

VISION



American Planning Association
Arizona Chapter

Making Great Communities Happen

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APA ARIZONA NEWS



Planner's Day at the Capitol – Come out and Support Good Arizona Planning

Planners' Day at the Capitol is quickly approaching on **Wednesday, February 25, 2015** in the Rose Garden at the Arizona State Capitol from 7:00 AM - 10:00 AM. Please support the Arizona Planning Association by attending and discussing key planning issues with legislative representatives and fellow planning colleagues.

It is critically important that we have a good turnout, especially in the morning when the legislators and their staff members spend some time looking at the materials. A conversation today is remembered and later, when we are commenting on a bill or issue, the Arizona Chapter of the American Planning Association is recognized and, therefore, our input is given more validity. You are the face of good planning in Arizona!

Your attendance, if even for a short while, is greatly appreciated and does make a difference. Please let me know if you are going to be able to

10. [Arizona Student/Professional Happenings](#)
11. [Reminder: Connect with APA Arizona](#)

Have something to share in VISION?

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make it out to put a face to good planning in Arizona on Wednesday, February 25.

If you are interested in attending or have questions, please contact me at ngriemsmann@swlaw.com.

Arizona Legislative Report

This week in Arizona, the deadline to introduce bills in both chambers has passed. There are a total of 1,138 bills and 83 resolutions circulating. Next week will be the final opportunity for bills to be heard in their chamber of origin so agendas were heavy this week and will continue to be next week.

The microbrewery battle progressed this week when one version, SB 1030 (microbreweries; multiple licenses; production; sales) sponsored by Sen. Kelli Ward (R- Lake Havasu City) passed out of the Commerce and Workforce Development Committee on Tuesday. After hours of debate the measure passed 6-2. Sen. Steve Smith (R- Maricopa) had a different bill to address the issue that was favored by the liquor distributors. Smith opted to hold his bill and asked the interested parties to continue to work together to find common ground.

Many were shocked this week when Superintendent of Public Instruction Dianne Douglas fired two high level Department of Education staffers over the Common Core dispute. Almost immediately, Governor Ducey reversed the decision and stated that Douglas did not have the legal authority to do so. Douglas responded by claiming that Ducey has a "shadow faction of charter school operators" who seek to move funds away from traditional public schools and accused the Governor of conspiring to bring down test scores so students will be incentivized to move to charter schools. Ducey's spokesman Daniel Scarpinato stated, "Governor Ducey is disappointed Superintendent Douglas has chosen this path. His office will continue working every day to improve educational outcomes for every Arizona child, and he hopes she joins that conversation."

On Tuesday Governor Doug Ducey announced that Greg McKay will be taking the helm of the Department of Child Services. McKay, who was the whistle blower on the over 6,000 uninvestigated Child Protective Services cases, is replacing Charles Flanagan. McKay is a former Phoenix PD detective and was Chief of the Office of Child Welfare Investigations throughout the crisis at CPS.

Senator Debbie Lesko's (R-Peoria) legislation targeting misleading marketing practices from roof top solar companies passed out of the Senate Water and Energy Committee this week. The bill requires companies to disclose total number of monthly payments and any other fees, a summary of maintenance and operating costs, potential tax obligations, any subsidies or incentives the solar system is taking advantage of, and any affect the panels might have on the owner's ability to sell his or her home. The bill passed with bipartisan support.

While the solar lobby argued that the industry is already regulated and the legislation would be a job killer, the utilities came out in support of the increased consumer protections. "They shouldn't need a law or finance degree to understand [solar leases]... We believe informed customers make the best decisions for themselves and their families," the APS lobbyist said.

With the Phoenix mayoral race rapidly approaching, many are speculating on Republican challengers to current Mayor Greg Stanton, a Democrat. A poll this week showed Stanton in a double digit lead over both rumored candidates Christine Jones and Phoenix City Councilman Sal DiCiccio.

Attached is your updated bill tracking list. Please take a look at HB2212, it looks concerning. Our friends at the League and the cities were neutral. HB2525 (board of adjustment; appeals) cruised out of the Committee of the Whole on Thursday, it should be up for a final vote in the House next week. I had several people from the cities compliment the Planner's amendment on 1072 dealing with exclusionary zoning (good work, team!)

[Click here for the bill tracking for February 13, 2015.](#)

Innovating Planning Apps for Planners: A Student and Emerging Professional Challenge

Think you have a great idea for an app that you think will help the planning profession? The Technology Division is looking to challenge students and emerging professionals to come up with great web-based and mobile applications that will help the planning profession and the communities we serve, and compete for an opportunity to pitch their ideas to their peers. An audience of attendees at the Tech Division's session at the 2015 APA National Conference will vote for their top selection to determine who takes home the grand prize for their app.

Deadline: March 8, 2015, 11:59 PM ET

For more information, see: <https://www.planning.org/divisions/tech/competition/>

Register NOW for the March 25 Healthy Communities Conference!

The Arizona Housing Alliance invites you to attend a premier training and networking event for community development practitioners, planning and health professionals, affordable housing developers, nonprofits, government, and elected officials from all regions of Arizona. Learn about local and national initiatives to:

- CONNECT healthy community planning with resources
- INTEGRATE supportive services with housing
- INVEST in healthy communities

Arizona Healthy Communities 2nd Annual Conference
Wednesday, March 25, 2015
East Valley Institute of Technology (EVIT)
1601 W. Main Street, Mesa AZ
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Register soon! Last year's conference was completely full, so we're encouraging people to register early:
<http://azhousingalliance.org/events/healthycommunities>



Resilient Communities Workshop, April 14-15: Build the Necessary Tools to Combat Climate Impacts

Western Lands and Communities invites communities from across the Intermountain West to apply to attend the Resilient Communities Workshop.

The Resilient Communities Workshop is a two-day training that gives community leaders the knowledge and tools necessary to build their community resilience to climate impacts. We will select two community teams with up to four individuals from city and/or county staff. Workshop participants will build a better understanding of how climate change will impact their community, and the areas in their city or town that are most vulnerable to climate impacts. Case study examples of what other communities are doing will help participants develop a plan of action for implementation in their own community.

The workshop will be held in Phoenix, Arizona on April 14-15. [Click here](#) to download the full application that provides more details. Applications are due by 5:00 PM on Friday, February 27. Please submit one application per community team.

Arizona APA / ASU Planning Career Fair

Mark Your Calendars for Tuesday, March 31, 4:00 - 6:30 PM



Planning professionals – here’s a great opportunity to meet with potential interns or employees, or simply to share your expertise with planning students. The event will take place at ASU’s Memorial Union, with refreshments provided, and will have two parts:

- **4:00-5:00 PM: Developing a Career in Planning**, a Q & A session with a panel of professional planners
- **5:00-6:30 PM: Career Fair**, with planning organizations at conference tables

Planners of all kinds – participating in the Career Fair provides a great service to future planners! Students appreciate the opportunity to talk with you about planning careers – whether or not you’re offering an internship or job. **Would you like to participate?** [RSVP here](#), or email Barbara Trapido-Lurie, btl@asu.edu.

The fair is co-sponsored by the ASU School of Geographical Sciences and Urban Planning, and the American Planning Association, Arizona Chapter.

Run for an Arizona APA Board Position – Nominations Open

Our turnout was abysmal when you consider that only 194 ballots were cast last year for our Board of Directors. Of our 1,200 members, LESS than 20 percent participated. Our polling numbers should be significantly higher, especially when the electronic ballots literally take two minutes to prepare and transmit.

This year, we have five Board of Director positions that will be elected by our membership. **Nominations are now open.** Voting will occur in late summer and the results will be announced at the State Conference in Tucson in early November. We strive to provide a ballot of members in good standing that provide planning representation across private, public and other entities; are geographically dispersed; and include a range of ages and cultures. These positions are listed below with the existing board member.

- President/Debra Stark
- Vice President for Legislative Affairs/Noel Griemsmann

- North Section Director/Thomas Ritz
- Director at Large (2 positions open)/Terri Shepherd Hogan and Jon Vlaming

The President position serves a total of four years - one year term as President-Elect under the existing President, two years as President, and one year as Immediate Past President. Each of the other positions is for a two-year timeframe. The Board generally meets every other month. If you have any questions about the duties of any of these positions, please do not hesitate to contact the person who currently occupies the position - their contact information is on the Arizona APA webpage (<http://www.azplanning.org/officers.html>).

If you know of anyone (yourself included) who you think would be a good representative for our membership, please let me know (jvlaming_spolaris@cox.net).

Jon Vlaming
Director at Large/2015 Elections-Nominations

Ready to Move Your Neighborhood Project from Idea to Action?

EcoDistricts is accepting applications for the 2015 EcoDistricts Incubator, a three-day intensive, project-based workshop designed to accelerate district-scale sustainability across North America. The Incubator provides advanced training to help city teams advance their clearly defined urban sustainability projects.

Teams must come to the EcoDistricts Incubator with an identified project, and have the authority and capacity to create change within the proposed district. Multiple projects will be considered as well.

Applications are due by **12:00 PM PST on Friday, March 6, 2015** through the [online application](#) form.

For more information, see: <http://ecodistricts.org/incubator/#>

Retrofitting Dead and Dying Suburban Malls: What Works?

Reposted from Planetizen



Denver has been retrofitting its dead and dying suburban malls on a New Urbanist town center model. More than half of 12 regional malls are already retrofitted, and more are being repurposed, allowing numerous opportunities to examine whether New Urbanism as applied to dead suburban malls can really succeed in accomplishing diversity, equity, and community-building goals.

For more information on implementation of suburban mall retrofits, see: <http://www.planetizen.com/node/73452/retrofitting-dead-and-dying-suburban-malls-what-works>

Interested in Joining the New Arizona APA Young Planners Group?

Are you a young planner interested in forming a network with other emerging, professional planners in Arizona? APA Arizona is developing a Young Planners Group (YPG) to build and support a community of emerging planning professionals.

Why Should I Join APA Arizona YPG?

YPG is a fun way to meet other young planning professionals and build relationships with others in the planning field. We will offer numerous events and activities including:

- Social events
- Networking
- Mentorship opportunities
- Educational and career advancement

Who Can Participate?

EVERYONE! Although our membership will focus activities on planners who are under the age of 35, a planning student, or professionals new to the field.

How Can I Learn More?

Let us know you're interested by emailing us at: apaazyppg@gmail.com.



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Arizona APA Student / Professional Happenings

Have an interest in expanding your professional and/or social network? If so, plan to join us at one or all of the following student / professional networking mixers hosted by the Arizona Chapter of the American Planning Association. If you should have any questions, please contact Terri Hogan at Hogan42011@gmail.com. Hope to see you soon!!

- **February 21, 2015** – ASU Hike “A” Mountain, Tempe, Saturday 8:30 AM; brunch to follow at 10:00 AM at NCounter (310 S. Mill Avenue, Tempe)
- **March 28, 2015** – UofA Hike Tumamoc Hill, Tucson, Saturday 8:30 AM; brunch to follow at 10:00 AM at Wilko (943 E. University Blvd., Tucson)



Reminder: Connect with APA Arizona Through Social Media

If you are not connected to our organization through any social media sites, don't forget to connect with all the latest APA Arizona information via Facebook and LinkedIn. APA Arizona is focused on highlighting the positive groups and individuals who help plan Arizona, upcoming workshops and events as well as all planning news that impacts you. In addition to sending information along to be published in our weekly newsletter, send good news, interesting cases and lessons learned to share and discuss with the rest of the community. Think of it as a planning support group with people who understand you. Send your good news, lessons learned and planning articles to: jsarkissian@bowmancg.com

Connect with APA Arizona on [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [Twitter](#)!

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