The New Jersey Planning Officials
The Association of Planning Boards & Zoning Boards of Adjustment

NJPO is neither a State agency nor a professional organization. It was formed by and is still led by citizen planners who are volunteer local residents appointed by mayors and/or municipal governing bodies to serve on planning boards and zoning boards of adjustment. They chart and preserve a community’s quality of life standards.

In 1938, a group of local board members met in West Orange Town Hall to discuss how planning boards across the state could get planning and zoning education. That was the start. The group chose the name “Federation of Official Planning Boards” and published its first newsletter, the New Jersey Planner, in February 1939 to announce that the first State Planning Conference with the New Jersey State League of Municipalities would be held in April. In that same year, the League accepted NJPO as an affiliate. Today, NJPO is the largest League affiliate and the only one not representing an employee or consultant-based entity.

NJPO is a non-profit, 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization. It provides educational services, support and information to municipal planning boards, zoning boards of adjustment and elected officials. NJPO depends upon the annual membership of more than 740 municipal and county planning boards and local zoning boards, governing bodies and about 400 professionals and individuals. Total membership exceeds 9,000.

In 1989 NJPO proudly accepted the New Jersey Association of Planning and Zoning Administrators as an affiliate of NJPO. NJAPZA is an educational resource to municipal land use administrators and zoning officers.

NJPO thrives on the volunteer work of dedicated municipal planning board and zoning board of adjustment members. Officers and directors in NJPO must be active on a planning board or zoning board, or have served at least one four year term. In 2005, NJPO was named in legislation to work with the Department of Community Affairs to craft mandatory education standards for board members. Since 2006 more than 9,000 planning officials have been certified through the 5-hour program offered by NJPO.

A solid core of professional members—planners, attorneys, engineers, architects, and others—support NJPO as members. They assist with valuable advice and generously give time as NJPO instructors. In the early 1990’s, a group of professionals worked with knowledgeable board members and created a structured, sophisticated curriculum that is the foundation of the popular NJPO basic educational programs.
Welcome. Every year NJPO honors Achievements in Planning that are projects, large and small, that reflect good sense in planning; dedicated individuals, whose efforts through planning benefit their community’s quality of life; agencies on every level of government generating model approaches to planning; and organizations and initiatives promoting the ideals of sound planning. This year, the NJPO award recipients are as follows:

**Garwood Sports and Recreation Complex**

The Garwood Sports and Recreation Complex opened in December 2014. The 3.2 million dollar project is funded by over 1.2 million dollars in various grants. The new complex consists of a field house building with concession stand, deck, bathrooms and meeting room, a multi-purpose playing field, basketball court, playground, bocce ball court and walking track. The meeting room fits five round tables comfortably with approximately 65 people in the building.

Initially delayed by Superstorm Sandy the project was further slowed by soil contamination issues found on site. The project was the source of heated discussion on the town council and after 10 years of planning is now complete.

**Moorestown Township Main Street Town Center Shared Parking Study**

Downtown shopping areas face increasing competition from shopping malls, open air centers and freestanding retail, including big box stores – all of which provide ample, safe, and convenient parking. In order to maintain their economic viability, downtowns must provide solid retail and a strong sense of place, to create an authentic shopping experience with safe, convenient parking.

This study envisions the consolidation of multiple private parking lots into one large shared lot with strong pedestrian circulation, lighting, site amenities, signage and plantings that reinforce the Downtown Streetscape. The study also re-imagines an outdated municipal lot to complement the new shared lot.
City of Englewood
2014 Master Plan

Englewood’s adoption of its 2014 Master Plan resulted from an exemplary outreach program of three public forums totaling 600 stakeholders. The product of this effort is an intriguing master plan guided by the community input and organized around five major themes: Destination Downtown; Englewood South; My Neighborhood; Our Town; Mobility. These themes are color coded in easily readable formats, blending Englewood’s history, its current deficiencies and its future objectives in a noteworthy document.

Preservation of Beaver Brook Farm:
Oxford, New Jersey

This award honors the preservation of 137 acres of scenic farmland in the agricultural heartland of Warren County in Hope Township. Once slated for a truck rest stop on Interstate 80, this land has instead been permanently protected thanks to the foresight and partnership of the Warren County Board of Chosen Freeholders and The Land Conservancy. A local landmark, Beaver Brook farm is clearly visible to thousands of travelers daily at Exit 12 on Route 80 and has breathtaking views of Jenny Jump Mountain.

The Beaver Brook runs through the back portion of the farm, just upstream from where the stream enters Jenny Jump State Forest. The cornfields closest to the river contain soils of statewide importance, indicative of the productivity of its agricultural fields. In addition, a significant portion of the property is identified as habitat for federally listed endangered species, and is assigned conservation rank 5, the highest designation assigned by NJDEP.
Health, Wellness and Nutrition Center at the Willow School

The Willow School, an independent coeducational elementary and middle school in Bedminster, unveiled its new Health, Wellness & Nutrition Center (HWNC) at a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Earth Day, April 22. The new educational center will be one of the most environmentally sound and sustainable building projects in the world and will create a model learning environment for students.

Students participated in the ceremony celebrating the opening of the 20,000-square-foot, multi-use building that is a figurative embodiment of the school’s curriculum and core values. The school is pursuing certification under the Living Building Challenge™, regarded as the world’s most rigorous building performance standard.

The Health, Wellness & Nutrition Center includes four middle school classrooms, commercial and teaching kitchens, dining hall, movement / performance arts space, health / wellness area, faculty room, and an energy gallery. Surrounding the building are agricultural gardens, composting areas, and regenerative native landscaping.

“Learning in a Living Building provides an enhanced educational opportunity that is smarter, healthier and better for our students,” said Mark Biedron, co-founder of The Willow School. “Studies have shown that green schools broaden the curriculum, increase student engagement and productivity, and improve academic performance. It’s an ideal learning environment.”

Fort Monmouth Economic Revitalization

The historic preservation design guidelines for the Fort Monmouth Historic Resources in the Boroughs of Eatontown and Oceanport, NJ was adopted by the Historic Preservation Advisory Committee of the Fort Monmouth Economic Revitalization Authority. The document highlights the architectural features of the contributing historic resources present during Fort Monmouth’s period of significance (i.e., 1927-1940) including the Fort’s plan and road system; institutional, and community support buildings; as well as the Field and Company Officers’ Quarters; Student Officers’ Four-Family Apartment Buildings; Bachelor Officers’ Quarters; Enlisted Men’s Barracks; and Non-Commissioned Officers’ Housing Area. The document contains guidelines for new construction; additions and alterations to contributing historic resources; and demolition, relocation and mothballing of contributing historic resources. The document also provides a glossary of architectural terms and a discussion of appropriate and inappropriate architectural treatments of historic resources.
For the first time in 300 years, the Hunterdon County Board of Chosen Freeholders has committed resources to the county’s economic future by developing the Hunterdon County Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. Sensing that the County was at a crossroads and with help from the County Chamber of Commerce and private sectors, a yearlong process led to a strategic roadmap and implementation plan devised to guide the County successfully into the future. True to its name, the plan is comprehensive in assessment; implementation in structure, and considerate of demographics, culture and business needs in fulfilling a vision of economic prosperity.

Hunterdon County and its 26 municipal partners are at a crossroads; each must choose which road to take. One road leads to business as usual, one road leads to moderate change, and one road leads to a paradigm shift in how the County and its municipalities envision their economic future. The role of government in a free market economy must remain in the forefront. Private sector partnerships require attention in this long term commitment to Hunterdon County’s economic future.

This extensive process and resultant report highlights the many strengths and opportunities for Hunterdon County. It also makes clear the challenges the County faces as it moves towards developing future economic viability. Hunterdon County has a highly educated, professional workforce, a growing healthcare system and abundant recreation and rural amenities. Coincidentally, the County also faces a shortage of affordable housing, a high cost of living and projected loss of professional, high paying jobs.

In Transition Magazine

In Transition is a nonprofit educational magazine covering transportation planning, technology, policy issues, research and trends. It is published by the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority in collaboration with NJIT. In Transition offers information and analysis relevant to researchers, policy makers, engineers, advocates, administrators, planners and others in the transportation field, all written in clear and concise language accessible to a general reader.
Sustainable Economic Development Plan
Mahwah, New Jersey

On March 27, 2012 the Township of Mahwah received approval from the New Jersey Highlands Council to proceed forward with a $20,000 grant to complete a Sustainable Economic Development Plan. An Economic Development Plan is one of the optional elements within a Master Plan, which can be broadly described as a plan with efforts and activities aimed at increasing the local tax base, providing new employment opportunities and improving the overall economic and social sustainability of a community.

Sustainable economic development is described by the New Jersey Highlands Council as maintaining and expanding the existing job and economic base by promoting appropriate, sustainable and environmentally compatible economic development. According to the Highlands Council’s Regional Master Plan, the objective of a Sustainable Economic Development Plan is to ensure long-term, sustainable economic viability, not short-term economic activity. Thus economic growth should be accommodated in a manner that takes careful advantage of the unique and valuable built and natural resources of the Township. This is an important concept in a municipality with more than 7,600 acres of County and State parkland, 20 historical homes and structures, three archeological/prehistoric sites and two historic districts. The challenge is finding the balance between capitalizing upon and protecting these community assets.

John Cholminski
Franklin Chairman

John Cholminski moved to Franklin in 1987 and joined the planning board in 1991. He became vice chairman in January of 2000 and chairman in 2001. He also served on the Economic Development Committee. John has been instrumental mentoring and guiding new board members. As chairman, John directs meetings and proposals in an impartial and fair way. He is extremely knowledgeable and makes all board members and the public more comfortable with these proceedings.
John A Madden, Jr. AICP, PP  
Senior Planner

Mr. Madden has over 48 years of experience as a planner in New Jersey. In 1991, Mr. Madden was given the Distinguished Professional Service Award by the New Jersey Chapter of the American Planning Association. The Chapter’s highest professional honor was awarded in recognition of his successful planning career serving public and private clients. Among his notable accomplishments during his career was his tenure as Bridgewater Township’s first Director of Planning and Executive Secretary in charge of the Township Redevelopment Agency managing the explosive growth that occurred in this Central New Jersey hub that was featured in Joel Garreau’s 1991 landmark book Edge City: Life in the New Frontier. Mr. Madden has been an active member of the New Jersey Planning Officials and has authored the chapter on the Parks and Recreation Element for the recently re-released Municipal Master Plan Manual.

Frank Vuoso  
NJAPZA President

Frank Vuoso has been instrumental in the New Jersey Association of Planning and Zoning Administrators’ growth and continued success, holding several key positions including President from 2011 through November of 2015. In his four years as president he has made great strides in the advancement of the Association with his organizational leadership skills.

Frank has assisted in the curricula development for certificate and continuing educational programs for zoning officials and board secretaries. Many have benefited from his expertise and mentoring throughout the years.
Roger J. Fyfe  
Mayor of Montvale

Disputing the widely held perception that the New Jersey suburban office building market is going the way of the dinosaur, stands its leading opponent, Montvale’s Mayor Roger Fyfe.

Proving the naysayers wrong, Mayor Fyfe actively pursued and convinced the world renowned Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Care Center into choosing Montvale for its newest location. Determined to edge out the other towns vying for the highly coveted medical center, Mayor Fyfe expedited all necessary approvals to occupy a soon to be vacant 150,000 square foot office building and set the stage for MSKC to hire 330 new employees and by 2017 care for over 400 patients daily.

William G. Dressel, Jr.  
NJSLOM Executive Director

Bill Dressel was the Executive Director and formerly Chief Lobbyist for the New Jersey State League of Municipalities. He has held progressive staff positions with the League since 1974 and assumed the duties of Executive Director on July 1, 1995.

Bill managed the broad spectrum of programs and services for the New Jersey State League of Municipalities, which represents all of the State’s 565 municipalities and a membership of over 13,000 elected and appointed municipal officials. Bill Dressel also supervised five full-time lobbyists who are highly regarded as being the “municipal voice” on both Federal and State Legislative matters.

In 1999, he received the John G. Stutz Award for 25 years of State League Service by the National League of Cities. He served from 1999 – 2001 on the Executive Board of the National League of Cities. On November 14, 2007 he received the Rutgers Award for public service to New Jersey for Excellence in promoting and supporting Municipal Government. On September 27, 2008, he was presented with the Sarah P. Fiske Award by Preservation New Jersey, Inc. for efforts in preserving the Ferdinand W. Roebling Sr. Mansion in Trenton. Bill serves as a member of numerous governmental and association boards.

In his capacity as the Executive Director of the New Jersey State League of Municipalities, Mr. Dressel had been a vital advocate over five decades for the interests of local government and it’s planning and zoning officials, administrators, professionals and citizen volunteers.
James Gilbert  
Lifetime Achievement & Membership

Jim Gilbert began his 13 year tenure as chairman of the Englewood Planning Board in 1970, six years before the effective date of the Municipal Land Use Law. In 1981, he assumed a two year term as president of the New Jersey Federation of Planning Officials. (The organization dropped "Federation of" in a 1994 name change.) During his term with NJPO, Jim witnessed the elimination of the NJ Bureau of Planning from the NJ Department of Community Affairs.

The move signaled to Jim and others within the NJPO, that the State of New Jersey was abandoning a commitment to sensible long-range planning. In answer, Jim rallied NJPO membership, state legislators, Governor Thomas Kean, the NJ State League of Municipalities and other influential leaders, to reconsider the value and vision of state planning.

With a core of NJPO board members, Jim labored tirelessly on a concept that could gain acceptance among diverse factions and, eventually win favor with the legislature. The approach was based on the concept of regional planning with broad municipal, county and state support. In 1986, through the efforts of Jim Gilbert and the New Jersey Federation of Planning Officials, the State Development and Redevelopment Act was passed by the legislature and signed into law.

Soon after Jim Gilbert was appointed, in 1986, as Chairman of the State Planning Commission. With guidance from the Office of State Planning (now Smart Growth), and the municipal cross-acceptance process, the commission adopted the State Development and Redevelopment Act in 1992. Jim continued as chairman until 1995.

Although not all of its goals have been achieved, the State Plan has led to implementation of many worthwhile innovations in New Jersey and will serve as a valuable guide for decades to come.

Jim Gilbert's interest in planning and the environment is evident in the many organizations where he is active. He maintains board membership with New Jersey Future, the NJ League of Conservation Volunteers and the NJ Highlands Coalition. He was a board member of NJ Common Cause form 1996-2005; the NJ Conservation Foundation 1999-2008; the Community Theatre of Morristown, 1995-2005 and a member of the Joint Advisory Board of Rutgers University's Bloustein School of Planning and Urban Policy Research, from 1992-1998.
Larry Stevens
Dennis Land Use Chairman

Larry Stevens has served with distinction for 25 years as a member and chairman of the Land Use Board for the Township of Dennis. He announced his retirement, at age 87, at the board’s April, 2015 meeting.

In his quarter century volunteer service on the board, Stevens has been a consistent, strong advocate for the interests of his community in guiding the types of development particularly suited to maintain Dennis as a uniquely rural part of Cape May County. His active involvement in developing the Township’s current Master Plan is an example of just a small part of his impact upon the town.

Congratulations to my friend for this well deserved honor,

William Dressel, Jr.

F. Clifford Gibbons
Attorney at Law, LLC

475 Wall Street
Princeton, NJ 08540

Phone: 609-924-1444
Fax: 609-924-1443
Cell: 609-203-5836
Congratulations to the Garwood Sports and Recreation Complex for Receiving the 2015 NJPO Achievement in Planning Award.

Mayor Charles P. Lombardo
Borough of Garwood
Congratulations to Mayor Fyfe

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Tel: (201) 573-1321 Fax: (201) 573-1275
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www.perfectlimo.com • jsutich416@aol.com

Congratulations to Mr. John Cholminski

His 25 years of Planning Board membership has positively contributed to making Franklin a great place to live and shop.

He is a true professional and I am proud to serve under his leadership and expertise.

-Nathan J. Foulds
NJPO Board of Directors
Congratulations Honorees!

Proud to support the
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in honoring
John A. Madden, Jr.,
Mayor Roger J. Fyfe
and the
Township of Mahwah
Sustainable Economic Development Plan

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Congratulations to FMERA for the Achievement in Planning Award for the

Historic Preservation Design Guidelines for the Fort Monmouth Historic Resources

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Congratulations
Mayor
Roger Fyfe

From all of the
Montvale Chamber of Commerce Directors and Members
We congratulate the consummate citizen planner, Jim Gilbert, and for an exemplary Master Plan, Jim's hometown of Englewood.

KATES NUSSMAN RAPONE ELLIS & FARHI L.L.P.

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General Counsel Emeritus, NJPO

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Visit our website at
http://www.katesnussman.com
NJAPZA congratulates our President Frank Vuoso on his well-deserved recognition!

Thank you Frank for your leadership and advocacy on behalf of the Association.

The New Jersey Association of Planning and Zoning Administrators celebrates 26 years of promoting an efficient land use process through education, shared resources, and uniform practices and procedures.

For more information visit www.NJAPZA.org

An Affiliate of the New Jersey Planning Officials since 1989
Congratulations to all Honorees!

TOWNSHIP OF TEWKSURY

Shaun C. Van Doren
Township Committeeman

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ELIZABETH C. McKENZIE, AICP, PP

9 MAIN STREET
FLEMINGTON, NJ 08822

Congratulations to this year’s winners!
Congratulations to Our Friends,

Bill Dressel
&
Frank Vuoso

The

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Edna Horn 1974-1975*
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Henry J. Tomkinson 1976-1977
Elwood Bray 1977-1979
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James G. Gilbert 1981-1983
K. Brian McFadden 1983-1984
Patricia A. McKiernan 1984-1986
Alois E. Schmitt 1986-1988
Judith Schleicher 1989-1990
Frank H. Doyle 1993-1996
David Stivers 1997-1998
Warren Goode 1999-2000
James Robinson 2001-2002
Thomas Kenyon 2002-2005
Joseph Cooney 2006-2007
Terence Maguire 2007-2010
William Neville 2010-2011
Michael Bell 2011-2012
John Burke 2012-2014

*Died in office

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Horace A. Vanderbeek 5/1960 to 1961
Thomas A. Hyde 1962 to 1980
Patricia A. McKiernan 6/1980 to 1/1981
Barbara A. Walsh 3/1986 to 4/1986
Steven Changaris 1/1988 to 8/1988
Jason L. Kasler, AICP, PP 3/2011 to Present

Who we are...

1938 Founded in West Orange as The New Jersey Federation of Official Planning Boards.
1939 Welcomed as an affiliate of the NJ State League of Municipalities.
1964 Changed name to New Jersey Federation of Planning Officials.
1992 Changed name again: The New Jersey Planning Officials, Inc.

Among NJPO firsts:

1939 Published first Statewide Planning Newsletter: New Jersey Planner.
1939 Held first State Planning Conference in New Jersey.
1985 Initiated the State Planning Act which resulted in the State Planning Commission, Office of State Planning (now Office of Planning Advocacy) & State Redevelopment Plan.
1986 Created Structured Educational Programs for Planning Boards & Zoning Boards.
1986 Introduced structured training for boards statewide, beginning in Totowa.
2006 Trained more than 9,000 planning officials following mandatory training act.
2012 Held the first webinar designed specifically for new board members
New Jersey Planning Officials Staff
Congratulates all 2015 recipients

Lynette Asea
Lynn Bunting
Eugene Dunworth
Brandon Lee
Jason L. Kasler, AICP, PP
Executive Director
## Join NJPO at the League of Municipalities Conference

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<td>Ethics for Professional Planners</td>
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