

HAWAI'I PLANNING



American Planning Association

Hawaii Chapter

Making Great Communities Happen

A Publication of the Hawaii Chapter of the American Planning Association

Emerging Planners Group Inaugural Pau Hana – A Success By Rebecka Arbin, Planner

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On Thursday May 29, twenty four planners (and even an architect!) met for the inaugural pau hana of the APA Hawai'i Chapter's Emerging Planners group at Honolulu Beerworks. Several months ago, members of APA-Hawai'i Programs Committee and APA-Hawai'i President Gail Atwater had similar ideas to establish our own local version of a young planner's group.



Photo Source: Gail Atwater – APA Hawai'i President

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These emerging planner groups are sprouting up across the country amongst APA Chapters and other industry-minded organizations. Do a web search of "APA Young Planners Groups" and up will pop information on a host of events focused on young planners across the country. We here in Hawai'i are excited to get our own group up and running!

Roughly half of the attendees at the recent Beerworks event were APA members with the other half being potential new Chapter members. A good mix of state and county government planners as well as private planners attended. Attendees enjoyed sampling a variety of locally brewed beers as well as catching up with friends and making new ones.

A follow up survey about the event and suggestions for future events will be sent out to attendees, followed by a survey to the APA mailing list for wider input. We heard from numerous attendees that they are interested in getting together with other planning professionals to discuss the future of planning in Hawai'i. We hope that the group will continue to evolve as a reliable support network for those new (and somewhat new) to the planning profession in Hawai'i.