Summer E-News

The Future is Bright

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As planners for regional and intergovernmental agencies and organizations, we are all aware that today’s planning issues don’t respect boundaries. Rising tides don’t stop at the county line. Transit systems roll from city to city. Jobs and housing are joined at the hip. Public health touches everything.
The recently released Planning Advisory Service (PAS) report on *Emerging Trends in Regional Planning* explores the many facets of modern regional planning in the United States from the perspective of the planners and researchers who work on the front lines. The report represents a multi-year effort by members of the APA Regional and Intergovernmental Planning Division along with leaders of other APA divisions and chapters to put together a compendium of emerging trends and best practices in this rapidly evolving field.

Regional planning in the United States has undergone an evolution over the past several decades – and continues to evolve. The dominant pattern in much of the 20th century was the crafting of regional plans to address single issues, such as regional plans for transportation or regional economic development strategies. Regional planning is becoming more multidimensional and comprehensive, and is now addressing a range of issues including land use, transportation, open space, water resource management, climate change, and public health. The report identifies and discusses:

**Six Emerging Trends in Regional Planning:**

1. Regional planning for sustainability
2. Integrated regional planning across related issues
3. Inclusive engagement and expanded partnerships in regional planning
4. New approaches for implementation
5. Changing demographics and changing regions
6. New tools and techniques for regional planning

This report offers a unique contribution to understanding regional planning in the United States because it is written primarily for planning professionals and practitioners, as well as for decision makers and interested citizens. Examples of notable regional planning efforts from regions across the
country are highlighted throughout the report, and five more detailed profiles of regions and their
noteworthy planning practices and accomplishments are featured.

In addition, included in this report is a discussion of the ways in which state-of-the-art integrated
regional plans are addressing critical issues of sustainability as informed by the integrated planning
framework of APA in its *Sustaining Places Initiative*. While this planning framework has been designed
primarily to provide guidance and evaluation criteria for local comprehensive plans, the sustainability
planning principles and standards are just as relevant to integrated regional plans.

Download [Emerging Trends in Regional Planning](#)

Free with your American Planning Association Membership.
Division Receives Leadership Award for Contribution to the Profession

Article by Becky Bradley, AICP, Division Communications Director

On the heels of the release of the *Emerging Trends in Regional Planning*, the Regional and Intergovernmental Planning Division receives an American Planning Association Achievement Award for the work. Planners Advisory Service report authors, Rocky Piro, PhD, FAICP and Bob Leiter, FAICP along with editor, Sharon Rooney, AICP accept the honors for "contribution to profession" at the APA/American Institute of Certified Planners Annual Meeting and Leadership Honors, on May 9, 2017 at the National Planning Conference. The recognition of the power and importance of regional and intergovernmental collaboration supporting implementation by the planning profession is tremendous.

Congratulations Rocky, Bob + Sharon!

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Chair's Message

Proposals for the 2018 National Planning Conference

By Mark VanderSchaaf

On August 1, APA will issue a call for proposals for sessions at NPC18, the National Planning Conference in New Orleans, April 21-24, next year.

APA has made several significant changes in its process for selecting conference sessions. Most notably, it has done away with "by right" sessions that guaranteed division representation at the conference. Instead, all proposals will be evaluated for their quality in a standardized process, with sessions then selected by the NPC Committee based on those evaluations. After the NPC Committee selects conference sessions, divisions will then have an opportunity to endorse sessions submitted by their members, which will then be designated as endorsed (by XX Division) in the conference program.
Bottom line: I encourage Regional and Intergovernmental Division members to submit session proposals, to elevate our division’s chances of representation at NPC18. Several Executive Committee members are already working on proposal ideas, but others will certainly be welcome.

For more information on submitting a proposal click here.

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**bylaws**

**Division Updates Bylaws**

*Article by Mark Vanderschaaf, Division Chair*

At the Annual Meeting of the Regional + Intergovernmental Planning Division (RIPD), held May 7, 2017 at the National Planning Conference in New York City the membership voted unanimously to update the bylaws. The primary change is to the mission of the Division with the addition of the "megaregion" to the planning and implementation purpose.

**Mission**

*To identify, analyze, and promote best practices to strengthen the productive interdependence of local, regional, state and federal government in the planning and development of our nation’s communities. It especially emphasizes the way in which state and regional activities support the coordination of local plans and implementation strategies in megaregional, metropolitan, micropolitan, and rural areas.*

In addition to adding a new mission statement, the new bylaws provide greater flexibility for RIPD to create officers and committees that address evolving priorities, rather than specifying all officers and committees in the bylaws.
Now the bylaws require that the Executive Committee have at least a Chair, a Vice-Chair, an Immediate Past Chair, and a Secretary-Treasurer and then to determine "others as required."

Similarly, the new bylaws state that:

"The Executive Committee may form (and dissolve) committees, drawn from Division membership to carry out the activities of the Division."

These changes will enable us to organize more effectively around the three key program areas that RIPD is now pursuing: emerging trends in regional planning, implementation strategies and partnerships, and state planning and policy. There will not be significant changes to the existing executive committee in the short-term, but the Division will directly engage all of you to lead and participate in other Division committees in the future.

The American Planning Association is currently updating the website and the new bylaws will be available in the coming months. In the meantime, email Mark VanderSchaaf, Chair if you would like a copy.
Division Announces Photo Contest

Bragging Rights Included.

We are updating our Division page on the American Planning Association website, increasing our social media presence and planning to share more about the places and people our members represent. Through August we are collecting images from states, regions and counties across the nation to meet these goals. Winning photos and organizations will be announced in the Fall E-Newsletter.

What you’ll win:
1) Your organization and/or your work will be receive a feature story in the Fall E-News, on the Division webpage and on Twitter and LinkedIn. This is great opportunity for your community to share what you are most proud of and what makes your place unique with other Professional Planners.
2) Your image(s) will be featured, with credit, through the 2018 National Planning Conference in Division activities, publications, etc.

Winner? Complete the short application (three-five minutes) here. After you submit the application a Google Drive link will be emailed to the address you provide and you can then upload your images. Deadline is August 31, 2017.
Questions? Email, Becky Bradley, Communications Chair.

Regional + Intergovernmental Planning Division @NPC17
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.
- 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 2017 - we welcome your participation!

To sign up click here.

Division Officers

Click on a name to reach us

Mark VanderSchaaf, Chair
Sharon Rooney, Vice Chair
Lamont Cobb, Secretary-Treasurer
Richard Hall, Vice Chair, State Planning
Mariia Zimmerman, Vice Chair, Metropolitan & Regional Planning
Amy Cotter, Vice Chair, Federal Planning
Dan Reuter, Immediate Past Chair
Becky Bradley, Director of Communications

Not sure who to contact? E-Mail aparegions@gmail.com or call Becky Bradley, at (610) 264-4544.