

The
APA - KY



Annual Report

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KENTUCKY PLANNER

A Publication of the Kentucky Chapter of the American Planning Association

American Planning Association

Making Great Communities Happen

A Letter from the President...

I don't want to take up too much space because I'm sure some of you all are tired of hearing from me after nearly three years as chapter president.

If you know anything about the history of APA-KY, there has almost always been easily identifiable cohorts who have taken an interest in leading the organization. People within that cohort guide the chapter and hopefully inspire people within the next cohort to step up and want to do the same. As we all are aware, the pandemic has taken its toll on society in a number of ways, and it has certainly had an effect on APA-KY. Virtual board meetings are the new norm, the lack of in-person conferences over the last couple of years has limited opportunities to engage with one another, and a number of people have left the planning profession altogether. Our chapter needs to identify the next cohort, this next generation of planners, who will take the ball and run with it. People who have ideas and the vision needed to keep this chapter, and our profession, moving forward. I encourage anyone interested in becoming more active in APA-KY to please reach out to me and I'll happily answer any questions you have and



discuss the ways it has helped me grow professionally.

Finally, thanks to everyone who helped me along my nearly three year roller coaster ride as chapter president. Hopefully I've left things a little better than they were before I started!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brian Davis".

Brian Davis, AICP
APA-KY President, 2022

Looking ahead to 2023...

First, I want to thank my fellow planners across the state for entrusting me to help lead our organization into the future. It truly is an honor. I've been involved with APA-KY, what we all use to know as KAPA, since my days in the Masters of Urban Planning Program at the University of Louisville in 2006 & 2007. In fact, I even won a scholarship from the Organization in my last year of grad school. Additionally, it was at a KAPA conference where I met the late Chris Hunsinger who first hired me as a professional land use planner in Hardin County, where I am still employed today 15 years later.

My goals for 2023 are to continue to promote planning across our Commonwealth. I want the organization to promote best planning practices through our legislative efforts, provide continuing educational opportunities with two annual statewide conferences & multiple regional conferences, increase public awareness of the profession and our role in making Kentucky great for all.

We will host our Spring Conference at Barren River Lake in southcentral Kentucky on May 17-19, 2023 where we will not only have our Annual Meeting but also our Annual Awards Celebration. We also hope to hold a 1 day



conference in the Fall of 2023 somewhere in the Bluegrass region of the state and a half day conference this winter in Owensboro.

Again, I appreciate the opportunity to serve an organization that has given so much to me in the way of professional training and lifelong friends.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Adam King".

Adam King, AICP
APA-KY President, 2023



Table of Contents

2023 APA-KY Executive Committee Meeting Schedule	06
Regional Reports	
Region 3	07
Region 4	08
Region 5	08
2021-2022 Executive Committee Members	10
Financial Committee	11
Administration Committee	14
Legislative Committee	15
Planner Spotlight: Maymie Owens	18
DEI Committee	20
PDO Report	22
City of Covington: Eastern Corridor efforts win national praise	26
Become an APA KY Member	28

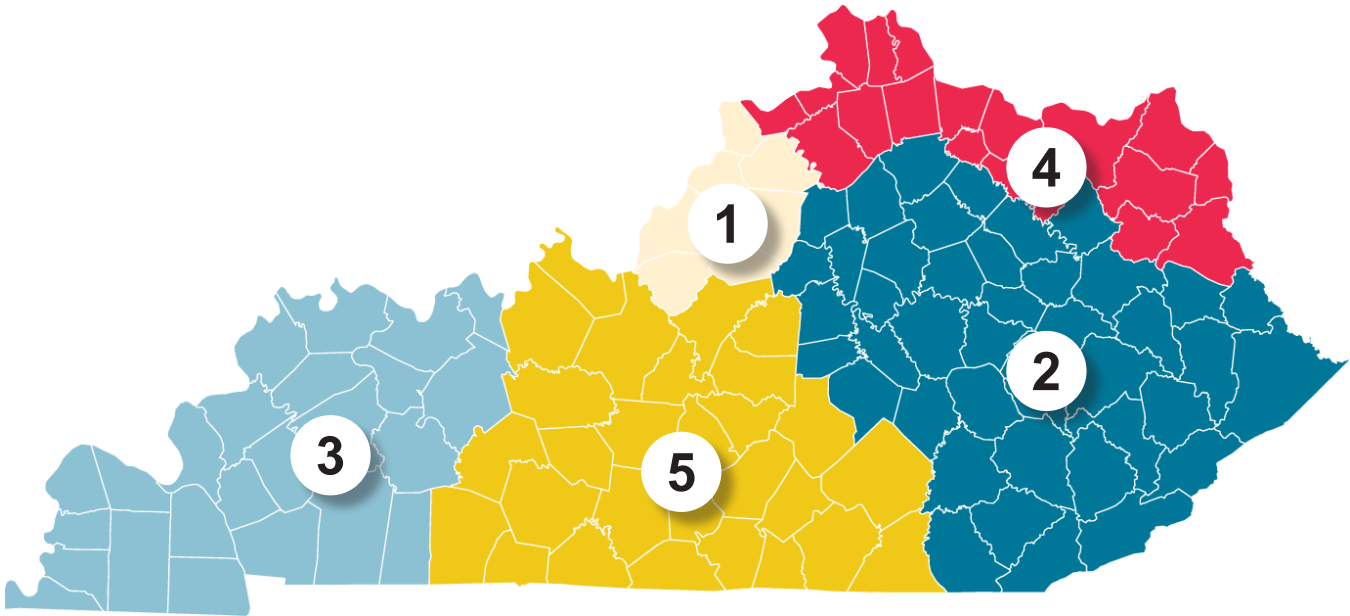
A Special thanks to our sponspons



2023 APA-KY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE

January 27, 2023 <i>Friday</i>	VIRTUAL
March 24, 2023 <i>Friday</i>	VIRTUAL
May 18, 2023 <i>Thursday</i>	Barren River Lake State park 1149 State Park Road Lucas, KY 42156
July 28, 2023 <i>Friday</i>	VIRTUAL
September 29,2023 <i>Friday</i>	University of Louisville School of Urban & Public Affairs 426 West Bloom Street Louisville, KY 40208
November 17, 2023 <i>Friday</i>	Location TBD
December 15, 2023 <i>Friday</i>	Location TBD Holiday Party

Regional Reports



Our Regional Representatives worked diligently over the past year to provide professional development opportunities and to enhance collaborations within the community. The following pages contain their reports on the past year. We want to thank them for their continuing service to APA-KY. If you would like to get involved as a regional representative in the future, please contact our chapter president at apakentucky@gmail.com.

Region 3



Melissa Evans, AICP
Senior Planner
Owensboro Metropolitan Planning
Commission
evansmm@owensboro.org

Hello APA-KY! For Region 3, Western Kentucky, 2022 was a year of expanding on the foundations we had set in the past. We took a different approach to our annual fall half conference; we moved the conference to the spring and partnered with Region 5 to offer a two day event. The APA-KY Regional Spring Conference was held April 21 and 22, 2022 in Owensboro. An afternoon of golf, evening dinner/reception was held on Thursday and a full day of conference sessions was offered Friday for 6 total CM credits. Approximately 40 planners from across the state were in

attendance for a wonderful day of education and networking. Topics presented include Master Sign Planning from the developer’s perspective, a discussion on Paducah’s Southside Initiative, an introduction to Nature Based Solutions, alternative public engagement techniques for more rural areas, GIS strategies for small municipalities and a review of The Development Guidance System of Hardin County. We are grateful for all of those who took the time to share their knowledge and projects.

In 2023 we will get back to our roots with our half day conference hosted in mid to late November; more information to come on that soon. Until then, I encourage everyone in Region 3 to reach out and share any new, exciting or interesting projects in your area; we want to hear about the work you are doing!

If you have any questions, comments, concerns or ideas about APA-KY and Region 3 please do not hesitate to reach out to me. I appreciate the opportunity to serve APA-KY Region 3 and look forward to working with all of you for years to come.

Things are slowly getting back to normal in APA-KY Region 4. In 2022, most of us saw the return to working in the office, in person meetings, and in person training events. I want to thank Rachel Comte, the former Region 4 Representative, for her leadership during the pandemic.

Our Region's relationship with APA-OH Cincinnati continues to be an important one. This year Region 4 had a couple of great events in partnership with our colleagues across the river, including a

Holiday Party and the David J. Allor Planning and Zoning Workshop. These events allowed our members to earn continuing education credits, network, and (probably most importantly) commiserate with fellow planners.

I hope to continue these events in 2023. If you have any questions, comments, or ideas about APA-KY Region 4, please do not hesitate to reach out to me. I appreciate the opportunity to serve you and look forward to working with you in 2023.

In Region 5, there has been tremendous economic growth, from the Ford Project in Glendale to the many industrial announcements in Bowling Green and as a result, the region has seen a population progression that has brought about a residential boon. The two new battery plants in Kentucky – one to be built by BlueOval SK in Glendale, near Elizabethtown, and Envision, located in Bowling Green – have launched the I-65 corridor into hyper drive. Rural counties along this corridor have all began thinking of how to best implement some level of planning, and dare I say, zoning. APAKY needs to be ready to assist these rural areas when called upon for assistance. Bowling Green

continues to experience record growth and future population projections indicate that is going to continue. According to the Kentucky State Data Center, Warren County will add almost as many people as Fayette County and have a population of over 210,000 by 2050. This will require over 30,000 new households. For more on the Bowling Green area, you can check out the City County Planning Commission's quarter newsletter at <https://www.warrenpc.org/newsletter/>.

Glasgow and Barren County have seen an uptick in residential growth because of the economic development along the I-65 corridor. A recent housing study

done by Barren, Inc., in conjunction with the Bowen National Research Institute shows that Barren County is currently 3,500 homes/structures behind the minimum needed for current residents and this growth is projected to rise by 4.9% each year for the next 10 years. Because of this, land developers have recognized Barren County and its Cities as a viable option for mixed-use developments and as such, several new single and multi-family developments have occurred with the largest being a 200-lot subdivision and an additional 130 multi-family unit mixed-use residential/commercial complex. As we travel north on the I-65 corridor, it is apparent that commercial and industrial construction is booming, and none more so than in Hardin County. The BlueOvalSK Project (Ford Motor Company & SK joint venture) in Glendale announced a joint venture of twin battery plants at a construction cost of \$5 Billion dollars. However, that isn't the only development taking place, as a zone changes were approved for a proposed 74 space RV park on 14.5 acres and a 21 space RV park on 6.7 acres, respectively. As a result of the commercial and industrial growth in this area, several industrial related developers have approached Hardin County with development plans to aid in

the construction of the Ford Project development and continue to serve the remaining County and their citizens. Obviously, Hardin County will have residential growth and that is apparent as we come out of this post-pandemic period and the results are slowly starting to show in plat approvals and building permits from the 2022 year.

Finally we arrive at Bardstown and Nelson County, and a rather unique use is taking hold: AirBnb's and VRBO's. According to the Planning Director there, Janet Johnston-Crowe, the residents of the Cities and Nelson County have taken notice and requested that regulations be updated to address this use and help regulate it so that the small-town charm and charisma isn't lost, all while allowing redevelopment of existing structures to be viable commercial property's and retain the neighborhood atmosphere. The JCCPC of Nelson County is currently working on their Comprehensive Plan and is in the center of townhall meetings, public forums, and survey's.

So, as you can see, there is a lot that is happening the in the South-Central part of Kentucky. Please feel free to come by, talk with any of the planners in this area, and see the growth for yourselves!

Region 4



Andy Videkovich,
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Region 5



Kevin Myatt
Planning Director
JCCPC of Barren County
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2021 Officers

President	Brian Davis, AICP
Past President	Brian Howard, AICP
Secretary	Adam King, AICP
Treasurer	Shawn Dikes, AICP
Professional Development Officer	Amy Williams, AICP
Planning Commission Representative	Lori Heilman
Student Representative	Andrew Schuhmann
Region 1 Representative	Emily Liu, AICP
Region 2 Representative	Hal Baillie, AICP
Region 3 Representative	Melissa Evans, AICP
Region 4 Representative	Rachel Comte, Certified Arborist
Region 5 Representative	Kevin Myatt

2021 Committee Chairs

Professional Development	Amy Williams, AICP
Lending Library	Adam King, AICP
Programs & Special Events	Lindsay Walker, AICP, PE Haley James, AICP
Membership	Kaaviyaa Nagarajan
Legislative	Kristan Curry, J.D., M.U.E.P. Parker Sherwood, Esquire, M.U.P.
Public Outreach	OPEN
Zoning Administration	Megan Bessey Rob Himes Joe Reverman, AICP
Financial	Shawn Dikes, AICP
Awards	Adam King, AICP
Administration & Elections	Karen Mohammadi, PE, PTOE, AICP

2022 Officers

President	Brian Davis, AICP
President Elect	Adam King, AICP
Secretary	Emi Randall, AICP, RLA, CFM
Treasurer	Shawn Dikes, AICP
Professional Development Officer	Amy Williams, AICP
Planning Commission Representative	Lori Heilman
Student Representative	Andrew Schuhmann
Region 1 Representative	Emily Liu, AICP
Region 2 Representative	Hal Baillie, AICP
Region 3 Representative	Melissa Evans, AICP
Region 4 Representative	Rachel Comte, Certified Arborist
Region 5 Representative	Kevin Myatt

2022 Committee Chairs

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Membership	Kaaviyaa Nagarajan
Legislative	Kristan Curry, J.D., M.U.E.P. Parker Sherwood, Esquire, M.U.P.
Public Outreach	Supriya Kelkar, LEED AP ND
Zoning Administration	Megan Bessey Rob Himes Joe Reverman, AICP
Financial	Shawn Dikes, AICP
Awards	Adam King, AICP
Administration & Elections	Karen Mohammadi, PE, PTOE, AICP

Financial Committee

Thanks again to the Board and members of APA-KY for allowing me to serve as your Treasurer in 2022. It was yet again another challenging year as we tried to get back to “normal” and host the OKI Conference. I want to thank our corporate and OKI sponsors for 2022 for their continued support of APA-KY, which allows us to provide education, training and program opportunities for planners, local officials, and citizens across the Commonwealth. Our great 2022/OKI Sponsors were:

- Heritage Engineering, LLC
- Compass Point Planning
- Qk4
- Kendig Keast
- Mindel Scott
- Louisville Forward
- Viox & Viox, Inc
- Sabak Wilson & Lingo, Inc
- Gresham Smith
- MKSK
- TSW
- EHI
- BFW
- Land Design & Development
- McBride Dale Clarion
- AECOM
- Brick Industry Association
- McKenna
- American Structurepoint
- Stantec
- Healthy By Design, Inc.
- Planning Next
- Environmental Design

If you or your firm wants to be a sponsor or continue to be a sponsor in 2023, please contact me.

As of December 31, 20221, we had a positive cash balance of \$56,045.37. This does not include our share of the proceeds from the OKI Conference, which was a resounding success, or our remaining CD which adds another \$11,000 or so. Speaking of OKI, that conference netted the three sponsor states almost \$19,000 with Indiana getting \$5,281.81, Ohio clearing \$5,332.26 and Kentucky getting the remaining balance of \$8,290.13, which will go into our general account once all the dust settles in the Spring of 2023. Given these balances, the Chapter has plenty of cash on hand which is again in my estimation sound financial footing. Many thanks to the Executive Committee, Committee Chairs, Region Reps, and the OKI Conference Planning Committee for being judicious with the Chapter’s funding and your budgets, while providing opportunities for continuing education and fellowship that were highly successful. I want to express my gratitude to **Brian Howard** who was instrumental in securing all the OKI sponsors! Without his work, we would not have cleared as much profit as we did. Thanks Brian! As always a big thank you as well to **Lindsay Walker** for her work on OKI, along with everyone who had a hand in that conference. WELL DONE!

The following table shows the budgeted and actual Revenues and Expenses for Calendar Year (CY) 2022 (January 1 to December 31), as well as the proposed budget for CY 2023.

If you have any questions about this information, please contact Shawn Dikes at sdikes@hotmail.com

Behind the Numbers

In 2022 we spent less than anticipated, largely saving budget by concentrating on OKI in the fall. We fully funded the Scholarship and our revenues from APA National were much like they had been in the past. We also scaled back expenses on several fronts due to on-going struggles emerging from the pandemic, which precluded us from spending on certain events and activities we would normally have. We also cashed in one of our CDs as it earned very little interest, and we received some refunds on APA National Conference trip expenses.

Looking ahead in 2023, we anticipate depositing our share of the OKI proceeds into our regular account, sending the Chapter President or designee and the PDO to APA National Planning Conference and doing more events with the Executive Committee and with the membership

respectively at the state and regional levels, holding a larger spring AND a smaller fall conference, and nominating a FAICP member; hence a boost to all those budgets.

That’s all from the treasurer’s seat. If anyone has any questions, please ask. Thanks for the opportunity to serve APA-KY and I’m looking forward to a successful 2023!



Shawn Dikes, AICP
Regional Leader - Jeffersonville Office
Lochmueller Group
SDikes@lochgroup.com

Revenues	CY 2022 Budget	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Budget
APA Rebate	\$8,000	\$8,375	\$8,300
APA-KY Chapter Only Dues	\$300	\$35	\$175
Conferences/Seminars/Workshops	\$0	\$0	\$12,000
Sponsors	\$5,000	\$0	\$2,500
Professional Dev.	\$0	\$0	\$0
Miscellaneous	\$150	\$14,610	\$8350
TOTAL REVENUE	\$13,450	\$23,020	\$31,325

Expenses	CY 2022 Budget	FY 2022 Actual	FY 2023 Budget
Publications/Newsletter	\$2,500	\$0	\$2,500
Program Dev/Conferences/	\$1,500	\$9,461	\$14,000
Professional Development	\$1,500	\$0	\$15,000
Executive	\$7,000	\$1,527	\$5,000
FAICP Nomination	\$0	\$0	\$3,000
Legislative	\$200	\$0	\$200
Community Outreach/Partner Orgs	\$300	\$0	\$300
Public Relations/Awards	\$500	\$0	\$750
Insurance/Administrative	\$1,200	\$1,428	\$1,200
Scholarship	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000
Postage	\$50	\$0	\$50
Membership	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000
Miscellaneous	\$300	\$421	\$300
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$49,450	\$14,837	\$45,300

Administrative Committee



**Karen Mohammadi, PE,
PTOE, AICP**
Department Manager - Planning
Michael Baker International
karen.mohammadi@MBakerIntl.com

In 2022 two elected positions, the offices of Secretary and of Treasurer, were on the ballot for chapter members. KY-APA participates in the consolidated elections with the National American Planning Association through SBS Survey & Ballot Systems. This allows our members to vote for both chapter and national candidates at same time each August.

Shawn Dikes, AICP was elected to a two-year term as Treasurer. Shawn Dikes is an AICP planner with the Lochmueller Group, Inc, and practices transportation planning across Indiana, Missouri, and Kentucky. He has almost 30 years as a planner working on multimodal transportation planning projects.

Emi Randall, AICP was elected to a two-year term as Secretary. Emi is the Director of Economic Development/Assistant City Administrator with the City of Erlanger. Prior to her current role, Emi served as the Director of Planning & Zoning Administration with Planning and Development Services of Kenton County.

The Administration Committee appreciates everyone's willingness to run for offices and encourages those interested in serving to look for the Call for Nominations each Spring.



Legislative Committee

The Kentucky General Assembly convened on January 4, 2022 to begin the Regular Session. Having taken office following the 2020 elections, the legislators serving in the Session were heavily represented by Republicans. With a 75-24 majority in the House (with one seat vacant) and a 30-8 majority in the Senate, the Republican-dominated General Assembly spent the Session at odds with the Democratic-controlled governorship. There were 17 state legislatures, including Kentucky's, in which Republicans enjoyed a veto-proof supermajority in both chambers in 2022. This means that even when the Governor vetoed bills passed by the legislature in order to prevent them from becoming law, the legislature can vote to reverse, or override, the executive's veto. And, because the majority was large enough to not need any votes from minority party members to do so, Kentucky Republicans held a veto-proof majority.

The 2021 fall election cycle left Kentucky and 3 other states (Kansas, Massachusetts and Maryland) with opposite parties controlling the governor's office and the legislature. In Kentucky this played out with the General Assembly overriding Governor Andy Beshear's vetoes of HB2 and SB3, both of which put in place redistricting boundaries, based on the 2020 U.S. Census. Republicans argued that the new boundaries were a fair representation of the population shift, while the Governor maintained that the bills were tantamount to gerrymandering so that boundaries favored the Republican Party.

There were 15 standing committees in the Senate and 19 in the House for the 2022 Regular Session.

The Kentucky Legislature had quite an active Regular Session in 2022 with the Senate introducing 381 bills and the House introducing 783 bills, for a total of 1,164 bills. This volume surpasses the pace during the early pandemic and is significantly more than pre-pandemic activity when 786 bills were introduced in 2019.

Twenty percent of bills introduced in 2022 became law. Pre-pandemic, in 2019, 25% of bills became law. In 2020, that dropped to 13%. The following year in 2021, the rate rebounded to 23%. Although the 2022 rate dipped slightly, the total number of bills that became law, 230, was higher than the previous 3 years (200 in 2021, 124 in 2020 and 198 in 2019).

Of the 381 bills introduced in the Senate in 2022, 76 became law, which is 20%. The House passed roughly the same percentage of bills into law, 154 of 783. A total of 230 bills became law in 2022.

The Executive branch vetoed, in whole or in part, 38 bills. However, the legislature overrode 31 of those vetoes. This is significantly more vetoes and overrides than in the pre-pandemic era when the Governor vetoed only 3 bills in 2019 and the legislature overrode two of those vetoes. This reflects the polarization and tension within politics at the national level and highlights its impact on Kentucky.

Although the Governor signed the majority of passed bills into law, 9 Senate bills and 20 House bills were enacted over the Governor's veto. The Senate bills enacted included SB 3 regarding redistricting, SB 83 requiring the promulgation of

administrative regulations covering sports eligibility and participation based on biological sex, SB 207 establishing the KY Education and Workforce Collaborative and SB 216 which expands the Attorney General's independent inquiry of potential election irregularities from not fewer than 5% of Kentucky counties to not fewer than 12 counties. The House bills enacted included HB 2 regarding redistricting, HB 248 prohibiting expenditure of any appropriation of funds in support of a challenge to the constitutionality of any legislative act or resolution of the General Assembly, except in the case of the Attorney General.

Also, two Senate bills (including SB 2 about redistricting) and 10 House bills (including HB 10 which removes the ability of interim joint committees to pre-file bills) became law without the Governor's signature. HB 121 requires a public comment period at local board of education meetings and HB 239 required certification for constables elected for the first time after 1/1/23 before they can exercise general police powers.

The Regular Session was adjourned on April 14, 2022. The effective date of all legislation enacted by the 2022 Regular Session of the General Assembly was July 14, 2022, except for bills stating an emergency or containing provisions for a delayed effective date. The Kentucky Senate's State & Local Government Committee considered 49 bills this Session, second only to the Senate Judiciary Committee in volume, which considered 60 bills. The House Local Government Committee considered 6 bills. Over 500 bills remained in the House's Committee on Committees for review.

The Governor called a special session after the legislature ended the 2022 Regular Session in order to pass HB 1 regarding disaster relief and appropriations to provide funds in both Eastern and Western Kentucky following flooding and tornadoes.

Looking ahead to the 2023 Regular Session, although bills are not technically pre-filed now, there are still 34 interim drafts listed on the Legislative Research Commission web site as of December 5, 2022 – 11 from the Senate and 23 from the House, ranging in topics from water fluoridation (Rep. Mark Hart-R), biosolids (Sen. Jimmy Higdon-R), student privacy (Rep. Bill Wesley-R) and regulation of cannabis (Rep. Rachel Roberts-D) to orders of protection (Rep. Kim Banta-R), the Teachers' Retirement System (Rep. Cherlynn Stevenson-D), ending cell phone use while driving (Rep. James Tipton-R) and two drafts calling for a constitutional amendment of Section 170 of the KY Constitution relating to property exempt from taxation (Rep. Jeffery Donohue-D and Sen. Michael J. Nemes-R). Overall, 4 Democrats and 11 Republicans have filed interim draft bill requests.

In conclusion, the Republican increased supermajority will again define the 2023 Regular Session. Since Republicans defeated Democratic incumbents in both eastern and western Kentucky, Republicans now hold 80 out of 100 seats in the House of Representatives, an increase from the 75 seats they already held during 2022. In the Senate, the Republicans will have a 31-7 majority, picking up one more seat in the 10th District because the current Democratic senator did not seek reelection and the Republican candidate ran unopposed.

Kentucky senators run for office every four years, but the seats are staggered. Half of the Kentucky Senate was up election this year and the other half will be in contention in 2024. Voters select state representatives every two years. Some changes occurred in districts in 2022 due to redistricting.

Both constitutional amendments on the ballot this fall were defeated. Amendment 1 would have allowed the legislature to call itself into special session and Amendment 2 would have added an express statement that the Kentucky Constitution does not include the right to an abortion.

Part I of the 2023 Regular Session will begin on Tuesday, January 3 while Part II will convene on Tuesday, February 7. The last day for introduction of new bills will be Tuesday, February 21 for the Senate and Wednesday, February 22 for the House. The concurrence days will occur on Wednesday, March 15 and Thursday, March 16, followed by the veto recess from March 17-28. Sine die is set for Thursday, March 30, 2023, although the Senate and House leadership can agree to amend the session calendar.

Historically, the Kentucky Senate has remained controlled by the Republican Party for the past 23 years, since 2000. Republicans have also held control of the Kentucky House for the past 6 years, since 2017. From 2016 through 2019, there was a trifecta for Republicans when they held the Governorship and controlled the House and the Senate until Governor Andy Beshear (D) took office in 2020.

Some highlights of bills that the legislature has enacted that relate to planning are:
([SEE: KLC SUMMARY AND LEGISCAN SUMMARY](#))

- [HB 45](#), relating to resource recovery (waste management and advanced recycling).
- [HB 192](#), relating to electrical work.
- [HB 195](#), relating to pipeline location notification.
- [HB 274](#), relating to transportation improvement districts (TIDs).
- [HB 351](#), relating to local government records.
- [HB 399](#), relating to local government.
- [HB 453](#), relating to open meetings.
- [SB 106](#), relating to the administrative dissolution of cities.
- [SB 135](#), relating to county clerks and including an appropriation.
- [SB 179](#), relating to criminal offenses committed during a declared emergency.



Kristan Curry
Environmental Planner, Sr.
Lexington-Fayette Urban County
Government
kcurry@lexingtonky.gov

Planner Spotlight



Maymie Owens

Three words I would use to describe me professionally:

PATIENT • HARD-WORKING • TIMELY

*I am a **Dual Degree** student in the **Urban and Public Affairs** program at the **University of Louisville**, completing my Master's in Urban Planning and Public Administration with a Bachelor's of Science in Public Health.*

*I will be graduating in December 2023. Although the path after graduation is unclear, I hope to make **positive and equitable impacts on the lives around me and those that I serve to provide justice and inclusion** with any organization I have the opportunity to be a part of.*

How do you approach communication with the public?

I stay patient and opened minded. I listen first to understand the public's concerns/needs, then I think of the appropriate response that will help provide clarity and assistance.

What's the most valuable piece of advice you've received?

The most valuable piece of advice I have received is we are here to learn and don't allow worrying to keep you from taking action.

What's the most rewarding experience you've had in your work?

I value the simple things in life. The work of serving others is the most rewarding experience yet. Knowing that I have the opportunity to make someone's day better by providing additional information, assistance in completing something, or even a dollar to the unhoused individual at the light—that is rewarding.

What made you want to be in your current field?

I picked these fields of focus to improve organizations and programs by bettering their services through more accessible resources, outreach, clear and informative sharing, etc. to communities. However, as I have learned at my time in the MUP/MPA programs, there are other unique paths to take to mitigate some of the root causes that children, families, and community members endure.

How difficult was it for you to become a member of your profession, let alone your discourse community?

Imposter syndrome is a real and uneasy feeling that makes maneuvering through my academic and professional career that much more difficult. As a minority woman, and first-generation graduate, the pressure can be

suffocating at times; not to mention, the self-criticism I tend to give myself. It is important to keep in mind that valuable piece of advice mentioned above, I am here to learn and don't allow worrying to keep you from action. For anyone else experiencing imposter syndrome, work through those feelings and know that you are meant to be in the rooms you are in. Let your hard-work speak for you.

Tell us more about your work as a contact tracer?

During the early stages of the pandemic, I had the opportunity to volunteer at Louisville Metro Public Health and Wellness Department as contact tracer. When the University of Louisville opened campus to in person classes, I was able to be a part of the Contact Tracing Team for UofL. At this time, I was able to assist students, faculty, and staff of UofL with procedures and better understanding of protocols UofL was implementing. Assisting our cardinal family was the least we could do as a team. It was space that allowed confused and concerned students/faculty/staff to call and receive answers and clarity on the best way to move forward when testing positive or being in contact with someone who did. It was an unforgettable experience, and it has prepared me in a unique way for my professional career.

Would you or someone in your network want to be featured in our next Planner Spotlight?

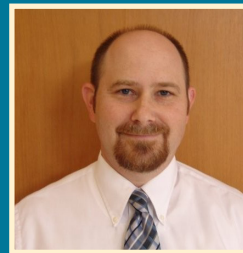


Send completed form along with any supplemental content such as photos, graphics, tables, etc. to our team at info@apaky.org.

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) Committee



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Planner III
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Busy first year for the APA-KY DEI Committee.

2022 was a great first year for the APA-KY DEI Committee. Stemming from the adoption of the DEI Goals & Tactics on March 4, 2022; the Committee immediately got to work under the banner of their mission:

To promote the facilitation, education and practice of more inclusive, diverse, and equitable communities in Kentucky through the planning profession.

The adopted Goals of the DEI Committee are:

1. Develop an understanding of the current status of the planning profession as it relates to DEI.
2. Creating awareness of the DEI Committee's efforts and fulfilling requirements.
3. Diversify the planning profession in Kentucky.
4. Creating a safe environment to discuss DEI.

The DEI Committee laid the groundwork in 2022 for several initiatives including:

- Recruiting members for DEI Subcommittees to help tackle each Goal. The first e-mail blast was centered around Martin Luther King Jr. Day in 2023, with a follow up in February when details for the Spring APA-KY Conference were released. The DEI Committee is currently working to include a notice on the Conference agenda for people to sign up for a subcommittee of their choice.
- Formulated criteria to judge future DEI awards for the APA-KY Chapter.
- A quarterly webinar series covering topics like:
 - Including Equity in Comprehensive Plans;
 - LGBTQ Outreach; and
 - The State of the Planning Profession.
- Formulating a strategy to work with university planning programs in the region for teachers

Samantha Castro (Co-Chair)

Senior Associate, Lexington Office Lead
TSW

Joshua P. Sommer (Co-Chair)

Planner III
City of Paducah

Sharmili Reddy

Executive Director
PDS of Kenton County

Tom West

Director of Economic Development
City of Covington

Kareem Simpson

Planning Commissioner
Kenton County Planning Commission

Ryan Holmes

Project Manager
EHI Consultants

and students to become involved in the DEI Committee and learn why students are not entering the Planning Profession at previous rates.

- Investigate doing a joint DEI session with the Kentucky Association for Economic Development (KAED) at their Conference in Covington.

The crowning achievements in 2022 were two-fold. The DEI Committee set up a workshop at the Ali Center in Louisville on September 28, 2022 as part of the OKI Conference. Approximately 30 participants learned about the life of Muhammad Ali and how his story reverberates through DEI initiatives; such as inclusion, compassion and ending discrimination. The participants also

learned about the Wheel of Privilege, which tangibly showed how many groups are marginalized and how that impacts the hierarchy of power. The goal of this workshop was to show how social changes can be made in a positive way. This session satisfied Equity requirements for AICP planners.

On September 30, 2022 the DEI Committee presented Introducing Diversity and Inclusion into Planning at the OKI Conference. Approximately 50 participants learned an overview of how race and education intersect with poverty and how our regional planning community can promote diversity and inclusionary practices within regional planning and design. A survey was sent out prior to the conference to attendees for all three chapters. Data was gathered from the survey up until the night before the session so participants would have “real-time” information presented to them.

Looking to the future, a DEI session is planned at the APA-KY Conference at Barren River. A similar survey and results are planned to be presented for the KY Chapter, as well as discussions about the Wheel of Privilege.

The DEI Committee will then turn their attention to a session at the National Conference in Minneapolis, Minnesota in 2024. We hope that planners from a state like Kentucky can effectuate positive national change in social justice, LGBTQ rights, compassion and may other facets marginalized populations face. The DEI Committee is proud of what was accomplished in 2022 and look forward to further accomplishments in 2023!

To share your thoughts and opinions on this effort, please feel free to reach out to any of the committee members or the co-chairs, Josh Sommer or Samantha Castro, via email at jsommer@paducahky.gov or scaastro@tsw-design.com.

PDO Report



Steve Sizemore, PhD, AICP
Senior Associate
Kendig Keast Collaborative
steve@kendigkeast.com

“As I enter my second year as your APA-KY Professional Development Officer, it gives me great pleasure to provide you this summary of the activities, achievements, and look ahead for the coming year. In my first year, I gained significant knowledge and understanding of the role that professional development plays in ensuring our members remain motivated and engaged in their professional practice. My goal remains to contribute to a chapter culture that fosters learning and development for all members. In this year’s report, I’m happy to present key updates to the AICP certification process and Certification Maintenance program and other important ways that you can strengthen your career as a planner.”

Kentucky Requirements for Continuing Education.

Speaking of continuing education hours, how familiar are you with KRS 147A.027? Did you know there are orientation requirements in addition to the continuing education requirements for planning and zoning officials and staff? If not, then please go to the following link: <http://www.lrc.ky.gov/statutes/statute.aspx?id=1646>

Here is a summary of the amount of continuing education needed every 2 years.

Planning Commission and Board of Adjustment Members: **8 hours**

Planning Professionals: **16 hours**

AICP Members: **32 hours**

Membership Financial Assistance

AICP members in certain life and career situations, including those related to COVID, may be eligible for an exemption from AICP dues and some or all Certification Maintenance (CM) requirements. To learn more, visit www.planning.org/aicp/assistance

Job Openings

Do you have a job opening for a professional planner? Please email me steve@kendigkeast.com and we will advertise your opening on the APA-KY website at no cost. All we need is a job description or a link to a job description and we’ll post it to the website and the APA-KY Facebook page.

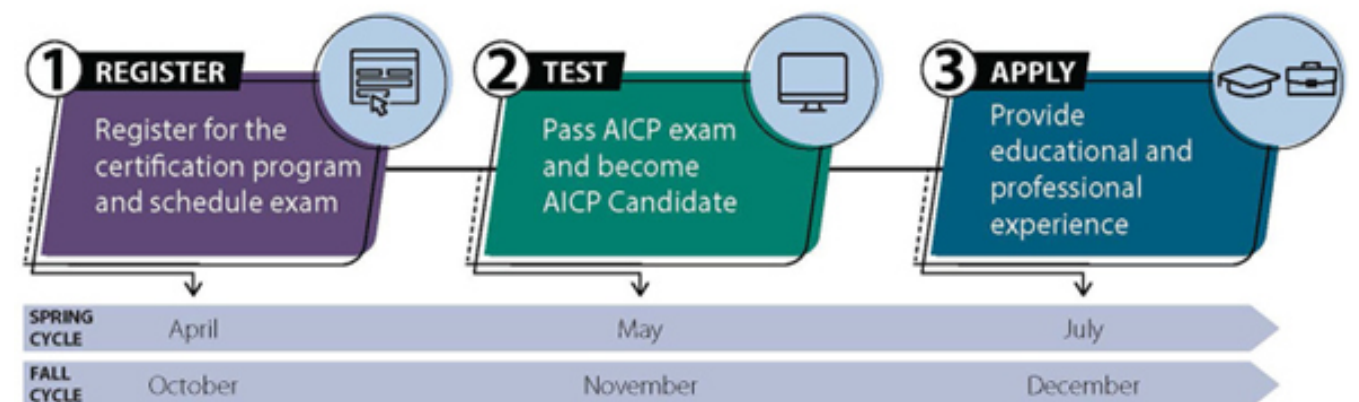
AICP CM Credit Grace Period

As of January 1, 2023, any member who has not met their CM requirements will automatically be rolled into the grace period ending on May 31, 2023. No action is required for the grace period to be applied.

One Path to AICP

Were you aware that the AICP Certification process has been streamlined? Depending on your years of experience and degree achieved, gaining AICP status can take multiple years. However, the good news now is that AICP has created a One Path to AICP process to facilitate the steps to AICP certification.

More information on the new steps to certification and requirements can be found at www.planning.org/aicpexam. Please contact me at steve@kendigkeast.com with any questions.



Certification Prep

APA-KY is available to assist in forming local or virtual study groups for the upcoming exam windows (May and November). We are planning an online introduction webinar on April 21st for the Spring exam window at the time of the release of this annual report. Be on the lookout for a call for interest sent via email and on Facebook for a Spring exam prep study. I will also be placing an on-demand video through the APA-KY website for any potential test takers to review.

Additionally, please reach out to me at steve@kendigkeast.com if you would like to receive links to exam prep materials and resources for your test preparation. I will also be holding an online introduction webinar for the Fall exam window. Please keep posted for details pertaining to that date.

Congratulations to the new APA-KY AICP Members!

Join me in congratulating and welcoming the five newest AICP members in 2022: **Ryan Feist, Nolan Nicaise** (May); **Andrea Lauago, Elizabeth Stuber**, and **Dr. Sumei Zhang** (November). We look forward to seeing you at future APA-KY conferences as you work on those continuing education credits!

AICP PODCASTS ...A note from the Editor

Jonathan Miller’s “THE VERY UNOFFICIAL AICP STUDY GUIDE PODCAST” is a great resource to take a walk through planning history in a fun story-like way. You can literally take a walk while listening to it! [Click HERE!](#)

APA Nebraska couldn’t be left behind & came up with their own cool podcast **“BOOKED ON PLANNING”**, such geniuses behind the names. This podcast is a wonderful effort to de-condense the planning books APA considers important to read during AICP preparation. Join cohosts **Stephanie Rouse & Jennifer Hiatt**, [HERE!](#)

Certification Maintenance Updates

As of January 1, 2022, the AICP Certification Maintenance program shifted focus and expanded to reflect the needs of today’s planners and communities with whom we work. AICP members will now be required to start logging two new credits in addition to Law and Ethics credits. The first credit hour will be Equity. The second hour will be a targeted topic, which will rotate in response to more immediate evolving issues planners face. This period’s targeted topic is Sustainability and Resilience. In the new reporting period, all planners will now be required to earn a minimum of 1 CM credits each towards the topics of ACIP Ethics, Law, Equity, and Sustainability and Resilience.

To learn more about the criteria for CM Mandatory Credits, visit <https://www.planning.org/cm/credits/>

AICP Certification Diversity Scholarship

While the deadline for the AICP Certification Diversity scholarships for the Spring 2023 cycle of the AICP Exam has passed, there will be opportunities for future test windows. If you are interested in applying for a scholarship and self-identify with an underrepresented population, please contact Steve Sizemore APA-KY Professional Development Officer at steve@kendigkeast.com for more info and application materials. The deadline for the scholarship on future exam cycle windows will be announced later this year. For more info, visit <https://planning.org/certification/scholarship/>

Code of Ethics Update

The AICP Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct is the planner’s superpower! This Code guides and inspires ethical decision-making, while protecting AICP-certified planners when faced with controversial or difficult choices. The Code was updated in 2021 to reflect the ever-changing

issues that planners face. The key updates reflect the following:

- An expansion and reorganization to the Principals to Which We Aspire (Section A) to reflect planner’s role in serving the public;
- Reorganize the Rules of Conduct (Section B) into logical groupings to increase clarity for compliance; and
- Reduce the use of frivolous complaints by an aggrieved member of the public against an AICP member by limiting who can file only to AICP members.

For more background and details, visit <https://www.planning.org/ethics/update/>

AICP Test Prep Overview

At the 2022 OKI Conference, I joined in with the PDOs of Indiana and Ohio to present ways to prepare for the AICP Test. As an alternative to a full- or half-day session, we pulled our common resources, best test-taking knowledge, and reflection on recent testing experience to present a condensed and efficient overview of the test taking process. The session was recorded and posted at the APA-OH section’s YouTube channel. It is our hope this recording provides a good overview for all prospective test takers. Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qIPdVhm2iVU>

APA Florida’s Henry Bittaker has been conducting extensive live classes for Spring & Fall exam sessions every year. Click [HERE](#) to register for his next session in for Fall AICP.

More more study resources, scan the code!



SPRING APA-KY REGIONAL (MINI) CONFERENCE



OKI CONFERENCE



City of Covington

NATIONAL PRAISE FOR EASTERN CORRIDOR EFFORTS



Officials from the City of Covington and The Center for Great Neighborhoods, who are partnering on the Eastern Corridor Initiative, pose with the award from the American Planning Association. The picture was taken at Covington Yard during the recent awards ceremony.

Source: City of Covington, Development, Press Releases June 02, 2022. Original article can be found [HERE](#).

Efforts to “activate” four eastern neighborhoods in Covington by engaging the community caught the attention of the nation’s largest organization of professional urban planners last year.

The American Planning Association’s Economic Development Division gave its Best Practices in Economic Development Award to the ongoing Eastern Corridor Initiative, a grassroots effort by the City of Covington and The Center for Great Neighborhoods (CGN) to bring new jobs, businesses, and building rehabs to the area.

The award represented independent and high-level approval of an effort built on various neighborhoods plans over the last decade. The area had seen momentum, with the arrival of a new business headquarters, the redevelopment of a vacant corner business, the awarding of a national grant, and community engagement events held to promote opportunities and investment.

“To receive this type of recognition by your peers is truly humbling,” said Covington Economic Development Director Tom West. “Given that the award is from the American Planning Association, we were not sure how our idea to start implementing ideas from a variety of existing plans to achieve economic success would be viewed.”

West, who received the award on behalf of the City and CGN at the APA conference in California, said that what resonated with the APA was not only tangible successes – like the arrival of M&M Service Station Equipment Specialist headquarters to the corridor and the redevelopment of an historic shell into Bean Haus II – but also how the City is working with the community instead of forcing changes on it.

Engaged for activation

Last summer and fall, West and members of his team and CGN engaged residents in a series of community



events – family picnics, movie nights, in-person discussions and surveys – as part of an activation plan. The goal was to invite thoughtful conversations within the community about the best ways to bring energy, jobs, and opportunities to the Eastern Corridor. The area includes all or part of four neighborhoods – Austinburg, Eastside, Helentown, and Wallace Woods – and is loosely bordered by Bush Street to the north, 21st Street to the south, Madison Avenue to the west, and the Licking River to the east.

Parts of the area have long struggled to overcome challenges related to poverty, low property values, low rates of home ownership, vacant commercial buildings, and high demand for police service. A new zoning ordinance that was adopted in 2020 became the impetus for addressing those issues and spur impactful changes to the neighborhoods.

Zoned for impact

For decades, the City’s approach to land use employed a rigid zoning ordinance that failed to appreciate and actually negated the importance of these corner hubs. The ordinance separated the city into parcels of land based on a single, allowed “use.” Falling within what’s called a Euclidean-based code, the old zoning prohibited commercial use in such areas as the Eastern Corridor, stripping away what West has said makes neighborhoods great. The result was that once-vibrant buildings on neighborhood street corners were shuttered.

In 2020, the City replaced that rigid zoning ordinance with a much more flexible and user-friendly Neighborhood Development Code, or NDC. The NDC guides proposed development by considering the “look” and “feel” of surrounding buildings and incorporating historic preservation principles to pay tribute to the unique character of each of Covington’s neighborhoods. Architects, developers, and rehabbers have praised the new code’s ease, efficiency, and innovation.

Revitalizing the old St. E

In May 2022, CGN and the City received a \$100,000 Our Town grant from the National Endowment of the Arts for the Eastern Arts and Creative Enterprise Project. It was one of only 51 grants nationwide that the NEA approved in that category, which is designed to integrate arts, culture, and design into local efforts that strengthen communities. The grant was used to reimagine and activate some of the outdoor area and exterior of the parking garage of the former St. Elizabeth Hospital on East 20th Street. The complex, the largest commercial building in the Eastern Corridor area, was once a busy and vital part of that community but now is largely vacant. CGN hired local artists to work alongside residents and businesses to reimagine future uses for the historic building while also creating interest in how this building could be developed. CGN was the lead on the project, while the City provided staff support.

Become an APA KY Chapter *Member*

Mission Statement

“APA Kentucky shall promote planning throughout the Commonwealth to enhance the quality of life for all Kentuckians.”

What is APA Kentucky?

The Kentucky Chapter of the American Planning Association (APA KY) is a non-profit professional organization that supports the work of planners in the public, private, and non-profit sectors, as well as other organizations and individuals interested in planning.

APA Kentucky represents more than 400 planners, government officials and citizens involved in urban and rural planning issues. Our members are involved on a daily basis in formulating local and state planning policies.

Members receive up-to-date communications regarding professional development events, legislative bill proposals and planning issues.



Who are APA Kentucky *Members*?

Planners - Architects - Engineers - Citizens -
Landscape Architects - Land Use Attorneys -
Students and Educators - Geographers - Public
Agency Professionals - Planning
Commissioners

APA Kentucky Has Its Rewards

APA Kentucky provides up-to-date information to members via:

- [Website— apaky.org](#)
- [Newsletters](#)
- [Legislative Updates](#)
- [Email Updates](#)

APA Kentucky provides professional development opportunities, including:

- [AICP Exam Study Courses](#)
- [Two Annual Conferences](#)
- [Regional Events and Conferences](#)
- [Planning Commissioner Training](#)
- [Certification Maintenance \(CM\) Credit-Opportunities](#)
- [Student Member Program](#)

APA Kentucky members receive:

- [State Chapter Voting Opportunities](#)
- [Job and RFP/RFQ Announcements](#)
- [Resume Posting](#)

Becoming a *Member*

There are two ways to join APA Kentucky

APA Membership

Kentucky members of the American Planning Association are automatically registered as APA Kentucky Chapter members. As an incentive for students to join APA, APA-KY will pay half of the APA membership dues.

Contact Shawn Dikes for details at:
shawn.dikes@hdrinc.com

For dues information and to join, visit:
www.planning.org

Kentucky Chapter Only Membership
If you are unfamiliar with APA, consider a chapter-only membership. An APA Kentucky Chapter Only Membership is only \$35/year.



Kentucky Chapter
American Planning Association
2332 Royal Drive
Fort Mitchell, KY 41017

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Louisville, KY
Permit #1

Join the conversation on social media!



2023 APA-KY *Events*

For more information on future events for 2023, please visit the APA-KY website apaky.org/events

Have a planning-related story that you would like us to share?

APA-KY is always seeking new and exciting content to share with our network of planners and the broader Kentucky community.

We are interested in collecting your stories and experiences that relate to urban and community planning in the Commonwealth, whether you are a member of the public, a city/municipal planner, or an industry professional in a planning-related field.

Please submit any content ideas via email to:

info@apaky.org

From the Editor..



If you have any suggestions for ways to improve the design and accessibility of APA-KY's publications, please feel free to reach out!

Supriya Kelkar

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