



THE VANTAGE POINT



American Planning Association
Pennsylvania Chapter

Making Great Communities Happen

A Publication of the Pennsylvania Chapter of the American Planning Association



Who?

The Pennsylvania Chapter of the American Planning Association

What?

2016 Annual Conference

When?

Sunday, October 16 through
Tuesday, October 18

Where?

Renaissance Hotel
Allentown

Why?

Skills building...networking...
top-notch education...new
and improved products and
services on display...new ideas...
reconnecting with fellow
planners, planning officials, and
students...and it's in Allentown

APA-PA 2016 annual conference



Communities CORRIDORS & Connections

Our 2016 Conference Planning Committee has been hard at work meeting, talking and planning to ensure that this year's Annual Conference will exceed everyone's expectations.

Plans include **eight** exciting **mobile/walking/canoe** workshops including:

- Lehigh River and D&L trail by canoe tour
- From Stacks to Stills: Creative Place making in Bethlehem and the Nation
- Winery and Brewery tour
- Eco-Restoration in the Lehigh Valley tour
- Easton Revitalization tour
- Allentown's Rejuvenated Downtown Core (walking tour)
- Allentown Historic Preservation (walking tour)
- Regional Partnerships to Complete Local Projects

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2016 Annual Conference October 16 – October 18 Allentown, PA

The Planning Committee was very fortunate in that there was a plethora of submissions to the Call for Presentations. **Currently there are 40 concurrent sessions plus two plenaries.** As always CM credits will be available for most sessions, including Law and Ethics.

You can expect to find sessions on current environmental and conservation issues, revitalization, transportation, community and economic development, local governance, changing demographics, hot topics, and more. **Again this year is a session of fast, fun fervent presentations, but with CM credit available!**

Monday morning will kick-off with a presentation by Mitch Silver. Mr. Silver became **Commissioner of the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation** in May 2014. Commissioner Silver is also the **immediate past president of the American Planning Association (APA).**



MITCHELL SILVER

He is an award-winning planner with almost 30 years of experience and he is internationally recognized for his leadership in the planning profession and his contributions to contemporary planning issues. He specializes in comprehensive planning, place making and implementation strategies. As Parks Commissioner, Mitchell Silver oversees management, planning and operations of nearly 30,000 acres of parkland, which includes parks, playgrounds, beaches, marinas, recreation centers, wilderness areas and other assets.

Prior to returning to his native New York City as Parks Commissioner, he served as the Chief Planning & Development Officer and Planning Director for Raleigh, NC. His career has included roles as a policy and planning director for New York City's Department of Planning, a principal of a New York City-based planning firm, a town manager in New Jersey, and deputy planning director in Washington, DC.

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EASTON FARMERS MARKET



GUTHS BRIDGE



STATE THEATER



ROZLYNN TONE PAH HOTE, ROBERT SILENT THUNDER

Commissioner Silver lectures extensively throughout the United States and abroad on a variety of planning topics. He is a contributing author and editor of International City/County Management Association's (ICMA) latest edition of "Local Planning: Contemporary Principles and Practice," which is a resource for local governments engaged in planning. Known by his colleagues as a passionate communicator, creative thinker, problem-solver and visionary leader, Mitchell Silver has been at the center of many cutting edge trends, innovative solutions and visionary plans, including Harlem on the River and Vision for Jamaica Center in New York City and the revitalization of neighborhoods in New York City, Philadelphia, Washington, and Raleigh. As president of APA, he led an international effort to elevate the value and rebirth of planning in the 21st century. In 2012, the *Urban Times* named him one of the top international thought leaders of the built environment today. In 2013, UBM Future Cities named Mitchell Silver as one of the top 100 City Innovators in the world and the Royal Town Planning Institute made him an honorary lifetime member. In 2014, he was inducted into the College of Fellows of the American Planning Association. In 2015, the Planning Institute of Australia named him an honorary fellow.

Commissioner Silver has taught graduate planning courses at Hunter College, Brooklyn College, Pratt Institute and North Carolina State University. He is the Dunlop Lecturer in Housing and Urbanization at Harvard University.



RINA CUTLER

Monday's Pitkin lecture features **Rina Cutler**. Rina Cutler began working at **Amtrak** in April of 2015 as the **Senior Director, Major Stations Planning and Development for the Northeast Corridor Development Group**. She is responsible for advancing large scale, multi-party master plans for Amtrak's largest stations across the country. In this role she will seek to maximize

the performance of these major stations including the optimization of passenger services, revenue and private equity as well as commercial and development opportunities.

Before coming to Amtrak, Ms. Cutler was responsible for the coordination and oversight of all transportation and utility functions in the **City of Philadelphia**. Cutler oversaw the operations of a variety of City agencies including the Streets Department, the Philadelphia Water Department, and the Philadelphia International Airport, with overall supervision for 4,660 employees, an \$800 million annual operating budget and more than \$5.6 billion in capital projects. She continues to serve on the SEPTA Board of Directors and previously represented the City's interests on the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission, the Philadelphia Regional Port Authority, the Delaware River Development Corporation and Schuylkill River Development Corporation.

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RENAISSANCE HOTEL EXTERIOR



MUSIKFEST

Up for a bit of *sightseeing?*

Visit <http://onehundredone.discoverlehighvalley.com/>

for 101 things to do and see!

<http://www.discoverlehighvalley.com/> will give you all the details on Allentown, Bethlehem, and Easton.

Did you know that Allentown is the third largest city in Pennsylvania and the largest of Lehigh Valley?



HAMILTON DISTRICT, ALLENTOWN



LEHIGH VALLEY IRON PIGS

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Prior to returning to Philadelphia in 2008, Ms. Cutler served as the Deputy Secretary for Administration for the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation for 5 years.

Ms. Cutler has extensive experience in the management and operations of transportation systems. Her prior experience includes Transportation Commissioner for the City of Boston, and the founding Director of the Department of Parking and Traffic for the City of San Francisco. Ms. Cutler currently serves as Treasurer for the WTS International Board of Directors and chairs the Transportation Issues in Major Cities Committee for the Transportation Research Board. In 2011, American City and County Magazine named Cutler their Public Works Leader of the Year. In 2012, COMTO named Ms. Cutler as one of their Women Who Move the Nation.

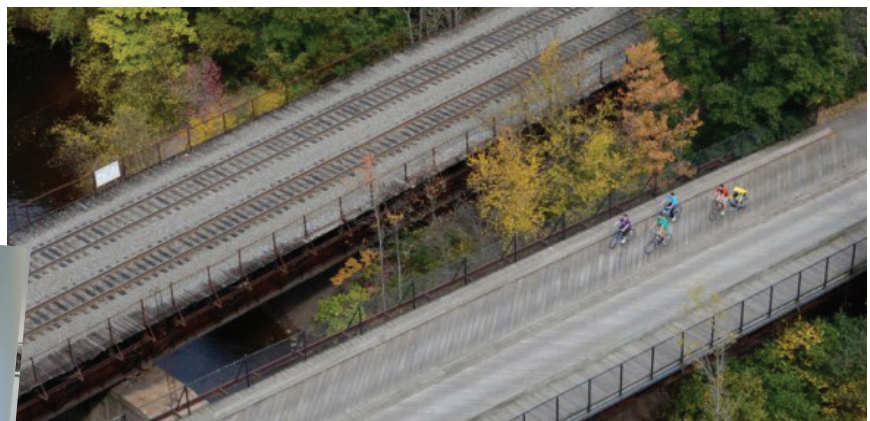
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And of course, it wouldn't be an APA-PA Chapter event without time for networking and camaraderie! Join us at **America on Wheels** for an evening

of new ways of looking at the history of transportation with fun and fare in the Hubcap Café. Poodle skirts and saddle shoes anyone? On exhibit in October is *A Century of Performance, Cars of the 20th Century*. Plans are also being made for Monday night. Following the Monday reception with the exhibitors, there will be a meeting for Emerging Professionals ...followed by a Quizzo at the **Allentown Brew Works**. ♦



HUBCAP CAFE



RAILS TRAILS

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Many thanks to the presenters of our statewide spring training series, *Aligning Planning, Policy and Practice to Foster Public Health*, which was conducted by **Michelle Brummer, Alice Yoder, and Debbie Thompson**. The topic was one that has attracted increased scrutiny in recent years, and which offers increased collaborative possibilities for planners to impact communities and individuals. Feedback from the training was very positive.

If you are **searching for CM credits**, our website's calendar of events is a great source to check for upcoming events, both in-person and online. **A new source of CM credits is pro-bono work, effective April 1, 2016.** Credit for pro bono planning service is a component of the self-report option, which allows members to claim up to eight credits per reporting period. One credit can be claimed for each hour of eligible pro bono planning service. In order to claim credits for pro bono service, members must watch a web-based tutorial and complete a self-reporting form to document what they learned. Serving on APA/AICP boards, committees and divisions at the national, chapter, and section level, including service to advance members' professional development, are some examples of qualified pro bono planning service. More information is available on the APA website [here](#).

The **AICP Code of Ethics** was revised (effective April 1, 2016), and is now posted online. The changes were limited to the procedural aspects of the Code – what was formerly Section C. The aspirational principles and rules of conduct remain unchanged.

Many thanks to the presenters at this year's AICP exam prep session, which was held in March in Harrisburg. **Alexis Williams, Rebecca Ross, and Dave McFarland** all took time from their weekend to help aspiring AICPs learn some of the information required to pass the exam. We offer a shorter session at the fall conference, so if you plan to be in Allentown and are considering taking the AICP exam in the future, please join us for that session. We hope many of our planners were successful in passing the exam during the May testing window – results to come in the near future!

Also **coming in the future is a significantly revised AICP exam and exam content outline**. APA anticipates releasing the exam content outline later this year, with the exam itself to be revised for the May 2017 testing window. The exam's format is not anticipated to be changed, but the question pool will be revised based on the new exam content outline. If you are considering sitting for the AICP exam in 2017, check the PA Chapter or APA website for updates as they become available. ♦

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Contact information is available at www.planningpa.org under "About Us!"



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INSIDER

A Message from President **James Cowhey, AICP**

The Marcellus (and now Utica) Shale gas resources are a boon to the future energy security of the state and nation. The economic development opportunities for Pennsylvania derived from shale gas extraction are many. These benefits do not come without risks and the Commonwealth must manage the resource in a balanced and even-handed way. As planners it's our responsibility and duty to advise state and local decision-makers about how to achieve sustainable shale gas extraction and transport.

To that end APA-PA established the Shale Energy Committee in late 2014. The committee was charged to provide recommendations for a policy and strategies regarding planning responsibilities for the evolving shale energy industry in the Commonwealth. There were thirty-three committee members from all six chapter sections. **Dennis Auker, AICP** volunteered to chair the

committee and called the first meeting in November 2014. It was obvious from the beginning that the issues of concern regarding shale energy varied by region across the state and that developing a set of recommendations encompassing the regional concerns would not be an easy task.

In May of this year the committee concluded its work by delivering a policy report centered on three critical issues: 1) gas utilization in Pennsylvania; 2) local and county planning capacity; and 3) land use conflicts, public safety, and environmental stewardship. The report is organized around these key issues and provides planning recommendations, key strategic actions, and metrics for the actions. The report sets forth the framework for future work by the Chapter. At its June meeting, the Board of Directors of the Chapter accepted the report and recognized that the Shale Energy Committee had

accomplished the mission assigned to it. The report recommends that an entity be assigned to carry on the work of the committee to support implementation. **At its June meeting the Board of Directors began the work of charging an implementation committee and seeking volunteers to lead and serve in that capacity.**

In closing, I'd like to thank **Dennis Auker, AICP** for his dedication and leadership of the Shale Energy Committee. My gratitude goes out to every single committee member for their perseverance and hard work. This was a singular effort and one that is very important to our constituents, customers, elected officials, and citizens. All the committee members epitomized the sense of volunteerism that is so important to a membership organization like the Pennsylvania Chapter of the American Planning Association. Thanks you all! ♦



#Reinvent2016

Reinventing Our Communities TRANSFORMING OUR ECONOMIES

September 21–23, 2016 | Philadelphia, PA
Hilton Philadelphia at Penn's Landing



FEDERAL RESERVE BANK
OF PHILADELPHIA

Learn how local and regional economies can be drivers of inclusive growth. Join the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia and cosponsors as we explore leading-edge strategies and dialogue with top experts on ways to transform our economies by connecting people, place, and capital.

Register now for the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia's 2016 conference Reinventing Our Communities: Transforming Our Economies. This national biennial conference will be held Wednesday,

September 21, to Friday, September 23, 2016, at the Hilton Philadelphia at Penn's Landing. Through a series of exciting and engaging plenary discussions, concurrent sessions, and keynote addresses, the conference will

examine how communities connect people, place, and capital to transform local and regional economies in an inclusive way. Check out the conference website and register now to reserve your spot!



Central Section Update

By *Rachelle Abbott, AICP*

The APA-PA Central Section hosted its Spring Workshop on Thursday, May 13, 2016 at the Linglestown Giant Community Center. The topic, law and ethics, drew quite a crowd! Thank you to all the planners who came out and please be sure to attend our next workshop, this Fall.

Beyond offering workshops twice a year to planners to support continuing education, APA-PA **Central Section is pleased to announce the development of a Professional Development Scholarship to its membership.** This Scholarship is available for the education and training of planners, public officials, and students in the Central Section, including, but not limited to, Section workshops, Chapter conferences, and AICP exam. Scholarship amounts will be awarded based on request, with a maximum award of \$500.00.

To be eligible for a Scholarship, applicants must be a member in good standing with the APA-PA Central Section and demonstrate financial hardship. Applicants will be required to state intended use of the scholarship and how it will expand their planning knowledge base or reach planning career goals. Applicants who receive a reimbursement from their employers are not eligible for this scholarship. For scholarships for the AICP exam, scholarship shall be paid upon proof of a passing score.

Scholarships will be awarded on a biannual basis. The two rolling deadlines for application submission are August 1, 2016 by 4pm and February 1, 2017 by 4pm. Applications can be submitted at any point during the year, but will only be considered after the nearest deadlines. Applicants must submit a full application packet to the Vice-Chair of the APA-PA Central Section electronically prior to the deadline. The current Vice-Chair of APA-PA Central Section is Tara Hitchens and her email address is thitchens@eastlampetertownship.org. Awards will be voted on by the Central Section Council and all applicants will be notified after decision date.

To access the application for the APA-PA Central Section Professional Development Scholarship go to <http://planningpa.org/sections/central/> and watch for upcoming communications from the Section.

The APA-PA Central Section welcomes guests to our upcoming meetings. If you are interested in attending or have information to provide, please email the APA-PA Central Section Chair, Rachelle Abbott, AICP at raabbott@stepcorp.org. ♦

Southwest Section Update

By *William McLain*

The Southwest Section of the PA Chapter of APA has been busy planning and conducting workshops. On March 16, 2016 the Section conducted a workshop on sewage facilities planning called **“Where it All Goes and Why You Need To Know : Act 537 Sewage Facilities Planning”** at Ross Township. Roughly 40 individuals from the Section attended. The workshop covered the requirements of the Act that affect land use, land development, and land use planning. The presenters were **Tom Flanagan**, Sewage Facilities Planning Specialist PA DEP, **Andy Grese**, Plumbing Inspector Supervisor and **Jason Dansak**, Sewage Enforcement Office, Allegheny County Health Department, and **Bill Campbell**, Marshall Township Municipal Sanitary Authority Manager/ Marshall Township GIS Coordinator.

On May 10, 2016 a workshop was held in Cranberry Township entitled **“SWPA Community Profiles: A Data Collection & Analysis”**. It was led by Professor **Sabina Deitrick** of the University of Pittsburgh. The workshop focused on the ways in which data gathered in Southwestern Pennsylvania can influence planning, decision making, and policy. Approximately 20 people attended the workshop. Additionally, a workshop titled **“Building Healthy Communities: Planning and Public Health Working Together”** was planned for June, but was postponed for a later date.

The Section is holding elections for Council this year.

The Election Committee members are Sabina Deitrick of the University of Pittsburgh, Whitney Finnstrom of Mullin and Lonergan, and William McLain of Allegheny County Economic Development. The Election Committee is encouraging Section members to submit nominations to the committee at planswpa.election@gmail.com. **The deadline for nominations is midnight on July 15, 2016.** As always, information about the election and about Section news and events is available on the section website: <http://www.planswpa.com>. ♦

APA Ambassador - Girls Rock Science: EDUCATING GIRLS ABOUT STEM-RELATED CAREERS



Staff from various departments at the City of Pittsburgh attended the Girls Rock Science event.
Photo by Amanda Neatrou, City of Pittsburgh Department of Personnel

Statistics show that though women make up 50 percent of the U.S. workforce, they hold only 25 percent of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) related jobs.

In October last year, Western Pennsylvania's largest employers participated in "Girls Rock Science," an event in Pittsburgh hosted by KDKA and the Carnegie Science Center designed to get girls excited about STEM careers.

The employers hosted interactive and information booths. They answered questions about their mission and careers, and offered girls the chance to learn through hands-on displays and activities.

The City of Pittsburgh was well represented:

- The Department of City Planning had an interactive transportation game that

teaches young people about the complete streets model, and the positive changes that occur to the air and cities when we offer car, bike, and pedestrian-friendly models.

- The Department of Public Works offered a display of the technology used by architect to create building plans and models.
- The Fire Bureau brought a team and allowed families to get an up close look at a fire truck.
- The Police Bureau and Police personnel assigned to the Office of Municipal Investigations were represented by the Bomb Squad and the Mobile Crime Unit. Children and adults got to experience a little of what takes place on a crime scene and wear the bomb suit.

- The Department of Personnel and Civil Service Commission offered information and literature on youth programming throughout the city department.

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Kids playing at the Planning Department's interactive transportation game, teaching them about the complete streets model, and the positive changes that occur to the air and cities when we offer car, bike, and pedestrian-friendly models.

Photo by Akshali Gandbi, City of Pittsburgh Department of City Planning.



Staff with Pittsburgh's City Planning Department teach kids about the complete street model at the Girls Rock Science event.

Photo by Akshali Gandbi, City of Pittsburgh Department of City Planning

It was a great opportunity for the city to share information with the public about all that we do, and to demonstrate how the city's workforce includes women in professional positions and STEM related careers.

After the initial event in October, the city planning department also expanded its youth outreach by leading a tour of downtown Pittsburgh in May to middle and high school girls in collaboration with the Carnegie Science Museum's Tour Your Future program to get girls excited about careers in transportation planning. ◆

About the Author

Akshali Gandbi is an APA Ambassador and transportation planner with the City of Pittsburgh Department of City Planning. Amanda Neatrou is with the City of Pittsburgh Department of Personnel.

The Kids Planning Toolbox

is an ongoing series aimed at highlighting the way kids and teens are being involved in planning in their communities. Its goal is to inspire adults to think about how they can help the kids in their communities become the planners of tomorrow!

To learn more about the **APA Ambassadors** program visit www.planning.org/diversity/ambassadors.htm and follow **#APAAmbassadors**.

Penn State Extension **LAND USE** Webinar Series

By Peter Wulfhorst, AICP

PENN STATE EXTENSION will be conducting their sixth Land Use Webinar series starting in July 2015 and continuing until November 2015. The webinars will occur on the 3rd Wednesday of each month from 12 noon – 1:15 pm. Recordings of the webinars will also be made available to registrants. The cost of the webinar series is \$30 for all 5 webinars and \$60 for all 5 webinars for those who want to get CM credits. In addition, we will be offering continuing credits for Registered Landscape Architects.

The cost of the webinar series is \$40 for all 5 webinars, \$45 for CE credits for all 5 webinars for Registered Landscape Architects and \$75 for all 5 webinars for those who want to get CM credits for AICP as well as PDH for Professional Engineers.

Registration information can be found at <http://agsci.psu.edu/land-use-webinar> starting on June 20, 2016 including complete topic descriptions.

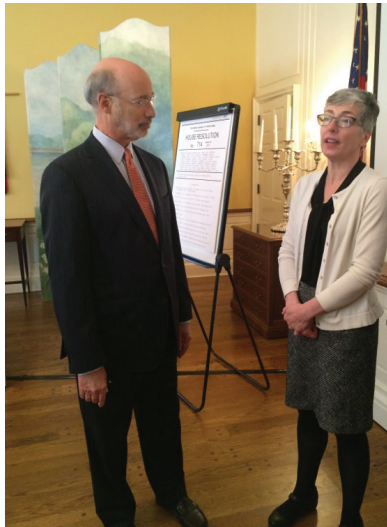
Topics include:

- **Where It All Goes and Why You Need to Know: Act 537 Sewage Facilities Planning Requirements** – July 20, 2016
- **Creating Cool Roof Zones: City Greening and Urban Agriculture for Heat Island Mitigation** – August 17, 2016
- **Pennsylvania Demographics: Sources & Trends** – September 21, 2016
- **Who Invited the PA PUC to the Planning Party?** – October 19, 2016
- **Safe Streets for Everyone: Lancaster County's Complete Streets Program & Complete Streets in Southwest PA** – November 16, 2016

For registration information, please contact Extension Educator Peter Wulfhorst at 570-296-3400 or e-mail at ptw3@psu.edu



Governor Wolf Recognizes Recipients of 2016 Governor's Awards for Local Government *Excellence*



On April 13, Governor Tom Wolf recognized municipalities and local government officials for their dedication and commitment to strengthen their communities and better serve their residents.

“Today’s event highlights just some of the local initiatives that are producing successful results across the state,” Governor Wolf said. “Each exemplifies the great achievements of local governments that work to provide opportunities to collaborate and develop localized best practices.”

Eight government officials and nine communities from across the commonwealth received awards honoring their service today as part of the 20th Annual Governor’s Awards for Local Government Excellence.

DCED’s Center for Local Government Services sponsors Local Government Day annually to honor local governments and officials who serve their communities and improve quality of life.

The following local government officials were recognized for their dedication to public service and their communities:

- Anthony Bellitto, Jr., Executive Director, North Penn Water Authority, Montgomery County
- The Honorable Kim Bracey, Mayor, York City, York County
- Edward Child, Council President, Trumbauersville Borough, Bucks County
- Ronald Faull, Township Supervisor, Liberty Township, Mercer County
- Kent Gardner, Treasurer, Lancaster Inter-Municipal Committee
- **Darlene Heller, AICP, Planning Director, Bethlehem City, Lehigh County** (Darlene’s name was submitted by the Chapter)
- Basil Huffman, County Commissioner, Forest County Commissioners
- J. Andrew Sharkey, Commissioner, Cheltenham Township, Montgomery County

The following municipalities, organizations, and counties were recognized:

Building Community Partnership: *Demonstrating it was instrumental in fostering partnerships between both public and private stakeholders within the community.*

Schuylkill County
Schuylkill County developed a Youth Summit to help address the outmigration of youth from the county. The Youth Summit brings together students from every high school throughout the county to participate in local decision

making, as well as identifying action steps in response to immediate issues and concerns.

Responding to Adversity: *Exemplify the localized response to an event that resulted in the overall deterioration in demographic or environmental conditions that affected the viability of the municipality.*

Lower Allen Township, Cumberland County
Lower Allen Township, Cumberland County in conjunction with Upper Allen Township, worked in unison to address the presence of an underground stream that results in recurrent flooding over a portion of Gettysburg Road causing adverse economic impacts that extended beyond the municipal border. As a result of the collaboration, an inter-municipal agreement for the creation of a shared Transportation Development District was created to address planning and funding.

Promoting Community/Economic Revitalization: *Direct involvement in efforts that revitalize a designated residential, commercial, and/or industrial area or property, and/or alleviates blight and deterioration and returns properties to their most productive use.*

Newport Borough, Perry County
Newport Borough, Perry County in preparation for the borough’s 175th anniversary celebration envisioned and implemented a series of revitalization initiatives, resulting in the creation of attractive outdoor spaces, including the Newport Heritage Park, which can be enjoyed for many years to come. Much of the associated project costs were covered by a massive fundraising effort facilitated by Newport Borough, local nonprofits, volunteers, and members of the community.

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Innovative Community/Governmental Initiatives: *Instituted an innovative approach to carry out its community and/or governmental function that resulted in cost savings, increased productivity, improved risk management and/or overall service delivery efficiencies/economies of scale.*

Pittsburgh, Allegheny County
The City of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County developed the “Talent City” hiring system to attract top regional and national talent to fill key leadership positions within the mayoral administration, as well as appointments on various boards, authorities, and commissions. The initiative was fully funded by contributions from local foundations, and is largely managed by a 10-member, bipartisan Oversight Committee representative of the local community.

Fiscal Accountability and Best Management Practices: *Instituted a process, policy and/or procedure that enhanced its fiscal accountability and utilization of resources and assets, and which can serve as a model for other local governments to use as a best management practice.*

Wilkes-Barre, Luzerne County
Wilkes-Barre, Luzerne County implemented a series of cost-saving energy conservation measures saving the city an estimated \$250,000 per year. Project measures implemented across the city include LED street lights, low-flow water features, demand control ventilation, and solar photovoltaic system to convert sunlight into electricity.

Innovative Planning and Sound Land Use Practices: *Instituted an innovative approach to planning principles, sound land use and/or utilization of renewable energy sources.*

Clymer Borough, Indiana County
Clymer Borough, Indiana County through the development and enactment of their form-based zoning codes, developed land use strategies, policies, and regulations that respect and preserve the community’s history and culture while encouraging orderly growth and development.

Intergovernmental Cooperation: *Engaged in an intergovernmental cooperative agreement/arrangement in which the service, function and/or activity involves two or more governmental units.*

Centre Region Parks and Recreation Agency
Centre Region Parks and Recreation Agency has demonstrated its commitment to building working partnerships by collaborating with State College Borough along with College, Ferguson, Harris and Patton Townships. As a result of the intergovernmental cooperation arrangements, the Centre Region Parks & Recreation Agency now operates 47 municipal parks, as well as two new regional parks and two community swimming pools, spanning a total of 915 acres.

Information Technology: *Demonstrate that it is currently using new information technology as an innovative tool to foster greater public access to local government and to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the entity.*

South Fayette Township, Allegheny County
South Fayette Township, Allegheny County in one year’s time developed a website, Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube pages to engage thousands of community members and stakeholders with direct access to information. Added engagement is offered through customized, automatic e-mail and text message notifications relating to topics such as police news, recreation events, emergency alerts, and road closures,

Health and Wellness Initiatives: *Direct involvement in efforts to provide health and wellness benefits to a community.*

Tatamy Borough, Northampton County
Tatamy Borough, Northampton County is the first community to receive this award. In partnership with various educational, religious, commercial, and other organizations, Tatamy Borough established a community garden to grow fresh produce for families in need. Produce harvested from the half-acre garden is donated to local food banks, soup kitchens, and summer lunch programs for students in Northampton County. ♦

In Memoriam

Jeff Featherstone, 68, of Media, a Temple University research professor and an international expert on water use and management, died Saturday, May 7, of an infection at Penn Presbyterian Medical Center.

In a statement marking his death, the university wrote: “Jeff Featherstone’s life’s work was to make the world a better place than he found it. Every job, every project, every workshop and conference he participated in bore witness to that goal.”

Although Dr. Featherstone was based at Temple’s Ambler campus, his influence in water resources management and dispute resolution was felt as far away as China and the Mideast.

Last June, he led an international team of planners to the West Bank and Gaza, with the aim of advising officials about water use in the watershed shared by Lebanon, Jordan, Israel, Syria, and Egypt. “Due to the volatility of the region, a great deal of the urban infrastructure in many areas of Gaza and the West Bank is in a constant state of disrepair,” Dr. Featherstone told the Temple News before the trip. “The water and sewer lines and transportation corridors in Gaza are essentially nonfunctioning.” Dr. Featherstone said that with most of the river’s water diverted for farming and urban use, the aquifer had been tainted by saltwater.

Much more can be found about Jeffrey at <http://planningpa.org/featured/in-memoriam-of-jeffrey-featherstone/>

Irving Hand, 94, of the Residence at the Jewish Home of Greater Harrisburg, died Saturday, May 14, 2016.

For 60 years he was the loving and devoted husband of Mildred E. Hand. Much more can be found about Irv at <http://planningpa.org/in-memoriam/in-memoriam-of-irving-hand/>

Please see the tribute from APA-PA’s President James Cowhey on page 12. ♦

A Tribute to Professor Irving Hand, FAICP

By James Cowhey, AICP/President APA-PA

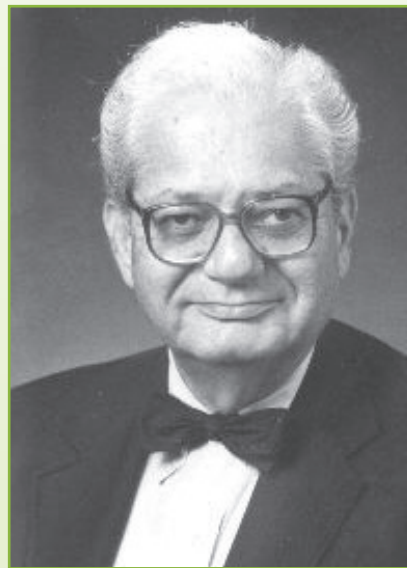
It was with deep sadness that I learned that Professor Irving Hand passed away on 14 May at the age of ninety-four. Irv was a friend, mentor, teacher, and colleague to me and many planners in Pennsylvania. Former students and friends were planning a 95th birthday celebration for him to be held in June.

Professor Hand's career began in the late 1940's in Westchester County, New York. In the early 1950s he was recruited to serve as director for the regional planning commission for Tulsa, Oklahoma. He then spent ten years in Nashville/Davidson County, Tennessee where he was instrumental in establishing a consolidated city/county government for the Nashville region. This work has served as an example for such consolidations throughout the United States.

In 1964, Governor William Scranton invited Irving Hand to serve as the Executive Director of the Pennsylvania State Planning Board. He held that position during three successive gubernatorial administrations. During Irving's tenure there he led efforts that resulted in the adoption of the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code. The PMPC is still used by municipal and county planners today.

He became a mentor, friend, and teacher to many of us while serving as professor and later as the Chairman of the Graduate Degree Program in Urban and Regional Planning at Pennsylvania State University, Capital College beginning in 1972. For over twenty years, Irving Hand brought his firm, but gentle tutelage to aspiring graduate planners at Penn State. I remember several talks with him when I finally decided to begin grad school at the time when Penn State decided to end the MURP program. He provided sage advice in how I could make the Masters of Public Administration

program there meaningful to me as a planner after the demise of the MURP program. (It's still hard for me to forgive old Blue and White for ending the program!). Look around you, fellow planners, and you are bound to have several colleagues that benefited from having had Professor Hand as a teacher. While at Penn State, he established the Institute for State and Regional Affairs which includes the Pennsylvania State Data Center. The institute continues to



serve the research and data needs of the Commonwealth and the nation. Several of Professor Hand's students stayed in close contact with him after his retirement from PSU in 1993. Others of us would touch base with him from time to time to say hello and to seek his advice on troublesome planning matters. He was always a gentleman, always humble, always wise.

After his well-deserved retirement, Professor Hand was an active member of the boards of directors of Delta Development Group, Inc.

and the South Central Assembly for Effective Governance where he continued to work on projects to improve communities throughout the Commonwealth. It was at SCAEFG that I worked with him as a member of the Land Use and Growth Management Committee where we had many discussions about regional issues and the struggle for greater intergovernmental cooperation. He was an advisor to Temple University in establishing its graduate degree program in City and Regional Planning. Professor Hand was active in our chapter serving for several years on the awards committee. He served as President of the American Institute of Planners, one of the predecessor organizations of APA. Irving Hand was a member of the College of Fellows of the American Institute of Certified Planners.

There is not one planner in the Commonwealth who hasn't been affected by Professor Irving Hand in some way. We Pennsylvania Planners owe him much gratitude and remembrance for all that he has done for us and for the greater good of our communities. There is much more to say about his seven decades of service as a planner. But, I can hear him say it in his distinctive voice: "Get to the point!" So, I'll leave it at this: "Thank you, teacher." ♦

"The life given us by nature is short, but the memory of a life well spent is eternal." — Cicero

EarthFest 2016 – *Youth Engagement and Planning*

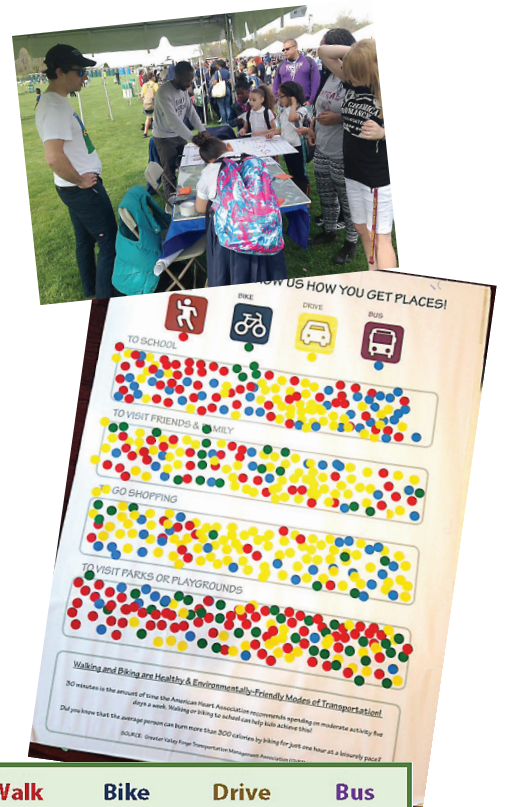


Over 200 curious young visitors stopped by the APAPA-SE activity booth at Temple University’s EarthFest 2016 on April 22nd. An annual event at the Ambler Campus, EarthFest promotes environmental awareness to elementary and middle school students from across the region. Continuing a multi-year tradition, APAPA-SE hosted a booth to support the effort. This year, our four volunteers engaged students in two planning activities – one related to transportation and the other land use – to give them a very basic idea of what planners do on a regular basis.

The transportation-related activity had students placing stickers to indicate whether they walk, bike, drive, or take the bus to get to school, visit friends/family, visit park/playgrounds, and go shopping. While not exactly scientific,

this informal survey had over 230 responses and provided some interesting results (see the tally we put together and feel free to draw your own conclusions). Overall, the kids were really excited about the activity – especially the stickers – and it got them thinking about the pros and cons of how they travel, both for their own personal health and the health of the environment.

The second activity, which we introduced last year, focused more on land use and development. Using an enlarged aerial map of the Ambler Campus, we showed students exactly where on the map they were standing. We then described the surrounding land uses to help them think about what else they’d like to see on the field where the event was taking place. Finally, we asked them to respond to



How do you travel.....	Walk	Bike	Drive	Bus
To School	33%	8%	33%	25%
To visit Friends/Family	22%	13%	48%	18%
To go Shopping	14%	11%	57%	17%
To visit Parks/Playgrounds	42%	24%	24%	11%



What would I plan for this lot and why?

this question: *What would I plan for this lot and why?* It was amazing to see the variety of responses we received – it was almost like hosting a town hall meeting!

Each year, Temple’s Earthfest gives us planners an opportunity to engage local students in a light-hearted yet meaningful dialogue about the important work we as planner do every day. And, who knows, perhaps we inspired a whole new cohort of APA planners!



welcome

New PA Chapter Members!

WE WELCOME THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS who joined the PA Chapter over the past few months. The PA Chapter membership includes nearly 2,600 planning officials, professional planners, and others who care about how Pennsylvania continues to grow the places where we live, work, and enjoy recreation. The Board and staff are available to answer any questions. Feel free to contact the Chapter Office at 717-671-4510. Board member contact information is available at www.planningpa.org under **About Us**.

Individual Members:

Ariel Dilberto, Southeast Section

Andrew Garrison, Central Section

Amber Knee, Southeast Section

Zachary Sivertsen, Southeast Section

Marie Suvansin, Southeast Section ◆

Altoona City Planning Commission Turns 100



Starting in the back (left-right): Jennifer Mikolajczyk PC, Lee Slusser, Dave McFarland, Larry Carter, Dave Albright PC, Jim Dixon, PC-BCPC, Bob Gutshall PC, and Barbara Wiens-Tuers PC.

Photo by Victor Curfman.

March 7 marked the **100th anniversary** of the creation of the **Altoona City Planning Commission**. Established by the city council on March 7, 1916, the commission has met continuously since then to improve the quality of life for Altoona residents. According to research of available records, this makes the **Altoona City Planning Commission the oldest continuously operating municipal planning commission in Pennsylvania.**

The Commission was created by the city council at the instigation of the local chamber of commerce, who noted that other then-existing planning commissions were hard at work making their cities ‘beautifully attractive’ according to newspaper articles from that time. Unfortunately, these other commissions suspended work or dissolved during the depression and war years of the mid-Twentieth Century.

Additionally, the city heard from John Lathrop, a planning expert from New York City, who stated that city planning “is not tying pink bows to lamp posts [but rather] the work of building the whole physical city” including developing and sustaining relationships between construction, the uses and characteristics of buildings, streets, transportation lines and terminals, and recreational spaces.

At its first meeting on March 13, 1916, the Altoona City Planning Commission charted its initial course, including assigning commissioners the tasks of financial matters, legal matters, social issues, and economic questions. It immediately began work on Altoona’s first comprehensive plan, which it completed in-house. City Council also asked the commission to look at eliminating a hump on Twelfth Avenue and the steep grade on Thirteenth Street.

The anniversary event, held in Altoona City Hall on March 7, 2016, included a brief history of the work of the Commission by **Planning Director Lee Slusser** and recognition of the event by **Mayor Matt Pacifico, State Senator John Eichelberger, State Representative John McGinnis, U.S. Representative Bill Shuster,** and the Pennsylvania Chapter of the American Planning Association.

After the formal recognition of the 100th Anniversary, the Commissioners entered into an annual review of the status of the current comprehensive plan, “Positively Altoona” which received the Daniel Burnham Award for a Comprehensive Plan from the Chapter in 2013. ♦