

PLANNING MINNESOTA



American Planning Association
Minnesota Chapter

Making Great Communities Happen

A Publication of the Minnesota Chapter of the American Planning Association

January-March 2021



PLANNING MINNESOTA



American Planning Association
Minnesota Chapter

Making Great Communities Happen

A Publication of the Minnesota Chapter of the American Planning Association

January-March 2021
Volume 40, Number 1

Inside this Issue

Chapter Updates

Executive Director Q&A	Page 3
Vice President Update	Page 4
News from National Leadership	Page 5
Professional Development Officers Update	Page 6

District News

Northeast District Update	Page 8
Statewide Multimodal Plan	Page 10

Resources and Reports

Selected Resources	Page 11
--	---------

Jobs and Opportunities

Job Openings and RFPs	Page 14
---	---------



Northeast District Page 8



Multimodal Plan Page 10



Published by: The Minnesota Chapter of the American Planning Association (APA MN) publishes this newsletter on a quarterly 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:

newsletter@planningmn.org

NOTE NEW EMAIL ADDRESS

APA MN DISCLAIMER: The views expressed in articles published on the website (minnesota.planning.org) or in this newsletter are those of the authors. They do not necessarily represent the views or opinions on APA MN or its staff and contractors, or any entity of, or affiliated with, the APA MN. Any questions or comments may be directed to the newsletter editors or the president of APA MN.



Follow us on Twitter at [@apa_mn](https://twitter.com/apa_mn)



Facebook.com/planningmn

CHAPTER UPDATES

Welcome Andrea! Q&A With Our New Executive Director

After a year of transition for the chapter, the APA MN board is excited to welcome our new executive director, Andrea Jauli.

Tell us a little about your personal, academic, and professional background.

The most recent bit of news is that I completed my MBA from Carlson in May 2020. Prior to that, my career has taken me from Coca-Cola to manufacturing, to talent development and industrial textiles. I have a really diverse background but that is what makes me nimble! In my free time, I love cooking, baking, photography, and I am certified to teach yoga but do not teach it. I love, love, love to travel and prior to the pandemic you could find me on an airplane all the time! I live in South Minneapolis near the lakes and Minnehaha Falls! Lastly, I am not originally from Minnesota, home for me is Mexico City.

What brought you to APA MN? I had a mentor who told me about this opportunity, and knowing my passion and love for associations, I decided to apply! I wanted to transition back into associations, so this seemed like a great fit.

What is something that people would be surprised to know about you? I took up rock climbing during the pandemic and I am loving it! I learned outdoors first before winter arrived and transitioned to indoor climbing which is very different, so I am really excited that Spring is here and so that I can keep learning outside.

Tell us about a recent favorite book or movie. The Culture Map, by Erin Meyer—we read this book while I was doing my MBA and it was one of the books I keep going back to. It is about working with different cultures, different communication styles etc. This book provided so many "aha" moments for me! I have read it 3 times already! Culture, languages and anything related to customs or norms are something that have always fascinated me.

If you could learn one new personal or professional skill, what would it be and why? How to code. It's something that was always really interesting to me, but my path never took me that direction! I think it would be really interesting to know the ins and outs of coding and what actually are all of the things that require coding.

What brings you joy? Traveling—being in a new city, a new culture a new environment. I fully immerse myself wherever I am and that brings me joy. I also LOVE trying new foods, taking in new scenery and photographing that. I like to hang some of my photography around my house and it brings me back to some of those places! This has been especially helpful this past year- just dreaming of traveling again.

Which season is your favorite and why? Probably spring...it's just after a new year has begun, the air feels different, flowers, plants are blooming and this means we are going into one of the nicest seasons in MN (Summer), at least in my opinion! It's also a great feeling to get rid of old things, do some spring cleaning around the house and one of my favorite things to do is use my 3 season porch and have all the windows open at home!

What's your vision for your position and the organization? I see my position as being the strategic advisor to the board of directors. Of course there will be day-to-day items that need to be handled, but I really hope I am able to bring all of my past experience and best practices to this board! I also want to build and connect board members to each other. After all, everyone on the board is doing this as a volunteer, therefore being a bridge for people to connect and get to know each other is something I am looking forward to helping with. I am also really excited about getting to know everyone on the board as well as who are members are!



APA MN Board Vice President Update

By Jason Zimmerman, AICP

It's not a stretch to imagine Minnesota planners – and most of us, generally – are happy to have 2020 in the rearview mirror. We have spent almost a year under strained, stressful, and even dangerous conditions; the turning of the calendar page to 2021 is a symbolic new leaf.



When the threat of COVID suddenly loomed large last year, many planners found themselves working from home. Day to day responsibilities were carried out over forwarded phone calls or via laptops at the kitchen table. Even public meetings were forced into new settings, conducted over Zoom or Microsoft Teams or some other video-streaming platform. Municipal budgets were unexpectedly reshuffled and countless student internships went unfilled. The Chapter's fall conference was shifted from an in-person to a virtual event.

With the number of vaccines administered slowly building, planners will soon face a return to a more "normal" professional environment. However, not all of the adaptations will fade away. Virtual meetings, the quality and ease of use now drastically improved out of necessity, provide opportunities for greater and more convenient participation at public hearings. Conference sessions

can be viewed from far away, and planners from rural Minnesota may find it easier to attend an online webinar or a Chapter event.

For APA MN, this recovery in 2021 aligns with the tenure of a new Executive Director, who should be employed by the Chapter by the time this newsletter is in print. Building off of the work done over the last two years, this individual will be key in helping the Board advance the goals of our Strategic Plan.

While already a key focus area for the Board, the murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis in May and the resulting protests around the country emphasized the urgency of addressing issues of race and equity present in numerous aspects of the profession. As planners, it is our responsibility to acknowledge and begin to unwind the structural racism enabled by our profession over the decades.

Local partners in this effort include those working with the University of Minnesota's Mapping Prejudice project to expose the extent of racial covenants and the Minnesota Association of City Attorneys' goal of evaluating issues of equity found in the zoning codes of the municipalities for which its members work. Our Chapter's Diversity and Equity Committee continues to provide valuable education and resources on these topics to our members; visit minnesota.planning.org/priorities/diversity-and-equity/ for more information.

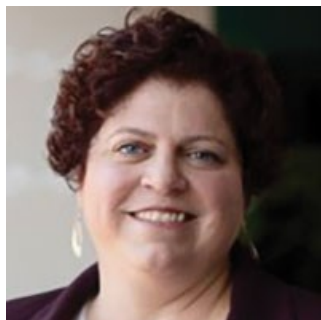


APA MN Board

News from National Leadership

By Erin Perdu, AICP

As the new Vice President, I am eager to work with the rest of the Board to renew our commitment to advocate for equitable and sustainable planning practices across the state. Hopefully, 2021 will end up being a safer and healthier environment in which to carry out our important mission.



The National APA Board and AICP Commission met the week of February 22, 2021 for a series of virtual winter leadership retreat sessions, which included a leadership development session on the topic of diversity in association governance, and three strategic scoping workshops for the organization's priority initiatives.

As part of that retreat, the Board and Commission created strategic goals for the next 24 months.

- **Prioritize Equity.** APA's inclusive and diverse membership, elected leadership, volunteer and staff workforce lead the way to more equitable communities.
- **Reframe the Voice of Planning.** The role of planners is understood, valued, and sought after by decision makers and influencers.

- **Upskill Planners.** Planners have the knowledge, insight, and skills to help communities effectively manage change.
- **Pursue Digital Relevance.** APA's digital business focus ensures it remains relevant.

To continue our progress towards these goals, a working group of leaders and staff has been appointed to advance project charters for each using workshop outcomes. A project charter will also be developed for the equity initiative, capturing the direction that had been set last fall for that effort. The four project charters will inform the development of a Scope of Work for APA for FY2022, and subsequent resource allocations via the budget process.

The strategic direction from the national organization helps us at the state chapter develop our own priorities. It also enables us to take advantage of resources that national can provide us. One example of that is the upcoming changes to Certification Maintenance (CM) credits. National will be creating content for both of the new credit requirements: Equity and Sustainability and Resilience. This content will help supplement our own original material.

If you would like more information on any of these initiatives, or direction from APA National, please contact Erin Perdu, erin.perdu@stantec.com.



- Architecture
- Landscape Architecture
- Urban Design & Planning
- Zoning Codes
- TIF Analysis

Michael Lamb, AICP
612 . 766 . 2830
mike.lamb@LHBcorp.com

APA MN Professional Development Officers

Chapter Update

By Jane Kansier, AICP, Mike Thompson, AICP,
and Elise Durbin, AICP

The APA Minnesota Chapter is dedicated to providing ongoing professional development opportunities for its members. This effort is overseen by three Professional Development Officers (PDOs) whose responsibility it is to promote and support members in their continuing education efforts. Not only do the PDOs oversee workshops/seminars, but they are also responsible for the review and submission of Certification Maintenance (CM) credits, assisting members interested in AICP accreditation, and helping members to find and access training opportunities.

Welcome, Mike!

Mike Thompson was appointed as a PDO in early 2020. He quickly jumped in and has been key in the review and submission of events for CM credits making sure these continuing education activities meet APA's requirements.

2020 Accomplishments

2020 was another busy year despite the lack of in-person events! The APA Minnesota chapter offered over several credits throughout the year. With the onset of COVID-19, we were able to quickly pivot to offering CM opportunities online. This allowed planners from Minnesota and the United States an opportunity to attend.

Many of you have requested these programs be offered as both live events and as on-demand events. A link to all recorded events will now be posted on the chapter website. While not all of these events are approved for on-demand credits, they can now be viewed. Events approved for CM credit will be clearly marked. If the event has not been preapproved for on-demand credits, you do have the option of self-reporting up to 8 credits. To view past recorded events, visit this page:

<https://minnesota.planning.org/conferences-and-meetings/online-session-recordings/>

If you have an upcoming event and would like to have on-demand CM credits as an option, please contact the PDOs in advance to ensure it meets APA criteria.



2021 Conferences, Seminars, and Continuing Education

The Professional Development Committee is in the process of arranging continuing education opportunities for 2021. At this point in time, events will be held virtually until it is safe to meet in person. Some of these opportunities include:

- Knowledge at Noon events (formerly Brown Bag Lunch Seminars)
- Diversity and Equity Lunch and Learn events
- Spring Seminar
- Legislative Day
- Fall Conference

Look for announcements of upcoming events in APA MN email news briefs, social media, and the APA MN website.

Calling All Planners

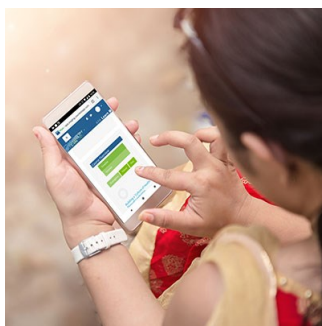
Do you have an exciting new project or development you would like to share with other planners in your area or in the state? Why not volunteer to be a speaker at a Knowledge at Noon event? This is a great way to present your ideas, projects and successes to others. Presenters earn extra CM credits! Contact any of the PDOs with your ideas. Applications for CM credits, both as a single, in-person event and as an on-demand event are available on the [chapter website](#).

APA MN Professional Development Officers

Chapter Update (continued)

APA Learn

If you are looking for more continuing education opportunities, turn to APA Learn, an online platform for continuing education. The catalog includes 375 online courses in a variety of formats. The cost varies from free to about \$20 per CM credit. This is a great and affordable resource for CM credits, including Law and Ethics, or to just learn more about planning trends and issues.



For more information, go to <https://www.planning.org/apalearn/>.



AICP Exam Information

2021 is a great time to think about earning your AICP certification! APA has recently revamped their application process and deadlines—with two major changes: planning experience essays are not due at the time of application (but required before full certification) and the ability to take the AICP exam online. If you are thinking about taking the exam in November 2021, the application window opens June 1. All deadlines can be found on [APA's website](#).

Whether you plan to take the exam in November or maybe not until 2022 (or even later), we will be offering an AICP Exam Review Panel later in 2021. If you have already applied for the exam, you will hear helpful tips for studying and taking the exam from planners who successfully completed the exam in 2020. Even if you

haven't applied to take the exam but are interested in getting a head start in preparing and what to expect, you are welcome to attend.

CM Program Changes

There are several changes happening with the CM program. The first change is with the reporting period. Currently, there are two reporting periods, and right now APA is in the midst converting everyone to the same reporting period. Check your CM log to see when your reporting period now ends. If your reporting period was due to end on December 31, 2020, you will now have until December 31, 2021 to obtain all of your credits.



The second change begins in 2022. In addition to the mandatory law and ethics credits (which have been reduced from 1.5 to 1 CM each), a third mandatory credit of equity is being added. Additionally, a new targeted topic will be put into place periodically. The targeted topic beginning in 2022 is sustainability and resilience.

There will be more information to come! To learn more, visit <https://www.planning.org/cm/update/>.

CM Exemptions

AICP members in certain life and career situations may be eligible for an exemption from AICP dues and some or all Certification Maintenance (CM) requirements. Exemptions are available for those who are keeping AICP membership active and for those wishing to temporarily inactivate their AICP membership. Situations that may qualify for an exemption include unemployment, retirement and COVID Extreme Hardship (temporary). Exemptions to temporarily inactivate AICP membership include parental leave, military service leave, and health care leave.

If you anticipate needing a CM exemption, apply as soon as possible. It may take up to two weeks to receive approval for an exemption request. More information on exemptions can be found at <https://planning.org/cm/exemptions/>.

DISTRICT AND STATEWIDE NEWS

Northeast District Update: Cross City Trail Project

The latest segment of the Cross City Trail was completed in the Fall of 2020, which is significant progress for a long planned multi-use trail connecting Duluth's Lakewalk to the Willard Munger State Trail. Canal Park and Downtown Duluth are now connected by an off-street shared use path to West Duluth neighborhoods.

Next up is making the final 1.5-mile connection to the Munger Trail. This trail is part of U.S. Bike Route 41 and one of the key missing links left in the effort to connect, via multi-use paths, Duluth and the North Shore to the East Central part of the Minnesota and eventually the Twin Cities.

Back in hilly Duluth, the Cross City Trail provides a continuous and rare flat route running the length of this long city, connecting a vast number of neighborhoods.

This trail has long been planned, originally called for in the 1975 Duluth Bikeways Plan and 30-years later, with assistance from Congressman Jim Oberstar, being awarded \$2.5 million in federal funding in the 2005 Federal Transportation Bill (SAFETEA-LU), providing a spark and moving this project from concept to reality. The trail plays a major role with the transition of the city's transportation system from being car centric to more multi-modal and leading the city down the path of sustainability.

Long time planners at ARDC, Andy Hubley, Director, and James Gittemeier, Transportation Planner, with the Duluth-Superior Metropolitan Interstate Council (MPO), a division within ARDC, cycling the newly opened section of the Cross City Trail in the Fall of 2020. Both have worked for many years on this project.



Northeast District Update: Coastal Erosion Hazard Mapping

Minnesota's Lake Superior coast has experienced flooding, high water levels, and increased wave action and storm events in recent years. All of these impacts have exacerbated natural shoreline processes and resulted in substantial erosion along the coast.

However, erosion hazards have not been assessed in Minnesota since the late 1980s. Improved erosion hazard data is useful for local communities and property owners for informed decision-making on development and shoreline protection along the coast.

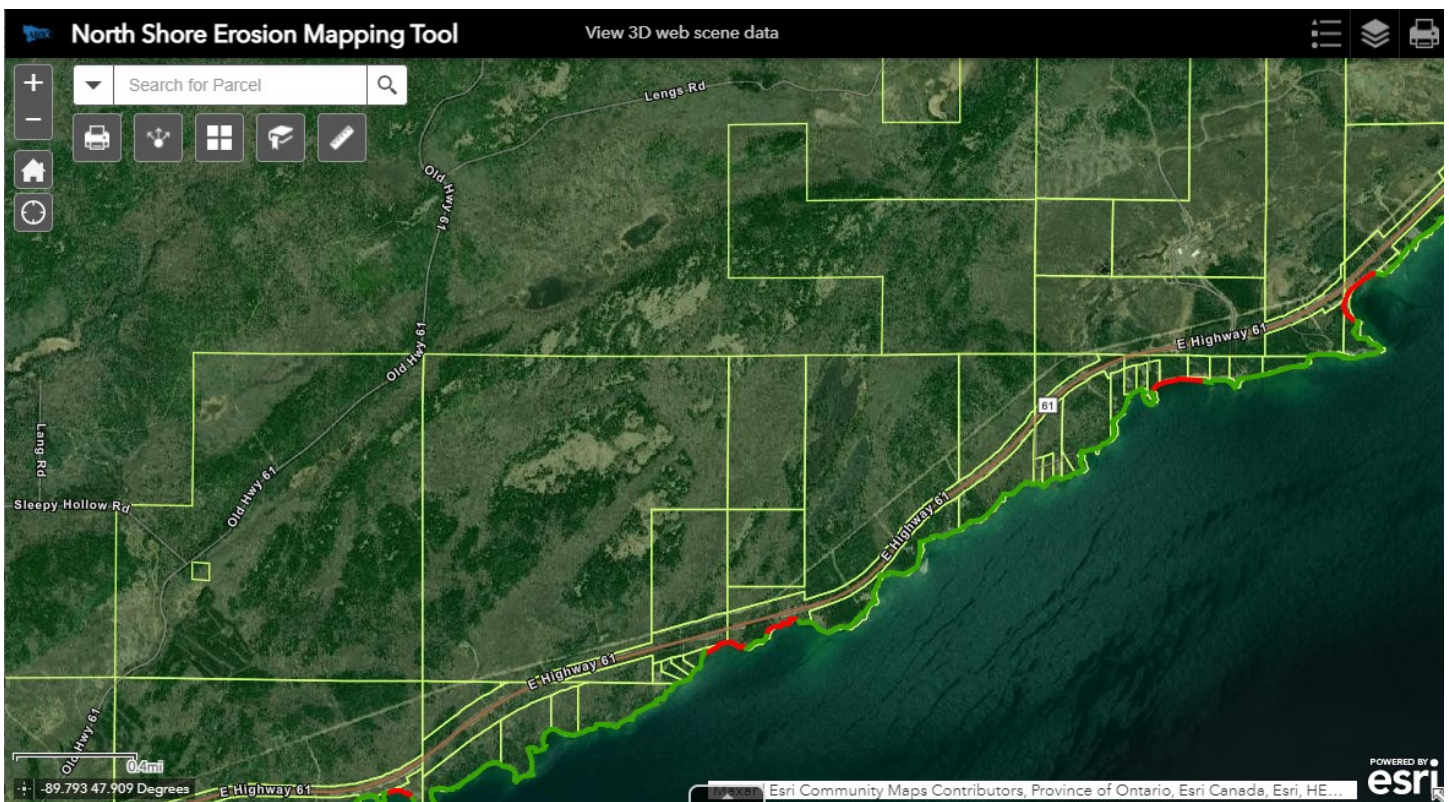
The North Shore Management Board oversees minimum zoning standards and similar issues for the zone and identified the need to update the mapping layer in 2017. As staff, the Arrowhead Regional Development Commission leveraged funding to establish a process to update the map over the course of 4 years.

The Coastal Erosion Hazard Mapping (CEHM) Task Force is a collaborative effort to assess recent and historical shoreline change in Minnesota. This ongoing effort is

developing methodologies for determining erosion hazards in coastal Minnesota. A select number of sites [CM1] with identified ongoing erosion concerns are being assessed for recent and historical shoreline change, including Brighton Beach, Double Bay (Hovland), and Park Point, MN.

Modern and historical shoreline positions are georeferenced and digitized using aerial imagery, LIDAR data, and historical harbor charts and maps. Calculations for shoreline change, including recession, are being determined with the U.S. Geological Survey Digital Shoreline Analysis System (DSAS). We demonstrate the use of digitized shorelines and the DSAS program to assess historical and recent erosion hazard rates.

This project will provide a defensible erosion hazard map for Minnesota's North Shore communities to guide development and inform property owners of their inherent risks. For more information on the project, visit: www.ardc.org/cehm



Help Paint Minnesota's Transportation Big Picture

Understanding how transportation affects peoples' lives helps MnDOT plan for the future. Right now, MnDOT is updating its highest transportation policy plan, the 20-year Statewide Multimodal Transportation Plan. And input from APA members and their communities will make a difference in the plan's outcomes.

The plan is based on the Minnesota GO vision to maximize the health of people, the environment, and the economy. Your input will help set recommendations to improve all the ways we move around our state—driving, walking, biking, hauling freight, flying, and more.

We have two ways for you to provide input:

- [Share your transportation story](#) via a fun fill-in-the-

blank—like MadLibs but better! [También en español!](#)

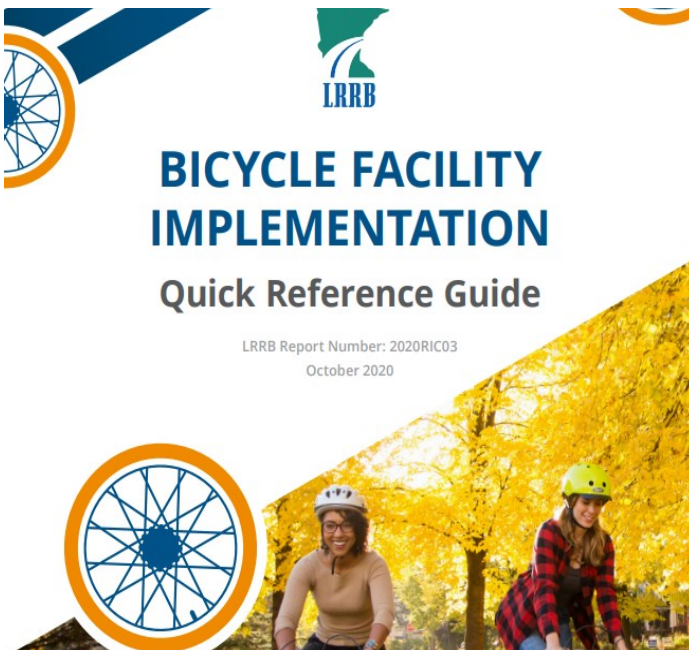
- [Talk with the project team](#) by video, audio or text. Videos available in Somali, Hmong, Spanish and English

Please share with your communities and colleagues!

And there's more to come! Later this spring, community organizations and transportation partners will hold dozens of virtual events and conversations in communities throughout Minnesota for people to share their transportation stories with MnDOT. There will be transportation trivia and more! [Sign up for our newsletter](#) to hear about these events and other statewide transportation planning topics.



RESOURCES AND REPORTS



Bicycle Facility Implementation Guide

This Minnesota Local Road Research Board (LRRB) [Quick Reference Guide](#) was informed by a survey of local agencies' bicycle facility design practices, questions and concerns. It is intended to demystify common questions about appropriate facility selection and design to help practitioners confidently implement low-stress bicycle transportation networks.

The Guide provides information on the variety of bicycle facility selection and design guidance documents available and identifies which to use as primary resources in Minnesota.



OVERVIEW

Agriculture and food are critical to the economy and health of Minnesotans. Climate disruptions to agricultural production have increased in the past 40 years, and by 2050 and beyond, these impacts will be increasingly negative on most crops and livestock. More intense rains, along with longer dry periods and higher heat, are making it more difficult to secure our food supply.

POTENTIAL CLIMATE IMPACTS: AGRICULTURE & FOOD SECURITY

- Decreases in food quality, safety, accessibility, and availability
- Disruptions to the food distribution system
- Increases in food costs
- Threats to traditional Native American food sources
- Increases in risk of injuries or illnesses to farm workers

MINNESOTA'S TOP CROPS AND LIVESTOCK



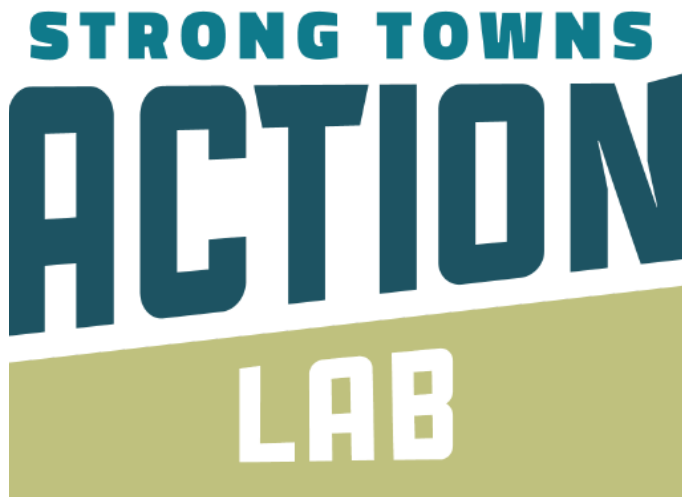
Climate Change and Health Training Modules

[Climate Change & Health Training Modules](#) were developed by the Minnesota Department of Health to help educate public health professionals, planners, emergency managers, and others about the climate changes we're experiencing in Minnesota, the impact those changes have on health, and what actions we can take to help reduce and prevent negative health outcomes associated with climate change.

These training modules may be used as educational pieces and are fully scripted for the purpose of using them as a "train the trainer" resource.



Resources and Reports (continued)



Strong Towns Action Lab

If you are a user of the Strong Towns website and related resources, you'll appreciate the [Action Lab](#), a free new website extension that organizes information by:

- Resources: how-to guides, e-books, recommended reading, events, and trainings
- Examples: success stories and case studies from other communities
- People: local conversations and meeting topics

This information is also organized to be searchable by topic, and is being regularly updated.



Equitable Community Planning Toolkit

The free Fourth Economy [Equitable Community Planning Toolkit](#) includes:

- Equitable development investments across the nation in a variety of areas.
- A suite of national partners supporting communities across a variety of equity planning stages.
- A framework for equitable economic development, including different approaches and partners.
- Worksheets for a community leader and/or set of stakeholders that can help you map and evaluate your economic ecosystems.



Resources and Reports (continued)



EPA Environmental Finance Clearinghouse

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has launched a [Clearinghouse for Environmental Finance](#), an online database of land, air, and water information.

This new Clearinghouse catalogues available funding, financing, and instructional resources to aid communities in their efforts to improve environmental conditions.

The Clearinghouse includes over 1,800 funding and financing opportunities and information resources from EPA's air, water, and land programs. Communities can use this system to access information on funding and financing opportunities for environmental projects as well as financial research, such as case studies, white papers, and webinars.



Achieve Your Climate & Energy Goals

Brian Ross, AICP, LEED
 bross@gpisd.net
 612-767-7296
 Learn more at:
[BetterEnergy.org/#our-services](#)

FUNDING AREAS

<p>Brownfields Brownfields contribute to blight and prevent reinvestment in economically distressed communities. Transforming them into parks can drive reinvestment and improve community health.</p>	<p>Climate Resilience Parks, trees and nature play an important role in cooling neighborhoods and building resilience to natural disasters. Communities of color often lack the greenspace needed to mitigate the impacts of climate change.</p>	<p>Community Development Increasingly, community reinvestment efforts are leveraging the benefits of parks to create vibrant, healthy, and livable neighborhoods with access to jobs and affordable housing.</p>
<p>Conservation Funding Conservation funding can be used to create equitable access to park and recreation amenities, which is critical to improving the health and quality of life of residents in low-income communities.</p>	<p>Local Funding Stable, local public funding is essential for a successful and equitable park system. It is the primary source for critical maintenance, operations and programming.</p>	<p>Stormwater Management Parks and green infrastructure enable cities to manage stormwater, clean waterways and reduce flooding through nature-based strategies, reducing the need for expensive investments in pipes and tunnels.</p>

Equitable Park Funding Hub

The [Equitable Park Funding Hub](#) provides easy access to information on a variety of funding sources relevant for parks and recreation in low-income communities and communities of color, and highlights the partnerships required for successful funding.

This Hub highlights select federal, state, and local funding programs that can be particularly effective at funding parks and green infrastructure in low-income communities. It is not intended to be a comprehensive source of funding opportunities, but a starting point with examples and case studies.

Funding areas include brownfields, climate resilience, community development, conservation funding, local funding, and stormwater management.



JOB OPENINGS AND RFPS

Job openings and requests for proposals are available on the APA MN website:

https://www.planningmn.org/view_job_postings

https://www.planningmn.org/view_rfp_postings

Recent job postings include:

Associate Planner Full Time Temp. (12 mo)
City of Dayton, MN

Planner/CDBG Program Administrator
City of Bismarck, ND

City Planner
City of Willmar, MN

Community Planner
Cedar Corporation, Menomonie, WI

Project Manager: Urban Planning + Design
The Musicant Group, Minneapolis, MN

Business Association Manager / Director
The Musicant Group, Minneapolis, MN

Save the Date!

We are pleased to announce the annual APA MN conference will be held virtually on September 22-24, 2021. Save the date, and stay tuned for upcoming announcements on conference session proposals, award nominations, and other news.

Share in the enduring
environmental, social and
economic benefits of Minnesota's
historical and cultural heritage.

mn DEPARTMENT OF
ADMINISTRATION
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
mn.gov/admin/shpo

We live, work and play
where you live, work and play.



 **BOLTON
& MENK**
Real People. Real Solutions.
Bolton-Menk.com

L A N D F O R M
Your Partners in Planning
From Site to Finish®



612.252.9070 www.landform.net