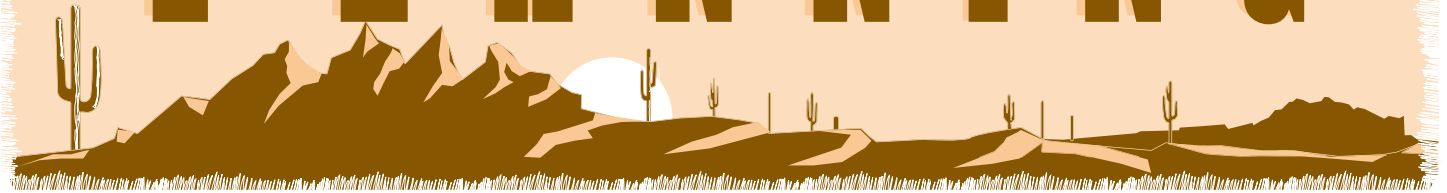


PLANNING



NOVEMBER 2001

GILBERT'S RIPARIAN PRESERVES

by Linda Edwards

The growth of the Town of Gilbert and its location in the northern Sonoran Desert has presented a challenge to officials planning for efficient use of water resources. The answer to this challenge was to make better use of reclaimed water, or treated effluent. To this end, Gilbert developed a policy of 100% reuse of all water resources and built a wastewater treatment facility capable of implementing this policy. Since 1986, the town has been using all treated effluent. A portion of this supply is being used to recharge groundwater.

The town has constructed 18 recharge ponds on 175+ acres at two locations in the urban area. The first preserve at **Neely Ranch** was opened in 1990.



Children experience one of the many activities sponsored by Gilbert Riparian Institute.



Imagine yourself strolling through peaceful wetlands enjoying birds and local wildlife. Well, it's here. Come to Gilbert and enjoy!

Several billion gallons of water have been restored to the local water table as a result of the recharge process on this 72-acre site. The newest **Riparian Preserve at Water Ranch** was opened in October 1999 and is located on 110 acres. The main purpose of these ponds is to process a portion of the nearly six million gallons of wastewater that are treated each day. The ponds are filled, on a rotating basis, with treated effluent and allowed to percolate into the aquifer over a period of approximately 24 days. Once the treated water reaches the aquifer it is capable of being used again as a potable water source.

An added benefit of water use planning has been the creation of desert riparian habitat that attracts a great variety of wildlife associated with this type of environment. Vegetation, installed by community volunteers, has attracted over 140 different species of birds on site. Riparian vegetation occupies less than 1% of the Arizona landscape; however, it supports more than 60% of the state's wildlife. Thus, the town has implemented another resource conser-

Continued on page 2



GILBERT, *Continued from page 1*

vation effort at the same location where water is being reclaimed. Wildlife species, including fish, amphibians, insects, birds, and mammals depend on riparian areas and the town has successfully created a rare opportunity for the public to view and study these areas.

With the construction of recharge sites and riparian habitat, a unique market niche has been created for education, tourism, and recreation interests. As a result, the Riparian Institute was created. The purpose of the Riparian Institute is to participate in the creation of these areas and the development of programs that benefit the wildlife, the community, students and visitors to these unique sites.

Scott Anderson is the Director of the Riparian Institute. Prior to this appointment, Scott was the Planning Director for the Town of Gilbert for 12 years. He has led the charge in creating the mission and goals for the Institute and implementing limited resources to great success. Read on to learn how much one person can do with ambition, volunteers, donations, agency assistance, and community support.

The Riparian Institute promotes the development of strategies and actions to reserve and protect unique water environments and their ecological value. The Institute is a unique place in an urban area that provides opportunities to explore nature, entertain visitors, and provide educational programs. The Riparian Institute will be recognized as a premiere education resource in the State of Arizona for preserving valuable natural resources, supporting the creation and conservation of scarce riparian areas, and protecting needed habitat for wildlife.

Riparian Institute Visitors

- An average month includes 250–350 people participating in programs and up to 100 student visitors from local schools. Another 2,500 visit the Institute each month to enjoy the trails, fishing, birding, biking, rollerblading, and leisure time in a natural environment.

Goals to Reach in 2001 and 2002

- Continue to seek funding and grants for the new Riparian Center. This building will house a visitor center, classrooms, exhibits, and a gift shop.
- Workshops for pre-school through the 12th grade will be developed.
- A teacher workshop program will be developed to assist teachers with hands-on training with science classes.

- The Institute sponsors a water quality project conducted by Central Arizona College and is monitoring birds at both locations.
- The Institute has been successful in attracting Eagle Scouts to complete enhancement projects.
- The Institute will partner with neighboring communities and their tourism programs.

Fun and Educational Activities

- Astroriparian Night Sky Watch programs include a short lecture on various topics such as black holes, buying a new telescope, and origins of the cosmos.
- Nocturnal Excursions bring out the whole family to evening walks to learn about the creatures of night.
- Watchable Wildlife tours introduce visitors to the wildlife that frequents the Preserves. Binoculars and bird books are provided for the tour.
- Biking and Birding includes observation and discussion along a bike ride of the western canal trail between the two preserves.
- Astroriparian Overnight is an overnight camping experience. Astronomy, a nocturnal excursion, or a watchable wildlife tour can be scheduled.
- The Dinodiscovery site is ready for use this fall. The program will include a paleontology program for schools that will replicate a real dig.
- Schools and interest groups schedule tours and hands-on activities.

Members and Sponsors

- The membership of 125 is growing and includes sponsors that donate funds, expertise, and in-kind services. Members and sponsors are continuing to work with board members and the executive director to plan for a visitor center, new educational programs, annual events, and coordination with other agencies.
- This new facility has already had 42,000 visitors with a limited staff and a team of trained volunteers. An Adopt-a-Habitat program provides assistance with maintenance of the site. School groups and local families have stepped up to the plate with this effort.
- Docents volunteer over 600 hours each quarter to patrol the preserves, clean up for events, assist with tours, organize events, train other docents, and do research on bird counts, bird banding and surveys.
- Annual memberships range from \$25 for an Associate, to \$40 for a Family, to \$500 for business sponsors.

Continued on page 3



RIPARIAN PRESERVATION

*By Julia Fonseca, Program Manager
Pima County Flood Control District*

The Riparian Element of the Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan (SDCP) is a regional planning effort to protect and restore riparian and aquatic environments in Pima County. The plan encompasses uses associated with streams, takes advantage of renewable water supplies, establishes a framework for re-establishing native aquatic species and reflects a new vision that our community has for our system of streamside corridors.

We began by developing a list of our most vulnerable plant and animal species. We interviewed experts and considered the situation of each species on county level as well as throughout its range. This approach allows for the development of specific restoration and preservation measures, which will ultimately be more effective than would an approach based only upon a generalized wildlife habitat analysis. The list adopted by the Science Technical Advisory Team includes many riparian species—not surprising given the grievous losses of low and mid-elevation wet riparian areas throughout the region.

Early on, we realized the deficiencies of data on the remaining riparian and aquatic resources. GIS data overlooked some of the largest springs and most significant streams in Pima County. Locations of fishes, frogs and riparian gallery forests were poorly documented. And no one had ever attempted to identify the location and extent of the shallow groundwater areas upon which these species depend. Parallel efforts to characterize riparian plant communities and to map locations of aquatic resources have yielded surprising results. Who would have guessed that there are over 74 different streams with perennial or intermittent flows?

We analyzed the existing stewardship of land across Pima County, using “gap analysis” techniques and in-depth review of reserve management documents. Some of the largest and most important riparian areas lie outside designated reserves.

The intense public involvement in the Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan has diversified the range of possible conservation measures that might otherwise be considered. Members of the ranch community, suburban neighborhood groups, rural property owners, and other non-governmental entities have each recommended ways to improve the management and restoration of riparian corridors that respond to the particularities of place. Conservation easements, revisions to zoning, land and water acquisition, riparian restoration, native fish and frog re-establishment, adaptive management, and changes to floodplain regulation and channelization projects are being debated in detail in meetings with the public.

Although the planning process continues, the regional framework of the SDCP has provided an impetus for launching or completing a number of specific actions. City of Tucson and Pima County have established a conservation pool of treated effluent water that is dedicated to riparian restoration. U. S. Army Corps of Engineers has begun several ecosystem restoration studies for washes in the Tucson basin. U. S. Bureau of Reclamation is investigating purchasing land which would contribute to the riparian goals. And Pima County has negotiated acquisition of 4800 acres along the Santa Cruz River floodplain at Canoa Ranch, which will preserve an important biological linkage for the overall reserve design.

GILBERT, *Continued from page 2*

Awards

- 1994 Best Project award from Arizona Planning Association
- 1994 Governor's Pride Award
- 2001 Outstanding Contribution to Sustainable Water Use, WaterReuse Association

Information

- The 110-acre Riparian Preserve at Water Ranch is located just east of the Regional Library at the

southeast corner of Guadalupe Road and Greenfield Road in Gilbert.

- The 72-acre Riparian Preserve at Neely Ranch is located south of Guadalupe Road on the east side of Cooper Road in Gilbert.

Scott Anderson, Executive Director, 602.696.1195, or at sanderson@RiparianInstitute.org. The web site is www.RiparianInstitute.org



CENTRAL AND BROADWAY TRANSIT CENTER

Contact for additional information:

Mark Melnychenko, AICP

Principal Planner, Facilities Division

City of Phoenix Public Transit Department

Phoenix is served by more bus routes than any other jurisdiction in the Valley. Each weekday an average of 54,000 transit passengers transfer from one route to another. Many of these transfers occur at the maximum load points on east-west routes and along Central Avenue. For the system as a whole, the major transfer points are given priority for passenger amenities such as shelters, transit centers and ticket sales points. To provide transit service in a 600 square mile area requires the acquisition and development of appropriate capital infrastructure. Such infrastructure is not limited to vehicles, but also includes passenger facilities such as transit centers.

The City of Phoenix Public Transit Department began investigating potential sites for a future transit center in March 1999. This was part of their continuing efforts to improve transit service and assist in revitalization efforts in the South Mountain Village. The immediate area contains numerous public services and facilities to aid in the well being of residents. All existing area plans recommended developing a transit center and subsequent pedestrian and circulation improvements at the recommended site. Models from the Maricopa Association of Governments show this area as one of the most utilized by pedestrians. A survey conducted by Public Transit illustrates high transit dependency for area riders. According to the survey, 84% of those surveyed did not have access to an automobile.

On July 7, 1999, President Clinton toured the area as part of his four-day visit of economically distressed urban areas. The idea was to target pockets of poverty and turn them around through public and private investment. "The President wants to highlight the untapped markets," said Clinton spokesperson Elizabeth Newman, noting that South Phoenix is considered just that. "Here is a prime example of a market with great potential."

The Central and Broadway Transit Center will be located on a 4.5-acre parcel of land at the northwest corner of Broadway Road and Central Avenue in the

South Mountain Village Core. The transit facility will accommodate seven local bus routes, Dial-a-Ride, and Bus Rapid Transit. This will be a safe, convenient central location for transfers between existing/planned transit routes and an area set aside for passengers to obtain information and purchase transit passes.

The historic Pay'n Takit Grocery Store that occupies the corner of the transit site, with frontage along Broadway Road and Central Avenue will be rehabilitated and incorporated into the site plan. After the rehabilitation, the building will house transit operations, transit security/Police and a hub for system ADA certification. Constructed in the 1920's, the Pay'n Takit Store reflects the early commercial development of the South Mountain agricultural area. The structure is one of the first grocery stores to be built south of the Salt River. Given the property's historic perspective and strategic location in South Phoenix, the City is committed to preserving the property as an integral part of the future transit center.

Currently, the Pay'n Takit building is located 8 feet from the curb, impacting pedestrian safety. The City of Phoenix will improve the pedestrian environment by eliminating barriers along the existing sidewalk, modifying the streetscape to provide a buffer from traffic along both Central Avenue and Broadway Road and creating stronger connections to future uses north and south of the facility. Mitigating these unsafe conditions in the Village Core will be the first step in bringing back a pedestrian-friendly scale to the streets.

As part of the project, the city will bury 12kV power lines along Broadway Road using Beautification Funds. It will clean up a potentially polluted site by removing underground storage tanks, debris, asbestos and other undesirable impacts. An art theme using a timeline (landscaping, paving, text, fountain) to show periods of history in the area will traverse east to west through the site. A continuous

Continued on page 5



THE ARIVACA RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ZONE

by John Regan, AWET member

The Arivaca watershed, located about 50 miles southwest of Tucson, contains one of the last remaining cienegas and perennial streams in southern Arizona. These unusual water features support a number of threatened and endangered species and exist because the area is in the rare state of "sustained yield." This is a condition where annual water consumption is less than natural recharge replenishing the aquifer during years of average precipitation. The "surplus" fills the cienega and keeps Arivaca Creek flowing. Local residents believe it is possible to maintain this state of equilibrium indefinitely provided they are able to develop and implement creative approaches to protect their water resources from over-allocation and misuse.

This concern led to the formation of the Arivaca Watershed Education Taskforce (AWET), a local group dedicated to exploring means of preserving limited water in the area. As information on the hydrologic situation of the Valley was collected, AWET's mission gradually evolved into working with governmental entities with interests in the valley to develop proposals designed to decrease water demand and increase potential water recharge. The latest mechanism being suggested is

the creation of a Resource Management Zone, fully described in a report prepared for Pima County's Sonoran Desert Conservation Plan called the Arivaca Resource Management Zone. The report proposes a two level management plan be developed to integrate the land use and water policies of a plethora of regulatory agencies.

Level 1 elements of the plan designed to eliminate threats to the local water supply include the purchase of development rights; conservation easements on irrigation rights acquired from willing sellers; incentives to reduce lot splits; changes to the 1980 Groundwater Management Act; and, retooling the water management strategies of Arivaca Lake to enhance recharge. An expansion of the existing watershed monitoring program is recommended, as well as producing and publishing an annual evaluation of the current hydrological conditions.

Level 2 suggests an advisory committee of local residents and government staff members be created to develop management criteria to be implemented in the event a prolonged or severe drought occurs or local water demand increases substantially due to continuing urbanization.



TRANSIT CENTER, *Continued from page 4*

passenger shade canopy and extensive use of vegetation will maximize shade. In addition, rainwater caught by this inverted canopy will be funneled to the west end of the site to irrigate vegetation in the retention area. The site design will minimize bus/pedestrian conflicts through the use of an uninterrupted passenger plan.

Partnering and serving multiple roles is key. No longer is moving people the only objective. This is a prime example of the transformation the Public Transit Department has undertaken in the develop-

ment of its facilities. First, the project provides improved transit amenities and economic development opportunities and has the potential to act as a gateway into the village. Second, the site is located within the South Mountain Village Core, within a federally designated Enterprise Community, and adjacent to the primary community services area. The facility will act as a major component of the Target Area B Redevelopment Area, "Beyond the Banks" program for the Rio Salado and the Rio Montaña Growth Plan. The facility is scheduled to open for operation in 2002.



SCOTTSDALE UPDATES ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE LANDS ORDINANCE

by Mike Millilo, City of Scottsdale

Scottsdale's Environmentally Sensitive Lands Ordinance (ESLO) is a set of zoning regulations adopted in 1991 to guide development throughout 134 square miles of desert and mountain areas of northern Scottsdale. These areas are located north and east of the Central Arizona Project Canal. The intent and purpose of ESLO is to identify and protect environmentally sensitive lands in the city and to promote public health and safety by controlling development on these lands. The ordinance requires that a percentage of each property be permanently preserved as natural area open space (NAOS) and that specific environmental features including vegetation, washes, and mountain ridges and peaks be protected from inappropriate development.

The ordinance is currently under review by the Scottsdale City Council to ensure that the ordinance is achieving its purpose given that ten years have passed since its original adoption. Several important amendments may be adopted as early as this summer. Some of the key changes include:

- Identification of NAOS locations and boundaries is specified and criteria are introduced to enhance the continuity of open space areas.
- The existing provisions allowing a reduction of required natural area open space for providing golf courses or similar turf areas in development projects is eliminated.
- A new section is added addressing maintenance and enforcement of NAOS. The changes clarify the purpose of NAOS and reinforce that it is to

remain completely natural without raking or enhancements. Criteria are established for limited maintenance where invasive or non-indigenous plants and weeds have been introduced, where public trails are contiguous with NAOS, and where the Rural/Metro Fire Department requires defensible space for fire safety.

- Amended the ordinance to increase the minimum lot size threshold from 12,000 square feet to 25,000 square feet for required common tract open space.
- Design guidelines for the McDowell Sonoran Preserve boundary are introduced.

The ESLO has a direct impact on the citizens of Scottsdale as its key provisions determine the location and design of residential, commercial, industrial and institutional development in two-thirds of the city. It also protects citizens from potential flooding, erosion and visual blight. A broader impact of this ordinance, which benefits the entire Valley, is the preservation of significant amounts of Sonoran Desert open space. In another article in this newsletter, you will find a discussion of the city's sustainability indicators. One of these indicators measures the acreage of natural desert open space permanently protected in the desert areas of Scottsdale. The latest data show that over 1,100 acres of desert open space were protected in 2000 by easements required in the ESL Ordinance. These desert areas were protected without the city having to purchase land. With local land costs running between \$20,000 and \$54,000 an acre, this represents a significant taxpayer saving.

ARIZONA CHAPTER MISSION STATEMENT

The Arizona Planning Association is committed to improving the quality of the built environment and the preservation of the natural environment in the State of Arizona by supporting and advancing the virtues of responsible planning throughout the State; to function as the nucleus for the exchange of ideas and information and to provide the general membership and the public with information necessary to make informed responsible decisions on planning issues.



THE 2001 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

By Frank P. Behlau, A.I.C.P.
Vice President for Conference 2001

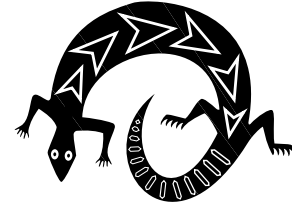
The Arizona Planning Association's 2001 Annual Conference was held in Tucson during a week marred by national tragedy. Chapter President Carol Johnson chose to proceed with the Conference after consulting with AzPA Board members and conference coordinators.

Carol opened the Conference on Thursday morning with a moment of silence at the Plenary Session. The proceeds of Thursday evening's Silent Auction were shared with the American Red Cross. On Friday, Conference attendees spread messages of healing and support for the "National Day of Prayer and Remembrance," including a further tribute at the Keynote Speaker luncheon.

Two examples of the inextinguishable human spirit stood out during the Conference. Reed Kempton, multi-modal planner for the Maricopa County Department of Transportation, bicycled on Wednesday from Mesa to the Conference until finally foiled by strong headwinds near Eloy. Reed arrived mid-afternoon after getting a ride for the brief remaining distance. In perhaps the most extraordinary demonstration of this spirit, Deputy Pima County Administrator John Bernal and his assistant, Juanita Garcia-Seiger, drove overnight from Tucson to El Paso to pick up three panelists, whose flights had been canceled, and bring them to Tucson in time for Mr. Bernal's 9:00 a.m. session, *Planning Along the U.S./Mexico Border*. A Conference attendee described the effort as "a true example of our abilities to persevere — to not be rendered helpless by the terrible actions of others."

Fellow Conference coordinators Sue Morman, Rebecca Ruopp, and I find comfort in knowing that the Conference did go on with the active support and participation of the attendees, speakers, session panelists, workshop presenters, sponsors, and the many volunteers who made the Conference possible. Everyone chose to persevere and we thank you all.

We hope to see you next year in Page!

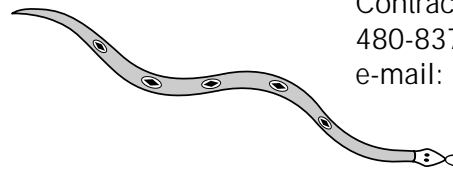


ATTENTION: All AZPA Members
Your Help is Needed!

NOVEMBER 8th "World Town Planning Day Event"

- Event:** 3rd Annual Design Charette
- What:** 250 – 7th Grade Students (small groups)
- Develop a "Vision Statement"
 - Develop "Do & Don't Want Lists"
 - Develop a plan for the Town Center
 - Develop a collage
- Time:** Half day (4 hour design charette)
- Where:** Fountain Hills Middle School

Contact to **SIGN UP:** Loras Rauch,
Contract Planning Services
480-837-7056
e-mail: loras@qwest.net



The Eleventh Annual Conference of The Rocky Mountain Land Use Institute will be held on Thursday and Friday, March 7–8, 2002 at the University of Denver College of Law. Last year, nearly 700 land use professionals participated in the Conference. Everyone on the APA mailing list will receive registration information in January. Please mark your calendars and watch www.law.du.edu/rmlui for the most up-to-date Conference information.



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear AzPA Members:

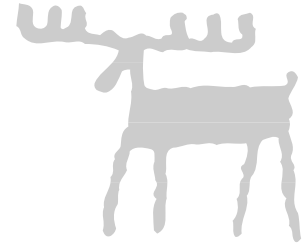
My mind is still racing to process all the information it has received since September 11th. Like many of you, I am still overwhelmed and experiencing many of the subtle after effects of the tragic attack on our nation. Much like our state chapter, National APA went through a difficult deliberation in order to determine whether to proceed with the *Fall Leadership Conference* and *Planners Day on the Hill* scheduled for September 27-30th. The position taken by our national leadership was much like our own. We felt it imperative to continue on, while being sensitive to and making accommodations for those who were not able to attend.

I am proud to say that we had an outstanding representation from Arizona and believe that in the long run we will make an important contribution to the passage of the Community Character Act (HB1433, S975). This bill would provide critically needed funding to establish technical assistance for the many small and rural jurisdictions that have not yet been able to initiate their general plan updates as required by *Growing Smarter/Plus*. While it is a bit difficult to think about such long-range issues in light of the immediate needs of national security, it was important to at least introduce the subject with a promise to revisit the issue after the first of the year.

Along with such long-term thinking came much discussion about September 11th. I hope that all of us will allow an opportunity for such sharing for as long as people feel the need. This is a very important component of the healing process. Understanding that this process must not be rushed, the American Planning Association has simply let those directly affected in New York and Washington, DC know that we are there to help whenever and however that may be.

Paul Farmer, AICP,
Executive Director of
APA, recently sent out an
email to all members

about a moderated dialogue established by APA to discuss some of the public policy issues being debated. Click on <http://forums.siteforums.com/~apa> to register to participate in the online discussion. The forum is available 24 hours a day, and APA's moderators will participate daily. Enter at any time to post messages and read other planners' ideas and opinions. You need not be a member of APA to participate, but please address all postings to the topics at hand.



Several members of the planning community have agreed to lead and moderate the discussion:

- Edward Blakely, Dean, New School University in New York; and author of *Fortress America*.
- Amy Helling, AICP, Associate Professor, Georgia State University.
- David S. Sawicki, AICP, Professor, Georgia Tech.
- Kenneth Topping, FAICP, an expert in planning for post-disaster recovery and reconstruction.

In closing, I would like our membership to try to hold on to the few positive things that came out of September 11th and try to carry them into the future. Those things include a renewed and/or new appreciation of the sweetness of life, the importance of community, and the difference that a little common courtesy and shared respect can make in all our lives.

Carol R. Johnson, AICP





APA NEWS

NATIONAL PROGRAM TO PROMOTE COMMUNITY GREENS

Two national, non-profit organizations, the National Trust for Historic Preservation and Ashoka: Innovators for the Public, have joined forces to launch Community Greens: Shared Parks in Urban Blocks. The mission of Community Greens is to promote the development of shared green spaces inside urban blocks in cities across the United States. Once the hallmark of earlier planned communities such as Radburn, New Jersey, and Sunnyside Gardens in Queens, New York, the concept of shared green space inside blocks is regaining popularity and seen as a way to attract families back to cities by providing additional greenery and play space for children.

Community Greens has begun to post online profiles of both historic and contemporary examples, describing their development and design, ongoing maintenance and management, and multiple uses. According to director Rob Inerfeld, AICP, the program plans to disseminate model ordinances, legal and financial mechanisms, and information on incentives for encouraging the development of shared green spaces. Over the next year, Community Greens seeks public, private, and non-profit partners in three to four cities to explore city-wide policy issues and develop new shared interior block parks as demonstration projects. The Community Greens staff can help you write a short article for your chapter newsletter that highlights examples of existing community greens in your state or region.

For more information, see www.community-greens.org, call 703-527-8300 x255, or e-mail rob@communitygreens.org.

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NEW GUIDE FOSTERS DISCUSSION ABOUT SEPTEMBER 11 TRAGEDY

The Study Circles Resource Center has developed a new discussion guide, *Facing the Future: How Should We Respond to the Attack on Our Nation?* This guide is intended to lay the groundwork for dialogue in your organization, school, or community. Communities across the country already are bringing people together for dialogue using this material. It is provided in a variety of formats, depending on

whether you want to spend two hours, one day, or several weeks addressing these issues.

The entire guide is available at <http://www.studyircles.org/pages/americaresponds.html>

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SUPPORT FOR PUBLIC DESIGN COMPETITIONS

The National Endowment for the Arts announces the third year of New Public Works, a Challenge America initiative that sponsors design competitions for diverse projects including Urban Planning, Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Industrial Design. This year there is a special focus on competitions for the Design of Schools with funding of up to ten projects at \$75,000 each. Ten additional design competitions for projects with the potential for significant impact on the public realm, especially those for institutional buildings, nonprofit housing, and public space, will receive up to \$50,000 each.

Letters of interest must be received by January 11, 2002. For more information, visit <http://www.arts.gov/guide/NPW02.html> or call 202-682-5452.

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THE DOWNTOWNS OF THE FUTURE: OPPORTUNITIES FOR REGIONAL STEWARDS

This is the third monograph published by the Alliance for Regional Stewardship. The report, prepared by Mary Jo Waits of the Morrison Institute and several Alliance members, makes the case that revitalized downtowns are one of the major surprises of the 1990s. It looks at what is putting the "e"—as in new economy, new energy, and more and more entrepreneurs—in some of America's downtowns so that people can begin a conversation about how to achieve these goals in other cities. It presents trends and issues that will help answer the question of whether this development is a fleeting phenomenon or part of an enduring way to revitalize regional cores. The report also gives some clear direction about the types of ideas city and regional leaders should be thinking about as they look at the future of their downtowns or other urban centers.

The full report is available at www.regionalstewardship.org/publications.html

Continued on page 10

MOVING UP, FILTERING DOWN: METROPOLITAN HOUSING DYNAMICS AND PUBLIC POLICY

This report from the Brookings Institution Center on Urban and Metropolitan Policy argues that there is an important, almost inevitable, housing dynamic that shapes many major metropolitan areas, particularly those in the Midwest. As households accumulate wealth, they tend to buy bigger and more expensive homes, and these homes are often located farther out at the edges of metropolitan areas. This pull to the suburbs creates housing vacancies or less investment in homes located in central cities and older suburbs, which in turn, can further erode existing neighborhoods and push more families outward. The paper examines this home buying and housing cycle in Cleveland, Cincinnati, and Columbus, Ohio metropolitan areas and offers a number of strategies that state and local leaders should take to help stem some of the negative effects of this pattern.

The full report is available at www.brookings.edu/urban/publications/bierexsum.htm

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REPORTS ON RURAL HOUSING

The Housing Assistance Council (HAC), with support from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, released two reports on housing in rural America. *Why Housing Matters: HAC's 2000 Report on the State of the Nation's Rural Housing* provides an overview of housing conditions in locations outside metropolitan areas. About 22 percent (22 million) of all occupied U.S. housing units are located in nonmetropolitan areas. The report highlights the relationships between housing, neighborhood quality, and economic well-being in rural America.

Why Housing Matters is available in pdf format at <http://www.ruralhome.org/pubs/hsganalysis/snrh/whyhousingmatters.pdf>

The second HAC report, *Federal Programs and Local Organizations: Meeting the Housing Needs of Rural Seniors*, assesses how different localities use Federal funds and social services to meet the needs of elderly homeowners and renters. The report begins with a profile of today's elderly population. It

also focuses on the continuum of housing options that correspond to the normal progression of the aging process: homeownership, rental housing, assisted living, and long-term care.

The report, which includes case studies of four diverse rural counties, is available at <http://www.ruralhome.org/pubs/hsganalysis/elderly/index.htm>

A LOCAL OFFICIAL'S GUIDE TO DEVELOPING BETTER COMMUNITY POST OFFICES

The purpose of this handbook, developed by the Vermont League of Cities and Towns, the Preservation Trust of Vermont, and the Vermont Division for Historic Preservation, is to help local officials and residents develop and implement solutions to proposed expansions and relocations - solutions that meet the needs of the community and the post office. The USPS is the most visible federal institution in America and is probably closer to the community than any other federal agency. It serves as a central meeting place and anchor for the community center. Because of this importance, few events are as devastating to the health of a town in any state as the closing or relocation of a downtown or community center post office. The good news is that cities and towns can successfully challenge Postal Service decisions that may negatively impact their communities. However, to be successful, local officials and citizens must take the initiative. The local community must give the USPS clear guidance on how best to meet its needs.

The entire handbook is available at <http://www.ptvermont.org/pocontents.html>. Also remember to visit APA's Community Post Office Partnership website at <http://www.StampOutSprawl.org>.

2000 GSE MORTGAGE DATA SETS AVAILABLE FROM HUD

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has released to the public extensive information on the mortgage purchases of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, two Government Sponsored Enterprises (GSEs) that HUD oversees. Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac are required to meet specified goals for purchases of mortgages that finance housing for

Continued on page 11

very low, low- and moderate-income families and families living in areas traditionally under-served by the mortgage market. Newly released 2000 data sets on single-family and multifamily mortgage purchases by Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac are now available from HUD USER. The 2000 data add an eighth year in the GSE mortgage data series, previously released for 1993 through 1999.

To order the 2000 GSE Data Sets, visit the HUD USER Web site at: <http://www.huduser.org/datasets/gse.html>.

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REPORT ON AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND SMART GROWTH

The National Neighborhood Coalition has released a report that examines the findings and policy recommendations of researchers and practitioners addressing the effects of smart growth on affordable housing. The research suggests that careful planning and regional approaches to affordable housing must be a fundamental component of smart growth. Recommendations from the report, entitled Smart Growth for Neighborhoods: Affordable Housing and Regional Vision, include addressing exclusionary development practices, increasing funding for affordable housing, and building new alliances.

The entire report is available in pdf format at <http://www.neighborhoodcoalition.org/>

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JOB SPRAWL: EMPLOYMENT LOCATION IN U.S. METROPOLITAN AREAS

This survey from the Brookings Institution maps the new American employment landscape, using zip-code employment files to map the location of jobs in the 100 largest U.S. metropolitan areas. Metropolitan areas are divided into four categories, based on whether they have tightly-packed central business districts, a very decentralized pattern of employment, or a combination of the two. The survey also highlights the characteristics of a metropolitan area—such as region, age, and political fragmentation—that are associated with employment decentralization.

The entire survey is available in pdf format at <http://www.brook.edu/es/urban/publications/glaser-jobsprawllexsum.htm>

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ISSUE PAPER HIGHLIGHTS URBAN BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

A new issue paper from the United Nations looks at the impact cities often have on biodiversity through the rapid conversion, fragmentation and degradation of natural landscapes. The paper also examines how cities across the world are trying to conserve biodiversity in a number of ways. The authors note that what is known about urban biodiversity is limited and much more research is needed to integrate this conservation thinking into the urban planning process.

For copies of the issue paper, either electronic or paper, contact Jim Sniffen, UNEP Information Officer, New York, at info@nyo.unep.org



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"HABITAT & HIGHWAYS" CAMPAIGN

Defenders of Wildlife has launched a "Habitats and Highways" campaign to make roads and auto transportation less dangerous and disruptive to wildlife. The campaign will work to reduce the impact of roads and driving on wildlife and habitat by modifying existing roads to accommodate wildlife passage and habitat. It will also help state and local officials incorporate wildlife conservation into transportation planning, so that future road development avoids ecologically significant areas and wildlife movement corridors.

For more information, visit the new Habitat and Highways Web site at <http://www.defenders.org/habitat/highways>





RESOURCES, PUBLICATIONS & REPORTS

PLANNERS' CASEBOOK — CALL FOR MANUSCRIPTS

Do you have a planning success story to tell? Perhaps you have a planning project that wasn't successful at all but other planners should learn from it? Are you looking to publish your work about planning practice, and earn \$500 for it? Then here's an opportunity to tell your story!

Planners' Casebook, the quarterly publication of the American Institute of Certified Planners, is currently seeking manuscripts for upcoming issues. Casebooks present lessons learned from innovative, controversial, or challenging programs in an easy-to-read format geared for the practicing professional. Each case study examines the process, the key players, and strategies involved in planning implementation. An important component of each Casebook is the detailing of lessons learned, which are often transferable from one planning situation to another.

Authors of published case studies receive a \$500 stipend. Prospective authors should submit a 250 to 400-word abstract to the editor for evaluation. Abstracts should present a clear overview of the proposed article, including its scope, major issue involved, outcomes, and — in particular — the "lessons learned" from your case study. Manuscripts are typically about 2,000 words, including abstract and author biography, plus maps, photos, or other graphics as appropriate. If you wish to submit an abstract or would like more information about Casebook, please contact:

Jerry Weitz, Ph.D., AICP
Planners' Casebook Editor
c/o Jerry Weitz & Associates,
Inc.
1045 Mid Broadwell Road
Alpharetta, Georgia 30004
(770) 751-1203
Jerryweitz@aol.com



Editors mailing list
Editors@list.planning.org
<http://list.planning.org/mailman/listinfo/editors>

CONGRATULATIONS! NEW AICP MEMBERS

by Geir Sverdrup, AICP
Vice President Professional Development

The results of the May 2001 AICP Exam have been released by the national AICP office. Twenty-three members of the Arizona Chapter have passed the AICP Exam. Arizona planners did very well in the AICP Exam. Welcome and congratulations to:

Stephen R. Abernathy	Matteo Mauro Moric
H. Duane Blossom	Susan I. Morrison
Donald M. Brush	Mark A. Mourey
Nathan R. Crane	Kathryn Klein Nelson
Eva-Maria Cutro	David Alan Petersen
Jennifer E. Donahue	Joel D. Shapiro
Dean Edward Giles	Stella Bustoz Sheridan
David Kuhl	Dennis C. Silva, Jr.
Teresa Hartsell MacDonald	Matthew C. Spriggs
Mario A. Mangiamele	Colleen M. Stoetzel
David Marsh	Sandra Koehler Topham
Paul Edward Michaud	

Following are important dates for members interested in taking the exam for 2002:

Monday, December 10, 2001 is the **application deadline** (*firm*) for the **May 2002 exam**

- *This deadline is for those submitting an application to AICP for the first time*

Monday, March 4, 2002 is the **exam site registration deadline** (*firm*) for the **May 2002 exam**

- *This deadline is for approved applicants who must follow through and register to take the AICP exam*

Saturday, May 11, 2002 is the date of the **next AICP exam**



EMPLOYMENT OPORTUNITIES

City of Coolidge Grant Coordinator/Sr. Planner (\$42,413 – \$60,933)

The City of Coolidge is seeking a qualified candidate for the position of Grant Coordinator/Senior Planner. The City of Coolidge has an excellent opportunity for a professional who desires a full-service City that is strategically located in the rapid-growth corridor between Phoenix and Tucson. While the City is characterized as a rural, agricultural small town with a population of 7,800, the City is expecting significant growth within the next several years. Major developers have been attracted to the area and new housing and industry will soon be available.


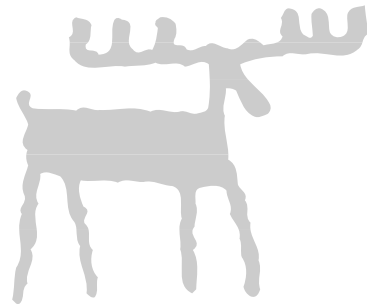
Responsibilities: Provides reports and staff recommendations for presentation to Planning and Zoning Commission and City Council; Processes development plans, annexation applications and Comprehensive Plan updates; communicates with public, landowners, developers and City officials to review proposed projects and answers questions; ability to solicit grants and implement grant-funded projects; and an understanding of the grant approval process from submittal to grant award including lobbying efforts when needed.

Qualifications: Leadership, self-motivation, and three years of progressively responsible professional grant writing and urban planning. Bachelor's degree in urban planning or related field; Master's degree desirable.

Applications and additional information can be obtained at: the City of Coolidge, 130 W. Central Avenue/POD. Box 1498, Coolidge, Arizona, 85228; by calling (520) 723-5361. Position is open until filled.

Lake Havasu City, Arizona

The second fastest growing non-metro community in Arizona is seeking highly motivated individuals to join our community development team: Plans Examiner: Community Development Department. Salary \$17.12–\$23.91/hourly, DOQ; plus benefits. Requires: Associate degree in building construction or a related field and four years experience in plans or building inspection; or, an equivalent combination of education and experience to successfully perform the essential duties of the job. Possession of international conference of building officials (ICBO) plans examiner certification required. For further job requirements and to obtain an application contact: Lake Havasu City, Human Resources, 2330 McCulloch Blvd. North, Lake Havasu City, Arizona 86403. Phone: 928-453-4143; Fax: 928-453-4154; TDD: 928-855-3945; or visit our website ci.lakehavasu-city.az.us. Applications will be accepted until a sufficient number are received. EOE



Sign up for Arizona Planning Association's e-mail list serve to receive vital information related to planning in Arizona and across the nation. Send an e-mail message to pking830@qwest.net requesting that you be added to the list serve. Include both your name and e-mail address.