



MARCH  
2005

**IN THIS ISSUE**

- Comments / 2-3
- Planning in the News/ 6-7
- Employment / 8
- Calendar / 9
- Consultant Directory / 9

**Save the dates:  
APA National Conference,  
March 19-23  
MA Land Use Forum, April 6**

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

# New England PLANNING

Massachusetts Chapter & Rhode Island Chapter

## Massachusetts Suburb named National Planning Landmark

Washington, D.C., APA News Release - The historic Billerica Garden Suburb, built in response to a housing shortage created nearly a century ago, has been selected to receive the 2005 National Planning Landmark Award from the American Planning Association's professional institute, American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP), for initiating a new direction in planning more than 25 years ago.

Incorporated June 30, 1914, Billerica was the first U.S. garden suburb designed specifically for workers. Modeled after New England's garden city designs by Ebenezer Howard, Billerica used a limited dividend corporation to eliminate speculative profiteering. Instead, surplus revenues from the corporation were used for community improvements and maintenance.

The award will be presented at the 2005 National Planning Awards luncheon March 22 at the Moscone West convention center in San Francisco, where the American Planning Association's (APA) national Planning Conference will be held March 19-23. The luncheon ceremony will include a 30-minute video about Billerica and other noteworthy planning accomplishments. National planning awardees will also be highlighted in the March 2005 issue of *Planning* magazine.

"Billerica reflects the effort to guide future action, the essence of sound planning," said Patricia Henry, graduate of the University of Rhode Island, who drafted the nomination materials for the award. "The suburb used planning to build a community of value and prevent problems of overcrowding and degradation."

The development was prompted when the Boston & Maine Railroad announced in 1912 that it would build a \$3 million repair shop in Billerica, which would cause a two- to three-fold population increase in the rural community. To avoid overcrowding, squalor and associated public health risks evident in nearby industrialized communities, the Billerica Board of Trade decided to implement the innovations of the Massachusetts Homestead Commission.

The board's goal was to develop a progressive community where workers would be able to afford their own homes. Gardens, playgrounds, and other nearby amenities would be integrated with various housing options, which would include both rental and ownership opportunities. By 1917 there were 70 houses on the 56-acre parcel located along the Concord River.

Today the original community, with its cottage-style houses, shallow building setbacks and curvilinear street pattern, is still recognizable. There's a "sense of community often absent in more contemporary neighborhoods," Henry said in the nomination materials and background information she compiles about the community.

The National Planning Landmark Award is presented annually at APA's National Planning Conference. Previous recipients include Denver's Parks and Parkways, the Plan of Chicago, Yellowstone National Park, New York City's Central Park and the Appalachian Trail.

AICP provides recognized leadership nationwide in the certification of professional planners, ethics, professional development, planning education and the standards of plan-

*Continued on page 4*

## Massachusetts Chapter

by Peter Lowitt, AICP, Chapter President



The American Planning Association's national conference this year is in San Francisco. Many of your board members will be in attendance at this important conference. Lynn Duncan, AICP is our professional development officer, and will be attending AICP training sessions. Other attending board members

include Richard Werbiskis and Sabine Prather, who will be attending the legislative policy session to debate the proposed security policy. As your chapter president, I'll be involved in APA leadership meetings that start on Friday morning and conclude on Saturday evening. I'm involved in an orientation program for new chapter presidents, a mentoring program for the same audience, the development of chapter success stories and manuals for new chapter presidents and discussions of APA National policies, budget, and programs. Overall it's a challenging and fun week.

April 6, 2005, the chapter will be participating in the second annual Massachusetts forum on land use reform to be held at Suffolk University Law School on Tremont Street in Boston. The program kicks off at 10 A.M. and registration begins at 9:30. (See the chapter website for more information; look under the Calendar of Events.) This forum is an opportunity for you to connect with your legislator, to invite them to attend the forum, and for you to hear about our Planner's Day in the District initiative. We intend to have handouts for you to use to meet with your legislator and their aides in their home district later in April. We all have local issues with the existing planning statutes in the Commonwealth. This is your opportunity to tell your legislator a local story that illustrates why land-use reform is important, not only for his or her district, but for the Commonwealth in general. With close to a quarter of the Legislature signed up as cosponsors of this legislation, we are likely to have a receptive audience.

The chapter is appalled at Governor Romney's apparent disregard of and breach of trust with municipalities in the Commonwealth. I'm talking about his intended use of Community Preservation funds to finance Chapter 40R. Participating municipalities voted to tax themselves to join in the Community Preservation Act. CPA enables them to

receive matching funding from the state to honor their commitment to historic preservation, affordable housing, and protecting their priority open spaces. The governor's assault on this funding source is viewed by the municipalities, quite correctly, as a breach of trust. Many of us stood on Town Meeting floor and assured a skeptical public that the State would honor its commitment. The breeze is blowing hard, brrr. It's this type of action that will undermine the very programs, like 40R, that the governor is seeking to fund. Playing with the funding source for a program, changing the funding source for a program - all of these options tend to undermine the program itself. These views are shared by planners across the Commonwealth. The Massachusetts APA Board has sent a letter to the governor on this subject. See the MA Chapter website for a copy of the letter.

Peter Lowitt, AICP

**APA-MA is now posting Board meeting minutes on its website, in an effort to keep members up-to-date on Board actions and decisions. Please see <http://www.massapa.org/about.htm> and click Board Meeting Notes. If you have any thoughts or suggestions, please contact the Chapter's Acting Secretary, Heidi Samokar, at [hsamokar@mapc.org](mailto:hsamokar@mapc.org).**

**Congratulations to the following planners who passed the AICP exam in November, 2004:**

**Meghan Conlon, Margaret Dwyer, Mary E. Hynes, Eugene Kennedy, Jonathan T. Makler, Marlene Scherieber, and Lillian C. Shuey.**

**This accomplishment is even more noteworthy as only 60% of planners that took the exam nationwide passed.**

## Rhode Island Chapter

by Daniel Baudouin, AICP, Chapter President

Attendance at RIAPA's Annual Meeting broke all records with well over 100 people attending. Our meeting was one of the first functions at the newly opened Hotel Providence, an outstanding historic reuse project in downtown Providence. Jay Litman, Principal Architect, Newport Collaborative, gave a fascinating presentation of the history of the hotel and the reuse project.

The 2004 RIAPA Chapter Award recipients were honored. Recipients included: Sheila Brush of Grow Smart Rhode Island, John Howell of the Warwick Beacon, East Providence Planning Department, RI Statewide Planning Program, University of Rhode Island's Planning Studio, and Rachel Lauter of Brown University. Gerald F. Quinn, a long-standing, dedicated member of the Pawtucket Planning Board, was given a special award and a standing ovation from all attendees in recognition of his years of service.

Thanks for everyone's help.

On another matter, the RIAPA membership has adopted the following statement in support of The Comprehensive Planning and Land Use Regulation Act of 1988:

"The Rhode Island Chapter of the American Planners Association strongly recommends that any legislation not impinge upon the very valuable and well-established comprehensive community plan and process as established by the Comprehensive Planning and Land Use Regulation Act of 1988.

"In last year's session, the casino gambling bills (H-7844 and S-2338) exempted the project from the full requirements of The Comprehensive Planning and Land Use Regulation Act of 1988. While RIAPA has no position on casino gambling, exemptions from the Comprehensive Act set a dangerous precedent.

"RIAPA is opposed to exemptions for any project."

We are distributing the statement to State elected officials.

Looking forward to San Francisco.

## Implementation of Your Community's Affordable Housing Plan: One Solution

Katia Balassiano, AICP

Congratulations – you've met the December 2004 deadline with the submission of your community's Affordable Housing Plan. Good job! But don't even think about going back to the work you've put aside in order to meet the deadline. Now you've got to go about implementing the Plan.

Most communities included inclusionary zoning and the creation of a housing land trust in their Plans as a way of creating affordable units and maintaining affordability. But the details associated with the proper implementation of these tasks are time consuming and complicated. The information below may help to take some of the implementation burden off of the Planning Department's shoulders...

The 2004 Housing Act called for the creation of a Housing and Conservation Trust Study Commission to:

- Study the potential contribution of community housing land trust mechanisms to the development of low and moderate income housing;
- Evaluate appropriate organizational structures and financing mechanisms for such community housing land trusts.

The Commission, chaired by Scott Wolf of *Grow Smart RI*, has been meeting for several months. It will be producing two reports; one report will focus on the Community Housing Land Trust organizational structure and the other will focus on the Trust Fund, i.e., the means by which the creation of additional affordable housing should be funded.

The Commission's first report was submitted to the General Assembly on February 16<sup>th</sup>. The report documents that the Commission found that Rhode Island can benefit from the Community Housing Land Trust model (the organizational component) because the model can:

- maintain permanent affordability;
- support inclusionary zoning; and,
- increase community and lender comfort with, and acceptance of, affordable housing.

The Commission recommended that some language in the State's real estate laws be revised to better support long-term affordability and that \$100,000 be set aside annually to help fund a statewide Community Housing Land Trust. The \$100,000 will be given to the Housing Network of RI, which currently represents 24 non-profit community

*Continued on page 4*

development corporations and is in the process of establishing such a statewide Community Housing Land Trust.

A statewide program won't prevent the creation or continuation of local land trusts, but it could help strengthen such existing organizations. And, for those communities that do not already have a Housing Land Trust, the statewide program will be able to: assemble land, be the recipient of donated land or buildings, own land and lease it to homeowners, market Housing Land Trust homes, monitor ground lease compliance, service leaseholders, collect lease fees, manage resale in accordance with long-term affordability requirements, and standardize all documents, policies and financing. Call the Housing Network of RI at (401) 521-1461 for more information on how they may be able to work with your particular community. As many of you know, RI has had Land Trust legislation in place for many years, but funds were never allocated to allow the mechanism to function. If the Legislature adopts the Commission's initial recommendations, the Housing Network of RI will be able to make its services available to all of the State's municipalities.

A Community Housing Land Trust is a mechanism for managing the affordable housing and maintaining affordability, but its main focus is NOT the construction of new affordable housing. The money for that [much larger] task hasn't yet been allocated. The Commission is currently working on its second task: how to create a financing mechanism that will result in the production of more affordable units. As RIAPA's representative on this Commission, I'd be happy to provide you with any additional information about the Commission's work or its findings. Feel free to email me at: [kabalassiano@yahoo.com](mailto:kabalassiano@yahoo.com).



**The Transportation Committee is reorganizing for the new year and seeking committee members. If you are interested in learning about current Massachusetts transportation initiatives and/or submitting feedback for APA on state transportation programs, please e-mail Peter Lowitt at [peterlowitt@devensec.com](mailto:peterlowitt@devensec.com)**

## **Green Communities Initiative**

Last fall, APA joined the Enterprise Foundation, the Natural Resources Defense Council, and the American Institute of Architects, in launching the *Green Communities Initiative*. GCI is a multi-year program with an ambitious goal: to transform the way people think about and build affordable housing in America.

With the support of a dozen prominent philanthropic and financial institutions, the *Green Communities Initiative* will invest more than \$550 million over the next five years to create 8,500 environmentally friendly affordable homes across the United States. These homes may be newly constructed or renovated, single or multifamily, for rent or ownership. The entities that produce them may be for-profit or not-for-profit. But they must all meet rigorous criteria in the areas of energy and resource efficiency; healthy materials and systems; and smart, sustainable development. Housing providers that meet the test will receive design and planning grants, loans, and equity. The initiative will also include training and technical assistance to community-based groups and homebuilders participating in the program.

While helping address the critical lack of affordable housing in the country, the *Green Communities Initiative* also seeks to engage public, private, and non-profit sectors in an effort to ensure that the neighborhoods surrounding these affordable homes are also "green" in a number of ways: how they handle stormwater, how they provide transportation alternatives, and so forth.

During the life of the program, APA and its partners will work to encourage elected leaders at local, state, and national levels to create a more supportive climate for these kinds of homes and neighborhoods by revising existing regulations and incentives where necessary and crafting new, innovative programs and policies.

That is why we need your help!

Because we know that the low-income housing tax credit is a major tool for attracting private investment into the affordable housing market, the Enterprise Foundation is currently gathering information on the way that every state frames its annual Qualified Allocation Plan for the credits. In some states, the QAP awards extra points to affordable housing projects that will use environmentally-friendly materials, reduce homeowner's monthly energy costs, etc. This research will enable us to celebrate states that are in

*Continued on page 5*

## *Billerica, continued from page 1*

ning practice. Certified planners use their skills to find solutions to community problems in ways that offer better choices, enrich people's lives, and create lasting value. For more information about APA or AICP, visit the national website at [www.planning.org](http://www.planning.org).

the vanguard, share their techniques, and identify opportunities for advocacy.

At the same time, we would appreciate hearing from you whether your city or state has additional policies, programs, or incentives to promote green affordable housing — or green building, landscapes, and neighborhoods in general. We seek to identify states and cities that have such policies in place, as well as those that may be open to adopting them. So please take a few minutes to copy the following questions into an e-mail and send your information to [gci@planning.org](mailto:gci@planning.org).

We will compile the results, share the information with our partners in this initiative and also provide it to APA's Merriam Research Library in Chicago, where our *Planning Advisory Service* staff will be able to make use of it in responding to PAS inquiries from across the country.

In terms of the *Green Communities Initiative* itself, having an overview of green-friendly state and local policies — particularly those that may be relevant to affordable housing and neighborhood development — will help inform subsequent activities, including communications, education, advocacy, and, possibly, targeted demonstration projects.

Please note that we are not asking for extensive documentation. If you can simply point us in the direction of a relevant policy or program — perhaps giving us a web address, an e-mail contact, or the name and number of an appropriate person for follow-up — that will be a great help.

1. Does your city or state have any affordable housing policies or programs that advance green, smart and sustainable development?

If so, please provide a brief description, a web citation, or any other relevant information.

2. Does your city or state have such policies or programs that are not explicitly limited to housing, but which may be applicable?

If so please provide a brief description, a web citation, or any other relevant information.

3. Have your state or local leaders — elected or appointed — identified energy and resource efficiency, healthier environments and/or smart growth and development as priorities?

If so, please provide pertinent citations or contact information.

4. Would you be interested in participating in efforts to make your city's or your state's affordable housing greener, smarter and more sustainable?

If so, please provide us with your contact information and we will keep you informed of the Green Communities Initiative and future opportunities for involvement.

Again, please copy these four questions into the body of an e-mail and send it together with your answers to [gci@planning.org](mailto:gci@planning.org). Thanks for your help!

## **APA LAUNCHES ONLINE CDBG CAMPAIGN CENTER**

A broad array of organizations ranging from local government officials to housing advocates is gearing up efforts to preserve the Community Development Block Grant program (CDBG). The Bush Administration proposed a sweeping restructuring of federal aid to municipalities for community development, including the elimination of CDBG and 17 other programs.

Given the vital role of CDBG in implementing local plans, APA has made saving the program a major legislative priority. Last week, APA unveiled a new online "action center" for CDBG advocacy. The action center links users to all of APA's advocacy resources, including detailed budget information, sample action letters, recent editorials, and talking points. In addition, users can submit their own case studies of the value of CDBG to their community.

Visit the CDBG campaign action center at <http://www.planning.org/legislation/CDBG/>.

The Administration's plan would create a new program, the Strengthening America's Communities Initiative, run by the Commerce Department. Funding for the new program would be pegged at \$3.71 billion, however that amount represents a significant cut. FY 2005 funding for the Community Development Block Grant, one of the 18 consolidated programs, was \$4.7 billion. In addition to eliminating CDBG, the new program would likely have much greater restrictions on the use of funding and which communities would be eligible to receive funding.

Congress has thus far responded with skepticism. A number of prominent Republicans have attacked the proposal. Sen. Christopher Bond (R-MO) said the idea "makes no sense" and Sen. Norm Coleman (R-MN) called the elimination of CDBG "totally wrong." Congressional action on CDBG will first center on the adoption of a budget resolution followed by the annual appropriations process. In addition, the House Financial Services Committee and Senate Banking Committee would have to authorize the new program. Advocates are initially focusing on the budget resolution where overall spending caps are set.

The budget process is typically resolved in early spring. Many groups fighting for CDBG will be in Washington for legislative conferences and member lobby days during that period. APA, joined for the first time by the American Society of Landscape Architects, will conduct a legislative conference on May 11 - 13. The preliminary program is available at <http://www.planning.org/legislation/2005policyconf.htm>.

## The President's Budget and a Call to Action

*Paul Farmer, AICP, APA Executive Director*

These days in Washington, any program with a catchy, optimistic name is cause for skepticism. "Clear Skies" weakens the Clean Air Act and "Healthy Forests" promotes logging. So, when the President announced his proposal for a "Strengthening America's Communities Initiative," I knew we were in trouble. Just how much trouble we face is breathtaking.

The proposed budget released in early February is nothing short of a frontal assault on virtually every federal program that assists citizens, their elected officials, and planners in efforts to build communities of lasting value. In all, more than 150 programs potentially would be affected, ranging from loans for maintaining sewer systems to support for voluntary agricultural land conservation. State Land and Water Conservation grants are eliminated. Amtrak may not even exist at all. Many of these programs have received broad bipartisan support for many years.

The Center on Budget and Policy Priorities found that, taken together, "the natural resources and environment functions, conservation and land management programs would be cut by one-quarter, or 25 percent, while recreational resource programs (such as national parks) and pollution control and abatement programs would be cut 20 percent."

In particular, I want to focus more narrowly on the future of federal community development activities. The Bush administration wants to end or reduce these programs under the guise of deficit reduction. Eighteen current programs would be eliminated and replaced with a new grant program providing only a fraction of the previous funding. Among the areas targeted is the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. Thirty years of investing in the success of our cities, towns, counties, and neighborhoods could be dismantled virtually overnight.

CDBG is the most important federal tool for implementing local plans. Countless projects in communities coast-to-coast, large and small, owe their existence to CDBG. Neighborhoods bearing the brunt of poverty, job loss, inadequate housing, and crime have been lifted out of despair and depression as a result of the values and vision of engaged citizens reflected in plans and financed by CDBG.

The program has a track record of leveraging private investment. The National League of Cities has found that since its inception CDBG has leveraged \$324 billion in new private investment, a return of three private dollars for every public dollar.

CDBG supports jobs, builds and repairs infrastructure, and creates housing opportunity. These are facts HUD itself acknowledges. According to the department, in fiscal year 2004 alone the program was directly responsible for reha-

bilitating nearly 19,000 rental units and more than 112,000 owner-occupied single family homes. CDBG helped more than 11,000 households become homeowners in 2004. More than 38,000 infrastructure projects serving nine million people were financed by CDBG. In all, HUD found that 13 million people were aided through CDBG-funded projects, including transportation, public safety, economic development, employment training, affordable housing, health services, and child care.

Despite this evidence, the administration believes CDBG and 17 other community development programs to be redundant, inefficient, and, ultimately, expendable. Their new program would be funded at \$3.71 billion. Sounds like a lot until you consider that the proposed amount is a full billion dollars less than CDBG alone received last year.

In addition to shortchanging the program financially, the administration wants to sharply limit access and eligibility. Although the full details were not provided with the release of the budget, the Office of Management and Budget did note that the rules for eligibility would be changed to limit the number and nature of cities able to participate. OMB also indicated that the program envisions communities being eligible for only a limited time based on specific economic needs. Such a feature would take away the program's reputation as fiscally reliable and dependable and would ultimately hobble its ability to attract and leverage private investment.

While CDBG may be the biggest program affected, it is by no means the only one. Rural Housing and Economic Development? Eliminated. HOPE VI? Zero. Empowerment Zones? Gone. Brownfields Economic Development Initiative? Goodbye.

The budget overhaul is characterized by its supporters as necessary to deficit reduction. The argument is that domestic spending must be reigned in. That's the responsible thing to do, they say. To prove they are up to the challenge, not only does the budget seek cuts of \$391 billion today, but also foresees \$389 billion more in undefined cuts next year, followed by a five year freeze in discretionary domestic spending.

Deficit problem solved? Not at all. The Center on Budget and Policy Priorities noted that domestic discretionary programs have contributed little to the recent return to deficits. According to CBPP, "the cost of legislation enacted since the start of 2001 equals \$539 billion in 2005, more than the entire budget deficit. Increases in domestic discretionary programs outside of homeland security represent only seven percent of the cost of this legislation. By contrast, tax cuts constitute nearly half — 48 percent — of the cost of legislation that has increased the deficit since 2001. Increases in defense and homeland security costs represent another 37 percent of the cost of the deficit-increasing legislation enacted since the start of 2001." As I've written before in this column, budgets are about priorities. The

President's priorities are clear and can't be hidden behind Madison Avenue slogans.

The Bush administration and Congress do have other options. Instead of drastic CDBG reductions that affect programs to house the homeless, we could be talking about reducing tax breaks for those who own two homes. And there are myriad other examples of policy options.

Grim as the news is, there's reason for optimism. Members of Congress who must approve the plan, unlike the President, still are answerable to voters at the ballot box. Many on Capitol Hill, Republicans and Democrats alike, expressed dismay at the community development proposal. Senator Christopher Bond (R-Mo.) took a look at the CDBG plan and noted flatly that the plan "makes no sense." And that indictment is from a member of the President's own party.

Given the threat to good planning, we can't afford to sit back and just hope that cooler heads prevail in Congress. APA will join others in mounting an aggressive campaign against this proposal and in favor of policies that invest in our communities.

APA's website will be your one-stop-shop for advocacy. We are launching a special "action center" featuring fact sheets, talking points, alerts, sample letters, regular news updates, and other resources. The website will also enable you to send e-mail directly to your congressional representatives and track their action on this issue. A massive grassroots response is needed. Now is the time to take advantage of APA's policy and advocacy tools.

The website will also become a clearinghouse for your stories about the real local impact of these programs. We know that for every Davenport, Louisiana — where \$900,000 in CDBG funds is used to redevelop vacant buildings in a low-income neighborhood, resulting in \$11 million in new, private investment — there are literally hundreds of other stories. Tell us yours online. The collective power of these individual stories will speak loudly to lawmakers about the value and vision planning brings to communities.

On May 11-13, APA and the American Society of Landscape Architects will jointly conduct a Legislative Conference and Advocacy Day on Capitol Hill. The conference will feature a special forum on the future of federal community development policy and give you the chance to express your thoughts with your elected representatives. It's an historic collaboration between APA and ASLA designed to deliver our message with a unified voice.

Our success depends on you. I urge you to get involved in whatever way you can. Join our free grassroots network. Come to the Legislative Conference. Use the web to learn about the issue and communicate with your representatives. Send a letter to the editor. Talk to your colleagues and planning commissioners about how your community can get involved in advocacy. You went into planning to make a

difference. Join your colleagues now so that the federal government remains a partner in building communities of lasting value for all Americans.

The real issue here is not just about programs; it's about priorities. Or, put another way, values. Montgomery County (Maryland) Executive Doug Duncan put it just right: "This isn't about some line item in a budget — it's about helping people realize their dreams and their potential." The President says this budget is about "tough choices." He is right about that. Unfortunately, this budget is replete with the wrong choices. Help your Congress make the right ones.

---

## **APA Sponsors International Exhibition on Public Space**

*National Building Museum, Washington, D.C.  
January 15–May 15, 2005*

The American Planning Association is pleased to co-sponsor the Washington, D.C., showing of *OPEN: new designs for public space* at the National Building Museum. Produced by New York's Van Alen Institute, the exhibition examines changing uses of public space in an era of heightened security concerns and high-tech possibilities for interaction.

Using models and more than 300 images, digital animations, and videos, *OPEN* illustrates a wide range of built and proposed projects — from memorials to new types of urban plazas and parks — from Macon, Georgia, to Melbourne, Australia, to Johannesburg, South Africa.

Joining APA in sponsoring the exhibition at the National Building Museum are the National Capital Planning Commission, the American Society of Landscape Architects, ULI-the Urban Land Institute, and EDAA, Inc. APA is a "Corinthian" member of the National Building Museum,

The projects in *OPEN* are organized into five themes: The Plaza Unbound, Information in Place, Opening the City, Active Memory, and New Meeting Grounds. Each reveals ways in which public space is evolving according to the needs of today's cities in the United States and around the world.

One additional section, In the News, focuses on "Parks to Watch" in New York City, "North American Competitions," and "Temporary Interventions in Public Space." The National Building Museum's presentation of *OPEN* also illustrates current and upcoming public space projects in Washington area, many of which reflect an effort to wrestle with the dilemma of security in a city intended to represent democratic ideals of openness and accessibility.

For more information on *OPEN* and the National Building Museum in general, see [www.nbm.org](http://www.nbm.org). The museum's website lists special lectures and other public events organized in conjunction with this exhibition. Look for future information on an APA-sponsored event, scheduled for May 2.

## Employment

### Planner I - MAPC

Regional Planning Agency representing 101 cities and towns in metropolitan Boston seeks candidates for position of Planner I. Duties include conducting planning and research in areas of land use, housing, transportation and economic development. Successful candidate will possess education and/ or experience in urban/regional or environmental planning; or closely related field. Planning knowledge of data research and GIS a plus. Salary range from \$43,113. Six month to one year appointment, with possible extension. Position open until filled. Reply immediately to: [THauenstein@mapc.org](mailto:THauenstein@mapc.org). MAPC is an EOE/ AA employer. Web site [www.mapc.org](http://www.mapc.org)

### Housing Coordinator - City of Salem, Department of Planning and Community Development

The City of Salem has an immediate opening for a full-time Housing Coordinator to oversee grant-funded housing programs, including CDBG, HOME, MHFA, and Lead Paint Abatement. Primary responsibilities include but are not limited to: screening clients, conducting income qualifications, completing financial/status reports, preparing loan documents, processing payments and compliance monitoring. Position also responsible for affordable housing initiatives. Candidates should have 3-5 years of related work experience and thorough knowledge of CDBG, HOME, and/or similar federal and state funded program, strong verbal and writing skills and computer proficiency (Word, Excel). Experience in affordable housing development a plus. Salary \$40-45,000 depending upon qualifications. Send resume and cover letter to the Human Resources Department, City of Salem, 93 Washington Street, Salem, MA 01970. Job open until filled. AA/EOE Para información acerca de esta posición, por favor comuníquese con el Departamento de Planificación y Desarrollo Comunitario. The City of Salem does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, age, religion, familial status or disability.

### City Planner - Woonsocket, RI

City Planner to perform varied municipal planning responsibilities in an urban city of 45,000. Must possess a Master's Degree in planning or related field and have experience in the planning field. Current salary \$48,300-\$52,400. Apply by March 9, 2005 to the Personnel Department, City Hall, 169 Main Street, Woonsocket, Rhode Island 02895

### Senior Planner - Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, West Springfield, MA

Proactive regional planning agency in scenic western Massachusetts seeks experienced, motivated professional. Requires minimum of 4 years' professional work experience and a degree in city/regional planning or related discipline. Extensive municipal planning, affordable housing, and zoning experience are essential, plus excellent communication skills. Candidates must demonstrate specialized technical knowledge and solid experience in zoning, land use planning and project management. Starting salary: \$39,000 to \$48,500, depending upon qualifications and experience. Submit letter, resume and salary history, no later than March 31, 2005, to: Timothy W. Brennan, Executive Director, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, 26 Central Street, Suite 34, West Springfield, MA 01089. Position will remain open until filled.

### Senior Urban Planning Position Sought

23 years wide ranging experience in the UK, across local government (6 yrs), London Docklands Development Corporation (Government Agency, 10 years) and Consultancy (7 yrs). Experience in development/site planning, master planning, regeneration frameworks/Area Action Plans, planning strategies/feasibility work, policy/plan preparation, environmental planning. Experience of urban planning projects from conception to implementation. Wife is American, and we want to relocate. Know the Boston/New England area well – skills and experience very transferable, and in responding to the 'smart growth urban agenda', have best practice experience of added value for clients/projects. Currently with URS Corporation in London. Bachelors Degree in Town Planning, Member Royal Town Planning Institute and APA. Please e-mail: [ian\\_charie@urscorp.com](mailto:ian_charie@urscorp.com) (hope to be in Boston mid-March)

### Senior Planner - Town of Lexington, MA

Challenging position for multi-skilled generalist in technically sophisticated and demanding town. Senior Planner is responsible for administering Subdivision Regulations and Zoning bylaw as well as participating in a broad range of planning activities including research, report writing, long-range planning, and implementation of the comprehensive plan elements of housing, transportation, and economic development. Desired strengths include policy analysis, site analysis, land use analysis, thorough knowledge of land use regulations, and writing ability.

Minimum qualifications: Bachelor's degree in city planning or closely related field and six years professional experience. Preferred qualifications: MCP and five years professional planning experience. GIS skills helpful. Salary range \$40,154 - \$63,085

Please submit formal application form with resume and cover letter to Town Manager's Office, 1625 Massachusetts Avenue, Lexington, MA 02420 by 3/24/05. For required application form call 781-862-0500 x 276, or email [csheffield@ci.lexington.ma.us](mailto:csheffield@ci.lexington.ma.us), or download from town website <http://ci.lexington.ma.us/>. EOE/AAE.

### Assistant Land Planner - Heritage Design Group, LLC

Salary Range \$35,000 – \$45,000, 2-3 Years education - Bachelor's or Master's Degree in Urban Planning, Architecture or related field required. Heritage Design Group, LLC is a fast-paced, fast growing, Civil Engineering, Land Planning, and Surveying firm with projects in the Central Massachusetts and Northern Rhode Island regions. We are known for our creative design and expertise in permitting land development projects ranging from residential subdivisions, industrial parks, golf course communities and senior housing developments. We are looking for a highly motivated individual with land planning technical expertise that includes project management. The successful candidate shall possess and demonstrate strong analytical and research skills, excellent written and verbal communication skills, and the ability to effectively interact with staff, clients, municipal agencies and the general public. The ability to work as part of a team is essential. GIS and/or AutoCAD experience is desirable. The position will require management of various development related projects, including: processing land use and zoning changes, site plan reviews, subdivisions, presentations to town boards, project research, and providing technical assistance to the engineering division. Heritage Design Group, LLC is an Equal Opportunity Employer and offers excellent benefits including: Health, Dental, 401k, vacation, and holidays. For a great career opportunity, salary, & benefits, send your resume to: Heritage Design Group, LLC c/o Adam D. Gaudette, AICP Chief Operating Officer One Main Street Whitinsville, MA 01588 [agaudette@heritage-dg.com](mailto:agaudette@heritage-dg.com) 508.266.2066 ext. 110

**March 19, 2005: 4th Annual CPTC Conference, Worcester**

The fourth annual Conference of the Citizen Planner Training Collaborative will be held at Holy Cross College in Worcester. The “Advanced Tools and Procedures for Planning and Zoning” program brochures have been mailed to every town hall. Sessions featured at the conference will cover topics related to Capacity Building, Smart Growth Zoning, Housing Issues, Stormwater Management, and New Board Member Training. For more information, please visit [www.umass.edu/masscptc](http://www.umass.edu/masscptc).

**March 19-23, 2005: APA National Planning Conference, San Francisco**

Reserve now for the National Conference in San Francisco. On-line registration is available at [www.planning.org](http://www.planning.org).

**April 6, 2005: Forum on Mass. Land Use Reform Act**

See adjacent article for more information.

---

**Massachusetts Land Use Forum to Be Held**

The Second Massachusetts Forum on Land Use Reform, sponsored by the Coalition for Zoning Reform/Zoning Reform Working Group, will be held on Wednesday, April 6, 2005, 10:00 AM - noon; registration at 9:30 AM. The forum will be held at Suffolk University Law School, 120 Tremont Street, Boston, across from the Park Street T Station. The forum is free. Please register through links at [www.apcc.org](http://www.apcc.org) (Association to Preserve Cape Cod).

The Forum will provide information and updates about the proposed Massachusetts Land Use Reform Act, the chief sponsors of which are Senator Pamela Resor and Representatives Douglas Peterson and Stephen Kulik. The forum will focus on the land use planning challenges faced

by the Commonwealth, why these reforms are needed, and what is involved in moving them from proposed legislation into law.

Advocates of land use reform point out that Massachusetts was recently listed by the American Planning Association as one of the states with the most outdated state land-use laws. While the responsibility for land use planning and regulation rests with each of Massachusetts’ 351 cities and towns, the authority to do so effectively is often undermined by confusing and unduly limiting state law. The proposed Massachusetts Land Use Reform Act (MLURA) is the first major updating of the Commonwealth’s zoning and planning/subdivision control statutes in 30 and over 50 years, respectively. The Act encourages communities to adopt or update their local master plans and enables them to develop effective land use regulations that are consistent with those plans. The full text and background material on the Massachusetts Land Use Reform Act can be found at [www.massmunilaw.org](http://www.massmunilaw.org).

Information Contact: Jim O’Connell, National Park Service, 617-223-5222; [jim\\_oconnell@nps.gov](mailto:jim_oconnell@nps.gov)

**Land Use Inc.**

**IBI Group**

**MACP**





Downtowns  
Waterfronts  
Brownfields  
Greyfields  
New Urbanism  
Participation

**DH**  
**Dufresne-Henry**

Offices throughout  
the northeast  
and southeast

978.692.1913  
[www.dufresne-henry.com](http://www.dufresne-henry.com)

Sabine Prather  
Alison Noreau  
123 Sackett Road  
Westfield, MA 01085

*Address Changes: See Info Box Below*



New England Planning is printed on recycled paper.

#### NATIONAL & CHAPTER OFFICERS

Frank Popper <i>Region I Director</i>	(732) 932-4009 x689
Don Krueckeberg, FAICP <i>AICP Region I Commissioner</i>	(732) 932- 2994 x735
<b>RHODE ISLAND CHAPTER</b>	
Daniel Baudouin <i>Chapter President</i>	(401) 521-3248
Jared Rhodes <i>Vice President</i>	(401) 780-3139
Marilyn Cohen <i>Immediate Past President</i>	(401) 294-3331 ext. 310
Pamela Sherrill, AICP <i>Prof. Development Officer</i>	(401)331-4100Ext.4141
Krista D. Moravec <i>Secretary</i>	(401) 272-6000 Ext. 255
Derwent Riding <i>Treasurer</i>	(401) 222-3949
Howard Foster, AICP <i>Chapter Historian</i>	(401) 792-2248
Deirdra Hayes <i>Membership Chair</i>	(401) 272-1969
<b>MASSACHUSETTS CHAPTER</b>	
Peter Lowitt, AICP <i>President</i>	(978) 772-8831 x313
Thomas A. Broadrick, AICP <i>Immediate Past President</i>	(508) 862-4703
Linda Petrella <i>Vice President for Chapter Affairs</i>	(413) 787-6020
Lynn Goonin Duncan, AICP <i>Vice Pres. for Prof. Development</i>	(978) 745-9595 x311
Lyn Billman-Golemme, AICP <i>Vice Pres. for Legislation &amp; Policy</i>	(508) 799-0500
Peg McDonough <i>Treasurer</i>	(413) 533-8939
Heidi Samokar <i>Secretary</i>	(617) 451-2770 x2050
Joseph Cosgrove <i>Boston Region Representative</i>	(617) 222-4400
Matthew Coggins <i>Northeast Region Representative</i>	(978) 970-4256
Thomas Bott, AICP <i>Southeast Region Representative</i>	(781) 585-0549
Kathryn A. Joubert <i>Central Region Representative</i>	(508)393-5019
Richard Werbiskis <i>Western Region Representative</i>	(413) 256-4040
Sabine Prather <i>Newsletter Co-Editor</i>	(413) 949-3914
Alison Noreau <i>Newsletter Co-Editor</i>	(978) 538-5780
Ezra Glenn, AICP <i>Chpt. Librarian/Planning Historian</i> (vacant)	(617) 625-6600 x2500
<i>Transportation Committee Chair</i>	(617) 757-8500
Joshua Channell <i>Planning Student Representative</i>	(617) 413-1589
Steve Sadwick <i>MAPD Representative</i>	
Laura Harbottle <i>APA CPTC Representative</i>	(781) 545-8730

#### 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, contact Peter Lowitt, President, at 978-772-8831 x313

**Internet:** National, [www.planning.org](http://www.planning.org); MAPA, [ww.massapa.org](http://ww.massapa.org); RIAPA, [www.riapa.org](http://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](mailto:pioneervplanner1@yahoo.com).

**INFORMATION FOR THE APRIL ISSUE  
IS DUE NO LATER THAN  
MONDAY, MARCH 21, 2005**