



WESTERN CENTRAL CHAPTER

montana · wyoming · idaho · south dakota · north dakota

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 nonprofit organization, Western Planning Resources (WPR). WPR is an affiliation of 13 planning associations from 12 Western 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 journal 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, Nevada and in 2004 the conference will be held August 4-6 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.

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NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

This newsletter is published by the Western Central Chapter of the American Planning Association. Circulation is to APA members of the Western Central Chapter (WCC). The WCC Board welcomes submission of original articles, editorial letters, and any other information of interest to both professional and citizen planners. Submissions should be made to the newsletter editor:

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2004 WCC Newsletter Schedule

Spring - March 5 (submittal deadline February 13)
Summer - June 4 (submittal deadline May 14)
Fall - September 3 (submittal deadline August 13)
Winter - December 3 (submittal deadline November 12)

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

If your mailing address has changed, please contact the American Planning Association at the address below. You can also edit your information online at <https://www.planning.org/myprofile/>.

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Wyoming

*This position is
currently vacant.*

President's Message

by *Andrew C. Epple, AICP*

Those of us who attended the National APA Conference in Washington D.C. in April were treated to outstanding hospitality, stimulating sessions, and excellent opportunities for networking with colleagues from around the country. In addition to attending numerous sessions on topics ranging from New Urbanism and Transit-oriented Design to Vested Rights and Taking Issues, all presented by leading experts in the field, I also attended Leadership Training sessions with other Chapter Presidents. As the Chapter that has produced two recent APA Presidents (Mary Kay Peck and Joanne Garnett), Western Central gets more attention (and respect!) than you might expect vis-à-vis chapters from California and New York, for instance. All in all, attendance at National APA Conferences provides tremendous opportunities for professional growth and development. If at all possible, I encourage you to attend one in the near future...next year's is in March in San Francisco.

Interestingly, conference sessions needed to be split between two hotels in the NW area of D.C. due to the growth in our professional ranks over the past ten years. Also, it appeared to me that Washington D.C. is a far healthier city today than it was twelve years ago when I last attended the APA conference there. I observed a tremendous amount of inner city redevelopment, adaptive reuse of dozens of old buildings, fewer boarded up store fronts, and fewer homeless people on the streets. All in all, D.C. seemed to be energetic and thriving in 2004, in stark contrast to the doldrums of the 1990s. It was gratifying to hear D.C.'s energetic young Mayor, Anthony Williams, credit good community planning as the basis for this urban resurgence.

At our upcoming Western Planner Conference in Missoula, I will be meeting with our Board of Directors to outline a work program and development strategy for our Chapter. If there is an issue you would particularly like to see addressed, contact any of the office holders listed in the Directory section of this newsletter so we can get it on the agenda. With over 400 members in our chapter, it is vitally important to know what you need or expect in terms of services from APA.

Hope to see you all in Missoula!

WCC Member Writes Lead Article for Spring Issue of the Planning Commissioners Journal

The Spring issue of the Planning Commissioners Journal was published on May 7, 2004. The Planning Commissioners Journal is a national quarterly for "citizen planners." The Spring issue focuses on several key areas in which planners are dealing with water and its impacts.

The lead article, "Emerging Water Shortages Are No Mirage," was written by WCC member David Stauffer. David is a business and economics writer who focuses on land use in the Interior West. He is a former planning board chair and current city planner for Red Lodge, Montana. David is also a member of the Montana Association of Planners.

In "Emerging Water Shortages," David examines the growing significance of water scarcity, and how planners are responding. In the article, David states that "the water wars that shaped the U.S. Interior West from the earliest days of its settlement by whites grow almost daily in their intensity. They're increasingly erupting in other parts of the country — prominently including the national capital region — where only a few years ago few were troubled about who owns water or whether there's plenty of it for everyone."

Also in the Spring issue, legal consultant Joel Russell explores how overlay zoning can be used to help protect surface waters. Rounding out the Spring issue are short articles on: considering stormwater management in site plan review; basics of groundwater; and how one metro area responded to an enormous flood.

The Spring Planning Commissioners Journal can be ordered for delivery by mail, or can be ordered and downloaded from the PlannersWeb site — <http://www.plannersweb.com>



Silver Celebration on the Clark Fork

Missoula, Montana, August 4-6, 2004

Western Planning Resources/Montana Association of Planners



Preliminary Agenda

Tuesday, August 3

- 12:00 PM Conference Registration Opens
1:00 PM Western Planning Resources Board Meeting
6:00 PM Missoula Farmer's Market

Wednesday, August 4

- 8:00 AM Conference Registration Opens/Continental Breakfast
9:00 AM Welcome - Mayor Mike Kadas of Missoula, MT; Tammy McGill, President of MAP; Joanne Garnett, President of WPR
9:30 AM Concurrent Sessions
1. Positioning Communities and Regions for Economic Growth
2. Unlocking Board Potential
3. Urban Wildlife Issues
4. Mapping & Census Information for Planning
10:45 AM Opening Keynote - Harry Fritz, Professor of History, University of Montana
11:30 AM Caras Park "Out to Lunch" - Lunch and Tour On Your Own
1:00 PM Concurrent Sessions
1. Montana on the Move
2. Preparing for Fire in the Wildland/Urban Interface
3. Transportation Demand Management in Small to Medium Sized Communities: Cooperating to Ease Congestion
2:45 PM Break
3:00 PM Concurrent Sessions
1. Land Use Law
2. Transportation Planning for Subarea Plans and Small Communities
3. Walking Tour of Missoula's River Front
5:30 PM **Reception - 25th Anniversary of Western Planner**

Thursday, August 5

- 8:00 AM Conference Registration Opens/Continental Breakfast

9:00 AM Concurrent Sessions

1. Updating Your Comprehensive Plan
2. Highway 93 Wildlife Corridor Study
3. GIS & Planning

10:15 AM Break

10:30 AM Concurrent Sessions

1. Putting Growth in It's Place
2. Identifying Wildlife Issues in Subdivision Review
3. Public Involvement

12:00 PM Luncheon and Guest Speaker Smart Growth Unveiled - Ed Ziegler, Rocky Mountain Land Use Institute

1:30 PM Concurrent Sessions

1. Planning with Geology In Mind: Special Issues for Minerals in the West
2. Defensible Decisions: Supporting Land Use Decisions
3. Sacred Places and the Place of the Sacred

3:00 PM Break

3:15 PM Concurrent Sessions

1. Washington State Comprehensive Plan Update
2. Public Participation for Small towns

3:00 PM WPR Open Discussion and Annual Meeting

6:00 PM Softball - Wyoming Verses the World

8:00 PM Barbecue and Western Planner Awards

Friday, August 6

8:00 AM Continental Breakfast

9:00 AM Concurrent Sessions

1. The Sonoran Institute's Community Stewardship Forum: Training and Assistance for Successful Communities
2. Historic Preservation and Economic Development
3. Planned Neighborhood Clusters

10:15 AM Break

10:45 AM Concurrent Sessions

1. AICP Exam Preparation
2. Historic Walking Tour of Missoula
3. Planned Neighborhood Clusters Walking Tour



Silver Celebration on the Clark Fork

Missoula, Montana, August 4-6, 2004

Western Planning Resources/Montana Association of Planners

Conference Information and Registration



Location

Western Planning Resources will hold their annual conference, and celebrate the organization's 25th anniversary, at the Holiday Inn Parkside in Missoula, MT on August 4-6, 2004. The Holiday Inn Parkside is located on the banks of the Clark Fork River in downtown Missoula and will provide a fabulous conference setting.

The conference hotel rate is \$89 plus tax for single to quad occupancy. Be sure to make your reservation by July 2, 2004, and tell the hotel you are attending the conference. Call the Holiday Inn Parkside at 1-800-399-0408 or visit <<http://www.park-side.com>> for more information.

Conference Registration

Before July 15, 2004
Planning professionals \$225
Planning commissioners \$150
Full-time students \$150
(After July 15 you must add a \$25 late fee.)

Questions?

Please contact **Gavin Anderson** at 1-406-458-3502 or <gavinanderson@state.mt.us> for questions regarding the conference or **Janet Cornish** at 1-406-723-7993 or <JanAllyce@aol.com> for questions regarding conference registration.

2004 CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM-SILVER CELEBRATION ON THE CLARK FORK

Name: _____ AICP: yes no Name on Badge: _____
Employer/PC Board Name: _____ Phone: _____
Mailing Address: _____ Fax: _____
_____ E-mail: _____

Planning Commissioner: Name of Board/Commission _____
 Student: Name of University/Department _____

Early Registration Fee-by July 15 (includes conference meals) \$225.00 *(After July 15, the registration fee is \$250)*
Planning Commissioner Fee (includes conference meals) \$150.00 *(After July 15, the registration fee is \$175)*
Student Registration Fee (includes conference meals) \$150.00 *(After July 15, the registration fee is \$175)*
One-Day Fee \$100.00 *(Circle One: Wednesday Thursday Friday)*
Guest Tickets for the Reception (\$15 adults; \$10 kids) \$ _____ *(# of adult guests _____ # of children _____)*
Guest Tickets for the Barbecue (\$22 adults; \$12 kids) \$ _____ *(# of adult guests _____ # of children _____)*
Guest Tickets for the Awards Luncheon (\$15) \$ _____ *(# of guest tickets _____)*

Total Registration Fee \$ _____

Please make checks payable to the Montana Association of Planners. We can also accept purchase orders, money orders, and can invoice organizations. Sorry, we cannot accept credit cards. Tax ID # 81-0422551.

Mail Registration Forms To: Janet Cornish, Registration Coordinator, 954 West Caledonia Street, Butte, MT 59701-9002. For questions, please call 1-406-723-7993.

A computer workshop on Census data will be held in the afternoon on Wednesday, August 4. Attendance is limited to 30 people. At least 15 people must attend to have the workshop. Do you plan to attend? Yes No

News and Information

Delegate Assembly News

by Ramona Mattix, AICP, WCC Immediate Past President

At the APA conference in Washington, D.C. I participated as the Western Central Chapter representative to the Delegate Assembly. In case you are unaware of how and why these guides come about, the APA provides this background:

APA develops policies that represent the collective thinking of our members, and represents a collective view on both positions of principle and practice. APA policies are developed through a thorough process of chapter and division involvement under the overall guidance of the Legislative and Policy Committee. In addition to articulating specific policies that establish principles for better addressing our issues, APA develops more specific guidelines that recommend specific actions on the part of APA members through leadership, chapters, divisions, and allied organizations that move toward an improved social and political environment for planning to play its most effective role. Together, these two elements — policies and general recommendations — form APA Policy Guides.

The process begins with the selection of a topic or issue. These topics are, for the most part, APA's Legislative Priorities. After a topic is chosen, a team of authors and reviewers is selected to produce a draft guide for review by the Legislative and Policy Committee. Once the draft guide is approved by the Legislative and Policy Committee it is sent to all APA Chapters and appropriate APA Divisions for review and comments. Comments are submitted to the Legislative and Policy Committee and a final draft is prepared for presentation at a Chapter Delegate Assembly. During the Assembly, chapter delegates make any final changes and then vote to adopt the draft guide. Once the guide is adopted, it is forwarded to the APA Board of Directors for ratification.

The delegate group reviewed two policy guides – one on Public Redevelopment and one on Energy Policy. Of the two there was little debate or recommended changes to the Energy Policy Guide. The redevelopment guide sparked lots of comments, particularly with regard to the impact of governmental institutions on redevelopment. The group was active in making changes to the policy document. You can read the adopted Redevelopment and Energy Guides at: <http://www.planning.org/policyguides/redevelopment.htm> and at <http://www.planning.org/policyguides/energy.htm>, respectively.

I would be happy to pass on any comments from our members to the Board of Directors about these policies. The final item the delegate group considered was a request from Ethel Sheffer, the NY Metro Chapter President, to develop a Policy Guide for Security. Because 9/11 has created some demands and requirements for security devices, physical barriers, and limitation of street access, a policy was desired that would address the issue of maintaining a cost effective balance between security and personal freedom while optimizing the quality of life. The delegates supported NY Metros request to develop this policy guide. It will come before the Delegate Assembly at the 2005 conference in San Francisco. I'll keep you posted on the status of this guide.

The Western Planner...Not Just Another Voice In The Wilderness, continued from Page 1

“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. Please visit WPR's very informative, up-to-day web site at www.westernplanner.org for more information on the journal and how to subscribe. You can also contact your state WPR representative to subscribe to *WP* or contribute an article. WCC states are represented on the WPR Board by the following individuals:

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News and Information

Study Finds Portland, Oregon's Growth Strategies Containing Sprawl

WASHINGTON, DC — A new study appearing in the Journal of the American Planning Association (JAPA) Spring 2004 issue finds that growth management strategies used in Portland, Oregon, to control urban sprawl are working. The study's authors, Gerrit-Jan Knaap from the University of Maryland and Yan Song from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, conclude that "Portland is winning the war on urban sprawl at the neighborhood scale."

"This is a lesson to other states and cities that thoughtful planning approaches carried out over time can change development patterns for the better," said Dr. Knaap, who is executive director of the National Center for Smart Growth Research and Education at the University of Maryland. Knaap and Song's study compared specific measurements of urban form in two Portland-area neighborhoods located in Washington County. One was Orenco Station, a "New Urbanist" neighborhood near a computer plant and light rail line. Forest Glen, a neighborhood in southern Beaverton, was selected because of its composite measurements of urban form that are "typical" of older neighborhoods in the study area.

In each of the neighborhoods, the researchers examined data on street design and circulation systems; density; land-use mix; accessibility; and pedestrian access. They found that neighborhoods in Washington County generally have:

- Increased in single-family dwelling unit density since the 1960s;
- Improved the connectivity of internal streets; and
- Improved pedestrian access to commercial areas and bus stops.

In 1994, for example, new housing in the Portland area averaged five dwelling units per acre. By 1997 and 1998, the density of new development had risen to an average of eight units per acre, exceeding the level projected in the region's guiding "2040 Plan."

The Hollywood and Sandy Plan used innovative strategies and techniques to increase development potential for residential, commercial and mixed uses while also enhancing livability, improving pedestrian safety and ensuring adequate parking.

Since passage of Oregon's comprehensive land-use planning program in 1973 and adoption of urban growth boundaries, nearly 16 million acres of farmland and open space have been protected in the state.

To download the article, go to <http://www.planning.org/japa/pdf/JAPAsong.pdf>.

Data Gathering Made Simpler by MapStats

WASHINGTON, DC — 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 *MapStats* section of the FedStats website (www.fedstats.gov). *MapStats* is 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 state, county 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.

2004 Western Planner Conference

The Western Planner Journal will be celebrating its 25th Anniversary at this summer's Western Planner conference in Missoula, Montana from August 4 to 6. As part of the celebration, a retrospective look back at some of the journal/conference's "highlights" and "lowlights" will be made. If you have any fond (or not so fond) memories you would like to share, please forward them to me for inclusion in the celebration.

I would also greatly appreciate it if you could forward this message to any people who have been associated with the Western Planner Journal and/or the Western Planner conference since 1979, so they too might submit their memories for consideration.

Ken Waido

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November 2004 AICP Exam

Applications are now being accepted for the November 8-20, 2004, AICP Exam window. The deadline for November 2004 applications is July 21, 2004. Those who have been approved to take the November 2004 exam will have until October 1, 2004, to register to take the exam.

For more information, visit the APA web site at: <http://www.planning.org/certification/>

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