

KENTUCKY PLANNER



American Planning Association
Kentucky Chapter

Making Great Communities Happen

A Publication of the Kentucky Chapter of the American Planning Association

May 2010

Half-Way to 2020:

Planning Louisville's Future

pg.8



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Kentucky Planner

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May 2010

The Kentucky Planner is published quarterly by the Kentucky Chapter of the American Planning Association.

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PRINTER

Publisher's Printing, Inc.

NATIONAL WEBSITE

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APA-KY WEBSITE

www.kapa.org

THANKS & APPRECIATION

To AMERICOMM for the mailing of *The Kentucky Planner* and to PUBLISHER'S PRINTING, INC. for their dedicated service in printing this newsletter.

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A Word From The President

Congratulations to the winners of the 2009 fall elections for Representatives-at-Large and Professional Development Officer. **Felicia Harper** and **Ben Peterson** retained their Representatives-at-Large positions. **Megan DeSola** and **Dawn Warrick** switched positions, so now Dawn is the Professional Development Officer and Megan is a Representative-at-Large. We will have new election opportunities this fall for President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary. If you are looking for a way to get more involved in statewide planning issues, please consider running for one of these positions on the Executive Committee.

A major source of APA-KY's revenue is membership dues. Our revenue is also augmented by revenues from conferences and sponsorships. APA-KY has been facing increased costs for services such as the printing and mailing of this newsletter and increasing administrative fees through APA. The Executive Committee is considering recommending an increase of our membership dues. While raising dues periodically is an unavoidable part of an association's lifecycle, the Executive Committee wants to be certain that our services and programs are providing our members the most value for their dollar. Currently, Kentucky's annual chapter dues are among the lowest at \$25 for regular members. Nationwide, annual dues range from \$15 to \$85 for regular members. Planning Board Members and students pay \$9 and \$5 respectively.

Before asking the membership to vote on an increase in dues, the Executive Committee is planning to facilitate roundtable discussions about our membership services at this year's Spring Conference. Previously, we've conducted membership services surveys which have been very beneficial, but we'd like to try a more interactive dialogue through face to face roundtable discussions. Regardless of the dues increase, the Executive Committee is committed to continuously evaluating APA-KY's services and programs and is looking forward to hearing your feedback.

We are pleased to announce that the 2009/2010 APA-KY scholarship awards will be given to **Alex Molina** and **Jeremy Dyre**. Both students will receive their Master of Urban Planning degree from the University of Louisville this May. Alex is the president of the Planning Student Organization and is the current student representative for APA-KY. Jeremy is a graduate research assistant and works at the Urban Design Studio. APA-KY has been sponsoring two \$1,000 scholarship awards for the University of Louisville's Masters of Urban Planning Program for several years. If you are interested in learning more about the scholarship program, please contact me or **David Simpson**, Chair, Department of Urban and Public Affairs.

As always, please feel free to contact me or any of the Executive Committee members with any questions or concerns. I look forward to seeing you at the APA-KY Spring Conference which will be held May 26-28 at the General Butler State Park Resort. Rooms can be reserved by calling the General Butler Lodge at 1-800-462-8853 or 502-732-4384. Ask for the KAPA rate of \$69.95/night plus tax. Rooms will go fast, so reserve them early!



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Deadlines

Please observe deadlines in consideration of the editor, who does this in his spare time. Late entries will appear in a later issue.

Next Deadline

May 14, 2010

Submissions

The Kentucky Planner publishes quarterly, and contributions from current or past members and other interested parties are encouraged. Articles, letters, comments, announcements, etc. submitted for publication are accepted via e-mail or on tree ware. Material accepted for publication may be edited to conform to space, readability, and basic grammar requirements. Interested persons should contact the editor via email at rjonas@boonecountyky.org.

From The Editor's Desk

You are at a planning conference and are witnessing the most incredible planning effort presented from its infant stages through to the adoption of a slick, polished plan. You are on the edge of your seat. Leaning forward, you can barely contain your planning enthusiasm. Incredible images of renderings follow one another, leaving lasting imprints on your mind. You are getting more motivated by each slide. "This can work in my county too," you say to yourself. What a great presentation this has been so far! You are sure that images of groundbreaking ceremonies are to follow. You are anticipating a photo of silver shovels held by smiling planning commissioners or a ribbon cutting ceremony attended by a State Senator. All that hard work finally coming to fruition. But wait! What's this? The planner presenting the project begins his next sentence with,



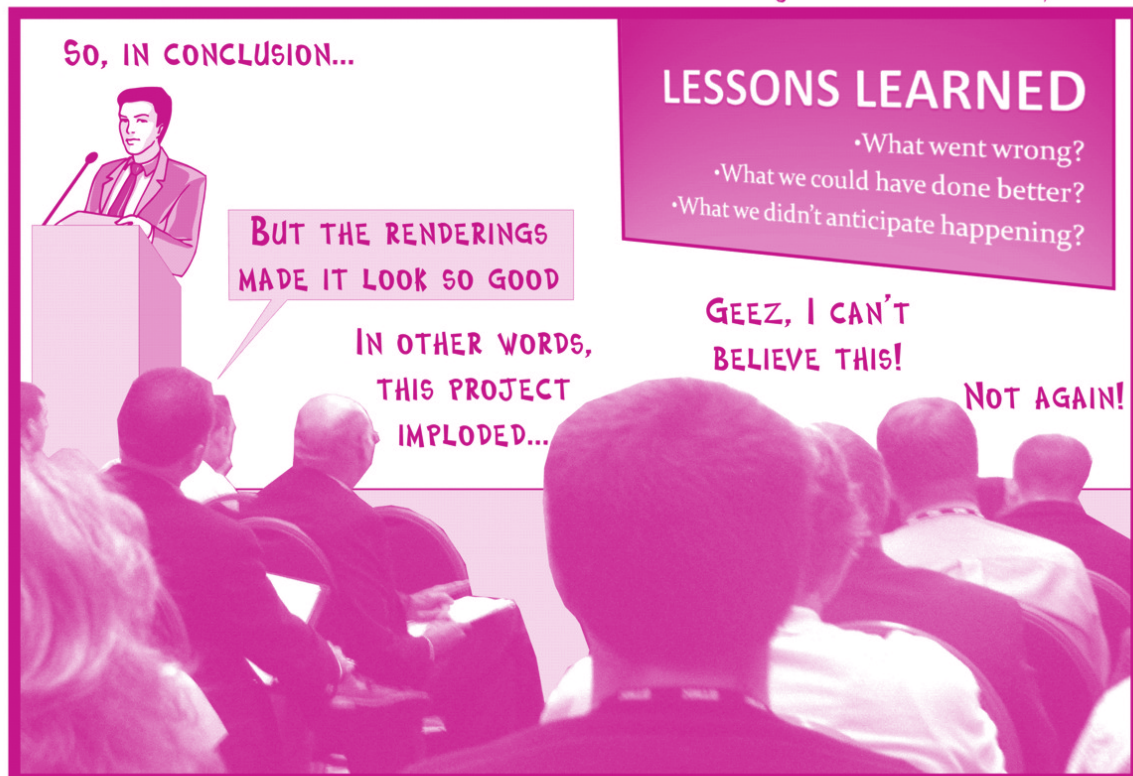
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"So, in conclusion..." You mean, this isn't a plan that is moving dirt yet? You still have optimism. Maybe it was just approved and nothing tangible has had a chance to happen yet. But then the most dreaded slide in the whole profession of urban planning appears on the screen like a bad nightmare. "Lessons Learned" was all that the slide said. You know immediately that this slide is going to mean that the project, for whatever reason, never got off the ground or was nixed in the eleventh hour. From experience, the planner knows that following this ominous slide is the usual list of things that always seem to trip up even the best of plans. Bullet points that deal with unexpected costs, unforeseen politics, NIMBYs, etc. Sometimes we get so caught up in a great plan that we overlook potential deal crushers that had been lurking just under the surface all the while. It's hard for us planners to keep our feet planted firmly on the ground while our heads are in the clouds dreaming and scheming the great plan we have been working on. It's true that we should make no little plans, but at the same time, we need to have the big picture in mind. We can't go around blindly making big, grandiose plans without considering possible pitfalls. As often as planners have seen that dreaded "Lessons Learned" slide, you'd think we would have learned some of those lessons by now. What say you?

URBANE PLANNING

by Robert A. Jonas, AICP



The most dreaded slide of any planning presentation.

Jonas@one.net

Professional Development Officer's Report

We are finally getting a bit of sunshine and warmer weather. I hope everyone is taking full advantage of this opportunity to pull out of the doldrums and enjoy spring - I know I am. As the chapter's new Professional Development Officer (PDO), I am still learning the ropes and appreciate the kind words of support that



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many of you have sent my way. My thanks to the previous PDO, Megan V. De Sola, AICP for leaving me with a well organized box of helpful materials that are getting me started. Please let me know if there are ways that I can assist you in accessing and acquiring continuing education and certification materials in the coming months. As usual, there is a flurry of APA activities as we head into spring. Here are some of the highlights:

2010 National APA Conference – New Orleans, LA

By the time this newsletter is distributed, the conference will have come and gone, but for those who have ever attended one, the national conference is always a fantastic way to network, hone your planning skills, and keep up with current trends and practices.

2010 Spring APA-KY Conference

The 2010 Spring APA-KY conference is also on the horizon. Join us May 26–28, 2010 at General Butler State Resort Park in Carrollton, KY. The program has been finalized and registration is open. All sessions (20 hours total) are eligible for CM credits as well as state mandated (KRS) CEUs. Attending one session in each time block can result in accrual of 10 credit hours.

AICP – Exam

Registration for the spring testing period has closed. The exam window is May 10–24, 2010. Good luck to those of you sitting for the exam this spring. For anyone interested in the applying for a future testing period, applications will be accepted starting in mid-June 2010 with the next available testing window of November 8–22, 2010. Additional details can be found at the following website:

<http://www.planning.org/certification/2010/nov/index.htm>

AICP – Certification Maintenance

We have now entered into the second reporting period for Certification Maintenance (CM) requirements for all certified planners. Continue to attend events offered by registered providers and to log your hours in the on-line CM log. I encourage you to make use of all of the available on-line and many free sessions that qualify for credit hours. If you know of an event that has not been widely publicized, let me know and I will try to distribute information to the chapter through email and the APA-KY website (www.kapa.org). Any certified planners who did not acquire the necessary hours during the initial AICP CM reporting period may be interested in procedures for reinstatement. You can access direct information about this process at:

<http://www.planning.org/aicp/reinstatement.htm>

Advanced Specialty Certification

A new level of certification for two specialties (more to come) is being introduced this year. The first specializations to be recognized are: Certified Transportation Planner (AICP CTP) and Certified Environmental Planner (AICP CEP). AICP's two new credentials "provide the opportunity for our certified professional planners to demonstrate their expertise and leadership in their chosen specialization." Like many other professions with a wide variety of specializations, the AICP is moving towards advanced certifications as a means of substantiating the unique credentials of planners practicing in a specific field of the profession. While an additional test will be necessary to obtain either of these certifications, there are no additional annual dues related to carrying the specialty credentials. Registration deadlines for both exams are expected to be announced this summer with tests to be administered in the fall. Additional information is available at:

<http://www.planning.org/asc>



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Address: _____

Phone/Fax: _____ **Website/Email:** _____

Please select the category that your firm or organization is interested in sponsoring by filling in the cost total in the appropriate category.

Annual Sponsorship Opportunities - Ala Carte		Cost	Total
Newsletter (4 publications a year with statewide circulation)		\$150	\$
Website Sponsor (KAPA Website)		\$150	\$
1 in-state conferences in 2010 (Sponsorship of the KAPA Conference includes one free conference registration, advertisement at the conference and recognition on the programs and mailers)		\$300	\$
Package Sponsorship Opportunities		Cost	Total
Corporate Sponsor Includes the following		\$550	\$
Newsletter/ Website Sponsor			
1 in-state conference in 2010			
Newsletter Sponsor		\$250	\$
Newsletter/ Website Sponsor			
		Total	\$

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Thank you for your support!

Half-Way to 2020: Planning Louisville's Future

by Ken Baker, AICP, Chris French, AICP, and Steve Sizemore, AICP

In our vision of 2020, Louisville and Jefferson County is a community widely recognized for its high quality of life, sense of tradition and competitive spirit ... We have clearly recognized that the quality of life depends upon continued success in the economic marketplace and an ongoing commitment to the conservation of environmental resources which define our heritage and enhance the livability of our community.

- Excerpt from Cornerstone 2020 Vision Statement



**Mill Creek Bridge on the Louisville Loop
in western Jefferson County**

In June 2000, Louisville adopted Cornerstone 2020, the first new comprehensive plan developed for Louisville and Jefferson County since the 1979 comprehensive plan. Now, ten years after the comprehensive plan's adoption, and half-way to 2020, the planning division of Louisville Metro Government has begun to lay the framework for an update to Cornerstone 2020. This article will examine the first ten years of planning work (since the adoption of Cornerstone 2020) as well as the planning issues that appear to be at the forefront of a comprehensive plan update.

Cornerstone 2020: A New Plan for the New Millennium

The Cornerstone 2020 Plan is unique from Louisville's 1979 Comprehensive Plan in its greater emphasis on design, environmental goals, multi-modal means of mobility, and re-development of deteriorating and neglected neighborhoods. It is perhaps most unique in its focus on form districts and activity centers. The plan has been primarily implemented through the creation of a new land development code and a neighborhood planning program.

With the adoption of its new code in 2003, Louisville Metro became one of the largest jurisdictions in the



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Floyd's Fork stream in eastern Jefferson County

United States to have a form-based zoning code. Form districts are the major tool within the Land Development Code (LDC) that ensures that new development is compatible to the surrounding context. The designation of activity centers such as regional, town and village centers provides a growth management tool to promote compact, mixed use development. The subsequently adopted LDC also includes tools that protect important natural resources such as waterways, wetlands, steep slopes, karst terrain, unstable soils and tree canopy.

In January 2004, Louisville Metro Planning and Design Services (PDS) initiated its first coordinated neighborhood planning program in approximately 30 years. With a newly merged metro government came a unified approach to long-range planning for city and county neighborhoods. More than a dozen neighborhood or small area plans have been developed through this planning program, which include significant planning efforts in urban/traditional neighborhoods, outlying

“villages,” historically/culturally- significant districts, suburban corridors, and exurban rural areas. These efforts have served the dual purpose of developing comprehensive plans for specific geographical areas and further refining fundamental concepts such as neighborhood form and centers, emphasized in Cornerstone 2020. Perhaps the greatest benefit gained from focusing on planning at the neighborhood level has been increased community engagement.

Planning Efforts on the Horizon

Many of the planning efforts in Louisville over the last decade have been focused on implementing the comprehensive plan and fine-tuning the Land Development Code. Meanwhile, due to multiple factors, population increases in Louisville have been minor. Two trends have affected growth patterns: a reduction in household size and a shifting of population within the county. As a result, certain areas have seen increased investment while others have experienced disinvestment. Therefore, redevelopment will be a central focus of future planning efforts. Competitor cities such as Nashville, TN, with its emphasis on community character plans and design-oriented policies, and Charlotte, NC, with its transit-oriented development program, provide smart solutions that Louisville may wish to emulate. Similar planning initiatives are needed along many of the older commercial corridors such as Dixie Highway and Preston Highway in southern and southeastern Louisville. Focusing on aging commercial centers and corridors provides the mutual benefit of directing resources to areas already serviced by infrastructure, and also reconfiguring infrastructure and future land uses into a more sustainable development pattern.

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Dixie Highway in southwest Jefferson County

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However, it will also be critical to address undeveloped “edge” portions of the county, particularly around the Floyds Fork greenway project in southeastern Louisville, which will comprise a major portion of the county-wide Louisville Loop shared use trail system. The Floyds Fork area has received special attention over the past several years through its nationally recognized parks and greenway plan and planning studies aimed at locating and designing future town and village centers. Over the next several years, additional planning efforts should promote new development that is compatible and interconnected with new parks and greenways. Master plan projects for new centers will provide new forms of development that are compact, energy efficient, and accessible.

Focus Issues of Cornerstone 2020 Update

Although Cornerstone 2020 provides important recommendations regarding compatibility, environmental stewardship, and community form, several issues merit new or renewed interest and investigation specifically: 1.) the Infrastructure Crisis; 2.) Changing Demographics; 3.) Energy Costs; and 4.) Climate Change, will influence the comprehensive plan update.

Infrastructure Crisis - This issue does not always get the press that the cost of energy or climate change receives, but it presents a significant challenge for the future. How do we maintain our current infrastructure while sustaining a productive level of economic growth? Infrastructure is the underlying factor that can resolve problems or make them untenable. Future economic development within Louisville is dependent upon how we plan for and maintain our infrastructure. Although national,

state, and local governments will emphasize the cost of maintaining infrastructure, the design of infrastructure projects is extremely important. How will we design the built environment in a way that addresses multiple needs, such as mobility for all users and transportation system efficiency? How do we design development projects with an infrastructure network (roads, buildings, and utilities) that allows for future adaptive reuse and redevelopment? Fortunately, we have many examples in our older neighborhoods from the early 20th century that offer a good foundation for addressing these issues. Likewise, New Urbanist communities designed following smart growth principles, such as Norton Commons in Louisville, are modern development forms that aid in this pursuit. These examples provide models for efficient use of infrastructure.

Changing Demographics - An important factor to consider in updating the community’s comprehensive plan is the demographic data that is obtained from the 2010 U.S. Census Survey. The 2010 census will provide an update to the demographics used to create Cornerstone 2020. The census provides the opportunity to check population estimates and to review unexpected shifts in the population make-up of the community. Based on previous projections, the next census count will likely demonstrate two factors that need to be considered in a plan update. First, the “baby boomer” generation is aging and will likely show that the number of people between the ages of 65 to 79 will have increased since 2000. Second, household size in Jefferson County decreased from 1990 to 2000 by 4.4% and is likely to continue to decrease according to projections by the Kentucky Data Center. These two factors will affect emerging market

Continued on page 14.

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Downtown Louisville skyline from Waterfront Park

City Solutions Center Project Aims to Transform Schoolyards into Learning and Community Resources

by Patrick Piuma - Associate Director
City Solutions Center, University of Louisville
<http://citysolutions.louisville.edu>

The City Solutions Center at the University of Louisville is currently working with Jefferson County Public Schools (JCPS) in Louisville, Kentucky on two schoolyard projects for their new environmental magnet schools at Portland Elementary and Cane Run Elementary Schools. The Portland Elementary Schoolyard Project conceptual plan was completed in December 2009 while the Cane Run Elementary Schoolyard Project site plan is in the final stages of development.

The purpose of these projects is to redefine both the appearance and use of the school's outdoor space into more functional, learning environments. The redevelopment plan provides new resources and opportunities for teachers to engage their students in the school's environmental education as well as other facets of the curriculum by invigorating students' interest in learning. These studies also examine the schools' connections to their surrounding neighborhoods in an attempt to reconnect them with their local communities.

The Schoolyards Project ties into a growing emphasis on outdoor classrooms that has started to take hold in several cities and school districts across the country as well as internationally. The book *Last Child in the Woods* by Richard Louv helps to crystallize the emerging and disturbing concept that a growing number of children are losing touch with nature and the valuable life lessons that can be learned from experiencing the outdoor environment. As our populations shift from

rural to urban and our lives become ever more coupled to the digital world, children have less time for and access to nature. Through teacher feedback during the Schoolyards Project, the disengagement of children with nature became evident. Teachers continually have expressed their distress in the lack of basic knowledge today's children have about the natural world including a noticeable sense of fear and anxiety towards nature.

Continued on page 12.



Boston Schoolyards Initiative outdoor learning classroom at Perkins Elementary in Boston, MA



View of the current entrance and paved surface for parking and play at Portland Elementary School.

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The City Solutions Center's Schoolyards Project draws inspiration from the work of the Boston Schoolyards Initiative (BSI), which has effectively transformed schoolyards in that city into significant school and community assets. A great deal has been learned over BSI's more than a decade of work. Schoolyards in Boston have become more productive as places for learning and play during school hours and as community recreation and resource sites at other times. Schools participating in the Boston Schoolyards Initiative are seen as making a more positive contribution to their surrounding communities. The participating schools themselves benefit from enhanced learning opportunities for students and by improving their appeal to parents deciding where to enroll their children.

As with Boston Schoolyards Initiative, the City Solutions Center (CSC) placed a great deal of emphasis on the facilitated community engagement process to include various stakeholder groups in the schoolyard redesigns. These processes aided in gathering information from the people who are most familiar with the site and its uses as well as to develop a sense of ownership with the teachers, parents, neighborhood and other stakeholders to ensure the greatest possibility of a successful implementation and sustainability of the plan.

The proposed site designs are broken up into several components that can be developed in a phased approach.



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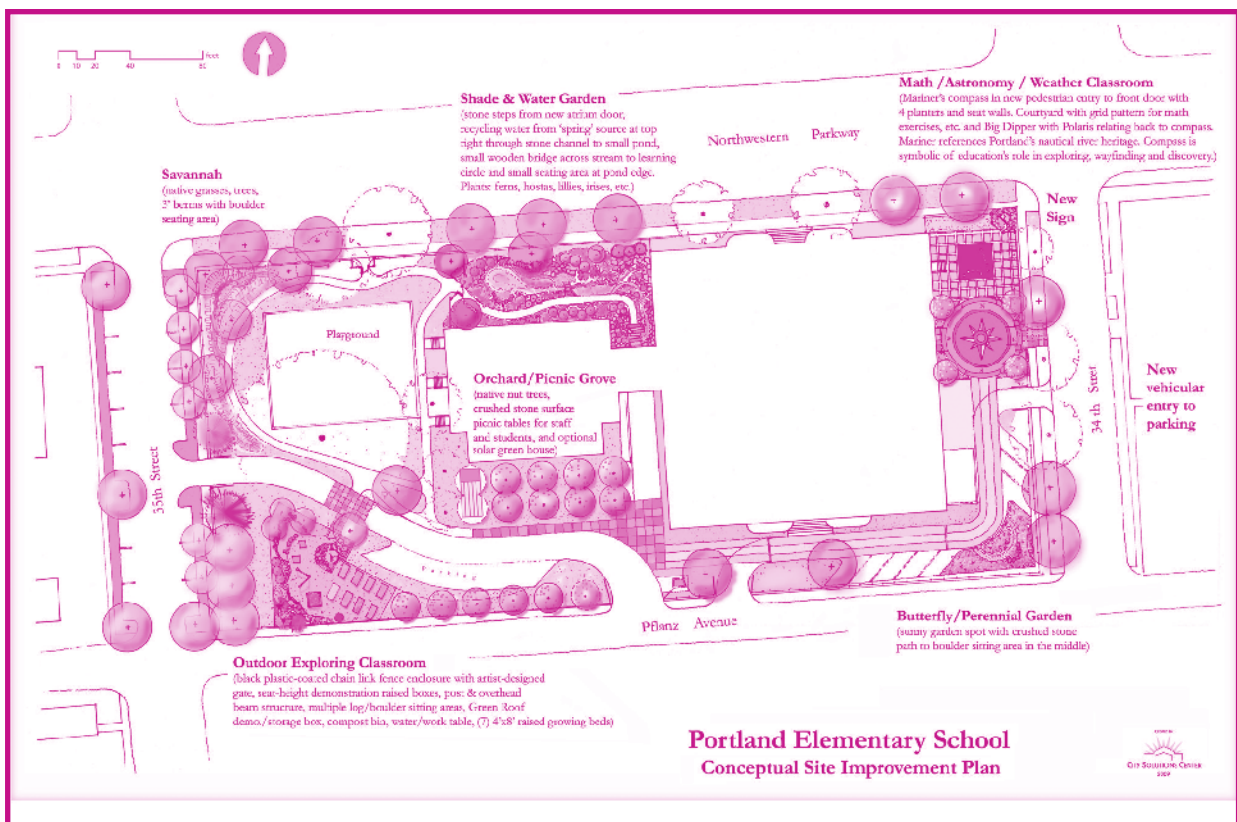
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The City Solutions Center gives a presentation to the attendees of the third public meeting at the Portland Elementary School library.



This is the final site plan for the entire schoolyard at Portland Elementary

Continued from previous page.

At Portland Elementary the CSC proposed seven distinct areas; an entry court, math/weather/astronomy classroom, perennial/butterfly garden, orchard/picnic grove, outdoor exploring classroom, savannah, and a shade and water garden. The Cane Run Elementary Schoolyard Project will have several similar areas, though designed specifically with the particular site, neighborhood and school needs in mind.

Following the completion of the Cane Run Elementary Schoolyards Project the CSC will produce a Kentucky Schoolyards Handbook. The handbook will take lessons learned from the Portland and Cane Run Elementary School projects as well as best practices from other schoolyard initiatives to help school officials, teachers, planners and others interested individuals and groups across Kentucky develop strategies to incorporate outdoor learning opportunities through schoolyard redesign projects.

The City Solutions Center extends the University of Louisville's urban mission across Kentucky by providing hands-on consulting to help communities engage citizens to define challenges, develop buy-in for solutions, and create implementation plans for measureable results. The Center draws upon existing faculty, staff, and student expertise throughout the University of Louisville to provide resources to assist Kentucky's communities. To learn more about the City Solutions Center or specific projects please visit <http://citysolutions.louisville.edu> on the web or contact associate director, **Patrick Piuma** at patrick.piuma@louisville.edu or call 502-587-7015.



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TODAY

By joining the Kentucky Chapter of the American Planning Association you have an opportunity to shape the future of Kentucky's communities. The chapter's excellent newsletter will keep you informed of timely topics on local and national issues. Chapter-sponsored conferences held each spring and fall offer opportunities for networking, educational enhancement, and exchange

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Treasurer's Report

by Stanford Harvey, AICP

In 2010, APA-KY, like many individuals, companies, and families across the country, will face an austere budget. In December 2009, the Board approved the official 2010 Budget. Included in the budget are the following items of note:

- there was a significant drop in revenue due to only one state conference in 2010, increasing fees withheld by APA, and declining chapter dues;
- Revenue from the Fall OKI Conference will not likely be received until 2011;
- Publishing of a zoning handbook that has been compiled over the last two years;
- Trimming expenses for publications, conferences, and professional development;
- Continuing our support of a scholarship at the University of Louisville.

We are always looking to increase the membership and involvement in APA-KY. We are also soliciting sponsors for 2010 and would sincerely appreciate any support of interested firms and organizations.

Please feel free to phone me with any questions at (859) 519-1291 or e-mail me at sharvey@urbancollage.com.

Continued from page 10.

trends in housing, and will have significant consequences on future land use and transportation decisions for Louisville.

Energy Costs - Cornerstone 2020 does not address the issue of increasing costs of energy. While the plan does implicitly address some potential solutions to energy costs, namely alternative transportation modes, it fails to provide direct guidance to ever-increasing energy costs. Therefore, any update to Cornerstone 2020 should include goals and objectives related to the efficient use of energy and the use and promotion of alternative energy sources, solar access, and other means that can be addressed through land use and transportation solutions. With the creation of best management practices for energy-efficiency, such as LEED certification, much progress has been made since Cornerstone 2020's adoption.

Climate Change - The majority of scientists agree that climate change is a major issue. Urban planning can reduce the release of greenhouse gases through patterns of development that promote multi-modal transportation

over automobile dependent forms. Mass transit and transit-oriented development, along with the promotion of compact mixed-use development, can be a major factor in reducing vehicle miles traveled (VMTs) and dependence on greenhouse-producing energy sources. Urban planning can increase energy efficiency and promote other modes of transportation that can have a significant impact on climate change. The pattern of development is also critical in addressing other important social, economic, and environmental issues, such as obesity, affordable housing, and water quality.

Conclusion

Regular updates to comprehensive plans are necessary in order to keep plans current and relevant. The four emerging issues addressed here should play a major role in the update of Cornerstone 2020. In order to uphold the ideal of Louisville as a livable and vibrant city as envisioned in Cornerstone 2020, our role as planning professionals provides the opportunity to address these problems and move the city in the direction of sustainability.



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Kentucky Chapter - American Planning Association

Fiscal Year 2010 Budget
Approved December 11, 2009

<u>REVENUES</u>	<u>FY 2009 BUDGET</u>	<u>FY 2010 BUDGET</u>	<u>DIFFERENCE</u>
Transfer Funds	\$0.00	\$0.00	-
APA Rebate	7,000.00	5,000.00	(2,000.00)
Conferences	26,000.00	10,000.00	(16,000.00)
Interest	1,000.00	500.00	(500.00)
KAPA Affiliate Dues	600.00	300.00	(300.00)
Seminars/Workshops	0.00	0.00	-
Sponsors	4,500.00	4,500.00	-
Professional Develop. (Video,Manuals)	300.00	300.00	-
Miscellaneous	500.00	500.00	-
Total Revenue	\$39,900.00	\$21,100.00	(\$18,800.00)

<u>EXPENSES</u>	<u>FY 2009 BUDGET</u>	<u>FY 2010 BUDGET</u>	<u>DIFFERENCE</u>
Publications/Newsletter	\$6,500.00	\$6,000.00	(500.00)
Program Development/Conf./ Seminars/Workshops	14,000.00	9,000.00	(5,000.00)
Professional Development	4,000.00	3,000.00	(1,000.00)
Executive	3,500.00	3,500.00	-
Special Projects*	1,000.00	1,000.00	-
Legislative	250.00	250.00	-
Comm. Outreach/Conf. Sponsors	1,000.00	1,000.00	-
Public Relations/Awards	550.00	550.00	-
Administrative	700.00	700.00	-
University of Louisville Scholarship**	2,000.00	2,000.00	-
Membership	400.00	400.00	-
Total Expenses	\$33,900.00	\$27,400.00	(\$6,500.00)

TOTAL REVENUE

Proposed FY 2009 To 2010 Changes

Revenue

- APA Rebate is assumed lower due to economic conditions and APA charges for administrative fees.
- Conferences revenue is based on just Spring Conference as OKI receipts are not likely until 2011.
- Interest and KAPA Affiliate Dues lowered due to economic conditions.

Expenses

- Publications/Newsletter reduced due to elimination of website redesign fees from 2009.
- Program Development/Conferences reflects \$8,000 for Spring Conference and \$1,000 contribution to 2010 OKI Conference.
- Special projects include Zoning Handbook expenditures and Chapter 100 printing.
- The Professional Development was adjusted to reflect actual expenditures.
- All other categories remained consistent with 2009.

APA-KY Calendar Of Events

May 14, 2010

Newsletter Article Submission Deadline

May 26-28, 2010

APA-KY Spring Conference (General Butler State Park Resort)

Fall 2010

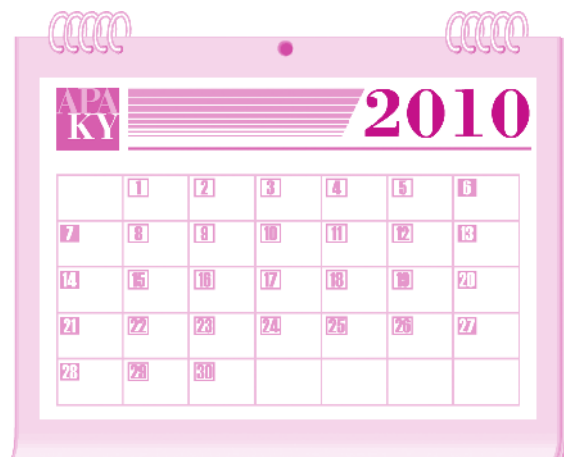
OKI Regional Planning Conference (hosted by APA-IN)

April 9-13, 2011

APA National Conference (Boston, MA)

May 25-27, 2011

APA-KY Spring Conference (Dale Hallow State Park Resort)



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