

# HAWAI'I PLANNING



American Planning Association  
Hawaii Chapter  
*Making Great Communities Happen*

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## Word from our President Paul Luersen, AICP

Aloha Hawaii Chapter Members!

I'd like to give you an update on some of the Chapter happenings.

**Public Issues Committee.** Our Chapter bylaws establish a Public Issues Committee to be “responsible for identifying issues; developing Chapter or Executive Committee recommended positions on public issues and the appropriate forums to address identified issues.” We sent out an email in February to all members on behalf of chair Dean Minakami with an invitation to join the committee. Dean got a great response and held a committee meeting in March. At the meeting, they discussed past and current initiatives as well as legislation and issues that the committee should monitor or address. Topics discussed included State-level planning; climate change; watershed management; local agricultural production; the technology industry in Hawaii; Honolulu General Plan Update; Oahu Regional Transportation Plan; changes to the Coastal Zone Management statute; and the Waikiki 2020 Conference to be held later this year. George Atta will co-chair the committee with Dean.

**George Atta FAICP Induction Ceremony on April 15<sup>th</sup> at the APA National Conference in LA.** Even though we announced this in February, it's worth saying again: Congratulations to George Atta on his election to the College of Fellows of AICP! This is well-deserved national recognition of his accomplishments and contributions to the planning profession. And it reflects well on the Hawaii Chapter. Other Chapter members who are FAICP are David Callies, Tom Dinell, Henry Eng, Mark Hastert, Ralph Portmore, Cheryl Soon, John Whalen, and Byrnes Yamashita.

**A Big MAHALO!** Thank you to Robyn Loudermilk (secretary), Allen Kam (treasurer), and Stephanie Roberts (director-at-large and program co-chair) for their hard work serving our Chapter in these positions over the past two years. Their terms of office end June 30, 2012 (or when the new officers are installed). Don't be shy; give them a word of thanks.

**Nominations by April 20<sup>th</sup>. Your Chapter needs you.** At the end of March we sent out an email to everyone asking for nominations for these three positions (Director-at-large, Secretary, and Treasurer). There's work involved, but it's satisfying because it helps us develop and sustain our Chapter. If you are interested or know someone who is interested (but ask them first!), send the information to Robyn Loudermilk and Paul Luersen by April 20<sup>th</sup>. The new officers will be installed at our annual meeting in July (more specifics to come later).