

## Anais Schenk

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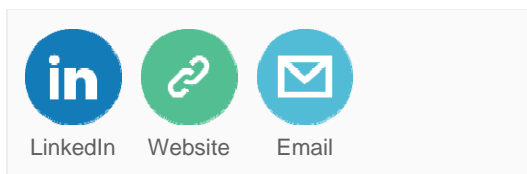


American Planning Association  
**Regional and Intergovernmental  
Planning Division**

*Making Great Communities Happen*

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### July E-News



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## **2016 Regional Livable Communities Forum**

The Division's annual Regional Communities Forum will be held at the Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) in downtown Phoenix, the day before the start of the 2016 National APA Conference, also in Phoenix. This association of governments at North 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue is three quarters of a mile from the convention center where the APA Conference will be held. There is a direct light rail connection between MAG offices and the convention center.

This is the third year that the Division has held such a Forum. The first was in downtown Atlanta immediately after the conclusion of the 2014 National APA conference in Atlanta. Some 30 people were in attendance. The second session was in downtown Seattle, immediately before 2015 National APA

conference in Seattle. Some 35-40 people attended this latter Forum. For each of these two sessions some 12-15 regional planning/MPO agencies were present. They include some of the most active agencies conducting Regional Livable Communities programs. Included were the: Atlanta Regional Commission, Metropolitan Council of the Twin Cities, Metropolitan Transportation Commission of the San Francisco Bay Area, North Central Texas Council of Governments, Puget Sound Regional Council, and Portland Metro.

The primary purpose of these Forums is to facilitate peer exchange of information and concepts on Regional Livable Communities. The term, “Regional Livable Communities” can be defined as, “the planning and implementation of urban centers and corridors that encourage mixed use, walking, rapid transit which can include TOD’s, roadways supporting livable communities, housing at various levels, and good urban or community design. Our May, 2015 E-News which was transmitted on June 10 to all Division members has a somewhat detailed report concerning our five-hour Regional Livable Communities Forum in Seattle this last April 17. If you need a copy, e-mail Lee Schoenecker at: [leeschoenecker@aol.com](mailto:leeschoenecker@aol.com).

For the 2016 Forum in Seattle, we anticipate a strong emphasis on peer leaning and exchange. We also anticipate discussions concerning pending federal and state transportation and other programs supporting Regional Livable Communities. For now, however we wanted to give you early notice of the April 1, 2016 Regional Livable Communities Forum at the Maricopa Association of Governments in Phoenix the day before the APA National Conference convenes in Phoenix. Future E-News and other Division communications will provide Forum details.

# Join the APA Regional and Intergovernmental Planning Division!

Planning is becoming increasingly complex and dependent on the collaboration between multiple levels of government, the private sector and non-governmental players. Join our division so that you can

- Find opportunities for networking with your peers nationally.
- Keep up with trends in planning through our e-news and e-journal.
- Be part of a diverse division; with planners who work locally, regionally and at state levels.
- Play a role in an active work plan for 2015 - we would welcome your participation!

To sign up [click here](#).

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