

The City Beautiful in Harrisburg: Planning on a Grand Scale

American Planning Association
Pennsylvania Chapter Annual Conference
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Introductions

- ◉ **Bryan Van Sweden**

Community Preservation Coordinator
PA Historical and Museum Commission

- ◉ **Dan G. Deibler**

- ◉ **Norman Lacasse**

The Progressive Era

Columbian Exposition, Chicago 1893



City Beautiful Planning

- Elements of modern community planning
 - Land use and development
 - Separate areas for industrial and residential uses
 - Plan for public and institutional buildings
 - Lay out streets and neighborhoods for new development
 - Community facilities and natural resources
 - Government buildings, libraries, and museums
 - Electrical utilities
 - Public spaces, “promenades,” and places for recreation
 - Parks, natural areas, and street trees
 - Housing
 - Modern and clean housing for working class
 - Design attractive middle class neighborhoods
 - Transportation plan
 - Paved streets and sidewalks
 - Identify corridors for railroad and streetcar lines



Harrisburg



State Street showing State Capitol, Harrisburg, Pa.

BB-12089



City Beautiful 2.0

- Current initiative to inspire public improvements around the city
 - Document the significance of the original City Beautiful Movement in Harrisburg
 - Nominate Riverfront Park for listing in the National Register of Historic Places
 - Promote restoration and improvements in the city's parks and the Greenbelt
 - Invest in the city's aging infrastructure
- <http://www.citybeautiful2.org/>



City Beautiful 2.0 Projects

- “Lighten Up, Harrisburg!”
 - Historic Harrisburg Association
- Stories from Home: “City Beautiful” (June 2013)
 - Open Stage of Harrisburg
- Uptown Harrisburg Garden Builds
 - Green Urban Initiative
- Atlas Street Garden Mural
 - Green Urban Initiative
- Two-Way Second Street
 - WCI Partners, LP

