Transformative Planning for Federal Lands

November 25-26, 2019 • Portland, Oregon

The Federal Planning Division (FPD) of the American Planning Association (APA) is pleased to host the fourth regional training workshop to provide a venue for participants to share their planning successes and concerns with colleagues from tribal nations as well as federal, state, and local agencies in a focused way that provides opportunities for learning, dialogue, and collaboration. In previous regional workshops, participants considered the theme of interagency collaboration for sustainable landscapes (Denver, 2011), interagency collaboration in changing political, economic, and regulatory environments (Washington DC, 2016), and a variety of federal planning issues related to resiliency and development (San Diego, 2017). We now hope to examine transformative models for planning federal lands.

To be transformative is to cause change. Planners working with and for federal agencies are stewards of our national lands and they have opportunities to create change in many areas.

They can craft new ways to manage federal lands - from regional river ecosystems to remote military installations. They can develop new ways to engage a distracted yet oftentimes vocal public. And they can create new methods of analytics to ensure technology is harnessed for the public good. Of course, these changes occur today within the context of limited fiscal resources, intense public sentiment, and evolutionary climate change.

While federal agencies have different agendas and visions, they may benefit from the application of similar transformational strategies. Moreover, when agendas intersect, as is the case today with the federal focus on sustainability, resiliency, energy-efficiency, and resource conservation, understating ways in which positive transformation can occur becomes a way to succeed together.
About the workshop

In this FPD Regional Workshop, planners who work with and for federal, state, and local agencies will have opportunities to share their stories and learn from their colleagues. The workshop will attract an interdisciplinary and interagency group of participants from around the region working in related disciplines including planning, engineering, ecology, biology, cultural and natural resource management, architecture, landscape architecture, and environmental studies. They will deliver presentations related to the following three tracks:

**Track 1. Reframing Public Processes**
From the planning of national parks to the restoration of urban brownfields, planners use innovative processes to develop plans, prepare budgets, write policies, construct projects, and engage with the public. How have planners reframed their processes to more closely align with the public's interests and the changing needs of federal landscapes? What processes do planners use that best attract public engagement? Where are examples of successful processes in the past not identified or beyond what planners can learn from as they embark on their own efforts? Who has been leading the federal government in terms of new processes and what do they have to teach us? How can planners move beyond “analytic paralysis” in their processes and create something meaningful and useful to guide the stewardship of public lands? Presentations in this track will focus on unique, innovative, and creative planning processes used at any scale that address ways to better manage federal lands.

**Track 2. Revolutionary Planning Products**
In the past, planners have been known at times to produce voluminous reports that simply collect on some obscure shell in a remote corner of a federal building. Text-heavy documents, cumbersome fold-outs, and boring graphics do little to spark interest and even less to convey the compelling stories of success when it comes to planning federal lands. What are the original and engaging approaches to dissemination in this new era dominated by social media and digital devices? How have planners crafted compelling and clear products to tell their stories in ways that attract interest, support, and funding? What opportunities and limitations exist with the use of digital media, websites, social media, photorealistic imagery, and the increasing reliance on GIS mapping to produce planning products? In this track, we invite planners to question the typical mode of production or to at least critique examples of planning products in constructive and educational ways.

**Track 3. Transformative Technologies**
Amazon, Google, Apple, and many other major corporations use data analytics to document, track, and forecast trends in their worlds. The resulting statistics can be both enlightening and, at times, frightening. But as Mark Twain reminded us, there are liars, damn liars, and statisticians. While Mr. Twain was perhaps rightly skeptical of the use and interpretation of data to make an argument, planners cannot discount the power of data analytics and other technologies to inform and shape the future. We seek planners to use technology to help balance public access demands on federal lands where resource development is likely? How can data analytics help planners model the value of ecosystem services such as flood storage, carbon sequestration, and biodiversity? How can data analytics be used to improve asset management methodologies? Presentations in this track should explore these questions and others as they relate to the use of technology to transform the conservation and use of federal lands.

**Submission Requirements**

**Key Dates**
Deadline for abstract submission: October 24, 2019
Acceptance letter for abstracts (via email): October 28, 2019
Workshop: November 25, 2019, 8:00am to 6:30pm with reception from 6:30pm-8:00pm
Deadline for presentation preparation: November 19, 2019
Deadline for CM credit calculation: December 1, 2019
**Workshop Location**
The Edith Green-Wendall Wyatt Federal Building (LEED Platinum)
**Workshop Fee**
None

**Workshop Organizing Committee**
Mark L. Gillem, PhD, FAICP, FAIA, Workshop Chair; University of Oregon and The Urban Collaborative
Paula Loomis, PhD, FAICP, FSAME, AICP, LEED AP, GGP, Workshop Co-Chair, The Urban Collaborative
Holly Workman, AICP, Workshop Coordinator; The Urban Collaborative
Jerry Zelen, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
R. Brett James, MLA, AICP, Naval Facilities Engineering Command
Rena Schlachter, AICP, NASA
Steve Lettau, RLA, GISP, LEED GA, Orly Group
Kim Kost, RLA, ENV SP, WSP
Todd Buchanan, PGE, GEO Consultants Corp
L. Leonard Wolner, PLA, Stanley Consultants
Sherron Rashinome, Idaho State University
Gary Alchin, AICP, Naval Special Warfare Command
Travis Wilser, Joint Base Langley-Eustis

**Workshop Sponsors**
The APA Federal Planning Division (confirmed)
The American Planning Association (APA) (confirmed)
Oregon Chapter of the American Institute of Architects (tentative)
Oregon Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (tentative)
Portland State University (tentative)
Oregon State University (tentative)
The University of Oregon (confirmed)

**Submission Requirements**
Anyone interested in submitting a proposal must do so in Microsoft Word format. The submission must include the following items:
1. A presentation title of no more than 20 words
2. The presenter’s name, title, agency affiliation, email, and phone number
3. An abstract of no more than 300 words
An indication of the portion of the activity must be solely for educational purposes.

Justification for AICP Certification Maintenance (CM) Credit
Criteria for the Content of CM activities. The content of CM activities must be designed to meet a specific planning-related training objective; teach subject matter in appropriate depth and scope for the level of the typical AICP member; be delivered in the context of professional experience; be non-promotional in nature; program content must be unbiased; no organization’s services or products may be discussed prior to or after the completion of the CM credit portion of the activity; address demonstrated educational needs of AICP members; and communicate a clearly identifiable educational purpose or objective. If participants would like their presentations to fulfill the AICP Ethics or Law requirements, please contact the Workshop Coordinator:

**Questions**
Please use the following information when making inquiries regarding the workshop:
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