

HAWAI'I PLANNING



American Planning Association
Hawaii Chapter
Making Great Communities Happen

A Publication of the Hawaii Chapter of the American Planning Association

Word from our President – Autumn 2012

Paul Luersen, AICP

Aloha Hawai'i Chapter Members!

We are a member of HCPO!

The Hawai'i Chapter is now a member of the Hawai'i Congress of Planning Officials. At the HCPO conference last month at Ko Olina Resort, the HCPO voted to include our chapter as a member of HCPO. Our primary role will be similar to the past several years in providing support to each of the agencies who organize the conferences (State Planning Office and the four county planning departments). Next year's HCPO conference host, the County of Hawai'i Planning Department, has already contacted us to support them for HCPO 2013, scheduled for September 18-20 at the Sheraton Keauhou Bay Resort. See you there!

50th Anniversary Display Boards on Website

To help commemorate our 50th anniversary year, the AICP Fellows of the Chapter prepared a series of display panels that highlight some of the major planning issues/concerns affecting the State of the past 50 years. These boards were displayed at the HCPO conference last month and are scheduled for display at UH DURP this fall. PDFs of the panels have been posted on our website for all to see. You will find the panels interesting and informative. Titles include:

- Fifty Years of Planning: The Hawai'i Chapter
- Protecting Honolulu's Scenic Views and Historic Places with Special Districts
- Preserving and Restoring Ko'olau Poko Wetlands, Oahu
- Wastewater Management
- Planning & Agriculture: The Last 50 Years
- Natural Hazard Mitigation: Lessons from Hilo
- Military Planning Initiatives: How They Shaped the Island Landscape over the Past 50 Years
- Solid Waste Management
- Classic Cases in Hawai'i Transportation Controversies
- Hawaii State Land Use Districts – 1964 to 2012

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Strengthening our Relationship with DURP

Over the past couple of months our chapter leadership has met with the Delores Foley, DURP Chair, other members of the faculty, and Jackie Kozak, the DURP Student representative to our Executive Council. For the upcoming World Town Planning Day this November, Chair Foley asked the chapter to organize a panel. Leo Asuncion has graciously agreed to lead this effort in collaboration with DURP. We are also planning to hold a chapter luncheon or two on campus to encourage more mixing of town and gown and to involve more students in chapter activities. Other ideas are being explored to increase the interaction between our chapter members and the DURP faculty and student body. A high priority for APA National is mentoring our young members and Jackie has been doing a great job in fostering a closer relationship between the chapter and the students. If you would like to help or have ideas, please contact Kimi Yuen or me.

Chapter Presidents Council Meeting and Fall Leadership Meetings

One of the duties of the chapter leadership (the president or another officer) is to attend Chapter Presidents Council (CPC) meetings during the Fall in Washington DC and in the Spring at the APA National Conference (in 2012, it was in LA). I recently attended the APA National Fall Leadership meetings in DC. The events included business meetings that begin late Saturday afternoon and run through Sunday afternoon; the Federal Policy and Program Briefing from mid-day on Sunday through Monday, with an early Sunday evening Daniel Burnham Lecture on Big Ideas at the National Building Museum; and, Planners Day on the Hill on Tuesday.

On behalf of APA, I met with staff members from our Congressional delegation: Senator Daniel Akaka staff members Arun Revana and Laurel Sakai; Senator Daniel Inouye staff member Coti-Lynne Haia; and Congresswoman Colleen Hanabusa staff member Josh Dover.

The key APA message as this Congress comes to an end: “Appropriations Priorities for FY 2013 – Building Strong Communities, Strong Economies.” The five requests were:

- 1 **Investing in Communities** – Support Community Development Block Grants and Choice Neighborhood Initiative

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- 2 **Understanding Local Trends and Improving Decision-making** – Support and Preserve the American Community Survey
- 3 **Improving Coordination and Investment with the Partnership for Sustainable Communities** – Restore Funding for HUD planning grants and maintain DOT's TIGER grant program
- 4 **Protecting the Public and Rebuilding our Water Infrastructure** – Maintain essential funding for the Clean Water and Drinking Water Revolving Loan Funds
- 5 **Addressing Fiscal Challenges Responsibly** – APA Recommends a Balanced Approach to Sequestration (or how to avoid the fiscal cliff on January 1, 2013)

Chapter Award Presented at HCPO 2012

See related newsletter articles in this issue on the 2012 award winners and our Distinguished Service Award recipient, Mary Alice Evans.