

HAWAII PLANNING



American Planning Association
Hawaii Chapter

Making Great Communities Happen

A Publication of the Hawaii Chapter of the American Planning Association

Word from our (New) Chapter President Dean Minakami

Happy New Year everyone and thank you for providing me with the opportunity to serve as your chapter president. First, I think we should all recognize and thank Kimi Yuen for her three years of service as chapter president. That's the longest continuous stretch that anyone has served as president for our chapter and I'm sure she's ready for a break! Also, mahalo to outgoing director-at-large Kristen Nishimura who co-chaired the awards program, assisted with the chapter's newsletter, and was always ready to help with any other task that needed to be addressed.

Thank you also for electing Tessa Munekiyo-Ng and Nathalie Razo as the chapter's vice president and director-at-large, respectively. They have both diligently served the chapter for several years and we are fortunate for their continued service. You've probably noticed by now that we have a new chapter secretary keeping you up to date with chapter news. Jared Chang has been appointed to serve Tessa's remaining term as chapter secretary and we are very happy to have him.

Chapter Performance Criteria

Last year the APA Chapter Presidents Council adopted Chapter Performance Criteria setting forth mandatory and elective actions that all chapters must perform to remain in good standing (e.g. professional development, annual work plan, programs, awards, budget, outreach, etc.). It is a testament to our past volunteers and leaders that our chapter already performs (and has for many years) nearly all of the mandatory and elective items. That doesn't mean we can't improve though, and one item that we will need to work on is a five year Development Plan for the chapter's programs and services. I'll be working with the executive committee on the creation of the five year development program and will provide an update as we progress.

Public Issues and Governmental Affairs

Our public issues and governmental affairs committee headed by Katia Balassiano, George Atta, and Paul Luersen, continue to monitor policies and issues of interest to planners. One project the committee may undertake is providing recommendations to update Honolulu's land use ordinance (LUO). Stay tuned for further details. If you hear of legislation or other policy matters that you feel the chapter should provide input on, please let me or one of the committee chairs know.

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National Conference

Registration for this year's National Planning Conference in New Orleans is open. The conference will be held from Saturday, April 21 to Tuesday, April 24, 2018. As usual, we will have an informal gathering for all of the Hawaii attendees. Hope that you can make it!

Program Committee

Our programs committee, headed by Jeff Seastrom and Greg Nakai, is busy planning our annual forum as well as monthly programs. They always welcome suggestions for the monthly lunch programs so if you have any ideas, pass them on to Jeff or Greg.



Dean Minakami, President –American Planning Association, Hawaii Chapter