Change the Mindset – Change the Planning! Moving Forward in a Changing World

APA Conference Agenda

Friday

7:00 p.m.
Meet and greet at local pub – cash bar – light refreshments provided

Saturday

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.
Registration and Coffee – exhibitions set up by 8:00 a.m.

9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
Opening Remarks: Wendi W. Peters, Secretary & David L. Edgell, AICP

10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.
Break

10:15 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.
Three Concurrent Sessions

ONE: Planning for the Military Installation in Your Community

Maryland and Delaware have 18 military and US Coast Guard installations. While these installations provide significant economic benefits to local communities, they also provide challenges, many of which are related to land use. Today, Army, Navy, and Air Force installations have planning personnel whose job is to work with local and state communities to help minimize impacts to the mission and operations of the military installations as well as the local community. This session will give a snapshot of how the Navy works outside the fence.

Presenters: Lisa Swoboda, Maryland Department of Commerce, Gail Kenson, AICP, Community Planning Liaison Officer, NSA Annapolis & Russell Byrd, AICP, Community Planning and Liaison Officer, NAS Patuxent River

TWO: Planning for Healthy Communities in Delaware

Increasing rates of obesity and chronic disease have influenced planners and public health professionals in Delaware to collaborate more closely to identify opportunities to promote better health outcomes through land use, transportation and recreation planning processes. This session will highlight a Scorecard developed to assess the health-related content of land use plans and corresponding regulations, introduce the Delaware Plan4Health project, and discuss the Scorecard’s application as part of Delaware Plan4Health.

Presenters: David L. Edgell, AICP, Principal Planner, Delaware Office of State Planning Coordination; Lee Ann Walling, AICP, LEED AP, Principal, Cedar Creek Sustainable Planners; Patti Miller, MPP, Population Health Specialist, Nemours Health & Prevention Services

THREE (Combined Session): Building Local Capacity for Climate Change Planning in Delaware: An Analysis of Practices, Lessoned Learned, and Future Opportunities

Faced with the combination of an urgent need to plan for climate change in Delaware and a low level of adaptation planning capacity at the local level, staff members at the University of Delaware’s Institute for Public Administration are creating and marketing climate planning tools, training programs, and information portals for local administrators and residents. This presentation will focus on the Institute’s efforts and analyze their programmatic successes, limitations, lessons learned, and future opportunities.

Presenters: Philip Barnes, Marcia Scott, University of Delaware Institute for Public Administration
THREE (Combined Session): Enhancing Coastal Resiliency through the Critical Area Program

The Critical Area Commission is actively pursuing strategies to incorporate coastal resiliency into Maryland State development activities and identify opportunities to assist local communities. Recently the Commission amended its regulations for state development activities. Additionally, the Commission partnered with a coastal Town to identify a suite of potential management strategies to enhance resiliency at the local level. Commission staff will provide an overview of both of these efforts.

Presenters: Katherine Charbonneau, AICP, Acting Executive Director, Maryland Critical Area Commission; Alexandra DeWeese, Natural Resources Planner, Maryland Critical Area Commission

12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Current Planning Law with Wendy Moeller – Law CMs [1.5 Credits]
Wendy Moeller, AICP, Principal and Owner of Compass Point Planning and member of APA National Board of Directors, will conduct a session at lunch on Saturday on signs and the legal atmosphere since the Reed v. Town of Gilbert Supreme Court decision which will provide 1.5 legal continuing maintenance credits.

1:45 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.
Three Concurrent Sessions
1.5 Credits

ONE: The Delaware Thespians Tackle Ethical Challenges

The Delaware Thespians will use skits to make ethics fun! The skits will explore the ethical challenges faced by professional planners. The scenarios will address the challenges of transitioning from public to private sector employment and the conflicting obligations planners face when balancing fair housing goals and public opinion. Through facilitated discussion, the AICP Code of Ethics will be explored as it relates to actions taken by the planners. Audience participation is required!

Presenters: Janelle Cornwell, AICP, Planning and Zoning Manager, Sussex County, DE, James J. Galvin, Jr., AICP, Principal Planner, Dover/Kent County MPO, Ann Marie Townshend, AICP, Director of Planning & Community Development, Dover, DE

TWO: From Lines on a Map to Lines on the Street: Bicycling Efforts in Hagerstown, Maryland and the Surrounding Communities

With increasing demand for “ride choice” among Americans, planners must change how they view and prioritize multimodal planning investments. The City of Hagerstown and the Hagerstown/Eastern Panhandle MPO recently “grabbed opportunity by the handle bars” by updating the City’s Bicycle Master Plan and creating a Regional Bicycle Plan. Both strive to change the perception and landscape of bicycling within the City and the region by improving bicycle facilities, encouraging connectivity, and enhancing health and safety.

Presenters: Steve Thomas, AICP, Transportation Planner, Hagerstown/Eastern Panhandle Metropolitan Planning Organization (HEPMPO), Alex Rohrbaugh, AICP, Planner, City of Hagerstown Planning & Code Administration Department, Gary Greening II, Planning Associate, Michael Baker International

THREE: Beyond the Waterfront: Successful Baltimore Neighborhood Revitalization Projects

Many people are familiar with Baltimore’s famous Inner Harbor and redevelopment on the waterfront, but few are aware of the promising revitalization projects underway in Baltimore’s more challenged neighborhoods. Panelists will discuss the successes and lessons learned from large-scale projects in Barclay, Upton, and Druid Heights. Attendees will learn how to lay the groundwork for these types of developments, fund them with a mixture of sources, and learn the critical ingredients to creating more equitable development.

Presenters: Catherine Stokes, Vice-President, Telesis Corporation, Wendi Redfern-Curtis, Assistant Commissioner for Land Resources, Baltimore Housing, Patrick Wagner, Senior Project Manager, The Community Builders

3:15 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Break

3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Three Concurrent Sessions
1.5 Credits

ONE (Combined Session): Delaware Downtown Development Districts

Like downtowns across the country, Delaware’s downtowns have struggled in recent decades, as businesses have moved to the strip and residents have moved to the burbs. While there is strong interest in downtown revitalization, deteriorating buildings and aging infrastructure have created challenges to making downtowns vibrant. Delaware developed a Downtown Development District program to turn this dynamic around. Through financial incentives to make downtown revitalization economical, Delaware is looking to breathe new life into designated Downtown Development Districts.

Presenters: David L. Edgell, AICP, Principal Planner, Delaware Office of State Planning Coordination, Ann Marie Townshend, AICP, Director of Planning & Community Development, Dover, DE, Debbie Pfeil, Associate/Planning Manager, KCI Technologies
ONE (Combined Session): Maryland’s Toolkit for Creating Economically and Culturally Vibrant Communities

This session will give practitioners an overview of the programs and assistance available from the State of Maryland and how they can be used to help build economically and culturally vibrant communities using programs from the Department of Housing and Community Development and the Department of Commerce. These programs help to create, attract, retain, and expand businesses, improve communities, increase tourism, and support local arts programs.

Presenters: James Palma, Senior Research Manager, Maryland Department of Commerce, Kevin N. Baynes, Director, Office of Community Programs, Division of Neighborhood Revitalization, Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development, Theresa Colvin, Executive Director, Maryland State Arts Council, Maryland Department of Commerce

TWO (Combined Session): State and County Partnerships in the Planning and Development of Bus Rapid Transit

Many local governments in the State of Maryland have looked to Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) as a way to meet their transportation needs. The Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) in coordination with the Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA) has worked with local jurisdictions to plan, develop and implement Bus Rapid Transit throughout the state of Maryland. This session will provide state and local prospective on BRT planning and development.

Presenters: Kyle Nembhard, AICP, Deputy BRT Program Manager, Parsons Brinckerhoff, Joana Conklin, Rapid Transit Systems Development Manager, Montgomery County Department of Transportation, David Cookson, Project Manager, Howard County Office of Transportation

TWO (Combined): Baltimore Link

Using the Maryland Transit Administration’s BaltimoreLink Transit Network Redesign as a primary case study, Michael Weinberger will utilize innovative public engagement tools to generate a meaningful discussion regarding public involvement. This will include the use of effective outreach collateral, feedback measures, and technology-driven data collection.

- Develop an inclusive, public engagement program, including social media strategies
- Evaluate program’s reach
- Quantify qualitative feedback for comprehensive analysis
- Incorporate final planning and brand building

Presenter: Michael Weinberger, Senior Transportation Planner / Public Outreach Practice Lead, Foursquare ITP

THREE: The Changing Face of Transportation

In this panel discussion, three transportation planners will discuss the innovative planning practices guiding work at two state transportation agencies and a small metropolitan planning organization. Learn how data are being analyzed for their projects and programs to inform the planning process. Also included will be new agency approaches to working with the public. The audience will hear how these agencies are working to present complex information to officials as well as the public and the opportunities they find to nurture project champions.

Presenters: Christine Wells, AICP, President, Crossroads Transportation, Gregory I. Slater, Deputy Administrator, Planning, Engineering, Real Estate and Environment, MD SHA, Steven J. Thomas, AICP, Transportation Planner, Hagerstown/Eastern Panhandle Metropolitan Planning Organization MPO (HEPMO), Kevin Quinn, AICP, Director, Planning and Programming, Maryland Transit Administration

6:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
Dinner and “Mobile Workshop” Poll Everywhere!

Sunday

7:45 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.
Registration and Coffee – exhibitions set up by 8:00 a.m.

8:45 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.
Three Concurrent Sessions
1.5 Credits

ONE (Combined Session): Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Readiness Model: An Innovative GIS Based Analytical Tool

Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Readiness Toolkit (TODR) is a GIS based decision support tool designed to evaluate and score an area or a specific site for TOD readiness. It utilizes available GIS information and applies them to the TOD Readiness Criteria generating TOD district/site profiles and scorecards. It also provides a score for potential benefit of the development to the community, and the interventions required for successful implementation of TOD.

Presenter: Avinash Srivastava, Technical Director for Sustainability, Design + Planning + Economics, AECOM

ONE (Combined Session): Selecting Routes for Conversion to Bike Boulevards in College Park, Maryland

Traffic volume and speed data can be used to develop on-road cycling “stress” levels which, in conjunction with GIS mapping of destinations and existing cycling infrastructure, allow jurisdictions to optimize selection of streets for conversion to bike boulevards.

Presenter: Bryon White, PE, Project Manager for Sabra Wang & Associates, Inc.
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
Walking Tour
Presented by Nancy Hafford, Chamber of Commerce

TWO: Establishing a Faith-based Agenda for the Planning Profession

Faith-based community development (FBCD) has been on the periphery of the planning profession for decades. Scholars outside of planning (i.e., social work, religion, political science, sociology of religion, etc.) have written extensively about the role of faith-based organizations in delivering social services, engaging in civil disobedience/protest, and participating in international social and economic development work. The planning profession needs to own FBCD and put forth a strong faith-based practice, research, teaching, and policy agenda to enhance neighborhood revitalization.

Presenter: Tonya Nashay Sanders, PhD, Assistant Professor in the Graduate City and Regional Planning program at Morgan State University.

THREE: Planning Evolution in the Changing Cities of Rockville and Gaithersburg

Rockville and Gaithersburg were once at the outer edge of the Metropolitan Region, and considered primarily suburban. It is no longer so simple. As land values rise, demand for urban housing formats rises, demand for suburban office space regresses, and access to transit becomes increasingly crucial, both Rockville and Gaithersburg are embracing new approaches to planning. Hear presentations on the rapid changes occurring and participate in a discussion of how jurisdictions are evolving.

Presenters: David B. Levy, AICP, Chief of Long Range Planning and Redevelopment, City of Rockville, MD, Rob Robinson AICP CEP, Long Range Planning Manager, City of Gaithersburg, MD

10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.
Break

10:30 a.m – noon
Three Concurrent Sessions
1.5 Credits

ONE: Identifying and Engaging Broad-based Stakeholder Support

Engaging the public in any planning project is crucial to the success of that plan. Simply informing the public is no longer sufficient. Identifying all stakeholders and engaging them, and the general public, in the planning process ensures that the final plan is created and supported by all stakeholders, leading to the successful implementation of the plan. This session will discuss a variety of community engagement strategies as well as ways to develop a successful community engagement plan.

Presenters: Elizabeth Pasierb, AICP, Supervisor of Facilities Planning, Frederick County Public Schools, Elizabeth Cromwell, President and CEO, Frederick County Chamber of Commerce

TWO: “Nearby Nature” Planning for Community Green Space and Children

“Nearby Nature” can strengthen communities, improve the environment, promote healthy lifestyles and allow children to bond with nature at a critical young age. This session will explore the planning and programming needed to incorporate nature access into all neighborhoods. We will highlight the work of the Maryland Partnership for Children in Nature, the Greater Baltimore Wilderness Coalition and local examples of nature play in Baltimore City. A lively facilitated discussion will follow the short presentations to identify barriers, opportunities, and best practices. The results of the facilitated discussion will be used to inform several ongoing efforts including the Maryland Partnership for Children In Nature. Participants will leave with a greater understanding of the benefits of bringing children and nature together and of examples that can be applied in their own communities.

Presenters: Sandi Olek, Senior Policy Advisor, Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Karen Mullin, Willow Oak Group, Sarah Hope, Baltimore City Recreation and Parks, Peter G. Conrad, AICP, Manager, Local Assistance and Training Division, Maryland Department of Planning

THREE: Frederick Rising: Trailblazing Towards Balanced, Sustainable and Economically Resilient Communities In and Around the Clustered Spires of Frederick

Join Alan Feinberg, RA, AICP and David Whitaker, AICP and a panel of experts and community innovators as they bring to life two groundbreaking planning efforts currently underway in the City of Frederick and Frederick County, Maryland: “East Frederick Rising” and “Livable Frederick.”

Presenters: David T. Whitaker, AICP, Chief of Comprehensive Planning, Frederick County Division of Planning and Permitting, Alan Feinberg, RA, AICP, This session will also include local experts who are currently engaged in these two unique planning efforts

12:05 p.m. – 1:40 p.m.
Lunch Keynote Speaker: Bernie Fowler, Jr.
Sunday’s lunch will feature Key Note Speaker Bernie Fowler, Jr., founder, Farming 4 Hunger, a 501 (c) 3 non-profit that grows fresh produce for the working poor in Southern Maryland.

1:45 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.
Three Concurrent Sessions
1.5 Credits
ONE: Opportunity and the Future of Fair Housing in the Baltimore Region

The Baltimore region is infamous for its history of racial segregation and inequality, which has re-emerged in the national consciousness after the 2015 unrest in the City. The region received a major federal regional planning grant to help address this regional inequality in 2011, but recent efforts to implement portions of that plan have been stymied. Our panel will discuss the geography of opportunity in the Baltimore region and how effective regional planning can address its extant inequities.

Presenters: Willow Lung-Amam, Urban Studies and Planning and National Center for Smart Growth Research and Education, University of Maryland, College Park, Steve Lafferty, Maryland State Delegate, Baltimore County, Eli Knaap, Enterprise Community Partners and National Center for Smart Growth, University of Maryland, College Park, Nicholas Finio, PhD Student, National Center for Smart Growth and Urban Studies and Planning Program, University of Maryland, College Park

TWO: The Practical Side of Mixed-Use and Infill Development

Infill development has a multitude of complexities. However, it offers tremendous opportunities to make communities more vibrant and sustainable, utilizing existing infrastructure (transportation, energy, utilities, etc.) in alignment with Smart Growth principles. This session is designed as an interactive and facilitated discussion that includes a brief overview of the complexities of infill development. It will utilize lessons learned from recent projects, providing case study examples at varied scales that will help facilitate discussion between session participants.

Presenters: David Ager, Principal, Townscape Design LLC, Seth Harry, President, Seth Harry and Associates, Inc.

THREE: Addressing Population Health Disparities through Improvements to the Built Environment in New Castle County, Delaware

This session will provide an overview of how a children’s health system and community based organizations are working with planners, stakeholders, and residents to reduce health disparities in New Castle County, Delaware through a federally funded public health initiative. Participants will learn strategies, grounded in evidenced based research, that improve health outcomes through improvements to the built environment. Case studies will examine how to successfully leverage partnerships and funding to plan and implement these projects.

Presenters: Gina Crist, MS, CHES, Population Health Specialist, Division of Health and Prevention Services (NHPS), Nemours Children’s Health System, Christian Willauer, Director, Cornerstone West CDC, Bill Swiatek, MA, AICP, Senior Planner, Wilmington Area Planning Council (WILMAPCO), Jane Rattenni, Division Manager, Community Resources, New Castle County Department of Community

THREE (Combined Session): Infrastructure Choices that Create Successful Neighborhoods

Historically, homeowner associations (HOAs) as well as most commercial developments pay little if no attention to their stormwater infrastructure until there is a problem. Kent County Planning in partnership with the Kent Conservation District (KCD), has developed a program to proactively manage stormwater ponds. This involved the development and passage of State Legislation, a County Ordinance and an administrative program as well as conducting public outreach. This presentation will discuss these elements as well as lessons learned.

Presenters: Mary Ellen Gray, AICP, Assistant Director Department of Planning Services, Kent County Levy Court, Sarah E. Keifer, AICP, Director, Department of Planning Services, Kent County Levy Court
THREE (Combined Session): The Economics of Creating Resilient Communities

Ensuring economic vitality in communities means being flexible to outside stressors, such as impacts from climate change. Strategies to adapt vulnerable economic assets to rising waters, eroding shorelines and intense precipitation must be developed through a community-based process. This session will discuss the Annapolis Weather It Together initiative and how FEMA’s 4-step planning approach for cultural resource hazard mitigation is being adapted as a planning model for Maryland’s Capital City and other coastal communities.

Presenters: Lisa Craig, Chief of Historic Preservation, City of Annapolis

FOUR: The Delaware Thespians Tackle Ethical Challenges

The Delaware Thespians will use skits to make ethics fun! The skits will explore the ethical challenges faced by professional planners. The scenarios will address the challenges of transitioning from public to private sector employment and the conflicting obligations planners face when balancing fair housing goals and public opinion. Through facilitated discussion, the AICP Code of Ethics will be explored as it relates to actions taken by the planners. Audience participation is required!

Presenters: (Skit Authors)
Janelle Cornwell, AICP, Planning and Zoning Manager, Sussex County, DE, James J. Galvin, Jr., AICP, Principal Planner, Dover/Kent County MPO, Ann Marie Townshend, AICP, Director of Planning & Community Development, Dover, DE

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