

# PLANNING MINNESOTA



American Planning Association  
Minnesota Chapter

*Making Great Communities Happen*

A Publication of the Minnesota Chapter of the American Planning Association

Spring-Summer 2022





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May-June 2022

Volume 41, Number 1

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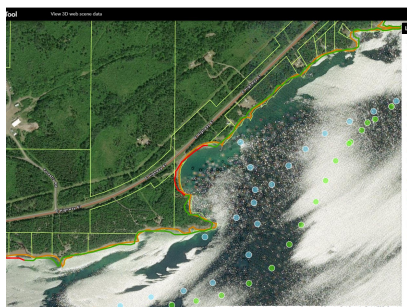
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Submissions: We welcome articles, letters to the editor, photos, calendar items, project profiles, planners on the move items, and other news. Send all submissions via e-mail to: [newsletter@planningmn.org](mailto:newsletter@planningmn.org)

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# CHAPTER UPDATES

## PRESIDENT'S DESK

As I write this, spring has finally arrived in Minnesota (to be followed almost immediately, it appears, by the summer heat). The season of rebirth and new beginnings has echoes for our APA Chapter as well.

First, I am pleased to have moved into the role of President after serving as Vice President for the last year. Many thanks go out to Raya Esmaeili, who led the Chapter as President through the second year of COVID and managed all of the challenges that presented. We also welcome three new Board members – a new Vice President and two new District Directors. Get to know them by reading their profiles on page 7.

An overarching goal for the remainder of 2022 is to re-engage with our membership and attempt to restart some of the traditional in-person events. To that end, our Spring Mobile Workshop in mid-May allowed a dozen or more planners to learn about the Midway neighborhood in St. Paul, including a tour of Allianz Stadium. In July, we will celebrate our annual Planners Day at Target Field rooting for the Twins as they take on the Chicago White Sox. And finally, in late September, we will resume our in-person state conference by visiting Duluth. Experiencing the North Shore in the fall – what could be better!

The Chapter Board is continuing to work to update, refine, and improve its service to members across the state. A review of the Chapter bylaws is in the works, as well as a survey of all members looking for feedback and direction as we move forward in a post-COVID world. The five-year cycle of our Strategic Plan is reaching its end, so new priorities and areas of focus will be drafted by the Board and shared at the Fall Conference for feedback.

The Board has been monitoring its level of communication and, going forward, will publish the Planning Minnesota newsletter twice a year (May and December) while supplementing in the intervening months with regular email blasts that contain more timely information.

By the time this newsletter has gone to print there will be nominees for the four Officer positions on the Board. Please take the time to read about the candidates and then vote later in the summer to fill these positions for 2023.

Finally, I'm happy to share that Barbara Dacy was inducted into the 2022 AICP College of Fellows at a ceremony at the National Conference in San Diego earlier this spring. She joined 2021 Fellow, Peter Brown, whose in-person ceremony was delayed by one year. You can read more about Barbara and her background later in this newsletter.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Jim Finn". The signature is stylized with a large, looping "J" and "F".



## APA MN TREASURER 2022 BUDGET REPORT

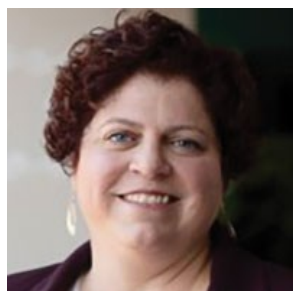
By Erin Perdu

This year's APA MN budget reflects our priority on equity as well as a return to in-person events. After two years of pandemic adjustments, which have meant a significant reduction in revenues for the chapter, we are excited to welcome a return to our in-person conference in September. The annual conference is the chapter's largest revenue generator. We have also resumed the Spring Seminar in-person.

In addition to the resumption of in-person events, a new contributor to revenue this year will be investments made by the chapter's investment committee. The committee is seeking to invest a portion of our fund balance in securities that reflect the chapters values and goals, including diversity and inclusion.

2022 marks the first full year with our Executive Director Andrea Jauli, and our budget reflects a full year of her salary as a chapter employee. Other large line items include our Legislative and Law consultant Rosedahl Associates, and creation of an IDI (Institute of Diversity and Inclusion) training course.

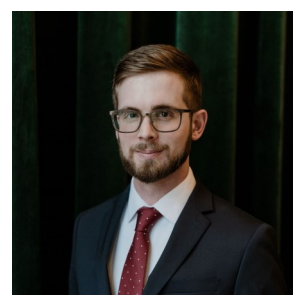
Overall, our budget remains balanced as we look forward to funding our priorities and seeing more of you in person.



## YOUNG PLANNERS GROUP 2022 UPDATE

By Ally de Alcuaz and Harry Davis

The Young Planners Group held their last 21/22 Mentorship Program event on April 6th. The event was a panel discussion on a partnership in Sherburne County between county planners and the Millie Lacs Band of Ojibwe regarding the preservation of cultural sites. Senator Mary Kunesch also spoke about her efforts to further Indigenous People's rights and the protection of their culture and way of life in Minnesota. This event was held in partnership with the Legislative and Law Committee and sponsored by the Minnesota APA Chapter. We thank everyone that was involved in the 21/22 Mentorship Program!



The YPG co-chairs are considering the structure for the next mentorship program. If you are interested in being a mentor or mentee in the program, please contact Ally de Alcuaz ([Alexandra.deAlcuaz@state.mn.us](mailto:Alexandra.deAlcuaz@state.mn.us)) or Harry Davis ([Harry.Davis@bolton-menk.com](mailto:Harry.Davis@bolton-menk.com)).





# APA MN PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS

## CHAPTER UPDATE

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

### 2021 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In 2021, the APA Minnesota chapter continued to offer over online credits throughout the year, allowing 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 review past recorded sessions, click [here](#) or visit Conference and Events, Online Session Recordings on the website.

### 2022 CONTINUING EDUCATION

The Professional Development Committee, along with other chapter committees, continue to plan and schedule continuing education opportunities for 2022. These opportunities are posted on the APA MN website (<https://minnesota.planning.org/>).



### 2022 APA MINNESOTA CONFERENCE

And we're back! The 2022 APA MN Conference is scheduled for September 21 – 23, 2022, in Duluth. This will be an in-person conference, but the Conference Committee is looking at whether or not some sessions may be offered virtually. Watch the APA MN website for more information.

### APA LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

APA is offering a variety of educational opportunities. APA Learn is an online platform for continuing education. The catalog includes more than 250 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/>.

APA recently launched Passport, a subscription service for access to APA's extensive learning library. The annual cost is \$180.00. For more information, see <https://planning.org/passport/>.



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# APA MN PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS

## CHAPTER UPDATE (CONTINUED)

### CALLING ALL PLANNERS

We are looking for volunteers to join the PDO team! After 13 years, Jane will be stepping down in September to pursue new opportunities. The PDO positions are a great way to get involved with the chapter, meet your fellow planners, and help to facilitate educational opportunities. Please let us know if you are interested and we can tell you more about the positions.

For more information on PDO roles and responsibilities, or to contact the PDOs, [click here](#).

### CM PROGRAM CHANGES

New CM changes began in January, 2022. The mandatory law and ethics credits have been reduced from 1.5 to 1 CM each. A third mandatory credit for Equity has been added. Finally, each AICP member will be required to earn at least 1 credit in the Sustainability and Resilience category. This category will rotate every four years.

### AICP EXAM INFORMATION

Now is a great time to think about earning your AICP certification! If you are thinking about taking the exam in November 2022 or in 2023, the check out [APA's web-site](#) to learn about what you need to know to take the exam. Additionally, later this year the PDOs will be holding an AICP Exam Review session where you will learn helpful tips for studying and taking the exam, and hear from planners who successfully completed the exam.

Finally, APA MN has one scholarship to offer assistance

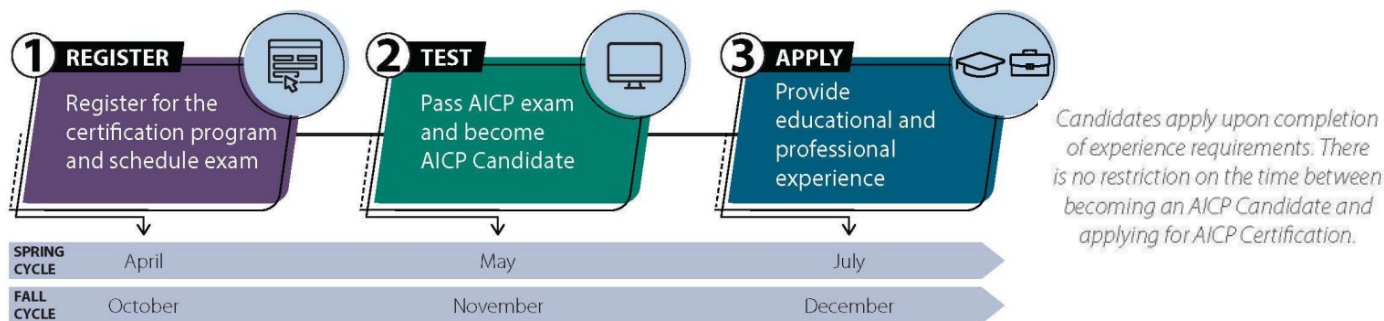
to those individuals who may defer taking or are unable to take the AICP exam because of the high cost. If chosen, scholarship recipients pay the \$70 application fee, but the exam fee is only \$75. Anyone interested in applying for this assistance to take the test in 2022 or 2023 must submit a resume with references and a one to two page essay identifying when they would like to take the exam and explaining their passion and commitment for the field of planning, why certification is important, and an explanation of financial hardship. Applications should be submitted by e-mail to Elise Durbin at [edurbin@chaskamn.com](mailto:edurbin@chaskamn.com). The scholarship recipients will be chosen by the Professional Development Officers and the Chapter President. All selections are final.

### 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/>.

## PATH TO BECOME AICP CERTIFIED





## APA MN BOARD

### WELCOMING NEW BOARD MEMBERS

In 2022, APA MN is delighted to welcome the addition of three new board members. Each of them is profiled briefly below.

#### PEGGYSUE IMIHY BEAN, AICP VICE PRESIDENT

PeggySue Imihy Bean (she/her) is a Management Analyst for the City of Hopkins. Her work focuses on using equity as a framework for advancing sustainability in the built environment and parks planning. Prior to joining the City of Hopkins, she was a Senior Long Range Planner with the City of Shakopee and a Community Planner with WSB. She serves on the Community Advisory Committee for the METRO Blue Line Extension and is Vice President of the Minnesota Chapter of the American Planning Association. Outside of work she loves curling up on the couch with a good book, her husband, and two incredibly spoiled cats.



#### LORI JOHNSON METRO DISTRICT DIRECTOR

Lori has more than 25 years of experience working in a municipal planning department, having worked her way up through the planning department at the City of Blaine, to become their city planner. She is well versed in all aspects of city planning activities including staff and project management, site plan and application review, public participation and long-range planning. She currently works for WSB as a Senior Professional Community Planner and provides planning augmentation services to metro communities as well as master and comprehensive planning services



Thanks to all our great volunteers for their service! For more information on the APA MN board, visit the APA MN website [here](#).

#### CHARLES ANDROSKY, AICP SOUTHWEST DISTRICT DIRECTOR

Charles Androsky, AICP, LEED Green Associate, has been a professional Transportation Planner since 2017. Charles holds a Master's in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, a degree in Political Science from UW-Green Bay, and degrees in Transportation & Logistics Management and Business Administration from UW-Superior. His prior experience includes work for the Madison, WI area MPO, managing community development grants for the State of Wisconsin, work at the City of Middleton Department of Community Development, and the City of Green Bay Transit System. He is interested in learning more about how land use decisions impact the transportation system and folks' health, productivity, and quality of life



#### INTERESTED IN SERVING?

The APA MN Chapter has multiple volunteer openings available to serve the chapter. This is a great opportunity to build your professional network and make a difference in your profession and community. Current openings include:

- Central District Director
- Student Representative
- Awards Committee Chair
- FAICP Committee Chair
- Women in Planning Committee Co-Chairs

If you are interested in any of the above, feel free to reach out to any member of the [APA MN Executive Committee](#) to learn more.



## FAICP UPDATE

### BARBARA DACY INDUCTION

Otter Tail County Housing and Redevelopment Authority Executive Director Barbara Dacy has been named a 2022 Fellow of the American Institute of Certified Planners. Barb is a leader in planning, housing, and housing education with more than 40 years' experience leading city and county community



development agencies. Barbara initiated municipal and county housing policies leading to the preservation and construction of hundreds of units for seniors and families. She also led a successful effort on behalf of statewide housing agencies for a new state policy to finance affordable senior housing. Finally, Barbara's leadership in a housing education non-profit has led to the creation of a new affordable housing leadership certificate program at Hamline University that will train future leaders in housing policy.

#### **Give us a brief summary of your professional career - where you have worked and what led you to focus on housing.**

My interest in city planning was sparked by two internships at the City of St. Paul and the City of Brooklyn Park. These internships were required by coursework at Hamline University and at that time, Mankato State University, now Minnesota State University - Mankato. Working alongside these professionals inspired me to pursue a career in local government. I had the privilege of working as the City Planner for the City of Palm Bay, Florida; the City of Chanhassen, Minnesota; and as the Community Development Director for the City of Fridley, Minnesota, for the first 20 years of my career. The elected and appointed officials at the City of Fridley identified the need to establish housing programs aimed at preserving the existing housing stock and when possible to create

new housing. My deeper interest in housing started as a result of the work that our community development team put together for the city. Subsequently, I was the Executive Director for the Washington County CDA for 19 years, and now I am working as an independent contractor for the Otter Tail County HRA.

#### **Where did you go to school and what is your professional degree?**

I graduated from Hamline University in 1980 with a Bachelors of Arts degree in Political Science. I graduated from Minnesota State University - Mankato in 1983 with a Master's degree in Urban and Regional Affairs.

#### **What projects are you most proud of?**

- The most gratifying aspect of the last 40 years is working with dedicated elected/appointed officials as well as talented professionals toward the betterment of their respective communities.
- Facilitating new private sector affordable family housing and three CDA owned affordable senior housing developments in Washington County.
- Adding affordable senior housing as an eligible use in the state's Housing Infrastructure Bond program in conjunction with the MN Chapter of the National Association of Housing and redevelopment officials.

#### **What are three key changes in the planning career you have seen over the course of your career?**

- The evolution of technology and how it has changed the way planners engage with the community and how technology has changed communities as a result of the pandemic.
- Re-evaluating and changing the historical planning and zoning practices to create more inclusive and equitable communities.
- And finally, after many years of no attention, there is more effort to solve the nation's housing crisis.



# DISTRICT AND STATEWIDE NEWS

## NORTHEAST UPDATE: COASTAL EROSION HAZARD MAPPING

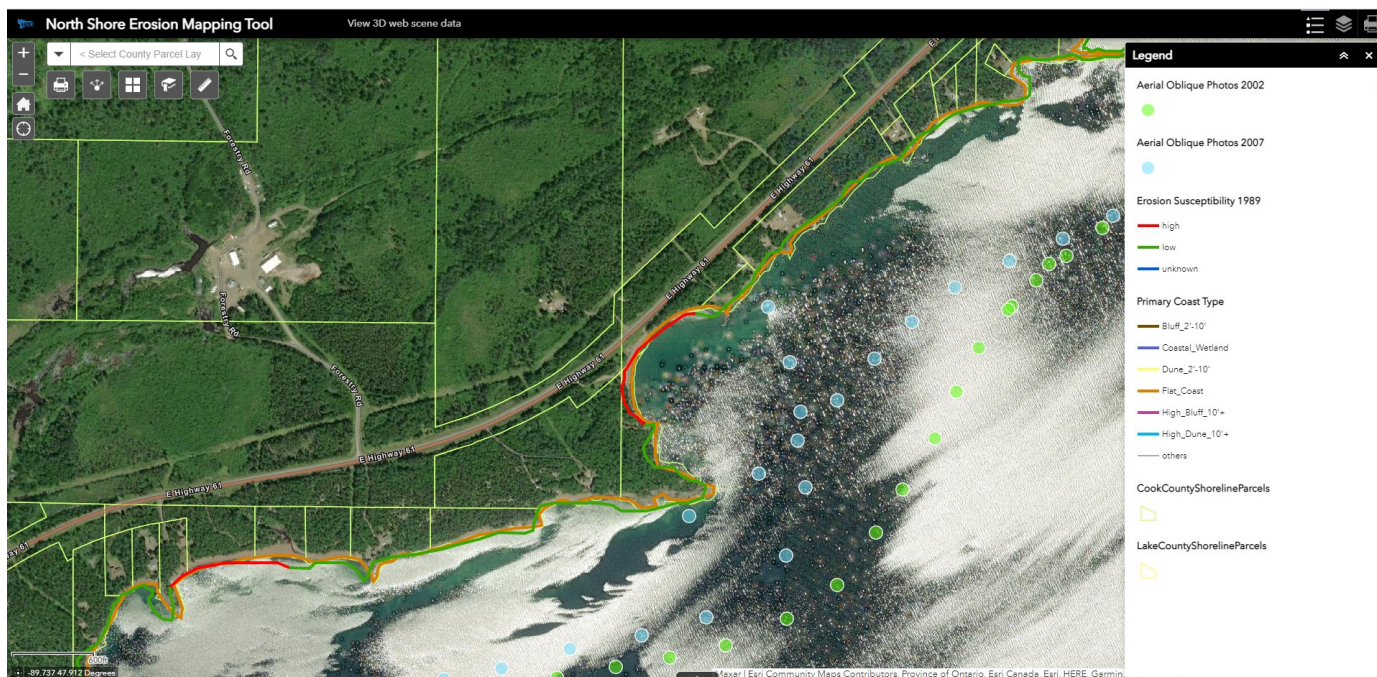
By Justin Otsea

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 has developed a methodology for determining erosion hazards in coastal Minnesota, and an interactive mapping tool to view related coastal erosion information.

In 2019-20, a select number of sites with identified ongoing erosion concerns were assessed for recent and

historical shoreline change, these points were utilized to test the methodology. 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). Phase III of the Coastal Erosion Hazard Mapping process initiated in 2021. ARDC is contracting with the University of Minnesota-Duluth U-Spatial Lab to assist in implementing a standardized methodology for monitoring long term Lake Superior coastal shoreline change through a USGS-GIS tool named Digital Shoreline Analysis System (DSAS). The results will advise North Shore Management Board on the effectiveness of their minimum shoreland standards over the coming year. 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, other impacts hope to influence landowner design solutions to protect their shoreline in an effort to boost community resilience to climate change.

For more information on the project, visit:  
[www.ardc.org/cehm](http://www.ardc.org/cehm)



## NORTHWEST UPDATE: BOARD MEMBER INTRODUCTION

By Dr. Mitchell Berg

Hello Northwest APA MN members. I wanted to first thank Rita Albrecht who had served as the Northwest regional board member. I have always admired her commitment to the planning profession, having served as a planner for the HRSDC to serving as the Northwest regional director to the MNDNR.



In addition to giving Rita a rightful sendoff, I wanted to take the opportunity to introduce myself. I consider myself a newbie to the region having moved to region from 2007-2009 and returning in 2015. Both myself and my wife Jane have lived in Mahanomen, and now we just purchased a townhouse in Crookston (yah to never having to shovel anymore snow off the driveway).

Having been a city administrator for the City of Mahanomen, and for other cities in the metro area - I also carried out the duties of being in planning and zoning, code enforcement, community and economic development. However, now I've transitioned to working in academia in the University of Minnesota Crookston Veden Center for Rural Engagement and Strategic Initiatives (boy that is a mouthful). My role is to support and lead economic and community development, workforce development, and community leadership initiatives within rural Minnesota. In addition to working for UMC, I also teach the Introduction to Public Administration course at Bemidji State University, and I am a mentor for high school teachers that teach college level American Government courses for M State.

Well, that's enough about me, I really am wanting to take this space to learn more about you. Since we are such a geographically dispersed region, I'm trying to learn as much about you as members that live in our region. As a result, I'll be forwarding out an electronic survey soon to you to learn a bit about you, what you'd like to cover as a member of APA MN, and most of all how we can network and connect. So again, please make sure you fill out the survey, but you are always welcome to reach out to me at [berg0393@umn.edu](mailto:berg0393@umn.edu) or on my cell at 218-850-4885.

## APA MN CHAPTER GENERAL UPDATES

### APA MN AT TARGET FIELD

Join APA MN at Target Field for a Twins game and social event this summer! 40 seats are being reserved for our group in Section 208.



**When:** Thursday, July 14, versus the Chicago White Sox

**Where:** Meet at The Loop (<https://minneapolis.looprestaurants.com>) before the game at 5pm and then walk over as a group for the first pitch at 6:40pm

**Cost:** \$32 covers the ticket and appetizers (purchase your own beverages)

**How:** Register and pay using this [LINK](#) by Wednesday, June 22 at 5pm Central Time. We will not be able to take registrations after this date/ time.

### WE WANT YOUR PHOTOS!

In an effort to add some visual interest to the APA MN web page, and as a way to showcase communities from around the state, the Chapter is looking for members to submit photos for our library of banner images.

Send any submissions to [info@planningmn.org](mailto:info@planningmn.org) and provide your name and the location where the photo was taken. Ideally, the image would have a landscape format and be at least 1200 pixels wide by 360 pixels high.

Watch for your submission on a future home page!



# APA MN CHAPTER

## STATE CONFERENCE PREVIEW



### BACK IN PERSON !

We are ecstatic to announce the APA MN Conference is back in person this year! Please join us in Duluth at the Duluth Entertainment Convention Center (DECC) September 21-23 as the Minnesota planning community comes back together in person after a two-year hiatus.

This year's conference theme is "State of Resiliency", and for good reason. It's been a tough few years for communities across Minnesota but we always find a way to dust ourselves off and come back stronger than ever. Resiliency is found in every aspect of planning from public health to sustainability.

There will be plenty of fun events during the course of the conference:

- 40+ Sessions
- Duluth Mobile Tours
- Awards Dinner
- Keynote Speaker Lunch
- Canal Park Social Event

### CONFERENCE INFORMATION

There are plans to have a virtual component for the conference. Sessions to be offered virtually are still being discussed. The APA MN Website contains all the updated information for the 2022 State Conference.

<https://minnesota.planning.org/conferences-and-meetings/minnesota-planning-conference-2022/>

Conference Co-Chairs:

Brian McCann (City of Ramsey)

Jared Johnson (WSB)

Conference Adviser:

Michael Palermo (City of Bloomington)

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The conference is only several months away, and we still need volunteers to help make the conference run smoothly. If you are interested in helping the conference committee, please reach out to Brian McCann at [BMcCann@ci.ramsey.mn.us](mailto:BMcCann@ci.ramsey.mn.us) or Jared Johnson at [jaredjohnson@wsbeng.com](mailto:jaredjohnson@wsbeng.com)

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# RESOURCES AND REPORTS



## CHILD CARE BUSINESS SUPPORT

Early care and education (ECE), a critical part of the economic infrastructure in Minnesota, is dealing with a long-standing crisis. Under the State's Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED), a working group charged by [DEED's Minnesota Business Vitality Council \(MBVC\)](#) has released a [final report and recommendations](#) to support the creation and sustainability of child care businesses.

The report highlights key recommendations for ECE financing, cross-sector partnerships, state-level coordination, and workforce supports, including expansion of funding to bring multiple sectors together to plan for child care needs in local communities. Recommendations also include tax incentives for employers who invest in community child care capacity, plus dedicated funding and support for child care facility development.



## GUIDE TO 2021 INFRASTRUCTURE LAW

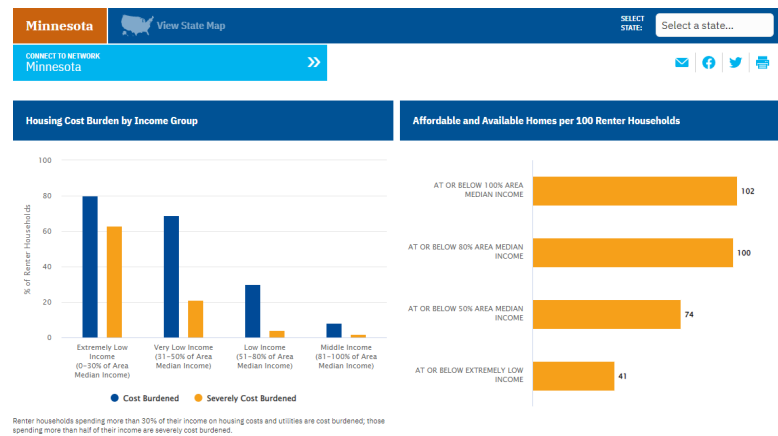
Last November Congress passed a mammoth, \$1.2 trillion infrastructure law called the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). This colossal investment can either turn the tide on our nation's approach to infrastructure or entrench us further in an unsustainable, inequitable transportation system over the next 5 years.

Transportation for America, a program of Smart Growth America, released a [virtual guide](#) that has the information you and your community need to get the most out of this historic legislation, and we just published our last (for now!) topical deep dive into the law, this time focusing on how the bill can improve (or exacerbate) inequities.





## Resources and Reports (continued)



### SHARED SPACES AND HEALTH EQUITY

During COVID-19, expanded public spaces, wider sidewalks, and increased active transportation options became critical for providing opportunities for physical activity, accessing essential needs, and safely getting outdoors. But the burden of vulnerability to the pandemic was not spread evenly across our communities.

[A newly released field scan](#) explores how decision-makers did (or did not) account for existing inequities. The Shared Spaces and Health Equity report gathers six lessons learned and a series of examples, based on an assessment of over 400 local policies and interventions around the country and interviews with key non-profit leaders.

### AFFORDABLE HOUSING GAP REPORT

A [report](#) from the National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC) assesses the availability of affordable housing units in various states. According to the NLIHC, “no state or metropolitan area has an ‘adequate supply of rental housing for the lowest-income renters.’”

Each year, the NLIHC measures the availability of rental housing affordable to extremely low-income households and other income groups. The Gap presents data on the affordable housing supply and housing cost burdens at the national, state, and metropolitan levels. The report also examines the demographics, disability and work status, and other characteristics of those extremely low-income households most impacted by the shortage.



# 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:

- Minnehaha Creek Watershed District: Communications Coordinator
- City of Orono: Community Development Director
- City of Hopkins: Planner
- City of Bloomington: Planning Technician
- St. Croix County Community Development: Planner
- Minnesota Department of Transportation: Senior Planner
- Metropolitan Council: Senior Planner- Solar Advisor
- City of Richfield: Planner
- St. Croix County: Land Use Planner
- North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission: Planner
- City of Bloomington: Assistant Port Authority Administrator

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