

 November 7, 2025



 09:00 AM

All times are ET: USA – New York time (UTC-5)

WORLD TOWN PLANNING DAY 2025

WITH PLANNING WE CAN!

WTPD 2025 WORK PROGRAM

OPENING REMARKS

09H00 – 09H05 Welcome remarks.

SPEAKERS:

Sue Schwartz, FAICP – President, American Planning Association (APA)

Lesley Cabott RPP, FCIP, ICD D – President, Canadian Institute of Planners/Institut canadien des urbanistes (CIP/ICU)

Emma Chetuya, Ph. D., AICP – Vice-Chair of Special Projects APA International Division

Indigenous Values Within the Planning Process – the example of TMU’s Indigenous Design Guidelines

09H05 – 10H05 The Indigenous Design Guidelines at TMU show what’s possible when institutions engage Indigenous communities meaningfully. Guided by “Nothing for us, without us,” TMU’s process honoured oral traditions, relationship-building, and unique community values, fostering trust and reducing the “Identity Tax” common in consultations.

SPEAKERS:

Nicolas de Salaberry ~ Erik Skouris ~ Matthew Hickey

CM: 1 Equity

HOST: Deborah Morrison

Reframing Engagement: Using Appreciative Inquiry to Inspire Inclusive, Strengths-Based Community Planning

10H15 – 11H15 Traditional community engagement processes often focus on identifying and fixing problems. This session introduces a transformative, strengths-based approach using Appreciative Inquiry to shift the conversation toward the best of “what is” and “what can be.”

SPEAKERS:

Jolene Rieck ~ Dr. Ann Clancy ~ Gordon Lemmel

CM: 1 Sustainability and Resilience

HOST: Sandra Lee Pinel, PhD, AICP

Making the Invisible Visible: Co-Designing with Marginalized Communities for Inclusive Cities

11H30 – 12H30 Urban planning often overlooks marginalized groups. This session explores participatory methods that surface hidden needs and empower overlooked voices—from under-represented communities, youth groups, people with disabilities, to climate-vulnerable residents—to co-design more equitable, resilient, and culturally grounded cities.

SPEAKERS:

Rizqa Hidayani ~ Ru’a Al-Abweh ~ Iris Popescu

CM: 1 Sustainability and Resilience

HOST: Jing Zhang, AICP

LUNCH BREAK

12H30 – 13H00 The webinar will remain open, but presentations will be paused during this time.



American Planning Association
Creating Great Communities for All



American Planning Association
International Division



CIP•ICU
Canadian Institute of Planners
Institut canadien des urbanistes



WTPD 2025 WORK PROGRAM

FAST AND FUN SESSIONS

13H00 – 14H20 Eight presentations:

- Nicole Marchant: [Bringing World Planning Day to the Community](#)
- Andrew Tumusiimirwe: [Integrating Climate-Resilient Infrastructure in Bugongi Town Council: A Model for Secondary Towns in Uganda](#)
- Mduduzi Ntongana: [Planning Together: Lessons from Phola Park Informal Settlement Re-Blocking Project in South Africa](#)
- Antonella Salmerón: [Urban Planning Post - a Global Platform to Plan Together](#)
- Sarah Boufkiri: [Planning Dignity: Zenata Eco-City's Integrated Approach to Equitable Resettlement](#)
- Carlos Balsas: [Innovations in Non-Motorized Transportation \(NMT\) Knowledge Creation and Diffusion](#)
- Abinab Sen and Bhavya Damor: [Stories from the Street - Planning Narratives from Everyday Spaces](#)
- Reshma Afroz Rimi: [A Data-Driven Framework for Micro-Scale Walkability Assessment Using Computer Vision](#)

HOST: Krishna Shrivastava
(Combined)

CM: 1.25 Sustainability and Resilience

Closing the Feedback Loop: How Digital Tools Build Trust in Community Planning

14H30 – 15H30 Planners today face a challenge: how to meaningfully engage communities while managing overwhelming input volumes. Attendees will explore how NYC Planning uses digital tools to analyze, synthesize, and visualize diverse community input— from post-it notes and transcripts to digital comments and marked-up maps. They'll learn about Voice to Vision, a prototype tool developed with MIT's Center for Constructive Communication, that helps planners identify patterns in community narratives and show how feedback influences decisions. The session demonstrates how storytelling—through words, visuals, and interactive formats—surfaces community values and creates better, more trusted planning

SPEAKERS:

Elizabeth Hamby ~ Jasmin Tepale ~ Ralph BENNETT ~ Maggie Hughes ~ Cassandra Overney

HOST: Emma Chetuya Ph.D., AICP

CM: 1 Sustainability and Resilience

One Plan, Many Cultures: Co-Creating Defense Communities Across Borders

15H45 – 16H45 For 20+ years, The Urban Collaborative has planned with communities across languages and norms in Eastern Europe and the Pacific: pre-war Ukraine, Germany, the UK, Luxembourg, Greece, Singapore, Korea, and Japan. This session walks through Installation Planning Standards/Installation Development Plans, housing programming charrettes, and ATCT cases to demonstrate culture-smart facilitation: setting roles across agencies, working through translators, adapting visuals and meeting formats, and navigating power dynamics and history. We'll share checklists, scripts, and co-creation tools that bridge ministries, municipalities, and neighborhoods—sustaining consensus from kickoff to adoption.

SPEAKERS:

Lyndsey Deaton, PhD, AIA, AICP, PMP, LEED GA, ~ Zoe Anton ~ Barry Gordon, AICP

HOST: Sandra Lee Pinel, PhD, AICP

CM: 1 Sustainability and Resilience

WORLD TOWN PLANNING DAY 2025

MEET THE SPEAKERS:

Indigenous Values Within the Planning Process – the example of TMU's Indigenous Design Guidelines



Matthew Hickey, Mohawk, Wolf Clan, Architect OAA AAA AIBC LEED AP

Matthew is a leader at Two Row Architect, advancing Indigenous-centered, sustainable, and community-driven design across Canada.



Erik Skouris

Erik is Ojibwe, and a member of the Michipicoten First Nation, Mukwa (Bear) Clan, as well as a Licensed Architect with the Ontario Association of Architects.



Nicolas de Salaberry

Nicolas is a Planner and strategic leader with over 20 years of progressive experience advising executives and managing corporate initiatives across government, higher education, and private sectors.

Reframing Engagement: Using Appreciative Inquiry to Inspire Inclusive, Strengths-Based Community Planning



Jolene Rieck

Jolene is a licensed landscape architect and facilitator who applies Appreciative Inquiry to transform community engagement, inspiring collaboration, creativity, and strengths-based planning for lasting impact.



Dr. Ann Clancy

Dr. Clancy is an organizational development consultant and co-creator of Appreciative Coaching, specializing in strengths-based leadership and community change, helping groups ignite positive collaboration and generative transformation worldwide.



Gordon Lemmel

Gordon is a landscape architect and skilled public facilitator who integrates design expertise with organizational dynamics to guide inclusive community engagement, fostering shared understanding and collaborative planning outcomes.



American Planning Association
Creating Great Communities for All



WORLD TOWN PLANNING DAY 2025

MEET THE SPEAKERS:

Making the Invisible Visible: Co-Designing with Marginalized Communities for Inclusive Cities



Ru'a Al Abweh

Ru'a is a community organizer, leadership coach, and urban planner who enables self-determination through public space co-design, learning spaces for collective action, and coaching.



Iris Popescu

Iris is an architect specialized in inclusive design, combines architecture, research, and activism to make accessibility and inclusion natural parts of the design process.



Rizqa Hidayani

Rizqa is an urban planner from Indonesia with focus on the intersection between building urban resilience and promoting social inclusion.

FAST AND FUN SESSIONS



Nicole Marchant

Bringing World Planning Day to the Community

Nicole is a Public Outreach Specialist supporting urban planning initiatives and community engagement with a passion for making planning accessible to communities.



Andrew Tumusiimirwe

Integrating Climate-Resilient Infrastructure in Bugongi Town Council: A Model for Secondary Towns in Uganda

Andrew is a planner of the society of professional physical planners of Uganda and is dedicated to sustainable urban development, resilience planning, and community-centered growth in Sheema District, Uganda.



Mduduzi Ntongana

Planning Together: Lessons from Phola Park Informal Settlement Re-Blocking Project in South Africa

Mduduzi is a Professional Town Planner and Programme Officer at Afesis, specializing in informal settlement upgrading, community-driven planning, and advancing inclusive, sustainable urban development solutions.



Antonella Salmerón

Urban Planning Post – a Global Platform to Plan Together

Antonella is an urban planner focused on affordable housing development. She has over nine years of experience in community development, academic research, data-driven reporting, and transformative programming.





WORLD TOWN PLANNING DAY 2025

FAST AND FUN SESSIONS



Sarah Boufkiri

Planning Dignity: Zenata Eco-City's Integrated Approach to Equitable Resettlement

Sarah is an Architect, Urban Planner, Landscape Designer, and QHSE Manager with 10 years' experience leading architectural, urban, and landscape projects across diverse sectors. Sarah is currently working for SAZ.



Carlos Balsas

Innovations in Non-Motorized Transportation (NMT) Knowledge Creation and Diffusion

Carlos is a Lecturer at Ulster University. With practical planning experience, he taught, researched, and authored publications on non-motorized transportation, sustainable urbanism, and revitalization.



Abinab Sen

Stories from the Street – Planning Narratives from Everyday Spaces

Abinab currently serves as the National Web Manager for NOSPlan: Organisation of Students of Planning in India.



Bhavya Damor

Stories from the Street – Planning Narratives from Everyday Spaces

Bhavya is currently serving as the Editor In Chief for NOSPlan: Organisation of Students of Planning in India.



Reshma Afroz Rimi

A Data-Driven Framework for Micro-Scale Walkability Assessment Using Computer Vision

Reshma is an Urban Planner and graduate researcher specializing in GIS, urban analytics, and sustainable planning, focusing on walkability, land use, and climate-resilient urban design.

Closing the Feedback Loop: How Digital Tools Build Trust in Community Planning



Elizabeth Hamby

Elizabeth Hamby is an artist who serves as the Director of Civic Engagement at the NYC Department of City Planning (DCP).



Jasmin Tepale

Jasmin is the Senior Lead for Community Planning at the NYC Department of City Planning (DCP).



WORLD TOWN PLANNING DAY 2025

MEET THE SPEAKERS:

Cont'd – Closing the Feedback Loop: How Digital Tools Build Trust in Community Planning



Maggie Hughes

Maggie is a PhD candidate in Media Arts & Sciences at MIT's Center for Constructive Communication.



Cassandra Overney, M.S.

Cassandra is a PhD student and NSF GRFP fellow at the MIT Center for Constructive Communication.

One Plan, Many Cultures: Co-Creating Defense Communities Across Borders



Lyndsey Deaton, PhD, AIA, AICP, PMP, LEED GA

Lyndsey directs Clemson's Health Equity + Environmental Design Lab and partners with The Urban Collaborative leading community-first planning.



Zoe Anton

Zoe leads municipal and civil works planning at The Urban Collaborative, directing projects since 2009. LSE-trained, LEED AP ND, she advances participatory, context-based strategies.



Barry Gordon, AICP

Barry is COO at The Urban Collaborative; Assistant Director at University of Oregon—leads master planning and PROSPECT training for defense clients worldwide since 2003.