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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) in the newsletter or \$350.00 for an annual listing (ten issues). Web only listing is \$10 per insertion. Send business card (email preferred) (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, contact the Administrative Office at (617) 287-5607.

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 MS Word or .txt format via email.

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

Send Items to: Jennifer Goldson, APA Newsletter Co-Editor, Email: jennifer.goldson@verizon.net or call 617-796-1131.

MAPA Administrative Office: Pauline Westhaver, Urban Harbors Institute, University of Mass—Boston, 100 Morrissey Blvd., Boston, MA 02125-3393. Phone: (617) 287-5607; email: ma.apa@umb.edu

**INFORMATION FOR THE
 MARCH ISSUE
 IS DUE NO LATER THAN
 FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2004**



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**SAVE
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*September 30-
 October 1*

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**Published by the
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NEW ENGLAND PLANNING

Massachusetts Chapter & Rhode Island Chapter

APA/AICP Elections

Peter Lowitt, Mass Chapter APA President

American Planning Association elections are upon us once again. Planners being advocates of informed decision making, we thought we should practice what we preach and invite national candidates to address the following questions in 200 words or less: 1. What is your position on mandatory continuing education for certified planners? and 2. What services do you see chapters needing most that national APA is not providing? The editors hope this helps when it comes time to voting. Their answers to the above two questions follow (the questions are repeated before each candidate's response). The candidates covered in this edition are:

Board Director, At-large: Robert Barber, AICP & Mitzi Barker, AICP
AICP President Elect: Michael Harper, AICP & Sue Schwartz, FAICP

Candidate for Board Director, At Large: Robert Barber, AICP

1. What is your position on mandatory continuing education for certified planners?

As to the question of mandatory continuing education, or mandatory professional development as some prefer, I have supported the concept over the past few years. During my term as Chair of The Chapter Presidents Council, the council repeatedly went on record as supporting the development of such a program for AICP members. I fully encouraged, supported and joined in that position. My position statement for the board clearly reflects this commitment.

I believe the only real and effective way to achieve clear professional standards, and excellence in planning practice to which most planners aspire, is through a program that is affordable and flexible to our member's needs. Enhanced professional practice and peer accountability will provide a true service to our members and the nation.

Enhanced Professional Development is most appropriate as related to AICP members, but a good program will create more learning opportunities for all members of APA. I realize that an APA Board member will have no vote in the establishment of such a program within AICP. However, I will use my voice as a Board member to promote this issue in any appropriate way because of the inherent benefit it will have for all members and those we serve. I do believe certain professional development standards can be developed for APA members and, as my position statement reflects, will work to that end.

2. What services do you see chapters needing most that national APA is not providing?

As for services needed most by Chapters, I see no universal answer here. Needed services will range from assistance with conference registration, and administrative assistance to insurance, publication, web services, and other tasks. Needs will vary by the size and condition of our various chapters. Chapters must be encouraged to state needs clearly, and the national organization must listen carefully to and act upon those needs. The Chapter Presidents Council can be a very effective mechanism for achieving this.

I believe chapters and divisions are the most effective local delivery mechanism of APA. Close collaboration should occur to determine needed services and the role the National organization should play in providing assistance. APA must develop and provide the resources necessary for a full partnership between chapters, divisions and the national organization. The result will be expanded reach, more effective educational delivery, enhanced services for chapters, greater impact on our communities and more effective pursuit of social equity and racial inclusion.

Continued on page 6

COMMENTS

Massachusetts Chapter

by Peter Lowitt, AICP, Chapter President

Greetings. By the time this newsletter arrives we should all be celebrating a Patriots Superbowl Victory and/or recovered from the post-game hangover. The Massachusetts Chapter Board has been working to support our fellow planners' ongoing efforts to create real and meaningful planning and zoning statute reform. That's a mouthful. To that end we are reestablishing our legislative breakfast (see details elsewhere in this newsletter). I want to thank Ralph Willmer and Mary Coolidge for getting this project off the ground, so plan on making the trip to Boston 10AM Tuesdays February 24. You will be contacted by email with a draft letter to send to your state legislator. APA national is supporting our efforts through a legislative services grant to the chapter. At this legislative breakfast meeting the Chapter intends to unveil our position paper on the legislation proposed by the Zoning Reform Working Group.

Ms. Heidi Samokar, the chapter's public information officer is still seeking "examples - other than grandfathering - where the current land use laws prohibited or penalized a community from trying to implement a good plan/project. She is trying to steer away from cases of trying to stop growth." Contact her directly at hsamokar@mapc.org.

I hope all your budgets and professional development opportunities allow you to attend APA's national conference, to be held this year in Washington, D.C. April 25-28. If you are planning to attend and get in early on Saturday the chapter is looking for two volunteers to serve as Massachusetts' delegates in the chapter delegate assembly to vote on two new APA Policy Positions. One of the positions is on Redevelopment Policy, more closely linking it to planning and the other is an update of APA's Energy Policy. Contact Lyn Billman-Golemme or Peter Lowitt for more information on this opportunity to serve your chapter.

Congratulations to Diane Grey, chair of the chapter's transportation committee on the birth of her son Edward on December 12, 2003 and to attorney Pam Brown on the birth of her son Kyle on January 14, 2004. Speaking of dates, be sure and save Thursday September 30 and Friday October 1, 2004 as these are the time of the New England Regional Planning Conference. This year we will be in Springfield, Massachusetts and our crack conference planning team has secured the Basketball Hall of Fame for our reception.

Publicity for Mass Chapter

Heidi Samokar, Public Information Officer

Have you seen the Massachusetts Chapter of APA mentioned in your local paper? If so, we hope that you can send a copy of the article to the chapter's Public Information Officer, Heidi Samokar, c/o MAPC, 60 Temple Place, 6th Floor, Boston, MA 02130. Or you can fax it to her at 617-482-7185.

Massachusetts News

Commonwealth Housing Task Force Recommendations

Lyn Billman-Golemme, AICP

Planning & Policy Consultant

APA- MA VP Legislation & Policy

The Commonwealth Housing Task Force recommendations were released in November 2003 and may be taken up by the legislature this year.

The Task Force proposal is a response to the state's high housing costs. The proposal recommends that significant state funding be used to encourage municipalities to create zoning overlay districts that allow higher density single- and multi-family housing. The focus of the proposal is the high costs of housing are largely caused by a shortage of places to build housing due to local zoning laws that only allow low-density, single-family housing.

Under the proposal towns would receive money for zoning for new units in overlay districts, as well as the cost of educating children who live in the districts. The proposal also recommends that these districts be permitted only in "smart growth" locations such as town centers and by transit stations. The proposal also has an affordable requirement, and recommends that surplus state land sales fund a portion of the program's cost. If funded at the levels sought, the proposal's authors estimate that it could spur the creation of 33,000 housing units over 10 years.

The proposal calls for some major changes to be made, changes that could affect housing production, state and local relations, the environment, even education funding policy.

The full proposal, as well as an executive summary, can be found on The Boston Foundation website at <http://www.tbf.org/About/about-L2.asp?id=1608>. Northeastern University professor Barry Bluestone is one of the proposal's authors.

DEP announces recycling grants

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) announced Monday that 18 cities, towns and regional recycling groups will receive municipal recycling technical assistance grants for a combined value of \$121,000. The grants fund innovative projects that model new waste reduction and recycling collection methods at the local and regional level. Compare this to \$1.3 million in grants given out in FY02 — and gone altogether is the former Municipal Recycling Incentive Program, funded by the Clean Environment Fund, which provided an additional \$2+ million to 198 cities and towns around the Commonwealth in 2002.

The communities and regional groups to receive the FY04 grants are: Agawam, Athol, Dedham, Fall River, Lynn, Mansfield, Marlborough, Milton, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, Quincy, Randolph, Revere, South Central Recycling Association of Massachusetts, Springfield, South Shore Recycling Cooperative, Stow, and Wales.

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ABEND

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REELIFE

Rhode Island Chapter

by Marilyn Cohen, AICP, Chapter President

This will undoubtedly be my last official Chapter President's letter. From the tallying of the ballots, it appears that Dan Baudouin will soon be our new Chapter President. I have assured him that he is assuming a role where he has a supportive membership. I know that to be true because that was my experience. I especially want to take this opportunity to thank the Chapter membership for their involvement and participation during my term. I gave some thought to listing you individually with your accomplishments but the list grew too long and I abandoned the idea relishing the notion that trees would be saved in the process.

Over the course of the last two years, we have many accomplishments to be proud of:

- Region 1 Conference in 2002
- The development of a Chapter Work Plan
- A Chapter web site
- Participation in the Governor's Growth Planning Council including the development of the Growth Centers framework and a report on Vacant and Abandoned Properties
- Active participation in legislative discussion regarding Affordable Housing
- And more.

With the Chapter Work Plan as a guide, you can expect to be called upon to participate in one or more ways. It might be by serving on some of the newly formed committees, such as the one for Program or the Policy Committee. We have a membership that is rich in talent and when we spread the work, more can be achieved.

The Community Planning Program at URI has asked for our assistance as they head in to an accreditation year. Over the next few months we will joint venture with them on exploring ways to strengthen the Program. If you are interested in more information, please email me (mcohen@northkingstown.org)

I look forward to working with you all on future Chapter endeavors and sharing a cup of melted butter at our next Clambake.

Rhode Island News

from the RI Statewide Planning News

New Online Aquaculture Maps

The Rhode Island Aquaculture Initiative (RIAI) has created an interactive mapping site that allows one to view the fish and shellfish resources and habitat information in the state. The site is viewable at: <http://mapper.edc.uri.edu/website/rifish/Run.htm>. Additional information about the project is linked from: <http://www.edc.uri.edu/fish/>

Smartgrowth News

Grow Smart Rhode Island is providing a new service that scans the web for planning / land use stories locally, regionally and nationally. The result is a page of the top headlines and links to related articles that is useful for planners and citizen planners. Check it out at: <http://www.growsmartri.com/news.html>

Housing Data

Statewide Planning Program's 2003 edition of the Housing Data Base is available at: <http://www.planning.ri.gov/housing/housingdbase.htm>. The report presents housing-related data for the State of Rhode Island and cities and towns in five categories: Demographics, Populations At Risk, Housing Infrastructure, Housing Affordability, and Housing Availability. A limited number of printed copies are also available. For further information or to obtain a printed copy, contact Mark G. Brown at 222-6183 or mbrown@planning.state.ri.us.

Rhode Island Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission

RIHPHC is seeking nominations for the 2004 State Historic Preservation Awards. Each year, the Commission presents the State Historic Preservation Awards to honor individuals, organizations, and projects for their outstanding contributions to the preservation of our state's historic resources. Award categories include Advocacy, Artisanry, Education, Planning, Preservation Project, and Stewardship, as well as the Antoinette F. Downing Volunteer Service Award and the Frederick C. Williamson Professional Leadership Award. To nominate a person, property, or project please print a nomination form from the RIHPHC website, http://www.preservation.ri.gov/conference/2004awards_form.html or call 401-222-4142 to request a form. The nomination deadline is February 12.

New Drinking Water Protection Workshops and Technical Support for Rhode Island Municipalities

Surveys of Rhode Island local officials routinely show that protecting drinking water supplies and other critical water resources is a top concern of Rhode Island municipal officials. To support RI cites and towns in protecting these valuable water resources, the University of Rhode Island Cooperative Extension, with support from the Rhode Island Department of HEALTH, is offering a new series of workshops for municipal staff and board members beginning in Spring 2004. These are designed to help local officials incorporate recommendations of the public drinking water assessments, recently completed by URI and RI HEALTH, into municipal plans and ordinances. Communities interested in protecting private wells and other critical water resources or implementing EPA Phase 2 stormwater controls are also welcome to participate.

Workshops listed below will be offered beginning Spring

2004. These will be scheduled based on local interest and held in various locations throughout the state. All are free of charge but the host community(s) is expected to assist in providing a meeting location and recruiting participants. Each workshop, as listed below, is customized using results of local source water assessments.

New Workshops

- Linking Land Use to Water Quality - Introduction to relationship between changing land use and quality of local water resources with brief overview of management practices that can be incorporated into local planning and land use regulations to protect critical water resources.

- Using Computer Generated Maps in Project Review Describes how to use readily available GIS maps in concept-level review of development proposals.

- Managing Environmental Impacts of Development - Addresses what State regulations cover, what they don't, and what towns can do to minimize impacts of land development on critical water resources.

- Building Drinking Water Protection into Town Ordinances - This is a customized review of town zoning and subdivision standards relative to model practices used in RI and nationally. Requires active participation by town staff or board members to identify specific provisions of town plans and ordinances.

In addition, the workshop Protect Your Private Well, which covers well water basics, is being offered to residents and town officials. A new and updated series of Drinking Water Factsheets, with links to other factsheets on septic system care and wise landscaping is also available at the URI Extension website at http://www.uri.edu/ce/wq/has/html/has_wellfacts.html.

Drinking Water Assessments for your Community on the Web

This Fall, RI HEALTH released results of a 5-year study of environmental threats to the watersheds and groundwater aquifers feeding the state's drinking water supplies. The study, conducted by the RI HEALTH Office of Drinking Water Quality and the URI Cooperative Extension, concludes that the quality of untreated water is generally good but needs better protection from land use activities. Potential contamination sources include polluted runoff and leaching of organic solvents and nutrients from residential, agricultural, recreational and commercial land use and industrial development, as well as underground fuel storage tanks, waste dumps and Superfund sites. As a result of existing inputs many reservoirs and groundwater recharge areas are showing signs of human impact. Build out analyses conducted for larger supplies reveal that threats to safe drinking water quality are likely to increase, especially as high land values and strong growth pressures make development of marginal sites more attractive.

Because most land in source water areas is privately owned, the focus of the assessments has been on identifying threats from land use so local governments, residents, and water suppliers can take action to protect valuable drinking water supplies. Options for protection include education of residents and businesses near the water supply, restoring wetland buffers, controlling storm water runoff from nearby roads and parking areas, updating municipal zoning standards

in source water areas, and adopting local wastewater management programs.

Assessment results for all community supplies are on the RI HEALTH website at <http://www.healthri.org/environment/dwq/swap/home.htm>. Major community supplies were assessed by URI Cooperative Extension will full reports and 4-page color summary factsheets also available at <http://www.uri.edu/ce/wq/program/html/SWAP.html>. For Non-transient and Transient public water system results, contact the Office of Drinking Water Quality at (401) 222-6867.

Getting Assessment Results to Local Officials

To get results out to local decision makers URI Cooperative Extension is now scheduling brief presentations with town or city councils in communities with major drinking water supply watersheds or wellhead protection areas. URI will summarize results and recommendations and discuss follow-up training workshops and technical support. The schedule of council presentations and private well workshops are posted on the URI Calendar at <http://www.uri.edu/ce/wq/program/html/calendar.html>.

This project is supported by RI HEALTH, in cooperation with the RI Department of Environmental Management and the RI Statewide Planning Program. These workshops are also coordinated with Grow Smart Rhode Island., which will continue to offer its popular series for local decision makers with workshops on Making Good Land Use Decisions, Affordable Housing, and two new programs on Site Plan Review and Conservation Development.

For more information about the drinking water protection workshops or to schedule a program in your community, contact Lorraine Joubert at 401-874-2148 or ljoubert@uri.edu.

The Citizen Planner Training Collaborative (CPTC) announces its third annual conference:

Advanced Tools and Procedures for Planning and Zoning

*Saturday, March 20, 2004; 8.30 am to 3.45 pm
Holy Cross College, Hogan Conference Center, Worcester MA*

Gisela Walker, UMass Extension at 413-545-2188 or go to www.umass.edu/masscptc

This year we mix hot smart growth topics such as village center development with sessions on Board administration, liability and performance guarantees. We offer a session on how planning boards can be more supportive of economic development in their community, on housing and site plan review. **Thanks to the generous support from our co-sponsors, the registration fee is \$45/pp.** Registrations have to be received by March 12th. For more information go to the above website.

CALENDAR

February 18: URI Lecture - Learning by Design, Integrating Children in the Design of their Environment
Cheri Ruane, ASLA presents at URI. Contact William Green at 401-874-2142.

February 27: MAPD Lunch - Housing Strategy Report
MAPD will hold its next monthly lunch meeting for professional planners at 12:30pm at the 1790 House on Route 9 in Westborough. Eleanor White of the Commonwealth Housing Task Force will be presenting. Contact Michelle Buck at 508-892-7019 or email BuckM@leicesterma.org.

February 27 - 28: Ecological Landscaping Association Conference - Balancing the Systems
Boxborough Woods Holiday Inn, Boxborough, MA. Contact ELA at 617-436-5838 for general conference information or call Lana Reed, NEWFS at 508-877-7630 x 3303 to register.

March 13: Mass Land Trust Conference
Bancroft School, Worcester, MA. Sponsored by the Massachusetts Land Trust Coalition and the Putnam Conservation Institute of The Trustees of Reservations. The conference is an annual event for approximately 350 land conservationists from throughout Massachusetts. For more information contact afreeman@ttor.org.

March 20: CTPS Conference - Advanced Tools and Procedures for Planning & Zoning
8:30am to 3:45pm at Holy Cross College, Hogan Conference Center, Worcester, MA. Contact Gisela Walker, UMass Extension at 413-545-2188 or go to www.umass.edu/masscptc. Please find more information on page 4.

March 24: URI Lecture - Reading the Urban Landscape - Site Assessment Narratives
Peter Trowbridge, FASLA presents at URI. Contact William Green at 401-874-2142.

April 21: URI Lecture - Engineering Trees into the Urban Environment
James Urban, FASLA presents at URI. Contact William Green at 401-874-2142.

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DAN CAHILL

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As AICP President, I will work with the CPC, the Board and staff to clearly define what scope of services is needed to support Chapter activities and work towards getting them in place expeditiously.

EMPLOYMENT

Boston Redevelopment Agency, Boston, MA

Senior Planner - Reporting to the Deputy Director for Zoning, research & propose recommendations to Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) for neighborhood cases; prepare neighborhood zoning documents; manage neighborhood rezoning processes. Qualifications: Masters degree in Urban Planning, related, field, or equiv. plus 3-5 yrs of progressively responsible related experience in zoning administration & urban planning. Current knowledge of the Boston Zoning Code & familiarity w. physical aspects & historical traditions of Boston's neighborhoods is desirable. Work requires ability to solve complex planning & zoning problems & to analyze & interpret planning & zoning issues. Excellent public demeanor and strong graphic & verbal presentation skills are needed. PC proficiency, expertise in PowerPoint, PhotoShop, other computer software programs as well as related hand graphic skills are requ'd. Salary Range: \$45, 849.26 - \$55, 107.64

Special Assistant to the Chief Planner - Reporting to the Chief Planner, assist in all phases of the division's mission and all activities originating or coordinated from the Chief Planner's office. Serve as contact & liaison on the Chief Planner's behalf for all levels of staff w. departments within the agency. City officials, community groups & businesses, providing information on activities or ascertaining nature of issues reaching the Chief Planner's office. Participate in assigned planning initiatives; conduct planning research & studies; engage community & other constituencies to solicit input & feedback. Participate in development of various aspects of the planning and development process through to preparation of final proposal for Board consideration. Manage special projects. Qualifications: Master's degree in Urban Planning, Design, or rel. field, & 3+ yrs of rel. exp. in urban planning & development. Familiarity w. planning, transportation, land use & environmental issues/regulations and PC proficiency requ'd. Familiarity with historical traditions of Boston's neighborhoods is an asset. Requ: excellent oral & written communication skills; research skills & familiarity w. office mgmt. & communications. Expertise in producing Powerpoint presentations is requ'd. Salary Range: \$49, 296.43- \$59, 280.04

Senior Planner III - Reporting to the Chief Planner for the City of Boston and the Director of Planning/BRA, coordinate and participate in formulation of major special planning & development initiatives & design guidelines; manage planning research & studies; engage community & other constituencies to solicit input and feedback; represent the Agency in planning activities. Lead & manage staff to achieve City goals for special planning projects. Participate in the formulation of planning initiatives & design guidelines for specific city districts or areas. Qualifications: Master's degree or equiv. leadership & technical experience in Urban Planning or rel. field plus 7-10 yrs of related exp. w. expertise in urban design & development. Familiarity w. complex urban projects, neighborhoods & commercial districts as well as knowledge of applicable zoning, land use, environmental laws/regulations, project management, intergovernmental relations and other regulations requ'd. Excellent public demeanor, strong graphic and verbal presentation skills are requ'd. Salary Range: \$54, 853.34- \$68, 576.10

Send resumes with cover letter to: E-Mail-hr.bra@ci.boston.ma.us or Mail: HR, BRA 43 Hawkins St., Boston, MA 02114 or Fax: 617-918-5458. EOE/AA. BOSTON RESIDENCY IS REQUIRED ON THE DATE OF HIRE. FOR ALL POSITIONS

Assistant Planner, Town of Burlington, MA

Immediate opening for an Assistant Planner, assisting the Planning Director in performing a wide variety of tasks, with the opportunity to work on a diverse array of planning initiatives. Primary responsibilities are site plan and subdivision plan review, and the preparation of staff reports and draft conditions for development proposals. Working knowledge of the Zoning Act and the Subdivision Control Law is required. Attendance at evening meetings is required. The position involves daily interaction with the public, applicants, and municipal officials, requiring strong oral and written skills. Computer skills for word processing, spreadsheets, and databases required. Knowledge of ArcView GIS, permit tracking, and website software experience is a plus. Minimum qualifications include a B.S. in planning, geography, or public administration, and one year experience in municipal planning. An equivalent combination of education and experience may be considered. Starting salary \$38,083, ranging to \$48,935 over 11 steps. Send cover letter and resume to

Anthony Fields, Planning Director, Town of Burlington, 25 Center Street, Burlington, MA 01803 by February 13, 2004. Copies of the full job description are available at the address above, or by telephone at 781-270-1645, by fax at 781-270-1608, or by email at "afields@burmass.org". Finalists will be required to submit writing samples and references. The Town of Burlington is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.

GIS Planner/Project Manager, Daylor Consulting Group, Inc., MA

A leading planning, engineering, landscape architecture, and environmental consulting firm, is seeking a GIS Planner/Project Manager to work in our Braintree, MA office. The successful candidate will work on a wide range of land use planning projects as well as permitting projects for private-sector developers. Responsibilities include research, GIS mapping, data management and analysis, report generation, participation in public presentations, and marketing services. Projects will include an emphasis on neighborhood and comprehensive policy and planning, downtown/town center development, affordable housing, as well as environmental (MEPA) and Boston-based permitting (Article 80). Other assignments will depend on personal skills and interests. This position provides the opportunity to be involved in all aspects of the planning process and development permitting, from public meetings, to research and writing, to the development of creative planning and mapping solutions.

Candidates must have a Master's degree in planning/urban design or a related field (Environmental Studies, Landscape Architecture, etc.) and two years of planning experience, or an equivalent combination of education and experience. Superior research ability, experience with ArcView and ArcGIS, experience with Microsoft Word, and written and verbal communication skills are essential. Freehand or computer-based design skills and/or experience with Photoshop is preferred. New England planning experience is also preferred.

Please submit resume, cover letter, salary requirement, and writing sample/portfolio to: Abby McGregor, Daylor Consulting Group, Ten Forbes Road, Braintree, MA 02184, or by e-mail to amcgregor@daylor.com. We offer a competitive salary and complete benefits package. Read more about Daylor at www.daylor.com.

Planner, Housatonic Valley Council of Elected Officials, CT

Seeking to fill a vacant planner position. The position title will be either Senior Planner or Deputy Director, depending upon qualifications and experience. Salary is negotiable from \$50,000 up to \$65,000. About two thirds of the duties relate to federally supported regional transportation planning. A masters degree in planning, record of accomplishment, and strong coordination and writing skills are the preferred credentials.

Find out more about us at hvceo.org. Direct inquiries and resumes to Jonathan Chew, Executive Director, HVCEO, Old Town Hall, Route 25, Brookfield, CT 06804, 203-775-6256, jchew@hvceo.org.

Housing Development Planner, City of Newton, MA

The City of Newton is looking for a full-time housing development planner to assist the Housing Development Coordinator in the overall administration and management of the housing development work program. Salary range: \$39,794 - \$50,488. Job responsibilities include helping define and articulate the need for affordable housing; identifying opportunities for affordable housing development, analyzing funding requests and helping determine project feasibility, and ensuring that all housing development projects comply with local, state and federal requirements. The Housing Development Planner is responsible for the day-to-day management and administration of all CDBG-funded projects; the preparation of reports and documentation required by HUD, and other applicable entities, including the *Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice*, the housing component of the *Annual Action Plan*, the Executive Office 418 submittal, etc.; the coordination of the resale process for previously restricted homeownership units; the preparation of draft legal documents such as grant and loan agreements, mortgages, notes and restrictive covenants; staffing the Newton Housing Partnership and ensuring all CDBG and HOME-funded projects are monitored for compliance and meet all applicable federal requirements.

Qualifications: Bachelor's degree (B.A.) from a four-year college or university in city planning, public administration or a related field; plus five to seven years of related experience and/or training; or an equivalent combination of education and experience. At least two years of experience with programs funded by the Community Development Block Grant program and /or HOME Programs is required. The position requires excellent written and oral communication skills as well as excellent customer service skills. The position also requires a broad knowledge of community development and housing, behavioral science, finance or business administration and use of office equipment, such as the personal computer and computer software.

Contact: Submit resume with cover letter to Trisha Kenyon Guditz, Housing Development Coordinator, Housing and Community Development Division, 492 Waltham Street, West Newton, MA 02465 or e-mail Tguditz@ci.newton.ma.us.

Massachusetts Transportation Evaluation Criteria

By David Straus MAPA Transportation Committee

In November 2003 the Executive Office of Transportation and Construction (EOTC) released its draft Transportation Evaluation Criteria that it hopes will streamline the decision making process for all future transportation projects in the Commonwealth. At a December public meeting Secretary of Transportation, Daniel Grabauskas, and staff from EOTC presented the criteria at a public meeting held at the State Transportation Building.

The draft criteria were proposed to provide a focus for the administration on fiscal responsibility and proper decision making for future transportation projects, including all roadway, transit, and bicycle/pedestrian infrastructure.

The draft criteria implement new transportation policies that include a fix-it-first, communities first, and sustainable development priorities. The goal of the criteria is to improve the overall decision making process for deciding which projects will receive the limited amount of funding available by making all projects go through the same decision making thought process that prioritizes projects that meet the before mentioned priorities.

The draft criteria will be used to provide better information to the MPO for use in developing plans and TIP's, to aid in resource management at implementing agencies, and to evaluate projects objectively and to provide feedback to proponents.

With the new criteria EOTC has classified projects into three categories of preservation, improvement, and expansion. Preservation projects are those that maintain and preserve the transportation infrastructure. Improvement projects are projects that optimize and improve the current transportation system. While expansion projects are defined as projects that aim to extend or add significant capacity to the transportation system. Each of these categories has a separate set of criteria for both highway and transit related projects.

Over the next few months EOTC will continue to review and receive feedback on the draft Transportation Evaluation Criteria with hopes to have the criteria adopted by the MPO in early 2004 for incorporation into project evaluation for Fiscal Year 2005.

Cape Cod Commission's comments on the Draft criteria are included as well:

- Development of criteria must recognize regional priorities as well as statewide priorities. The processes to address these local concerns such as the Regional Transportation Plan process should not be superceded by this procedure. Massachusetts is a diverse state and transportation priorities for the Cape may not be priorities in other regions.

- We are concerned about the process in which projects from different categories will compete for funding, i.e. public transportation versus highway spending. This has not been defined in your draft proposal.

- The proposed transit criteria are generally based on cost effective transportation. This tends to ignore the purpose of establishing the Regional Transit Authorities (RTAs) outside the urban centers like Boston. The more rural RTAs were created to provide lifeline or essential human service transpor-

tation and this does not appear to be part of the proposed criteria. This is an important consideration for the Cape where 24% of the population is over 65 years of age generating a greater need for human service transportation than in other regions of the Commonwealth.

- The adopted criteria should take into account seasonal population increases. The existing regional funding allocation formulas are based on the year-round population and regions like the Cape and the Berkshires experience staggering increases in population during the summer months. The seasonal increase in population is estimated to be up to 300% of the year round population for the Cape. This seasonal demand requires infrastructure and services inconsistent with the year-round population. Transportation is an important element in the economic and recreational role we play for Massachusetts and strong consideration of seasonal needs should be included in the distribution of funding among regions. This is especially important in a region wishing to preserve its fragile environment through the development of alternatives to the automobile that may not be as cost effective in terms of transportation.

- We believe that using objective criteria to program projects for the TIP is a very good thing and support the concept.

Does Smart Growth = Equitable Growth?

Planning by Slogans

Larry Koff, AICP

Principal, Larry Koff & Associates

It seems that Smart Growth/Equity Planning is now being advanced as the solution to our urban ills as a generation ago Advocacy Planning was once heralded as the most effective planning strategy. But while the later strategy seems to have some solid grounding in organizational theory, the present planning theory of the day, Smart Growth, seems, at least in Massachusetts, to be substituting a political philosophy, equitable growth, for critical economic analysis and a democratic polity. These principles have now found their way into the allocation of resources as DHCD is considering the adoption of "Ten Sustainable Development Principles".

Most planners in Massachusetts would agree with growing disparity in opportunities for employment, housing, transportation, and quality of life in Metropolitan Boston as documented in the recent report by PolicyLink, [Promise And Challenge: Achieving Regional Equity In Greater Boston](#). Most planners would also agree with the conclusion that these disparities of race and class are increasingly leading to 'concentrated poverty, segregated communities, and limited opportunities for lower-income residents of the region. Likewise, most planners would also agree that we need to find "common strategies which address the interrelatedness of these issues".

At issue is the application of the smart growth principles, community benefit analysis and equity screening, as well as the now proposed "Ten Principles" to develop solutions to

these chronic urban problems. The Report suggests that the identification of financial return to investors and meaningful community benefits for local residents is the equivalent of developing a sound economic growth strategy for the region. The sale of Allston landing to Harvard University and the analysis of the Seaport, two issues of critical regional importance, for example, are proposed to be resolved by the application of an equity screening methodology. Using these principles, a broad range of action recommendations have also been proposed including, for example, revenue streams for affordable housing, strengthening Chapter 40B, the adoption of rent stabilization and “people focused transit services for the Urban Ring”.

While a number of these strategies might make sense to us as planners, it is hard to imagine building a metropolitan wide coalition in support of many of these policies. It is also not clear how some of these strategies would best address the disparities which were so clearly identified. Furthermore, do we as planners want to administer a pre-conceived set of principles to solve our priority community planning issues?

It appears that the Governor would now like us to support the adoption of “Ten Principles” based on this Smart Growth philosophy. In addition to evaluating a housing project requesting Housing Trust Funds on of such criteria as location, need, project characteristics, sponsor capacity, etc. the sponsor must now show that a given project can “Be Fair, Plan Regionally, Redevelop First, and Foster Sustainable Businesses”. How objective are these criteria, how can they rationally be scored, and is there really a rational nexus between these criteria and the myriad of projects which will be put through this screen”?

Should the principles of smart growth and equity planning be the leading tools in the arsenal to develop the needed solutions to the growing disparity in our metropolitan areas? And if these principles are to be advanced, can't they be presented as part of a more coherent, focused strategy such as is being pursued in Oregon or Maryland?

As planners In Massachusetts, maybe we need to become better facilitators in building metropolitan coalitions around the key concerns of jobs, education, housing, and transportation. Maybe we also need to encourage the current administration to re-focus on the tools of rational analysis and priority setting in order to over-come the weaknesses inherent in the application of planning slogans to the assessment of critical planning issues.

Living Waters Conservation Plan Published

MassWildlife's Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program (NHESP) announces the publication of Living Waters, the first comprehensive statewide plan for protecting Massachusetts' freshwater species, including fish, crayfish, snails, aquatic insects and plants. Living Waters identifies key lake, pond, river and stream habitats that support a tremendous diversity of aquatic life and complements MassWildlife's BioMap, published in 2001, which focuses on important terrestrial biodiversity in the state.

“Water is a basic resource of life and provides us with a connection to the natural world, but we don't often think about the diversity of life that lies beneath the water's surface,” stated Environmental Affairs Secretary Ellen Roy Herzfelder at a recent reception in Sudbury releasing the publication. “We are here to raise awareness about the vulnerability of our freshwater natural heritage.”

Changes in water flow and degradation in water quality threaten both rare and common freshwater species. The goal of Living Waters is to promote the strategic protection of these species by identifying critical sites for freshwater biodiversity in the Commonwealth. Living Waters takes an innovative approach by identifying Critical Supporting Watersheds to focus conservation on the portion of the watershed where it can provide the greatest benefit to the survival and conservation of freshwater species.

The final report “Living Waters: Guiding the Protection of Freshwater Biodiversity in Massachusetts”, an attractive poster of the Living Waters conservation plan, and Technical Report that details the science behind Living Waters are all available from NHESP. More information on Living Waters is available in the Natural Heritage area of MassWildlife's website <<http://www.mass.gov/masswildlife>> . The Living Waters project, begun in 2001, is funded with bond funds made available by the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs and through the State Wildlife Grants Program by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

To obtain a copy or for more information, contact Chloe Stuart at 508/792-7270 x301.

APA/AICP ELECTIONS Continued from page 1

Candidate for Board Director at Large: Mitzi Barker, AICP

1. What is your position on mandatory continuing education for certified planners?

It's been said, with some amount of snickering, that AICP stands for “Any Idiot Can Plan”. Unfortunately, this sentiment represents one of the problems our profession has in exerting its identity and earning respect equal to other design professions. Architects, engineers, and even real estate brokers have to keep their skills and knowledge current through continuing professional education. Why should planners be any different?

If AICP certification is to truly signify a standard of professional competence, then it should reflect not only one's competence at a long-past point in time when the exam was taken, but an ongoing commitment to professional growth. I believe the question is not *whether* continuing education should be mandatory, but *what* and *how much* is required. Any mandatory continuing education program must consider the wide range of sub-disciplines represented in the planning profession, set a standard that is reasonable for all members to meet, and provide for a number of options and resources that respect challenges of access. In short, it needs to be flexible with integrity.

2. What services do you see chapters needing most that national APA is not providing?

For APA to be a vital, strong organization, more attention needs to be focused on chapters. The chapter dues component of membership fees does not provide sufficient resources, particularly for small chapters, to effectively administer chapter programs. Large chapters may have paid staff, but the majority of chapters lack any kind of administrative support. Financial support to produce quality conferences, training materials, and communications is also needed. APA needs to take a more decentralized approach to chapter services. A network of out-stationed chapter development staff, dedicated to providing technical assistance, administrative support, training and other support to chapters would take much of the workload off overtaxed volunteers and strengthen chapter programs.

APA has been attempting to involve chapters more in policy and professional development. This is good. But these programs ultimately impose additional demands on limited chapter volunteers and financial resources. We need to look critically at how APA is using its resources today, and make some hard choices that will shift more support to chapters and make APA a more member-driven organization than it is today.

Candidate for AICP President Elect: Michael Harper, AICP

1. What is your position on mandatory continuing education for certified planners?

I believe that the question is premature. In order for mandatory continuing education (MCE) to be implemented, the AICP membership must view it as a positive part of their certification. For it to be a positive part of their certification, AICP members must have the opportunity to participate in identifying core skills for AICP members. AICP members must also have the opportunity to identify skills that are important to their careers. AICP must then develop affordable and easily obtainable continuing education programs that its members consider valuable. Finally, AICP must take the lead in promoting the value of being an AICP member because of MCE to employers and those we serve. Only then do I believe that MCE will be accepted by the vast majority of AICP members and be a successful requirement of membership. These are the steps I intend to recommend to the AICP Commission as President, but more importantly these are the ideas I will present to the AICP membership to commence a positive dialogue on continuing education and the concept of MCE.

2. What services do you see chapters needing most that national APA is not providing?

I believe that services should be tailored to the needs of the membership and chapters that represent them. And I don't know if the chapters are satisfied with the services they currently receive. What is probably most lacking is the all important feed-back loop that provides a systematic method for chapters to provide their assessment to the national organization of the value of services provided by the national organization. The effort on the development plan cannot be

the only time in which services are assessed and determined to be valuable to chapters and their members.

National needs to consider providing a more systematic and periodic opportunity to chapters for the review of national services. The process needs to be easily administered and quickly provide feedback to the national organization. When I was on the AICP Commission, an audit of AICP was completed. It was very valuable to the Commissioners and staff. This same type of periodic audit needs to be implemented for national services with strong participation by the chapters. With this audit system in place, chapters will then be able to answer the question that was posed.

Candidate for AICP President Elect: Sue Schwartz, FAICP

1. What is your position on mandatory continuing education for certified planners?

In order for us to “make great communities happen”, I believe that professional development is critical for both certified and non-certified planners. The CPDP program set guidelines for continuing education. I think the next step for AICP is to develop specific guidelines for several activities that encompass professional development. The AICP Code of Ethics set aspirational goals for planners to encourage their growth as professionals. Professional development guidelines would give specific recommendations for how to work towards these goals of continuing education, pro bono work, and service to the profession, etc. They also would reflect the different needs of a planner throughout their career.

Mandatory vs. voluntary continuing education has been one of the most divisive issues in our organization. We need to move forward. We have got to have an honest conversation about this and develop an understanding of both sides of the issues. What are the concerns, fears? What is it believed this will accomplish for the profession? Only when we have a conversation in an atmosphere of respect and understanding will we be able to effectively address this. It will take a leader with strong collaborative skills and that is what I will bring to this office.

2. What services do you see chapters needing most that national APA is not providing?

I was doing a little research to answer this question and I found that there wasn't a single list that showed all of the services available to chapters from the national office. That is pretty telling right there. Although I understand that it is currently a project of CPC, it helps explain why our members often don't realize the full range of services that APA provides.

That said, what is most needed is an understanding of what the -chapters needs are to develop a basic template of services. One size does not fit all, however. Chapters vary in their capacities, their challenges and their needs so the delivery of these services has to be flexible enough to be just as effective for Texas as they are for Massachusetts. We also need to look at a series of optional services for chapters that have established a very high capacity and are looking to enhance what they are delivering at the chapter level.