

# NEVADA PLANNER



American Planning Association  
**Nevada Chapter**

*Making Great Communities Happen*

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## WINTER 2011

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# PLANNING RULES



# LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

GREG TOTH, AICP  
NEVADA CHAPTER PRESIDENT

## Stay Connected

I want to start by thanking everyone for their newsletter contributions, both for our very popular inaugural issue and for this Winter 2011 issue. If you attended our annual conference in October you were one of the lucky ones to get a special printed edition of the *Nevada Planner*. For cost reasons we'll probably only print it once a year for the conference. But it is so important for us to have this newsletter to share our experiences and stories with each other. So important, in fact, that I'm using it as inspiration for the topic of this letter: staying connected.

With the employment rate being what it is, it's now more critical than ever to have a good network of contacts, both professional and personal. The old adage "It's not what you know but who you know," definitely has a lot of truth to it. As I said in the last issue, this newsletter helps to accomplish some of that networking for you by giving us a method of communicating with each other. Contributors are encouraged to include a picture and short bio so we can place a face with a name, which can be especially helpful in bridging some of the gap between the northern and southern parts of the state.

The recent State Planning Conference in Downtown Las Vegas was very well attended (almost 130 people) and was yet another great way to meet colleagues from around the state. In December, the Northern Section co-hosted the Northern Nevada Transportation Collaborative's Sustainability Summit, which also had great attendance from a broad spectrum of fields. And both Sections continue to hold regular luncheons, mixers, and other events (see the Upcoming Events section of the newsletter). We also had our first joint mixer with the ASPA (American Society of Public Administrators), and their Chapter President and I agreed it would not be our last.

The Executive Committee and I are still working out ways to maximize the usefulness of our website. In fact, you should take a look at [www.nvapa.org](http://www.nvapa.org) if you haven't recently. We've started testing Google's free web service, and so far it looks great! A year or more ago we had moved the site to APA's national server, which is also free for the Chapter to use, but it doesn't offer as much freedom with what we can post. The Google site allows us to put much more information online (like job postings again, for example). We even have a Facebook Page! Just search for APA Nevada and it should pop right up. It doesn't get a lot of use yet, and we probably need to switch it from a "page" to a "group," but you can easily see who else in the Nevada planning realm is on "The Book" and keep in touch that way.



My point is there are many ways you can *stay connected* and meet other planners and professionals throughout Nevada. I encourage everyone to go to conferences, luncheons, and mixers, submit articles for the newsletter, visit the website from time to time, keep your contact information up to date... get involved as much as possible. I believe it's always important to have a strong network, but it seems absolutely crucial now, and the Chapter can help.

I know some of the events can get pricey (especially conferences with travel), and it's not always easy or possible to attend. That's why the Executive Committee and I are working this year to revive the Chapter-only membership. We're a little concerned about the effect that may have on national membership, but making Chapter membership as easy as possible is just too important to ignore this as an option. We'll of course give you more information about that when we're closer to getting it sorted.

The coming year will likely bring a lot of challenges, and having a good network of friends and colleagues can only help. Let me know your ideas about additional ways the Chapter can provide networking opportunities. Or just let me know what we should be working on in the coming year. I'd love to chat.

Happy New Year!



Greg Toth

**FACT PLANNING**  
The APA Group on LinkedIn has 5,769 members. The Toastmasters International group has 15,342 members.

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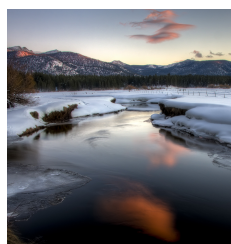
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PHOTO COURTESY OF NATHAN VAN ARSDALE VIA  
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This publication was designed for the web in an effort to remain environmentally friendly.

# NORTHERN SECTION NEWS

ANDY DURLING, AICP, LEED® AP  
DIRECTOR, NORTHERN SECTION

## Northern Nevada Transportation Collaborative—Sustainability Summit 2010

The Northern Section partnered with many public, private and professional organizations in planning the Northern Nevada Transportation Collaborative's inaugural event, Sustainability Summit 2010. With over 270 attendees and nearly 80 speakers, several of whom came from across the nation, by many accounts, the event was a huge success! On behalf of the Northern Section APA Board, we want to thank all of the members that participated. Unfortunately, the program for the Summit was changing up until the week before the event, which delayed our submittal of CM credits for approval to APA National, however they are now available at [www.planning.org](http://www.planning.org) for you to log as of the end of January. Additionally, the PowerPoint presentations and recordings of the sessions will be available shortly on the NNTC website – [www.nntc.info](http://www.nntc.info).

The NNTC Planning Committee is continuing to meet to discuss future events. The goal at the inception of the Collaborative was that this initial Summit would be the kick-off to a sustained dialogue amongst policy makers, professionals, and members of the public, all of whom have a stake in the future of our transportation needs in Northern Nevada. Look for upcoming events in 2011!

Our goal as the Northern Section has been to leverage our available education funds in a way that offers you, our members, the greatest opportunities to learn and obtain CM credits at a reasonable cost and to network with a diverse group of professionals outside of our typical planning sphere of influence. If you would like more information on NNTC and the Northern Sections role, please contact Andy Durling at [adurling@woodrogers.com](mailto:adurling@woodrogers.com).

## 2011 Nevada State Planning Conference

I know what you are thinking, "didn't we just have one of these"? Yes, and it's time to start planning the 2011 Conference! The Northern Section has begun planning the 2011 Conference, which is planned for Sparks, and we're looking for assistance. If you are interested in helping plan the conference or a topic you'd like to present, we'd love to hear from you. Please email Stacie Huggins at [stacie.huggins@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stacie.huggins@sbcglobal.net) to let us know your interest.

# SOUTHERN SECTION NEWS

COURTNEYMOONEY, AICP  
DIRECTOR, SOUTHERN SECTION

## Southern Nevada

As a quick recap to 2010, the State Conference was definitely the highlight of the year for the Chapter. Held at the Historic Fifth Street School in Downtown Las Vegas, the conference drew over 100 Planners from around Nevada and the Southwestern United States. We would like to thank all those who attended, assisted, presented sessions, acted as sponsors or otherwise contributed. It is certainly worth noting that all of the sessions from the 2010 State Conference are now available for CM credit reporting on the APA website. In December we also co-sponsored the annual ASPA Conference held in Downtown Henderson, and co-hosted a session on improving our regional capacity to compete for federal grants.

In 2011 the Southern Section is looking forward to bringing all of you "AICP'ers" additional CM credit opportunities throughout the upcoming year. We are working diligently to book speakers from outside of the group on topics that are of interest in the present and future tense. Another goal is to reach out to other organizations that have similar interests in mind so that we can work together and network with new groups of people. These sessions are also not just for those with AICP credentials but are for any and all interested professionals that would like to learn more about each topic presented. We are in place to serve you, so if you have any ideas or comments that you believe would benefit the Southern Section please feel free to send one of the board members an email and we would be happy to look into it. Thank you to everyone who has provided us with ideas so far. We look forward to another exciting year!



*Courtney Mooney, AICP has been an Urban Design Coordinator and the Historic Preservation Officer for the city of Las Vegas since 2003 and is the principal of 20th Century Preservation, a cultural resource management firm. She is currently the Nevada Chapter's Southern Section Director, and serves as a board member of Preserve Nevada, a statewide non-profit historic preservation group.*



# W

With the continued interest in sustainability from the community, Planners at the City of Henderson have taken an active role addressing community recycling. In response to resident requests for improved recycling service, the City and Republic Services have begun to roll out a single-stream curbside recycling pilot program for a one-year test period. Nearly 25,000 households will take part in a program that provides free recycling and trash carts, weekly trash and recycling service and bi-weekly bulky item service.

The program is identical to other recycling programs offered in other municipalities in Southern Nevada. In fact, the program was such as success in the City of North Las Vegas that its City Council recently voted to expand it citywide.

Prior to delivering the carts and starting the new service, staff from Republic Services and the City of Henderson hosted a series of public meetings to explain the program to residents.

Most people welcomed the chance to try the new service, but some were less enthusiastic. Concerns ranged from potential pest and odor issues that might result from storing the carts in garages during the hot summer months to opposition to the change from twice a week trash pickup to once a week.

While making recycling more convenient is important, the main goal is to increase recycling rates. Recent figures indicate that the residential recycling rate in Henderson is a paltry 6%, far below the national average. Officials will be monitoring the data collected from the pilot program areas to see if this figure changes.

In Fall 2011, an opinion survey will be sent to pilot program participants to evaluate resident opinions of the program. All information will be carefully considered, and ultimately the City Council will decide on whether to change, expand or discontinue the program by the end of 2011.

To learn more about the program, contact Richard Rojas, AICP at [richard.rojas@cityofhenderson.com](mailto:richard.rojas@cityofhenderson.com) 

**Richard Rojas, AICP**, is a Planner for the City of Henderson, where he has worked for the past three years. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Environmental Studies from UC-Santa Barbara and his Masters degree in City and Regional Planning from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo.



**RICHARD ROJAS, AICP**

# SUSTAINABILITY IN ACTION— improving recycling in HENDERSON



# A MODEL OF COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIC PLANNING FOR NEVADA

FREDRICK STEINMANN, PhD

Since the start of the “Great Recession” in December of 2007, Nevada now has the dubious distinction of having the highest state-wide unemployment rate, the highest state-wide foreclosure rate, and some of the highest rates of business failure in the United States. To make matters worse, at a recent meeting of the Nevada Economic Forum on November 4, 2010, the Reno Gazette Journal (November 5, 2010) reported that Nevada has already lost approximately 190,000 jobs since December 2007 and that the state will only likely add about 25,000 new jobs over the next three years. And according to the Las Vegas Review Journal (November 5, 2010) it was also reported at the November 4, 2010 meeting of the Nevada Economic Forum that Nevada’s state budget deficit for the coming 2011 state legislative session could climb as high as \$3 billion due to further declines in anticipated state government tax revenue collections.

Nevada’s current economic condition has put economic development front and center in the minds of many state and local government policy makers, planners, and economic development practitioners. Economic development, being a fundamentally public sector activity, is how government encourages long-term, stable economic growth through the creation of mid to high skill level jobs that pay mid to high level wages and offer individuals meaningful opportunities for general upward mobility. Economic development is also how government stabilizes government revenues while also improving the overall quality of life of a particular community. The lack of long-term, stable economic growth in Nevada over the past three years, combined with the overall loss of mid to high skill level and mid to high wage level paying jobs, has eroded the overall quality of life in our communities and has contributed to the ongoing decline in state and local revenues.

But although economic development is now front and center in the mind of both policy makers and practitioners, there is surprisingly little discussion on what a comprehensive economic development strategic plan might look like for Nevada. Many policy makers and practitioners continue to emphasize the importance of property-based approaches to both urban revitalization and urban economic development, either

through the stimulation of new residential or commercial real estate development, through the development of major infrastructure projects such as mass transit, or through the development of large-scale renewable energy projects. And although these types of real estate and land reuse strategies are and will continue to be important for Nevada’s economic recovery, there has been little discussion on what new non-property based strategies might be needed including the development and implementation of new tech-transfer and technology-based strategies, new small business and entrepreneurial-based strategies, new economic development marketing and attraction strategies, new neighborhood and community-based strategies, and new workforce development and job training strategies.

This article, making use of past research in the areas of urban revitalization and urban economic development, lays out a new model of comprehensive economic development strategic planning for Nevada. Perhaps more important than the actual planning process is *how* we choose to organize our local, regional, and state-wide economic development efforts. Historically, Nevada’s communities have relied on an ad hoc network of various economic development organizations and agencies. But given the economic challenges Nevada currently faces, it is perhaps time to reconsider the formal structure behind the state’s economic development efforts. Any new model must embrace a regional economic development approach and an approach that integrates both property-based and non-property based urban revitalization and urban economic development strategies.

## Lessons from the Past

In his 2010 study titled, “The Twilight of the Local Redevelopment Era: The Past, Present, and Future of Urban Revitalization and Urban Economic Development in Nevada and California”, Steinmann (2010) argues that since the end of most federal urban renewal programs in the mid-1970’s, redevelopment, in states like Nevada and California that already had existing state-wide redevelopment authorizing statutes, quickly became the dominant institutional arrangement through which *local governments* pursued the goals of both urban revitalization and urban economic development. From an urban revitalization standpoint, redevelopment became the primary way in which local governments attempted to eliminate or mitigate the negative impacts of physical and economic blight. From an economic development standpoint, local governments used redevelopment as their primary tool in stimulating long-term, stable levels of local economic activity.

In California, the importance local governments continue to place on redevelopment is made clear by examining the combined state-wide economic impacts different local redevelopment agencies have generated. According to Gallo and Koehler (2009), the 398 existing local redevelopment agencies in California in FY 2007 generated a combined annual state-wide economic output of approximately \$40.8 billion, helped create approximately 300,000 new jobs, and increased state and local government collected tax revenues by an estimated \$2.0 billion. And according to the California Redevelopment Association, between 2003 and 2005 alone, a total of 20,048 units of quality affordable housing were created by the various local redevelopment agencies operating state-

wide, second only to the number of affordable housing units developed by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development.

But Steinmann (2010) argues that although redevelopment has been very successful in the past, redevelopment, and its narrow use of predominately property-based urban revitalization and urban economic development strategies, is not enough by itself to encourage long-term, stable, levels of economic growth in the future given the new economic realities and pressures that simply did not exist in the mid-1970's. However, there are important lessons that policy makers and economic development practitioners can take away as the local redevelopment era begins to expire.

First, using one-way ANOVA tests in his research, Steinmann (2010) found that over the past 17 years, redevelopment agencies in California with a governing board comprised solely of the locally elected city council had, on average, incremental assessed value levels approximately \$1.23 million *lower* than redevelopment agencies with a private or semi-private governing board. Redevelopment agencies with a governing board comprised solely of the locally elected city council, had, on average, incremental property tax revenues approximately \$1.00 million *lower* than redevelopment agencies with a private or semi-private governing board. The results are nearly identical for redevelopment agencies governed by a locally elected county board of supervisors with incremental assessed value levels and incremental property tax revenue levels approximately \$1.26 million and \$1.10 million *lower* than redevelopment agencies with a private or semi-private governing board. These results suggest that *how* local urban revitalization and urban economic development efforts are organized and structured does have a direct impact on the outcomes of these efforts.

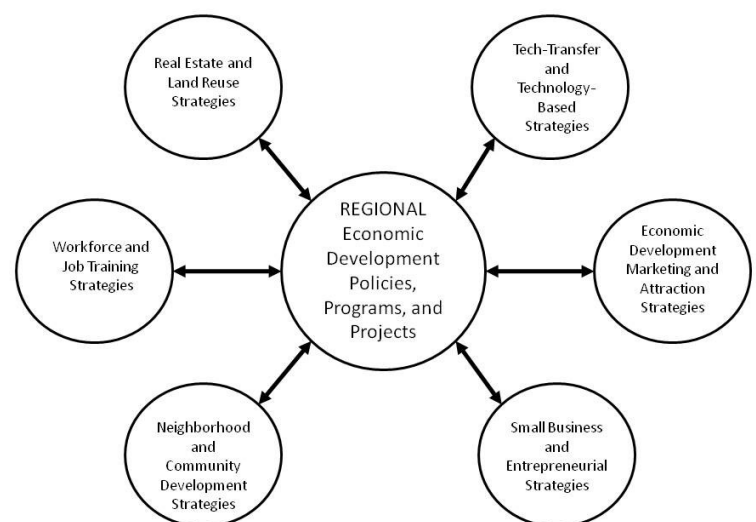
Second, using a series of case studies, Steinmann (2010) found that the experience of certain local redevelopment agencies can serve as a future template for new institutional arrangements responsible for urban revitalization and urban economic development. For example, the City of Chico and Butte County established the Chico Amended and Merged Redevelopment Project Area, a local redevelopment project area that spans both incorporated land within the City of Chico and unincorporated land within Butte County. The City of Sacramento and Sacramento County jointly formed the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency designed to pursue various property-based and non-property based economic development activities in different local project areas that span across municipal-county political boundaries. Both examples show that it is possible for competing local governments, in both cases a local city government and a local county government, to put aside their political differences and "push" their combined economic development efforts up to a regional level that transcends existing political boundaries.

Third, Steinmann (2010) uncovered an important paradox that is often overlooked by both policy makers and economic development practitioners. On one hand, all successful urban revitalization and urban economic development efforts share major similarities from a policy and project development and implementation standpoint. But on the other hand, it is important that each economic development policy and project

be tailored to fit the unique characteristics of individual communities and individual economic regions. For example, supporting new research and development of new technologies is an important role government can play in economic development. Stanford University's Office of Technology Licensing and the Berkeley Labs at UC Berkeley were both significantly responsible for the explosion of high-tech development in Silicon Valley and throughout the Bay Area in California. And although every community and every economic region should have a well developed tech-transfer and technology-based development strategy in its comprehensive economic development plan, policy makers and economic development practitioners must resist the temptation of reaching for the one-size-fits-all approach of simply copying the efforts of other communities and trying to replicate them in their own community. Like any set of economic development strategies, tech-transfer and technology-based development strategies must be custom tailored to fit local and regional needs and conditions.

## Envisioning a New Model of Urban Revitalization and Urban Economic Development in Nevada

A new model of Nevada's future urban revitalization and urban economic development efforts must move away from "single agency control" or from a hierarchical structure where one agency or economic development organization has complete control over local and regional revitalization and economic development efforts and policies. This new model must move toward a networked approach that leverages the resources of many different economic development agencies and organizations through partnerships built around common goals of urban revitalization and urban economic development. Such a model, developed by Steinmann (2010), is presented in Illustration 1.



*Illustration 1 – A Regional, Comprehensive Economic Development Approach*

As alluded to earlier, a comprehensive economic development strategic plan consists of six interdependent property-based and non-property based strategies: 1) real estate and

land reuse strategies, 2) tech-transfer and technology-based strategies, 3) economic development marketing and attraction strategies, 4) small business and entrepreneurial strategies, 5) neighborhood and community development strategies, and 6) workforce and job training strategies. The model presented in Illustration 1 shows that regional economic development policies, programs, and projects are developed and implemented by different economic development agencies and organizations located in each of the six nodes (i.e. real estate and land reuse strategies, etc.). Partnerships are formed organically around an immediate common purpose and then dissolved as needed when the immediate purpose is accomplished and reshaped to accomplish new tasks as they arise.

For example, the different economic development agencies and organizations involved in such a network might determine that as a primary economic development goal, they will attempt to create 100 new jobs that pay \$30,000 or more a year over a five-year period. Notice that the goal is not on recruiting a particular business or targeting a particular industry. Instead, the goal is based on creating a number of new mid to high skill level jobs that pay mid to high level wages. Such a goal may lead the various participating economic development organizations to develop a new small business incubator that caters specifically to the needs of high tech start-ups. Such a project may require the special capabilities of a local redevelopment agency, a regional small business development center, a tech-transfer office, and the assistance of an economic development marketing and attraction organization. In Northern Nevada, this might mean the participation of the Reno Redevelopment Agency, the Nevada Small Business Development Center, the UNR-DRI Technology Transfer Office, and the Economic Development Authority of Western Nevada. In this example, once the high-tech start-up small business incubator is built and leased out, both the Reno Redevelopment Agency and the Economic Development Authority of Western Nevada might split off to pursue other projects while the Nevada Small Business Development Center and the UNR-DRI Technology Transfer Office stay to provide further technical assistance to the participating small business high-tech start-ups.

The new model presented in Illustration 1 also has the advantage of being able to operate at a regional level as opposed to historical economic development and urban revitalization institutionalized approaches, such as redevelopment, that have historically been confined to narrow local political boundaries. Steinmann (2010) argues that contemporary markets pay little to no attention to existing political boundaries. For example, a business located in Carson City, Nevada cares, in general, very little if their customers come from Carson City, Douglas County, Reno, Sparks, or even California. In general, the business only cares that enough customers purchase enough of its goods and/or services to be profitable. Advances in shipping, transportation, and telecommunications means that most businesses can freely operate at a local, regional, national, and even international level. Yet many contemporary economic development efforts are still firmly grounded in 20<sup>th</sup> Century political necessities where arbitrary political boundaries delineate contemporary economic development and urban revitalization efforts. Two recent examples in Northern Nevada punctuate this point.

In the first example, Cabela's, one of the leading nation-wide outdoors outfitters recently opened a 125,000 square foot retail outlet on the western most outskirts of the City of Reno, Nevada located immediately off Interstate 80 but still within the City of Reno's municipal boundary. Before Cabela's settled on its current site, Cabela's had expressed interest in locating approximately 15 miles east along Interstate 80 on the eastern most outskirt of the City of Sparks, Nevada. In the second example, the newly completed and recently opened Reno Aces Ballpark in downtown Reno was originally planned for a site located at the Sparks Marina in Sparks. In both examples, the actual siting of the project made very little difference to either private entity from a customer-base perspective, Cabela's in the first example and the Reno Aces Ballpark in the second example, but made a tremendous amount of difference for the local redevelopment agency in both Reno and Sparks (the Aces Ballpark is currently located in Reno Redevelopment Project Area No. 1 and Cabela's is currently located in Reno Redevelopment Project Area No. 2, while the Sparks Marina is currently located in Sparks Redevelopment Project Area No. 2). Because Cabela's draws its customer base from all of Northern Nevada and beyond, the 15 miles between either potential site in Reno or Sparks would have likely had little to no impact on Cabela's long-term sales. The same can be argued for the Reno Aces Ballpark on the Reno Aces, whom again draw most of their customer base from all of Northern Nevada, well beyond the confines of Reno's downtown Redevelopment Project Area No. 1.

## Conclusion

Over the past three years, Nevada's state-wide economy has fallen from being one of the nation's most robust economies to one of the most depressed. And although there is plenty of speculation as to why Nevada's economy fell so fast, there needs to be an equally robust discussion among policy makers and practitioners as to how Nevada can rebuild its economy moving forward. What Nevada needs today is a new model for long-term, stable economic growth that integrates both property-based and non-property based economic development approaches within a larger economic development network. New property-based approaches, such as the development of new infrastructure projects or the development of new green energy production centers, are vital to the state's economic recovery. But equally vital are non-property based approaches including, for example, the development and marketability of new technologies through tech-transfer and technology-based strategies and the development of a highly skilled and trained workforce through different workforce development and job training strategies.

Some communities, such as the City of Chico and Butte County and the City of Sacramento and the County of Sacramento, have already developed a rudimentary networked approach to economic development, pushing local economic development efforts up to a regional level. These examples of strategic partnerships that form organically around a shared common purpose to promote long-term, stable levels of economic growth at a regional level can serve as a template for a new a model of comprehensive economic development strategic planning in Nevada.





SCOTT H. CAREY

# Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe Using Recovery Act Award to “Weave Communities Together”

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE AUTHOR

On August 18<sup>th</sup>, Vice President Joe Biden announced that the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe was awarded an American Reinvestment & Recovery Act grant from the Department of Commerce. The grant will be used install 40 miles of fiber which will link together 29 departments and businesses on the Pyramid Lake Indian Reservation. When completed, the project will connect the people living within the rural communities of Wadsworth, Nixon and Sutcliffe to 21st century internet technology.

"We are pleased to learn that our reservation is finally able to move into the 21st century with technology that will enable us to more effectively participate and communicate," according to Mervin Wright, Chairman of the Pyramid Lake Tribe. "Our three communities are 20 miles apart, made all the more distant by the hills and canyons on the reservation which also pose telecommunication obstacles."

The name of the project, "Natukwena Nagweseno," translated in English means, "To Weave Communities Together." Level (3) Communications, LLC participated in the infrastructure for weaving the communities together by contributing two strands of fiber optic lines from Reno to Wadsworth to lend to the project.

The grant award will bring an internet capacity of 100 mbps service with expansion capabilities up to 2.5 gbps. Currently

operating at 1.5 mbps, tribal departments and businesses are limited to sharing a wireless T 1. The grant award will boast public safety on the reservation by providing the two existing fire stations new capabilities in order to coordinate a multi-agency response during an emergency. "The reservation is remote and is certainly deserving of increasing its communication for law enforcement and emergency response," says Wright.

The fiber optic infrastructure will boost economic development and jobs on the reservation through being able to offer significant internet capacity to new businesses. The Tribal Council has recently approved the Pyramid Lake Strategic Economic Development Plan, which identifies goals and policies for job and revenue creation through recreation, Tribal enterprises, industrial & commercial development, energy development, Tribal entrepreneurship, and agricultural & ranching. "This will increase our capability for economic development and communication," says Wright. "The approval of this grant award shows that the National Telecommunications and Information Administration and the Nevada State Broadband Task Force realize that this fiber project will ultimately provide not just an economic benefit for the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, but will also provide economic opportunities in the future for the State of Nevada and the neighboring communities" says Greg Gardner, the Tribe's Technology Services Director.

*continued on page 13*





11-11-11; this is the target date for adoption of a new planning rule for the United States Forest Service (USFS). What role does local government, i.e. sub-state level, play in the development of this new planning rule? And should local governments even be interested in what the USFS eventually develops as the guiding principles for the revision of plans for 155 National Forests and 20 Grasslands managed by this federal agency?

### **USFS Planning Rule**

The Forest Service Planning Rule is described in its website (<http://fs.usda.gov/planningrule>) that is devoted to the update of the planning rule as follows:

"The National Forest Management Act (NFMA) of 1976 requires every national forest or grassland managed by the Forest Service to develop and maintain a Land Management Plan (also known as a forest plan). The process for the development and revision of the plans, along with the required content of plans, is outlined in the planning regulations, or planning rule. Individual forests and grasslands then follow the direction of the planning rule to develop a land management plan specific to their unit."

"A national Forest Service planning rule provides the overarching framework for individual forests and grasslands in the National Forest System to use in developing, amending and revising land management plans."

Presently, the USFS is operating under a 1982 planning rule as modified in 2000. Subsequent efforts to create a new planning rule have been successfully challenged in federal court.

On February 14, the USFS released its proposed Forest Planning Rule, which would establish a new national framework to develop land management plans, intended to both protect water and wildlife and promote vibrant communities. Publication of the proposed planning rule in the *Federal Register* marks the start of a 90-day public comment period, ending May 16, in which a broad range of stakeholders, including APA, is expected to comment. To encourage public engagement, the Forest Service will host an open forum to discuss the proposed rule on March 10, 2011, in Washington, D.C., in addition to public forums planned throughout the country.

### **An Interesting Opportunity**

Until this year, my awareness and understanding of the planning process used by the USFS for the lands they manage

# **U. S. Forest Service Planning Rule: Is there a role for local government?**

MIKE HARPER, FAICP



was peripheral. There are ranger districts, national forests and the unique Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit (LTBMU) within the jurisdictional boundaries of Washoe County. The county's interaction with these entities was primarily as a commenting agency for various initiatives promulgated by the USFS units (though the county's interaction with the LTBMU was slightly more involved as it is a major player in the Lake Tahoe Basin planning process and the forest is a backdrop to the urbanized portion -- Incline Village -- of the county in the basin).

In March 2010 I was approached by the USFS to be a speaker at their science symposium in Washington, DC. I was asked to present the latest on the science of land use planning. I initially felt trepidation about presenting such a topic at the symposium as I am a firm believer that land use planning is not a science, but more of a process. Apparently keying my comments around this belief did not irritate the attendees to the extent that I had feared. After speaking at the symposium, I was asked to participate in two of the four national roundtables, again in Washington, DC, that were follow-ups to the March symposium (I was able to attend the final one in May). It was my impression that I may have been the only invitee who worked or had worked professionally in a local government planning process. I have concluded that the USFS is relying more on its regional roundtables to gain the local government planning perspective.

At each of these opportunities, I attempted to present the reason why the USFS needed and continues to need to involve local governments in the development of the planning rule to be adopted in November 2011. Below are my suggestions and observations presented at the symposium and roundtable.

## Local Resources that Benefit the Planning of National Forests/Grasslands

One of the themes that I presented at both the science symposium and the national roundtable that I attended was that the USFS needed to recognize that the National Forests and Grasslands exist within the context of a larger region. Although some of these USFS units may be huge, they're still surrounded by other private properties and government entities. Because of this relationship, I recommended that there were a number of local resources that would benefit a forest plan being developed under a new planning rule, and that the use of these local resources should be recognized in an updated planning rule. Some of these resources include:

- GIS data sets developed by local governments for planning and other jurisdictional uses. For example, Washoe County has on its webpage a link to a map warehouse that provides access to substantial digital map information, some covering the national forest that provides a backdrop to the county.
- Master plans adopted by jurisdictions adjacent to the USFS units. These master plans not only provide valuable information, but also alert those planning the National Forest or Grassland of the development/conservation policies and proposed actions of the neighboring jurisdiction.


- Local planners' professional knowledge and expertise. The professional planners that work for neighboring jurisdictions and in the private sector often have historical information and trend analysis that can assist the USFS planners to better understand the context of the region in which they are developing the forest plans.

## The Effect on Local Governments of the National Forest/Grassland Plans

Following on the theme articulated above, the planning rule should also incorporate a process in which the effect of a forest plan on a local jurisdiction is assessed and, where possible, the effect does not jeopardize the implementation of a neighboring jurisdiction's adopted plan. Of course, there needs to be recognition that local jurisdiction's plans may also have an effect on the ability of a forest plan to be successfully implemented. Some of the effects on a local jurisdiction that I suggested could occur from a forest plan included:

- The effect on a jurisdiction's infrastructure such as water supply (where the USFS unit is the watershed for a local government's municipal water), or transportation network (especially, as an example, when the USFS unit is a popular tourist destination, or a source of wood products).
- The effect on a jurisdiction's economy, especially if the economy relies on the multiple use of the forest or grassland.
- The effect on the desired development pattern of a jurisdiction. An excellent example is the impact that the LTBMU has had on the development patterns in the Lake Tahoe Basin. As the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency completes its 20-year update of its regional plan, the planning that occurs for the LTBMU may have a significant influence on how much and where new, limited development occurs.

## Concluding Comments

Given the failure of the previous attempts to update the USFS planning rule, the Forest Service embarked on an ambitious public outreach and input effort to include all potential interested parties in this planning rule's update. I appreciated the opportunity to provide a local planning perspective; now is the opportunity for local governments to include in an updated USFS planning rule their concerns and their involvement. 

**Michael Harper**, FAICP, retired in 2009 after 32 years in public sector planning. He worked for most of his career with Washoe County, holding many positions from planner to department head and finally as planning manager. Mike served as NVAPA President from 1987 to 1991; AICP Commissioner from 1998 to 2002; and NVAPA PDO in 2008-09. He now serves as treasurer for both the County Planning Division, APA, & the National Association of County Planners (NACo) and is NVAPA's representative to the Western Planning Resources, Inc. Board of Directors. He was a speaker at the USFS's forum on the Planning Rule in March 2010 and a participant in their national roundtable on the Planning Rule in May 2010, both held in Washington, DC.



# TRANSPORTATION PLANNING for NORTHERN NEVADA'S FUTURE

PATRICE L. ECHOLA and  
MICHAEL J. MORENO, III



RTC 4TH STREET STATION

PARSONS  
BRINCKERHOFF

The Northern Nevada Transportation Collaborative welcomed transportation planners and other professionals, to the first Northern Nevada Transportation Sustainability Summit, in December 2010, at the University of Nevada, Reno. This informative and enlightening inaugural event was the first of its kind for Northern Nevada's multi-county, public/private planning sector. It allowed all parties to come together and address their local community transportation infrastructure needs. The Summit was attended by over 270 people and included more than 80 local, state and national transportation-experts. The conference provided a forum for addressing regional transportation planning needs for sustainability, which will contribute to the economic prosperity for Northern Nevada.

This collaboration of community stakeholders was initiated to advance a reasoned dialogue in three core areas of focus: Mobility, Economy and Livability. The formation of this summit occurred at a time when the need to broaden the foundation in transportation planning was recognized. The infrastructure investments discussed will serve to keep and attract employers, create new jobs, and maintain the region's quality of life for livability, particularly during these tough economic times.

Participants at the conference included transportation planning professionals, engineers, visionaries and experts throughout the country who presented a wide range of topics. Some of the topics were; regional & integrated

planning approaches, TOD corridors, transportation funding sources, alternative modes of transportation, best practices for public participation and the Olympic bid as a transportation catalyst, among others.

The 2010 Sustainability Summit has begun to identify measures to support transportation ideas and infrastructure investments essential for improving the livability of our communities for decades to come. For example, much discussion was focused on long-range transportation needs and in particular, the Reno Tahoe Winter Games Coalition's preparation to make a bid to host the 2022 Olympic Winter Games. A critical question of an Olympic bid is, "How does one manage the mobility needs of thousands of visitors while providing infrastructure improvements for the region's future?" Some of the distinguished panelists for this session were Nevada Lt. Governor Brian Krolicki, Reno Mayor Robert Cashell and Sparks Mayor Geno Martini.


The Collaborative planning committee incorporated mobile tours to display projects that have been constructed. One tour was of the Reno-Tahoe International Airport's ABC (airport baggage check-in) expansion project featuring the newly enhanced airport facility. The \$60 million improvement—which includes a TSA contribution of \$12 million—consisted of a larger reconfigured terminal lobby, a new baggage handling system, a new high-tech control tower



and a large Hyatt Hotel next to the airport. In 2007 the airport handled more than five million passengers. The Reno-Tahoe Airport is vital for the region's economy and provides essential air service for Northern Nevada and nearby California communities.

Another completed project featured in the tour was the Regional Transportation Commission's (RTC) 4TH STREET STATION transit center. The ribbon cutting ceremony was in October 2010. The new facility replaces the 24-year old existing transit station, which was over capacity and unable to meet the current needs of fleet, staff and passengers. The new transit center was designed and constructed to LEED specifications for sustainability, energy savings and minimal environmental impacts. RTC secured 95% federal funding for this \$13 million project, including \$4 million from the American Recovery Reinvestment Act. This project is a significant investment for downtown Reno's revitalization. RTC's public transportation system currently serves nearly 7.5 million passengers a year. Both projects were much needed transportation investments for the region; they also provided hundreds of jobs.

The 2010 Sustainability Summit offered attendees the prospect to develop and strengthen public/private partnerships; learn about innovative sustainable concepts and discuss transportation options to further transform Northern Nevada into an economic regional center. In the long term, these initial discussions today will serve to foster sustainable job creation, economic growth and regional prosperity for the future.

The results emerging from the Summit discussions will be documented in a 'Conference Report' to be published in spring of 2011. This report will form the basis for upcoming transportation-related events and policy discussions for the region. To learn more about the 2010 Sustainability Summit and the Northern Nevada Transportation Collaborative please visit the website [www.NNTC.info](http://www.NNTC.info) and Facebook under the Collaborative name. 

**PATRICE L. ECHOLA** joined the Washoe County Regional Transportation Commission in April 2006, as a land use / transportation planner. Patrice is currently working on her Masters in Planning; in her last life she was a structural transportation designer.

**MICHAEL J. MORENO, III** joined the Washoe County Regional Transportation Commission in May 2002, as the Community Relations and Public Affairs Officer. Previously Michael spent 20-year with Wells Fargo Bank, as Vice President in the Northern Nevada retail division.

## Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe Using Recovery Act Award to "Weave Communities Together" | continued from page 9

The fiber award comes at a time in which the Tribe is moving ahead on several major projects on the reservation. Design work is underway to build a 15,000 sq. ft. Community Center in the town of Wadsworth that will include a library and a computer and learning laboratory where Tribal Members can connect to other libraries, join college classes through a satellite branch of the Truckee Meadows Community College, and K-12 students can receive tutoring assistance. The Tribe has plans for a new highway bypass and industrial park on the southern end of the reservation. The new highway bypass will realign a portion of Nevada State Route 447 around the town of Wadsworth and allow for better access to a planned 745 acre industrial park.



PHOTO COURTESY OF PYRAMID LAKE PAIUTE TRIBE

## About Pyramid Lake and its People

Pyramid Lake is located about 35 miles Northeast of Reno, NV and is the property of and managed by the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe. Pyramid Lake is known as being North America's most beautiful desert lake and home to many year round recreational activities. The lake occupies 112,000 surface acres inside the reservation boundary and has a shoreline of approximately 125 miles. The lake has no outlet and is a residual body remaining from the prehistoric Great Lake Lahontan water body. The lake is fed primarily by the Truckee River and is world famous fishery for the Lahontan Cutthroat Trout and Cui-ui, which are on the endangered species list. The Pyramid Lake Indian Reservation is comprised of 476,728 acres. The roughly 2,400 Tribal members are direct descendants of the Northern Paiute people who have occupied the vast areas of the Great Basin for thousands of years. Pyramid Lake was designated as one of the first National Scenic Byways in the country and was the first scenic byway entirely on an Indian reservation. For more information about Pyramid Lake or its people please visit the Pyramid Lake Museum and Visitors Center in Nixon or log on to [www.pyramidlake.us](http://www.pyramidlake.us).

Follow Pyramid Lake on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/plpt](http://www.twitter.com/plpt). Become a Friend of Pyramid Lake on Facebook at [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) search Pyramid Lake. 

**Scott H. Carey** is a Tribal Planner with the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe.

# FACT PLANNING

According to Dr. Jane McGonigal from the Institute for the Future, people around the globe spend 3 billion hours a week playing video games.

# come to SANTA FE 4 in 2011 for an enchancing corners high!

NM APA, Colorado APA and Western Planner invite you to join us up in old Santa Fe, New Mexico from September 11<sup>th</sup> to the 14<sup>th</sup> in 2011 for the 30<sup>th</sup> annual Western Planners conference. We say "up" in Santa Fe because the capitol city of New Mexico is over 7,000 feet above sea level. Planners attending this elevated conference will certainly enjoy the warm days and cool evenings of late summer in the "Land of Enchantment." The conference will happen just after Fiesta and before the wine and chili festival, when local restaurants will be welcoming visitors and the smell of pinon fires and roasting chili pervade.




Santa Fe is celebrating its 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2010 and New Mexico its centenary in 2012, so it's a good time to be a Western Planner in 2011. Santa Fe is the oldest capital city in North America and the oldest European community west of the Mississippi. Thirteen years before Plymouth Colony was settled by the Mayflower Pilgrims, Santa Fe was established and it would soon become the seat of power for the Spanish Empire north of the Rio Grande.

Santa Fe is the site of both the oldest public building in America, the Palace of the Governors, and the nation's oldest community celebration, the Santa Fe Fiesta, established in 1712 to commemorate the Spanish reconquest of New Mexico in the summer of 1692. Peralta and his men laid out the plan for Santa Fe - according to the Laws of the Indies signed by Phillip II - at the base of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains on the site of the ancient Pueblo Indian ruin of Kaupoge, or "place of shell beads near the water." The Laws of the Indies were influential in the creation of regulations that later guided development in the United States, particularly the Land Ordinance of 1785, which introduced townships and sections.

The city has been the capital for the Spanish "Kingdom of New Mexico," the Mexican province of Nuevo Mejico, the American territory of New Mexico (which contained what is today Arizona and New Mexico), and since 1912 the State of New Mexico. Santa Fe, in fact, was the first foreign capital

overtaken by the United States, when in 1846 General Stephen Watts Kearny captured it during the Mexican-American War.

Join us for a planning conference that considers the old, contemplates the present, and looks to the future in a city where all three times seem to abide. The conference will be held at the historic La Fonda Hotel on the Plaza, and there is a special room rate of \$119. Call and reference NMAPA/Western Planner to reserve this special rate (limited number of rooms): 800-523-5002 or go to [www.lafondasantafe.com](http://www.lafondasantafe.com). For more information contact: Dan Pava [dpava@lanl.gov](mailto:dpava@lanl.gov) 505-667-7360. 

## 2010 Nevada Chapter DeBoer Awards for Excellence in Planning

The 2010 award recipients were announced on Friday, October 1<sup>st</sup> at the annual awards luncheon at the Historic Fifth Street School in Las Vegas. The luncheon was the capstone of the State Planning Conference. Congratulations to all of the winners!

### ***Outstanding Plan***

Clark County  
Parks, Trails and Open Space Element

### ***Outstanding Planning Programs, Techniques and Tools***

City of Henderson, Clarion Associates & Duncan Associates  
Development Code Update

### ***Outstanding Plan for an Individual Project***

City of Las Vegas  
Neon Museum and Boneyard Park

### ***Outstanding Public Outreach and Journalism***

City of Las Vegas  
Planning and Development Department Community Outreach Program

### ***Distinguished Leadership Professional Planner***

Flinn Fagg, AICP  
City of Las Vegas

### ***Citizen Planner***

Steven Evans

### ***Elected Official***

Councilmember Ricki Y. Barlow  
City of Las Vegas

### ***President's Award***

Richard Serfas, AICP

## congratulations

When you see Valerie Claussen, AICP, and Stephanie Grigsby, AICP, please give them well-deserved pats on the back. They're the Chapter's newest AICP members, passing the November 2010 exam!



### ***Creating Place: Remaking America Green***

*Creating Place: Remaking America Green* is built around five forces that distinctively influence every aspect of life and human development around the world today: economics, environment, politics, society and technology. It also follows the premise that tomorrow is broadly different for everyone. What is your future is not necessarily mine; therefore humankind must become familiar and comfortable in living within the context of continuously changing "futures."




The first part of the book deals with how we as Americans evolved, "grew" as a nation to where we are today, and face the issues our communities must resolve as a result of earlier decisions we either made or ignored, as well as how we deal with the unintended consequences these situations produced.

*Creating Place: Remaking America Green* also identifies and covers some of the most difficult hurdles we must now overcome and changes we must implement across America to begin creating *place* and strengthening community. This process discusses using the five influential driving forces as a basis for guiding strategic community planning. By proactively addressing each of the conditions so they become constructive forces, a community is able to harness its strengths to bridge beyond today's issues and successfully move forward. Examples of some highly successful community turn-arounds are presented.

Through the view of the community as a family, *Creating Place: Remaking America Green* offers communities the ability to understand how to engage its citizenry to assist in establishing a vision for its futures that everyone is willing to invest in, and with a measurable set of pathways and goals which ultimately achieves sustainability, creates *place* and provides a plan for the communities' future.

It is my hope that *Creating Place: Remaking America Green* will spark a discussion amongst planners, architects and designers which will influence the evolution of our communities and promote a return to strong, unique, sustainable communities.

*Creating Place: Remaking America Green* is available through amazon.com, and Google Books.

**Dr. Robert A. Fielden, NCARB, FAIA** is a senior principal with RAFI, a multi-faceted planning, architecture and urban design firm. Fielden is internationally recognized for his contributions to architecture. The specialized aspects of his professional knowledge, experience and skill focus on practice competency, resource conservation, product and systems integration, quality control of work and profession standard of care. 

Be friends with RAFI on Facebook!

an interview with Andy Durling

Jim and I are long time friends, first meeting during our course work in the Geography department at the University of Nevada. A graduate of UNR with a History degree and minor in Geography, Jim is currently a Senior Planner in the Long Range Planning department for the City of Sparks, where he's worked since 2001. Prior to joining the team at the City of Sparks, Jim was a Sergeant of Arms for the United States Senate under Senator Reid.



#### **Describe your interest in planning.**

My interest in planning began in college where I took several land use planning courses. I recognized the increased development pressures in Northern Nevada at that time and saw a need to plan for sustainable development and growth. The need for a balanced growth pattern in Northern Nevada was, and is, important to me and I found that Planning was a career path that suited me.

#### **Describe your education in planning.**

I minored in Geography at the University of Nevada with an emphasis in Land Use Planning, as well as additional course work in Public Management. Most imperative to my planning education has been the 10 years of on the job learning!


#### **Describe your career path.**

My career path began as an Assistant Planner at the City of Sparks in 2001, working on current planning cases. I became an Associate Planner in 2003 and Senior Planner in 2007 when I made the switch to Long Range Planning.

#### **Describe your most interesting project you have worked on.**

The Transit Oriented Development plan for the City of Sparks (a Nevada DeBoer Award winning plan) has been my most intriguing project so far. I really enjoyed working alongside the consultants on the project and I was able to learn national trends and best practices for TOD. It provided me with a broader picture for the reality of TOD in Sparks. During the planning process for this project, I felt that it was very valuable that the plan began as a master plan and then standards were developed to implement the vision. The development standards were developed through the culmination of many public workshops, as well as soliciting feedback from practicing planners in our region.

#### **Describe one of your future planning career goals/aspirations.**

There are days when I'd like to be a director where I could lead a team in developing a sustainable city and other days where I enjoy being hands on with an individual project. I guess I'd hope for a future that offers both. I always want to be expanding my horizons and taking on new challenges with diverse projects that keep things exciting. I'd really like to learn and become more involved in redevelopment and economic development work; a trend that I feel will grow as cities continue to mature. 

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Northern Nevada

**February 16** 1pm – 2pm

APA Audio Conference: Mastering Meeting Management  
- Washoe County, Community Development, Large Conference Room - 1001 E. Ninth Street, Building A, Reno

**February 22** 11:30pm – 1pm

Reno/Sparks Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan (*brown bag lunch—free*)  
- City of Sparks, Community Development - 1675 East Prater Way, Suite 107

### March

(*brown bag lunch—free*) (Watch for emails and/or check website for date and location.)  
- Washoe County, Community Development, Large Conference Room - 1001 E. Ninth Street, Building A, Reno

### April

Northern Section Annual Mixer (Watch for emails and/or check website for date and location.)

**June 8** 1pm – 2:30pm

APA Audio Conference: Sustainability Planning for Officials  
- Washoe County, Community Development, Large Conference Room - 1001 E. Ninth Street, Building A, Reno

**June 29** 1pm – 2:30pm

APA Audio Conference: 2011 Planning Law Review  
- Washoe County, Community Development, Large Conference Room



**the western planner**

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## Southern Nevada

**February 16** 1pm – 2pm

APA Audio Conference: Mastering Meeting Management  
- City of Henderson, Community Development, 240 S. Water Street

**March 9** 11:30am

Renewable Energy by NV Energy (*lunch provided—\$20*)  
- Gordon Biersch

**March 16** 1pm – 2:30pm

APA Audio Conference: Mitigating Hazards Through Planning  
- City of Henderson, Community Development, 240 S. Water Street  
- City of Mesquite Planning & Env. Resources Department, 10 Mesquite Blvd.

### April 13

Tonopah Community Gardens (*brown bag lunch—free*)  
- Tonopah Community Gardens, 711 N. Tonopah Drive, Las Vegas

**April 20** 1pm – 2:30pm

APA Audio Conference: Performance Measures in Transportation Planning  
- City of Henderson, Community Development, 240 S. Water Street  
- City of Mesquite Planning & Env. Resources Department, 10 Mesquite Blvd.

**May 11** 1pm – 2:30pm

APA Audio Conference: Renewable Local Energy  
- City of Henderson, Community Development, 240 S. Water Street  
- City of Mesquite Planning & Env. Resources Department, 10 Mesquite Blvd.

**June 8** 1pm – 2:30pm

APA Audio Conference: Renewable Local Energy  
- City of Henderson, Community Development, 240 S. Water Street

**June 29** 1pm – 2:30pm

APA Audio Conference: 2011 Planning Law Review  
- City of Henderson, Community Development, 240 S. Water Street  
- City of Mesquite Planning & Env. Resources Department, 10 Mesquite Blvd.

*Note: All APA Audio Conferences are FREE to attend.*

# FACT PLANNING

The 2011 Grammy Award-Winning Album *The Suburbs*, by rock group Arcade Fire, has tracks entitled The Suburbs, Suburban War, Sprawl I and Sprawl II.





PHOTO COURTESY OF RENO-SPARKS CONVENTION AND VISITORS AUTHORITY

## A Model of Comprehensive Economic Development Strategic Planning for Nevada | continued from page 8

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**Frederick Steinmann** earned his Doctorate in Policy, Planning, and Development from the University of Southern California in 2010. Frederick currently works for the City of Carson, California, the Nevada Small Business Development Center, and is the Managing Principal of his own firm, EDSolutions, LLC in Nevada.

# WANTED WANTED

## Newsletter Editor

Would you like to be Editor in Chief of this fine publication? We're looking for someone with the desire, experience, and time to take *The Nevada Planner* under their wing. Our research from other Chapters indicates about 10-15 hours of work are required per issue, and we'll be publishing *The Nevada Planner* quarterly. Job duties include but are not limited to:

- Collect and compile articles, letters, ideas, suggestions, blurbs, pictures, and ads for inclusion in the newsletter.
- Select co-editor(s) and assistants as necessary.
- Work closely with the graphic designer on layout and content.
- Arrange proofreading of all articles.
- Arrange distribution to Chapter members and APA leadership, and posting on Chapter website.
- Report to the Executive Committee at monthly meetings/conference calls.

For more details and if you are interested in volunteering for Editor in Chief, please contact Greg Toth or Robert Summerfield and include a brief explanation of your interest and experience. And thank you in advance!

## Voluntary Planner Recruitment

The Washoe County Design Review Committee (DRC) is currently recruiting a planner to fill a vacant position on the committee. The selection for the new position will be determined at an upcoming DRC meeting. Membership on the DRC is strictly voluntary and requires a commitment by the applicant to attend the monthly meetings and provide technical input. Please send an updated resume to Don Morehouse either by email ([dmorehouse@washoecounty.us](mailto:dmorehouse@washoecounty.us)) or regular mail at the address below.

Don Morehouse, Planner  
Washoe County Department of Community Development  
PO Box 11130  
Reno NV 89520-0027  
775-328-3632

## STAYING CONNECTED

APA Nevada is has gone social! Please connect with us on our revamped Chapter website or our Facebook page to network, share information, and stay up to date on current planning issues and APA Nevada news.



# NOTEWORTHY INFORMATION

Nevada Chapter  
American Planning Association  
PO Box 95050 MSC 115  
Henderson NV 89009-5050  
[www.nvapa.org](http://www.nvapa.org)

## NEVADA PLANNER

The Nevada Planner is a publication of the Nevada Chapter of the American Planning Association, with a circulation of approximately 350 Chapter members, APA leadership, and Chapter Presidents. It is published quarterly.

## ARTICLES

To submit articles, ideas for articles, letters, announcements, events, photos, or advertisements, please contact Robert Summerfield, Chapter Vice President, at [rsummerfield@lasvegasnevada.gov](mailto:rsummerfield@lasvegasnevada.gov). The next issue will be published in or around April, 2011.

## CHANGES OF ADDRESS

The Nevada Chapter receives all member mailing and email addresses from the National database. To change your mailing address or email address, please log in to [www.planning.org](http://www.planning.org) and update your information there.

Or, mail your changes to:

Member Records Department  
American Planning Association  
205 N. Michigan Ave., Suite 1200  
Chicago IL 60601  
Fax: 312-786-6700

## ADVERTISING

Have a service or product that could benefit from exposure to our members? Advertise in the Nevada Planner.

The *Nevada Planner* is a quarterly publication of the Nevada Chapter of the American Planning Association with over 300 members. The newsletter provides information on current planning topics, chapter conferences and activities and job opportunities. Advertisement space in the *Nevada Planner* is now available. Our advertising rate sheet is available on our website ([www.nvapa.org](http://www.nvapa.org)) or contact Robert Summerfield for more information.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

18 CM Credits for CPTED Training

The National Institute of Crime Prevention is holding a Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) training conference at Harrah's in Las Vegas, NV March 15-17, 2011. AICP members can earn 18 CM credits for completion of the training. For more information about the conference and this CM opportunity visit [www.cptedtraining.net](http://www.cptedtraining.net).

## AICP ACTIONS

AICP has finished the second year of institute members' Certificate Maintenance (CM) program. AICP membership is sound and APA and AICP CM programs at the national, chapter and section levels have developed to provide varied and cost efficient opportunities to advance AICP members' knowledge and ability.

In mid-November AICP members should have received an annual update letter from AICP CEO Paul Farmer. Highlights include:

- Over 400 candidates passing the AICP exam and eligible for membership, and another 700 new planners qualified to take the AICP exam.
- APA and AICP Certificate Maintenance (CM) programs at the national, chapter and section levels maturing and providing a range of affordable CM programs.
- About 90% of members fulfilled their CM requirements to maintain their AICP credentials.

In 2011 AICP initiatives include:

- Improved AICP member communication, such as messages on the AICP website Paul Inghram, AICP President at [www.planning.org/leadership/fromthecommission/2010/oct.htm](http://www.planning.org/leadership/fromthecommission/2010/oct.htm), the annual updated letter, and periodic email notifications. It is important that the membership information you supply to APA include your email address at [www.planning.org/ecommerce/account](http://www.planning.org/ecommerce/account). If you are not getting emails from AICP, please email member services at [AICPCM@planning.org](mailto:AICPCM@planning.org) or [www.planning.org/customerservice/contact\\_form.htm](http://www.planning.org/customerservice/contact_form.htm)
- Enhancements to the AICP website ([www.planning.org/aicp/index.htm](http://www.planning.org/aicp/index.htm)) for finding CM educational opportunities and recording your CM credits, and including fee and on-line CM courses.
- Starting the AICP Advanced Specialty Certification (ASC) membership recognitions for Transportation Planning and Environmental Planning. AICP ASC is at [www.planning.org/asc/index.htm](http://www.planning.org/asc/index.htm)
- Starting AICP's Community Planning Assistance Teams that can provide special planning services to communities in need. The community assistance program can be viewed at [www.planning.org/communityassistance/index.htm](http://www.planning.org/communityassistance/index.htm)
- Expanded coordination to enhance support to Chapter and Section Professional Development Officers and their CM programs.

If you have suggestions, comments or concerns on AICP or CM processes or procedures please contact:

Monica Groh, Manager  
Professional Development & AICP  
American Planning Association  
1030 15<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 750W  
Washington, DC 20005  
[mgroh@planning.org](mailto:mgroh@planning.org) | p: 202-349-1027 | f: 202-872-0643

**Lance Schulte, AICP** is the AICP Commissioner for Region VI. If you would like to get more involved in AICP as a committee volunteer, or have policy ideas or issues to share he would like to hear from you. He can be reached at [meyers-schulte@sbcglobal.net](mailto:meyers-schulte@sbcglobal.net) or via his cell at 760-805-3525.



## Northern Section

**Michael Harper**, FAICP, is presenting the ethics session at the Rocky Mountain Land Use Institute's annual conference in Denver on March 3, 2011 with colleague from Colorado, **Katie Guthrie**, AICP (CO APA Executive Director).

### Washoe County by Michael Harper, FAICP

**Kim Robinson** and **Bob Webb**, AICP, Planning Managers with Washoe County, are co-managers of the Washoe County Community Development Department until a new director is appointed.

### Clark County by Garrett TerBerg III, AICP

Clark County recently received an Outstanding Plan Award from the Nevada Chapter, American Planning Association for the Parks, Trails, and Open Space Element of the Comprehensive Plan. This version takes a new approach in defining park types by function and service population. Taking a page from the private sector, the plan views each type of park (neighborhood, community, regional, special use) as serving a different customer base with different service needs, preferences, and demands. With that in mind, use rates for each park type were calculated from residential land uses. Combined with population forecasts, this information will allow estimates of future parks facility needs based directly on the County's updated land use plans. The update offers an improvement in linking facilities planning with the budgeting process. The plan is available on the County's new web page at [ClarkCountyNV.gov](http://ClarkCountyNV.gov).

In addition, the entire Comprehensive Plan underwent a facelift and reformat to make it easier to use, and is also found on the County website.

### City of Las Vegas by Margo Wheeler

After two years of close collaboration with city and community users, the city of Las Vegas Department of Planning has proposed to merge Title 18 (Subdivision Ordinance) and Title 19 (Las Vegas Zoning Code) together in a more graphic oriented Uniform Development Code (UDC). The merging of the Titles resolves cross-referencing issues, eliminating duplication and contradictions. The UDC is a more user-friendly document that is formatted for Internet use to better serve the community. The UDC is currently in the proposed ordinance review process for City Council adoption this year.

On January 26, 2011, the city of Las Vegas Department of Planning launched its first Citizens Academy of Planning (CAP) session. The CAP is designed to give community members a comprehensive overview of the major elements that make up the planning process. The curriculum consists of ten, 90-minute classes held over a ten week term. All classes are taught by professionals of the Department of Planning staff or other selected experts who have direct experience in a respective topic area.

Additionally, in January 2011, the City of Las Vegas Department of Planning and Development will become the Department of

Planning and Licensing. They've recently moved to a new Development Services Center which will house not only Planning, Building and Public Works, but also Field Operations and Leisure Services.

## Ch-ch-changes...

**Adrian Freund**, FAICP, retired in January from the Director's position with the Washoe County Community Development Department. He has since established a consulting firm - Adrian Freund and Associates. Adrian is also teaching a Planning Theory course this semester at the University of Nevada, Reno.

**John Hester**, AICP, was promoted to Assistant City Manager with the City of Reno in the fall of 2010. He now oversees the Redevelopment Agency as well as the Community Development Department for the city.

**Margo Wheeler**, AICP, Director of Planning and Development for the City of Las Vegas for the last 6 years, has taken the Director of Community Development position with the City of San Bernardino, CA. During her tenure with the City of Las Vegas she attended Western planner conferences in Salt Lake City and Boise, and her department was the proud recipient of many Western Planner awards during the last decade.

Please forward any information or articles you would like to share in the Nevada Notes or Western Planner to [<tavance@trpa.org>](mailto:tavance@trpa.org). **Remember, if you don't send it, I can't print it!**

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## Brownbag-It

Beginning in October of 2010, the Northern Section began a series of brownbag lunch events. Our intent is to offer CM credits and educational opportunities and to bring you a mix of topics that are not typically directly related to planning. We are currently planning brownbag events for 2011, with the hope of offering a brownbag every other month in areas across the North. Our last brownbag on January 24, 2011 at the Carson City Business Resource and Innovation Center featured Rob Joiner discussing the upcoming 2011 State Legislative Session, a primer on the Nevada State Legislative Process, as well as highlighting some anticipated bills associated with planning. This brownbag will be a two part topic, with a follow up event this summer that will recap the Session and highlight new laws related to planning and land use in Nevada.

Our next brownbag will be the end of February. We are in the middle of finalizing this session, so look for an email in the coming weeks to let you know when, where, and what our next topic will be. If you are interested in hosting a brownbag, have a topic of interest, or want to present on a specific topic, please email Angela Fuss at [angela.fuss@hotmail.com](mailto:angela.fuss@hotmail.com).



**Andy Durling, AICP, LEED AP** has over 11 years of professional planning and urban design experience and is an Associate with Wood Rodgers Planning and Urban Design practice, as well as Program Manager for the company's Renewable Energy Services Group. He is currently serving his second term as Director of the Chapter's Northern Section, and previously held the Assistant Director position.