



BOARD MEETING AGENDA

June 23, 2023
The Eddy, Prospect Room
1640 8th Street Golden, CO 80401
8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Timeline:

- 8:00 - coffee and water are available
 - 8:30 to 10:30 - bloody marys and mimosas available
 - 11:30 - lunch
 - 4:00 - wrap up
-

1. Opening Remarks - Maureen Paz de Araujo, President
2. Consent Agenda
 - a. Financial Report - Josh Olhava, Treasurer
3. Chapter Administrator Report - Abbey Aguirre, Executive Director
 - a. CPC Update
 - b. New Website Update
 - c. 2022 Annual Report
 - d. 2023 Annual Report Development
4. Collaborative Ideas: such as Colorado Public Health/Parks & Recreation Collaborative - Erin Fosdick
5. Strategic and Development Plan Review and Discussion - Maureen Paz de Araujo
6. CU Denver MURP Program - Carrie Makarewicz, Planning Faculty Representative
7. Area Representatives Reports: brief update of events, ongoing, etc. from your area
 - a. North Central - Lesli Ellis
 - b. Denver Metro - Amanda Kannard and Britt Palmberg
 - c. Central Mountain - Mark Truckey
 - d. Northwest - Nicole Galehouse
 - e. Southwest - James Dickhoff
 - f. South Central - Katelynn Wintz
8. Committee Updates: brief update of events, ongoing, etc.
 - a. APAS – Levi Griffith
 - b. Awards Committee - Julia Puester and Daniel Murray
 - i. approve award selections for 2023
 - ii. approve water smart award selections for 2023
 - c. Emerging Planning Professionals Committee - Johnny Malpica and Zach Noyes
 - d. Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee - Jennifer Woods
 - e. FAICP Committee - Maureen Paz de Araujo

- f. Great Places Program - Renae Stavros
 - g. Healthy Communities Committee - Kris Valdez
 - h. Legislative Committee - Scott Bressler and Shaida Libhart
 - i. Membership Committee - Susan Wood
 - j. Outreach & Communications Committee - Alex Bergeron and Julia Puester
 - k. Professional Development Committee - Erin Fosdick
 - i. mentor/mentee program: received a request from a member, and a general effort around mentoring
 - l. Sustainability Committee - Karl Barton and Dana Hoffman
 - m. Youth in Planning Committee - Morgan Hester
9. Other Business
10. Adjourn

Next Meeting:

Executive Committee - July 14

Full Board - August 11



APA Colorado Board Commentary

Board Meeting Date: June 23, 2023

Subject: January - May 2023 Financial Report

Board Member/Sponsor: Josh Olhava, Treasurer

Development | Action Plan Reference: APA Colorado will SERVE its members; S-33 Ensure the long-term financial and operational health of APA Colorado

Budget/Financial Implications: Yes No

Budget Line Item: _____

Amount Budgeted: _____

Amount Requested: _____

ACTION ITEM: X

INFORMATIONAL ITEM:

Recommendation: Approve the financial reports as presented

Summary

- The budget is currently tracking in a good position.
- Membership dues are tracking with prior years and are ahead of the budget.
- Sponsorships exceeded the budget.
- Board Expense overage is from closing the Wells Fargo credit card under Shelia's name and clearing out remaining bills (no itemized details were provided at close out). This could be moved to another line item, but I recommend we keep it here until after the conference and re-evaluate then.
- We experienced higher expenses than anticipated under the Transportation Symposium partnership. Strategies are being discussed by the Executive Board to protect us if we partner in future years (i.e., agreement with conditions and stipulations regarding event management and add-ons).
- Lobbying and Research expenses will be posted this summer.
- No regional or committee events have occurred thus far (except the Legislative Committee) which can impact income and expenses for the year.
- Conference income and expenses will begin picking up through the summer. Certain budgeted expenses for the conference appear to be within or under budget at this time and will continue to be evaluated over the next couple of months.
- A big shout out to Abbey for fixing and cleaning up/organizing files, including the financial files. This also includes clean-ups in Quickbooks. This has made tracking and finding files much easier.

January 2023

Beginning Assets:

- Checking Account: \$60,418.66
- Savings Account: \$70,165.76
- Chapter assets total: \$130,584.42

INCOME: Chapter Only Memberships, Sponsorship, job ads and student registrations

EXPENSES: Payroll, legislative liaison

Through May 2023

Assets:

- Checking Account: \$81,014.98
- Savings Account: \$70,165.76
- Chapter assets total: \$151,180.74

Profit Loss:

- Income: \$60,679.85
- Expenses: \$40,083.53
- Net: \$20,596.32

Main Sources of Income: Chapter Memberships, Sponsorships (\$6,790.55 over budget), Job/RFP/RFQ Ads, and Legislative Committee Event

Main Expenses: Closing Wells Fargo CC (Board Expense line item), Software, Travel Expenses, National Conference Reception (under budget, but did not receive income due to this being a shared event), Legislative Committee Event, Payroll

Membership Dues:

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Q1	\$18,046	\$19,160	\$19,871	\$20,426	\$21,683
Q2	\$15,686	\$17,812	\$17,259	\$17,486	\$15,695
Q3	\$ 8,556	\$11,512	\$12,753	\$11,558	
Q4	\$18,068	\$16,491	\$23,835	\$20,952	
Chapter Only	\$2,735	\$1,900	\$1,550	\$2,775	
Total	\$63,091	\$66,875	\$73,718	\$73,197	\$37,378



APA Colorado Board Agenda Item

Board Meeting Date: 6/23/2023

Subject: 2023 Annual Report

Board Member/Sponsor: Maureen Paz de Araujo, President

Development Plan|Action Program Reference: Communicate & Engage - C-1: Publish and celebrate planning successes and lessons learned via all aspects of Chapter communication tools; C3: Communicate regularly with members, partners, other APA Chapters, APA Divisions and APA National.

Budget/Financial Implications: Yes No

Budget Line Item:

Amount Budgeted: N/A

Amount Requested:

ACTION ITEM:

INFORMATIONAL ITEM:

Recommendation: Implement a template to facilitate participation of Board Members and Committee Chairs in ongoing development of required Chapter Annual Reports.

The Chapter must prepare and submit an Annual Report to APA National each year. Responsibility for preparation of the Annual Report for the last few years has fallen on our Executive Director, supported by several members of the Executive Committee. This year, we hope to develop a template for the 2023 Annual Report and begin engaging the full Board in developing content for the Annual Report throughout the remainder for 2023.

The 2021 Annual Report and 2022 Annual Report are attached for reference to get everyone thinking. Abbey has posted additional past Annual Reports on the website to provide more perspective.

The theme for 2022 created by Shelia Booth was creative. For 2023, we hit a wall, ran up against the APA National deadline, and received limited content. We simply leveraged what Shelia had created in 2022 and struggled with graphic layout (at least I did thought Abbey not so much). We are bringing this up midyear so that hopefully we can be more collaborative in 2023.



**APA
CO**

**2022
Annual
Report**

I PLANNING



OUR MISSION

APA Colorado provides leadership in the development of resilient, inclusive, sustainable and equitable communities by advocating for excellence in planning and public policy, promoting professional development, and providing education and citizen empowerment for those who are working to protect and enhance the natural and built environment.

R.I.S.E. - Resilient. Inclusive. Sustainable. Equitable.



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'22 Was Like Sailing Into The Wind to a New Normal

LIFE

FAMILY

WORK

COVID 19

BALANCE *(in theory, right?)*



Tie in the great resignation, lack of childcare, inflation, and a continued downslide housing availability and affordability, and you might wonder if this is not a negative way to start an annual report. Just the opposite. Resiliency is palpable. Kids made it back to school and managing the challenges while reveling in being back together with their cohorts, we made it back to the office, and glimpses of normalcy are present. Federal funding via ARPA and

the Build Back Better Act are bringing an influx of infrastructure capital to our communities and Planners are at the table to make the most of this unique opportunity for our country and our communities. With the wind against our sails, we tuned ourselves to the course ahead and trimmed our sails to meet the challenges ahead, among them a tightening housing market, water shortages, and yet another wildfire.

President

Joni Marsh, AICP



Highlights from 2022 include:

1. Two well attended conferences, one in person and one virtual. Over 600 planners took advantage of one or both of our educational offerings. Add in the Colorado Transportation Symposium and it is hard to argue with the hard work our Board, volunteers and Shelia put into creating a successful 2022.

2. Fiscal health continues to be on a positive trajectory. A significant part of APA Colorado's fiscal health is tied to our membership. Concern that many planners would not be able to continue their memberships arose in early 2020 when COVID first hit, and the job market became uncertain. The Board help spending to a minimum, weathered 2020 with minimal impact. Through 2021 and 2022 our membership numbers have held steady and thank you for your continued support of APA Colorado.

3. Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion took center stage for both our Chapter and APA National through 2022. In 2022 the EDI Committee in collaboration with the CU MURP Program, put out a survey that garnered over 750 responses! (See some survey responses on page 11.) As a part of the 2020 Retreat, the Board dug into the results and identified a set of near-term and aspirational strategies to responding to the survey findings.

4. Communication moving into 2023 will see us complete the stalled update of our website, and continue with online engagement, electronic newsletters, and our expansion into the world of podcasts! Stay tuned for upcoming podcasts which will highlight Colorado communities and planners.

Hopes for 2023: Keep the momentum the Board has on a variety of work plan items while encouraging more volunteers to consider service to APA Colorado. We need more planners to get involved. Collaboration with our partner professions will be key as funding opportunities in housing, transportation and infrastructure spending come to the forefront. Let's keep focused on the legislative priorities identified by the Chapter and use our collective voices to continue to advocate for good planning and work to ensure that housing attainability continues to be a focus for planners around the State as we struggle to house people nationwide.

And, finally, make space to breathe and be kind to yourself and others. I appreciate the opportunity to serve the Colorado planning community and look forward to seeing you in Colorado Springs in September!

President Elect

Maureen Paz de Araujo, FAICP CTP CEP



In 2022, we strove to “right the rudder” as we sailed strongly out of the challenges of the COVID pandemic. For me it was a year of learning from seasoned President,

Ijoni Marsh, being supported by Chapter Administrator, Shelia Booth, and collaborating with Executive Board members Josh Olhava (Treasurer), Erin Fosdick (Professional Development Officer), Julia Puester (VP of External Affairs), Mike Tylka (VP of Communications) and Shaida Libhart (Co-Chair of Legislative Committee).

As we move into 2023, I recognize that all our members, our engaged volunteers, our Board leadership, and the tremendous support provided by our Chapter Administrator have made the APA Colorado Chapter one of the best in the nation. To a person, each of you

has been willing to go beyond the status quo. Your tenacity and determination tell me that you will continue that legacy into 2023 and beyond.

Your involvement – whether it’s attendance at one event, sponsorship of an activity, writing newsletter articles, leading conference sessions, achieving AICP accreditation or maintaining your AICP, or volunteering for the Board or a committee – are all ways that you make a difference and give back to our community. I pledge to do my best to support you in your commitment to Colorado and the planning profession in 2023.

In closing, let me say “Thank You” to Shelia Booth and “Welcome” to Abbey Aguirre. At APA Colorado, we are fortunate to be supported by a staff Executive Director who administers the Chapter and provides tremendous assistance to our Board members and our members alike throughout the year. After ten years of continuous service to APA Colorado, Shelia moved on in November to take a position as Planning Director for the Town of Monument. Abbey joined the Chapter in January. She has jumped in with both feet. She has kept us “on course” and we are so incredibly grateful to have her support moving forward.





2022

Designations?

As the Chapter and our volunteers regrouped post-pandemic, we were forced to pass on completing the 2022 Great Places in Colorado designations in 2022. Please update your 2022 nominations for consideration in 2023.

2021 Designations



39th Avenue Greenway Project - Denver



Las Colonias River Park - Grand Junction

What is your favorite place?

Glenwood Springs because it's relaxing, has a great downtown, and I have fantastic memories with my family!

-Erin Fosdick, PDO

Photo: Don Graham, inkknife_2000



Downtown Main Ave in Durango, where I can walk to my favorite restaurants, stores, and always see people I know.

-Mark Williams, Southwest Area Rep

Photo: Blue Winter Skies Hug the Durango Skyline, Durango Web Creations



West Cliff, CO. The unobstructed views, rural charm, and obviously the endless recreation opportunities.

-Sarah Kohles, Past APAS President

Photo: Andreas F. Borchert, CC BY-SA 3.0, via Wikimedia Commons



Nominate your Great Place in 2023

12

2022 Chapter Award Recipients

HONOR AWARDS

- Crested Butte Community Compass - Community Engagement
- Denver Parks & Recreation's Strategic Acquisition Plan - Generic Planning Project
- DRCOG Complete Streets Toolkit - General Planning Project
- Legacy Lafayette Comprehensive Plan - General Planning Project
- FEMA Art Works Pilot Project: Community Forms - Innovative Partnership & Collaborations
- Multifamily Housing Parking Optimization Study: An Evaluation of Parking Requirements for Multifamily Housing in Longmont, Colorado - Student/Recent Graduate Project

MERIT AWARDS

- Larimer County Code Update - General Planning Project
- Picture Canon City 2040: A Pathway to the Future - General Planning Project
- Plan Berthoud: The 2021 Town of Berthoud Comprehensive Plan - General Planning Project
- Steamboat Springs Transportation & Mobility Plan - General Planning Project
- West Vail Master Plan - General Planning Project
- You El Paso Master Plan - General Planning Project
- Denver DOTI's Share Micromobility Program - Innovative Partnership & Collaborations
- Fort Collins Active Modes Plan - Innovative Partnership & Collaborations
- Alta Verde - Sustainability & Environmental Planning
- Colorado Resiliency Framework 2020 Update - Sustainability & Environmental Planning
- RIVERfront at Dos Rios - Innovative Partnership & Collaborations
- City of Evans Water Efficiency Plan and Master Plan - Growing Water Smart



The Money - Maintain the Course

The Treasurer position requires close coordination with the Chapter Administrator and President on the day-to-day operations of the Chapter. The Treasurer is responsible for ensuring the financial wellbeing of the organization through careful review of monthly expenses in relation to the annual budget prepared by the Budget Committee, which the Treasurer helps to oversee along with the President and Chapter Administrator. The Treasurer works closely with all Board members, committees, and staff to evaluate funding requests against the annual budget to ensure we are providing our members and communities with the resources they need to elevate the profession.

As with any volunteer board, members may decide how actively they want to be involved, which directly impacts the progress and effectiveness of the of the organization. To these ends, the Treasurer must take a very active role in assisting other Board member and staff on various initiatives and activities. It is important that the Treasurer be well-prepared for the monthly meetings by working closely with staff to finalize the Monthly Report and to review all aspects of the packet to understand any funding requests and how they relate to the annual budget. For the Treasurer to be effective in their role, he or she must allocate time each month to fulfill responsibilities of the position. Those responsibilities fluctuate significantly during the year and are most demanding in

relation to annual conference planning and end-of-year budget preparation and review.

The theme of the 2022 planning conference was How We Live. As we settled on this theme, we were keenly aware of the continuing impact of the changing social and political dynamics that are creating new opportunities for us as planners to change the way we think and how we function. We are energized by the recognition that we can challenge the status quo of reactionary planning and assert ourselves into conversations and decisions to help guide positive change for our communities. Planners have a unique and diverse skillset that our communities and residents need as we navigate these opportunities to direct and support How We Live.



Treasurer
Josh Olhava, AICP¹⁴

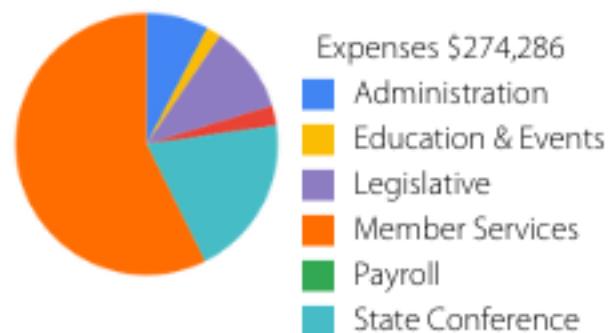
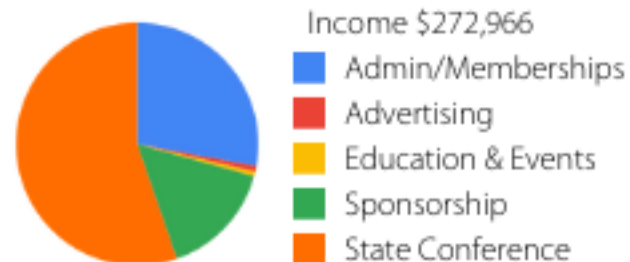
2022 Financials

Accomplishments for 2022 included:

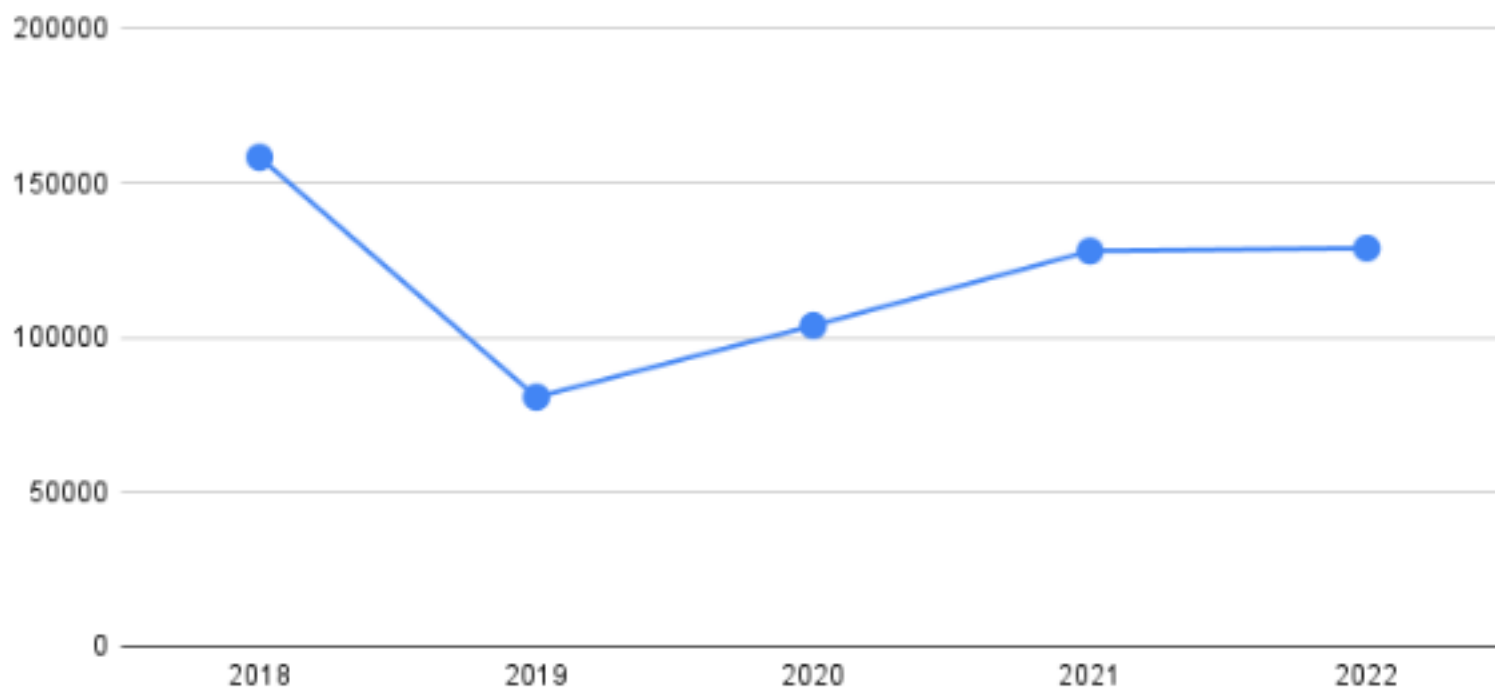
Established a comprehensive budget for 2022

Worked with the Conference Planning Committee, PDO (Professional Development Officer) and the Professional Development Committee to identify new and engaging session formats for the annual conference.

Served together with the PDO to answer mentorship requests and mentor Colorado planners.



Chapter Assets



Profit/Loss
-\$1,319
 We ended the year with a small loss, exceeding budget expectations.

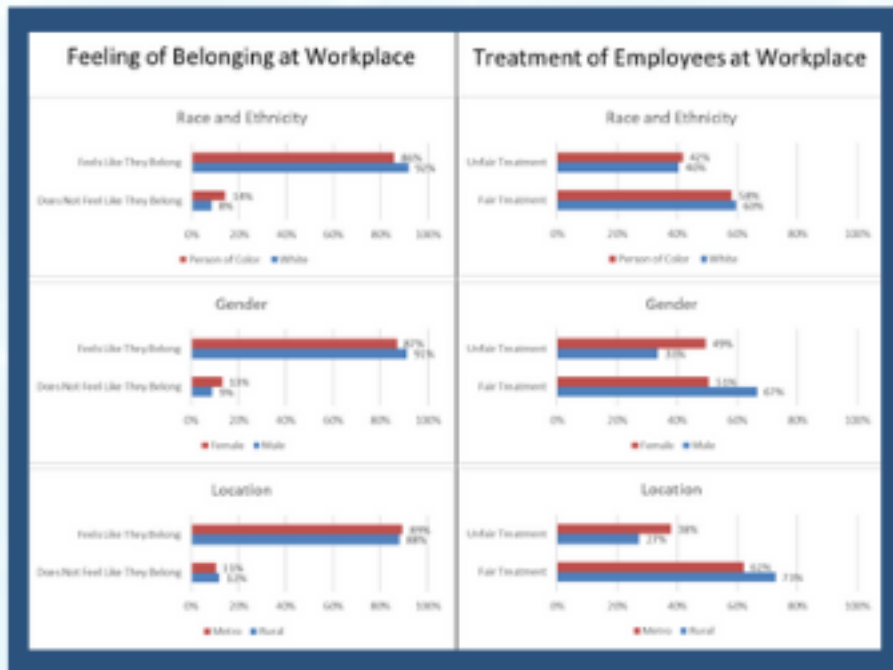
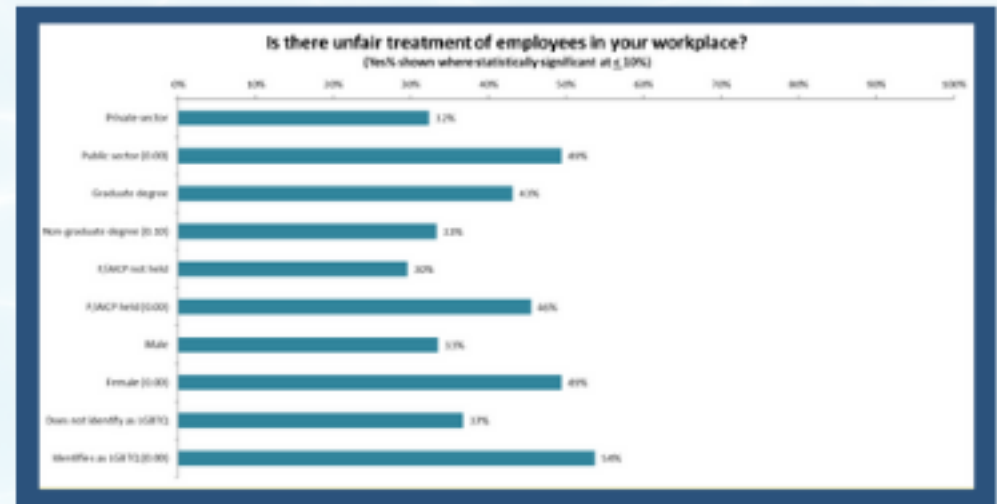
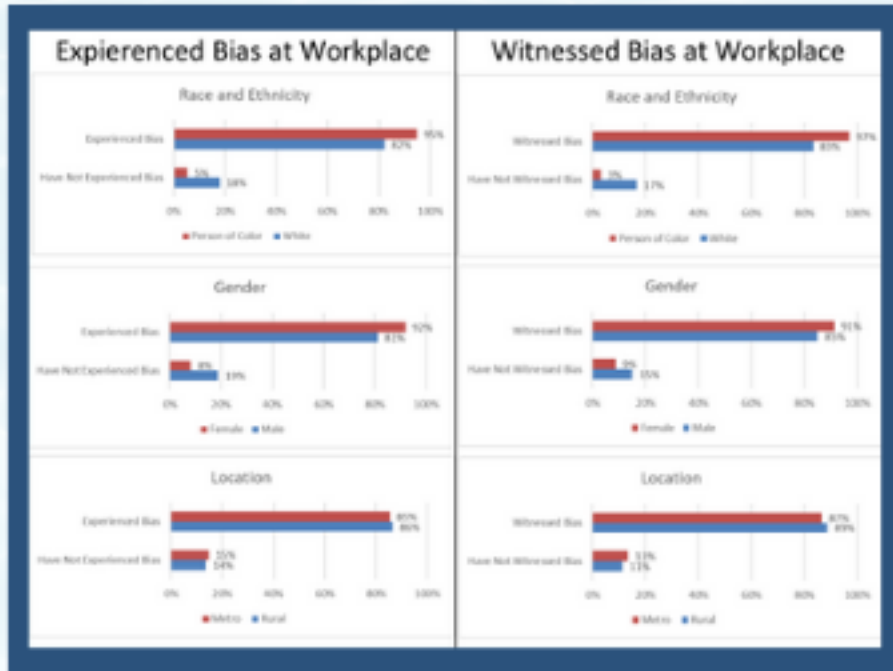
2022 Financials



	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
INCOME					
Admin / Memberships	\$66,411	\$63,552	\$76,340	\$69,732	\$76,170
Advertising	\$757	\$1,465	\$650	\$1,627	\$2,050
Education & Events	\$7,211	\$6,775	\$440	\$440	\$1,700
Sponsorship	\$29,220	\$40,100	\$17,069	\$17,302	\$42,082
State Conference	\$130,450	\$124,331	\$54,902	\$100,391	\$150,965
TOTAL INCOME	\$234,049	\$236,223	\$149,401	\$189,492	\$272,966
EXPENSES					
Administration	\$26,388	\$23,207	\$6,467	\$12,847	\$21,032
Education & Events	\$13,209	\$17,270	\$3,392	\$2,345	\$4,954
Legislative	\$25,157	\$27,015	\$28,452	\$26,100	\$29,577
Member Services	\$1,513	\$3,038	\$6,183	\$539	\$6,689
Payroll	\$51,059	\$49,547	\$56,938	\$55,351	\$54,679
State Conference	\$119,085	\$197,615	\$9,132	\$67,314	\$157,355
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$236,411	\$317,692	\$110,564	\$164,496	\$274,286
TOTAL	-\$2,362	-\$81,469	\$38,837	\$24,996	-\$1,319
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
ASSETS					
Checking	\$58,280	\$30,665	\$53,788	\$77,909	\$58,799
Savings	\$100,073	\$50,126	\$50,135	\$50,140	\$70,161
TOTAL ASSETS	\$158,353	\$80,791	\$103,923	\$128,049	\$128,959

Focus on EDI - Turning the Corner

In sailing terms, "Turn the Corner" signifies passing a critical point on the way to somewhere better and safer. In 2022, the Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Committee evaluated responses from their 2021 EDI survey to gain an understanding of where the Colorado planning community is and where we must go to get to a better and safer place with respect to EDI. The Committee presented their findings at the annual Board Retreat as input to the 2022 update of the Chapter's Strategic Plan.



Meet the Leadership: 2022 Chapter Board

The APA Colorado Board is composed of nine elected, seven appointed and up to thirteen committee representatives who provide geographic, topical and interest areas a voice in the Chapter.



President
Joni Marsh, AICP



President Elect
Maureen Araujo, FAICP CTP CEP



Treasurer
Josh Olhava, AICP



VP Communication
Mike Tylka, AICP



VP External Affairs/Awards Co-Chair
Julia Puester, AICP



Professional Development Officer
Erin Fosdick, AICP



Legislative Affairs Co-Chair
Shaida Libhart, AICP



Chapter Administrator
Shelia Booth, AICP



South Central Rep
Katelynn Wintz, AICP



Denver Metro Rep
Amanda Kannard, AICP



Central Mountain Rep
Mark Truckey, AICP



North Central Rep
Lesli Ellis, AICP CEP



Northwest Rep
Greg Moberg



Southwest Rep
Mark Williams



Denver Metro Rep/Great Places Chair
Brit Palmberg, AICP



Legislative Affairs Co-Chair
Scott Bressler, AICP



Faculty Rep/EDI Co-Chair
Manish Shirgoakar, PhD, AICP



EDI Co-Chair
Jennifer Woods, AICP



Membership Chair
Susan Wood, AICP



Youth in Planning Rep
Morgan Hester, AICP, CNU-A



Healthy Communities Rep
Roshana Floyd, AICP, CFM



EPP Co-Chair
Johnny Malpica, AICP Candidate



EPP Co-Chair
Nate Shull



Awards Co-Chair
Daniel Murray, AICP



Sustainability Co-Chair
Karl Barton, AICP



Sustainability Co-Chair
Dana Hoffman



Student Rep
Ivana Medina, AICP



Healthy Communities Chair
Liz Young Winne, AICP

All Hands on Deck

“All Hands on Deck” is a call to action for all to assist in resolving problems or addressing a situation. The Chapter Board and supporting committees are staffed by volunteers that do just that for APA Colorado and our membership.

The APA Colorado Board is composed of nine elected, seven appointed, and thirteen committee representatives who provide geographical, topical, and interest areas a voice in the Chapter.

As VP of External Affairs, Julia acts as a coordinator and liaison between the Board and all Chapter activities in the area of public relations. In part to execute the duties of this position, the VP also Co-Chairs the APA Outreach and Communications Committee and Co-Chairs the APA Colorado Awards Committee.

Through the Outreach and Communications Committee, Julia VP assisted in improving the effectiveness of the Chapter’s tools (website, email, newsletter, and podcast topics planning) during 2022. The Awards Committee received over 20

Vice President External Affairs

Julia Puester, AICP



submissions and awarded 6 honor awards and 12 merit awards at the State Conference. Julia also assisted with communications to the award winners and those that did not receive an award and helped award winners prepare video presentations for the conference.

During 2023, Julia plans to endeavor to enhance our planning profession’s relationships with those outside of our field. This includes providing more opportunities that encourage and support planners to reach outside of their comfort zone and engage outside organizations and people such as social and environmental non-profits, other professional organizations, and our future planning youth.

Legislative Matters - Making Waves

During the 2022 State of Colorado Legislative session, the APA Colorado Legislative Committee met bi-weekly on Fridays at noon to monitor and evaluate legislation proposed and take positions of support or opposition, as warranted. 2022 was a busy year, as we tracked 74 bills, supported 22, and opposed none (click the link to view the bills that our Legislative Liaison Sol Malick from Peak Government Affairs uses to help us track bills: <https://coloradocapitolwatch.com/bill-analysis/3231/2022/0/>). Each fall, the APA Colorado Legislative Committee distributes a survey to the entire APA Colorado membership asking members to rank the issues that are most important in their communities throughout the state. From the survey we identify our top five issues and develop a legislative priorities document that Sol disseminates to all our state legislators. In 2022, our top five priorities were Affordable Housing, Climate Change and Energy Planning, Transportation, Water Planning and Conservation, and Infrastructure Development and Coordination.

The Legislative Committee hosted a virtual Legislate and Learn event on April 14th, where we had Senator Faith Winter and Representative Dylan Roberts speak to the group about legislation that they were running and ways that Planners could get more involved in working with legislators to help pass legislation that represents good planning. We also had Jason

Jordan and Emily Pasi join us from APA National to discuss important federal legislation and the connection between national and state priorities.

In October, we presented the 2022 Colorado Legislative Update at the State APA Conference. We had Representative Julie McCluskie and Representative Dylan Roberts join us for a great conversation about legislation and planning issues that we see in our communities around the state.

Finally, APA Colorado hosted the 2022 APA Legislative Summit on November 15-16 in downtown Denver at RTD. This event brought legislative leaders together from APA chapters across the country to discuss how each chapter is advancing their legislative priorities to legislators in their states. Some of the highlights included Representative Matt Gray speaking to us about his perspectives on how we can better communicate with legislators, as well as a tour of the State Capitol, and a quick visit from Governor Jarod Polis.

We look forward to tracking legislation, developing more relationships with legislators, and sharing information with planners throughout the state in 2023. Our committee is always open to new members, please reach out any time to Legislative@APAColorado.org.

Social Media



Social Media Manager
Jena Skinner, AICP

Social Media in 2022

2022 was a defining year for social media all over the world. Many of the changes we saw are likely not just trends; they are transformations to our favorite platforms that will continue to evolve as we use social media differently.

Were the changes we saw in 2022 for the better or did they make things worse? Many of them were controversial or unpopular, but others will help us remember 2022... READ MORE



FOLLOW APA COLORADO

CHANGES TO SOCIAL MEDIA



WE WENT GRAY

Facebook eliminated our established page due a loss of the original Admin, with no way to reconnect to our current social media manager accounts. After making great increases in Likes, APA Colorado on Facebook now has a new page. Please re-like to catch up on the news!



APA Colorado Chapter - American Planning Association
28 likes • 21 followers



PODCASTS COMING 2023



Whova

Digital Article 4 Ways Social Media Changed in 2022. Marissa Parisi. Published Dec. 20, 2022. <https://www.makeuseof.com/Ways-Social-Media-Changed-In-2022/>

2022
Colorado
Planning
Conference



18TH ANNUAL COLORADO TRANSPORTATION SYMPOSIUM



Committees - Catching the Wind in our Sails

APAS Committee

President: Camille Pahl & Student Representative: Ivana Medina

The APA Student Chapter facilitates connections between emerging planners and practicing professionals. This Chapter is a two-way street. It offers opportunities to broaden students' understanding of the planning profession and allows practitioners to give back and assist the next generation of planners.

Through hard work and budgeting, we were able to bring almost four dozen planning students from the state's largest planning program to the APA state conference, giving them the opportunity to experience an academic conference, learn about exciting new directions in research and practice, and network with professionals in the field.

In 2022, we also offered opportunities for members to engage with each other, their communities, and the planning profession within the Denver region. Events included visits to planning firms, a tour of the History Colorado museum, and a workshop with the Mile High Flood District's Stream Academy.

Members can get involved by signing up for our events, interacting with our social media accounts, and attending our monthly meetings. Benefits of APAS Committee engagement include opportunities to learn, network, and have fun with fellow planners! The more students engage, the more diverse and enriching the experiences will be for all.



Committees - Catching the Wind in our Sails

Legislative Committee

Co-Chairs: Shaida Libhart, AICP & Scott Bressler, AICP

Our committee is special because we bring a large group of similarly focused members with a wide range of expertise together to look at legislation that affects all of us as planners. Our members throughout the state bring different views to our table based on their geography and their employment sector, but all focused on good planning.

We tracked a total of 74 planning-related bills in 2022 (supporting 22) and were heavily involved in working with legislators on the SB21-260 that was passed in 2021.

We anticipate more of the same in 2023! We will track planning-related bills that really matter to us as planners.

We worked closely with folks on the Affordable Housing legislation as a focus during 2022, and this continues into the 2023 Legislative Session. If you have an interest in Affordable Housing, now is a great time to get involved with the Legislative Committee. Meetings occur every other Friday throughout the legislative season. You do not need to have an in-depth knowledge of the legislative process (we are all learning all the time). You also don't need to have a full understanding of every topic area (none of us do). Anyone is welcome if you want to learn about the process and get involved in the legislation that affects all of us as planners every day!



Membership Committee

Chair: Susan Wood, FAICP

This committee is the backbone of the organization, in that it identifies the value in your APA Colorado membership and helps ensure that value is given, year-round. We had planned to conduct a new member survey in 2021/22 but postponed the effort to allow the EDI Committee to first complete their EDI survey in collaboration with the CU MURP program.

Be on the look-out for the membership survey in your inbox in 2023. Be prepared to provide input on what you think the Chapter is doing well and things that you think we can improve. Let us know how we can create better value for you as a member of APA Colorado and again, how we can serve you better.

Committees - Catching the Wind in our Sails

Professional Development Committee

Chair: Erin Fosdick, AICP

The Professional Development Committee (PDC) provides support for members throughout the year. The PDC assists with session selection and creating the theme for the annual conference, and reviews requests for certification maintenance. In addition, the PDC hosts two AICP prep workshops annually, helping planners prepare to take the AICP exam.

During 2022, the PDC hosted two virtual AICP prep workshops and provided support for test takers. The group also participated in creating the call for sessions and session selection for the 2022 Colorado Planning Conference (CPC 22). Throughout the year, the PDC also assisted in approving CM credits for several trainings, including the certification maintenance credits for the 18th Colorado Transportation Symposium.

Other Committees Include:

Awards Committee

Co-Chairs: Daniel Murray, AICP & Julia Puester, AICP

Contact: awards@apacolorado.org

Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Committee

Co-Chairs: Manish Shirgaokar, PH.D, AICP & Jennifer Woods, AICP

Contact: edi@apacolorado.org

Emerging Planning Professionals Committee

Co-Chairs: Johnny Malpica, AICP Candidate & Nate Shull

Contact: eppcommittee@apacolorado.org

Great Places Committee

Chair: Renae Stavros, AICP

Contact: greatplaces@apacolorado.org

Healthy Communities Committee

Co-Chairs: Liz Young Winne & Roshanna Floyd, MPA, AICP CFV

Contact: Healthy@apacolorado.org

Outreach & Communications Committee

Co-Chairs: Mike Tylka, AICP & Julia Puester, AICP

Contact: occ@apacolorado.org

Sustainability Committee

Co-Chairs: Karl Barton, AICP & Dana Hoffman

Contact: sustainability@apacolorado.org

Youth in Planning Committee

Chair: Morgan Hester, AICP CNU-A

Contact: yip@apacolorado.org

Sponsors

The Colorado Chapter of the American Planning Association (APA Colorado) is a non-profit organization of professionals and citizen planners providing vision and leadership for the future development of Colorado communities. We are the state affiliate of the American Planning Association and have over 1,500 APA members statewide. In Colorado, as well as nationally, we have a membership that is diverse in expertise and focus. APA Colorado members work both in the public sector and private sector; for Federal, State, and local government; for firms both large and small; in long-range planning and development review; in master planning as well as site planning; in transportation planning, land use planning, environmental planning, design, and in many other capacities.

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American Planning Association

Colorado Chapter

Creating Great Communities for All



2021 Annual Report

I PLANNING



OUR MISSION

APA Colorado provides leadership in the development of resilient, inclusive, sustainable and equitable communities by advocating for excellence in planning and public policy, promoting professional development, and providing education and citizen empowerment for those who are working to protect and enhance the natural and built environment.

R.I.S.E. - Resilient. Inclusive. Sustainable. Equitable



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'21 Was a Bit Like a Layer Cake

LIFE

FAMILY

WORK

COVID 19

BALANCE *(in theory right?)*

Tie in the great resignation, lack of childcare and housing becoming a scarce necessity and you might wonder if this isn't a negative way to start an annual report. Just the opposite. Resiliency is palpable. Kids made it back to school and managing the challenges while reveling in being back together with their cohorts, glimpses of normalcy are present. Federal funding via ARPA and the Build Back Better Act are poised to bring an influx of infrastructure capital to our communities and Planners are at the table to make the most of this unique opportunity for our country and our communities.

Highlights from 2021 include:

1. Two well attended conferences, one in

person and one virtual. Over 500 planners took advantage of one or both of our education offerings. Add in the transportation symposium and it's hard to argue with the hard work our Board, volunteers and Shelia put in creating a successful 2021.

2. Fiscal health continues to be on a positive trajectory. A significant part of APA Colorado's fiscal health is tied to our membership. Concerns that many planners may not be able to continue their memberships in early 2020 when Covid first hit and the job market a tad uncertain, the board kept spending to a minimum and weathered 2020 with minimal impact. At this time, we see that our membership numbers are holding steady and we thank all of you for your continued support of APA



President

Joni Marsh, AICP



Colorado.

3. Equity, Diversity and Inclusion took center stage for both our Chapter and APA National. The EDI committee put out a survey which ended up garnering over 750 responses! (See some survey response highlights on page 11)

4. Communication moving into 2022 will see us update our website, continue with on line engagement and electronic newsletters and expand into the world of podcasts! Stay tuned for a series to begin which will highlight Colorado communities and planners.

Other hopes for 2022: Keep the momentum the board has on a variety of

work plan items while encouraging more volunteers to consider service to APA Colorado. We need more planners to get involved. Collaboration with our partner professions will be key as funding opportunities in housing, transportation and infrastructure spending come to the forefront. Let's keep focused on the legislative priorities outlined by the Chapter and use our collective voices to continue to advocate for good planning and work to ensure that housing attainability continues to be a focus for Planners around the State as we struggle to house people nation-wide.

And finally, make space to breath and be kind to yourself and others. I appreciate the opportunity to serve the Colorado planning community and look forward to seeing you in Vail in September!

Past President

Michelle Stephens, AICP



Dear APA Colorado Members (and potential members),

The American Planning Association of America Colorado Chapter is one of the best Chapters in the country because of our engaged volunteers, board leadership, and willingness to go beyond the status quo. And we need you, our members, to continue that legacy into 2022 and beyond.

Your involvement - whether it's your attendance at one of our events, sponsorship of an activity, writing newsletter articles, leading conference sessions, taking and maintaining your AICP, or volunteering for the Board or a committee - are all ways that you

can make a positive difference and give back to our community.

As I conclude my service to the APA Colorado Board, I remain committed to being a hype-woman for planners and planning. The work we do is hard, but meaningful. And although change can be slow, you are in the driver's seat! As we lean into 2022, I hope you will take a moment to remember why you became a planner and how you can take that passion to deliver results that you can be proud of.

Share your story! Let's get inspired!

Take care, Michelle Stephens, AICP



2021 Designations:



39th Avenue Greenway Project - Denver



Las Colonias River Park - Grand Junction

What's your favorite place?

Glenwood Springs because its relaxing, has a great downtown, and I have fantastic memories with my family!

- Erin Fosdick, PDO

Photo: Don Graham, inknife_2000



Downtown Main Ave in Durango, where I can walk to my favorite restaurants, stores and always see people I know.

- Mark Williams, Southwest Area Rep

Photo: Blue Winter Skies Hug the Durango Skyline, Durango Web Creations



West Cliff, CO. The unobstructed views, rural charm, and obviously the endless recreational opportunities.

- Sarah Kohles, APAS President

Photo: Andreas F. Borchert, CC BY-SA 3.0 DE, via Wikimedia Commons



Nominate your Great Place in 2022

2021 CHAPTER AWARD RECIPIENTS

HONOR AWARDS

- Building Bridges: The Renovation of St. Charles Place Park - Community Engagement
- East Central and East Area Plans- General Planning Project
- Gunnison 2030: Live. Learn. Earn. - General Planning Project
- The Daily Does 719 Video Series - Journalism
- Estes Valley Open Space Plan - Sustainability

MERIT AWARDS

- 2020 Gilpin County Comprehensive Plan – General Planning Project
- 2020 Together Chaffee County Comprehensive Plan – Community Engagement
- Lower Risk: The Fort Collins Water Shortage Action Plan and 1010 Water Restrictions – Growing Water Smart



The Money Slice

The Treasurer position involves close coordination with the Chapter Administrator and President on the day-to-day operations of the Chapter. The Treasurer is responsible for the financial wellbeing of the organization through careful review of the monthly expenses in relation to the annual budget prepared by the Budget Committee, which the Treasurer helps to oversee along with the President and Chapter Administrator. This position works closely with all Chapter Board positions, committees and staff to evaluate funding requests against the annual budget to ensure we are providing our members and communities with the resources they need to elevate the profession.

As with any volunteer board, members may decide how active they want to be involved, which directly impacts the progress of the organization or position. The Treasurer position is a more active role that assists other Board members, the President and staff on various initiatives and activities. It is important that the Treasurer be well prepared for the monthly meetings by working closely with staff to finalize the Monthly Report and to review all aspects of the packet to understand any funding requests and how they relate to the annual budget. For the Treasurer to be effective in their role, it is important to allocate time every month to complete the responsibilities, which fluctuate around the conference and end-of-year annual budget preparation and review. At APA Colorado, we are very fortunate to have a Chapter Administrator that assists the Board members and our members throughout the year.

As Treasurer, I have the opportunity to be a member on the Conference Planning Committee where we discuss all aspects of the Colorado Planning Conference, including the conference theme. When we discussed the theme for 2021, the idea of Planning at a Crossroads came to mind given

Treasurer

Josh Olhava, AICP



the challenges we face in our profession. The Covid pandemic along with the ever changing social and political dynamics are creating opportunities for us as planners to change the way we think and how we function. We can challenge the status quo of reactionary planning and assert ourselves into conversations and decisions to help guide positive change for our communities. Planners have a unique and diverse skillset that our communities and residents need as we navigate these opportunities and push forward.

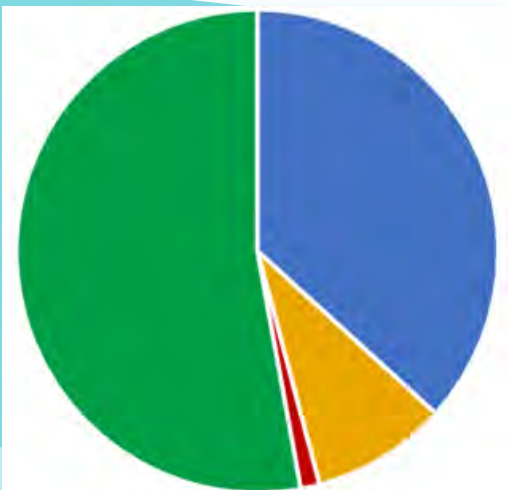
- Established a comprehensive budget for 2021, despite the uncertainty surrounding the 2021 Colorado Planning Conference and other events due to the ongoing Covid pandemic.
- Worked closely with the Conference Planning Committee, PDO (Professional Development Officer) and the Professional Development Committee to think of new and engaging session formats for our members at the annual conference.
- Worked closely with the Conference Planning Committee and staff to put together a great in-person and virtual conference for our members.
- Served alongside the PDO to answer mentorship requests and served as a mentor to many planners throughout the The APA .The



2021 Financials

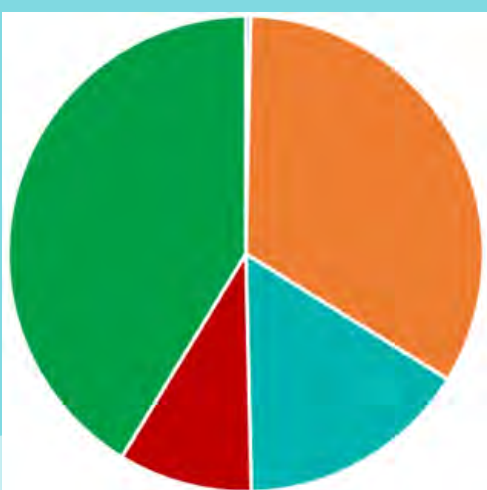
	2018	2019	2020	2021
INCOME				
Admin/Membership	\$ 66,411	\$ 63,552	\$ 76,340	\$ 70,078
Advertising	\$ 757	\$ 1,465	\$ 650	\$ 1,627
Education & Events	\$ 7,211	\$ 6,775	\$ 440	\$ 440
Sponsorship	\$ 29,220	\$ 40,100	\$ 17,069	\$ 17,302
State Conference	\$130,450	\$124,331	\$ 54,902	\$100,391
TOTAL INCOME	\$234,049	\$236,223	\$132,332	\$189,837
EXPENSES				
Administration	\$ 26,388	\$ 23,207	\$ 6,467	\$ 12,692
Education & Events	\$ 13,209	\$ 17,270	\$ 3,392	\$ 2,345
Legislative	\$ 25,157	\$ 27,015	\$ 28,452	\$ 26,100
Member Services	\$ 1,513	\$ 3,038	\$ 6,183	\$ 539
Payroll	\$ 51,059	\$ 49,547	\$ 56,938	\$ 55,351
Conference	\$119,085	\$197,615	\$ 9,132	\$ 67,314
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$236,410	\$317,692	\$110,564	\$165,183
TOTAL	-\$ 2,362	-\$ 81,469	\$ 21,768	\$24,654
ASSETS				
Checking	\$ 58,280	\$ 30,665	\$ 53,788	\$ 77,909
Savings	\$ 100,073	\$ 50,126	\$ 50,135	\$ 50,140
TOTAL ASSETS	\$158,353	\$ 81,792	\$103,923	\$128,049





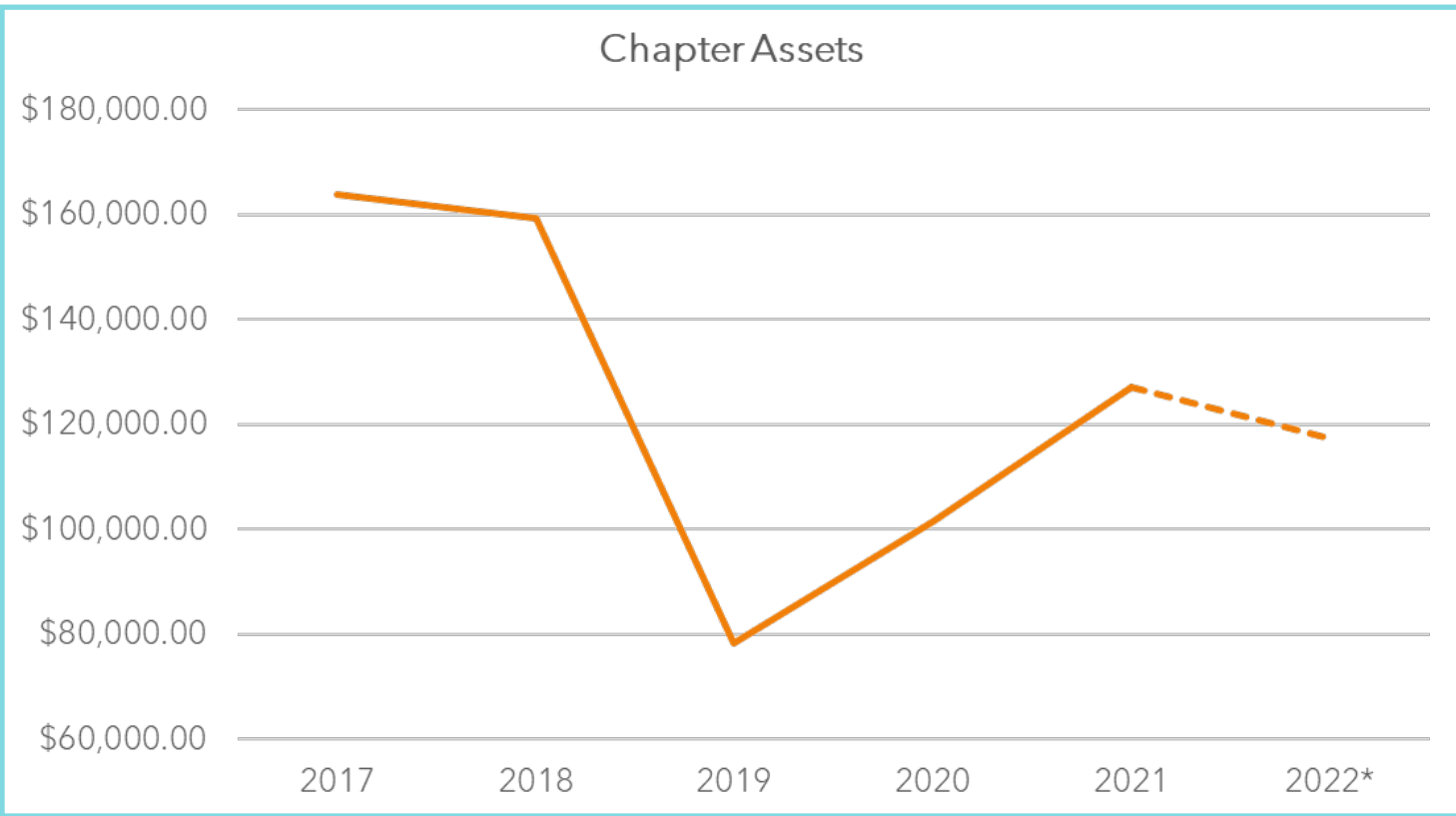
Income
\$189,837.37

- Memberships
- Sponsorships
- Other Admin. & Events
- Conference



Expenses
\$165,183.41

- Member Services
- Personnel & Payroll
- Legislative
- Admin. & Events
- Conference



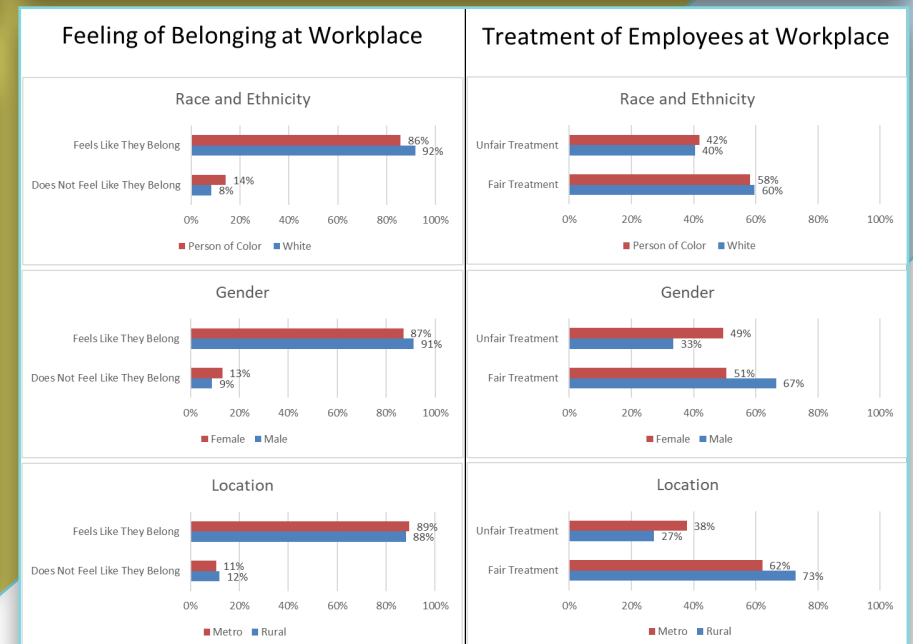
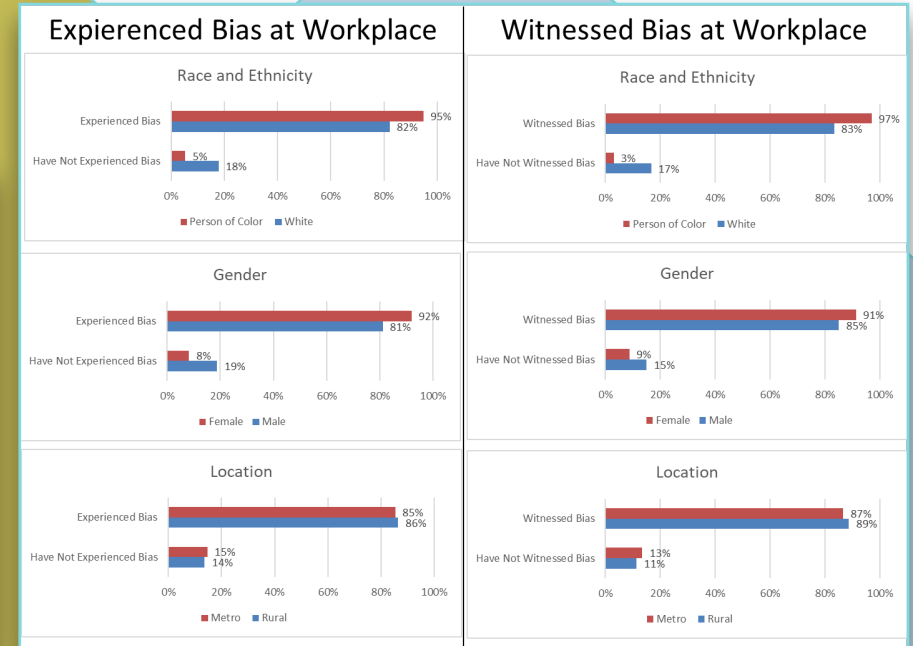
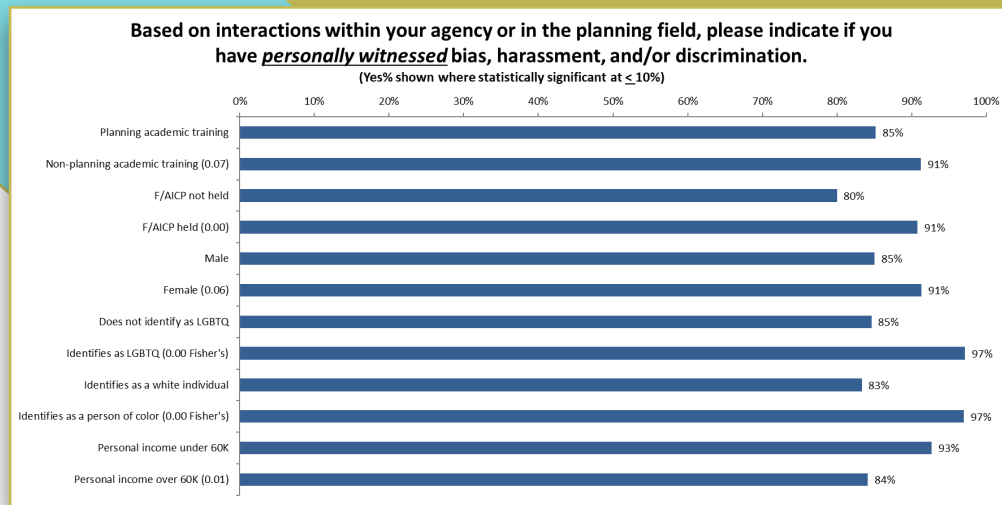
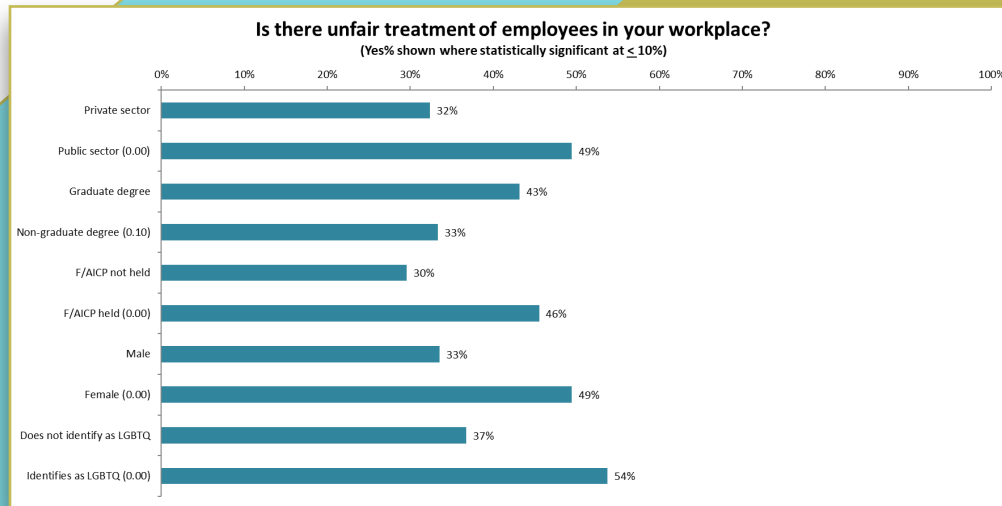
Profit
\$24,653.96

We ended the year with a profit - exceeding budget expectations

Note: 2022 numbers are based on the approved budget and projections.

a glimpse at EDI

In 2021, the Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Committee conducted an EDI survey. The Committee is currently analyzing the data and will provide a full report in 2022. Below are a few interesting highlights from the report.



Meet the Icing: 2021 Chapter Board



President
Joni Marsh, AICP



Past President
Michelle Stephens, AICP



Treasurer
Josh Olhava, AICP



VP Communications
Mike Tylka, AICP



VP External Affairs
Julia Puester, AICP



PDO
Erin Fosdick, AICP



Region V Director
Susan Wood,



South Central
Katelyn Wintz, AICP



Denver Metro
Britt Palmberg, AICP



Denver Metro
Hadley Peterson, AICP



Central Mountain
Mark Truckey, AICP



North Central
Summer Frederick, AICP



Northwest
Greg Moberg



Southwest
Mark Williams



Legislative Affairs Rep
Shaida Libhart AICP



Faculty Rep, Manish
Shirgaokar, PhD AICP



Student Rep
Lauren Platman



EPP Rep
Joan Lyons



Awards Chair
Daniel Murray, AICP



EDI Rep, Ignacio
Correa-Ortiz, AICP



Great Places
Renae Stavros, AICP



Healthy Communities Rep
Bradyn Nicholson



Legislative Rep
Scott Bressler, AICP



Membership Rep.
Maureen Paz de Arujo, FAICP



Sustainability Rep
Conor Merrigan



Youth in Planning
Wade Broadhead, AICP



Legislative Liaison
Sol Malick

Legislative Layer

The Legislative Committee is different from many other committees because we are focused on working during the legislative session (January through May) for the most part. We meet frequently during that time so we can respond to legislation, be proactive to support important policies, and provide expertise to legislators. We've been working more directly with legislators recently, which allows us to build our political capital, expand our reach, and be even more of a resource to policy makers.

We supported important legislation and participated in the stakeholder process for the development of SB21-260 Sustainability of the Transportation System (the Transportation Bill). We had more one-on-one conversations with legislators and continued to build the presence of planning and develop long-standing relationships. We have begun working with our US Senators and Representatives too, working with APA and other state chapters on influencing federal policy. We also began developing a story bank that will, in the future, help us identify needs, issues, successes, and challenges from across the state to communicate better with our elected officials. The story bank will help us personalize messaging and pair it with data so that we can be more effective with legislators. As you

engage with the community, help us record their stories so we can link local needs with data to encourage good planning policies.

We will be working hard to get legislation passed that supports affordable housing, climate change, water planning and conservation, transportation, and infrastructure development. We will also be continuing to build our relationships with legislators. One way we are planning to do that is to conduct local tours that highlight needs or success in communities across Colorado. The tours could be based on affordable housing, conservation, transportation, or more! If you have ideas or would like to participate in a tour, let us know.

The legislative committee meets every other week through the legislative session. Come when you can, but you are not obligated to attend every meeting. Get on the list-serve to stay up to date with our committee meetings. Also, come to Planner's Day at the Capitol or testify with us at the capitol. The more legislators see and hear from us, the more it reinforces the importance and value of planning. We are an important resource for policy makers, but we have to be in front of them and the issues to continue to build our reputation and influence.



Congressman Joe Neguse cosponsored the Housing Supply and Affordability Act thanks to the efforts of the Legislative Committee this year!

Representation

The APA Colorado Board is composed of nine elected, seven appointed and thirteen committee representatives who provide geographical, topical and interest areas a voice in the Chapter.

VICE PRESIDENT EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Julia Puester, AICP (VPExternalAffairs@APAColorado.org)

The VP of External Affairs acts as a coordinator and liaison between the Board and all Chapter activities in the area of public relations. In part to execute the duties of this position, the VP also CO-Chairs the APA CO Outreach and Communications Committee and Co-Chairs the APA CO Awards Committee.

Through the Outreach and Communications Committee I assisted in improving the effectiveness of the Chapter's tools (website, email, newsletter, and future podcast topic planning). In the Awards Committee, we reviewed 17 Chapter Awards submissions which resulted in 5 honors awards and 3 merit awards given at

the State conference. Further, I assisted with communication to the award winners and those that did not receive an award as well as help coordinate awards winners video presentations for the conference.

During my second term, I will seek to enhance our planning profession's relationships with those outside of our field. I would like to provide more opportunities that encourage and support planners to reach outside of their comfort zone and engage outside organizations and people such as social and environmental non-profits, other professional organizations and our future planning youth.

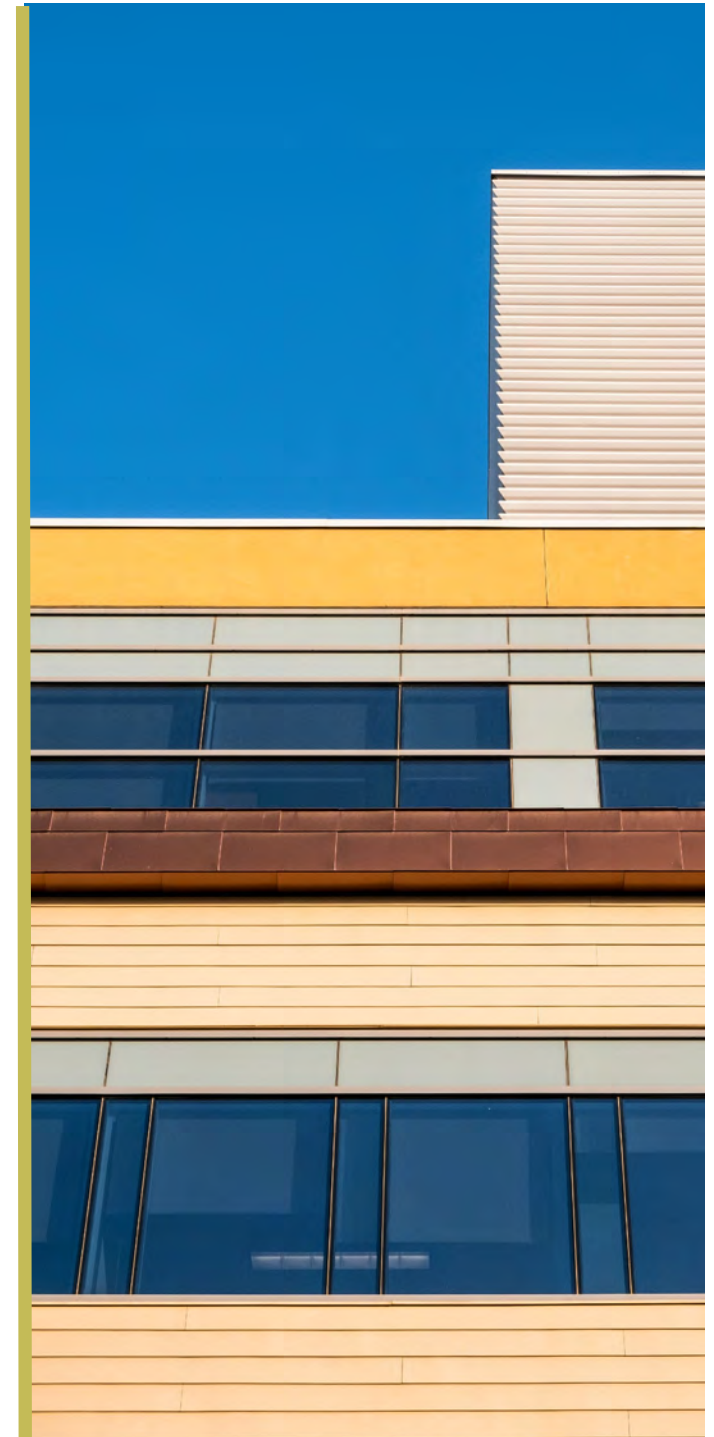
VICE PRESIDENT COMMUNICATIONS

Mike Tylka, AICP (VPCommunications@APAColorado.org)

This positions gets to speak to those involved in planning and planning adjacent roles in every capacity all over the state. Throughout 2021, I kept up newsletters and planned for new communication and outreach methods - it was a building for the future kind of year.

In 2022, ideally we can get an informative podcast up and running!

Want to help out, contact me! We are looking for new ideas and can always use the help. It is also a great networking tool.



DENVER METRO AREA REPRESENTATIVES

Britt Palmberg, AICP & Hadley Peterson (DenverMetro@APAColorado.org)

This position provides an opportunity to interact with the very diverse range of members across the Denver Metro area, representing the bigger cities, the various suburbs, and surrounding small towns. The Denver area is at the crossroads of many planning issues and it is an exciting area to represent.

In 2021 we tried get events going, as communities began opening up, including bike rides around the region. We also held virtual thematic talks in spring

2021 and collaborated with APA Urban Design and Preservation Division in Center, CO in Fall 2021.

We are looking forward to a lot more events, speaker series, and other ways to be involved and interact with members, as we continue to pull out of the pandemic and move toward the “new normal”.

If you want to help us plan events or offer suggestions, shoot us an email.



CENTRAL MOUNTAIN AREA REPRESENTATIVE

Mark Truckey, AICP (CentralMountain@APAColorado.org)

The Central Mountain area is the Heart of the Rockies! In 2021 I assisted the planning efforts for the Fall Colorado Planning Conference in Keystone. Later, I held a Breckenridge Housing Tour in October, which attracted about 20 planners where we were able to provide an overview of Breckenridge's extensive efforts regarding workforce housing and

provided a tour of a number of the Town's recent housing developments.

What should you look forward to in 2022? Free beer--for everyone that attends the 2022 Fall conference in Vail! We'll also provide great educational opportunities along the way!

SOUTHWEST AREA REPRESENTATIVE

Mark Williams (Southwest@APAColorado.org)

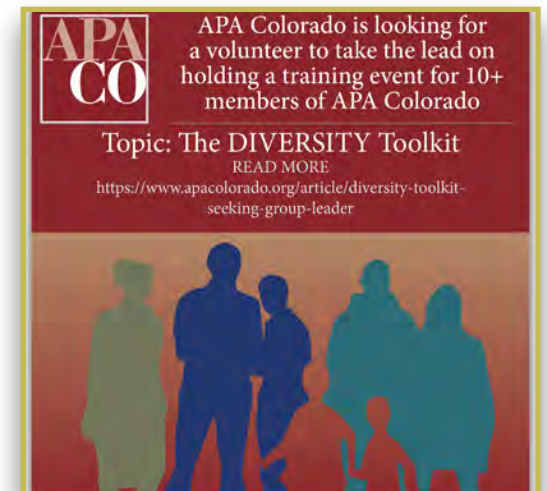
The Southwest Area is the remotest outpost of planners in Colorado, so it's really nice when we can get together in professional gatherings and remind ourselves there's more than just mountains, clean air and wild rivers.

This was a year to get back to socializing in person. We hosted a happy hour for design professionals in Durango in the fall. For the first time since 2019 we

will also have a holiday party for planners.

In 2022 I will continue to connect members with each other, with social events and with opportunities for professional advancement.

I encourage anyone with specific a request to learn about a particular topic to contact me or APA. We can always help set up webinars or even in-person events.



SOUTH CENTRAL AREA REPRESENTATIVE

Katelynn Wintz, AICP (SouthCentral@APAColorado.org)

In 2022, South Central Area planners can expect happy hours and in-person events to bring our community of planners together for networking and resource sharing!

Any members interested in being involved with APA Colorado are welcomed with open arms! The South Central area is particularly interested in any members

who have an interest in assisting with brainstorming new event ideas and event coordination. This is a rewarding opportunity to meet new planners out of your usual network and give back. Members can get involved by reaching out to APA Colorado or southcentral@apacolorado.org.



OTHER REPRESENTATIVES

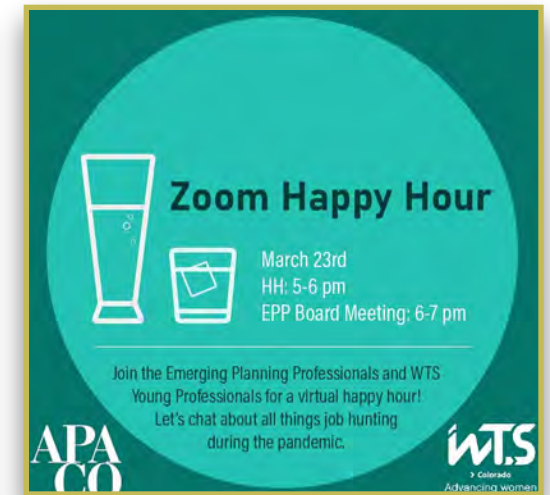
North Central Area Representative (NorthCentral@APAColorado.org)

Northwest Area Representative (Northwest@APAColorado.org)

EPP Representative (EPP@APAColorado.org)

Public Official Representative (PublicOffical@APAColorado.org)

Allied Organization Representative (AlliedOrg@APAColorado.org)

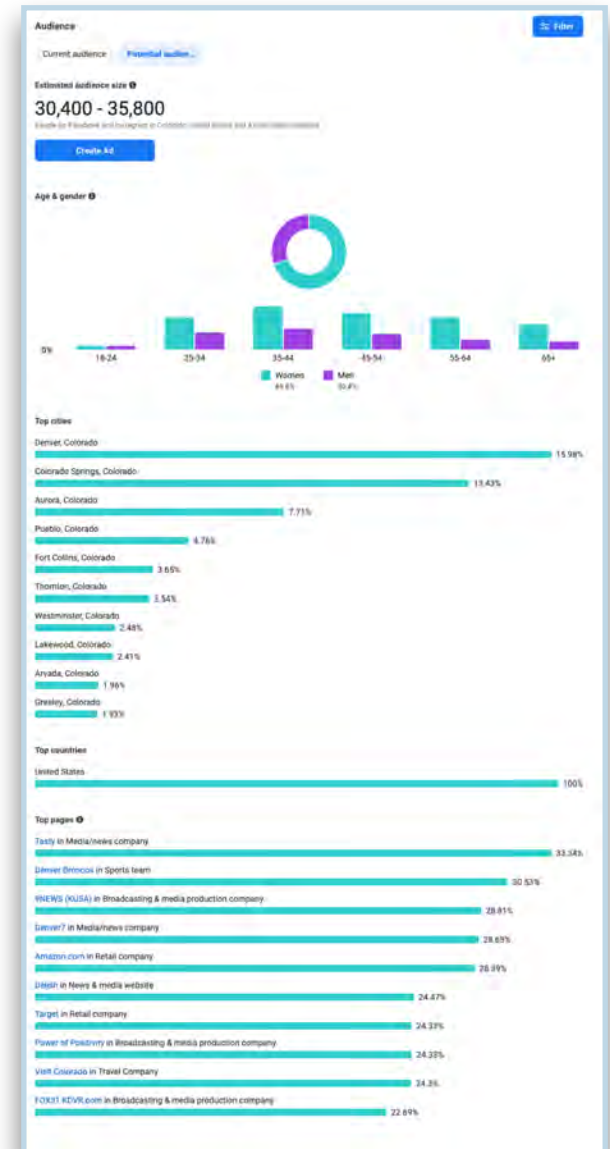
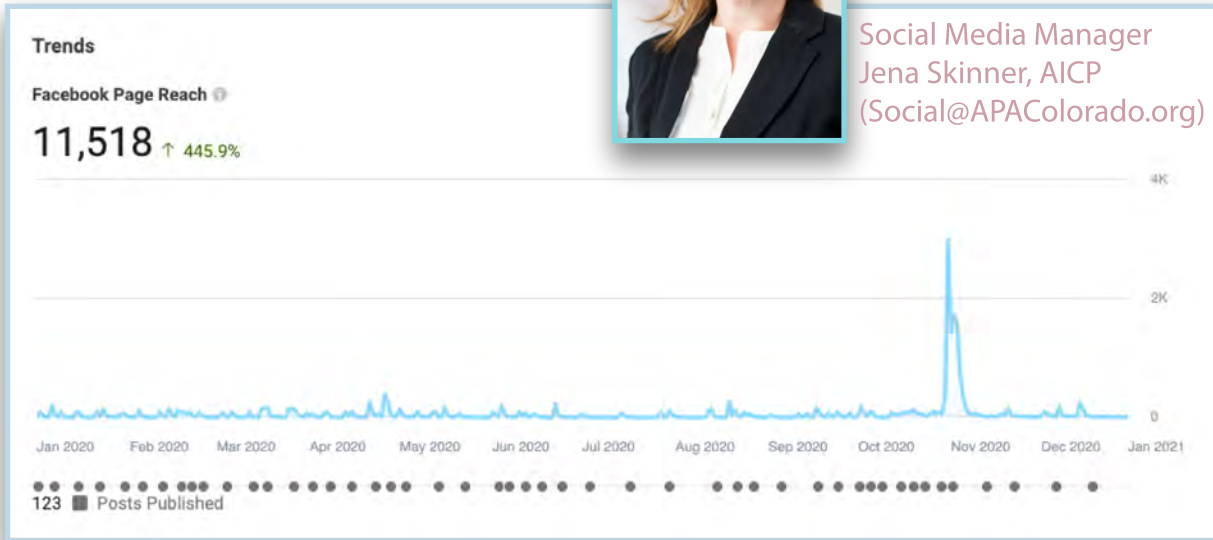


Social Media



Social Media Manager
Jena Skinner, AICP
(Social@APAColorado.org)

Get a quick fix for your Chapter and planning news. Follow us on



YouTube Channel: APA Colorado (6 subscribers)

Uploads

- 2021 Team Meet & Annual Board Meeting (4 views • 1 week ago)
- 2020 Great Places in Colorado: Public Space... (28 views • 3 months ago)
- Craft Planning Board Games (19 views • 3 months ago)
- 2020 Great Places in Colorado: Street, Tejas... (6 views • 3 months ago)
- Guide to Downtown Design Standards, City of Loveland (2 views • 3 months ago)
- Melaniee Paz de Araujo, FAICP CIP CEO (80 views • 3 months ago)

2021 COLORADO PLANNING CONFERENCES



Planning at a Crossroads

What does that mean to you?

For the first time in 22 years I am not a working planner but an administrator who happens to be a planner. I think I am not the only one who found themselves changing and evolving with the pandemic and at times, feeling unsure about the next steps for our communities and ourselves in light of all the current struggles presenting themselves.

- Joni Marsh, President

Crossroads are where inertia meets change. Planning has more knowledge, tools and engagement than ever before, and as a profession we have the ability to find the best way forward.

- Mark Williams, Southwest Area Representative

We've clearly had a paradigm shift regarding public engagement as a result of the pandemic and it will never be the same again. Planners need to adjust and take advantage of new technologies to be more inclusive in the planning process.

- Mark Truckey, Central Mountain Area Representative

Our profession helps shape the future and our professional knowledge needs to be used at the forefront to shape it.

- Mike Tylka, VP Communications





We as planners make choices every day that will impact our communities immediately, and into the future. It is imperative that we consider long-term impacts vs. short-term gains to ensure we maintain healthy, thriving communities. We need to make investments in our communities and to consider equity, equality, inclusivity, and sustainability in all aspects of planning. That is NOT an easy task. But let's keep working toward those goals, and we are sure to continue creating amazing places that everyone can enjoy!

- Renae Stavros, Great Places Committee Chair



The planning profession continues to evolve. In order to remain relevant, the profession needs to continue to adapt in the way we approach our work - the topics we address, how we address them, and how we work with our diverse stakeholders.

- Erin Fosdick, Professional Development Officer



Planning is more important now than ever. As technology, society, community needs, and the pandemic continue to evolve, planning is playing a critical role in solving current issues and preparing our communities for the future.

- Shaida Libhart, Legislative Affairs Representative



The Covid pandemic along with the ever changing social and political dynamics are creating opportunities for us as planners to change the way we think and how we function. We can challenge the status quo of reactionary planning and assert ourselves into conversations and decisions to help guide positive change for our communities. Planners have a unique and diverse skillset that our communities and residents need as we navigate these opportunities and push forward.

- Josh Olhava, Treasurer

Crossroads can also be viewed as an opportunity for change, and planning is always operating where change occurs. Planning helps inform and guide our decisions of what we want our community to be in the future and what we want to preserve (i.e. not change).

- Daniel Murray, Awards Committee Co-Chair

Committee Crumbs

APAS COMMITTEE

President: Sara Kohles and Student Representative: Lauren Platman

The APA Student Chapter facilitates connections between emerging planners and practicing professionals. This Chapter is a two-way street. It offers opportunities to broaden students' understanding of the planning profession and allows practitioners to give back and assist the next generation of planners.

Through hard work and budgeting, we were able to bring almost four dozen planning students from the state's largest planning program to the APA state conference, giving them the opportunity to experience an academic conference, learn about exciting new directions in research and practice, and network with professionals in the field.

This past spring, the previous board hosted panel discussions covering a wide variety of topics including

on the intersection of race and planning and planning for people with disabilities.

In 2022, we are offering opportunities for members to engage with each other, their communities, and the planning profession within the Denver region. Upcoming events include visits to planning firms, a tour of the History Colorado museum, and a workshop with the Mile High Flood District's Stream Academy.

Members can get involved by signing up for our events, interacting with our social media accounts, and attending our monthly meetings. They should get involved because we provide opportunities to learn, network, and have fun with fellow planners! The more students engage, the more diverse and enriching the experiences.

AWARDS COMMITTEE

Co-Chairs: Daniel Murray, AICP & Julia Puester

The Awards Committee has the honor of recognizing excellent planning projects in Colorado. We get to celebrate the success of a communities plan or creative solution to a challenge.

The Awards Committee reviewed 17 award submissions and selected 3 Merit and 5 Honor awards, which were recognized at the state conference.

We will be revising the award categories to align with the APA National categories. Beyond that, we will continue our role to recognize planning excellence.

It is a great way to learn about the challenges and solutions that communities are facing in Colorado. It is about a 8 hour commitment each spring and then we get to celebrate at the fall conference.



EQUITY, DIVERSITY & INCLUSION COMMITTEE

Co-Chairs: Ignacio Correa-Ortiz, AICP & Hadley Peterson, AICP-C

The EDI Committee is the best place for fighting racism within the association. We have met the enemy. The enemy is us.

The path to achieve our goal is long and has many twists, but we are doing it one step at a time. In 2021 we took a significant step with the release of the EDI survey which is already providing insight at how equity, diversity and inclusion look in our profession. Apart from planners not looking like the communities we serve; we are also not a homogeneous group. The Results and analysis will be presented in 2022.

After two years serving as Co-chair , Ignacio Correa-Ortiz will turn the reins over to Manish Shirgaokar and Jennifer

FAICP COMMITTEE

Chairs: Maureen Paz de Araujo, FAICP CTP CEP

The FAICP Committee is made up of all current Colorado AICP Fellows. During 2021 the committee completed support for the four APA Colorado Chapter FAICP candidates for the 2022 Class of the College of Fellows. All committee members took part in applications review, selection of potential nominees, and review and editing of nomination packages. Four committee members, Julie Ann Woods, Peter Pollock, Susan Wood and Maureen Paz de

SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Co-Chairs: Conor Merrigan, & Karl Barton, AICP

The Sustainability Committee works to put on events that link sustainability to other aspects of planning practice for the benefit of our members and their communities and clients.

The Sustainability Committee put on the Designing a Street for Recovery virtual charette to examine the possibilities for converting a stretch of Larimer St in Five Points into a permanent shared street. Following the charette we hosted a happy hour at Ratio Beer Works.

Woods. They will carry on our goal of achieving “a planning profession that is representative of the communities that planners serve.”

Ignacio and the Committee exhort you to become aware of your personal biases. One tool you may use is the Harvard Implicit Association Test; be the change that you want to see around you.

Thanks to our current and former members: Hadley Peterson Co-chair, Lauren Platman, Manish Shirgaokar, Brandon Cammarata, Jennifer Woods, Rocio Ramirez, Jenny Steffel Johnson, Lynn Coppedge, Edson Ibáñez, Andrew Williams, Sara Dusenberry, Max Morgan and Layla Bajalan.

Araujo acted as mentor guides for the nominees. All four nomination packages were completed and submitted in August. Over 100 nominations were submitted this cycle and the Chapter will be notified if our nominees were successful in early February 2022. Members of the 2022 FAICP Class will be inducted into the FAICP College of Fellows in a formal ceremony at NPC2022.

In 2022, the Sustainability Committee will be focusing on the Symposium for Sustainable Infrastructure - 4.

Members can get involved by emailing Sustainability@apacolorado.org and coming to our meetings which are the third Tuesdays of the month from 8:30 to 9:30 am. They should get involved because the Sustainability Committee is filled with fun and committed people who are doing good work, but could use some help.





Conference Committee
Chair: Joni Marsh, AICP
(President@APAColorado.org)

Emerging Planning Professionals Committee
Chair: Vacant
(EPP@APAColorado.org)

Nomination Committee
Chair: Greg Moberg
(Admin@APAColorado.org)

Outreach & Communication Committee
Co-Chairs: Mike Tylka, AICP & Julia Puester, AICP
(OCC@APAColorado.org)

Youth In Planning Committee
Chair: Wade Broadhead, AICP
(YIP@APAColorado.org)

GREAT PLACES COMMITTEE

Chair: Renae Stavros, AICP

The Great Places in Colorado program showcases some of Colorado's best assets - the places that make people love this State! I love seeing the variety of projects that are submitted to our program each year. They represent amazing planning efforts in communities throughout the State of Colorado. Our planners and community leaders strive for excellence, and we do an amazing job!

This year the Great Places program added equity and inclusivity markers to our checklist for what makes a Great Place in Colorado. Many of these markers were already part of our review, but this year we wanted to ensure our review included specific qualities and characteristics of places that are both equitable and

HEALTHY COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

Co-Chairs: Bradyn Nichoson & Liz Young Winne

The Healthy Communities Committee is proud to provide a variety of opportunities for professionals across Colorado. By keeping the committee broad and inclusive to professionals interested in healthy community planning, the group has been able to be flexible and well-received by members.

The Healthy Communities Committee conducts an annual survey to solicit information about group interests for the year's meetings. In addition to regularly scheduled meetings, the Healthy Community Committee finished the Health and Housing position statement (Board approved in November 2021), hosted a presentation at the Colorado Planning Conference, and supported a Colorado School of

inclusive.

In 2022, our hope for the Great Places Committee is to increase awareness of our program. We need a new and improved marketing and outreach strategy to gain momentum and encourage diversity of applicant project types and location!

Please email greatplaces@apacolorado.org if you are interested in being part of the Great Places in Colorado Committee. It is minimal commitment and you are sure to find out about the great work planners are doing throughout the state. You will also be able to participate in the review of applications for the Great Places nomination in 2022!

Public Health capstone student to work on the Colorado Code Project.

The Healthy Communities Committee is looking forward to supporting a new CU-Denver Masters of Urban and Regional Planning student who will take another step toward finalizing the Colorado Code Project. The committee looks forward to finalizing this project in 2022 or 2023, depending on the progress made by student participation.

Interested planners, planning-adjacent professionals, and public health professionals are welcome to get in touch with the Healthy Community Committee by emailing healthy@apacolorado.org and can learn more by visiting our website.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Co-Chairs: Shaida Libhart, AICP & Scott Bressler, AICP

Our committee is special because we bring a large group of similar focused members who have a wide range of expertise to look at legislation that affects all of us as planners. We have members throughout the state that bring different views based on their geography and their employment sector, but all focused on good planning.

We tracked a total of 56 planning related bills this year. We also were heavily involved in working with legislators on the major Transportation funding bill that was passed this year: SB21-260 Sustainability Of The Transportation System.

Hopefully we will be doing more of the same in 2022! We will track planning

related bills that come up and take a position on bills that really matter to us as planners. We are working closely with folks on an Affordable Housing bill that may be run this year as well. If you have an interest in Affordable Housing, this is a great time to get involved in the legislative committee. Just call in to our Meetings that occur every other Friday throughout the legislative session. You do not need to have an in depth knowledge of the legislative process (we are all learning all the time). You do not have to testify on behalf of APA (but you can if you'd like). You don't need a full understanding about every topic area that planning covers (none of us do). Anyone is welcome if you want to learn about the process and get involved in the legislation that affects all of us as planners every day!



MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Chair: Maureen Paz de Araujo, FAICP CTP CEP

This committee is the backbone of the organization, in that it identifies the value in your APA Colorado membership and helps ensure that value is given, year-round. We had planned to conduct a new member survey in 2021 but postponed it to allow the EDI Committee to conduct their own important survey. Look

to see the membership survey in your inbox in 2022. Be prepared to provide input on what you think the Chapter is doing well and things we can improve upon. Let us know how we can improve upon the value of being a member of APA Colorado and again, how we can best serve you.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Chair: Erin Fosdick, AICP

The Professional Development Committee (PDC) provides support for members throughout the year. The PDC assists with conference session selection, creating themes for the year, and reviewing requests for certification maintenance. In addition, the PDC hosts two AICP prep workshops annually, helping planners prepare to take the AICP exam.

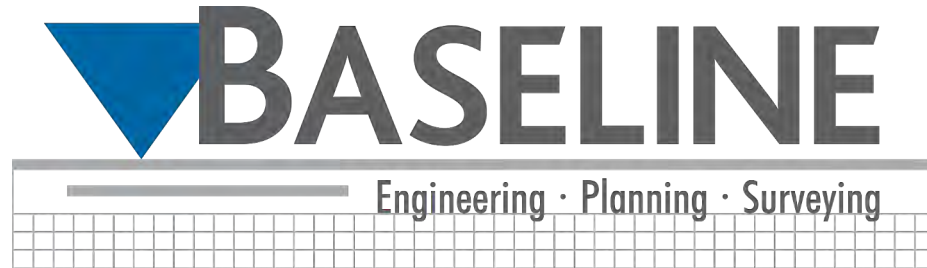
The PDC hosted two virtual AICP prep workshops and provided support for prospective test takers. The group participated in creating the call for sessions and session selection for the annual conference. In addition, the group brainstormed educational themes for consideration by the Board. The PDO also assisted in approving CM credits for several trainings throughout the year.

AICP exam prep workshops in the Spring and Fall. Support for professional development and training. Conference session planning and sessions that fulfill AICP requirements, including opportunities for earning required credits in the new subject areas. Potentially new opportunities for mentoring, in conjunction with other committees and Board members. Website updates for professional development resources

Participate in the PDC; submitting sessions for the annual conference, delivering and/or hosting trainings with CM opportunities, informal mentorship. Members should get involved to ensure planners throughout the state have access to relevant training opportunities.

SPONSORS & PARTNERS

Platinum Level:



www.baselinecorp.com

Gold Level:



The Colorado Chapter of the American Planning Association (APA Colorado) is a non-profit organization of professionals and citizen planners providing vision and leadership for the future development of Colorado communities. We are the state affiliate of the American Planning Association and have over 1,500 APA members Statewide. In Colorado, as well as nationally, we have a membership that is diverse in expertise and focus. APA Colorado members work both in the public and private sector; for Federal, state, and local government; for firms both large and small; in long-range planning and development review; in master planning, as well as site planning; in transportation planning, land use planning, environmental planning, design, and in many other capacities.

Silver Level:



Small Business Level:



Partners:





American Planning Association
Colorado Chapter

Creating Great Communities for All

2023 Annual Report

Timeline:

- Final draft to Abbey (admin@apacolorado.org) by November 15, 2023

Format:

- Please submit a Word document with your copy. If you have titles, headers, etc., please format your document accordingly. Your manuscript will be transferred to the Annual Report, along with any applicable photos.
- Please include your full name and accreditations you would like included. If you would like a different headshot than is on the website, please also include the updated headshot.
- Please submit any photos you would like included attached separately from the Word document.

Submissions Required:

President's Message - Maureen Paz de Araujo

- Include highlights of 2023

President Elect - TBD

Meet the Board - Abbey Aguirre

Great Places - Renae Stavros

- Any updates to designations in 2023
- Photos of 2023 designations
- Quotes about "your favorite place"

Chapter Awards - Julia Puester and Daniel Murray

- List of awards separated by section.
- Any photos from awards ceremony you would like included.

Financial Report - Josh Olhava

- Summary of financials from 2023
- Accomplishments
- Chapter assets (with Abbey)
- Profit / Loss (with Abbey)
- Income, expenses, and total assets chart (with Abbey)

Summary - VP External Affairs

- Summary of what the VP External Affairs does
- Accomplishments of 2023

Legislative Matters - Shaida Libhart and Scott Bressler

- Summary of Legislative session
- Summary of 2023 accomplishments

Social Media Summary - Jena Skinner

CPC Summary - Abbey Aguirre

Transportation Summary - Abbey Aguirre (with help from Maureen and event planner)

Committee Summaries (except Awards, Great Places, and Legislative, as they are included above): should include a summary of what was accomplished throughout 2023. May also include any call for action from members and/or plans for 2024.

- APAS - Levi Griffith
- EPP - Johnny Malpica and Zach Noyes
- EDI - Jennifer Woods
- Healthy Communities - Kris Valdez and Roshana Floyd
- Membership - Susan Wood
- OCC - Alex Bergeron and Julia Puester
- Professional Development - Erin Fosdick
- Sustainability - Karl Barton and Dana Hoffman
- Youth in Planning - Morgan Hester

Sponsors - Abbey Aguirre



APA Colorado Board Agenda Item

Board Meeting Date: 6/23/2023

Subject: 2024-2028 APA Colorado Chapter Development Plan

Board Member/Sponsor: Maureen Paz de Araujo, President

Development Plan|Action Program Reference: Goals (Lead, Serve, Educate, Advocate, Partner, Communicate & Engage), Strategies & Actions

Budget/Financial Implications: Yes No

Budget Line Item:

Amount Budgeted: N/A

Amount Requested:

ACTION ITEM:

INFORMATIONAL ITEM:

Recommendation: Develop/Refine Strategies for 2024-2027 and Action Items for 2023.

Update of the APA Colorado Chapter Development Plan is an important focus of our annual Board Retreat. In 2023 we will follow the format we used last year – breakout groups and report backs – to refine our Chapter’s Goals, Strategies and Action Items that were implemented or will be implemented in 2022/2023 to support achievement of the Chapter Goals.

The 2022 APA Colorado Development Plan and the Development Plan breakout group notes from last year are attached for reference to get everyone thinking. Our goal this year will be to advance the 2022-2026 Development Plan to 2024-2028. We will use the same format we used last year so be prepared to roll up your sleeves and bring great ideas to our table.



OUR STRATEGIES

LEAD

L-1 Be relevant, bold and responsive to planning issues and trends.

L-2 Advance community planning and communicate best practices at the local, regional and state-wide levels.

L-3 Build capacity for planning at the local, district, and state-wide level.

COMMUNICATE & ENGAGE

C-1 Publish and celebrate planning successes and lessons learned via all aspects of Chapter communication tools.

C-2 Increase volunteerism and provide a venue to advertise volunteer opportunities within the profession and APA Colorado.

C-3 Communicate regularly with members, partners, other APA Chapters, APA Divisions and APA National.

PARTNER

P-1 Enhance and expand our partnerships.

P-2 Foster interdisciplinary approaches to address planning issues and collaborate to expand positive community impacts.

P-3 Build enthusiasm for planning among community and industry leaders.

ADVOCATE

A-1 Assert, promote and communicate the value and role of planning and our profession, particularly the AICP credentials.

A-3 Promote policies and practices that reinforce planning ideals and provide more planning tools at the state and local levels.

A-4 Advocate for equity, diversity and inclusivity in the planning profession, and among appointed and elected officials.

A-2 Strengthen our planning advocacy program at the state and local levels.

EDUCATE

E-1 Make our communications more narrative, specific, personal, and compelling.

E-3 Instill in planners the highest standards of ethical behavior with a fundamental focus on the public interest.

E-4 Collaborate with the academic community to shape the future of the planning profession and bridge the gap between academia and real world.

E-2 Develop early outreach programs to middle and high school students to teach them about the value of planning.

SERVE

S-1 Be member responsive and transparent.

S-2 Ensure that the services we offer are of value to our members and are provided in the most efficient and cost-effective manner possible.

S-3 Ensure the availability of high quality educational products, events and conferences for planners at all stages of their careers.

S-4 Ensure the long-term financial and operational health of APA Colorado.

S-5 Provide a robust program of leadership development and succession planning in APA Colorado.

S-6 Implement additional retention strategies and set realistic goals for growth of the Chapter membership.

OUR 2022 ACTION ITEMS

A-1 Proactively engage members on future trends and big ideas and integrate into chapter activities, including communications and education, in order to poise planners to be adaptive to changing conditions. **(S: L-1)**

LEAD: Area Representatives in coordination with Committees

A-2 Provide education and outreach on the importance of equitable communities and what it means to plan with an equity lens. **(S: A-4)**

LEAD: Professional Development Officer and Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Committee

A-3 Complete the transition from the Chapter's current website to the APA hosted website. **(S: S-2)**

LEAD: Outreach & Communications Committee

A-4 Using the Chapter's educational themes, start a podcast series and use it, the website and newsletter as vehicles to publish and highlight good planning and to educate our members on issues, trends and legislative matters. **(S: C-1)**

LEAD: VP Communications

A-6 Update and implement the Chapter's strategic communications plan. **(S: C-3)**

LEAD: Outreach & Communications Committee

A-7 Continue to track and raise awareness of legislative trends and bills that are important to our communities and constituents through the preparation and distribution of a monthly summary of legislative issues. **(S: A-2)**

LEAD: Legislative Committee

A-8 Promote the value of our profession, particularly the AICP credentials. **(S: A-1)**

LEAD: Professional Development Committee

A-9 Promote best practices for adopting healthy and sustainable actions in land use and building codes and create easily accessible resources for planners and non-planners throughout the state. **(S: L-2)**

LEAD: Professional Development' Healthy Communities, Sustainability and Outreach & Communications Committees

A-10 Continue support and engagement with the Symposium for Sustainable Infrastructure (SSI) / City we Want, which may include event organization and leadership. **(S: P-2)**

LEAD: Sustainability Committee

A-11 Host quarterly educational and networking events around the state. **(S: S-3)**

LEAD: Area Representatives in collaboration with Committees

A-12 Identify topics, resources and topic experts while working with DOLA for the Public Officials training kit to include short videos, handouts and other informational resources. **(S: L-2 and A-3)**

LEAD: Professional Development Committee and Public Official Representative

A-13 Hire an intern to survey small towns, identifying specific needs for planning assistance and list resources, prioritize tasks and draft initial documents and videos. **(S: L-2 and A-3)**

LEAD: Small Town Task Force, Professional Development Committee

A-14 Promote National Community Planning Month and engage tactics to reach new audiences in the community with activities relevant to building community capacity. **(S: L-2)**

LEAD: Outreach &

Communication Committee, EDI Committee and Board

A-15 Create a volunteer campaign and "Involvement Plan" to increase participation and volunteerism by drafting a "how to guide" and providing a venue to advertise opportunities within the profession and the Chapter. **(S: C-2)**

LEAD: VP External Affairs and Membership Committee.

A-16 Create a list of existing and desired partners and communicate with at least one each quarter. **(S: P-1)**

LEAD: VP External Affairs

A-17 Support APA's efforts. **(S: S-1)**

LEAD: President, President Elect & Past President

A-18 Create and promote internship opportunities, design charrette judging, etc. **(S: E-4)**

LEAD: Student Representative and Faculty Representative

A-19 Encourage participation in STEM, career fairs, smart cities competitions and mentor programs and create a outreach kit for use by members in these efforts. **(S: C-4)**

LEAD: Youth in Planning Committee; Membership Committee

A-20 Demonstrate through story telling the value of planning to the state's elected leaders. **(S: A-2)**

LEAD: Outreach & Communication Committee and Legislative Committee

A-21 Perform a financial health assessment / audit of Chapter resources and receive financial advice on investment or other strategies available to grow the Chapter's resources. **(S: S-4)**

LEAD: President, President-Elect and Treasurer

Adopted by the APA Colorado Board on January 7, 2022

TEAM 1

LEAD: #3 – What does this mean? How are we helping communities/planners do their job?

COMMUNICATE/ENGAGE:

- #1 – Share, brag about planners; who did what; Maybe DOLA can help identify communities doing good things? Celebrate everything; create a form for people to upload their successes both individually and communities; make it easy.
- #3 Utilize Divisions more and other Chapters; think outside the box

PARTNER:

- #1 – ongoing
- #2 Reframe and Reword. Start at “collaborate” and lose the beginning.
- #3 “Enthusiasm” – that’s a lot. Maybe use “respect” or “awareness”

ADVOCATE – all are ongoing

EDUCATE: #1 ongoing; #2 Pending; #3 Reframe; are planners the problem?; #4 ongoing

SERVE: #1 - #4 – ongoing; #5 needed; #6 needed

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Ongoing
2. Started with survey; focus before end of year; emphasis on defining what it is
3. Should be done
4. Ongoing; podcast should happen by end of year
5. No a5?
6. Ongoing
7. ongoing
8. Tweak this; more non traditional planners who aren’t connecting; don’t have a network. Cost issues and going to ULI at CNU instead of APA. Push on National to help. Involve CML with request for AICP; Education – CM; AICP and EDI bridge is important. Still struggle to hire anyone and now back to pre-AICP days COLA’s PC training and educate at that level the importance of education/value of AICP. Top down approach to planners expertise; Area Reps can help KEEP – tie to 3-4 action – reframe it AIC and Membership sheet for planners to give to their boss.
9. Ongoing - HCC Model land Use Code; budget item?
10. Carry to 2023 if desired
11. Ongoing but LACKING. Use area volunteers; directors and managers. Ask for help.
12. Carry to 2023; conversation with DOLA; ongoing. Get copies of existing training from cities to help create a toolkit.
13. Remove or move
14. NCP – keep even if APA gets rid of it
15. How to guide done; Better onboarding of new committee members (survey/form) get them involved up front; new website
16. We do as needed; bring in at conference or events

17. Ongoing
18. Ongoing
19. Carry over to 2023; maybe this should be the 2023 theme; consistent messaging; reaches all groups; there's great value in youth's voices
20. Ongoing
21. Ending; draft RFP

2023 Actions Items

- Staffing for public section; retention, engagement. Scholarships, education, SURVEY – what do our members need from us; big picture policy items
- Membership Survey – of the profession and 360 review of chapter
- Focus on Youth – Education; communicating, what planning is; career path, involvement in public process
- Better Overall Communications/Education about “What and Who planners are”

TEAM 4:

Key Points:

- We should create methods of measuring our success over time
- Being broad when we say “local” – are we reaching everyone?
- Cast the Podcast – Be realistic about our time. Promote and support existing content

LEAD: Honesty about what planning means for different communities. – Rural, urban, suburban

How to translate and communicate with different communities

COMMUNICATE/ENGAGE: Integrate visual story telling to communicate with members and non-members

ACTION ITEMS:

- A1 Can we measure this and keep track of it over time?
- A4- Podcast – delete. Promote existing podcast series; become an involved partner
- A5 – Fill in Gap
- A9 Add small towns task force; integration of western planners
- A10 – Is this a thing? Are there other opportunities to leverage work with?
- A13 – Integrate university. Is this a funded dept/course/curriculum/grad assistant?
- A15 – Day of service initiatives with planning departments; volunteer credits

TEAM X1:

BOAR RETREAT – DEVELOPMENT/ACTION PLAN GROUP NTOES

LEAD: Add EDI concept w/ 2023 focus area (women?)

COMMUNICATE/ENGAGE: C2 Broaden beyond APA allied professions and committees (non-members)

PARTNER: Add across generations and professionals; involve retired professionals (volunteer membership rates); “speed date” non planners

ADVOCATE: Add sustainability/climate -wise development

EDUCATE: remove #4

TEAM X2

ACTION ITEMS:

A1 – ongoing, keep

A-2: Focus, ongoing

A-4 Leverage available podcast; may discussion Group

A-7 Ongoing, Rerword to reflect what APA Colorado is doing or be more proactive in crafting legislation

A-8 Ongoing, keep

A-9 Ongoing, keep

A-10 Ongoing, keep

A-11 Ongoing, keep, need strategies to promote more events

A-12 Planning Commissioners 101; focus and try to do it.

A-13 Delete for 2023, reconsider later

A-14 Ongoing, keep; Leverage APA National resources; Make it “local”

A-15 Delete for 2023 (reconsider and reframe to the “possible”

A-16 More engagement; add committees, area reps, etc. Track our involvement with allied organizations

A-17 Ongoing; keep]

A-18 Keep but need to implement tracking/outreach

A-19 Ongoing – need to refresh and target as APA Colorado YIP did/doing toolkit

A-20 High-level, keep but need to develop strategies to give traction to this.

A-21 yes, what are we doing? What can we do? Relate to goals/strategies

ADD:

- EDI Scte Change (e.g. GHG reduction) program/actions

TEAM X3

A-14 Get in front of proclamation (planning month in October); podcast, storytelling; events at conference

A-1 themes/coordinated quarterly

A-13 Case study communities; CU program; intern?

A-19 focus to high school and toolkit

A-18 ?

APA Colorado Board Agenda Item

Board Meeting Date: 6/23/2023

Subject: CU Denver MURP Program Update

Board Member/Sponsor: Carrie Makarewicz, Planning Faculty Representative

Development Plan|Action Program Reference: N/A

Budget/Financial Implications: Yes No

Budget Line Item: _____

Amount Budgeted: _____

Amount Requested: _____

ACTION ITEM:

INFORMATIONAL ITEM:

Recommendation:

Updates on the CU Denver Master of Urban and Regional Planning program:

- Core curriculum
- Gil McNeish celebration
- Enrollment
- Dual degrees
- Accreditation
- Department and Program Strategic plans
- Internship and full employment survey
- Scholarship funds



APA Colorado Board Commentary

Board Meeting Date: June 23, 2023

Subject: 2023 Chapter Awards Recommendations

Board Member/Sponsor: Julia Puester and Daniel Murray, Awards Committee Co-Chairs

Development|Action Plan Reference: Communicate & Engage: S-6 Promote planning successes, A-5 Prominently highlight the accomplishments of members in a variety of ways; Inspire: S-19 inspire planners to reach new heights of creativity, energy and innovation.

Budget/Financial Implications: Yes No

Budget Line Item: Member Services: Awards

Amount Budgeted: 1,000

Amount Requested: TBD

ACTION ITEM:

INFORMATIONAL ITEM:

Recommendation: Of the 17 award nominations, the 2023 Awards Committee recommends approval of 8 Merit and 6 Honor awards. This recommendation is consistent with the presentation that will be given at the Board Retreat by committee co-chair, Julia Puester.

#	Project	Category	Award: Honor, Merit or none	Review Group	Letter writer	Reviewer Notes
1	Town of Silverton Compass Master Plan	Community Engagement	Merit	A	Abbey	Overall professional plan, readable. Did show the number of opportunities for comm engagement, 300 ppl is half the town , which is noteworthy. Typical tools used such as walk shop, which is deserving of recognition, although did not necessarily go outside the norms, yet it could be innovative for a small town. The quality of application was a bit low, yet planning product for Silverton is different for planning product for Denver. Maybe a merit at best. IT is replicable for other small communities who can seek similar funding sources and techniques. Could be considered in the General Planning project?
2	Lighting Code Update and Adoption, Ft. Collins	Community Engagement (consider moving to Small Budget?)	Merit	A	Abbey	Very well written and concise application. It showed how the community was pulled into the process. IT showed how people were taught about lighting, educational aspect was key to their proposed changes, and adoption. They did typical agency engagement and also the residents, use of surveys for quantitative and qualitative metrics (site visits, scoring). Letters of support were from city staff, not outside business owners or organizations. Did not see any specific engagement for underrepresented population (yet these are business/commercial specific regulations, not residential). Could it be reclassified in small budget? They get credit for taking a technical subject to the public, which took creative ways of thinking/approaches. We have not seen this topic as a stand alone process before (as far as we recall). Decided to keep it in Comm Engagement category.
3	Mt. Crested Butte TDM Strategy	Small Budget Project	Honor	A	Abbey	Very small budget! Only 9.1k. great graphics and comprehensive approach to TDM. They made the topics easily understood. They addressed the technical topic in an intuitive way. This plan and approach fits their small town/personable way of doing planning. High marks for transferability, especially for other mountain towns and big cites.
4	City of Manitou Springs 2023 Hazard Mitigation Plan	Community Resiliency Award	none	A	Julia	This is a necessary plan in this day and age, especially for fed funding. It's a solid plan. Did not see the innovation aspect. Implementation to a degree, but it did not come across too strong. It was an update of a previous plan. Just adopted April 2023

5	Animas City Park Overlook Townhomes	Innovative Partnerships and Collabs	Honor	A	Abbey	Good collaboration between parties and residents. This is a good model of affordable housing in CO and nationally, the basic elements of partnership can be replicated (URA, Housing Auth, City, County, etc.). Adding density in the right place. Shows an impact on missing middle housing. They used off-site existing park space to satisfy onsite park standards, reduced parking requirements. The partnership list was long, which fits the category to a Tee, that transferability is what we want to share with the state. Quality design in that location.
6	Estes Forward Comprehensive Plan	Innovative Partnerships and Collabs	Merit	A	Abbey	Lots of Spanish speaking engagement. IGA has been dissolved since '96 and used comp plan to do regional planning, which is harder (atypical) way of coordinating. To reestablish relationships that are lacking between town and county is deserving of recognition. Action/implementation came through in this plan.
7	ReCreate: Parks and Rec Master Plan, Ft Collins	Sustainability/Environmental Planning	Merit	A	Abbey	Incredibly well written, it was creative. Great graphics. Inclusive of all age groups in engagement. We felt it fit the category well with respect to access to parks and green infrastructure. Made the case the open space affects other aspects of planning/land use. Unclear on how equity was captured or implemented? A: there were some strategies on program pricing that speaks to equity. Good model for other cities to follow.
8	SustainableBreck Plan	Sustainability/Environmental Planning	Honor	A	Abbey	(Recuse Julia) It is transferable to other mtn communities. The communication with Air BnB is interesting. They appear to have implemented aspects such as ebikes, plastic bottle ban. They offered food and childcare for the meeting. They welcomed input from those who did not live in town but worked there. Strong climate change and action component, and cost benefit and life cycle analysis. Combine that with outreach, it is deserving. The awards committee has experienced this mindset in action, walking the talk. They have targets to meet, and they are showing them on dashboard, which is bold.

9	East Boulder Subcommunity Plan	General Planning Project	Honor	B	Abbey	<p>(alex recused) [DM: Plan has been adopted. The process launched pre-pandemic and continued during. Project firsts include “community connectors” of underrepresented community members. Built 3D model of city to test land use scenarios. ESRI beta test for ArcGIS Urban (they lost consultant funding and staff during covid, so ESRI was key). And shifted to completely virtual community engagement. The plan is guiding changes to comp plan and future land use map, zoning code (new Allowed uses in industrial zones such as residential and retail, mixed use – putting the housing with the jobs!), transportation master plan. They used pattern book of “place types” to create neighborhoods, streets, etc. UCD students analyzing “social infrastructure” and convos with CDOT and RTD on infrastructure projects. It has led to pre-apps for dev investment (no specifics given). The city has invested in infrastructure such as sidewalks, transit, parks, (things that are missing in LI, but needed when you add RES). Subarea Plan + transformation on an area.]</p> <p>Team notes: Accomplished a lot based on smaller budget of 58k. Very transferable, the concept of retrofitting Light Industrial with housing, in other metro areas. They appear to have implemented code changes. Community Connectors was creative. Place types book is beneficial. Liked the idea that a plan is stimulating some development. Bringing back subcommunity plans is important, it allows focus and action in a specific area or topic, avoiding the habit of no action. A little more info on ArcUrban, curious if that is transferable. It was worthy of honor based on implementation aspect.</p>
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10	CO Springs RetoolCOS Project	General Planning Project	Honor	B	Abbey	<p>[DM Notes: Retool COS was an action item to redo zoning and subdiv ord from 2019 CO Comp Plan (APA CO Honor Award). They repealed and adopted the new Unified Dev Code – ex. all com zones converted to mixed use (to allow for creative dev and res). and Res Flex Zone (based on density not use) They overused PUD’s to circumvent code, so instead created added density and housing types to zone districts. Nothing is zoned Rflex, rather it can be a rezone project by project. RFLex low, med, high also includes dimensional standards (heights, setbacks, etc.), parking reductions, streamlined admin process. Clarion broke the effort into 3 modules. 100 public meetings, 6 public hearings, plan adopted Feb 2023. The RFLex is innovative, densities and lot sizes are progressive.]</p> <p>Team notes – it’s the right time to do this to keep folks in the city post covid. Transferable with conversion of mixed use into res areas. The PUD shift and rethinking that occurrence. Really like the future thinking about zoning and housing, some APA equity guides are captured. Good alignment with where planning is going in the future (and ADU zones). The sheer number of meetings, digging into details, came across. Would have liked a little more info on anticipated impacts or changes – how much more housing are they projecting? They actually got the plan done and implemented. Like how they divided outreach into three modules, which is transferable.</p>
11	Telluride Community Vision Plan	General Planning Project (Moved to Community Engagement)	Merit	B	Abbey	<p>[DM: The submittal focused a lot on community engagement (maybe shift categories?). community wide survey, open house, coffee, pop up stations. This plan was just an identified shared vision/values, they will still update comp plan in 2023. Plan puts strong emphasis on DEI. Vision plan also includes action plan (learn more). Interesting concept to do vision plan... not sure it’s entirely transferable unless you have the resources. Concept could be considered innovative.]</p> <p>Team notes: the 50% representation was valuable. Otherwise, it met expectations. WE liked the fact they created the vision first, separating it from the comp plan. Doing one piece from the bigger undertaking of comp plan will help tackle the bigger issues. The graphics and presentation were good. Letters were internal, should have been external. Would have liked to see how workforce/non-residents were engaged.</p>

12	2022 Advancing Adams Comprehensive Plan	General Planning Project	Merit	B	Abbey	<p>[DM: Maintaining trend of projects started prior to covid that continued on, extended length, shifted engagement strategies such as digital surveys. Key component was “20-minute community” all neighborhood services within 20 min walk/bike/transit. This model factored into land use (more mixed use), transportation plan, and the rural context of 20 min drive (county scale). Submittal was repetitive. A bit average in quality, graphics, message.]</p> <p>Team notes – liked the 20-minute community which is innovative and contemporary at the national level. If that concept was used elsewhere could really add value to planning for a rural setting. Combine that with corridor planning. Missing letters from the community. Felt like it was short on community engagement. Good focus on corridor planning, which is the right approach in rural environment. Keep in mind rural areas may be comfortable with 20+ minutes, since they are rural and want to stay that way. Wouldn’t want to change/convert ag land to create that accessibility. Unclear if there was engagement or buy in from rural parts of the community, knowing that would have helped us in our evaluation.</p>
13	Westminster 2040 Comprehensive Plan	General Planning Project	Merit	B	Abbey	<p>[DM: Again, started pre pandemic, adjusted strategy and timeline as a result. Plan adopted March 2023! They paused adoption to actually reanalyze covid related changes such as housing, employment, transportation. They say the most critical element was their public engagement, branded as Westminster Forward, estimated to have reached 77k residents. Correlated land use and water supply... established 32 metrics to monitor the plan and success. The new concept was allowing ADU’s (which is not new, but maybe for them). Employment Flex land use is innovative. 5+ letter of support, which is odd. Seems like a solid plan.]</p> <p>Team notes – loved the integrated nature of pieces, transportation to land use, and land use to water supply, etc. And equity and health across all aspects of planning. This is a best practice we do not always see. Liked the quantitative matrices. Liked the Employment Flex land use. Liked that they reevaluated after covid. Letters of support outside the organization would have helped. Their engagement went specifically to Asian community, and Spanish speaking, which is noteworthy.</p>

14	Denver Moves Everyone	General Planning Project	none	B	Daniel	<p>(Karen recused) [DM: Billed as a reimagined transportation system. Reached over 10,200 residents, all 78 neighborhoods, 90 events, 5,600 surveys. Data driven decisions, prioritization and funding tools, based on equity – all good stuff, I’m just not seeing examples (yet). 6-year CIP is based on this plan. It’s a 30-year vision. Graphics a well done, need time to really absorb them.]</p> <p>Team notes – Community engagement was typical. The message of Denver Moves Everyone is very inclusive. However, we might expect more from Denver as a leader in transportation. Not sure how transferable it is. They used new tools to present the data, the web version was useful and easy to view. Liked their prioritization tool to help with equity. GIS tool was useful. Recognized they needed internal adjustment to bring all these plans to fruition. This is good planning and Denver’s been at this “Denver Moves” for a while.</p>
15	PACOG 2045 LRTP	General Planning Project	none	B	Daniel, Shaia as peer reviewer	<p>[DM: Pueblo Area COG Long Range Transp Plan – adopted May 2021 (been a while, let’s hope there’s some implementation). 14-month plan. Blended team approach... apparently it informs the 10 yr. CIP... nothing really stood out to me.]</p> <p>Team notes – they did the plan in 14 months which is impressive. Use of metroquest is useful, but expensive and not always an option for other communities. They did appear to use the plan to inform investment, which is not always the case. Did not see why this plan was different than other TDM or other transportation plans. Didn’t see the refinement or meaningful aspect of changing the transportation patterns. Short on innovation.</p>
16	Denver P&R Outdoor Adventure & Alternative Sports Strategic Plan	General Planning Project	Honor	B	Abbey	<p>(Karen recused) Goal is Increased access to parks and rec. It is both operational and policy. Denver’s first holistic outdoor adventure and alt sports strategy, guides investment in infrastructure and programming based on NEED. Implementation is improving parks with adv inspired sports amenities. “Progressive programming” for different skills. Innovative as far as I can tell. Likely transferable. Effective, I think.</p> <p>Team notes – variety of uses, all interests/backgrounds, all locations. However, Denver is unique with such a landscape and not sure how transferable it is, but they get credit for being unique. But, these types of spaces exist everywhere, and they can be used for totally different types of recreation. Liked how recreation in CO is not what it is in other places, we have capacity for different park experience, a unique CO flavor. This is a modern way of planning for parks and recreation. Diverse voices came through. Shows how all uses and abilities are present.</p>

17	Colorado College Env Studies SE CO Springs	Student/Recent Graduate Project	Merit	B	Abbey	<p>[Three student projects in one nomination, although it appears to elaborate most on heat island analysis (then food security and less on air quality). Undergraduate students at CC. City Comp Plan Manager, Carl Schueler felt the ideas, maps, and recommendations were directly transferable to the SE Strong Community Plan. I agree the graphics are informative and advanced.]</p> <p>Team notes – Nominated by Planner with vast experience, not the students themselves, so it must have stood out. Like the focus on disadvantaged part of CO Springs. Based on what we read, this seemed very applicable and grounded in the real challenges of SE CO Springs. It avoided the hypothetical that can often occur with student projects. Liked that it was undergrad and from CC.</p>
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- innovative (ideas or advancements new to Colorado planning)
- transferable (is useful elsewhere)
- excellent (quality of thought, writing or presentation)
- promotes community progress (contributes to public policy and the public good)
- effective (what has been the impact, how has the project been **implemented**, needs to show implementation)
- also highlight the “factors for consideration” that make it unique.



2023 APACO Award Recommendations

Award Categories

- INNOVATIVE/CREATIVE PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS
- COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
- GENERAL PLANNING PROJECT
- PROJECTS WITH A SMALL BUDGET
- COMMUNITY RESILIENCY
- SUSTAINABILITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING
- STUDENT/RECENT GRADUATE PROJECTS
- JOURNALISM/MEDIA/PAPERS
- PIONEER AWARD
- PLANNING LEADERSHIP
- WATER SMART

2022 Awards Overview

17 TOTAL AWARD SUBMISSIONS, ON PAR WITH THE AVERAGE
OF 18 SUBMISSIONS.

BASED ON THE AWARDS COMMITTEE REVIEW NOTES, THE
COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS:

8 MERIT AWARDS

6 HONOR AWARDS

Merit Awards

Community Engagement

- Town of Silverton Compass Master Plan
- Ft. Collins, Lighting Code Update
- Telluride Community Vision Plan

Innovative Partnership & Collaboration

- Estes Forward Comprehensive Plan

Sustainability and Env Planning

- Ft. Collins ReCreate: Parks and Rec Master Plan

General Planning Project

- 2022 Advancing Adams Comprehensive Plan
- Westminster 2040 Comprehensive Plan

Student Project

- Colorado College Env Studies SE CO Springs

Honor Awards

Innovative Partnership & Collaboration

- City of Durango Animas City Park Overlook Townhomes

Sustainability and Env Planning

- SustainableBreck

Small Budget

- Mt. Crested Butte TDM Strategy

General Planning Project

- East Boulder Subcommunity Plan
- CO Springs RetoolCOS Project
- Denver P&R Outdoor Adventure & Alternative Sports Strategic Plan



APA Colorado Board Commentary

Board Meeting Date: June 23, 2023

Subject: Addendum for Growing Water Smart - 2023 Chapter Awards Recommendations

Board Member/Sponsor: Waverly Klaw – Sonoran Institute/Babbitt Center for Land and Water Policy, in partnership with the APA CO Awards Committee

Development|Action Plan Reference: Water Policy Growing Water Smart

Budget/Financial Implications: Yes No

Budget Line Item: Member Services: Awards

Amount Budgeted: 1,000

Amount Requested: TBD

ACTION ITEM:

INFORMATIONAL ITEM:

Recommendation: Approve the Colorado Springs and Colorado Springs Utilities for the 2023 APA Colorado/Sonoran Institute/Babbitt Center for Land and Water Policy Growing Water Smart Honor award.



American Planning Association
Colorado Chapter

Creating Great Communities for All



BABBITT CENTER
FOR LAND AND WATER POLICY

A Center of the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy



SONORAN
INSTITUTE

June 26, 2023

Colorado Springs Utilities
2855 Mesa Rd. MC: 1300
Colorado Springs, CO 80904

Dear Ms. Gallucci:

On behalf of APA Colorado, the Sonoran Institute, and the Babbitt Center for Land and Water Policy, I am pleased to inform you that you have been selected to receive a **2023 APA Colorado Honor Award in the category of Growing Water Smart** for your work to update the commercial landscape code and policy manual and water efficiency plan!

Please join us for the live, in-person Awards Ceremony during the 2023 Colorado Planning Conference in Colorado Springs. The Awards Ceremony will take place on Thursday, September 28th at 8:30 am. The ceremony is included in the cost of the conference. However, we are happy to provide one complimentary ticket for a member of your team if no one is attending the conference. Additional tickets are available, as well.

Please provide confirmation of your attendance by August 11, 2023 to Abbey Aguirre at Admin@APAColorado.org, including who will be receiving the free ticket, and the name(s) of all who will be attending. The ceremony will be the official award recipient announcement, so please refrain from any public statements until after the ceremony.

In addition to the Awards Ceremony, we wish to highlight our award winners in three other ways. Please submit the following items to Abbey Aguirre at Admin@APAColorado.org:

1. **Video (deadline - August 31, 2023)**: We ask you to create a 1-2 minute video about your project. This video does not need to be of professional quality, can be done by phone or other means, and should include visuals of the project and short interviews with key planners in the process. These videos will be included on our website, social media platforms, YouTube channel, and other avenues.
2. **Social Media (deadline - August 31, 2023)**: Please provide a photo(s) and short project summary (50 words or less) for social media postings. We plan to highlight each winner on our social media channels.
3. **Newsletter (deadline - October 15, 2023)**: Please prepare a short article (500 words or less) for the November Planning Matters newsletter in a word document. The photos from your social media post will also be included.
4. **Participation in Growing Water Smart conference session (September 29, 2023)**: The Sonoran Institute is moderating a panel about water and land use integration metrics and we invite you to talk about your Land Use-based water demand model during this session, from 4-5pm on 9/29.

We thank you for your award-winning planning efforts and hope you will join us to celebrate this September.

Sincerely,

Waverly Klaw, AICP

Growing Water Smart Program Director, Sonoran Institute

APA Colorado, 2023 Chapter Awards Nomination

Title or Name: Integrated Land and Water Use Planning for the City of Colorado Springs

The City of Colorado Springs has undergone careful transformation of land and water use planning by updating the commercial landscape code and policy manual and water efficiency planning. These planning updates allowed us to add a 25% high water use turf limit to any new development including residential, document water use estimates as part of the development plans approval process and a redesign our water demand forecast from population-based to changes in growth rates by land use type.

Category: Growing Water Smart Award for “processes that have increased integration among land use planners and water providers that result in water-related improvements to development applications.”

Project Location: City of Colorado Springs and the Colorado Springs Utilities service territory that includes City of Cascade, Green Mountain Falls and five military bases.

Award Contact: Julia Gallucci, Water Conservation Supervisor, jgallucci@csu.org, office 719-668-7820 or cell 719-205-9401, 2855 Mesa Road, Colorado Springs, CO 80904.

Project Team:

- Clarion Associates – RetoolCOS Project Consultant
1600 Stout Street, Suite 1700, Denver, CO 80202
 - Don Elliott, FAICP – Project Manager, delliott@clarionassociates.com, 303-830-2890
 - Geoff Green, AICP, ggreen@clarionassociates.com, 303-830-2890
 - Darcie White, AICP, dwhite@clarionassociates.com, 303-830-2890
 - Holly White, hwhite@clarionassociates.com, 303-830-2890
- Morgan Hester, AICP, CNU-A, City of Colorado Springs, Planning Manager and RetoolCOS Project Manager, Long Range Planning Division, 719-385-5177, morgan.hester@coloradosprings.gov.
- Daniel Gould, City of Colorado Springs, Senior Landscape Architect, Long-Range Planning Division, 719-385-5375, Daniel.gould@coloradosprings.gov.
- Scott Winter, Colorado Springs Utilities, Program Manager IV, Water Resources Management, 719-668-4590, swinter@csu.org.
- Catherine Moravec, Colorado Springs Utilities, Lead Conservationist, Water Resources Management, 719-668-4559, cmoravec@csu.org.
- Julia Gallucci, Colorado Springs Utilities, Water Conservation Supervisor, Water Resources Management, 719-668-7820, jgallucci@csu.org.

I approve this award submission on behalf of the City of Colorado Springs:

[please see attachment for signatures]

Mike Tassi, Assistant Director of Planning & Community Development

I approve the award submission on behalf of Colorado Springs Utilities:

[please see attachment for signatures]

Abigail Ortega, GM, Resource and Infrastructure Planning

Estimated Project Budget & Duration:

Plan	Duration	Budget
RetoolCOS Project	December 2019 – June 2023	\$369,940 (Clarion Associates)
Water Efficiency Plan	Jan 2021 – June 9, 2022	Staff time ~800 - 1,000 hrs

Website Link

RetoolCOS is the project resulting in the City Council-adopted Unified Development Code (UDC) that includes an update to the Commercial Landscape Code and supporting Policy Manual: [RetoolCOS - Zoning Ordinance Update | City of Colorado Springs](#)

Water Efficiency Plan that includes a land-use based water demand forecast (pp 17-20): [2022 Water Efficiency Plan \(csu.org\)](#)

Additional Information

Integrated Land and Water Use Planning for the City of Colorado Springs

The City of Colorado Springs and Colorado Springs Utilities began working more closely together on integrated land and water use planning after mutually attending the WaterSmart Land and Water Use Planning Workshop in the fall 2019. During this workshop we collaboratively identified the critical nature of connecting our land and water planning. We also agreed that political pressures would not be easy to overcome in this endeavor, and we determined that it would be best to identify planning activities we could engage in across the next few years as our first areas of focus. Our goal was to integrate land and water use planning in those planning efforts as they evolved, rather than re-visit completed planning efforts.

The two planning efforts we were able to influence the most were the City of Colorado Springs' RetoolCOS project to amend the zoning code, and Colorado Springs Utilities' update to the Water Efficiency Plan.

RetoolCOS revised the Zoning and Subdivision Ordinance, [Chapter 7 of City Code](#), which had not been comprehensively updated since the late 1990s. The primary goal of the project was to establish a new, modern, and more user-friendly Unified Development Code (UDC) as directed by PlanCOS, the 2019 Council-adopted comprehensive plan. The zoning and subdivision ordinance governs how property owners can use their land—and includes regulations such as building height, setbacks between properties and from property lines, parking and landscaping requirements, application procedures, and how residents and neighborhoods can participate in the land development process. The RetoolCOS project gave the City of Colorado Springs and Colorado Springs Utilities an opportunity to update the Commercial Landscape Code which became part of City Code in 2001.

Through this effort, we were able to progressively establish regulatory language through the City Council-adopted Unified Development Code (UDC) for a 25% high water use turf limit on all new commercial developments, including residential developments, and the individual yards within those developments. Through the accompanying Landscape Policy Manual, we also were able to improve irrigation efficiency equipment requirements, water-wise plant and tree requirements, and soil amendments.

One of the most difficult changes to gain approval from management, City Council, and the Utilities Board was the 25% high water use turf limit. Through a series of collaborative presentations, discussions and virtual community tours that demonstrated the need and the issues around current landscape installs, we were able to successfully address the political concerns, and the City Planning staff was able to gain approval. This process took many, many months. While many municipalities in Colorado have also (during this same time period) implemented turf limits in various ways, the high water use turf limit proposed through the RetoolCOS project was challenging to gain approval for and very progressive for our City. A general 25% high water use turf limit (vs. specifying where and how much high water use turf can be installed) also gives our community members and developers more flexibility in landscape design while

still saving water. Combined, these Code changes will allow Colorado Springs Utilities to gain over 400 AF of annual savings by 2030.

The Water Efficiency Plan (WEP) is a water conservation planning document that must be submitted to the state of Colorado (The Colorado Water Conservation Board) every seven years. As part of the requirements of this document we needed to establish a comprehensive demand forecast. Acknowledging the critical influence of land use patterns and density on water demands, Colorado Springs Utilities (Scott Winter, Project Manager) developed a Land Use-based Water Demand Model in 2021 for the 2022 Water Use Efficiency Plan update.

A land use-based modeling approach consists of modeling future changes in water demands based on recent or emerging development patterns and urban planning documents and ordinances. Land use-based models are integrated into geographic information systems and demands are assessed according to land use classification and by a measure of usage rates, such as water demand per acre of developed land. This method is most useful where large areas of undeveloped land exist within a utility's water service boundary and where urban planning documents are available and regularly updated.

The land use-based modeling approach provides a relatively simple platform to examine the effects of changes in growth rates by land use type, overall mix of land uses, service area boundaries, and water use rates by land-use type. This type of model is useful in coordinating with land use planning entities, other utility services, and for targeting and designing conservation efforts.

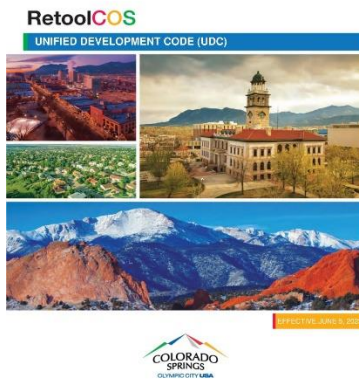
The Colorado Water Plan states that Coloradans should be ready to be limited in their outdoor use to one-day-per-week watering by 2050. The 25% high water use turf limit that is now codified through the UDC will ensure that any new development has landscape designs that are more resilient for our climate and our future water availability.

Combined with the UDC, these models and plans will allow us to better manage outdoor water use in new developments and better predict how demands will change as land-use changes. Because these policy changes are relatively new, we hope to capitalize on their value by developing landscape design competitions and public landscape examples to ensure that these planning changes are understood and provide great benefit to our community over time.

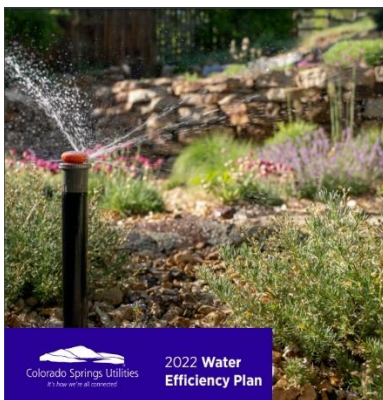
Project Images



Growing Water Smart Workshop 2019. Project team participants: Morgan Hester, Julia Gallucci, Daniel Gould.



RetoolCOS cover page to the updated Unified Development Code (UDC). Due to COVID the public process for this planning effort was largely virtual.



Water Efficiency Plan cover page containing land use-based water demand model. The public process for this planning effort included soliciting feedback via our website. That feedback is contained at the back of this document.

than 25 dwelling units per acre generate about 3 times more demand per acre than medium density parcels city-wide in homes built since 1990. Housing developed since 1990 produces a higher rate of water use per acre than the city-wide average in all residential LUCs.

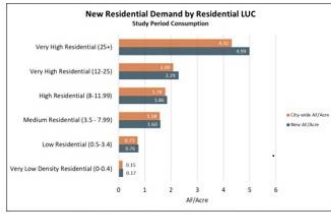


Figure 12: New residential water use per acre by LUC

Figure 13 shows the difference in usage rate in gpcd across these different housing densities for parcels city-wide and for those developed since 1990. Lower gpcd associated with higher density development is generally a function of much lower landscape irrigation demand per person. Similar to usage rates per acre, residential gpcd rates are higher in new construction in all LUCs except for parcels with 25 or more dwelling units per acre.



Figure 13: City-wide residential gpcd by LUC

These observed demand patterns demonstrate the importance of understanding and appropriately considering land use, density, and age of construction in forecasting and planning for future water demands.

Land Use-based Water Demand Forecast

Model Inputs

Land Use Data

The Land-use Based Water Demand Model (the Model) utilizes 15 land use classifications derived from City and El Paso County Assessor databases. The primary source for parcel-level land use classification information is a GIS-based land use code database provided by the City of Colorado Springs (City LUC) in January of 2020. The El Paso County Assessor (Assessor) database is also used as is Springs Utilities customer information. Springs Utilities potable water customer service points with four years (2016-2019) of monthly billed consumption data were spatially joined to the City LUC and attributes, including number of dwelling units and year-built data, from the Assessor database.

Land use classifications from the City LUC were converted to the corresponding Springs Utilities land use classifications (Utilities LUC) shown in Table 1. Modifications were made to the Utilities LUC field in instances where customer information or other knowledge was available that contradicted the assigned classification. Additional modifications were made to properly classify residential parcels according to dwelling unit density. To achieve this, Assessor dwelling unit and parcel area data were used to calculate dwelling units per acre. Parcels with densities different from the assigned classification were realigned accordingly. Residential classification names include the range of dwelling units per acre in parentheses.

Utilities LUC
Airport
Commercial - All other than Office
Commercial - Office
High Residential (8-11.99)
Industrial - Manufacturing
Industrial - Warehousing
Institution
Irrigated Open Space
Low Residential (0.5-3.4)
Medium Residential (3.5-7.99)
Residential - Common Area
Unirrigated Open Space
Very High Residential (12-25)
Very High Residential (25+)
Very Low Density Residential (0-0.4)

Table 1: Utilities land use classifications

Roughly 98% of the City LUC align with the Utilities LUCs. In about 2% of parcels, the LUCs were corrected based on additional information, the vast majority of which were residential parcels showing dwelling unit densities that did not correspond with El Paso County Assessor data. Utilities LUC were examined relative to customer data from the billing system to ensure that the land use classifications were in line with the current reality of land use in the service territory. This "ground-truthing" was performed to achieve more accurate baseline acreage, and subsequently water usage rate calculations for each land use classification.

Based on reviews of detailed information from Springs Utilities' billing system and from a prior parcel-level analysis conducted as part of Springs Utilities' participation in a Water Research Foundation-sponsored study in

Excerpt from Colorado Springs Utilities Land Use Demand Model and Forecast.



FAQ: RetoolCOS 25% Turf Limit

What will Colorado Springs' landscapes and water use look like in the future?

Adapting to a changing climate means changing the way we think about landscaping. Our water sources will likely not be as plentiful in the future, so we need to stretch efficient use even further.

Fortunately, there are beautiful landscapes that can be maintained in our semi-arid climate, even with 1-2 days/week watering. Rather than abandoning the high-quality landscapes we enjoy, high-water use turf can be limited or replaced with more water wise choices to help us retain Colorado Springs' vibrant appeal and provide recreational value.

QUESTIONS? 719-668-8232

What are the goals of the 25% turf limit outlined in RetoolCOS?

The proposed turf limit states that high water use lawns (ex: Kentucky bluegrass, tall fescue) shall not comprise more than 25% of the portion of a lot and no contiguous area less than 100 square feet for newly constructed homes. The core goals are:

1. To reduce outdoor watering while ensuring sustainable plant choices.
2. Respond to RetoolCOS participants' desire to preserve the City's beauty for our future.
3. Move towards landscape best practices among Front Range water providers.
4. Meet robust conservation program prerequisites for permitting new water supply projects.
5. RetoolCOS contains important actions to help us meet 2022 Water Efficiency Plan savings goals.

What will this change look like for single-family detached, new construction?
The turf limit does not impact existing residential but addresses commercial properties and new residential developments.

Market trends today show that turf grass usage in the majority of new landscapes has fallen to under 40% in both single family and common areas

We can continue to build on this trend by promoting many alternative grass options we have successfully tested in our demonstration garden. Five low water varieties would be exempt from the 25% turf limit. These grasses provide good curb appeal and require less maintenance when done right.



Turf (background) and native grass (foreground) in new home. New homes could install native grass throughout the grassable area.



Recent construction with abundant high-water-use turf.



FAQ: RetoolCOS 25% Turf Limit

How will these landscape requirements be monitored by the City?

Many developers install front yards for the homeowner. As development plans are reviewed, applicants will submit typical landscape designs per building type that demonstrate they are meeting the 25% turf limit. The new rules and approved development plans give the City the legal ability to enforce turf limits.

Colorado Springs Utilities can support these limits through programs that provide more guidance and examples for new developments.

How do measures like a 25% turf limit address water supply challenges?

Adapting to our changing conditions means implementing a range of options to meet the water supply gaps we anticipate in future. The proposed turf limit ensures new developments are planning landscapes that are sustainable in our climate.

Consider that homes built in the last three decades use 20% more water per acre than neighborhoods constructed before the 1990s. This, despite many single-family neighborhoods being designed for recreation to occur in common areas rather than yards. Many new yards serve more of an aesthetic rather than functional purpose. Reducing turf use in yards while introducing more water wise landscaping can reduce water use while maintaining curb appeal.

How does Colorado Springs compare to other Front Range cities related to turf limits?

Front Range entities actively pursuing turf limits include City of Aurora, Denver Water, Castle Rock, Greeley, City of Manitou Springs, City of Fountain. Colorado Springs currently does not have a residential landscape code. As part of the new turf removal legislation (HB 22-1151), communities with existing turf restrictions for new development and other best practice landscape standards will be more competitive for grant funding.

Visit coloradosprings.gov > RetoolCOS



Front landscape with 25-30% turf in irrigable areas.



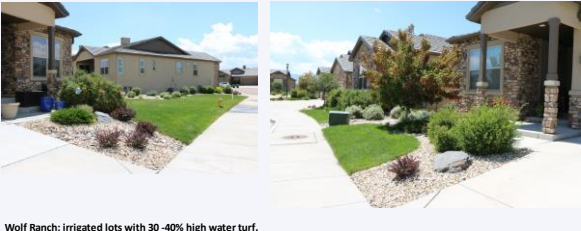
Typical lot size with front landscape (no high-water turf in irrigable areas).



Larger common areas with smaller lots, 2019-2022.

FAQ for City Council and Utilities Board re 25% Turf Limit.

2010-12 High Cost, Duplex/Patio Homes



Wolf Ranch: irrigated lots with 30-40% high water turf.

Colorado Springs Utilities

7

~2010 Higher Purchase, Traditional, Large Lot



Flying Horse: irrigated lots with 30-40% high water turf.

Colorado Springs Utilities

8



Colorado Springs Utilities

More than 50% irrigated lot

9

The above photo sets provided a virtual walking tour to our City Council members regarding the types of high-water landscapes we hoped to stop, in future, with the 25% turf limit. This same presentation provided examples of where the market was naturally evolving (to less turf) and opportunities for resilient, living landscapes that would be more universally promoted with the 25% turf limit.

Attachments

- 1) Two letters of support
- 2) Signatory approval page.

May 31, 2023

APA Colorado
Awards Committee
2023 Chapter Awards

RE: Growing Water Smart Award Nomination

Dear APA Colorado Awards Committee:

As a City Council member for District 5 in Colorado Springs and as a Utilities Board member for Colorado Springs Utilities I support the City and Utilities' joint application for the Growing Water Smart Award for Integrated Land and Water Use Planning sponsored by APA CO.

As part of City Council, I was responsible for approving RetoolCOS. From the start I was supportive of the progressive measure to limit turf to 25% of any new commercial development landscape, including residential lots. It is the right thing to do for our community given water scarcity and the amount of growth we face in Colorado Springs.

Through a series of collaborative presentations and discussions presented by City Planning, Springs Utilities Water Conservation, I was proud to watch these teams do a thorough job defining the issues around current landscape installs and the opportunities to save water and promote more resilient landscapes in new developments. I do believe that a general 25% turf limit (vs. specifying where and how much turf can be installed) gives community members and developers more flexibility in landscape design while saving water.

With this update to the Commercial Landscape Code, the City of Colorado Springs is far more prepared to support resilient landscapes and a high quality of life in Colorado Springs while acknowledging the connection between land and water use and water scarcity in our region.

Thank you for your consideration of this application.

Sincerely,



Nancy Henjum
CSU Board Member
City of Colorado Springs
Council Member, District 5
(719) 385-5483
Nancy.Henjum@coloradosprings.gov

I approve this award submission on behalf of the City of Colorado Springs:



Mike Tassi, Assistant Director of Planning & Community Development

I approve the award submission on behalf of Colorado Springs Utilities:



Abigail Ortega, GM, Resource and Infrastructure Planning

Estimated Project Budget & Duration:

Plan	Duration	Budget
RetoolCOS Project	December 2019 – June 2023	\$369,940 (Clarion Associates)
Water Efficiency Plan	Jan 2021 – June 9, 2022	Staff time ~800 - 1,000 hrs

Website Link

RetoolCOS is the project resulting in the City Council-adopted Unified Development Code (UDC) that includes an update to the Commercial Landscape Code and supporting Policy Manual: [RetoolCOS - Zoning Ordinance Update | City of Colorado Springs](#)

Water Efficiency Plan that includes a land-use based water demand forecast (pp 17-20): [2022 Water Efficiency Plan \(csu.org\)](#)

May 30, 2023

APA Colorado
Awards Committee
2023 Chapter Awards

RE: Growing Water Smart Award Nomination for Colorado Springs Utilities

Dear APA Colorado Awards Committee:

AECOM supports Colorado Springs Utilities' (Springs Utilities) application for the Growing Water Smart Award for Integrated Land and Water Use Planning sponsored by APA CO. AECOM is the water planning and engineering firm that Springs Utilities has contracted with to develop National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance documentation and associated Clean Water Act Section 404 Permit application for the proposed expansion of Montgomery Reservoir as part of the Continental-Hoosier water system. In working with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Forest Service and many other agencies, Springs Utilities was requested to conduct a comparative analysis between the future demand projections for the City of Colorado Springs presented in their Integrated Water Resource Plan versus their new Land Use-based Water Demand method that was utilized for their 2022 Water Efficiency Plan (WEP).

For similar municipal water projects that were recently permitted in Colorado, demand forecasts were based upon anticipated population growth over a period of time. Conversely, Springs Utilities' Land Use-based Water Demand methodology spatially integrates water use demand with a variety of land types in a way that can adjust for future changes by better understanding these relationships. More specifically, this demand forecasting approach provides a platform for Springs Utilities to examine the effects of changes in growth rates by land use type, overall mix of land uses, and service area boundaries to plan for how water use rates are influenced by land-use type over time.

After months of presenting the Land Use-based Water Demand process and results, the agencies determined that this method was suitable for documenting future demand projections for the City of Colorado Springs in the NEPA/Section 404 permitting processes. Furthermore, the Land Use-based Water Demand model provides Springs Utilities with a far more accurate way to plan for future water use for the City of Colorado Springs.

Sincerely,



Andrea Parker
AECOM, Senior Environmental Planner
720.937.6759
andrea.parker@aecom.com