorship and coaching are common in the executive ranks of the business world.

On the other hand, if you look around at what a young planner can find, it's a little spotty:

- A handful of Chapters and Sections have leadership programs in place, mainly thanks to volunteers on a mission.
- A few planning organizations consciously and systematically nurture leadership skills in their younger staff.
- APA offers an endowed leadership training course at the national conference.
- The 2018 OKI Conference had leadership training for the professional development workshop.

I want to challenge us to establish APA Ohio as a resource for leadership education and mentorship. Looking around, we already have most of the pieces and I'm certain that we have the people. It's a matter of putting it together into something that can be accessed, and that can be repeated. ■

Christopher Anderson, AICP is the Director of Community Development at the City of Forest Park and APA Ohio President. He can be reached at chrisa@forestpark.org.

Van Aken District

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The city officials demonstrated considerable political will under the leadership of four different mayors and believed in the city's Strategic Investment Plan.

This support was critical to retaining top-notch consultants to develop the plans, and to attracting developers and support staff to obtain grants and financing for the various stages of the project. The sustained political support, along with consistent planning, has resulted in an award-winning project.

Shaker Heights is known for its historic residential character but lacked a true downtown and suffered from a lack of character in its commercial areas. To reverse this trend, city officials took bold moves to make way for a new mixed-use development that would reshape a failing commercial strip into a downtown area renamed the Van Aken District.

A New Neighborhood - 18 years, 5 plans, 60 public meetings

The Van Aken District Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) project is the result of a sustained planning process for economic development. The public participated in meetings and workshops. They gathered around maps, drew out their ideas, offered suggestions, and more. The final product you see today was conceived of, with and by the community, not just by our City's administration. There has been tremendous support for this plan and, not surprisingly, much impatience for it to be implemented.

After decades of auto-friendly and largely unplanned development, the City of Shaker Heights' commercial areas had faltered. In response, the City worked with numerous partners to create a series of plans focused on revitalization of the area, which resulted in the public/private development.



Establishing key partnerships with public and private entities, as well as with our residents, was essential to achieve this type of project. Like-minded goals to support transit-oriented development established strong partnerships with GCRTA, the county, and NOACA (the region's metropolitan planning organization). Collectively, funding was combined from federal, state, and local sources to complete the development's necessary roadwork and infrastructure.

Together, RMS, GCRTA, and the City jointly pursued several planning and funding sources. Grant awards from the Ohio Department of Transportation, Ohio Department of Natural Resources, and the State Capital Budget were acquired to make priorities from the plan a reality.

Throughout this process, five plans were developed:

1. Shaker Heights Strategic Investment Plan (2000)
2. WVA Transit Oriented Development Plan (2008)
3. WVA Intermodal Transit Center Program Plan (2010)
4. Van Aken District Connections Plan (2016)
5. Van Aken District Public Art Action Strategy (2018)

These plans identified an actionable path for implementation of a robust economic development and planning process. The resulting mixed-use, transit-oriented development is a \$119M public-private partnership.

In 2014, the city converted a dangerous, six-legged intersection into a standard four-way intersection. This major public infrastructure investment allows comfortable pedestrian crossing, efficient traffic flow, and transit station access, which led to private interest in a TOD. In 2015, developer RMS broke ground on the redevelopment. Phase 1 of the project is now complete; it included 60,000sf of office space, 100,000sf of retail space, 103 housing units and a 350-space parking garage, making it the largest single construction project in the city's history. The economic impact of this project will be substantial—the project succeeded in increasing commercial tax revenue and attracted a new generation of residents to live and work in this inner-ring suburb.

Van Aken District

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The City continues to implement recommendations from these plans. A Public Art Task Force is directing multiple public art installations in response to the Public Art Action Strategy, and two streetscape projects currently under construction include multi-purpose paths as envisioned by the Connections Plan. The City's planning staff, along with many consultant planners, have played a significant role in facilitating the planning strategies of these initiatives.

Implementation

Today, Phase I of the RMS project is open: office space is 100% leased, retail space is 60% leased, and the apartments are almost all rented. The best of local and regional tenants are now open, along with national names. The VAD is a new neighborhood with new streets connecting to existing neighborhood streets. Residents walk and bike to the district. The new Market Hall provides an indoor gathering space in a former grocery store with food stalls, handcrafted retail, a popular brewpub and many events. Planning and marketing has begun for future phases, including an office building and additional apartments.

The combination of public and private improvements in the Van Aken District has snowballed the formation of a compelling and economically sustainable public realm.



Finally, one of the most rewarding aspects of the project is the overwhelming public support. The capacity of the City to listen to resident desires, balance the feedback and deliver a successful product has established strong community trust in the City's planning efforts. Many residents feel they have been a key player in the development of the project. A public meeting in 2010 drew hundreds of resident participants, despite a snowstorm. At a public workshop attended by nearly 100 residents in 2016, an individual voiced the following: "The opportunity to participate in the future of our community and share our opinions where they're going to be analyzed shows that we're participating in community development. It makes me feel ownership of my city." The community continues to be an essential participant in its success, with public meetings for multipurpose paths and public art projects occurring throughout 2018 and 2019.

The entire Shaker Heights Planning and Economic Development staff contributed to these plans and this project. Also contributing to this article were Ann Klavora, AICP, Principal Planner and Cameron Roberts, Planner. ■

Joyce Braverman is the Planning Director for the City of Shaker Heights and current APA Ohio Board Member. She can be reached at joyce.braverman@shakeronline.com.



KUDOS!

"Autism Planning and Design Guidelines 1.0" received APA's 2019 AICP Student Project Award! The Ohio State University's City and Regional Planning (CRP) students in Professor of Practice Kyle Ezell's studios and workshop developed the project that explores ways planners, architects and landscape architects can create communities where adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) can thrive.

More info can be found at <https://knowlton.osu.edu/news>.

2019 APA Ohio Planning Conference

Dr. Anthony Townsend | Keynote Speaker



By Kris Hopkins, FAICP with Arthur Schmidt, IV contributing



The conference committee is excited to have Dr. Anthony Townsend join us on October 4 as our keynote speaker. As the founder of the New York City-based firm **Bits and Atoms**, and author of the book *Smart Cities: Big Data, Civic Hackers, and the Quest for A New Utopia*, Dr. Townsend works with industry, government, and philanthropy on economic development, digital placemaking, and strategic technology forecasting.

Dr. Townsend is a strong advocate for comprehensive planning, recognizing that planning is a tool for preserving human values and ethics in an age of rapid technological change. As a consultant, his goal is to help communities use planning methods effectively to balance the need for local development and innovation and the caution regarding the unknown.

“Digital master plans,” as Townsend calls these documents, specifically prioritize smart city functions and outline the steps required to achieve them. Townsend was inspired

by Dublin, Ireland’s Digital Masterplan and also by his own academic background in planning. In a working paper on digital master plans created for New York University, Townsend wrote, “These plans are attempts to mobilize local stakeholders around visions, goals, and road maps to adapt to these external technological and economic pressures, within local social, economic, and political constraints.”

EVOLVE

For our 100th Anniversary as an organization, the theme is **EVOLVE**. This seemingly simple word speaks to our progress and the influence of planning in Ohio over the last century and asks us to consider what comes next — reflecting on the evolution and progress of planning in Ohio and across the country.

Do Not Miss Out!

There is a lot ahead, so please save the dates October 2-4 for a visit to Cleveland. Sponsorship opportunities are still available. Information about sponsorships, and all other items related to the conference can be found at www.ohioplanning.org/conference. ■

Kris Hopkins, FAICP is Manager of Planning Services at CT Consultants, Inc and Co-Chair of the Conference Centennial Committee. She can be reached at khopkins@ctconsultants.com.

Arthur Schmidt, IV is Senior Planner with OHM Advisors and Co-Chair of the Conference Communications Committee. He can be reached at arthur.schmidt@ohm-advisors.com.

APA Ohio Planning Awards Call for Nominations Now Open

By APA Ohio Staff



APA Ohio’s biennial awards program honors outstanding planning and planning leadership in Ohio, recognizing the highest levels of achievement. This is an opportunity to highlight the best and brightest plans, projects, and people in Ohio.

2019 Dates to Know:

May 6 - July 1 | Call for Nominations

August 23 | Winners Notified

October 3 | Awards Presented @ SPC19 in Cleveland

For more information and to submit your nomination, visit www.ohioplanning.org/awards. ■

Cincinnati's 'Most Sustainable City' Title

Where we're going next

By Eric Anderson, AICP



Green Cincinnati

BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE AND EQUITABLE CITY

Cincinnati ranks in the top **30 "greenest" cities** in the U.S., according to an October 2018 report from the personal finance website Wallet Hub. Just a few months before that, Site Selection magazine ranked the city as the country's **"most sustainable"**.

Green Cincinnati Plan: 80 strategies to reduce Cincinnati's carbon emissions 80% by 2050.

Originally published in 2013, the **Green Cincinnati Plan** has helped establish Cincinnati as a national leader in sustainability and an attractive destination for businesses and individuals. Updated in 2018, the Green Cincinnati Plan presents a comprehensive set of recommendations to advance the sustainability, equity, and resilience of our city. The Plan will help map Cincinnati's path to 100% renewable energy, starting with a proposal to build the largest city-owned solar array in the country.

Cincinnati's certification as a 2030 District starts the city on the path to a less polluted future.

The **Cincinnati 2030 District** is a membership organization facilitated by Green Umbrella, the region's leading sustainability alliance. The District's mission is to create a network of healthy, high-performing buildings in the city of Cincinnati. Participating members make a collective commitment to reduce their buildings' energy use, water consumption and transportation emissions 50% by the year 2030.

Members of the Cincinnati 2030 District are property owners and managers, developers, and commercial tenants who commit to assisting the District achieve its reduction goals through the implementation of sustainable, emissions-reducing solutions in their buildings. Currently, our 22 members have committed 188 buildings and over 20 million sq. ft. to the Cincinnati 2030 District.

To put this into perspective, the square footage committed to our District is equivalent to over 7 Empire State Buildings or nearly 25 Madison Square Gardens.

By partnering directly with members, the Cincinnati 2030 District accelerates the development of sustainable buildings by breaking down market barriers, encouraging collaboration, and assisting members in the deployment of innovative sustainability solutions.

Read more about Cincinnati's cleaner and greener future at www.cincinnati.com/features/cleaner-and-greener-cincinnati-sustainable-future

To become a member, community partner or professional partner of the Cincinnati 2030 District, view and submit the application at www.2030districts.org/cincinnati/join-district. ■

Eric Anderson, AICP is a Community Planner with KZF Design, APA Ohio Professional Development Officer (PDO) and APA Cincinnati Section Director. He can be reached at Eric.Anderson@kzf.com.

Member Spotlight

New to the Ohio Planners News is the Member Spotlight. We'll be highlighting APA Ohio members working on interesting planning projects or initiatives related to the planning field. Interested in being featured? Contact Christine Davis at info@ohioplanning.org.



Adam Davenport

List five words that describe your personality, passion(s) and pursuit(s).

People, place, health, public space & adventure.

Please share a little bit about your career path. How did you choose planning as a career, and how did you end up in your current position?

I knew I wanted to be involved with a career that combined the natural and urban environments and ended up choosing the Levin College at Cleveland State University because they housed Environmental Studies. My interest in Planning in the capital "P" sense was mostly formulated after that (although it was probably subconsciously always there). Through AmeriCorps I started at Detroit Shoreway Community Development Organization where I really evolved my position to focus on special projects, most of which dealt with Planning in some vein or form. Currently I'm a Neighborhood Planner at Cleveland City Planning Commission focusing on the far west side of the city from the community I live in (Detroit Shoreway) all the way to the airport.

What's the most exciting, interesting, or important project you're working on right now?

I am going to name a few because I cannot choose just one! There are a group of residents who really took charge on improving a commonly traveled street in their part of the neighborhood (both ascetically as well as traffic calming) that I am involved in as both a resident nearby and from the City. That type of grassroots organizing is great stuff and really gets it done. There is also an intersection plaza project and some parks and rec projects (and some policy work for all of the City) that I am super jazzed about. Stay tuned on the policy part. Also, a shameless plug, but co-chairing the programming committee for this year's state conference is a wild time. I'm very excited to help showcase ALL of Cleveland and not just the good, but some tough situations as well.

You are a world traveler! What are some of your favorite places you've visited, far and near?

This is an even harder question. I could make so many lists based on certain specific things so it's very hard to generalize. A few certainly stick out and they definitely skew towards the outdoors + a nearby city that is fantastic or in some cases completely bizarre. A short list: Nepal & Kathmandu, Denali National Park & Seward, AK, the Upper Peninsula of MI, Acadia National Park & Portland, ME, and the Canadian Rockies near Banff and Jasper, AB (two more because I can't stop and because they have some of the best, most unique neighborhoods: New Orleans and Philadelphia). I think what I may enjoy just as much as seeing these places though is the in-between towns, intersections, roads, etc. There are hidden gems and spots out there that only reward you if you pay attention and stop and ask. As Americans (and especially city dwelling people) I think we can often get caught up in the destination, not the journey. Some of the best conversations, suggestions, and situations I have had in the past couple years have been because I've tried to look for this stuff. I should probably do a blog about these 'small' places and great/weird gas station food.

What was the most significant planning-related observation or understanding you took away from your travels?

This is tricky, but I think most of this sentiment I will try and explain centers around the concept of time. Depending on where you live and what you value it can be entirely different. It can go by your personal calendar down to the minute or by daylight and the sun, etc. Most of us revolve around some combination. Understanding this about a person I think helps to understand where they are – not just physically but what they value – and this can bleed over into conversations that would be relevant to anybody. We all need to be better listeners. ■

Interviewing Adam Davenport was Ann Klavora, AICP. She is the Principal Planner for the City of Shaker Heights and APA Ohio Board Member. She can be reached at ann.klavora@shakeronline.com.

Infrastructure for All

By John Gardocki, AICP



The Southwest Ohio region has been experiencing a tumultuous year so far when it comes to transportation. Weather, age, maintenance, and human behavior are all to blame for the deterioration of our transportation system.

Weather – Rains this winter and ongoing this Spring have caused hillsides to collapse along a heavily trafficked Columbia Parkway (US-50) that connects the east side of Cincinnati to the central core. Landslides continue to happen and will eventually require a closure with just one lane in each direction open for up to two (2) years.

Age – April 17th shutdown of the Roebling Bridge was caused by falling sandstone from this beloved river crossing bridge. It is still unknown how long the shutdown will last; however, it impacts hundreds of vehicles wanting to cross the Ohio River to transition to other bridges.

Maintenance – The Western Hills Viaduct which was completed in 1932 will be 87 years old this year. Because of its age, chunks of concrete have been falling onto the road of this two-level behemoth. Maintenance continues to be completed on it, but only so much can be done before this structure sees its demise. The existing structure does not support safe pedestrian or emergency movement and is a key transportation connection from the west side of Cincinnati to the east.

Human Behavior – Cincinnati is facing a crisis when it comes to pedestrian safety. As of the end of February 2019, Cincinnati saw almost 70 pedestrian-involved crashes which was on pace for the entire year's crashes in 2018. Most of these crashes involve vehicular impacts

with pedestrians in crosswalks or along major arterial roadways. Distracted driving, poor lighting, and incomplete crosswalk design are only a few of the reasons these impacts happened.

A solution to fix many of these issues has been piecemeal because the entities that own and operate them do not have the funding capability to take them on. The City of Cincinnati has provided some funding for the replacement of the Western Hills Viaduct, limited funding for pedestrian improvements, and is slated to take money from other projects to fund emergency repairs to Columbia Parkway.

What should we be doing as planners?

1. Transportation planners should be listening to the public as we transition from one transportation era into another
2. Plan for multi-modal transportation usage in all developments
3. Educate anyone willing to listen who might be able to impact a project for the better
4. Teach your community about safety utilizing fun techniques such as bike rodeos and tactical urbanism
5. Prioritize human scale projects over maximum capacity projects ■

John Gardocki, AICP is the Planning + Special Projects Manager for the Butler County Regional Transit Authority. He can be reached at gardockij@butlercountyrt.com.



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Great Parks of Hamilton County Receives Recognition

By Eric Anderson, AICP

Great Parks of Hamilton County was awarded Hamilton County's Frank Ferris Award for their recently completed Comprehensive Master Plan. The Master Plan process included stakeholder interviews, conducting surveys, workshops, and events in efforts to incorporate as much citizen feedback as possible in the community engagement process to guide the focus of parks in our region over the next 10-15 years.



Great Parks of Hamilton County completed its first ever **Comprehensive Master Plan** in January 2019, working closely with consulting firm MKSK and an advisory committee, utilizing an inclusive and thorough community planning process. The plan will guide parks, facilities, programming and services over the next 10 years, through 2028.

The process began in 2017 with active community engagement, including interviews, surveys, meetings and workshops, involving more than 2,200 members of the public. Results indicated strong support for conservation efforts, active recreation programs, trails, special events and facility updates.

The master plan has five overall goals:

- Be a recognized leader in conservation
- Provide innovative programming as a gateway to nature exploration
- Create outstanding experiences
- Advance fiscal, health and Operate with high standards of excellence.

Next steps include implementation of the comprehensive plan priorities and the development of park and facility master plans through upcoming regional community engagement efforts.

The Master Plan can be viewed online at www.mygreatparks.com.

The Frank F. Ferris II Planning Award was created by the Hamilton County Regional Planning Commission in 1995 to recognize and honor the lifelong dedication of Mr. Frank F. Ferris II to municipal, county, and regional planning activities. It is awarded annually to a local planning commission or planning committee whose efforts have contributed to the elevation of planning principles, greater awareness of the value of planning, and improved quality of life.

Congratulations Great Parks! ■

Eric Anderson, AICP is a Community Planner with KZF Design, APA Ohio Professional Development Officer (PDO) and APA Cincinnati Section Director. He can be reached at Eric.Anderson@kzf.com.

APA Central Ohio Hosts OU Planning Students

By Kyle May, AICP



In March, students from Ohio University's Geography Department made the 70-mile trip up from Athens to tour various city planning initiatives and active planners around Columbus. The APA Central Ohio Chapter hosted the event and hopes this will be the first in a series of educational tours and exchanges from other Midwest University planning programs and professional organizations.

Starting with a commanding view in the 8th floor conference room of the newly completed Michael Coleman Government Center, students were led in a walking tour of downtown, and three other inner core neighborhoods including Franklinton, Arena District and the Short North. The tour was led by Kyle May, senior planner with planning NEXT and Education Chair of APA Central Ohio, with contributions from Mark Dravillas, Justin Goodwin, and Scott Ulrich with the city of Columbus, Blake Compton with Compton Construction, Betsy Pandora with the Short North Business Association, and Chris Herman with MKSK.



In their first stop, Mark Dravillas, Planning Division Assistant Administrator, provided a background on the city's planning history as well as its planning division. Mark shared the day to day operations as well as what he's sees on the horizon for the fast-growing city. From the government building, Justin Goodwin and Scott Ulrich, with the city's Transportation and Public Health Departments respectively, led the students on a walking tour of the city's downtown park system. Highlights included Columbus Commons, CoGo bikeshare, the Scioto Mile, the low head dam removal projects, and the Rich and Main Street Bridges. The students were then handed off by crossing the river into the Franklinton neighborhood.

At the newly completed River and Rich mixed-use project, Blake Compton, Owner of Compton Construction, led the group on a tour of fast-developing Franklinton neighborhood. Over the past five years, Blake has had a hand in a number of catalytic projects including the **Land Grant Brewery**, **Idea Foundry** and smaller community projects like the **Social Gaming Club**. Blake stressed the importance of consideration in planning work.

"Words matter. Where you draw the line matters. How you describe what will happen will someday be read and

interpreted. You've got to get it right to enable the kinds of great places you're envisioning."

Following a rousing discussion on the third floor of the Idea Foundry, students boarded their bus for lunch at the North Market. They were then given the option of heading south into the Arena District or north through the Short North.

Students choosing to explore Arena District were led through the entertainment neighborhood by Chris Herman, Principal with MKSK. Chris and his firm played an instrumental role in the design and execution of Arena District by developing a master plan and facilitating the design, development and construction of district over time. In his tour Chris pointed out the challenges of such a process and highlighted the elements of good, urban design.

"I think the students were quite interested in the idea of starting from scratch. What do you do with a blank page? Where do you start? Who do you need to engage?"

Students joining the Short North segment of the tour made their way from the North Market along High Street. Betsy Pandora, Executive Director of the **Short North Business Association**, met the students at her brand new offices above High Street. Betsy shared a history of the neighborhood which traces its name back to a police call sign for the area. Through large and small investments, the area has transformed significantly over the past 30 years. Starting as an arts district, the neighborhood has evolved into the most vibrant area in Columbus and one of the hottest real estate markets in the Midwest. Betsy described the growing pains a neighborhood can feel when it experiences such exponential growth but expressed optimism in neighborhood's ability to adapt.

Throw a driving rain, students boarded the bus and headed back to Athens. The APA Central Ohio Chapter intends to offer more opportunities for student groups and professionals to visit Columbus and participated in a similar tour in the future. ■

Kyle May, AICP is a Senior Planner with planning NEXT and APA Central Ohio Education Chair. He can be reached at kyle@planning-next.com.

New Ruralism Initiative

By Jenny Whittaker



This is an exciting time in rural America. Many communities are finding ways to reinvent a more sustainable local economy and developing grass-roots-driven programs to meet residents' basic everyday needs. With assistance from the APA Divisions Council, the Northern New England Chapter of the APA (NNECAPA) and the Small Town and Rural Planning Division (STaR) are teaming up to develop an on-line collection of case studies from around the country highlighting ingredients that have made for successful innovation in rural communities, and describe that information in a format that can easily be shared with planners and communities around the country. The NNECAPA-STaR New Ruralism Project seeks to tease out successful planning strategies supporting and fostering community strength which promote elements of sustainability.

To get the project started, with funding from APA Chapter Presidents Council, the Northern New England Chapter of the APA has compiled a set of case studies from Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine. These are on-line at <https://nneccapa.org/resources/newruralism>. The pilot project covered local initiatives focusing on a wide range of topics

such as local food, providing for the needs of children and seniors, energy conservation, the working landscape, resiliency and jobs.

The next step is to expand the on-line library to include examples from other regions of the country, and cover some additional topics, such as transportation and health care.

If you have experience with rural initiatives that you would like to share with other communities facing similar needs and challenges, please send a brief description to **Tara Bamford**, Project Manager. You will be contacted for more information, and if your suggestion is chosen for our next round of case studies, you will be asked to participate in a short phone interview and to provide some graphics and contact information. We promise to make it as easy as possible!

For more information on this initiative, visit <https://nne.planning.org/knowledge/new-ruralism>. ■

Jenny Whittaker is the APA Small Town + Rural Planning Division Intern. She can be reached at whjenn@upenn.edu.

Cincy's Iconic Union Terminal Gets Restored

By Emily Crow, AICP

Cincinnati Museum Center recently undertook an extensive repair and restoration project on the city's iconic Union Terminal. The project is a multi-faceted achievement for the city, and preserves an architectural treasure for future generations.



"Cincinnati Union Terminal was a significant development in the history of Cincinnati transportation. One of the last great American train stations built, Union Terminal is a Cincinnati icon and one of the most widely regarded examples of the art deco style. Since its opening in 1933, Union Terminal has had a long and storied history, from welcoming soldiers home from World War II to becoming the home of three museums, an OMNIMAX® Theater and the Cincinnati History Library and Archives." - CMC

The project is a key component of the ongoing respect Cincinnati has for our built environment and the cultural heritage represented in our city. The effort has resulted in a dramatic renaissance for the award winning Over the Rhine neighborhood and downtown Cincinnati.

The process and the importance of planning have been documented in records on the Cincinnati Museum Center's website. www.cincymuseum.org/union-terminal-restoration, on www.myunionterminal.com, and in a documentary, **'Saving Union Terminal'** produced by WCPO. ■

Emily Crow, AICP is a Senior Project Manager/Planner for McBride Dale Clarion and the APA Cincinnati Treasurer. She can be reached at ecrow@mcbridedale.com

CSU Levin College of Urban Affairs

Positively Changing NEO and Beyond



By Stephanie Ryberg-Webster, PhD

Exciting things are happening for urban planning education in Cleveland. With a new curriculum, many new faculty, a strong alumni base, and an exciting location in downtown Cleveland, the Master of Urban Planning and Development (MUPD) program at Cleveland State University's Levin College of Urban Affairs is positively changing Northeast Ohio and beyond.

In August 2018, the MUPD program launched a revamped curriculum designed to equip students with knowledge and skills that will allow them to work towards a better future for diverse and dynamic metropolitan regions and communities within a global context. We continue to serve as leader in equity, diversity and social justice, while we have also enhanced our requirements in GIS, data analysis, sustainable development, civic engagement, planning the built environment, budgeting, and public finance. The new curriculum also maximizes our position within one of the nation's top urban affairs colleges, giving students the opportunity to comingle with their peers across the college.

In the past few years, the Levin College has welcomed a number of new faculty who have quickly become active leaders in the urban planning community.

Dr. Rosie Tighe strengthens our longstanding focus on social justice and equity, with a focus on housing, neighborhoods, and issues of race and injustice. Her recent research has addressed legacy cities, nuisance laws, and source of income discrimination in housing. She links her scholarly interests with community service through her position on the board of the Housing Research and Advocacy Center.

In August 2016, we welcomed **Dr. Joanna Ganning**, who leads our economic development certificate and enhances our capabilities in GIS, urban economics, and research methods. Dr. Ganning is currently engaged in research about regionalism in a decline context, the impacts of urban decline on suburban change, and the role of online shopping in local economic development, while also serving on the Shaker Heights City Planning Commission and various committees of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning.

Dr. Beth Nagy also joined the college in 2016, bringing more than fifteen years of practitioner experience to Levin. Dr. Nagy serves as our GIS coordinator, while

advancing our capabilities in the areas of community engaged learning and smart cities and urban technology. Dr. Nagy also serves on the APA Ohio Board of Trustees.

Our newest faculty member, **Dr. Tom Hilde**, joined the college in 2017. Tom's expertise in sustainable development and land use planning has allowed us to strengthen our ability to educate a new generation of planners in these crucial areas of practice. Dr. Hilde also works in the areas of disaster resilience, green infrastructure and regionalism, all crucial to our program's ability to address pressing urban issues in the 21st century. Dr. Hilde also serves on the APA Ohio Board of Trustees.



Levin.

The MUPD program's commitment to engaged learning, an approach to higher education that permeates the Levin College and Cleveland State University, allows our students and faculty to make an immediate impact on the future of Northeast Ohio. Through our recent capstone studios, MUPD students have explored the economic development potential of a downtown microgrid, re-envisioned an abandoned amusement park site, and explored transit oriented development opportunities that capitalize on existing transit stops to boost equitable neighborhood development.

Stay up-to-date with news from Levin's Master of Urban Planning and Development program by checking us out on the web (<https://www.csuohio.edu/urban/mupd/mupd>), following our student group on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/csuapa/>), or following the Levin College on Twitter (https://twitter.com/CSU_Urban) or Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/LevinCollegeUrbanAffairs/>). Or, come visit us during the Ohio APA conference this fall! ■

Stephanie Ryberg-Webster, PhD is an Associate Professor of Urban Studies & Planning and Director of the Master of Urban Planning & Development (MUPD) program at the Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs at Cleveland State University. She can be reached at s.ryberg@csuohio.edu.

In Memoriam | Chad Flowers



Chad Flowers, passed away unexpectedly on Thursday, April 18, 2019 at age 40. Chad was a graduate from Upper Arlington High School in 1997, and The Ohio State University with a degree in landscape architecture in 2002. Chad designed many popular landmarks while working for the private sector, he was most proud of Hillard Station Park and the BriHi Square Fountain in downtown Dublin. He began in city work at Canal Winchester and moved to the City of Marysville in 2015 as a City Planner. Chad was very passionate about his role in the community.

Chad was extremely instrumental in many areas for the City of Marysville over 4 years and he was involved in updating the city's comprehensive plan and uptown revitalization. Colleagues said that Chad was very well respected and that they "had never seen anyone accomplish the magnitude of projects, the way Chad was able to accomplish in the short time he was with the City of Marysville." ■

Central Ohio Section

The Central Ohio Committee is working hard in preparation for the Planning and Zoning workshop that will take place on Friday, May 17 at the Exchange in Dublin. Alison Circle, Customer Experience Officer for the Columbus Metropolitan Libraries will be the keynote and many other Central Ohio planners will host sessions throughout the day. We hope to see you there!

Join our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/CentralOhioAPA. ■

Amanda Golden is Managing Principal at Designing Local and Central Ohio Section Director. She can be reached at agolden@designinglocal.com.

Cincinnati Section

Past Events

OKI Regional Planning Forum. On February 22, more than 60 people attended the February Regional Planning Forum, continue the affordable housing discussion by highlighting those who are striving to provide affordable housing in the region.

Professional Development Workshop: Storytelling. On March 7, we hosted more than 20 attendees at our first professional development education event at Deerfield Township. Emily Crow, AICP of McBride Dale Clarion shared her experiences working on more than 40 long-range planning projects preparing user-friendly documents and presenting complex findings to general audiences.

Upcoming Events

OKI Regional Planning Forum | May 18

This event will feature a walking tour of downtown Hamilton, Ohio. Additional details coming soon!

Section News

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Professional Development Workshop: Time Management and Productivity Skills | June 11

Like most of us, you probably face unproductive or unnecessary meetings, a mountain of work on your desk and a never-ending wave of voicemails and emails. We will discuss strategies to manage this workload and maintain your sanity. Additional details coming soon!

Planners at the Pitch | late July

Planners from Southwest Ohio and Northern Kentucky will be invited to cheer on the Cincinnati Reds at an upcoming game in July. Additional details coming soon!

Cincinnati Design Awards | November 7

For the first time, APA Cincinnati will be participating in the Cincinnati Design Awards (CDA) program. CDA recognizes the best built-environment design produced by Cincinnati-area creative firms and government agencies, and promotes the social and economic value of good design in our community. Each year, a distinguished nationwide jury of design thought leaders and eminent practitioners presents the awards to projects submitted by local architecture, interiors, landscape, and experiential graphic designers. Additional details coming soon!

2020 David J. Allor Planning & Zoning Workshop | March 6
Mark your calendars! On Friday, March 6, 2020, the Cincinnati Section will host the annual David J. Allor Planning & Zoning Workshop. We will reveal details as they formulate over the next year.

Please keep an eye on your email and the APA Cincinnati Facebook page for updates on all our events and activities!

If you are interested in helping to plan any Cincinnati Section events, please contact Cincinnati Section Program Director Andy Meyer at ameyer@oki.org.

For any other information about the Cincinnati Section, please contact Cincinnati Section Director Eric Anderson at Eric.Anderson@kzf.com.

For more information about future events, and to connect with other local planners, please join our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/groups/APACincinnati. ■

Eric Anderson, AICP is a Community Planner with KZF Design, APA Ohio Professional Development Officer (PDO) and APA Cincinnati Section Director. He can be reached at Eric.Anderson@kzf.com.

Cleveland Section

The Cleveland Section has been hard at work on planning for the upcoming State Conference. The call for sessions drew 100 proposals for sessions and mobile workshops from across the state. With so many truly wonderful proposals we're developing a really exciting and educational program for attendees. Thank you to everybody that has submitted and volunteered to speak. Don't forget to mark your calendars for October 3-5, 2019 and plan to attend!

Please join us for the annual Goodtime III joint association boat cruise - the Design Cruise Line - on the evening of Friday May 31, 2019. Tickets are on sale now on the APA website. We look forward to seeing you there. And speaking of our waterfront, stay tuned for some exciting announcements about this year's upcoming *WePlanCLE* series that will take place in July.

Section information is regularly updated on the APA CLE webpage, facebook and twitter pages. Follow along on Facebook (www.facebook.com/groups/APACleveland) and Twitter (@APA_CLE). Please let us know if you're interested in volunteering one of our many committees. For more information on these opportunities contact Matt Schmidt at matt.schmidt@tpl.org. ■

Matthew Schmidt, AICP is Program Director for The Trust for Public Land and Cleveland Section Director. He can be reached at matt.schmidt@tpl.org.

Miami Valley Section

The Miami Valley Section is hosting the 33rd Annual Miami Valley Planning and Zoning Workshop on Friday, December 6, 2019, at the David H. Ponitz Center – Sinclair Community College in Dayton, OH. The Workshop will feature a dynamic program of outstanding speakers from across the planning spectrum. Sponsored by the Greater Dayton RTA, the workshop will be full of great sessions as we celebrate the 33rd year of the successful workshop.

In 2018, we had over 400 attendees at the workshop! All sessions in the workshop were approved for CM credit. ■

Tim Davis is the Planning and Zoning Manager at the City of Troy and Miami Valley Section Director. He can be reached at tim.davis@troyohio.gov.

Section News

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Northwest Ohio Section

The Northwest Ohio Section of APA Ohio co-sponsored the NORED (Northwest Ohio Regional Economic Development) Annual Meeting and also held a dinner meeting on March 21 with speaker Rick Stein, AICP to have a detailed discussion of changes to transportation technology and how it will impact land uses and travel patterns in the future.

Our local section also partnered with the USGBC Ohio NW Regional Team & the Toledo-Lucas County Sustainability Commission to register their May 9th Going Beyond Green Luncheon on Active Transportation for AICP CM credit.

The leadership of the Northwest Ohio Section continues to work on planning for our annual November Planning & Zoning Workshop. If you have any questions on our local section please contact Patrick Etchie at petchie@manniksmithgroup.com. ■

Patrick Etchie, AICP is Chief Planner and Grant Specialist for the Mannik and Smith Group and Northwest Ohio Section Director. He can be reached at petchie@manniksmithgroup.com.

The Ohio Planner's News



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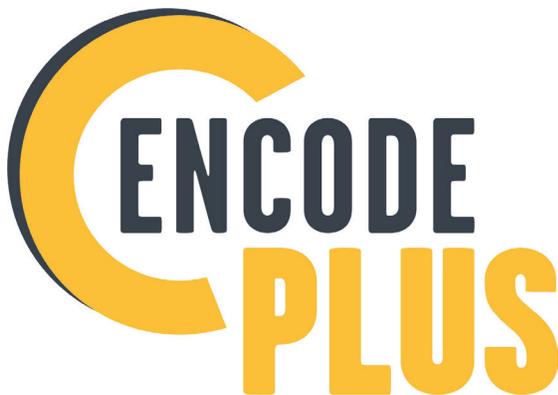
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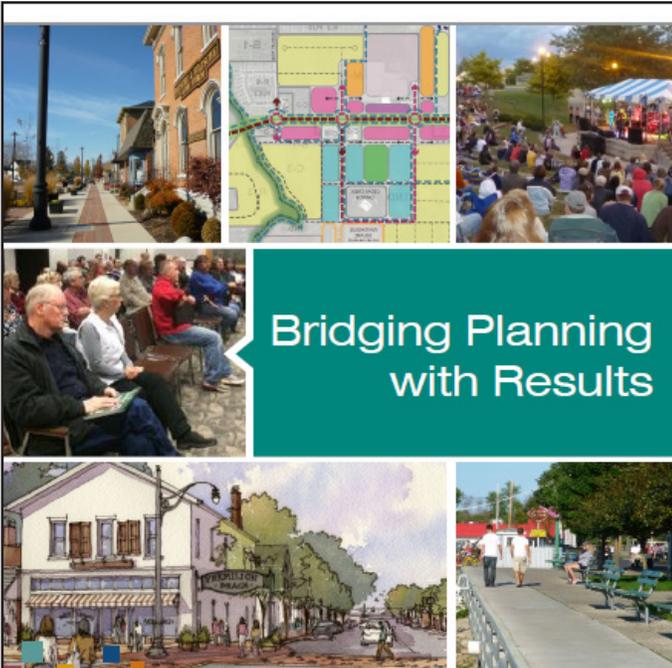
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