

# PLANNING MINNESOTA



American Planning Association  
Minnesota Chapter

*Making Great Communities Happen*

A Publication of the Minnesota Chapter of the American Planning Association

Fall/Winter 2023





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Volume 42, Number 2

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# CHAPTER UPDATES

## PRESIDENT'S DESK

Members,

Happy Reflecting on last year, I feel this chapter has so much to be proud of. The fall conference especially was such a highlight for us! There was an amazing team of folks who helped lead that effort, and we welcomed over 300 members in St. Cloud for some incredible days of learning and networking. Our board and their engagement, advocacy and enthusiasm continues to be a source of great pride for me. I am continually grateful for all the hours board members give to this organization each year. This past year there have been so many wonderful events, educational and networking opportunities hosted by committees and districts. If you have not attended an in-person event, I encourage you to make that your own personal goal for 2024.

A new year is always a great time to look ahead and evaluate what you want to do differently. This year for APA MN, I'm pleased to say I don't feel compelled to innovate or make big changes. In 2023, we were so fortunate to have amazing volunteers, a fantastic conference, and great team helping plan alongside National APA for the 2024 national conference to be held here in Minneapolis. Looking ahead to 2024, all I can feel is excitement and continuing this momentum!

Though I don't feel compelled to make changes, we will still have some nonetheless. On our executive committee we'll have a few shifts. Erin, our current treasurer, has been a pillar of the APA MN Board since she moved to Minnesota in 2017 - in my time with the chapter, I have never known a board without Erin! While it's bittersweet to see her come off the board, I am thrilled to see her step into the role of AICP Commission President-elect on the National APA board. Erin has been a tireless advocate of making the AICP process easier and better, including advocating for improvements to the FAICP process and I know that she will serve all members well in this new role. On the Executive Committee we'll welcome Chloe McGuire into our Treasure, moving from her current role as secretary. This makes space for current Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Co-Chair Emily Goellner to join us as secretary. In the last quarter of 2023, we added eight new members as district directors or committee co-chairs, rounding out this amazing board in the best way.



Wishing for more of the same, and for each of you to have a wonderful 2024.

PeggySue Imihy Bean  
President APA MN

**2023 APA MN Board**



# APA MN VICE PRESIDENT CHAPTER UPDATE

By Michael Palermo

For the first time in awhile the APA MN Board positions are almost completely filled. Last year the board and committee chairs hit the ground running hosting numerous events and coordinating educational opportunities. If you are like me you



often are unaware of all the ongoings that the chapter coordinates. Below is a list of committees and some of the work that they do. I encourage you to get involved with a committee whether it's attending an event or volunteering on the committee. Volunteering is not only a great way to give back to our industry but helps develop your network and can round out your knowledge base on different topics. Please reach out to the chairs if you are interested in getting involved with the committee or have ideas for topics or events. Contact information for the committee chairs can be found here: <https://minnesota.planning.org/connect-apa-minnesota/chapter-leadership/>

**District Directors** – Represents your region on the board and helps coordinate networking events.

**Diversity and Equity Committee** – Provides guidance on DEI initiatives to the board, identify best practices, host networking events, and coordinate educational opportunities.

**Women in Planning** – Provides guidance to the board on best practices, host networking events, and coordinate educational opportunities.

**Legislative and Law** – Works on tracking legislative policies that impact planners, provides guidance on chapter advocacy, and provides education to the chapter.

**Emerging Planners** – Assist new planners in gaining experience and connection with seasoned planners. They coordinate education and networking events as well as the mentorship program.

**Conference Committee** – Help select sessions, identify keynote speakers, and generally organize events at the conference.

**Spring Seminar** – Coordinate mobile workshops to do a deep dive into interest and relevant projects.

**Events Committee** – This is starting up again after several years of hiatus. The events committee organizes events such as Twins Game, Holiday Party, and other networking events. A second co-chair and volunteers are needed on this committee.





## APA MN WOMEN IN PLANNING CHAPTER UPDATE

By Lori Johnson and Reeve Needham

At the fall MN APA conference, we hosted two events. On Wednesday afternoon, we had a panel discussion focused on leadership featuring Chloe McGuire Brigl, Lori Johnson, and Michelle Lincoln. Our panelists shared about developing leadership skills without being a manager or director and the importance of showing up as your authentic self at work. On Friday morning, we held an engaging breakfast discussion with roughly 20 attendees. Our speakers shared more about their work in economic development, historic preservation, and sustainability. We also had the opportunity to learn more about the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) from newly elected AICP President, Erin Perdu.



Earlier this fall, we partnered with [100 Rural Women](#) to engage their audience on the topic of community planning and how to become more civically engaged. To watch the webinar recording, [click here](#).

In 2024, we're looking forward to hosting another Lunch and Learn focused on professional development, a casual outdoor networking event, and NPC coming to Minnesota! If you have any ideas or would like to speak at an event, please reach out to Co-Chairs Lori Johnson or Reeve Needham.

## APA MN EMERGING PLANNERS CHAPTER UPDATE

By Ally de Alcuaz and Harry Davis

The Emerging Planners Group (EPG) kicked off the 2023-2024 Mentorship Program with an event hosted at Open Book in Downtown Minneapolis. The program will run through Spring 2024, and gives participating mentors and mentees the opportunity to connect with their partner, as well as others in the program. As in previous years, the final event will be open to other APA members and provide a CM credit. Be on the lookout for a notice come springtime!



EPG hosted a successful game night event at the MN APA Conference held in St. Cloud. This event created a casual space for planners to connect. We aim to provide similar opportunities at future MN APA conferences, as well as sporadically throughout the up-coming year. If you are interested in receiving EPG updates please join our email list by signing up [here](#).

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](https://mn.gov/admin/shpo)



## APA MN PDOs CHAPTER UPDATE

By Elise Durbin and Mike Thompson

The CM reporting period ended on December 31, 2023.

If you have met your CM requirements for the reporting period, you must review and sign off on your CM log before you can begin logging credits for the new reporting period. Closing your log takes just three easy steps:

- Review the final tally of CM credits for the reporting period that appears in your log. If it is correct, click Continue to Close the appropriate reporting period.
- Read the review confirmation statement and click the adjacent box.
- Click Close (Option to close log will appear in your log on January 1 of every new reporting period).

For more information go to: <https://www.planning.org/cm/endreportingperiod/>.

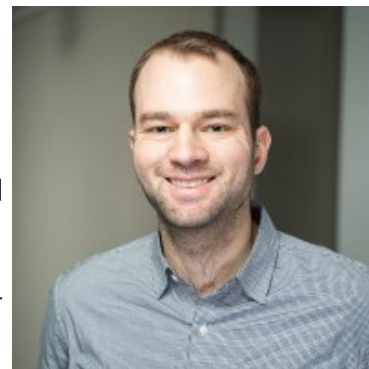
If you have not yet fulfilled all of your CM requirements, or if you have and just not logged your credits, the grace period runs until May 31, 2024. Still looking for credits? There are many live and on-demand offerings that are available. The easiest way to find opportunities is on APA's website on their [CM Search page](#).



## APA MN LEGISLATIVE & LAW CHAPTER UPDATE

By Alex Schieferdecker and Elena Fransen

**Early 2024 Legislative Session:**  
The Legislative and Law Committee has been active throughout the fall in connecting with advocacy groups, industry groups, and our professional partner organizations to get a sense of the scope of legislative activity before the 2024 legislative session, which will start on February 12th. The committee will host a call with APA leadership in January to discuss what it has learned, how it will keep the APA Minnesota membership informed, and how it plans to engage as a voice for planners in the political process.



**Point Access Block Lunch and Learn:**

The Legislative and Law Committee hosted a lunchtime event with Sean Jursnick, a Denver-based architect (and Minnesota native) who presented on point access blocks. These are buildings of over three stories with just a single point of egress, that are outlawed in much of the country but could provide significant benefits to urban infill and can be implemented in a safe way. A YouTube link to the event can be found [HERE](#) and a link to the presentation can be found [HERE](#). (Unfortunately, APA only allows participants who watched the session live to claim CM credit).

**Smart Growth vs Minneapolis Lawsuit:**

The Legislative and Law Committee secured the pro-bono services of Iverson Reuvers, an experienced environmental law firm, to help defend the Minneapolis 2040 Comprehensive Plan at the Minnesota Court of Appeals. With this assistance, APA Minnesota was able to file an amicus brief ensuring that the perspective of professional planners around the metro and throughout the state would be considered by the judges.



# APA MN CONFERENCE 2023

## REVIEW AND HIGHLIGHTS

By Andrea Jauli

The 2023 APA MN Planning Conference at the River's Edge Convention Center in Duluth had a great turnout! Our conference was held Wednesday, October 4- Friday, October 6, 2023. In total, we had just under 400 attendees, making this the largest turnout since the pandemic began.

We had over 40 educational sessions and 3 mobile tour sessions that included Placemaking and Public Art as a Tool to Address Civic Issues, a go-at-your-own-pace local brewery tour, and the Ledge Amphitheater tour. Each of our mobile tours ended up being sold out.

In addition to Minneapolis hosting the APA National Planning Conference in April 2024, APA MN will also hold an abbreviated state conference this fall, tentatively near the Twin Cities metro. While likely shorter than

typical, this is intended to provide an affordable way to earn CM credits and connect locally. Stay tuned for further details as we solidify our location and dates.

The APA MN chapter is incredibly grateful for each sponsor this past year. We had our biggest year of sponsorships in recent memory, with 17 sponsors supporting the 2023 state planning conference (see sponsor logos below). We could not do the work we do without that support. Thank you to our 2023 sponsors!

Thank you to all of the board members and committee members who contributed to making the conference and related activities a success. A special thanks to our conference co-chairs, Brian McCann and Jared Johnson, and our awards chair, Micah Davison.

See you in April!

### THANKS TO ALL THAT CONTRIBUTED!

## APA MN 2023 Planning Conference Sponsors





## **WHY PARTICIPATE IN APA MN?**

### **THOUGHTS FROM PARTICIPANTS AT THE JANUARY 2024 BOARD RETREAT**

#### **BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS WITH PEERS**

Enjoy being around the excellent people involved  
Relationship building within the profession  
Connect with diverse people and perspectives  
Developing a support network of likeminded people  
Creating a sense of community and belonging  
Building friendships and people to commiserate with  
Getting out and connecting with people  
Camaraderie with likeminded people who “get” us  
Doing fun things together with peers  
Getting to connect with respected peers  
Get connected, as someone from elsewhere  
Safe space to share ideas with people  
Opportunity to collaborate across interest areas

#### **MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD**

Making a difference in the community  
Influencing policy and practice for the better  
Being on the forefront of change in planning  
Finding creative solutions to challenging issues  
Exposure to new ideas, concepts, and solutions  
Making a positive difference in the world  
Collective advocacy for planning perspectives  
Evolving and changing the places where we work  
Addressing past harms and shortcomings of planners  
Addressing most critical issues to the community  
Be part of something bigger and feel included

#### **ELEVATING THE PLANNING PROFESSION**

Ability to give back to the profession  
Networking with others in the profession  
Building planning leadership capabilities statewide  
Giving people the resources to do better  
Empowering planners to make decisions and lead  
Informing and elevating the planning profession  
Elevating the voices of future leaders  
Seeing people grow and advance in their careers  
Staying on the rooftops rather than in silos  
Pushing boundaries, pursuing higher level thinking  
Advocating for values like equity within the profession  
Leveraging shared strengths of the collective

#### **CAREER DEVELOPMENT & ADVANCEMENT**

Learning more about the planning field and opportunities  
Affirmation of choice of planning as a career  
Accessing mentorship opportunities  
Networking to identify job opportunities  
Accessing continuing education opportunities  
Better understanding the planning industry and potential career choices  
Exploring the different types of planning and specializations  
Having impactful professional development opportunities



# APA MN 2023 PLANNING AWARDS

## ADVANCING DIVERSITY AND SOCIAL CHANGE AWARD

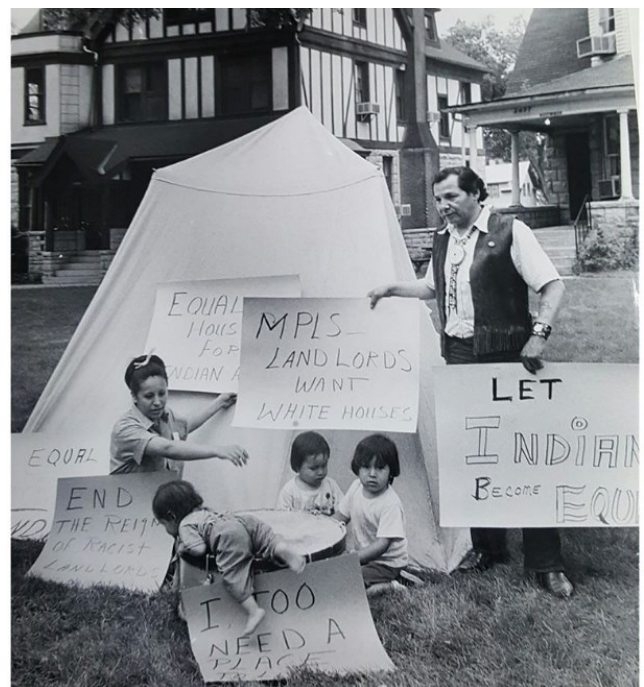
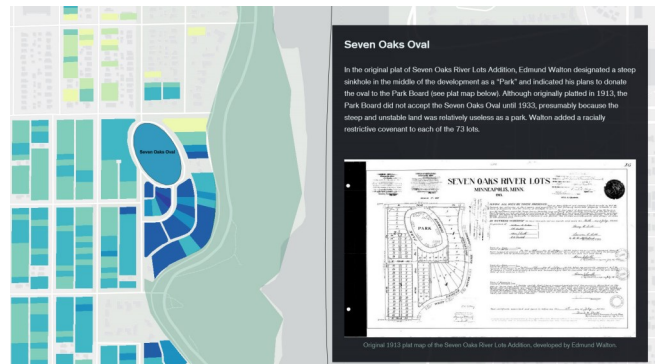
### Mapping Prejudice Project

Recipient: University of Minnesota Libraries



We give this award to a project that has demonstrated a sustained commitment to advocacy by addressing the concerns of women or BIPOC groups in its contributions to the planning profession or practice.

The Mapping Prejudice project uses innovative technology and crowdsourcing techniques to examine historic deed records in Minnesota communities, mapping racial covenants and clauses that were inserted into property deeds to keep racial minorities from buying or occupying homes. This ongoing project has shed light on previously little-known discriminatory practices and spurred ongoing conversations about necessary updates to real estate and zoning practices. It has become a template for exposing the roots of race-based housing inequity—one that is now being exported and emulated across the entire country. As such, it is a vital tool for helping communities start conversations about housing equity in the present day. Congratulations to the University of Minnesota Libraries for your well-deserved award for advancing diversity and social change!



# APA MN 2023 PLANNING AWARDS

## COMPREHENSIVE OR SMALL AREA PLAN AWARD

### Bemidji Parks and Recreation Equity-Based Strategic System Plan

Recipient: City of Bemidji



This award recognizes a project that advances the science and art of planning, and which promotes greater awareness of the benefits of good planning.

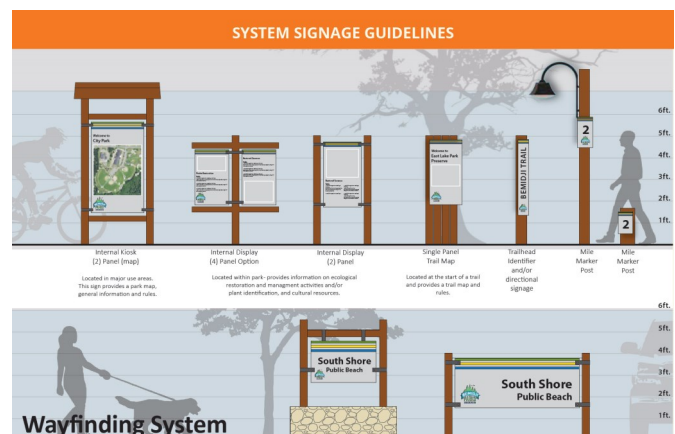
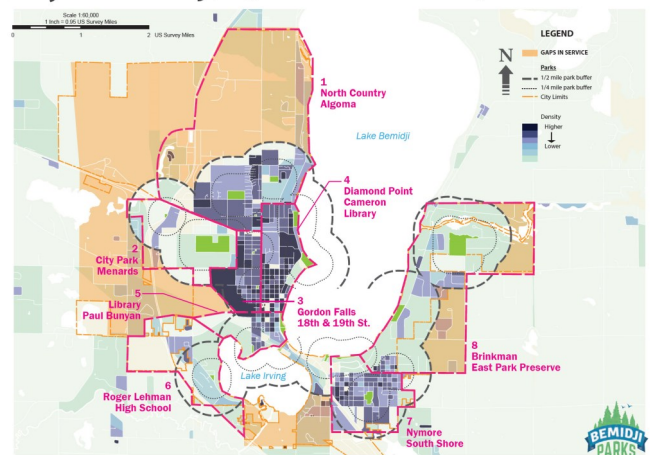
With its Recreation Equity-Based Strategic System Plan, the City of Bemidji Parks and Recreation Department set out to produce a plan that foregrounds equity through robust engagement and a focus on universal park and trail accessibility that overcomes barriers from income, transportation, physical ability and cultural background. We felt that many of this plan's features, such as its community input map, its priority tiers, and its inclusion of maintenance and operations expenses made it an innovative, community-grounded, equitable, and implementable plan. The Bemidji Parks and Rec department has shown their dedication to improving your community through this strategic plan, and it was our pleasure to give them the Comprehensive Plan Award for 2023.



City of Bemidji  
Parks and Recreation Department  
Equity-Based Strategic System Plan



City of Bemidji *Neighborhood Park Buffers and Density*





# APA MN 2023 PLANNING AWARDS

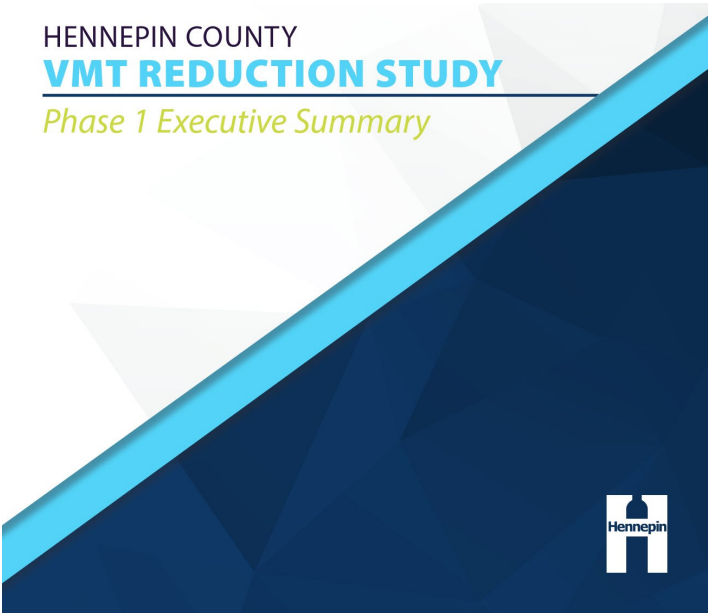
## RESLIENCE AND SUSTAINABILITY AWARD

**Hennepin County Vehicle Miles Traveled Reduction Strategy**  
**Recipients: Hennepin County, Kimley-Horn and Associates**



The Resilience and Sustainability Award is given in recognition of a project that creates a more sustainable community or increases the ability of a community to recover from and adapt to shocks and stresses, resulting in it becoming stronger, more equitable, and better prepared for the future.

The Hennepin County Vehicle Miles Traveled Reduction Strategy used scenario modeling to predict future travel behavior and identify 49 different actions to reduce vehicle miles traveled. It was developed using a multidisciplinary work group and considers county-led actions and partnerships with local, state and federal agencies. The prioritization framework considers the impact of each strategy, as well as feasibility, equity and cost. Demonstrating its commitment to implementation, the county created a new Carbon Reduction Manager position to help implement the plan. Congratulations, Hennepin County and Kimley-Horn, for this great work in creating a plan that will result in more sustainable communities!



Potential per capita VMT Change in 2040



### TDM Reduction Results

The results of the Strategies were assumed to apply to all employees within the County (1.04 million in 2040), or all residents. Sensitivities built into the TRIMMS calculator account for the fact that some industries and types of jobs are more or less likely to utilize certain programs (i.e. a VMT fee is more likely to reduce commute trips for low-income workers, but does not have as much of an impact on higher-income workers). The results of the analysis produced an estimated value for VMT under each scenario, which was translated into a percentage reduction.

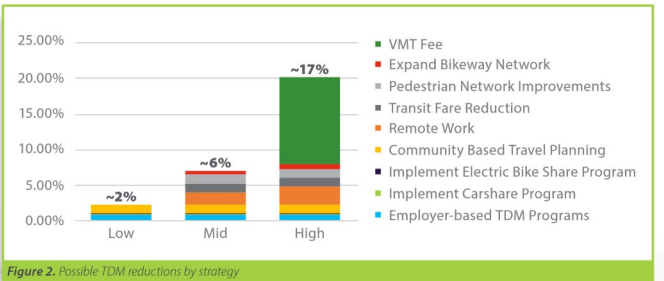


Figure 2. Possible TDM reductions by strategy

# APA MN 2023 PLANNING AWARDS

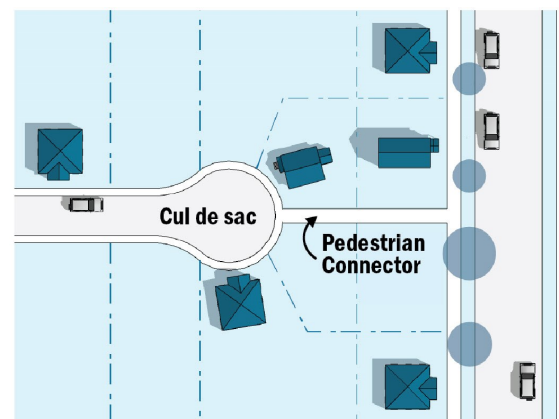
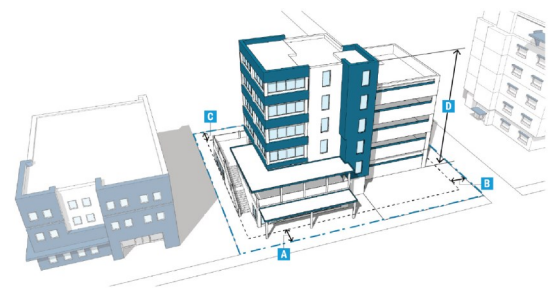
## PLANNING EXCELLENCE AWARD

### City of Rochester Unified Development Code Recipient: City of Rochester



**This award is given to a project that directly addresses desires, needs, or challenges within a community, county, region, or specific geographic location. This category emphasizes outcomes and demonstrates how planning helps to create stronger, more equitable communities.**

In creating the Unified Development Code, the City of Rochester sought to make their land development standards fully reflect their recent comprehensive plan goals, such as creating a simpler process of approval for diverse housing types, and requiring expanded levels of pedestrian, bicycle, and automobile connectivity at both the subdivision and site planning stages of development. Overall, the updated development code has resulted in a development process that is more easily understandable, transparent and predictable while also reflecting the current planning goals of the City of Rochester. We felt that the diligent public outreach conducted as part of creating this code enabled the City to get extensive buy-in and make some large changes to the development code. We are pleased to give the Planning Excellence award to the City of Rochester for this thorough, equity-focused update to their development code.



Pedestrian Connections



# APA MN 2023 PLANNING AWARDS

## OUTSTANDING STUDENT PROJECT AWARD

**Red Lake Nation Capstone Project, University of Minnesota Humphrey School**  
**Recipients: Reeve Needham, Katlyn Flannery, George Drometer, Noelle Bakken, Maya Sheikh, Anna Turner, Laura Bretheim, Kevin Phan**



We give this award to a student project that is original, of high quality, and transferable from an academic setting to the planning profession.

This year, the winning project focused on the Highway 1 corridor through the Red Lake Nation, taking into account community input to propose upgraded multi-modal facilities along the road, as well as safer crossings and a series of pocket parks. The students undertook conditions mapping, community surveys, concept sketches, and a written report, all of which is being used to inform Tribal, MnDOT, and Federal Highway Administration planning and decision-making. We were impressed with the student team's efforts to forge a partnership with the Red Lake Nation to help make the project their own, and with the fact that they created a comprehensive process that can be used for planning on other reservations. Congratulations to this group of Humphrey School students for their well-earned Outstanding Student Project Award!

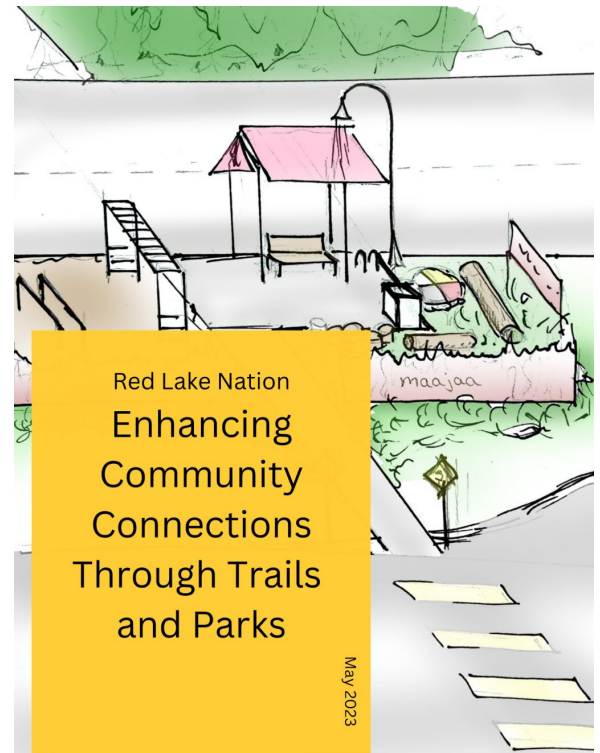
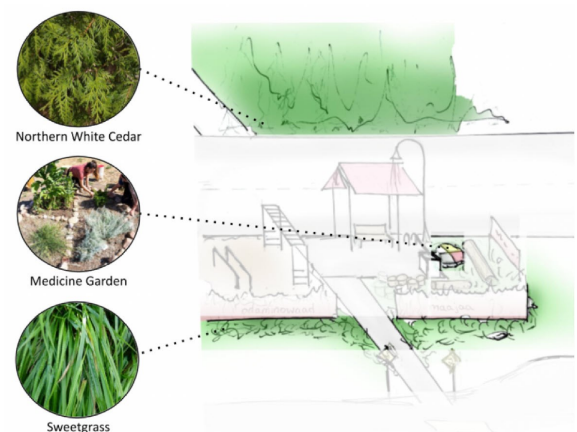


Figure 48: Pocket Park Sketch - Cultural Features



## APA MN 2023 PLANNING AWARDS

### PRESIDENT'S AWARD FOR VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR

#### Leila Bunge and Patrick Boylan



The President's Award recognizes those who, through their volunteerism, have contributed exceptionally to furthering the mission and core values of APA Minnesota as a member of, or in service to the Chapter Board. As an organization, nearly all of the work—events, communications, and educational opportunities throughout the year—is put on by volunteers; this award seeks to recognize the contributions and hard work of these members.

Leila Bunge and Patrick Boylan are this year's President's Award recipients. For many years, they have run the spring seminar, an annual event which offers planners a unique CM credit earning experience touring projects or neighborhoods, while also providing a great networking opportunity. Despite leading these tours year in and year out, Leila and Patrick constantly come up with fresh ideas to provide planners access to projects which they might not otherwise experience. In addition to their spring tour, Leila and Patrick took on even more this past year, hosting a summer bike tour and leading the significant task of organizing and reviewing mobile workshops for the upcoming National Planning Conference in 2024. The Chapter is proud to recognize and thank these two for their hard work!





# APA MN 2023 PLANNING AWARDS

## GUNNAR ISBERG STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

### Gunnar Isberg Student Scholarship Award: Edgar Leon Gomez

We award the Gunnar C. Isberg Student Scholarship to a student in planning or a related discipline who demonstrates academic, vocational and reputational excellence.

Edgar Leon Gomez, our 2023 scholarship recipient, is a master's student in the University of Minnesota Humphrey School's Urban and Regional Planning program. A student member of APA Minnesota, Edgar has excelled academically while serving as treasurer of the Humphrey Students of Color Association, being active with the Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals, and working as a transportation planning intern at Isthmus Engineering. In the latter role, Edgar has proved to be a ready contributor to whatever projects he's involved

with. His site visits across the state have helped him to learn the value of obtaining direct community input when planning out street redesigns.

As a Mexican-American and a member of the LGBTQ+ community, Edgar has a passion for ensuring underrepresented voices are heard and acted upon in planning, both from the community and within the profession itself. This, combined with his dedication to improving himself as a new planner and his enthusiasm for supporting his colleagues, makes us fortunate to have Edgar as a budding planner in Minnesota, and we're delighted to award him the Gunnar Isberg Student Scholarship to help him complete his planning education.



# APA MN 2023 PLANNING AWARDS

## PEG AND OTTO SCHMID AWARD

### Sean Walther

The Peg and Otto Schmid award is given to a mid-career planner who has demonstrated excellence in planning and a significant, positive contribution to the planning practice in Minnesota.

Sean Walther is an AICP-certified planner with 27 years of experience, much of which has been spent at the City of St. Louis Park where he is now the Planning Manager. Sean has worked diligently to promote racial equity, both in his efforts to shape the City's engagement processes to be more inclusive, and in his promotion of and membership on APA Minnesota's diversity, equity and inclusion committee. He has also led efforts to ameliorate the natural environment in St. Louis Park through the decade-long project to rewild Minnehaha Creek. As

both a team member and leader, he has participated in numerous projects to shape more sustainable local growth, provide transparency to the public, and ensure the new rapid transit line is paired with high-quality, transit-oriented development.

Sean has also volunteered and served as the Chair of the Minnesota Design Team, helping rural Minnesota communities to develop shared visions for improving their physical and environmental designs.

Those are just a few of Sean's accomplishments in his career thus far as a planner. As one of our awards jurors put it upon reading through his nomination, "Sean's mantra as a practicing planner seems simple: do what is right." Congratulations, Sean!





# APA MN 2023 PLANNING AWARDS

## LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

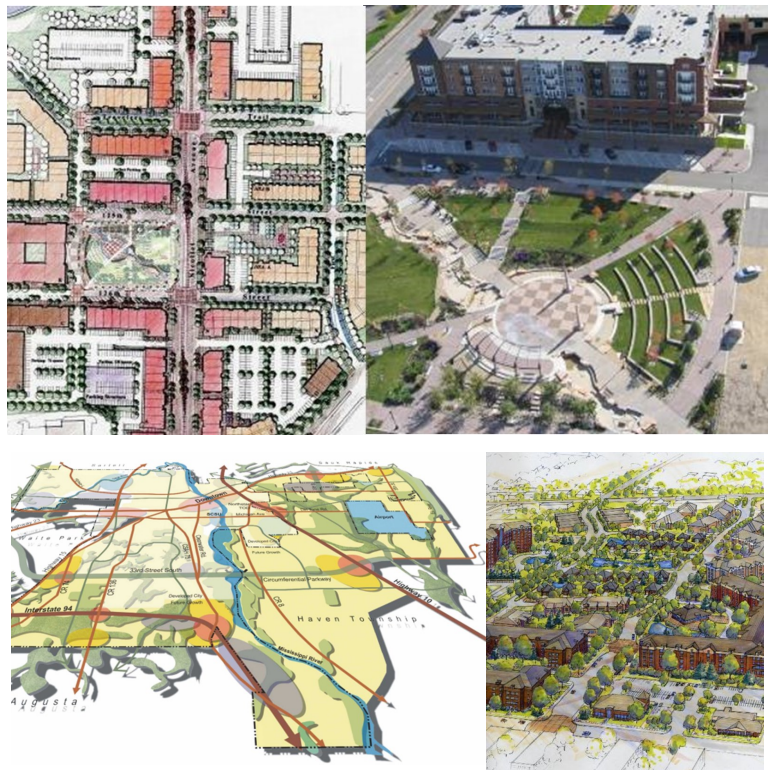
### John Shardlow

We give the Lifetime Achievement Award to an APA Minnesota member who has shown dedication and commitment to the field of planning, and who has impacted and advocated for planning throughout their career.

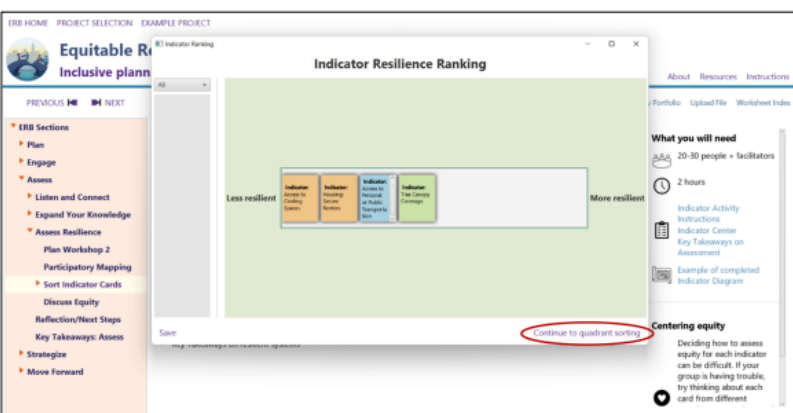
For 2023, it was our great pleasure to present this award to John Shardlow, FAICP. Over a career of 46 years, John has consistently championed environmental protection and planning education, in the process profoundly impacting planning in Minnesota for the better. A founding partner of Dahlgren, Shardlow, and Uban (DSU) in 1984, which eventually became part of Stantec in 2011, John retired as a Senior Principal at Stantec in the summer of 2023. Sustainable growth has been the hallmark of so many of John's projects, from the mixed-use, pe-

destrian-friendly Heart of the City development in Burnsville, MN, to the Central Corridor Transit Oriented Development Investment Framework for the LRT corridor between Minneapolis and St. Paul, and many other projects around the state. He has also volunteered for most of his career teaching educational workshops about planning and land use for appointed and elected officials, and since 2010 has served as a board member of the Minnesota Land Trust.

Through his kindness and tireless work at these and many other efforts, John leaves the planning discipline in Minnesota a much better place than he found it. For that, he was an easy choice for the Lifetime Achievement Award. Congratulations, John!



# RESOURCES AND REPORTS

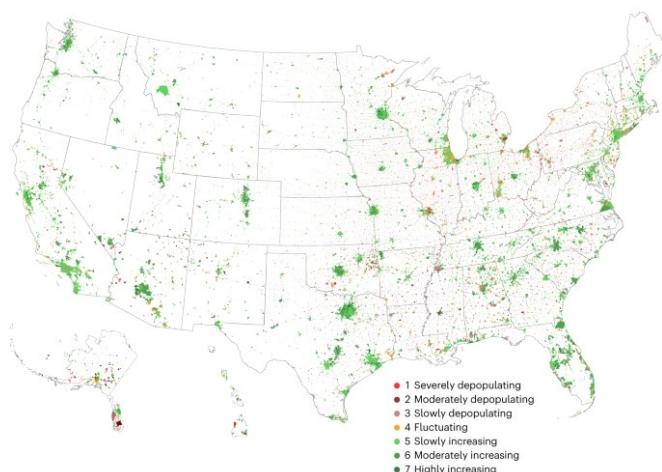


Interface for interactive tool

## EQUITABLE RESILIENCE BUILDER

Increasing resilience to disasters and climate change is an increasing challenge for communities. The EPA's [Equitable Resilience Builder](#) (ERB) is an application that supports communities in resilience planning with a focus on equity. It engages users in a guided process to inclusively assess local hazards, equity, and the resilience of built, natural, and social environment systems. Results can be used to collaboratively prioritize actions to build community resilience in an equitable way.

The ERB is organized into five sections. Each section contains activities such as participatory mapping, storytelling, participatory indicator assessment, and action planning.



## GROWTH TREND FORECASTING

For cities, having a declining population usually means socioeconomic and infrastructure challenges to accommodate the remaining population. Using population projections, [this study in Nature Cities](#) found that, by 2100, close to half of the nearly 30,000 cities in the United States will face some sort of population decline, representing 12–23% of the population of these 30,000 cities and 27–44% of the populated area. The implications of this massive decline in population will bring unprecedented challenges, possibly leading to disruptions in basic services. Although immigration could play a vital role, resource distribution challenges will persist unless a paradigm shift happens away from growth-based planning alone.



Climate Planning & Consultation



Energy Planning



Electric Vehicle Readiness



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





More is possible when we work together.

Community solutions for the spaces, places and systems that support our lives.

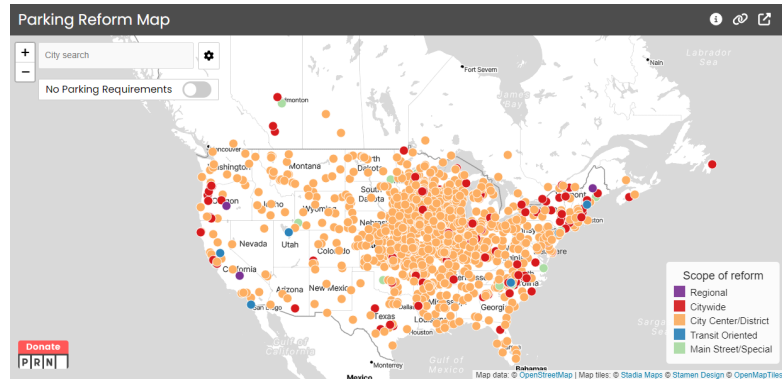


## Resources and Reports (continued)



### RURAL MOBILITY

A [2023 report](#) by Smart Growth America explores the different ways that rural communities can adapt to thrive in a changing America, with a primary focus on active and multimodal modes of transportation. The presumption that living in a rural area inevitably means being dependent on a personal vehicle and driving long distances to access essential services negates the identities, experiences, and needs of the people in these complex and diverse communities. The more than 1 million rural American households without cars face unique barriers as alternate modes are not always accessible or affordable. Rural non-drivers—including older adults, low-income individuals, school-aged children, and people with disabilities—need independent mobility options to take advantage opportunities.



[Visit this website](#) to access this interactive online map of cities with parking reform.

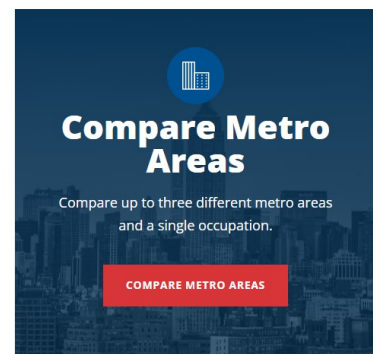
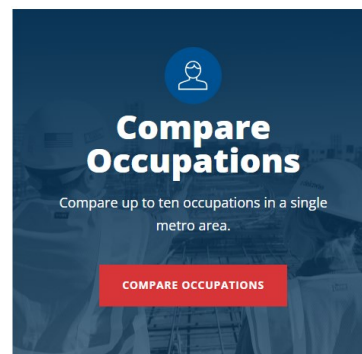
### PARKING REFORM

For the past few years, Strong Towns has partnered with the Parking Reform Network to update an online interactive map of hundreds of cities in the United States and Canada that have undertaken parking reform.

Costly car parking mandates are required for housing and commercial uses in most North American cities and towns. Over the last century, these costly requirements have contributed to urban sprawl, lack of abundant and affordable housing, car dependency, and climate change. In recent years, however, many places have implemented reforms to these mandates, exempting new buildings from parking. Also check out the Parking Reform Network's [related work](#), mapping the footprint of surface parking lots in 100 major cities.



## Resources and Reports (continued)



[Visit this website](#) to access this interactive online data tool covering metro areas nationwide.

### VALUE CAPTURE TOOLKIT

The Federal Highway Administration's [Value Capture Techniques Toolkit](#) is a collection of resources for public and private entities interested in exploring value capture techniques as finance mechanisms for transportation projects. This Toolkit is based on research from the Center for Innovative Finance's Every Day Counts Initiative (EDC-5).

This Toolkit ultimately seeks to build a bridge from research to practice, leveraging the institutional knowledge developed by those that utilize such techniques to invite others to do the same. The toolkit and related resources can be [accessed here](#).

### HOUSING AFFORDABILITY

The National Housing Conference's [Paycheck to Paycheck \(P2P\)](#) database illustrates the ability – or lack thereof – of working families to afford typical housing in metropolitan areas across the country by comparing wage data and housing costs.

NHC updates the database every quarter to keep up with the country's rapidly changing housing market. In conjunction with these updates, they issue quarterly reports highlighting a different angle of the housing costs facing families across the country. Check out the visualization tool or download the data yourself to get the latest snapshot of housing affordability across the country.





# 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_job_postings)

[https://www.planningmn.org/view\\_rfp\\_postings](https://www.planningmn.org/view_rfp_postings)

Recent job postings include:

- Village Planner: Village of Plover, WI
- Planning Intern, Southeast Iowa Regional Planning Commission
- Regional Planner, Southeast Iowa Regional Planning Commission
- Associate or Senior Planner: City of Coon Rapids
- Winona County Planning & Environmental Services Director, Winona County
- Program Manager, Travel Demand Management (TDM): Metropolitan Council
- Freight and Rail Planning Unit Supervisor, Minnesota Department of Transportation
- Planner II, Landform Professional Services, LLC
- Planning Manager - Land Use, St. Louis County
- Policy Planning Coordinator, Minnehaha Creek Watershed District
- Procurement Specialist, City of Rochester
- Planning Manager, Olmsted County
- Planning Intern, City of Eagan
- Senior Climate Planner, Metropolitan Council
- Regional Planner, Upper Explorerland Regional Planning Commission, IA
- Planning Intern, Mend Collaborative
- Planning Intern, City of Jordan

