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Have an interesting local planning initiative? Let MA & RI planners know by submitting an article for the newsletter!

Published by the Massachusetts and Rhode Island Chapters of the American Planning Association

New England PLANNING

Massachusetts Chapter & Rhode Island Chapter

New England Futures: New Century, New Game

“New Century, New Game” is the theme for a series of six major articles on New England’s future, being written by the Citistates Group journalists Neal Peirce and Curtis Johnson and released on a monthly scheduled, October 2005 to March 2006.

About the Issues

Journalists Neal Peirce and Curtis Johnson from the Citistates Group conducted more than 400 interviews across the six New England States beginning in December 2004. They spoke with policy makers, business leaders, citizens, religious leaders, non profit organizations, and educational institutions. Once the interview process was completed, Peirce and Johnson analyzed what they learned from the interviews and organized the results into six major issues: New England Identity; Energy; Education; Growth, Sprawl and Affordable Housing; Connections: Transportation and Broadband; and Health.

To engage the media, promote public awareness and dialogue and catalyze New Englanders to action on these issues, the Citistates Group is writing six monthly articles that will be published in newspapers across the six states starting on October 1, 2005.

The New England Futures project consists of three distinct phases:

Media Event - A team of two journalists from the nationally acclaimed Citistates Group has conducted more than 400 interviews in order to identify the key issues critical to New Englanders. Beginning in October, 2005, the journalists will release, on a monthly basis, an article on each of the six strategic issues.

Regional Dialogue – This phase will capitalize on this heightened interest produced after each article is published by engaging citizens and leaders in discussions to develop an agenda for action that promotes long term, positive change.

Action Agenda - The resulting public awareness and discussions will help create an enabling environment for new ideas to gain prominence and stimulate public support for action.

After conducting more than 400 interviews with leaders throughout New England, Neal Peirce and Curtis Johnson of the Citistates Group have identified six strategic issues that the New England states can make pivotal advances on: New England identity, energy, Education, growth, connections, and health. Following is an excerpt of the first issue.

Six Teams — or One?

By Neal Peirce and Curtis Johnson

Are New England’s best days behind it? Is it fated to be an old, blue, cold and complacent corner of a red-hot America?

Some indicators suggest so. The six states are barely holding their own in population; Massachusetts is actually slipping backward. Each year the merger mania of big companies seems to snap up a famed New England corporation — a Hancock, Fleet or Gillette. Only scrappy fights stem closure of the region’s principal military bases, an anchor of its long-standing defense economy. Despite the remarkable surge of biotech research and corporate spinoffs in the Boston region, the overall economic growth rate is anemic.

Check around New England, as we have in hundreds of interviews over the past three years, and you sense little of the dynamism of the American South and West. The region’s congressional strength is dwindling, and it won no favors in Republican-led Washington with

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Massachusetts Chapter

*President's Message, by
Peter Lowitt, AICP,
Chapter President*



December, 2005

What a busy month for planning and planners. We had a very successful regional conference and annual meeting in Newport (many thanks to our colleagues in Rhode Island the Massachusetts contingent on the conference planning team, Heidi Samokar, AICP, Mary McCrann, and Felipe Schwarz, AICP); an infor-

mation filled workshop on Essential Communications for Planners; a terrific program on planning in the post-Kelo world at Tufts in collaboration with our Boston area Planning Schools, Tufts, Harvard and MIT; and heard from former Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt about his new vision for land use at the Wentworth Institute of Technology (thanks to Joe Cosgrove our Boston Region representative and Sean Bender of WIT). How do you top that? Tom Bott, AICP and the annual awards program and holiday luncheon, that's how.

Our annual report is now on the web site, www.massapa.org, and I invite you to review that at your leisure. We have also begun posting minutes of board meetings on the web in an effort to practice what we preach, accountability. Thanks to all of you who made contribution to Katrina Relief for our colleagues in Mississippi and Louisiana. We raised over \$600 dollars during the annual meeting and the chapter contributed another \$500. This money went to the APA Foundation (its tax deductible) to provide planner to planner assistance to our colleagues in need. Thanks again for your generosity. It was good to see our AICP President Sue Schwartz in attendance at the annual meeting. Those of us who wish to contribute more than our funds are thankful that the AICP has launched its planning assistance teams. Check out the planning.org web site for more information on this issue and APA's commitment to the Katrina relief over the long haul. One thing about planners, after the media's attention shifts to other events, planners will still be in the trenches doing the tough and dirty work required to bring about a lasting recovery that helps citizens recreate the great communities they

enjoyed before Katrina, and provide the opportunity to make even better communities for their kids and grandkids.

Thanks for approving the chapter dues increase from \$30 to \$35. The funds will be utilized to our shared administrative assistant position, increased lobbying efforts around MLURA, and to replenish our special projects fund over time. The increase will begin showing up on your bills after July, 2006.

Wishing you and yours a happy holiday season and a prosperous and joyous new year.

Peter C. Lowitt, AICP

MA Chapter President's Comments on Kelo v City of New London, CT

Justice Ruth Bader Ginzberg described Kelo as "the most misunderstood case" that has appeared before the Supreme Court during her tenure on it. Many believe the real question at issue was who makes the decision of what is a public purpose or determines what is a public good, one homeowner or elected officials.

Welcome to Massachusetts, home of the first known eminent domain statute in the nation, (1639) and first known statutory mention of the term "public use." (1641)

We were also the first state to include the right of just compensation in our Constitution. (1780)

Eminent Domain was used to create our first industrial revolution through grants to private corporations to create canals, roads, bridges and mill ponds, as the state could not finance this necessary infrastructure. (Pioneer Institute, The Power to Take page 5)

Railroads escalated the use of eminent domain in the 19th Century.

The emerald necklace in Boston was assembled through the use of eminent domain. More recently the orange line, also in Boston, was extended via this tool.

Pre Kelo notions of takings assumed good will and public benefit on the part of government. There has not been a strong focus on what public use or public benefit is. In fact, Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 79 Title XIII which governs Eminent Domain and Betterments does not clearly define what a public use is. Its focus is mainly on procedural requirements such as the notice provisions and the need for appraisals. The legislation includes a provision that "the interest taken and purpose for which the property is taken" be included in the order of taking. Chapter 79 is of interest in highlighting what has been important to the state over time, such as Section 5B, which exempts agricultural land owners from a taking without consent if there is nonagricultural land available. Another section protects historical or archeological landmarks, another protects one arm of government from takings by another arm of government (ah politics!). Recent amendments to the law include

insertions of the phrase energy and telecommunications along side public way, canal, railroad or railway, as valid purposes for the use of eminent domain. Chapter 79 Section 7 specifically allows takings by private corporations such as railroads and that they adhere to the proper procedures.

The City of New London's actions were based on a planning process, one which did not identify specific beneficiaries, one that outlined a broad range of acceptable uses. It emphasized benefits to the community as a whole and followed all of the proper procedural requirements.

In a recent talk at the Southern New England Planning Conference in Newport, Ed O'Connell, legal counsel for the City of New London, stated that among the lessons he learned from the Kelo case was the need to hire a public relations firm to frame the message to communities about the case. APA has taken that lesson to heart and has developed a communications plan to assist planners in carrying the message of planning to the public.

I'll leave you with this thought. Given the public relations nightmare Kelo has generated, I believe that the City of New London's victory in the Supreme Court to be a Pyrrhic victory, we may have won the battle and lost the war. Let's hope not.

Tax-deductible Contributions are still being accepted to the Massachusetts Land Reform Act (MLURA) Fund. Please make checks payable to "Mass Audubon Land Use Reform Fund," a dedicated account Massachusetts Audubon has set up for this purpose. They should be mailed to Mass Audubon, 6 Beacon Street, Suite 1025, Boston, MA 02108, Attention: Ms. Allison Kern, Assistant to the Director. All funds deposited in the account will be expended in support of MLURA.

Oh the Places APA has Taken me

Karen D. Hamilton, Region 1 Student Rep.

It was a little over a year ago that I was hurriedly trying to convince my fellow classmates to respond to APA's Request for Proposals. I had only been in the program a month and barely knew the students in my program. I had put together a few research newsletters for work. Yet, somehow I was convinced we could pull it off. We put together a proposal and were selected. We "published" our first issue, not quite sure how we would be received.

As we were preparing for our fourth newsletter, I found myself reflecting on my past year's experiences. I thought about how different my first year might have been I did not choose to get involved in APA. As planning students we can choose to be active participants in their education; by becoming involved in planning related activities and organizations or they could just attend classes.

APA is unique in the levels of involvement it offers students. In most professional organizations, students are not much more than a category that offers cheaper membership and registration fees. However student members of APA can organize local, regional and national conferences, participate in working groups, present research and posters, receive awards and scholarships, attend leadership training, and can be involved in research and policy writing, and other planning activities.

What does APA have to offer me? Why do I need to fill out those PSO certification forms? These are some of the questions APA student leadership representatives have been asked. Somehow, I am always surprised by these questions. I assume that students would recognize the benefits of student involvement in APA and jump at the chance to become involved as I did. In the same manner students are concerned about impacting planning and development on various level, they can impact their educational and professional development through our involvement with APA. Students can promote planning activities and advocate change through their school's Planning Student Organization (PSO). APA registered PSO's have a regional representative who brings their concerns and suggestions to a larger forum.

I decided to "run" for student regional representative so I could ensure student views and needs are honored within APA. I have had the opportunity to converse with students who are interested in promoting planning in their schools and communities. I am constantly inspired by their ideas and activities. In terms of professional growth, I have been able to hone my leadership and networking skills.

Too loosely paraphrase former president John F. Kennedy, "it is not enough to ask what APA can do for you. It is time you determined what will be your legacy to APA." Many of students will be making that transition from planning student to professional planner at the end of the academic year.

AICP Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Program

All members of AICP are encouraged to participate in continuing education. The principle of maintaining currency is set forth in the AICP Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct. The AICP Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Program provides the mechanism to meet this professional obligation on a voluntary basis. The CPD Program uses the honor system.

A minimum of 60 professional development hours obtained within a three-year period is the principal requirement for earning a CPD certificate. Professional development hours are earned by completing course work or training that is related to the practice of planning, that is designed to meet specific planning related training objectives, and that is led by experts. CPD hours equal the number of contact hours or actual classroom time. Courses may be sponsored by APA, PAB programs or other organizations such as professional organizations, governmental agencies, or universities. At least 50 percent of the CPD credits in the log must be from APA sources or from PAB accredited university planning programs. If less than 50 percent of CPD hours are from one of these, a certificate cannot be issued.

Procedure for adding hours to a CPD log

Participants keep track of their hours through the online [CPD Program Log](#). The procedure is to:

- : [Click here to login](#)
- Select “Add Credits to My CPDP Log”
- Choose a Provider
- Providers are AICP symposia, AICP Training Workshops, APA Audio Conferences, APA Chapters, APA China Program, APA Divisions, APA National Conferences, APA National Independent Study, Other Organizations, or PAB Accredited Programs.
- Choose a Conference/Group and click “GO” to see a list of approved programs
- : [If you do not see the provider or course offering listed that you would like to add to your CPD log, contact \[aicp@planning.org\]\(mailto:aicp@planning.org\) submitting information about the course including title, sponsoring organization, date of delivery, course outline showing classroom hours, and presenters so that the APA may add it to the online system.](#)
- Use the “Select” button to indicate which programs or sessions you attended.
- After you have added programs to your CPD log, you will be asked to verify your entries.

Once you have earned 60 credits, the APA will automatically review your CPD log. If you have met all the required criteria, you will receive a notice and a CDP certificate.

APA MA Chapter New Board of Directors

If you have questions, would like to serve on a committee, or have an idea for a newsletter article, please feel free to contact your regional representative or appropriate chapter officer.

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New England Futures, continued from page 1

its six-state sweep for John Kerry in 2004. Right now, states like Massachusetts, Connecticut look strong in national rankings of education and income, but the trend lines are down as competitors nip at their heels.

But is decline inevitable?

We argue “no.” This is a region with stupendous assets. It has smart and resourceful people, great places to live, world-famed universities, lively self-governance, and a leading edge in critical 21st century technology skill sets. It’s attached at the hip to metropolitan New York, a lynchpin of the national (and global) economy.

New England’s environmental consciousness, its tradition of political independence and self-reliance, suggest character and strength, whether capitalizing on good times or coping with disasters. And in a nation being engulfed by faceless cookie-cutter development, the images of New England seascapes, farmlands and hills, the region’s historic towns and cities, tug at heartstrings, generate envy across the continent.

So what stands in New England’s way?

The region’s own mind set, we suggest. New Englanders themselves are first to tell one what a hopelessly disjointed, every-town and every-state-for-itself region they live in. The attitude we heard everywhere: “Our towns go back to 1630 or before, our states almost as far; we’ve done fine each town or state going its own way, so why collaborate now?”

Each time we heard that, we wondered to ourselves: “What century do these folks believe we’re in?” The islands of time and space that once separated this lovely corner of

America from the maelstrom of global reality are gone. No more waiting decades if not centuries to recover from such crises as the rise and fall of clipper ships, or the flight of textiles to the American South, or the loss of high-tech eminence from Route 128 to Silicon Valley. The region must sink or swim in an era of instant global communications, finance and warfare. It faces profound peril from likely storms and floods intensified by global warming, from energy shortages and terrorism that respect no borders. It can expect little help from an increasingly debt-ridden and war-distracted national government.

Historically New Englanders have innovated, thought anew to reposition themselves for new eras’ challenges. But in these years when precedent-shattering collaborations for survival and progress are being forged around the world, is New England in the game?

Is there matching New England effort, for example, to the inventiveness of the European Union? Nations torn for centuries by bitter and bloody warfare have made remarkable progress through a common pass

port and currency (the euro). Plus, they’re working very closely together on such issues as energy, transportation, and special help for ailing countries and regions.

Couldn’t the six states of New England, “divided only by a common language,” be as inventive? With its wealth of talent, what better region in America to mount team approaches to energy, education, transportation, health care? We discovered some highly creative networking — grassroots groups impatient to move ahead on “green” energy initiatives, to compare notes across state lines on “smart growth” strategies, to measure progress and set goals in every area from job growth to health to housing. They’re impatient to see how their communities, and New England as a whole, are performing, and might excel.

If that kind of fresh thinking means reversing 400 years of New England “I’ll take care of myself” stoniness, so be it! Conservative grassroots organizing altered American politics in recent years. The Howard Dean presidential campaign and a flurry of activist “dot.org” groups have disrupted old top-down ways of doing things. Citizen-backed non-profit groups, linked by the Internet, may be poised for major impact.

Amazingly often, we found, “official” New England lends a tin ear to fresh ideas and initiatives, even when they come from prominent regionwide organizations. The congressional delegation focuses sporadically, at best, on New England-specific issues. The New England Governors Conference meets infrequently, doesn’t even emulate groups like the Western Governors Assn. with a shared research staff to analyze challenges and propose strategies. Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney actually withdrew Massachusetts from the conference, purportedly to save dues.

The result for New England: one missed opportunity after another. Consider tourism, a “clean,” multi-billion

dollar, job-generating industry that also draws potential future residents. It's true: many visitors do now flood into Vermont, Cape Cod and the Maine Coast. But overall, New England tourism is underdeveloped. Yankee Magazine underscores the region's potential draw: over half its subscribers live outside the region. A national survey by the business-led Team New England group found outsiders have a higher positive image of New England as a whole than any of its individual states. Yet the six states keep going their own way, refusing to promote New England jointly — except to foreign markets.

And if the states have a tough time making common cause, it seems even tougher for New England towns to drop their prickly go-it-alone mindsets and collaborate for mutual gain. Though when they do, the gains can be big.

Take Maine's twinned, historically cantankerous cities of Lewiston and Auburn facing each other across the Androscoggin River. They're collaborating creatively to rebuild economies devastated by the loss of textile and shoe factories. Old downtown mill buildings are being hand-somely restored, arts, culture and health care are thriving, new industries have been recruited, and the cities have concluded 23 intercity service agreements. Leaders of these historic rivals hurry to tell visitors, with immense pride, of how much they've gained, how much more confidence they feel, as a result of working closely together.

And they're not alone. "New England's Knowledge Corridor," a first-ever Springfield-and Hartford-rooted development alliance of businesses and famed Connecticut River Valley universities, is striving to make inroads against the big psychological barrier of the Connecticut-Massachusetts border.

Rhode Island has largely abandoned its selfish "Mass Exodus" campaign to snitch jobs from the neighboring Bay State. Instead it now affirms, even advertises, its identity as the southern anchor of the Greater Boston citistate with its amazing pool of universities and entrepreneurial networks. There's really no longer any such thing as a separate Rhode Island economy, says Rhode Island economic development leader Kip Bergstrom: "We're a lot better off defining ourselves as part of an integrated metro area with 8 million people, instead of a separate place of 1 million."

But scattered islands of collaboration need to grow if New England is to deal with tough economic perils:

< Population loss. In the '90s, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island and Maine all saw more people move out than in. Today, even as national population levels surge forward, New Hampshire (fed by Massachusetts migrants) is the only New England state showing appreciable increase.

Does stagnant population matter? The answer's yes: Taxes are higher for the people left. Fewer people mean a smaller workforce, a red flag to any corporation deciding

where to locate or expand. The resulting danger, says Doug Fisher of Northeast Utilities: "loss of vibrancy and hope."

< Talent shortage. This emergency was cloaked in the '90s, when foreigners accounted for *all* of New England's labor force growth. Without the immigrants who came to get a New England university education, the region today would have a critical shortage of physicians and skilled laboratory researchers.

But post-9/11 security concerns have thrown a shadow over the immigrant welcome mat, for the skilled and unskilled alike.

Even with foreign enrollment, the count of students earning scientific, engineering and information technology degrees in New England universities — the lifeblood of the region's vaunted high-tech economy — actually *declined* in the '90s.

< Flight of youth. Even while New England "grays" faster than any other U.S. region, its young people are fleeing to the Atlantas and Phoenixes of America. New England lost a stunning 20 percent — twice the U.S. average — of its 20-to-34 year-olds in the last decade.

< Deep income divisions. There are millions of financially secure New Englanders — but also disturbing numbers, native or immigrant, caught in distressed mill towns, remote rural areas or troubled inner cities, unprepared to prosper or contribute without dramatically broadened education and community-building initiatives.

< New England is high-cost country — to live, and to do business. Decent incomes are offset by high housing, transportation and energy costs. And businesses constantly cite thickets of rules and regulations imposed by the six states' 3,700 local governments — raising the cost of everything they do.

In a recent report for the New England Council, the nationally-known consulting firm of A.T. Kearney reported that measured by cost of living, New England's current level of prosperity is only average in the U.S. "*Boston* and *expensive* are all too frequently uttered in the same breath," it observed, pinpointing high wages and housing costs, taxes and utility rates.

In Team New England's survey of business executives from outside the region, 27 percent volunteered they'd never do business in New England at all, preferring areas with lower taxes, energy and housing costs and a growing workforce. As one of the survey's sponsors lamented: "New England's image is of a costly, tightly regulated historic theme park, (and by the way bring a parka!)"

So what's to be done? In this series, we'll identify challenges that can best — or only — be solved only when New England starts acting like a team, faces the world as a coherent entity, like a single state.

More information is available on the website, <http://www.newenglandfutures.org>.

Employment

PERMIT SPECIALIST

BARRY S. PORTER & ASSOCIATES, INC., A REGIONAL CONSULTING FIRM SPECIALIZING IN ZONING, PERMITTING AND CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT, SEEKS A PLANNER/PERMIT SPECIALIST FOR THE NEW ENGLAND REGION. RESPONSIBILITIES WILL INCLUDE TRACKING ISSUANCE OF LOCAL APPROVALS AND PERMITS FOR OUR CLIENTS THROUGHOUT NEW ENGLAND AND REVIEWING COMPLIANCE DURING THE CONSTRUCTION PROCESS. THE CANDIDATE SHOULD HAVE 1 – 3 YEARS EXPERIENCE IN PLANNING, CODE ENFORCEMENT OR CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT. PLEASE SEND RESUME WITH SHARYN MALNATI, BARRY S. PORTER & ASSOCIATES, INC., SEVEN CABOT PLACE, STOUGHTON, MA 02072 (SMALNATI@BSPORTERAICP.COM.) BSPA IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.

Experienced Urban Planner seeks Senior Planning Role

Experienced planner with 23 years experience in the UK, looking to relocate to the Boston area with my American wife this summer. I have 6 years experience in local government, 10 years with a Development Agency (the London Docklands Development Corporation) and 7 years in consultancy, currently Associate Director in a large multi-disciplinary consultancy. Have worked on wide range of strategic to scheme specific planning and urban regeneration projects as well as masterplans, development and regeneration frameworks, environmental and transport studies/projects and from sub-regional to town centre/urban district to campus/site specific scales, especially brownfields and waterside, and across all sectors. Commercial approach, with extensive policy background. Leading multi-disciplinary project teams is key strength. APA member (since 1998) – believe skills/experience are very transferable. References available. Visiting Boston in mid April – would come if immediate vacancy before then, and available to start by negotiation. Please contact: ian.charie@ntlworld.com

Planner, City of Lawrence

Position is responsible for performing professional, supervisory, and administrative work for the City's Planning Department. Work involves assessing proposals for land use and development; determining compliance with Zoning Bylaws and Subdivision regulations, other local regulations and applicable state and federal laws; planning long range projects; acquiring and administering grants; and recommending policies, standards or criteria; performs all other related work as required.

A candidate for this position requires have a Master's Degree in Urban and Regional Planning preferred; minimum of five-(5) years experience as a municipal planner with one to three (1-3) years of supervisory experience; or any equivalent combination of education and experience. A Valid Massachusetts Driver's License and AICP Certification preferred.

Proficiency in the English and Spanish languages desired.

Required Skills: ·Effective written, verbal and, communication skills;·Excellent computer, negotiation and presentation skills; ·Effective working relationships with City staff, outside officials, contractors, developers, attorneys and the public.

Required knowledge: Thorough knowledge of local, state, and federal laws governing planning related work including (MGL Ch.40A (Zoning Act), MGL Ch 41 (Subdivision Control Law), MGL Ch 131, Section 40 (Wetlands Protection Act), and DEM Stormwater Management Guidelines; · Working knowledge of the principles and practices of community planning, economic development, and grant writing.

Required abilities:· Ability to interpret regulations, tactfully, and impartially; ability to manage projects and to conduct field visits; ability to use office software including spreadsheets, word processing and GIS applications; ability to develop programs and manage projects efficiently; read and interpret blueprints; ability to manage multiple tasks in a prompt, efficient manner.

Deadline: 12/31/2005

Part-time Planner, Millville Planning Board

The Town of Millville is seeking a part time planner to provide professional assistance and support to the planning board. The position will require office hours on 1-2 days a week and attendance at evening meetings 1-2 times a month. Duties will include reviewing applications and plan submissions, responding to requests for information, assisting the planning board with periodic updates of policies and regulations, and facilitating the establishment of a Master Plan committee. Candidates should have a degree in planning, plan review experience, knowledge of Massachusetts General Laws, and 2-3 years planning experience. The position is 10 hours a week, compensation is \$10,000 annually. Send resume and letter of interest by December 31 to:

Millville Planning Board, Longfellow Municipal Center, PO Box 703, Millville MA 01529.

Neighborhood Planner, City of Lowell, Massachusetts

The City of Lowell, Massachusetts, a historic mill city with a vibrant downtown, strong traditional neighborhoods, a new community Master Plan, is seeking a Planner to join the professional staff at the Division of Planning and Development, to manage neighborhood planning projects, participate in project review, engage in community planning and outreach and help in shaping development within the city.

This person:

- Participates in the development and preparation of policies, goals, neighborhood plans, topical studies, grant applications and other planning efforts to support the implementation of Lowell's Comprehensive Master Plan.
- Prepares maps, images, charts and other graphics in support of various planning projects, using assorted GIS and graphic design software packages.
- Serves as project manager for neighborhood planning projects, intersection improvement projects, city 'yard sale' and 'parking condo' programs, and other projects and programs as assigned.
- Develops short and long-range strategies to enhance the quality of life in Lowell's neighborhoods. Works closely with the Coordinator of Neighborhood Services and others to determine and respond to the planning needs in the neighborhoods.
- Assembles and analyzes census, land use, development and historical data as a basis for neighborhood planning
- Organizes and advertises public meetings and conducts other public outreach / participation efforts associated with planning projects
- Completes special projects as designated by the Chief Planner
- May represent the City at City Council meetings, planning and zoning board meetings and neighborhood group meetings. Attendance at night and weekend meetings may be required

Requirements: Bachelors degree in urban planning, public administration, political science or related field from a four-year college or university is required. Three to four years of related experience and/or a masters degree in urban planning preferred. Grant writing experience preferred. Experience with graphic design, modeling, drafting, publication, layout software and visualization techniques is preferred. Knowledge of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) is required. Project management experience is a plus. The applicant must understand the theory, principles, standards and practices of urban planning, traditional neighborhood design, and the tools and techniques for creating and sustaining vibrant urban neighborhoods. The applicant must also have experience building consensus and developing independent programs and policies in a fast paced environment.

The salary for this position is \$ 36,214.62 annually.

Qualified, interested applicants send resume and cover letter with 3 references to the Human Relations Office, Room 19 City Hall, Lowell, MA 01852 by December 14, 2005. The City of Lowell is a smoke and drug free employer and requires a physical with drug screen and CORI, post offer. EOE/AA/504 Employer

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For more information, go to

<http://www.icomos.org/usicomos>

or contact

Donald G. Jones, PhD

US/ICOMOS Director of Programs

Ph 202-842-1866 Fax 202-842-1861

don.jones@usicomos.org

Calendar

December 28 - Deadline for Congressional Fellowships.

Two fellowships are being offered for 2006, beginning January 30, 2006, and ending July 28, 2006. The six-month, \$4,000 fellowship is offered to graduate students and immediate post-graduate students in planning or related fields. Fellows work directly with congressional staff in a Capital Hill office. See www.planning.org for more information.

February 2-3 - Health Impact Assessment Workshop, Washington, D.C.

Deadline for applications is Dec. 9. The broad definition of HIA is a practical assessment of policies, programs and projects that may affect the public's health, and which provides recommendations to maximize positive health effects and minimizing the negative health aspects of proposals, policies and projects. Compelling research suggests correlations between the built environment and public health concerns such as physical inactivity and resulting chronic diseases, as well as problems related to pedestrian safety, water quality, air quality, social capital, etc. Given these connections, it becomes critical to assess, prevent, and mitigate potential health risks associated with proposed development projects or planning/zoning policies. Health impact assessment (HIA) is one of the ways that communities can begin to address these issues.

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NEW ENGLAND PLANNING NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

Changes of Address: *New England Planning* does not maintain address lists. All lists are maintained at the national office and mailed to local chapters each month. If you have moved, write: Membership Department, APA National Headquarters, 122 S. Michigan Ave., Suite 1600, Chicago, IL 60603-6107.

Employment Ads: Employment and jobs wanted ads are \$25.00 per listing, which includes the newsletter and posting on the MAPA website. Send copy to the newsletter editor (email preferred) with a name and billing address.

Consultant Directory: Rates are \$35.00 per business card listing (one month) or \$350.00 for an annual listing (ten issues). Send business card or camera ready copy (2.33" x 1.4") to the editor.

Membership Information: APA National Headquarters, 122 S. Michigan Ave., Suite 1600, Chicago, IL 60603-6107; (312) 431-9100.

Questions: Please try to call the appropriate chapter officer (see panel on left for contact info).

Back Issues: For copies of back issues or other administrative issues, contact MA Administrative Office, c/o Geanine Matellian, P.O. Box 1205, Upton, MA 01568
gmatellian@charter.net; or RI Chapter Secretary Krista Moravec at 401-272-6000, ext. 255.

Internet: National, www.planning.org; MAPA, www.massapa.org; RIAPA, www.riapa.org.

Submissions: We welcome articles, letters to the editor, photos, calendar items, project profiles, etc. Please do not hesitate to send anything you think of interest, or query editor to discuss an idea. We may need to edit due to space limitations. If possible, please send electronic version in .txt format via email or disk.

Calendar Listings: Please send listings in calendar format (see inside this issue).

Send Items to: Sabine Prather, APA Newsletter Co-Editor, 123 Sackett Road, Westfield, MA 01085, phone: 413-949-3914; Email: pioneervplanner1@yahoo.com.

**INFORMATION FOR THE FEBRUARY ISSUE
IS DUE NO LATER THAN
FRIDAY, JANUARY 20, 2006**