Planning Minnesota

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Published by: The Minnesota chapter of the American Planning Association (APA MN) publishes this newsletter on a bimonthly basis.

Submissions: We welcome articles, letters to the editor, photos, calendar items, project profiles, planners on the move items, and other news. Send all submissions via e-mail to: apamnewsletter@gmail.com.

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Supporting CM Credit Needs

Each year we work diligently to provide a wealth of training opportunities. A large part of our effort is to ensure that each of you have ample opportunity to obtain CM credits. For most, attending an annual conference at the national or local level is the best venue for obtaining the bulk of your CM credits. However, for some, attending a conference can be a challenge when considering the cost and location. We also recognize a number APA MN members have relied on their employer to cover membership fees and conference registration. Many have seen those training budgets shrink over the last several years. As a result, the APA MN Board has budgeted $4,000 in 2012 to assist in meeting your AICP and training needs. The funds will be allocated to members who are in need of maintaining their AICP designation, seeking training or need assistance in paying for the AICP entrance exam fee. If you are interested in learning more about these programs, please email me at lbernard@srfconsulting.com by May 30, 2012. Inquiries should also include those interested in receiving assistance for the State Conference. All requests will be kept confidential.

We are also excited to unveil a new initiative that will help supplement your training and CM needs. As result of our organization’s success and growing attendance rate at state conferences, we are now able to offer a second training venue. In 2012, we will offer a one-day spring seminar. This seminar will occur on May 17 at the Eagle Valley Golf Club in Woodbury. The focus will be on negotiation skills for planners. The event will accommodate 75 participants and will offer 8 CM credits at a cost of $80.00 per participant. On behalf of our event chairs (Breanne Rothstein, AICP and Patrick Boylan, AICP), we are excited to welcome Dr. Allen J. Zerkin, as the instructor for "Negotiation Skills for Planners."

Dr. Zerkin is an Adjunct Professor of Public Administration at NYU's Robert F. Wagner School of Public Service, teaching courses on negotiation and conflict management. Since 1999, he has been conducting a popular one-day workshop on negotiation at APA’s National Planning Conference. Professor Zerkin specializes in the design and facilitation of processes, such as stakeholder consensus building processes and roundtable dialogues, that are intended to resolve or to advance stakeholders’ understanding of state and local disputes and controversies. Dr. Zerkin is also a member of the New York Bar and earned his J.D. at Yale Law School.

We hope you will join us on May 17, for our spring seminar and on September 26 - 28 at Arrowwood Resort in Alexandria for our annual State Conference. More importantly, we hope you will continue to support the planning profession by making your voices heard and promote sound planning decisions.

Lance H. Bernard
APA MN President

From the Desk of the President
Meet Your New Citizen Planner: Eric Laska

About four years ago, after the housing bubble burst, my wife and I had to make a difficult decision. I owned a house in south Minneapolis and she owned a condo downtown. We wanted to start a family soon and both adored our own residences. I liked the space and perceived inexpensiveness of my single family home while she enjoyed the convenience and excitement of living downtown. The drop in housing prices made selling both places financially impossible so we had to pick one. Due to condo association laws we could not lease her condo so we decided to move into downtown Minneapolis knowing full well that we would likely be starting a family in a 2 bedroom high-rise in the city center.

Soon after, something really amazing happened. Living in a downtown Minneapolis condo grew on me. I REALLY liked it. I liked that I could bike to work. I liked that my wife could walk to work. I enjoyed not having to shovel snow or mow the lawn. I grew fond of the fact that we had only one parking spot and become a one car family. I relished the fact that I could walk to Twins and Vikings games, a grocery store, restaurants, parks, theaters, and just about any retail store I could imagine. The advantages of living downtown continued to surface, even after we had our first child last fall.

During this time I continually became intrigued about raising a family in the city center. I became passionate about this cause. I reached out to other families raising children downtown and soon discovered I was not alone. I started a ‘Kids Group’ in our condo building, joined the American Planning Association and won a spot on the Downtown Minneapolis Neighborhood Association board with a desire to make our neighborhood more family-friendly and create a closer knit downtown community.

While I admit that I am new to the planning field, I am passionate about ensuring my downtown neighborhood develops into a vibrant, exciting and safe community for my family and fellow citizens. It would make me proud to help citizen planners realize similar goals for their communities. To do this I want to ensure that all citizen planners, myself included, have access to the best resources that our Minnesota chapter of APA has to offer.

But I need your help. I need to know how I can serve you.

If you are a fellow citizen planner I want to hear from you. Let me know how I can assist you. Or simply drop me an email to say “hello.”

Sincerely,

-Eric Laska
elaska@gmail.com
Pitt Gets FAICP Membership

I am pleased to announce that David Pitt, Professor in the Department of Landscape Architecture and Adjunct Professor in the Urban and Regional Planning Program at the University of Minnesota, is the newest APA MN member inducted as a Fellow of the American Institute of Certified Planners (FAICP). Dr. Pitt, who became a member of AICP in 1980, will be inducted into the College of Fellows at the upcoming APA Conference in LA in April. As the letters of support in his application reveal, Dr. Pitt has been an influential urban planning teacher and mentor to hundreds of students, many of whom continue to practice his approach of “planning as if nature mattered.” Drawing on his early experience as a practicing planner in NY and ME and as an Extension educator in MD, he has maintained a close connection to planning practice, frequently collaborating with practitioners in community-based research. Further, Dr. Pitt has remained committed to connecting the planning and landscape architecture disciplines, through his contributions to the planning education and his role in establishing a dual degree program at the U of M.

The APA Minnesota chapter also had the great pleasure of advancing two additional members for consideration by FAICP. Suzanne Rhees and Robert Worthington were both nominated by the chapter, but were unfortunately not accepted this year. I want to share my strong endorsement of their records and thank them for their many contributions to the planning field.

As her letters of support attest, Ms. Rhees has been an innovator in the planning field and a go-to resource for zoning, design, and neighborhood planning consulting expertise. She remains a very active member of the APA MN chapter, serving in various leadership roles, and is an active instructor with the Government Training Service.

Robert Worthington has been a long-time leader in the urban planning field in Minnesota. His multiple leadership roles with APA MN and its precursor organization helped legitimate and build visibility for the planning profession. In addition, his public sector work helped advance early planning and zoning practice in the fast growing suburbs of Richfield and Bloomington.

Through this work and others, both Bob and Suzanne have made tremendous contributions to the planning field. Congratulations to our FAICP nominees and to David Pitt for his induction to the 2012 College of Fellows.

I would also like to recognize the APA MN FAICP Committee for their efforts in nominating our candidates. Special thanks goes to Carissa Schively Slotterback, Breanne Rothstein, Richard Krier, Barbara Dacy, Jon Sevald, Cynthia Kirchoff, and Josh Olson.

Lance Bernard

Upcoming Events

The Metropolitan Council and the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development are presenting a Brownfield Workshop.

The workshop is an information session to learn about programs that help with the cost of cleaning contaminated land. More than $7 million in grant and loan funds are available to investigate or clean contaminants associated with real estate development.

State and federal funds are available for investigation and cleanup at sites with asbestos or hazardous materials, dry cleaner chemicals, petroleum contamination, groundwater contamination or soil contamination.

Representatives from Hennepin and Ramsey counties, along with the Met Council and the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development, will be on hand to discuss the programs.

When: 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 7.

Where: Ridgedale Library, 12601 Ridgedale Drive, Minnetonka, MN.

Cost: Free
Planning A Sustainable Future For Central Minnesota

Over the past decade, the residents of Central Minnesota have faced an increasingly uncertain economy, compounded by housing and transportation challenges and gloomy demographic trends. But these people are scrappy and self-reliant, determined to build a more prosperous and sustainable place to live and to do so by their own bootstraps. With assistance from the University of Minnesota’s Regional Sustainable Development Partnerships (RSDP) program and Region Five Development Commission, the residents of Cass, Crow Wing, Morrison, Todd and Wadena counties have embarked on a historic plan to improve their region’s economy in a long-term and sustainable way.

The Central Minnesota Sustainable Development Plan (CMSDP)—informally referred to as the Resilient Region Project—aims to meet the needs of the region through the creation of a community-led, comprehensive plan for social, economic and land use vitality. When implemented, the Resilient Region plan could result in such things as more low-energy affordable housing, efficient transportation options, livable and healthy communities, increased opportunities for employment and a resilient economy able to respond to 21st century needs.

"The people of central Minnesota have faced an increasingly uncertain future in light of changes in our country’s economy, demographics and energy prices and options," says Kathryn Draeger, statewide director of the RSDP. "Until now, the region has never had the resources to develop an integrated, long-term plan for sustainable development. This community driven, university-assisted project jumpstarts those efforts to ensure planning is done in a big-picture way that will tangibly improve the lives of residents and visitors in this century and beyond."

An $825,000 Sustainable Communities Planning Grant has enabled Central Minnesota residents to develop their first, fully integrated 25-year plan for sustainable development. The Sustainable Communities Planning Grant Program is a coordinated effort of the Partnership for Sustainable Communities, a unique collaboration of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The grant program supports multijurisdictional planning efforts that integrate housing, land use, economic and workforce development, transportation, and infrastructure investments to align with a set of livability principles. The Metropolitan Council of the Twin Cities also received an implementation grant under the program.

Community members are leaning toward a self-reliant "Bootstrap" scenario for their future.

The federal program places a strong emphasis on grassroots decision making. The Resilient Region project has taken this seriously and is guided by a 200+ member Consortium of community residents representing all sectors of the region. The Consortium work is coordinated and supported by a strong group of organizations. In addition to the University RSDP and the Region Five Development Commission, supporting organizations include Envision Minnesota, Central Minnesota Housing Partnership, Ensearch, and the Initiative Foundation.

At the kick-off meeting of the Consortium in February 2011, four citizen-based work groups were formed around the topics of land use, transportation, economic development and affordable housing. The work groups met five times through 2011 to identify key issues, create a vision for the future, and brainstorm steps to reach that future. The work groups are made up of residents from all walks of life and socioeconomic levels—from farmers to business owners, high school students and stay-at-home moms. Besides location, the one thing most participants have in common is a
The work group members’ individual visions were combined into four possible future scenarios for the region. The four scenarios ranged from “Abundance” to “Bootstrap” to “Current Trends” to “Doomsday.” The four alternative scenarios were illustrated by UM staff and students using Geographic Information Systems modeling and graphic illustrations. The modeling showed futures for water quality, growth patterns, broadband connectivity, economic sectors, affordable housing, and transportation.

“Each scenario represented a distinct future for Central Minnesota, with each requiring a different method of modeling and representation,” says Jean Coleman, a Minneapolis-based land-use planner, who serves as the project’s sustainability organizer. “Details of the scenarios were teased out and powerfully illustrated with maps and graphics to provide a very clear look into the future of the region. It is exciting to match residents’ needs with university expertise and help them craft a visionary implementation plan for their community,” says Coleman.

In December 2011, over 160 community members representing Cass, Crow Wing, Morrison, Todd and Wadena counties were asked to vote on which elements of the alternative future scenarios they felt should be included in their future vision. While responses were varied, they tended toward a self-reliant “bootstraps” attitude toward long-term improvements. The winning scenario elements are being compiled into a strategy that will form the basis of the Resilient Region plan to be presented to HUD, DOT, and EPA in December 2012.

Since its launch last winter, the Resilient Region project has attracted statewide and national interest. Minnesota Public Radio’s (MPR) Ground Level blog is hosting online discussions of the project through this spring.

The next Resilient Region Consortium meeting is scheduled for 4 p.m., Tuesday, May 8 at the Lodge at Brainerd Lakes, where we’ll examine current policies, choose strategies and begin to form a financial plan for next steps. Feel free to join us—you don’t need to live in Central Minnesota to care about the future of one of the state’s most important regions. Visit the project website to keep up-to-date on project events and sign up for our quarterly newsletter. http://www.rsdp.umn.edu/Central_MN_Sustainable_Development/index.htm

Jean Coleman, UM RSDP Sustainability Coordinator, APA MN Secretary
Planning Highlights from the Northwest District

Camp Ripley Veterans State Trail Planning
The concept of a trail bordering the edge of Camp Ripley began as a local initiative. In 2009, the State Legislature authorized a trail to connect the Paul Bunyan Trail, Crow Wing State Park, near the Camp Ripley perimeter, to the Soo Line Trail south of Little Falls. Morrison, Crow Wing and Cass Counties along with the Region 5 Development Commission, Camp Ripley Veterans State Trail Committee, and the Minnesota DNR, have initiated a corridor study for this trail to identify issues and needs within the area and to consider potential future alignment options for this multi-use state trail.

$50,000 was raised through a combination of public, private and nonprofit donations to hire Bolton & Menk, Inc. to conduct the trail study. The corridor study is the first step in the development of a required DNR Master Plan for this state trail. The trail master plan will be developed through a collaborative process between the DNR and local communities. A steering committee has been formed to guide the planning process. The effort is anticipated to take about a year, with several opportunities for public input and community involvement. For further information: Visit www.crvtrail.com, click on “Corridor Study” for periodic updates and upcoming meeting dates. Or contact Phil Martin, Project Manager Email: philipma@bolton-menk.com P: (218) 821.7265
- Submitted by Jake Huebsch, Region 5 Development Commission

Testing a New Road Stabilizer
Kittson, Pennington, Beltrami, and Marshall all purchased Permazyme 11X to test on county gravel roads. The enzyme is worked into the road to strengthen soft spots often caused by frost boils and heavy commercial vehicles. The enzyme binds to the clay in the gravel base to form a very hard surface that can withstand the environment and physical conditions the roads endure throughout the season.

Permazyme 11X is an enzyme produced by Pacific Enzymes, Inc. and is used as a stabilizing agent for soils and reclaimed roadways. Laboratory tests have been conducted on various soils provided by the Lake County Department of Public Works out of California. The main tests performed during the study are soil gradation, Atterberg limits, soil classification by both AASHTO method and Unified classification method, moisture-density analysis using modified proctor test, triaxial compression tests, and R-value tests. The permazyme application is meant to keep roads from failing due to frost boils in the spring and during wet cycles. An application of permazyme also reduces dust on gravel roads by half.

The 2011 construction season was the first application in northwestern Minnesota and the county engineers that have done test sections are happy with the results so far. They are waiting to see how the spring thaw affects the road base and if this is an application they plan to pursue into the
future.
- Submitted by Troy Schroeder, Northwest Regional Development Commission

**Parks & Trails Developments in Brainerd**
The City of Brainerd has been awarded a MnDNR Natural and Scenic Area Grant to assist the Brainerd Noon Rotary purchase and donate to the City 37 acres of natural area along the Mississippi River. Brainerd also has been awarded a Federal Recreation Trail Grant and a DNR Regional Trail Grant totaling $575,000 to construct a 2.59 mile, 10-foot wide multi use bituminous trail creating a network of trail and park connections. The new trail will connect to the Cuyuna Lakes State Trail that will run through the heart of community and provide connection to the popular Paul Bunyan trail that runs through the west side of the community. The land acquisition and trail construction are part of Mississippi Riverfront improvements and are intended to help establish Brainerd as a trail hub city in North Central Minnesota.
- Submitted by Mark Ostgarden, City of Brainerd

**Planning for Flood Buyout**
The City of Moorhead is working with Metro COG to determine the next course of action in using recently acquired flood buyout properties along the Red River.

Metro COG completed the Red River Greenway Study in 2008 with the cities of Fargo (ND) and Moorhead to set a vision for potential recreational opportunities along the river. At the time, the goal was to plan an eventual use of the land for when it became available for increased public usage. The Red River Greenway Study identified opportunities to enhance recreational features of the Red River by expanding upon the existing network of trails in both Fargo and Moorhead. Additional new recreational features adjacent to the Red River in Moorhead were limited at the time by substantial residential development.

In 2009 the Red River hit a record crest of 40.84 feet. Since then, the City of Moorhead has acquired 176 properties in low-lying riverfront neighborhoods using $50.7 million of combined federal, state, and local funding for flood mitigation projects. Buyout participation is voluntary. The City hopes to conclude the acquisitions of the final flood-prone homes in 2012 with a requested $20 million State bonding appropriation.

As a result of recent buyouts, there is more land available in Moorhead for a river related recreation project. Metro COG has been asked to develop a plan using lands now available adjacent to the Red River. The outcome of the effort will look to expand river related recreational trails in Moorhead, and make critical connections to existing and proposed facilities in Fargo (ND). Options include parkland, trails, arts and cultural installations, and other community amenities. A final plan is anticipated in 2013.
- Submitted by Katie White, Fargo-Moorhead Metropolitan Council of Governments

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Transit Coordination Will Help Central Minnesotans

It is easy for most people to take transportation for granted. But those who are unable to drive face barriers accessing jobs, education, social events, religious services, medical appointments, and other daily needs. One Sibley County woman’s comments typify the difficulties many face trying to arrange rides in rural communities:

“Since obtaining a brain injury in December 1992, I do not feel comfortable driving in cities larger than my original home town of New Ulm [pop. 15,000]. It has been very difficult for me to attend any event in the Twin Cities area, Mankato, Redwood Falls, St. Cloud, Duluth, etc. On a few occasions I have been able to coordinate rides from a pick up point -- gas station or rest stop -- outside the Twin Cities or Mankato to get me to my destination. This is usually very difficult. County transportation systems need to be able to cross counties or connect with other transportation systems. I need to know how to get there.”

A host of entities provide travel options for people who do not drive, including public transit, human services waiver programs, private taxis, and social service agencies. But gaps in service availability and lack of information about existing services leave some people without rides, or scrambling to piece together multiple services. Better coordination could increase access while making more efficient use of public dollars that fund transportation programs.

The goal of the 2011 Local Human Service Transit Coordination Plans was to address issues related to the coordination of transit services. The Minnesota Department of Transportation contracted with the state’s 10 Regional Development Commissions and two MnDOT districts to conduct these plans in Greater Minnesota.

Planners conducted a needs assessment to determine gaps in service. This included a vehicle inventory and a map series depicting target populations, key destinations like employment centers and public services, and existing transit routes. The plans’ public outreach included two steering committee meetings and a public open house in each region. RDCs used their local networks to invite a broad base of stakeholders, including public transit providers, human service officers, area agencies on aging, veterans’ advocates, tribal representatives, and others to participate. At the meetings, attendees identified preferred strategies to improve transportation coordination in each region and brainstormed project ideas that could move these strategies forward.

Each plan was conducted at the regional level, so strategies and projects reflect transit conditions in each region. Some of the identified strategies were repeated across the state. One was the desire to centralize information about transportation providers. Currently, there is no “one stop” location for the general public or case workers to find information about available transit options.

Individuals rely on services they already know about to provide rides, rather than the entire spectrum of transportation providers within a region. Another theme was the desire for mobility management positions. For example, Tri-CAP operates a regional call center covering Benton, Morrison, Sherburne, Stearns, and Wright counties. A mobility manager staffs the call center and works with clients to identify transportation solutions using existing resources within the service area. Many plans expressed the desire to fund similar positions in each region.

All coordination plans have been officially adopted by regional planning bodies. The planning process set a firm foundation and starting point for future coordination of transit efforts across Greater Minnesota. To learn more about the plans, visit coordinatemntransit.org

By Fay Simer, Senior Transportation Planner
Minnesota Department of Transportation – Office of Transit
The 2012 APA MN state conference will be held September 26-28 at the Arrowwood Resort and Conference Center in Alexandria, MN. The Conference Planning Committee is pleased to announce that the Request for Proposals process for presenters at the conference has been opened. More information about the conference, and submission forms can be found on the APA Minnesota website.

CONFERENCE THEME - YEAR OF THE PLANNER: EMPOWERED TO LEAD. 2012 is known as the Year of the Dragon in many Eastern cultures. For the Chinese, dragons are divine mythical creatures that are associated with royalty. It is said that Dragons are born with the potential to be great leaders. Astrologists say the Year of the Dragon is also a time to explore innovative ideas and begin big projects. Words associated with the Year of the Dragon are: Innovative, Wise, Optimistic, Potential, and Successful. The Dragon is made up of many parts of the other animals in the Chinese zodiac, bringing with them their knowledge, background, and experiences. This is much like the multiple disciplines, backgrounds, and experiences we all bring to the planning profession.

New this year, there will be two (2) RFPs: one for standard conference sessions and one for “speed planning” sessions. The speed planning sessions are intended to provide attendees an opportunity to share ideas, discuss strategies, and learn about what their colleagues around the state are doing via short, 15- to 20-minute presentations. Each speed planning session will feature multiple presenters on a range of topics. Each presenter will have his/her own table or station, and will be expected to lead a 15- to 20-minute presentation/discussion on one discrete topic.

Attendees will have the option to choose which presentation they would like to hear. After 20 minutes, attendees will be asked to move to another table and the process repeats itself. Speed planning sessions are particularly well-suited to case studies about new developments, planning projects, or recent innovations in the field of planning, although other topics might also be appropriate.

The Conference Planning Committee is looking for diverse and compelling proposals for sessions at this years' conference. The Committee has specifically identified the need to have a few sessions in each of the following subject areas:

+ Diversity and Immigration
+ Greater Minnesota/Rural Community Planning Case Studies
+ Healthy Communities
+ Interdisciplinary and Interjurisdictional Approaches to Planning
+ Regulatory Streamlining and Efficiency
+ Technological Innovations in Planning

The RFPs for standard sessions and speed planning sessions have been posted to the APA Minnesota website. The deadline for proposal submissions is Friday, March 16, 2012.
**Land-Use Planning Workshops**

Once again, APA Minnesota is pleased to join forces with GTS Educational Events (formerly Government Training Services) by co-sponsoring a series of Land Use Planning Workshops in various Minnesota locations designed especially for citizen planners (elected & appointed) and planning staff. Sessions will be presented in March-October, 2012.

The workshops will include sessions on the basics of planning and zoning. Sessions will also cover the roles of planning commissioners, urban agriculture, home occupations, housing choices, solar and small wind energy, and shorelands and floodplains variances.

To access a complete brochure and online registration, just click on the link below to guide you to the appropriate section of the GTS website. Additional questions should be directed to GTS staff member Carol Schoeneck at 651-222-7409, x205 (metro), 800-569-6880, x205 (Greater Minnesota) or send an email to cschoeneck@mngts.org. You can also check out their website www.mngts.org for on-going updates.

**Sustainability Workshop**

The Alliance for Sustainability is hosting the fifth annual Local Government Sustainability Workshop on Friday, March 23, from 1 to 5 p.m. The event will bring local government officials, planners, environmental professionals and citizens from cities across the state. It includes an introduction by U.S. Sen. Amy Klobuchar via video at 11:30 a.m. Harvard Professors Robert Eccles and George Serafeim will give the noon keynote.

Other speakers will include Apple Valley Mayor Mary Hamann-Roland, Falcon Heights Mayor Peter Lindstrom and Carissa Schively Slotterback, director of urban and regional planning at the Humphrey School of Public Affairs. The event will conclude with workshops on planning, Minnesota GreenSteps cities, urban forestry and organized collection. The event is free, but lunch is $35. For more information, go to www.afors.org/2012conference or localgovernmentsustainability.eventbrite.com. Or call 612 331-1099.

**Design Team Update**

The Minnesota Design Team started the New Year with its annual retreat on January 14th which featured keynote speaker State Demographer Tom Gillaspy, who discussed population trends. And Ethan Fawley from Fresh Energy shared the principles of Complete Street designs and then led a drawing session.

MDT is also reviewing applications from the Greater Bemidji area and the City of Randall for possible visits in 2012. The “visit” is a charrette-style weekend of learning, sharing, and developing ideas for the future based on the community’s shared vision. For more information, check out www.minnesotadesignteam.org.

MDT is also reviewing applications from the Greater Bemidji area and the City of Randall for possible visits in 2012. The “visit” is a charrette-style weekend of learning, sharing, and developing ideas for the future based on the community’s shared vision. For more information, check out www.minnesotadesignteam.org.

MDT is a volunteer group of architects, landscape architects, urban designers, planners, and other experts in design and community development that has been helping communities around Minnesota develop shared visions for improving their physical and environmental designs. MDT has worked with over 110 communities to envision a more productive future through MDT’s community based-planning principles.
APA Minnesota Brown Bag Lunch Event
Featuring:

Central Corridor Light Rail Transit

Presented by:
Victoria Nill and Mike Vogel
Minnesota Department of Transportation

When:
Wednesday, March 14th from 12:30 – 1:30 pm

Where:
MnDOT Waters Edge Building, 1500 West County Road B2, Roseville, MN 55113
Conference Room A/C (Lower Level)

About the event:
A new way to move: the Central Corridor Light Rail Transit (CCLRT) Project will provide a fast, safe, new transportation choice in one of our region’s most heavily traveled corridors. The 11-mile Central Corridor will link downtown St. Paul and downtown Minneapolis via Washington and University Avenues. It will build on the success of the Hiawatha LRT line in increasing transit ridership and making our region more economically competitive.

Key components of the CCLRT Project include 18 stations plus 5 stations shared with the Hiawatha line in downtown Minneapolis. Trains will operate every 7.5 minutes during peak travel periods, with a travel time of 36 minutes between the 2 downtowns. The projected ridership is over 40,000 ADT in 2030 and the project cost is $957 million. Construction will be occurring from 2010 to 2013 with service starting in 2014. The project partners include: Metropolitan Council, Metro Transit, MnDOT, Central Corridor Funders Collaborative, Ramsey County, Hennepin County, CTIB, City of St. Paul, City of Minneapolis, and the U of M.

This event has been approved for CM credit.

About the presenters:
Victoria Nill is a U of M graduate that has been with MnDOT since 2001 and a part of the CCLRT Project since 2008. Prior to becoming a part of the CCLRT Project Team, Victoria worked in various capacities at MnDOT in the Design, Transit, and Traffic departments, and worked as the South Area Engineer working with Scott, Dakota, and Carver counties. Her role on the CCLRT Project is to act as the liaison between MnDOT and Met Council for project items such as right-of-way, traffic, agreements, permits, and environmental.

Mike Vogel has been with MnDOT since 2000 and a part of the CCLRT Project since 2009. Prior to becoming part of the CCLRT Project Team, Mike worked in MnDOT Surveys and the Design departments. His role on the CCLRT Project is to coordinate the utility relocation and to provide construction support for the project.

Attendees are welcome to bring their own lunch to the event. Please RSVP to Matthew Parent at matthew.parent@co.mn.us by Monday, March 12th.
Join us for lunch and learning at the

Pervious Pavement Lunch Seminar

Friday, March 9, 2012 from 12pm-2pm
at the Bemidji Regional Airport Conference Room

Hosted By

Karvakkio Engineering

Stormwater Management with Porous or Typical Asphalt Pavement

Porous asphalt pavements are being used as part of the stormwater solution, reducing runoff, improving infiltration and saving land. The performance of these pavements depends on proper design and construction. In this session, you will get a thorough understanding of porous design, get the latest in construction practices and gain insight several existing porous asphalt pavements in MN.

Jill Thomas, P.E., is the Associate Director at the Minnesota Asphalt Pavement Association (MAPA) since 2003. Prior to working at MAPA, she was a Preliminary Design Project Engineer at SEH, Inc., from 2001 to 2003, a Preliminary Design Project Engineer at Mn/DOT from 2000 to 2001, and a Research Project Engineer at Mn/DOT from 1998 to 2000. Ms. Thomas holds a Master of Science degree and a Bachelor of Civil Engineering degree, both from the University of Minnesota.

Aqua-Bric™ Permeable Pavers

Borgert presents a pedestrian-friendly stormwater management system featuring Aqua-Bric, a permeable interlocking concrete pavement. The smooth, flat surface created using Aqua-Bric meets ADA standards and is a superior choice for areas with high foot traffic – even for pedestrians in high heels or wheelchairs. Ideal for plazas, walkways, entrances and parking lots, Aqua-Bric is used by Borgert to implement the environmentally sound Bio-Aquifer Storm System (BASS). Information gathered from http://borgertproducts.com/products/permeable-pavement/aqua-bric-askia.

Ryan Dostal holds a bachelor’s degree in landscape design from South Dakota State University and has been an account manager at Borgert Products for 5 years. Before working at Borgert Products, Ryan held positions as a foreman and landscape designer on landscaping crews.

The event is free to attend, but seats are limited. To ensure your spot, register before March 5th by contacting Kellie Dixon at kellie.dixon@karvakkio.com or 218-444-8004.

Lunch will be provided by Jill Thomas, MAPA and Ryan Dostal, Borgert Products.
Job Opportunities

Job Title: City Planner-Zoning Administrator

Hiring Agency: City of Cloquet
Web Link: www.ci.cloquet.mn.us
Deadline: March 16, 2012 at 4:30 pm
Salary Range: $54,007 - $66,389

Job Description:
The City of Cloquet has an opening for a City Planner-Zoning Administrator. Duties include: overseeing all operational aspects of City planning and subdivision including code enforcement, preparing planning reports and developing, implementing and administering various policies, plans, and ordinances related to City development and all aspects of municipal planning. Work with public, coordinate meetings, and assist other staff on related issues of economic development, park development, grant writing and GIS. Minimum qualifications are a Bachelor’s Degree in planning, urban studies, public administration or equivalent and three to five years’ experience. Master’s Degree preferred. Salary range is $54,007 to $66,389 DOQ.

Application Instructions:
To apply, obtain an application packet from www.ci.cloquet.mn.us or by contacting the City Administrator’s Office, 1307 Cloquet Avenue, Cloquet MN 55720, ph: (218) 879-3347. Return application to: City of Cloquet, Attn: City Administrator, 1307 Cloquet Avenue, Cloquet MN 55720.

Job Title: Planning & Zoning Director

Hiring Agency: St Croix County
Email Link: tammy.funk@co.saint-croix.wi.us
Deadline: March 23, 2012
Salary Range: $71947-98654

Job Description:
General Definition of Work
Performs complex professional work planning and directing County-wide planning, code administration, land information activities, services and programs, serving as staff support to various boards and committees, and related work as apparent or assigned. Work involves setting policies and goals under the direction of the County Administrator. Departmental oversight is exercised over all personnel within the department.

Qualification Requirements
To perform this job successfully, an individual must be able to perform each essential function satisfactorily. The requirements listed below are representative of the knowledge, skill and/or ability required. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable an individual with disa-For more information on these and other job opportunities, go to http://www.mnapa.com/jobs.php

tilities to perform the essential functions.

Essential Functions
Defines and implements the goals and objectives for department programs. Assigns, directs, trains and reviews staff work; evaluates staff performance; develops staff schedules; provides staff coaching and/or counseling; handles disciplinary issues; handles department hiring, promoting, disciplinary actions, suspending and terminating. Manages staff services provided to the County Board, Community Development Committee and the Board of Adjustment. Prepares and administers the budget for programmatic areas and makes necessary reports for County, state and federal agencies. Manages grant application development and administration for County agencies and local government. Directs staff technical assistance to towns and municipalities within the County. Communicates and coordinates department operations with clients and customers. Coordinates program activities with County departments, regional planning, local governments and related state and federal agencies, and the general public. Oversees public hearings scheduling and makes presentations and recommendations. Provides advisory information to professional clients, the media and the general public. Manages and supervises the County land use regulations administration and enforcement. Oversees the land use ordinance analysis and amendments, along with the report creation. Reviews complaints and ordinance violations; consults with the Corporation Counsel department to determine actions. Manages the County Comprehensive Plan and other department related plan development and implementation including research, analysis and implementation design. Oversees the development of new and revised language for County ordinances in conjunction with other County departments. Manages the County Recycling Program development and operation along with related solid waste activities. Manages the County Land Information Plan and Program, Geographic Information System (GIS), etc. and their development and administration.

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities
Comprehensive knowledge of general laws and administrative policies governing planning and zoning practice and procedures; thorough knowledge of general laws and administrative policies governing the application and enforcement of zoning and other land use ordinances; general knowledge of geographic information systems; ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing; ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with other departments, the Community Development Committee, County Board, Board of Adjustment, associates and the general public.
Job Opportunities

Education and Experience
Bachelor Degree, Masters Degree preferred, in urban and regional planning, geography, natural resources, public administration, or related field and extensive experience working in planning and zoning with considerable experience in a supervisory role, or equivalent combination of education and experience.

Physical Requirements
This work requires occasional exertion of up to 10 pounds of force; work regularly requires sitting and speaking or hearing, frequently requires standing, using hands to finger, handle or feel, reaching with hands and arms and repetitive motions and occasionally requires walking, pushing or pulling and lifting; work has standard vision requirements; vocal communication is required for expressing or exchanging ideas by means of the spoken word and conveying detailed or important instructions to others accurately, loudly or quickly; hearing is required to perceive information at normal spoken word levels and to receive detailed information through oral communications and/or to make fine distinctions in sound; work requires preparing and analyzing written or computer data, using of measuring devices, operating machines, operating motor vehicles or equipment and observing general surroundings and activities; work occasionally requires exposure to fumes or airborne particles, exposure to toxic or caustic chemicals and exposure to outdoor weather conditions; work is generally in a moderately noisy location (e.g. business office, light traffic).

Special Requirements: Valid driver’s license
Application Instructions: Submit application, cover letter and resume to Tammy Funk, Human Resources via mail 1101 Carmichael Road Hudson, WI 54016 or electronically to tammy.funk@co.saint-croix.wi.us by March 23, 2012.

Job Title: RFP: Supt. of Public Works

Hiring Agency: City of Worthington
Web Link: www.ci.worthington.mn.us
Deadline: March 9, 2012
Salary Range: NA

Job Description:
RFP for Assessment Needs and Master Plan for Athletic Facilities for the community of Worthington, MN. Specifications and other necessary information may be obtained at www.ci.worthington.mn.us, or by calling (507)372-8650. Proposals are due at Worthington City Hall no later than 2:00 P.M. March 9, 2012. Send to City of Worthington, P.O. Box 279, Worthington, MN 56187 attention City Clerk.

Job Title: Manager Public Engagement and Citywide Planning

Salary Range: $18.00 per hour
Deadline: March 16, 4:00 p.m.

Job Description: The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board seeks to supplement its planning and design team with a talented and self-motivated apprentice to assist with entry-level professional park planning and design work. Assist with park system, master, and site planning work requiring knowledge of community assessment and engagement, park design, policy development, trend analysis, and economic and community development. Assist with park planning and design projects, pilot projects, research, and/or outreach to help tailor park projects, programs, or services to needs of Minneapolis residents and park visitors. Assist with developing well-crafted graphic and written communication materials appropriate to various stages of system, master, and site planning. Assist with production of written reports, grants, presentations, studies, and proposals. Utilize latest technology to assist with communications, grants research, file maintenance, record retention, and project management. Bachelor’s degree in City, Regional, Park and Recreation or Community Planning, Landscape Architecture, or a closely related field or equivalent required.

Application Instructions: Application materials required: Cover letter, resume, 500-word essay about why you would like to work for the MPRB planning division, and completed application. An application form can be found on the MPRB website at http://www.minneapolisparks.org/default.asp?PageID=526.

All application materials must be submitted by 4:00 pm on March 16 to Jennifer Ringold, Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, 2117 W River Road, 55411 or jringold@minneapolisparks.org.

Save the Date
Save the Date for First Annual Spring Seminar. The seminar, Negotiation Skills for Planners, is to be held from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on May 17, 2012. The seminar is worth eight CM credits.

Allen Zerkin, PhD will be flying in from New York University to provide his annual National APA training on negotiation to Minnesota planners! This unique opportunity to gain 8 CM credits in one day allows planners a chance to gain critical skills from a nationally recognized negotiator, attorney, and professor. Stay tuned for more information from APA-Minnesota on registration.
Laws made in St. Paul can have a profound effect on the practice of planning, the health of our communities and the environment throughout Minnesota. Planners should understand the issues, know how the law-making process works, and be able to engage in that process when needed. Legislators want to hear from planners about important issues and challenges in our daily practice, especially about conflicting laws or issues impeding good planning in your part of the state. Attend a Government Operations Hearing. Join us for a lunch session and learn where to find your legislators' offices. Learn more about how a bill is shaped into law before passage. Find out why the Planning Enabling Law Reform Initiative became a "White Paper" law and education outreach effort. Informal chats are scheduled with Joyce Peppin and Frank Hornstein. What important land use planning & zoning or transportation challenges and opportunities face Minnesota over the next several decades? Complimentary lunch will be available for attendees - RSVP for lunch required at mbrown@minneapolis.gov

Program Schedule

10:00 a.m. Attend Government Operations Committee Hearing
Committee Room 5 - State Office Building (Meet beforehand in lower level cafeteria)
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

12:00 APAMN Planner's Day Lunch Program
Andrew Mack, AICP & Bob Patton, AICP APAMN Legislative Committee Co-Chairs
Suzanne Rhees, AICP Metro APA MN Metro District Director & Legislative Committee
Paul Hanebald Capitol Area Architectural & Planning Board - University Ave. LRT Project
State Office Building - House Room 500 North

1:00 Rep. Joyce Peppin, House Gov. Operations Committee Chair
Informal chat on key land use bills before the 2012 Legislature and discussion on planning challenges and opportunities for Minnesota
State Office Building - House Room 500 North

1:30 Rep. Frank Hornstein, House Transportation Policy & Finance
Informal chat on key transportation bills before the 2012 Legislature and discussion on planning challenges and opportunities for Minnesota
State Office Building - House Room 500 North

2:00 Meet with your legislators and tour the capitol

A great opportunity to meet with your legislators and learn about planning law!

Map of the Capitol complex for the State Office Building may be found at:
http://www.gln.mn.state.mn.us/pnd/mpls/capitol.pdf  (Free parking at LMC or AMC Offices)

AICP CM Law Credit Pending
For more information about this program please contact:
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