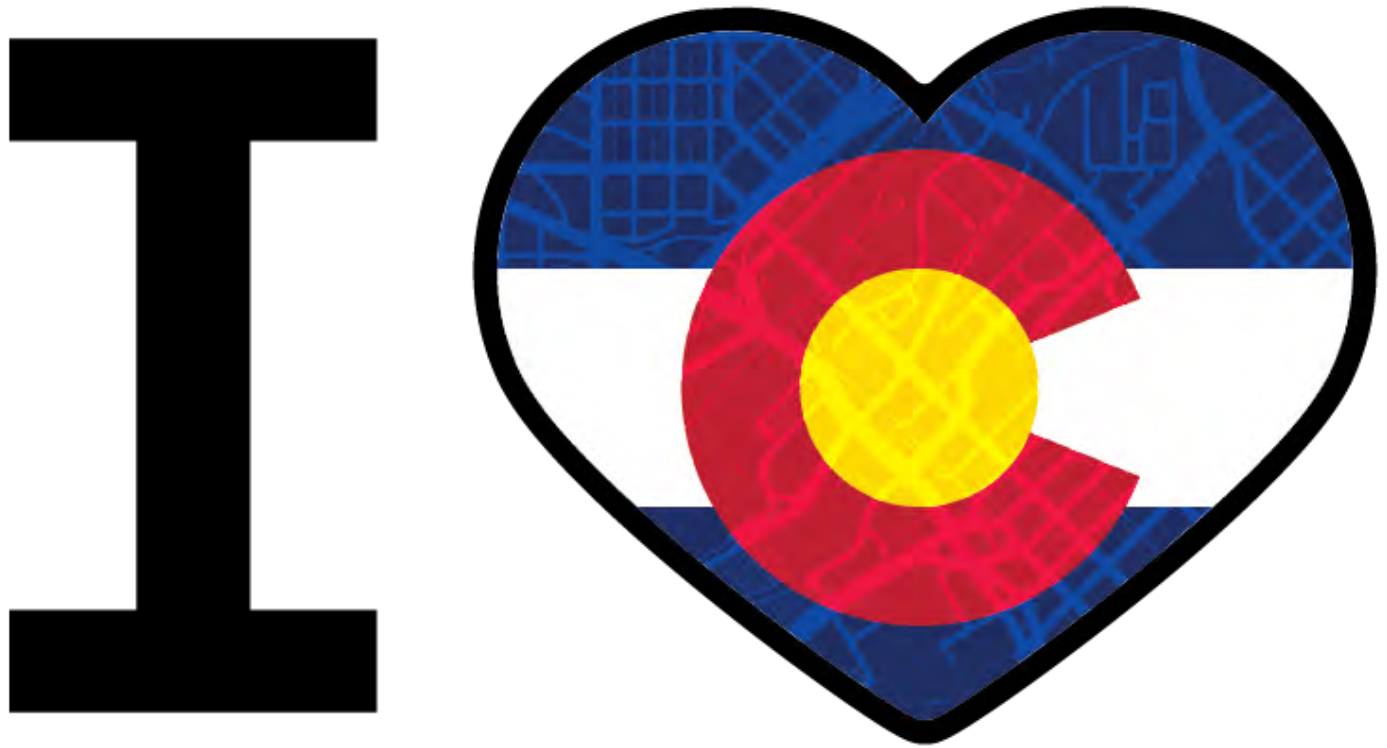




2020 ANNUAL
REPORT





PLANNING



COLORADO CHAPTER
OF THE
AMERICAN PLANNING ASSOCIATION
APA COLORADO

Cover: Colorado proud. Photo by Clay Banks on Unsplash.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Chapter President
Michelle Stephens, AICP

As President of APA Colorado for the last four years, I've had the opportunity to lead the Chapter's investment in several initiatives, as well as focusing on continued improvement to our member services. I'm proud of the recognition by National APA for the work we've done on raising the profile of planning that resulted in the APA Chapter President's Council 2020 Leadership Award.

On a daily basis, the role of the Chapter President is split between supporting our amazing Chapter Administrator, encouraging our

committees and volunteers to work on our annual action plan items, and implementing the

plan, which was discussed at our annual Town Hall meeting in February. Of course, in March

and provided networking opportunities that ranged from cooking classes and mountain biking, to youth activities and craft board games.

"Community engagement is hard work, but it doesn't need to be busy work."

Jeremy Shackett

Chapter's mission (R.I.S.E.). This work is primarily administrative in nature and occasionally provided me the opportunity to be on stage and share my vision (and love) of planners and planning.

We started 2020 with a strong action

all our plans were derailed. And although the majority of our 2020 events were cancelled our virtual conference was a success! It provided four powerful keynotes, educational sessions that demonstrate the cutting-edge work happening throughout our state,

2020 Accomplishments:

1. Well attended (475), profit-making, and educational month-long virtual conference that was planned in less than two months.
2. Passage of Water Conservation Bill HB20-1095 (well done Legislative Committee!!)
3. Continued development of our Equity, Diversity, and Inclusivity Committee (I'm

looking forward to this Committee's work in 2021)

4. No interruption of operations and healthy fiscal outcomes. Thank you, sponsors, volunteers, and board members!

In 2021, I'm looking forward to passing leadership of the Chapter to our new President. As Past-President I plan on continuing my involvement with the Chapter through my involvement in activities that raise the profile of planners and planning.

Goals for 2021:

1. Reaching our 2021 sponsorship goal of \$25,000. These funds will ensure our continued ability to support planners and planning throughout the State.

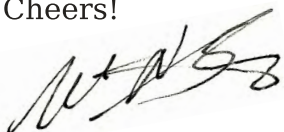
2. Host a grand awards celebration that recognizes great planning and the people who support it/us.

3. Invest in programs, activities, and resources that reach youth and support the Chapter's mission (R.I.S.E.).

4. Ensure the Chapter is responsive to our membership.

Thank you for sticking around, for making the world a better place through planning.

Cheers!



Why is planning important?

Planning is important because of the foundational role and impact that our decisions make in our communities. Our role in development and transportation planning mean that our decisions can fundamentally alter a community and its residents. Planners play a crucial role of being both the eyes and ears of a community and should be an integral part of the community engagement. - *A Williams*

Planning brings people together around shared vision, values, and goals so we can adapt and thrive in the midst of changing conditions and challenges. Planning is more important than ever!. - *A. Miller*

Planning is important to help assure communities continue to development great places for people and does so in a sustainable and resilient fashion - *B. Cammarata*

Planning is important because it influences everything about the daily lives of residents, and impacts their future much more than many things they follow in the news Planners bring technical knowledge and the ability to consider the interests of the full spectrum of stakeholders to discussions about the future. - *B. Palmberg*

If there's no plan, how do we know how to get where we want to go? - *I. Correa-Ortiz*

Planning is the foundational work to increase the potential for great spaces and interactions, and as such, bears heightened importance in addressing community building and providing the forums for robust public engagement. Planners may not get the recognition for great places, but they lay out the frameworks for great places to happen and pointing out the outlines of those frameworks in great places and the planner's role in putting them in place may encourage more people to consider planning as a profession. - *C. Merrigan*

Planners operate at the intersection of change. We bring context, expertise, and perspective to address our communities needs today and in the future. - *D. Murray*

Planning is an essential, educational conduit for helping the various sectors of our communities connect and learn. - *J. Liljegren*

Planning remains important because the free market does not successfully supply opportunities and resources to every person in society. Communities need planners to shine a light on how to address questions of inequity through market regulation (e.g., zoning, ADA standards, etc.). Planners can live by the AICP code - become exemplars of what it means to be a member of society so that everyone can come along - not just the few with means and power. - *M. Shirgaokar*

PRESIDENT ELECT



Joni Marsh, AICP



New facial fashion statements. Photo by StellrWeb on Unsplash

Pandemic Reflections

I think the pandemic forced us to get uncomfortable with the status quo, or at least what we thought the status quo was, both professionally and personally.

Our efforts to serve need to be more holistic and our approach to community building more welcoming.

Meet Joni Marsh, the Chapter's President Elect. Joni was elected in 2019, serving one year as President Elect before taking over the office of President in 2021. Joni has been working in municipal government for 23 years. She believes local government is where you get to make the most impact in your community.

2020 Accomplishments

As President Elect in 2020 I was able to see how much our APA Colorado team is working on and what a difference our profession makes to our communities. Being on the board in 2020 was an opportunity to get back into the swing of APA. I previously served on the board but it has been several years.

2021 Goals

1. Work to keep the vision and purpose of our organization to serving not just planners but the communities we

work in and with.

2. Continue to serve and support Colorado Planners.
3. Look for ways to collaborate around housing issues in Colorado.
4. Bring more discussion to the planning community on who we serve in the public and encourage a better understanding of needs across our communities.



Planning board games were showcased during a networking event #2020CPC

CHAPTER ADMINISTRATOR



Virtual attendees of a networking session during October's 2020 Colorado Planning Conference



Shelia Booth, AICP

Shelia Booth has served as the APA Colorado Chapter Administrator since 2012. Prior to that she was a city planner in Texas and Colorado for over 20 years. The Chapter Administrator oversees the day-to-day operations of the Chapter, including the Chapter's website, communications, finances, annual conference and more.

2020 Accomplishments

Although 2020 was difficult, it allowed the Chapter to branch out and challenge itself. As with almost everyone, the learning curve was short but the lessons learned will last forever

1. Hosted four COVID Town Hall webinars on "hot topics" identified by the membership with over 100 attendees each week.
2. Pivoted from a traditional in-person to a totally virtual Colorado Planning Conference in October with almost 500 attendees and a Chapter

income of almost \$30,000.

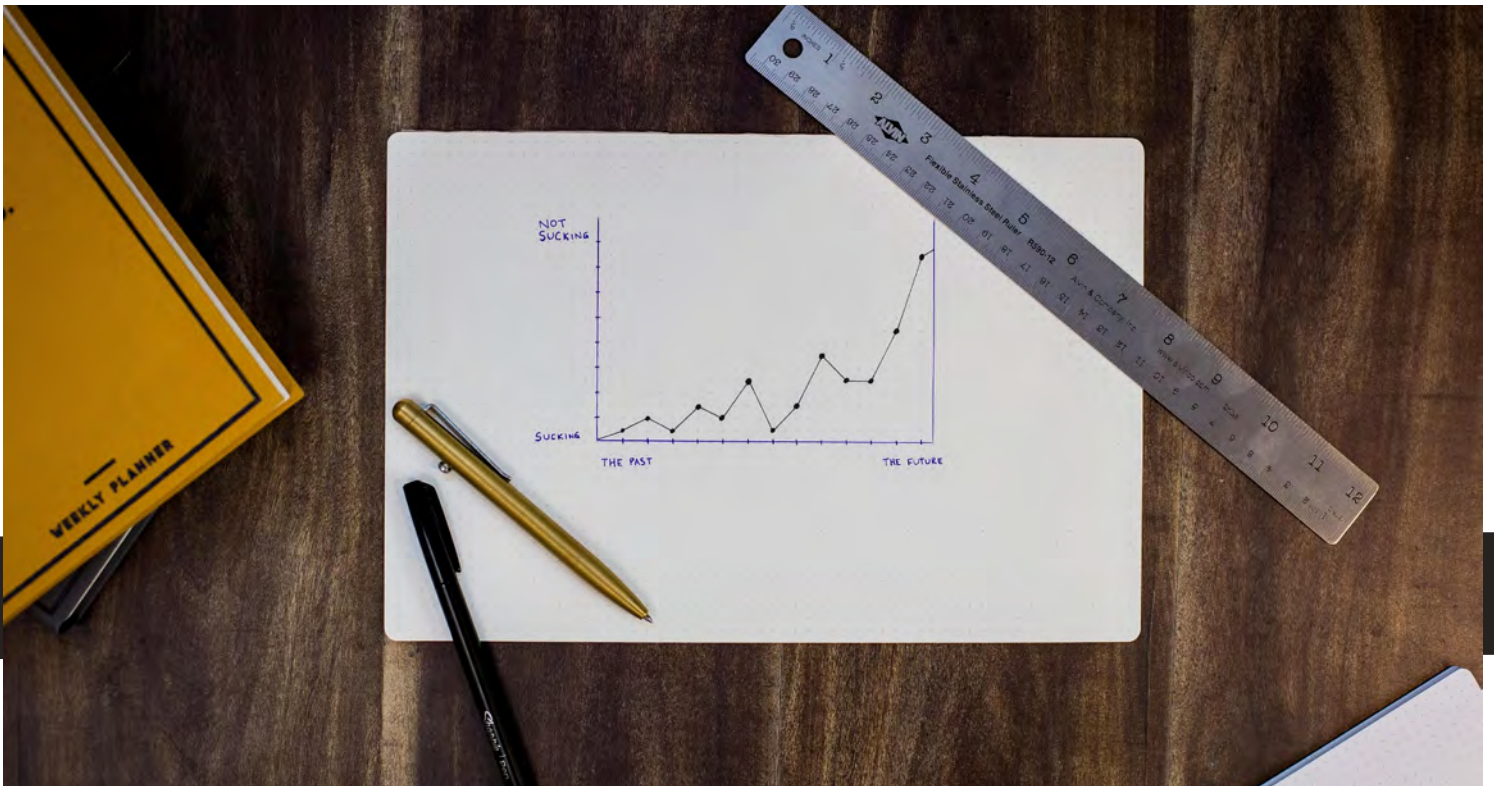
3. Completed a revised 2020 Budget in anticipation of reduced revenues and curtailed spending while still serving the members of APA Colorado.

2021 Goals

Anticipating financial impacts from the pandemic, the Chapter will be diligent in monetary decisions while continuing to offer networking, educational and support services to the members.

1. Host an in-person, virtual or hybrid conference in the fall.
2. Work with allied organizations to expand offerings at reduced costs.
3. Design and implement a public official training webinar series or conference for elected and appointed public officials in Colorado.
4. Seek alternative funding for the Chapter.

Sometimes I wonder if 2020 happened because I didn't forward that email to ten people...



2020 in a graph. Photo by Isaac Smith on Unsplash

CHAPTER FINANCIALS

Entering 2020, we anticipated a close to balanced budget for the year. Due to the challenges presented throughout the year, the Board worked closely with staff to re-evaluate the budget on numerous occasions. We thought of new and innovative ways to continue to support our partners and provide training opportunities to our members through the online conference and free or lower priced webinars.

2020 Accomplishments:

- Working with staff and the Board to end 2020 with a positive budget.
- Working with staff and the Board to continue to support our partners and affiliate organizations within our budget.
- Working with the EPP Committee to kick off a Mentorship program at the annual conference.
- Serving as a mentor to young professionals and students at the annual conference

As Chapter Treasurer, I want to work with staff and the Board to provide new and exciting ways for our members and community partners to participate in the 2021 Colorado Planning Conference. I look forward to working with staff and the Board

to re-evaluate the budget throughout the year to maintain the health of our financial operations while ensuring we have the resources to continue to support and partner with our members and affiliate organizations throughout the State.

2021 Goals:

- Work with staff and the Board to regularly re-evaluate the budget to maintain the health of our financial operations.
- Work with staff and the Board to make the 2021 Colorado Planning Conference available to our members and community partners by implementing new and combined ways to participate.
- Ensure APA Colorado has the resources to continue to support and partner with communities, affiliate organizations, and our membership to elevate the planning profession through our involvement in local, regional, and State initiatives.
- Continue to serve as a mentor to young professionals and students.

Based on this year's events, the Board anticipates that the Chapter's finances will need to be constantly monitored over the next few years as the economy recovers. The Board is looking for additional income opportunities that would not be specific to our members.

	2017	2018	2019	2020
INCOME				
Admin/Membership	\$ 68,115	\$ 66,411	\$ 63,552	\$ 76,340*
Advertising	\$ 486	\$ 757	\$ 1,465	\$ 650
Education & Events	\$ 3,440	\$ 7,211	\$ 6,775	\$ 440
Sponsorship	\$ 29,866	\$ 29,220	\$ 40,100	\$ 17,069
State Conference	\$136,009	\$130,450	\$124,331	\$ 54,902
TOTAL INCOME	\$237,976	\$234,049	\$236,223	\$132,332
EXPENSES				
Administration	\$ 21,240	\$ 26,388	\$ 23,207	\$ 6,467
Education & Events	\$ 16,865	\$ 13,209	\$ 17,270	\$ 3,392
Legislative	\$ 25,204	\$ 25,157	\$ 27,015	\$ 28,452
Member Services	\$ 3,693	\$ 1,513	\$ 3,038	\$ 6,183
Payroll	\$ 42,321	\$ 51,059	\$ 49,547	\$ 56,938
Conference	\$121,653	\$119,085	\$197,615	\$ 9,132
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$230,653	\$236,410	\$317,692	\$110,564
TOTAL	\$6,923	-\$2,362	-\$81,469	\$21,768
ASSETS				
Checking	\$ 70,535	\$ 58,280	\$ 30,665	\$ 53,788
Savings	\$ 88,378	\$100,073	\$ 50,126	\$ 50,135
TOTAL ASSETS	\$158,913	\$158,353	\$ 81,792	\$103,923

I believe in using APA Colorado's resources and the collective skills and experiences of our members to provide meaningful training opportunities for our membership. As an organization, we have the ability to help communities by bringing together our members and affiliate partners to solve the challenges our communities face. As Treasurer, I want to ensure the financial health of the organization while working with staff and the Board to continue to elevate the planning profession.

Treasurer: Josh Olhava, AICP





LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Shaída Libhart, AICP



Scott Bressler, AICP



2020 Highlights

Nothing about the 2020 Colorado legislative session was normal for obvious reasons. While it started out normally on January 8th, it was abruptly interrupted and put on hold on March 13th and did not reconvene again until May 26th. After the state suffered massive budget shortfalls resulting in unprecedented cuts due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the reconvened session only lasted about 3 weeks with the budget and school finance being the top priorities for both chambers. Ultimately, the 2020 legislative session officially adjourned on June 15th, concluding legislative activities for the remainder of the year. A special session was called in November and lasted three days (from November 30th through December 2nd). The focus was on COVID-19 Relief, where 34 bills were introduced, 11 of which passed.

the passage of our proactive legislation, HB-1095. HB-1095 is the culmination of over four years of work, and for a semi permissive bill, it was quite the challenge to pass. The bill links water planning to master plans, reading in part, “If the master plan includes a water supply element, ... The water supply element, must include water conservation policies, which may include goals specified in the state water plan ... and may include policies to implement water conservation and other state water plan goals as a condition of development approvals, including subdivisions, planned unit developments, special use permits, and zoning changes”.

Timing was important, as HB-1095 was introduced by Representative Jeni Arndt into the House on January 13th. It passed in its first committee (House Rural Affairs and Agriculture) by a party line vote on February



Legislative Committee representatives at the State Capital, during the HB-1095 hearings.

During the 2020 State of Colorado Legislative session, the Legislative Committee met bi-weekly on Fridays at noon to monitor and evaluate legislation proposed and take positions of support or opposition, as warranted. The Legislative Committee planned to host Planners Day at the Capitol but it was cancelled due to COVID-19. During the Session, the Committee monitored 33 bills, officially opposed 1, and supported 11. The bills that were passed were then signed into law by the Governor.

While it was a strange year, 2020 was an incredible year for APA Colorado because of

3rd, went straight to the floor of the house where it passed 41-24 along party lines. The bill was introduced into the Senate and assigned to the Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee (ANRC) on February 13th and was sponsored by Senator Jeff Bridges. The senate ANRC hearing took place on February 20th and the bill again passed along party lines, but this time was sent to Senate appropriations due to the full time DOLA employee that the bill would fund. The bill passed through Senate Appropriations on March 3rd, and then the full Senate on March 11th. The bill then passed back through House with Senate amendments on March

Meet the new Legislative Committee Co-Chairs...

Shaída Libhart, AICP

Legislative Affairs Representative/CoChair

Shaída is a transportation planner in the Denver area and has participated on the Legislative Committee since 2018., and taking the Co-Chair role in 2020. The Legislative session moves fast and so must the committee, regular meetings and a proactive stance, along with a lot of assistance from our lobbyist is required.

2021 Goals

1. Continue to build relationships with legislators.
2. Engage more Colorado planners in local, state and national legislative matters.
3. Strengthen and broaden our planning advocacy program and efforts, and use of APA's Planner's Advocacy Network
4. Develop and distribute educational and informational materials, including a story bank.
5. Develop a list of planning experts willing to testify on behalf of APA Colorado.
6. Continue partnership with APA National for resources and tools.
7. Regularly update the Legislative Committee webpage to provide documentations, resources and timely information.

Scott Bressler, AICP

Legislative Committee Representative/CoChair

Scott is a Senior Transportation Planner at AECOM with over 15 years of planning experience. and 2020 was his 1st year on the Legislative Committee. There was a lot to learn, but we have a great team that brought me up to speed and I am excited to work with Shaída to engage more planners on legislative issues throughout the year,.

13th. On March 24th, Governor Polis signed the bill into law. For more information about HB-1095 please see a fact sheet about the legislation.

(https://www.apacolorado.org/sites/default/files/sites/all/themes/apa_colorado/images/editor/HB20-1095%20Fact%20Sheet-REVISED%201-22-20_1.pdf)

The Committee presented four sessions at the APA Colorado virtual 2020 Colorado Planning Conference in October that included the 2020 Legislative Session Rewind and Recharge; Federal Policy Focus: What's Happening in Housing with speakers Jason Jordan and Jennie Rodgers; Federal Policy Focus: What's Happening in Transportation with speaker Caron Whitaker; and the Local Legislative Roundtable where the Committee engaged participants about the upcoming 2021 Legislative Session.

2021 Goals

The Legislative Committee will again take a reactive approach to legislation that is introduced during the 2021 Legislative Session through monitoring and potentially supporting or opposing planning related bills that are introduced in the Legislature.

This year we plan to develop materials to be placed on the APA Colorado website in an attempt to encourage greater participation in the Committee, and greater participation with

our elected officials. This will include information about how a bill becomes law as well as information about how to read a bill, when amendments are made as it moves through the process and more information about what to expect if you volunteer to testify in the state legislature. We also plan to work with APA Colorado planners across the state to develop a story bank that may be used to supplement oral testimony at the legislature. This practice will help us to be able to provide specific stories about how changes in legislation may affect individuals. The Committee hopes to work with planners from around the state to find stories for a variety of issue areas. Look for more information about this on the Chapter's weekly email blast!

Finally, the Legislative Committee would like to thank Susan A. Wood, FAICP for her many years of service Chairing or Co-Chairing the Committee. She has been so instrumental in all of the successes that the committee has had, and will continue to support the committee, hopefully for years to come. There is no way to thank Susan enough for all of the work that she has done for the Legislative Committee specifically, and APA Colorado in general. While Susan may no longer be sending out the emails and meeting notices, she continues to lead, but now at the national level, as she assumes the role of APA Director for Region V.

APA REGION V DIRECTOR & LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS REPRESENTATIVE



Susan A Wood, FAICP

Susan is a Planning Project Manager with the Regional Transportation District (RTD), the Denver metro region transit provider. She served as the Legislative Committee Chair/Co-Chair and Legislative Affairs Representative for several years, until the fall of 2020. She has worked in land use planning and

now in transportation planning and finds this combination helpful in understanding proposed legislation and its affect on planning in Colorado.

The Legislative Affairs Representative, along with the Legislative Committee Chair or Co-chairs, and assisted by the APA Colorado Legislative Liaison, coordinates the work of the Legislative Committee to give APA Colorado members and planners a voice at the Colorado Legislature. Planning legislation, if approved, ultimately becomes law and provides the framework for planning across the State. This demonstrates the importance of the Legislative Committee's efforts.

2020 Accomplishments

1. Passage of HB20-1095, remarkably before the Legislature closed their doors on March 13 due to COVID-19;

2. Successful leadership transition in December to Shaida Libhart, AICP as Legislative Affairs Representative & Co-Chair, and Scott Bressler, AICP as Legislative Committee Representative & Co-Chair.

2021 Goals

The Legislative Committee will move forward with its primary charge, which is to track, monitor, and take positions, when warranted, on proposed legislation. In addition, this year, the Committee plans to take these efforts further by providing materials to engage more planners and elected officials and by developing "stories" or "case histories" that illustrate a variety of planning scenarios and outcomes, thereby demonstrating the value of and the need for planning and planning tools.



Sol Malick of Peak Government Affairs Ltd is the Chapter's Legislative Liaison, working with the Legislative Committee to build relationships and educate legislators.

“We read, we wrote, we prayed, we cried, we listened, we screamed, we spoke out, we marched, we helped others in need. But how much do we change for good? It’s sake and forever? For those of us who survived, when and how we see the benefits of what we went through during those turbulent times is relative. But if we work individually to make justified changes for more value driven and righteous tomorrow, the redlight year that 2020 was will one day in the rear view mirror of life inevitably turn green. And perhaps be seen as one of our finest hours.”

Matthew McConaughey

DESCRIBE 2020 IN ONE WORD

PlannersArePublicHealthProfessionals
Grounding
Innovation
PivotPivotalToughReally
FeverChaoticChallengingAdaptive
RescueUnforgettable
ResilientDisruptive
NewGoodbye
push-onChoppy
dynamic
Different
Forgettable
Opportunity
Happened

FRIENDS & PARTNERS



VP EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Julia Puester serves as the VP of External Affairs. In this position, she aims to enhance the Chapter's relationship with existing allied organizations and create new partnerships that will provide enhanced opportunities for members. As part of the position, I also co-chair the Awards Committee and Outreach & Communications Committee.

2020 Accomplishments:

This past year, I continued to search for opportunities to improve our organization's outreach and create new relationships by contacting new professional and educational organizations.

1. Continued work with the Outreach & Communications Committee (OCC) to create a useful media list for press releases and increased the Chapter's social media presence (*thank you to Jena Skinner, Social Media Volunteer*).
2. The Awards Committee expanded the award

recipient celebration and acknowledgment through the creation of videos that were played throughout October's Colorado Planning Conference (CPC), and were posted on the Chapter's website, YouTube channel and social media accounts.

2021 Goals:

In 2021, I will continue supporting our membership and partner organizations.

1. Look for ways to increase outreach on social media platforms
2. Look at continuing award recipient videos to reach a larger audience
3. Seek additional opportunities for our members with partner organization educational or networking events
4. Reach out to our Regional APA Representatives to assist in enhancing planned events or highlighting events and projects in their areas.



Julia Puester, AICP

What were the positive impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic or BLM movement on planning?

We have a long way to go to make digital-access equitable and inclusive, but 2020 sped up the adoption of digital technologies that allow more people to participate in our planning processes, thus making them more transparent and accessible. New and better ways to listen to and engage with our communities is something every planner should embrace. - *M. Stephens*

Reduced GHG emission from vehicles. - *A. Crump*

Increased recognition of existing and growing health disparities and related planning factors that have placed members of some racial and ethnic minority populations at greater risk and strategies to help mitigate these impacts. - *B. Nicholson*

VP COMMUNICATIONS

Sarah R. Davis is the outgoing VP of Communications and has been honored to serve in this position for the past few years. She is excited to usher the newly elected VP, Mike Tylka, who will bring enthusiasm and dedication to this important position. COVID-19 brought a lot of things into focus, but the importance of communication has been constant. Ensuring that you, our members, have the tools and reliable resources to do your job is critical. Thank you for this opportunity!

Mike is an enthusiastic planning professional with a passion for promoting the profession. He will ensure that the Chapter's efforts are publicized and that our planning professionals are connected to each other and resources.

2020 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

2020 was an incomparable year, but not without moments to celebrate. Through the amazing hard work of Jena Skinner, our social media content creator, the Chapter increased our online interactions through social media by 400%! If you aren't already, please make sure you're following us on one or all of your favorite platforms. I look forward to seeing you in the comments!

1. Led the Chapter in formalizing our commitment to anti-racism, strengthening our role as "planners as advocates," and doing our part to breakdown systemic racism within our workplaces and profession.
<https://www.apacolorado.org/article/anti-racism-call-action>
2. Supported in the organization and development of the Spring 2020 COVID Virtual Town Hall series.
3. Led the Outreach and Communications Committee (OCC) to achieve record-breaking social media activity - a 400% increase over 2019.
4. Edited the five bi-monthly

mini and two full newsletters - check your settings and make sure you're seeing our emails!

2021 GOALS:

As the new VP, Mike's main goal is to increase the profile of the Chapter and our profession. This will be accomplished by solid outreach and communication efforts.



Sarah R. Davis, AICP

1. Work to ensure the long term stability of our Committees
2. Work to elevate the Chapter's profile in the state
3. Work to ensure long term stability of social media management
4. Work to ensure partner professions are aware of Chapter's work



Mike Tylka, AICP

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICER & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE



If there's no plan, how do we know how to get where we want to go? -I. Correa-Ortiz (Photo by Ian Schneider on Unsplash)



Allison Crump, AICP

Allison Crump is the Chapter's outgoing Professional Development Officer (PDO), having served four years in the position. Erin Fosdick, will take over the position in 2021.

The PDO supports members in attaining their AICP certification by leading exam prep workshops, reviewing exam applications, supporting AICP members in their continuing education, and leading the Professional Development Committee (PDC) in the review and selection of conference sessions and workshops.

2020 Accomplishments

Allison lead the PDC through the transition from in-person to virtual platforms for the Colorado Planning Conference and continuing education. Although the in-person educational opportunities came to an abrupt halt, the number of virtual opportunities filled the gap.

1. Reviewed and selected sessions for the annual fall conference. As the 2020 Colorado Planning

Conference pivoted from in-person to virtual, the PDC helped select applicable sessions for the new virtual platform.

2. Held two virtual AICP Exam Prep workshops, supporting dozens of Colorado planners sitting for the AICP exam.
3. Continued to see Colorado planners have above national average pass rates for the AICP exam.

2021 Goals

The PDO & PDC will continue to support those sitting for the AICP exam, those seeking AICP CM credits and the educational needs of Chapter members in general.

1. Support AICP exam takers, host exam prep workshops, and maintain/increase the Colorado exam pass rate.
2. Expand the PDC's role in educational planning for the Chapter.
3. Develop a compelling "Call for Sessions" and select a dynamic line up of presentations.



Erin Fosdick, AICP



Terms and actions such as "social distancing" found their way into every day life. (Photo by Craig Hellier on Unsplash)

REPRESENTATIVE UPDATES

DTHE APA Colorado Board has elected Area Representatives, Presidential appointed Special Representatives and Committee Representatives. Area Representatives are voted on to represent members in their geographical region: Denver Metro, Central Mountain, Northwest, Southwest, North Central and South Central. The special representatives are appointed to represent members in specific areas such as public officials, planning faculty, students and emerging professional planners. There is also a representative for allied organizations which is currently held by a representative from Western Planner. Committees also provide one representative to the Board; typically, this is the chair or co-chair of the committee but can also be someone elected or appointed to represent the committee at the Board meetings.



NORTHWEST

Delta
Garfield
Gunnison
Mesa
Moffat
Montrose
Ouray
Rio Blanco

SOUTHWEST

Alamosa Mineral
Archuleta Montezuma
Conejos Rio Grande
Costilla Saguache
Custer San Juan
Dolores San Miguel
Fremont
Hinsdale
La Plata

CENTRAL MOUNTAIN

Chaffee Routt
Clear Creek Summit
Eagle
Gilpin
Grand
Jackson
Lake
Park
Pitkin

NORTH CENTRAL

Boulder
Larimer
Logan
Morgan
Phillips
Sedgwick
Washington
Weld
Yuma

DENVER METRO

Adams
Arapahoe
Broomfield
Denver
Douglas
Elbert
Jefferson

SOUTH CENTRAL

Baca Lincoln
Bent Otero
Cheyenne Prowers
Crowley Pueblo
Teller
Huerfano
Kiowa
Kit Carson
Las Animas

AREA REPRESENTATIVE GEOGRAPHIC BOUNDARIES

AREA REPRESENTATIVES

North Central Area

Summer Frederick, AICP is Boulder County's Planning Division Manager for the Development Review Team, the group that reviews all land use applications for the unincorporated area of Boulder County. Since moving to Colorado in early 2014, Summer's involvement in APA-CO has provided opportunities to connect with planners through the state, learn more about Colorado-specific planning issues, and stay up-to-date on emerging planning information and practices.

2020 Accomplishments:

As for everyone, 2020 has been a challenging year, requiring quick response and adaptations to extreme events while striving to continue to maintain work levels. Planning professionals throughout the region have risen to meet challenges and continue to their dedication to their work.

Conducted AICP prep class. Participated in APA-CO annual conference.

2021 Goals

As the North Central Regional



Summer Frederick, AICP

“I get up every morning determined to both change the world and have one hell of a good time. Sometimes this makes planning my day difficult.”

EB White

Representative, my goals for 2021 is to increase outreach and membership involvement, identify and strengthen professional connections throughout the region, create opportunities for members to interact and learn from each other, as well as promote the planning profession in North Central communities.

Schedule and confirm one membership outreach event per quarter (either virtual or in-person). Create and schedule meetings for small groups of members who share similar professions or interests. Plan and hold at least one community event that provides insight into the planning profession.

What were the positive impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on planning?

COVID seems to likely to make the country and the world more technologically mobile than ever before. - *M. Williams*

Fast tracked alternative work environments allowing employees to work from home which, in turn, reduced vehicle miles traveled and cut down on carbon emissions. - *S. Frederick*

Stopping the world allowed/forced all planners to be more introspective and to "get out there" what had been in our hearts for years. It will change our course and make a positive difference. We perhaps most importantly learned to listen better. - *M. Paz de Araujo*

Utilizing technology for group meetings online has broadened the accessibility of planning to more remote communities. - *J Liljegren*

Companies now understand that every employee does not need to be in the office every day. This may have a positive impact on traffic and land development.. - *S. Bressler*



Downtown Denver art. Photo by Pieter van de Sande on Unsplash

Denver Metro Area



Anne Miller, AICP



Britt Palmberg, AICP



Hadley Peterson, AICP-C

Meet your Denver Metro Area Representatives:

Hadley Peterson is an urban planner whose passion is giving a voice to those who are not often heard to shape cities and regions. She strives to be a change agent for marginalized populations engaging citizens in community-driven efforts and outreach regarding their social and built environments. As Denver Metro Rep she seeks to bring planners of all backgrounds together to connect around creating equitable, sustainable communities.

Anne Miller (Outgoing) is the director of the Colorado Resiliency Office (CRO) in the Department of Local Affairs. I am active in APA CO Sustainability Committee and am on the Executive Committee of the APA Sustainable Communities Division. I excited the the Division will be launching a Climate Champions program in 2021.

Britt Palmberg has been a Project Manager and Planner in Colorado and across the Midwest for 15 years and is currently the lead planner for the Community Planning group at Rick Engineering in Centennial. He is active in APA, as well as the Urban Land Institute and is looking forward to leading more activities and finding ways

for members to connect over the next year. His particular interests, from a state-wide perspective, include helping the communities and jurisdictions along the Front Range with growth management issues that have become more difficult over the last few years, and finding ways to integrate resiliency more holistically in the planning field across Colorado.

2020 Accomplishments

Despite COVID-19, we hosted virtual social events as well as educational programs which focused on issues like how our profession has impacted racial equity through the development of cities as well as community resilience during the pandemic.

1. When APA Colorado quickly put together a series of four virtual COVID Town Halls on various topics in April, Anne assembled a Recovery and Resiliency Session that included adaptations in Montrose and Gunnison County.
2. Between June and August 2020, Hadley oversaw a bookclub on "The Color of Law" with the Emerging Planning Professionals Committee. The three facilitated meetings had over 20 attendees, with each session led by different metro area planners.

Participant had conversations around Denver's racist past, historical development patterns, planning moving forward, and much more. The meetings were recorded and can be found here: Reading Group: The Color of Law | APA Colorado

3. On October 21st we held a virtual happy hour with the Sustainability Committee that featured presentations from Denver and City of Boulder, winners of the Shared Streets competition. In December the virtual happy hour welcomed Britt to his new role as area rep, and said farewell to Anne as the outgoing rep. This "Get to Know Your Board" event also highlighted a discussion of books, movies, current planning trends, and 2021 events. Some recommended books included: The Color of Law, Race for Profit, The Sprawl, Soul of America, Thinking Fast and Slow,

Eager to Love, The Energy Gang, Reversing Climate Change, The Intergalactic Design Guide: Harnessing the Creative Potential of Social Design.

2021 Goals:

For 2021 our goal is to re-generate more activities and involvement in APA Colorado here in the metro area, coming out of the pandemic, and increasing the influence of APA in state-wide planning issues.

We will offer more events and programs that are less structured to meet the needs of our members who have expressed a desire to feel more connected and less preference for formalized programming.

1. Host at least four networking events (in person or virtual) for members such as "virtual karaoke," happy hours, "open forums" or "pecha kuchas" where members share ideas about a wide range of planning or non-planning topics.

In-person events, after the pandemic settles down will aim to satisfy pent-up demand to gather and network. This could be combined with other informal gatherings like bike rides, hikes, or outings to discuss non-planning or planning activities.

2. Collaborate with other organizations like ULI to host at least three joint events with outside organizations, including events such as site visits, jointly hosted speeches talks, etc.
3. Hold a main event associated with the state conference for metro members.
4. Get more involved in the Legislative Committee, to help influence state-wide planning issues over the next year.
5. Execute a system of monthly update emails to Denver Metro members to keep them informed on local events and planning issues.

"We must design and plan for the positive and demonstrable physical and emotional well-being of the people."

Bryan Lee

Northwest Area

Greg Moberg is the Principal Planner for Mesa County, managing the planning staff and long range projects.

2020 Accomplishments:

Due to COVID very little was accomplished.

2021 Goals:

The western slope is very different from the front range. We are much

further apart and there are fewer of us. Our departments are small and our workloads are heavy and breaking away from the office is very difficult. The number one goal is to get planners in the area excited about APA and their profession. Once that is accomplished, the possibility of meeting as a group to come up with goals is the next objective.



Greg Moberg

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Southwest Area

Mark Williams has worked for the City of Durango since 2005, and for the City of Denver and the City of Atlanta before that. His emphasis in Durango is on project review and affordable housing. As the Southwest Area Rep, he works to connect planners with each other, professional opportunities and with other professional organizations.

2020 Accomplishments

2020 may turn out to be a year that laid the foundation for how things will be done in the future, but it was a difficult year to plan for participation in Chapter events.

1. Led a hangout session at the 2020 Colorado Planning Conference. The discussion evolved into an

interesting conversation.

2. Participated in Gateway & Natural Amenity Region Initiative, hosted by Utah State and the University of Utah, to study the growth of western boom towns growing from the COVID pandemic.
3. Participated on Chapter budget committee.

2021 Goals

A return to promoting planning by being able to gather again. There were so many missed opportunities for professional development, and we can get back to hosting these in 2021. A return to social gatherings will also happen, as it has in the past, with plans to host the annual holiday party and inter-professional gatherings.

1. Participate with the legislative committee to advance good planning



Mark Williams

practices.

2. Work with other mountain communities to track and respond to the long-term changes stemming from the COVID pandemic.
3. Provide resources for affordable housing in the SW region.
4. Provide continuing social opportunities for Southwest Area planners.

Central Mountain Area

Mark Truckey is the Community Development Director with the Town of Breckenridge. He feels the Central Mountain Area Rep provides an opportunity to share information with other mountain communities and provides a conduit on those issues to the state Chapter.

2020 Accomplishments

COVID has obviously impacted our ability to accomplish projects in the last year. I had a Breckenridge housing tour scheduled in April but had to cancel it. I was able to host a session on net zero emission housing projects at the October Colorado Planning



Mark Truckey AICP

Conference (CPC).

1. Hosted and facilitated a session at the 2020 CPC on net zero emissions in housing projects.
2. Participated on the APA

Board budget committee.

2021 Goals

I plan to host a housing site visit in Breckenridge by the fall of the 2021. I plan to contact Central Mountain members to identify issues they want to discuss and host virtual or in person sessions on those topics.

1. Housing tour in Breckenridge.
2. Central Mountain sessions on relevant topics.
3. Assist with APA board budget committee.
4. Assist with state APA conference.

“Make sure to wear shoes, ladies. There’s glass everywhere.”

A quote inspired by Kamala Harris and Tiktok.

South Central Area



Maureen Paz de Araujo,
FAICP CTP CEP

Maureen Paz de Araujo is a doer and eager volunteer. During her term as South Central Area Rep she tried to connect planners. She actively sought out colleagues from partner organizations for coordinated events. She enjoyed connecting with new and old planner friends and found great satisfaction in mentoring roles. She enjoyed involvement with the FAICP Nomination Committee and

assisting with awards review for Colorado Great Places and Michigan APA Chapter.

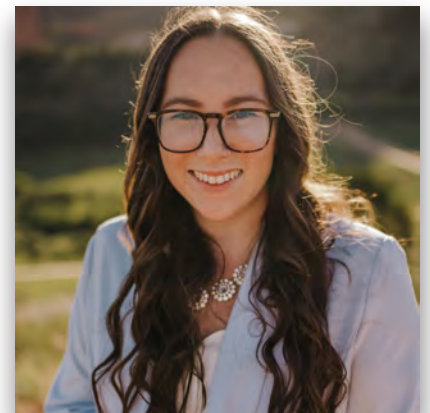
2020 Accomplishments

I continued to represent the Chapter as a liaison to partner organization with the goal of expanding opportunities for our shared and industry-related memberships. This included formal liaison and joint event sponsorship with WTS, ITE, and ASCE locally. In person events were limited during 2020, so we hosted a webinar in September on the Front Range Passenger Rail. In October I was proud to present to the City of Colorado Springs and Downtown Partnership the 2020 Great Places in Colorado: Great Street Award for Tejon Street.

1. Represented APA Colorado on Colorado Transportation Symposium Committee
2. Served as Judge for APA Michigan Chapter Awards Committee
3. Served as Judge for Colorado Great Places

- Awards Committee
4. Serving of APA National AICP Exam Committee

Katelynn Wintz is a Senior Planner for the City of Colorado Springs Land Use Review Division in the Planning & Community Development Department. She moved to Colorado from a rural part of New Jersey in 2019. She is honored to act as the incoming area representative and looks forward to meeting planners all across the area and hopefully provide relevant



Katelynn Wintz, AICP

content and communication.

2021 Goals

In 2021, I intend to coordinate with area planners to host educational events and networking events. The on-going COVID pandemic has significantly impacted our ability to gather safely in person, but I look forward to coordinating safe in person events in the future as the pandemic situation changes.

1. Represent the needs of our area members for statewide activities
2. schedule virtual trainings
3. manage and host networking events

"The tragedy of life is not found in failure but complacency. Not in you doing too much, but doing too little. Not in you living above your means, but below your capacity. It's not failure but aiming too low, that is life's greatest tragedy."

Benjamin E. Mays



Black Lives Matter (BLM) and planning

The BLM movement, and the social justice movement in general, has forced planning to look more closely at its role in systemic racism, specifically with things such as redlining and the role of zoning in housing costs. This review needs to become an ongoing part of the planning profession. *M. Williams*

Planners can bring a wide range of knowledge from different disciplines to assist in a variety of issues that face communities. We should be utilizing this knowledge right now to create new programs that help move the needle forward for our communities in sustainability, social equity, attainable housing, and economic recovery. *J. Puester*

BLM has forced us as planners - academics or practitioners - to reassess how we have been and are still complicit in increasing inequity in society. *M. Shirgaokar*

These events {pandemic/BLM} brought forward tough conversations and realizations that what we do as planners impact so many facets of everyday life. We need to be mindful in every decision we make. - *J. Olhava*

"All lives can't matter until black lives matter". The rebuttal to "black lives matter" is often "all lives matter" but it is important to understand that all lives can't matter if any sub-group does not feel represented in the whole. - *S Bressler*

Both the pandemic and the BLM movement have shined a brighter light on the inequalities that were laying just below the surface of our public consciousness and conversations. These new conversations will impact future planning and become part of the training that planners and others receive for the foreseeable future. *A Williams*

One positive impact of the BLM movement on planning was the opportunity for individuals in our profession to understand how planning in cities and counties across the United States oppressed the BIPOC community through racial segregation taking place in neighborhoods. Our committee hosted a Reading Group on the Color of Law, where planners could talk more about redlining and began to discuss ways we could improve upon our existing and future planning landscape to create communities where BIPOC can thrive, and ultimately how we can undo the effects of these long-standing racist policies. *J Lyons*

Challenges are what make life interesting, overcoming them makes life meaningful. *D. Murray*

SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVES



You never know what you've got 'til it's gone. Toilet paper & planning for instance. Photo by Jasmin Sessler, Unsplash



*Manish Shirgaokar
PhD AICP*

Planning Faculty Representative

The faculty representative is instrumental in keeping communication open between the APA Colorado Board and the CU Denver Urban and Regional Planning (MURP) Program. Concerns and initiatives from both sides are needed to help early-career

planners in graduate school connect with the profession at large. The faculty representative works with colleagues at the University and the Board to expand opportunities for learning, networking, and job placement.

2020 Accomplishments

In 2020, a conversation between the MURP program and the Chapter Board began about where and how the relationship might build. There were also work with the Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Committee (EDI) on social justice and equity issues facing the profession.

1. Expanded learning options for Chapter

- members through online courses at CU Denver.
2. Designed an equity, diversity, and inclusion survey for planning professionals to report their thoughts and experiences on those topics .
3. Communicated ideas/initiatives between the Board and MURP faculty.
4. Explored ways to open Planning for diversity enrollment with the EDI Committee.

2021 Goals

I plan to keep working on expanding EDI concerns through the Chapter, and develop more opportunities for planning students at CU Denver to engage with planning professionals.

1. Keep options open for professionals to take planning courses at CU Denver.
2. Work with the EDI Committee to decipher survey results about what planners are thinking and experiencing with EDI.
3. Explore options to partner with communities for capstone projects, studios, and other engagements.
4. Place student projects on the web, and invite community members to review this work, inspiring action towards building great communities.

"All that you touch you change. All that you change changes you. The only lasting truth is change. God is change." - Octavia Butler (Parable of the Sower, 1993)

Allied Organization | Western Planner Representative

Western Planner (WP) and the APA Colorado have a relationship dating back decades. Western Planner is an online planning journal produced by planners throughout the west and focuses more on rural, small town, and small city planning in the west and works with state planning organizations and others to advocate for planning in the west. WP holds an annual fall conference at a different location each year.

2020 Accomplishments

This year, working with the EDI Committee, I was able to build connections to tribal and indigenous groups. I also worked to maintain the close relationship between WP and APA Colorado.

2021 Goals

I will be stepping down in 2021 and turning the reins over to a new WP representative. I will encourage the new representative to maintain the WP and

Chapter relationship, and to continue work on Tribal and Indigenous collaboration efforts.

1. Help oversee a successful joint Western Planner and APA Arizona Conference in Scottsdale AZ, 8/22-25
2. Maintain supportive relationship between WP and APA Colorado
3. Produce content for Chapter webpage relating to Tribal and Indigenous information
4. Continue collaborations with APA Tribal and Indigenous Interest Group



Brandon Cammarata, AICP

“Any new beginning is forged from the shards of the past, not from the abandonment of the past.” —

Craig D. Lounsbrough

Student Representative



Max Morgan

Max Morgan is the Student Representative, representing planning students in Colorado at APA Colorado meetings, events, and subcommittees. He is responsible for informing students on Chapter activities and promoting professional connectivity opportunities for students and planners

2020 Accomplishments

I served on the Colorado Planning Conference planning committee, helped with virtual sessions and conference promotion. I regularly attended EDI Committee meetings, which is currently working on an equity survey design and distribution.

1. Assisted with APA Colorado's first virtual conference.
2. Assisted with equity survey design and distribution planning.
3. Connected Western Planner representative and the Sustainability Committee to a CU Denver student representative.

2021 Goals

Before I leave office, I hope to lead a few successful events and help with the coordination of the Chapter APAS elections.

1. Work with CU Denver APAS Board members to coordinate spring elections and train the newly elected Student Representative.
2. Lead a few successful events to connect students with planners and establish a plan for sub-groups on campus.
3. Enhance professional connectivity for students.
4. Raise awareness of planning in the public sector.
5. Connect planning students with educators.
6. Continue to build a sense of community for Colorado planners.

Emerging Planning Professional (EPP) Representative



Andrew Williams, ENV SP

Andrew Williams is the outgoing EPP Representative. He is currently a Special Districts manager with CliftonLarsonAllen. This demanding position impacted his ability to serve the EPP Committee and the Chapter in 2020. Serving as Co-Chair of the EPP Board, the

Committee started the year off strong but as the pandemic raged on, participation dwindled and many members either took on full time positions or moved to another state.

2020 Accomplishments

The EPP Committee report follows later in this document. We held a well-attended event in the Dairy Block where we toured the development and spoke with the projects architect. We also held several talks and hosted a book club about race and planning.

1. Expand EPP's Instagram presence and increased our following.

2. Held a well attended event and connect with students at UD Denver.
3. Held a poignant and timely conversation regarding race and the roles that planners play in the community.
4. Connected with other planning communities and groups finding opportunities for cross-collaboration.

2021 Goals

I encourage my replacement to work with the EPP Committee Board to rebuild the Committee with new and excited members. I will continue to work with EPP to build relationships with the college and other organizations to partner on different events and provide our members with opportunities to be engaged in the community and learning from the peers and mentors.

1. Rebuild EPP Committee membership and EPP Board with new and energetic members.
2. Continue to find opportunities to hold discussions about relevant planning topics to continue the discussions touched on last year.
3. Continue to build relationships and opportunities for collaboration.



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What or who inspired you in 2020?

US Rep. John Lewis, who was a man of strength, courage, and conviction. He suffered physical and verbal abuse in championing Civil Rights. His statement, "Never, ever be afraid to make some noise and get in good trouble, necessary trouble" speaks to my heart. To me, it means to hold to the courage of your convictions. John Lewis made a difference - something we should all aspire to do. - *S. Wood*

The many public servants that worked tirelessly and demonstrated creativity and resilience to help their communities through the pandemic and economic disruption. - *A. Miller*

I think the collective resistance and spirit of coming together to lift others up and support others through 2020 is what inspired me. It would be hard to point to an individual when so many sacrificed and extended their hands to lift others up. - *A. Williams*

Bryan Stevenson, founder of the Equal Justice Initiative. His work reminds us that justice and equity are not a natural occurrence and sometimes do not happen without great effort - *M. Williams*

Dr. Fauci, who stood his ground and was unwavering in his professional expertise regardless of politics and leadership's lack of support. - *B. Nichols*

Kimberlee McKee, LDDA Director in Longmont. She has been an absolute rock for our downtown and business community through the pandemic. She has pushed us all to think harder about the pace of government (which is too slow) and to stop thinking in terms of what makes sense and to just DO!!!! - *J. Marsh*



Committees serve the entire state. Photo by Stephen Monroe on Unsplash.

COMMITTEES

APA Colorado has numerous committees that provide support to the Chapter mission. From acknowledgment of great planning through the Chapter Awards and the Great Places in Colorado programs, to membership services, legislative activities and targeted support groups, the Chapter committees are the "boots on the ground" for our members.

Awards Committee



Daniel Murray, AICP

The committee co-chairs facilitate the awards committee's review of the nominations. This includes compiling the awards review matrix, scheduling the committee's meeting, moderating the committees meeting, summarizing our actions, reporting this information to the APA CO Board, contacting



Daniel Murray, AICP

award recipients and non-recipients, and preparing an awards presentation for the annual planning conference.

2020 Accomplishments

To recognize outstanding projects, plans, and people in the planning profession, that is the purpose of the Awards Committee. In 2020 the

Committee received 17 applications. This is on par with the average of 18 applications received in years prior. Categories include sustainability and environmental planning, community engagement, general planning project, projects with a small budget, innovative/creative partnerships, community resiliency, and individual leadership. A new award this year was the water smart category, created in partnership with the Sonoran Institute.

The Awards Committee members convened to review the applications that exemplify excellence in innovation, transferability, quality of the images and writing, promoting community progress, effectiveness, and implementation. The Committee ultimately awarded



Planning Leadership Award Recipient: Chris Bendon, AICP

seven Merit and four Honor recipients, and one Planning Leadership Award, which were celebrated at the annual APA CO conference held virtually this past October.

2021 Goals

The Awards Committee looks forwards to receiving new applications in March 2021 to continue the tradition of recognizing exceptional planning in Colorado.



President's Award Recipient Maureen Paz de Araujo



Junior City Planner Activity Book, Merit Award Community Engagement

2020 Chapter Award Recipients

PRESIDENT'S AWARD:
Outstanding Volunteer

- Maureen Paz de Araujo, FAICP CTP CEP

EXCELLENCE AWARD:
Planning Leadership

- Chris Bendon, AICP

HONOR AWARDS

- Engaging for Community Solution in Parks & Housing - Community Engagement
- GO Greeley - Community Engagement
- Larimer County Comprehensive Plan - Community Resiliency
- Denveright - General Planning Project

MERIT AWARDS

- Junior City Planner Activity Book, City of Westminster - Community Engagement
- The River Mile - Sustainability & Environmental Planning
- DEN Real Estate Strategic Development Plan - General Planning Project
- City of Steamboat Springs Downtown Plan - General Planning Project
- Vibrant Together Grand Junction: A Downtown Initiative - General Planning Project
- Guide to Downtown Design Standards, City of Loveland - Project with a Small Budget
- Integrating Water into Land Use Planning: An Analysis of Water Policy and Regulation - Growing Water Smart



Great Places in Colorado: Street - Tejon Street, Colorado Springs

Great Places Committee



Jeff Liljegren, AICP

Jeff Liljegren is the outgoing Committee Chair for the Great Places in Colorado Committee and program. He is a private consulting planner, working in Colorado for the past 5 years. As Chair, he worked closely with committee members over the past two years to

create the base material needed to promote, and execute the award canvassing process for the program that is modeled after the national APA Great Places award. Renae Stavros will be taking over for Jeff in 2021.

2020 Accomplishments

Our team was successful in continuing the promotion of this award and were able to acknowledge two Great Places in Colorado: Great Public Space - Palisade Plunge in western Colorado near Palisades, and a Great Street - Tejon Street in Colorado Springs. (see photos)

1. Successfully completed the marketing, application, review and award process for the Great Places in Colorado program.
2. Began work on more unified marketing and award materials for the programs long term existence.

2021 Goals

The Great Places Committee will continue to expand the marketing and acknowledgment, celebration and awards programming.

1. Seek a nominees that expand the geographic boundaries and categories of current designations, such as the communities of the eastern plains.
2. Explore how the designation should/could be more directly tied to the Broader Awards Committee
4. Identify and design a physical award for permanent display at Great Places and a funding mechanism for the award, plaque and/or signage.



Renae Stavros, AICP



Great Places in Colorado: Public Space - Palisade Plunge,

Sustainability Committee



Conor Merrigan LEED AP



Karl Barton, AICP

Conor Merrigan and Karl Barton are the Sustainability Committee Co-Chairs. They helped organize and facilitate Committee membership in planning and executing sustainability-focused events, education campaigns and annual themes. The two share the responsibility for developing agendas, summarizing meetings, and participating in APA Colorado meetings on a monthly basis. Additional duties include logistics support, liaison efforts to various other organizations and committees, and spearheading additional committee determined activities as needed.

2020 Accomplishments

The final EcoDistricts event was held in 2020, along with a Shared Streets competition and support of various other related events including the Water Smart series, and sustainability sessions at the Colorado Planning Conference in October. The theme for the year started as Climate Resiliency, but

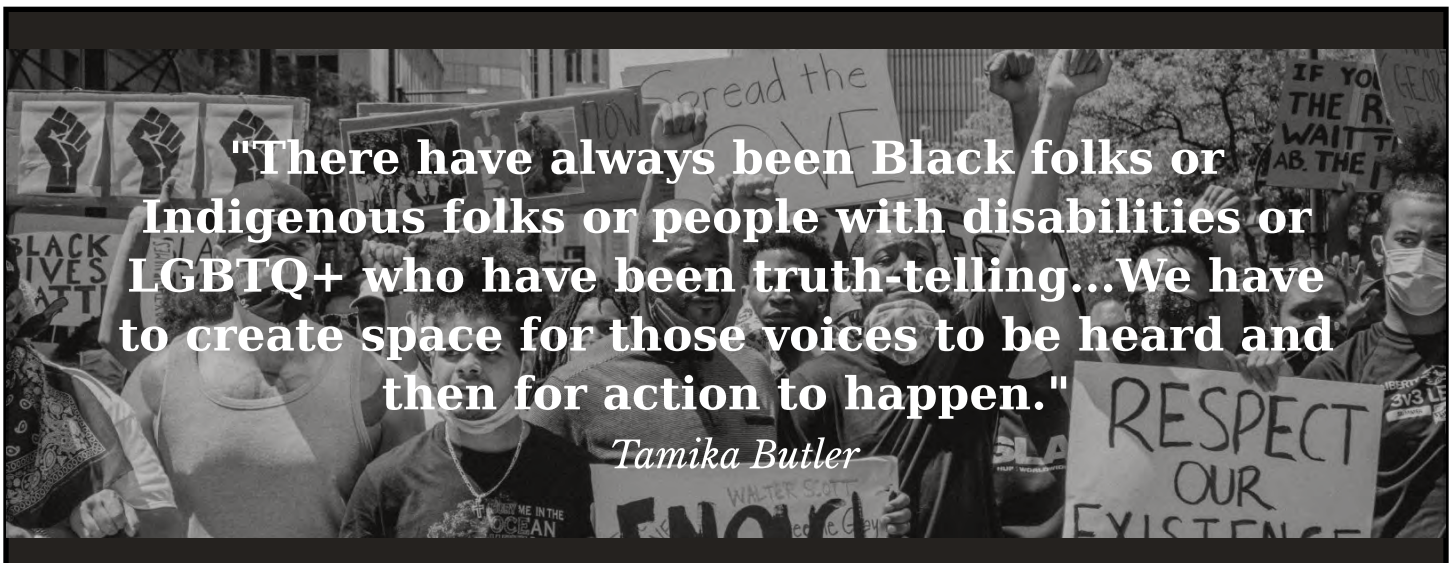
morphed into appropriate COVID planning responses. The ultimate focus fell on shared streets as a discrete intervention with a myriad of sustainability co-benefits.

1. Hosted a final EcoDistricts webinar event on cultural resilience
2. Launched and awarded a Shared Streets competition
3. Engaged in multiple robust discussions of COVID related sustainability planning discussions with various stakeholders ranging from water providers to transit agencies
4. Provided sustainability expertise to other Chapter committees

2021 Goals

In 2021, the Committee will continue to focus on the sustainability dynamics involved with the changing use of urban space during and post COVID. The Committee will remain opportunistic in terms of partnering events, develop targeted efforts to increase education and progress in redefining space in more sustainable manners, and support members in entering and growing in the field of sustainability planning.

1. Capture the positive momentum in urban spaces from a sustainability perspective and encourage ongoing changes
2. Host or co-host three events over the course of the year
3. Grow membership and strengthen Committee roles and sub-committees
4. Provide timely support for other APA Colorado committees and members for sustainability topics



Healthy Communities Committee

The Healthy Communities Committee is a group of planning professionals that advocates for healthy communities in Colorado. The committee promotes equitable access to healthy food and active living and seeks to influence policy areas that will contribute to the overall health of Colorado. The Committee acts as a clearinghouse for best practices in healthy community initiatives.

Other strategies the committee uses to help create healthy communities includes:

- ▶ Providing strategic resources for grant-seeking cities, towns and counties
- ▶ Providing training and networking for planners and other professionals
- ▶ Compiling research and resources about healthy communities that are pertinent to Colorado

2020 Accomplishments

The Healthy Communities Committee meets every 6 weeks to discuss trends in healthy community planning efforts around the state. In 2020, the Committee hosted presentations on trails, language justice and equity, land use and water, zoning for manufactured homes, and the Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) grant program. The Committee supported the Town Hall webinar series in April and the virtual 2020 Colorado Planning Conference each week with healthy community themed presentations, including equitable and multi-sectoral community engagement, transportation equity and sustainability, and repurposed streets.

1. Expanded reach of interested committee members
2. Hosted 5 committee presentations on trails, language justice and equity, land use and water, the Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) grant program, and manufactured home zone districts for affordable housing preservation.
3. Conducted virtual Town Halls on the coronavirus pandemic and healthy community planning and engaging youth in building strong communities



Bradyn Nicholson,



Liz Young Winne,

4. Supported the 2020 Colorado Planning Conference with healthy community themed presentations throughout the month of October
5. Finalizing the health and housing position statement to be completed in early 2021

2021 Goals

In 2021, the Healthy Communities Committee plans to continue to host online meetings for its Members that include topics such as learning about promoting and/or implementing transportation equity and accessibility, walkability and bikeability; learning how to do more robust community engagement; and learning how to build multi-sector collaboratives to promote healthy community goals in planning processes. The committee is eager to finalize the APA CO Health and Housing Position Statement at the beginning of the new year. Committee members have a continued interest in creating useful tools to share with other planners around the state that can assist in the implementation of healthy communities.

1. Continue to host online meetings every 6 weeks with committee members on varying topics specific to healthy communities
2. Finalize the APA CO Housing and Health Position Statement
3. Create useful tools for healthy community planning, including land use regulations and that support healthy communities
4. Support committee partners and members by promoting events and supporting healthy community planning efforts statewide

**"Whether you think
you can,
or think you can't,
you're right."**

Henry Ford

Emerging Planning Professionals Committee



Joan Lyons

Joan Lyons is the EPP Committee Representative to the Chapter Board. She is currently the Boulder Transportation Connection's Planning and TDM Projects Manager, and a Planner for Grand County. After serving as the EPP Committee Representative to Board, Joan will step into the EPP Representative position in 2021.

The Emerging Planning Professionals (EPP) Committee strives to cultivate a vibrant community of entry- to mid-level planning professionals by offering and promoting opportunities for professional development, service, and meaningful, innovative contributions to an evolving, diverse profession.

2020 Accomplishments

Our Committee worked tirelessly all year to try and engage young professionals to ensure those members had networking opportunities, ways to learn about relevant planning issues, and grow as professionals through mentorship opportunities.

1. Facilitated a Mentorship Program at the State Planning Conference
2. Hosted a Book Club on the Color of Law in response to DEI issues across the county and how it connects to the planning profession
3. Created networking events throughout the Denver Metro area pre-pandemic, under the name Bourbon Sprawl, at Raices Brewing Company and the Milk Market. Both events allowed professionals to learn more about the Denver Broncos Stadium District from Raices Brewing Company Owner, Jose Beteta, whom sits on the Steering Committee for the district, and infill development at the Milk Market.

2021 Goals

EPP plans to build upon the Mentorship Program at the 2021 Colorado Planning Conference and create a longer program for seasoned professionals and young professionals to receive opportunities to establish relationships and grow as planning professionals.

1. Grow the EPP Committee
2. Create a longer mentorship program to allow young and seasoned professionals
3. Host networking events for young planning professionals
4. Foster service opportunities for young planning professionals

Who inspired you in 2020?

Anthony Fauci, because he ignored all of the political noise and discord in our media and our politics and effectively communicated facts and the logic of science to the public. *B. Palmberg*

Communities and planners coming together across the state to fight crises together (wildfires and COVID). *J Lyons*

I was most inspired not my a famous person, rather by a former colleague as she overcame nearly insurmountable obstacles to graduate from UCCS with a teaching degree this December, the first in her family to receive a college degree. She studied while working as an elementary teaching assistant and she is surviving COVID-19 by working two jobs. Maybe her story is not planning related but gets at a "can do" attitude that I think is in the DNA of every planner. *M Paz de Araujo*

The innovators. The doers. They didn't sit back and wait; they saw the pandemic as an opportunity, not an ending. And, of course, all those students who lost their "last" or "first" moments forever...but found persevered..even without toilet paper. - *S. Booth*

My girlfriend's mom is a recent widower, and has shown how to be gracious and kind when people are getting down about little things, despite the fact that she's hurting immensely and lost her husband of thirty years. Meeting people where they are is important for planners, and Mary Bernuth is model for helping people even when we're at a low point personally and down on life. *M Morgan*

All the small voices who pushed back and were not willing to stay quiet when they were told their opinion didn't matter. - *G. Moberg*



*Volunteering on committees is the best way to give back to your profession and your Chapter.
Photo by Dakota Corbin on Unsplash*

Outreach & Communication (OCC) Committee

The Outreach & Communication Committee (OCC) is focused on internal communication between the Board, Chapter Administrator and members, as well as external communication between the Chapter and other organizations.

2020 Accomplishments

The OCC focused on implementing the Outreach and Communications Plan, including regular posting and management of our social media through the hard work of our social media content creator Jena Skinner, connecting members with great articles and insights to support professional development and celebration of accomplishments. In 2020 we increased the Chapter's social media interactions by 400%!

1. Achieved a 400% increase in social media activity over 2019.
2. Supported the Spring Virtual Town Hall series focused on COVID-19 and the month-long virtual Colorado Planning Conference in October.
3. Issued five bi-monthly mini and full newsletters focused on youth in planning, housing + growth management, tools for planners, infrastructure, and our annual Chapter Awards.
4. Began the transition of the Chapter



Sarah R. Davis, AICP



Julia Puester, AICP

website to the new format.

2021 Goals

1. Seek intriguing, challenging and educational articles for the Planning Matters newsletter.
2. Build upon existing relationships with allied professional partners and seek new groups with which to collaborate.
3. Continue building on the social media success, increasing our reach by at least 10%.
4. Complete the transition from our existing Chapter website to the new site, hosted by APA National.

Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI) Committee

Ignacio Correa-Ortiz is a planner, urban designer and architect working to provide accessible, reliable and sustainable transit to the Denver Region.



*Ignacio Correa-Ortiz,
AICP*

2020 Accomplishments

In January of 2020 a group of six members got together to rekindle the EDI Committee. The group wrote five objectives and used that as a work plan for the year.

The EDI Committee participated in the RISE themed Colorado Planning Conference and hosted a session titled: *Is Colorado Ready to RISE?*

The Committee drafted a survey to identify biases in the planning profession, including

gender, pay, ethnic distribution, etc. This survey has the potential to be a national resource.

The Committee is developing relations with the Native American communities in Colorado with the support of the Western Planner Representative to educate their next generation of citizens about the planning profession.

2021 Goals

The Committee will finalize the draft of the equity, diversity and inclusion survey then distribute it to all APA Colorado members. Once the survey period is completed, the Committee will review the data and provide that information to the APA Colorado Board and the membership. The Committee also looks forward to hosting an event and assisting the EPP Committee with the Pride parade.

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Membership Committee

APA Colorado membership has been stable but has experienced little to no growth for a number of years. Additionally, distribution of membership does not reflect distribution of population - and planners throughout the state. The Membership Committee has been focusing on trying to understand how we can better serve members, correct disparities in engagement and provide incentives to join APA Colorado.

2020 Accomplishments

In 2020 we took first steps toward

conducting a planner census, enhanced our membership brochures and held a first Membership Committee networking event as part of the virtual 2020 Colorado Planning Conference.

1. Brochures were updated to match new branding.



*Maureen Paz de Araujo,
FAICP CTP CEP
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2. Recruited/coordinated with MURP program to assist with a Planner Census.
3. Held first Membership Committee networking event (virtual).
4. Thankfully, likely on the shoulders of past services to members we had some, but really minimal losses in membership in 2020.

2021 Goals

Plans are to take the Membership Committee off auto-pilot and tackle the membership

growth issue.

1. Complete a Planner Census.
2. Conduct two or three membership networking events.
3. Prepare and deploy a new/returning member package.
4. Sponsor/hold membership engagement/educational event (How to connect, how to share/give, how to benefit from APA National services).

Youth in Planning Committee



Wade Broadhead, AICP



New facial fashion statements. Photo by StellrWeb on Unsplash

Pandemic Reflections

We came to better understand that for all our good intentions that we had been part of the problem. Being part of the problem was not intentional, rather it was because we often failed to understand unintended consequences. We had to walk in others' shoes and feel their pain to accept and understand what we had failed to grasp. *M. Paz de Araujo*

Wade is the Planning & Zoning Director in Florence, CO where he works on land development, zoning, local grants, transportation and historic preservation issues. As YIP Committee Chair, Wade coordinates the Committee's work on initiatives and spearheads collaborations with other committees.

2020 Accomplishments

Almost all of YIP's 2020 activities were canceled; however Wade was able to present to 2nd and 3rd graders about planning before the pandemic closed schools. (see photo above.)

1. Presented to 2nd & 3rd graders.
2. Worked on a new virtual format for "bite sized" academic information for schools.

2021 Goals

1. Partner with other Chapter

- committees to get planners in schools, in front of kids
2. Work on virtual presentations
3. Develop online video content, to create "short bites" of information for teachers, working with any and all districts and teachers to get kids talking about planning and planning careers.



A day in the life of a parent and student, wearing their facial fashions.



"Whether you think you can, or think you can't, you're right."
Henry Ford



The 2020 PIC Board: Maureen Paz de Araujo, Board President; Josh Olhava, Treasurer; Allison Crump, Professional Development Officer; Susan Wood, Member at Large; and Michelle Stephens, Member at Large.

In 2020, the PIC Board debated whether to enhance or abandon the organization. After much deliberation, the Board decided to give the organization more time and moved forward with updating the PIC courses. A few Board members and outside volunteers began reviewing and rewriting the 11 courses with updates being posted on the realtor's online continuing education portal, VanEd.

2020 Accomplishments

Update of individual units began with a goal of completion by the end of 2020.

- 1. Conducted Board Survey - Next Steps for PIC.
- 2. Obtained consensus to complete a minor

update of all units and pilot as test using that approach.

- 3. Recruited/volunteered to update individual course units.
- 4. Completed update of two PIC courses.

2021 Goals

We will deploy full complement of updated course units with VanEd.

- 1. Complete course updates by end of 2021.
- 2. Review PIC financials and determine best use for revenue.
- 3. Identify one marketing program for implementation in 2022.

"The good news is that the American people, not just the African-American community are saying enough is enough. You can't hold people in custody and suddenly find out that they are dead. You can't shoot people in the back." - Bernie Sanders



Above. Photo by Kyle Glenn on Unsplash
 Below. Photo by Jasmin Sessler on Unsplashw:



Northwest Area Rep. Greg Moberg & representative of the Palisades Plunge accepting the Great Places in Colorado award.

2020 CHAPTER BOARD

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Closing thoughts on 2020 and planning..

Everyone became acutely aware of the impact their environments and policy decisions have on their lives. City planning became the topic du jour and now it's up to us to transform that awareness into action! There is a tremendous opportunity for us to harness this energy to develop new plans and policies that break down systemic racism and address wicked problems. Planners are equipped to lead those conversations that result in change. *M Stephens*

Planners can take this time to stop assuming everyone knows or cares about planning issues or thinks like an educated planner and start really talking to people about more pressing and genuine community issues. This will help us build more resilient communities in our day to day work. *J. Marsh*

Planning, when done correctly, is holistic. It considers all voices, all perspectives, and all possibilities. It looks to the future, but considers the present. By considering all aspects of a plan or development; the impacts and benefits of today and beyond; and the impact on all people, the end product is one that will address inequities and stand the test of time. Telling stories of the positive impact of their work will provide insights into the work of planners and will demonstrate the value of the profession. *S Wood*

Not all communities, not all developments have to be the same. Adding more regulations is not always the answer. Every regulation, every exaction, every requirement adds costs to a development. Those costs are passed on to the consumer. Though it makes for good development, and I enjoy driving through a beautifully developed project, those increased costs are continually placing more and more people out of that market. So where do they go? - *G. Moberg*

"Business as usual" does not work for most community members regarding processes, public comment, and general community engagement. - *B Nicholson*

2020 brought the resurgence of shared streets, outdoor living, and the rapid response of regulators to make things work. The lack of equity in the planning profession, especially the structural inequities, needed at least this moment to be fully addressed. - *C Merrigan*

Planners should bring awareness and realization to communities, ultimately elevating our profession by understanding and being part of the communities they serve. *I. Correa-Ortiz*

Many entry-level or young planning professionals have been laid off or furloughed due to COVID, making the jump out of undergrad or graduate school even more difficult for students to get into the workforce. It is more important than ever for seasoned planners to mentor young professionals in our field to assist them in any and all challenges they may be facing professionally. *J. Lyons*

Above: Photo by Edwin Hooper on Unsplash

Back: Sweeping out 2020 15th Street Denver. Photo by Pascal Bernardon on Unsplash



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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.

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