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President's Message

By: Chuck Klingenstein, AICP
Utah APA Chapter President

The changes just keep happening and this time it is yours truly! After nearly four years at Psomas, I have been offered an once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to open an office for the environmental, land, water and ecology-consulting firm, Jones and Stokes. At this time, we are looking for office space in Salt Lake City, so temporarily, please contact me at:

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We often hear the refrain that change is good and I certainly think that to be the case. It was interesting when our director of land development asked me what my longest stint at any one job was. My answer was nine years. The answer caused me to reflect on how our world of work has changed so much in my 50 years of life. It used to be that we could expect cradle to grave security from our employers and government (Social Security, Medicare, etc). Now, we need to be constantly thinking of our families, our next opportunity, continuing education, work, retirement planning, college funding planning, and so forth. It just isn't simple anymore! Yet, as planners, who is best equipped to manage these long-term issues? Planners have the skills and aptitudes for long range planning and vision. So I ask all of you to be constantly thinking and planning for these challenges. It is an exciting world out there and we need to be constantly challenging it and as well as shaping it; otherwise it may shape you! Whether you are looking for new work opportunities, fired or laid off, or facing challenges within your current place of employment, remember that we have the skills to rise to these occasions.



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The Utah Chapter of the American Planning Association publishes the Utah Planner. Circulation is to APA members. The Utah Planner welcomes submission of original articles, editorial letters, and any other information of interest to both professional and citizen planners.

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Once again, we are in the midst of the legislative session. This annual rite, which lasts for 45 days, often is viewed with fear, loathing and trepidation. While we certainly have our ups and downs during the session, I feel blessed in knowing that Wilf Sommerkorn our Legislative Chair, is keeping a close eye on things for us. Those of you who are members of the list serve know the effort he puts into the position. During most of the session, he shares his legislative updates with us through his email distribution list and the Utah Chapter's List Serve. SO – get signed up. It is free but you have to send an email. Follow these instructions:

- To subscribe, simply send an e-mail to: utahapa-request@brag.dst.ut.us
- Leave the subject line blank
- In the body of the message type:
 - SUBSCRIBE utahapa, jondoe@somewhere.com (do not omit the comma)
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Another reminder for all of you! National APA has made it very easy to update your information on their website, <http://www.planning.org>. Go to Member Sign In and enter your email address or APA member number and password. Once in the site, go to Update My Profile at the top of the list. Keeping this information updated allows National to maintain a central database for the benefit of National and your local Chapter. The benefit to you is accurate and efficient communications. I would appreciate it if you would all check your profile to make sure yours is up to date. It is important that we know where you work and most importantly, your current email address. A significant area of expenditure for your local chapter is the newsletter and its related costs. We are committed to bring you the newsletter but there will be a time in the future where we would like to go to an email version. To do so will require an up to date database. So please check it out and when you make changes in your life, update the national database.

I hope that by the time you read this message, we will have an idea of a date and place for the spring conference. Unfortunately, it is a moving target as of the time I am writing this. I have been assured that the show will go on!

Enough said for this month. I look forward to continuing to serve as your President through July. I am making it a point to say that the President and Vice President positions will be open and we will be having elections this spring. Please contact me if you have any questions regarding the positions. I can send you the bylaws, which describe the positions. While the office of president does require a commitment, I can assure you that it is incredibly rewarding!

The Western Planner.....Not Just Another Voice In The Wilderness!

The Western Planner is a regional planning organization, which brings western planners together to share information and ideas. They do so through *The Western Planner Journal* and the annual conference. *The Western Planner* is published eight times a year by the non-profit organization, Western Planning Resources (WPR). WPR is an affiliation of 13 Western state planning associations from 12 states. The journal has approximately 1,600 readers in the states of Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, Nevada, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming, and Washington. The goal of WPR is to serve as a network for planning professionals and citizen planners who are separated by great expanses. The WPR organization has a strong set of traditions and values that guide this commitment to a professional network.

The Western Planner addresses the unique needs of planners in the West by providing a network and perspective for planning ideas. The journal is written by planning professionals, who share what has worked for them in planning, development, and zoning situations. Regular columns such as the *Featured Planner*, *Planner's Toolbox*, and *Planning Commissioner's Corner* provide readers with helpful information on a wide variety of current planning topics. The journal has featured a Planning and Finance column for over nine years and last year began a Planning and GIS article series.

Each issue also highlights one or two *Feature* articles from some of *The Western Planner* states. From growth management in Washington to natural landscape protection in Colorado, to exclusionary zoning in New Mexico to intensive agricultural uses in South Dakota, these feature articles are interesting and topical.

The Western Planner was established in 1979 and is celebrating its 25th year in 2004. *WP* was first published in a newsprint tabloid format in Terry, Montana in January of 1980. In 1991, Steve Kurtz

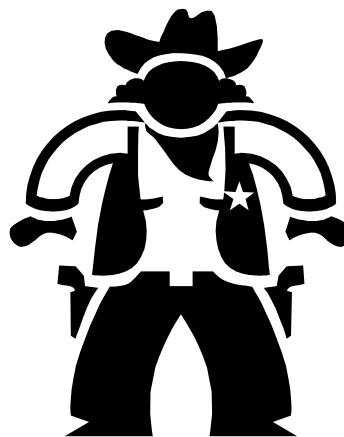
became the editor and since then the issue has been printed in Casper, Wyoming.

The annual Western Planner Conference provides much opportunity for planners to get together, talk about Western planning issues, and have a good time. Last year the conference was in Las Vegas and in 2004 the conference will be held August 3-6 in Missoula, Montana.

The WPR Board consists of representatives from 13 planning organizations. The individual state organizations select representatives to represent their association on the WPR Board. The state representatives and editorial board members volunteer their time and efforts to produce a journal that concentrates on planning issues in the West.

"Affiliate" Chapter members get a reduced rate of \$25 per year on their individual *WP* Subscription. Affiliate states are Arizona APA, Colorado APA, New Mexico APA, South Dakota Planning Association, Utah APA, and the Washington APA Chapter.

Contact Jay Aguilar, the Utah APA WPR Representative, about how to subscribe to *WP* or contribute an article. He can be reached at 435-716-7154 or 179 N. Main St. Suite 305 Logan, Utah 84321. Please visit WPR's very informative, up-to-date Web site at <www.westernplanner.org> for more information on the journal and how to subscribe. You'll be glad you did!



**NEWS FROM U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
(HUD)**

DATA GATHERING

MADE SIMPLER BY *MapsStats*

***Website Provides "One Click" Access to State,
"Two Click" Access to County and City Data***

WASHINGTON – Thanks to a partnership between the Department of Housing and Urban Development, FedStats and the U.S. Census Bureau, finding key government-wide statistical data and information about cities, counties, states and the nation just became markedly simpler with the activation of an enhanced *MapsStats* section of the FedStats website -- www.fedstats.gov -- a one-stop site for community stakeholders, journalists, researchers, students and everyday data users.

MapStats eliminates the need to search multiple sites to get information on births and deaths, income, poverty, housing, crime, employment, retail sales, education levels, travel time to work, minority owned firms, weather and many other community indicators. The website links two award-winning Internet applications to data and other information across federal agencies to provide easy access to the latest government statistics.

MapStats, when used with HUD's State of the Cities Data System, provides users with a powerful tool for accessing detailed demographic and business information for cities. Data from the State of the Cities Data System are available for four decades, enabling users to research trends.

Mapstats also provides a number of helpful tools and links. For example, if you don't know a county name but know a place or ZIP Code, *MapStats* "place search" function will tell you the county and will link directly to the statistics page for that county, or state or city. Clicking on the "?" to the left of any data item provides an easy to read explanation, documentation and hyperlinks to other resources. Thematic mapping is also available for some data, and for hard-core data aficionados, Federal Information Processing Standard codes – often referred to as FIPS codes – for states, counties and cities are referenced at the bottom of every page.

HUD and FedStats officials say future enhancements will be based on user feedback

2003's Top 10 Planning Websites

So what are the top 10 planning websites you should check out? Rich Carson has provided us with his list for 2004. Rich is a planning director in the Portland-Vancouver metropolitan area, he manages APA's "Planning Publications List" on the Internet and is also the Internet Editor for the "Urban Studies" category for the Looksmart Directory. This Looksmart Directory is used by LookSmart, MSN, Excite, Alta Vista, Time Warner and more than 370 Internet service providers and reaches 77% of all Internet users. You can contact Rich at richardcarson@qwest.net. His Top Ten list follows:

- 1) Smart City Radio (www.smartcityradio.com). The website for the National Public Radio show "Smart City."
- 2) Urbanicity (www.urbanicity.org). A new site, one of the most international planning websites. Their stated mission is to "explore aspects of urban management."
- 3) Planum (www.planum.net). This European website is billed as an "e-zine promoted by journals, associations of planners, academic and research institutes."
- 4) Cyburbia (www.cyburbia.org). The Internet's oldest portal site for urban planners and others interested in cities and the built environment.
- 5) Planetizen (www.planetizen.org). The premier website in terms of delivering current planning news.
- 6) About Planning (www.aboutplanning.org). An Internet clearing house for information about websites, publications, essays and news related to land use planning, growth management, comprehensive planning, smart growth and new urbanism.
- 7) American Planning Association (www.planning.org). The official website for APA.
- 8) Planning Report (www.ablinc.net/tpr). Primarily features interviews with people active in the world of land use planning. The folks interviewed are planners, politicians and developers.
- 9) Planners Web (www.plannersweb.com). Official website for the "Planning Commissioners Journal." Has a lot of great planning resource information.

10) Smart Growth America (www.smartgrowthamerica.com). A coalition of nearly 100 advocacy organizations that have a stake in how metropolitan expansion affects our environment, quality of life and economic sustainability.



NEWS FROM AROUND THE NATION

"Home Prices Soar Above Incomes"

USA Today (01/20/04) P. 15A; Brown, Ben

The nation's median home price grew twice as fast as the median income between 1990 and 2001, and research by a Fannie Mae Foundation analyst warns that residents earning the median income will not have access to mortgages for median-priced homes within three years. In many of the nation's metropolitan areas, sprawl is creeping into rural locales; and middle-class residents are being forced out of the housing market. At the same time, federal and state budget deficits have shrunk the funds available for housing assistance. Many believe that denser urban communities and developments with several housing types could curb sprawl, but land and housing costs could rise if municipalities impose growth restrictions. (www.usatoday.com)

Update on TEA reauthorization in Congress

By Martha Roskowski, Campaign Manager, America Bikes (February 3, 2004)

After many months of anticipation, TEA-21 renewal legislation is moving. The full US Senate began debate today on their bill (S. 1072, SAFETEA). The Senate bill moved to the floor after a flurry of activity on Monday, Feb 2. The Finance Committee approved a package which fully funds highways and cobbles together funding for transit. The total package directs \$311 billion to transportation over the next six years. After the Finance Committee action, the full Senate approved a "motion for cloture" which sent the bill to the floor and limits debate to 30 hours. That means the Senate could complete work on their TEA-21 authorization bill in the next week or two. You can watch Senate proceedings on-line on C-SPAN2.

Upcoming APA Audio Conferences

Since 1995 these audio conference programs have reached thousands of officials, planners, researchers, students, and allied groups. This convenient, easy-to-use program is delivered straight to your desktop or conference room. An all web format option has been added this year. It's a complete audio & visual program. Upcoming audio conferences are scheduled for May and June.

Suburban Place Making

May 26, 2004

4 p.m. – 5 p.m. E.T.

Many suburbs have been criticized as non-places. Some older suburbs have turned to town centers and redeveloped corridors as essential catalysts to place making through urban design, and marketing strategies that help attract and retain residents and businesses. Learn about the exciting possibilities for suburban turn around.

Land Use, Planning and Environmental Law for Planners and Planning Officials

June 23, 2004

4 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. E.T.

The legal landscape for planning is ever changing. Learn from seasoned land-use attorneys what new laws have been enacted that will affect local planning and what kind of land-use and environmental litigation is occurring in federal and state courts. You cannot afford to miss this important overview of recent developments in planning and environmental law.

Registration Information

There are three ways to register:

- Download the registration form – www.planning.org
- E-mail confregistration@planning.org
- Call 312-786-6730 to register.

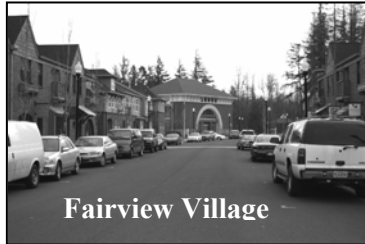
For more information about how the audio conference works, call the education assistant at 312-786-6729, e-mail education@planning.org, or go to www.planning.org/audioconference.

Local Planners Attend Smart Growth Conference in Portland

by Peter Matson, AICP
Utah Chapter APA Newsletter Co-Editor

APA recently co-sponsored the 3rd Annual New Partners for Smart Growth Conference in Portland, Oregon January 21-25, 2004. More than 900 planners, developers, architects and builders from all over the country were encouraged to hop on public transit or walk the streets of Portland, a place considered by many to be a living laboratory for smart growth. A handful (approx. 10) of planners from Utah attended the conference, which focused on taking smart growth tools, research, and information to the next level.

I was drawn to this conference because of sessions and workshops focusing on transit oriented development. I attended two pre-conference mobile workshops, which focused on smart growth projects along the MAX light rail lines. I attended a post-conference tour of the Portland Streetcar system, which highlighted the integration of this privately operated streetcar system into the urban fabric of downtown Portland.



The suburban workshops were highlighted by visits to Orenco Station and Fairview Village. Both projects are examples of suburban development that incorporate a range of housing types, mixed uses, and walkability that typify smart growth at a community scale. Touring these projects brought to life many of the concepts from Envision Utah's Community Toolbox for Quality Growth.

Perhaps the most interesting part of the mobile workshops came from discussions with the local planners directly involved in the planning and development of these two projects. They were anxious to help the participants learn from their experiences. They emphasized that many pieces have to fall into place to make these types of projects successful. Quality projects and communities take time, money, and the long-term commitment of the various parties involved.

"Coordination" became a recurring theme for me throughout the conference. The sessions and workshops that I attended taught me that coordination at all levels, from public participation to implementation is critical to the success of any "smart growth" project.

Smart growth means different things to different people; however, the examples in the Portland area



demonstrate that the main objective should be to create "places" not just projects. Places where people want to live and work. Places that the community can

be proud of and that can stand as examples of smart growth. We can learn from the successes and challenges of projects such as Orenco Station and Fairview Village. These places are not perfect, but they represent processes, experiences and concepts from which we can learn.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- March 11-12, 2004~Rocky Mountain Land Use Institute Annual Conference at the Denver Marriott Southeast Hotel on 1-25 and Hampden. Watch www.law.du.edu/rmlui for complete conference information
- April 24-28, 2004~ National APA 2004 Conference, Washington, DC. Registration Deadline is March 26, 2004. www.planning.org

SPRING HAS SPRUNG....PLAN ON THIS!

2004 Utah APA Spring Conference

Blanding, Utah

May 13th ~ May 14th

The conference agenda and brochure will be available shortly. Look for e-mail announcements and updates and be sure to check the Chapter web page for more information. Conference sessions will cover the following topics:

- Natural Hazards Mitigation Planning
- Traffic Planning
- Working with UDOT
- How the General Plan works with Federal Agencies
- Transportation Planning for High Growth Areas
- Economic / Business Development Planning
- Recreational Overlay Zoning
- Trails, Planning and
- River and Road Corridor Preservation

Any questions regarding the Spring Conference can be directed to Nicole Cline at 435.843.3160 or ncline@co.tooele.ut.us

Hoping to see all of you this May in Blanding!

Funny of the Month

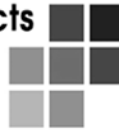


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