



# metroPlanner

JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2007

## Chapter Hears Details Of Middle Income Housing Plan

By Martha Sickles

Long a concern in New York City, housing affordability for the middle class has become a growing national issue. APA selected middle class housing as their critical topic for 2007. The Housing and Neighborhood Revitalization Committee (HNRC) of the APA Metro Chapter is highlighting the challenge of providing adequate middle income housing through a series of seminars anticipated for 2007. The first, a presentation of NYC Housing and Preservation Development's (NYC HPD) Middle Income Housing Initiatives, was held on January 30, 2007.

Over 40 planning professionals assembled to hear Ruth Anne Visauskas, Executive Director of Middle Income and Large Scale Planning, and Maixuan Phan, Director of Planning Finance, in the Office of Development, NYC HPD, present the agency's plans and strategies to increase middle income housing in New York City.

These plans are part of Mayor Bloomberg's *New Housing Marketplace Plan* that was recently modified from a \$3-billion, five-year plan to \$7.5 billion over 10 years. The plan proposes to develop or preserve 165,000 affordable housing units by 2013.

The strategies include: finding new land including Housing Authority sites where intensification is possible, harnessing the private sector to create affordable housing with tax incentive programs such as 421A, use of the Housing Development Corporation's (HDC) bond financing in

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**APA Names Congressman Nadler 2007 Legislator of the Year**

New York Congressman Jerrold Nadler (8th CD) has been named 2007 Legislator of the Year and will be honored at the APA National Conference in Philadelphia in April. The New York Metro Chapter offers our congratulations. We are so proud that one of New York's legislators has been recognized by APA.

## City Presents Long-Term Sustainability Plan to Chapter

By Brodie Hefner

On January 18<sup>th</sup> almost 100 Metro Chapter members attended a presentation by Ariella Rosenberg Moran and Rachel Weinberg of the Bloomberg administration's new Office of Long-Term Planning and Sustainability regarding the Mayor's emerging strategy for maintaining and improving quality of life in the city through the next quarter century. The administration is seeking feedback on its "PlaNYC 2030" initiative, announced in December, which is designed to tackle aging infrastructure, high-priority environmental risks and a projected population increase of one million new residents by the year 2030.

Based on preliminary work by a number of city agencies and a team of consultants, the administration has identified 10 "goals for creating a sustainable city" over the next 25 years. The proposed goals range across many planning specialties: from the creation of sufficient new housing to reduction of mass transit crowding; from improvement of recreation amenities to the repair and upgrade of critical water and power infrastructure as well as achievement of ambitious environmental cleanup targets.

Against the backdrop of a positive reaction to the scope, goals and ambitious vision of PlaNYC 2030, audience

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**Don't Forget to Register!**

Don't forget to register early for the APA 2007 National Planning Conference, Philadelphia, April 14-18, 2007. Go to [www.nyplanning.org](http://www.nyplanning.org) for more details.

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# Message from Ethel Sheffer, AICP, President



Let me start this letter to all our members by introducing you to our new Chapter Administrator, Mary Findlen, who has been on board since January. Mary has worked as a marketing and communication director at a number of national corporations, and, most recently, for an international engineering firm. During the course of her career, she has often worked with planners and designers, and, as she said, "I always liked planners. They have the big picture." We are so fortunate that Mary was ready in her "retirement" to meet the daunting challenge of serving more than 1,200 planners in our Chapter. In the last few weeks, she has set up our new office, shaped up our Executive Committee by sprucing up communications and improving our committee calendar, helped set up a number of events sponsored by the Chapter, begun to give our web page a new improved look, with more content, and has launched (with Aaron Donovan) this new digital MetroPlanner. Mary is a genial, firm, efficient presence, who has a fresh eye and good ideas, and I hope that you will all meet her very soon.

As you can see, we have launched this new digital MetroPlanner and we hope to provide you with more articles of substantive planning content, as well as to continue to update you on events, activities and items of planning interest. Joining our editor, Aaron Donovan, we have created an Editorial Advisory Board, whose job it is to solicit articles of interest and to receive your unsolicited articles for possible publication. Our editorial board volunteers represent different parts of the metro region. They are Grace Han, Ed Buroughs, and Michael A. Levine.

As you read this newsletter, I hope that you will be impressed with the wide range of activities organized by our volunteer committees and members, ranging from our AICP training to our review of major projects such as Jamaica and Manhattanville, and on to significant educational events and discussions covering transportation, housing and environmental issues. The Annual Conference Planning Committee, under the leadership of Brodie Hefner and Nicolette Wagoner, is working hard on plans for a big October conference, and we will need all your help in gaining sponsors and exhibitors, and in communicating your ideas about what you would like to see at the conference.

On another note, most of you probably know that there is a wonderful retrospective set of museum exhibitions examin-

ing and documenting the extraordinary career and contribution of Robert Moses. These exhibitions are on view at the Museum of the City of New York, at the Wallach Gallery at Columbia University, and at the Queens Museum of Art. Each exhibit is wonderful and engrossing, and each is worth a long visit. There have been a number of panel and media discussions centering on a re-evaluation of Moses the Master Planner who created so many grand projects and facilities in his extraordinary 44 years of public service, and who transformed the New York metropolitan region. All the discussions and articles have been thoughtful and have been terrific contributions to an understanding of the requisites and constraints of planning and politics in our great New York area.

I had the opportunity to hear a talk by Robert Caro, the author of the great book, *The Power Broker*. I was struck again by the clarity and the timeliness of what Caro said about Moses. He described the extraordinary creation of Jones Beach and the many recreational facilities in the region that are enjoyed by millions of people. On the other hand, he also described the displacement of thousands of people in the Bronx and elsewhere, and the destruction of viable neighborhoods in the name of "needed" physical infrastructure. In so doing, Caro reminded planners and policy makers of the essential value of those communities and he gently, though pointedly, said that New York is at present in a great and positive period of planning and building, but that we have the obligation to respect and to support communities and cultures, even as we build for the future. It is with that obligation and that balance that responsible power and responsible planning come together.

Ethel

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## Holiday Party Marks Staff Transition

The Metro Chapter's annual holiday gathering was an enjoyable evening of collegiality, food and drink surrounded by art. Members celebrated the season at the CUE Art Foundation on West 25th Street in the booming Chelsea Arts district. The neighborhood surrounding the CUE Art Foundation gallery is buzzing with art shows and active studios, and is virtually in the shadow of what will soon be the new High Line park being developed on top of the disused elevated freight line that cuts south from Penn Yards to 14th Street.

Members paused the festivities to honor outgoing long-time Chapter Administrator Michael E. Levine, AICP, who has taken a new position as Deputy Manager and Director of Land Use Planning at Manhattan Community Board One where he will be reviewing plans for redevelopment of lower Manhattan. Michael was honored for his many years of service to the Chapter as active member, Executive Board member and co-chair of the 2000 APA National Conference held in New York. Before working for the Chapter he retired from a 30-year career in the New York Department of City Planning where he began work following his graduation (in the first graduating class!) from the Hunter College Graduate Program in Urban Planning. He rose through the ranks at DCP where upon his retirement he served as Director of Administration.

The Metro Chapter members at the holiday party wished Michael more success in his new position, and expressed the hope and expectation that he will continue his formidable contributions to the profession not just in his new job, but also by continuing as an active member of the Chapter.



**Ethel Sheffer thanking outgoing chapter administrator Michael E. Levine for his contributions to the NY Metro Chapter.**



Photos by Diana Pangestu



# NY Metro Chapter Sends Issue Recommendations to Governor Spitzer

The NY Metro Chapter began the New Year by welcoming a new administration to Albany. A letter was sent to Gov. Spitzer and his Policy Director, Peter Pope, introducing ourselves and outlining our positions and priorities on a number of state policy issues, careful to distinguish those issues within the Governor's purview from those that are purely legislative. Our issues included the environment, transportation, parklands and the redevelopment of Lower Manhattan. On the environmental front, we advocated for the use of "green building" technology in publicly funded projects and to promote the development of alternative energy sources.

While not advocating for any particular transportation projects, we recommended policies to reduce the number of vehicle miles traveled and single occupant trips, to give

equal prominence and funding priority to alternative modes of transportation (besides the automobile) and to regionalize the operation of the various transit networks (a unified fare card was one suggestion). On the topic of Lower Manhattan, we asked for a phased approach to the development, for the adoption of design guidelines and that the "Survivor's Staircase" on Vesey Street be preserved.

We are hoping this will begin a dialogue that leads to an ongoing working relationship with the Governor's staff. We have offered our assistance as a technical resource and we have started a discussion with the APA Upstate NY Chapter about pooling our efforts. The full text of the letter may be found at [www.nyplanning.org/docs/spitzerletter.pdf](http://www.nyplanning.org/docs/spitzerletter.pdf).

*Michael A. Levine*

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# Middle-Income Housing Component Discussed by Metro Chapter, HPD

*Continued from front page*

creative scenarios, creation of not-for-profit, special-purpose entities to develop and manage housing, and preservation of existing government-assisted affordable housing such as Mitchell Lamas.

This plan proposes housing for a range of incomes, from less than 50% of Area Median Income (AMI), currently \$71,900 for a family of four, to 165% of AMI. Approximately one-third of the proposed housing will go to each of three income categories: less than 50% of AMI, 50% to 120% and above 120%.

The panelists presented the city's projects for implementing these strategies. The city is piloting NYCHA site intensification on the West side of Manhattan, issuing an RFP to develop 450 middle income rental units on three of their sites: Chelsea, Fulton and Harbor view

The city will purchase the five-to-eight acres, Sites 3 and 4 of the Queens West project, previously held by New York State, for \$100 million. The City plans to invest \$46 million to create 5,000 middle income units rather than commercial space that was originally envisioned for these sites. In Brooklyn, the city is supporting development of the Atlantic Yards with 2,200 units for families with incomes ranging from 50 to 130% of AMI. Mixed-income rental projects with 50% market rate, 30% middle income and 20% low income are successful in Manhattan and areas of Brooklyn where market rents are high enough to balance the subsidized units.

Of the 165,000 affordable units proposed in the Plan, 20 to 30% will be ownership units. The ownership units are financed through the Housing Development Corporation's



Photo by Martha Suckles

## Ruth Anne Visauskas of HPD Presents Middle-Income Housing Plan.

Affordable Coop Program targeted at families of up to 175% of AMI. Spring Creek and Gateway projects in Brooklyn will contain two- and three-family homes. Arverne by the Sea has two- to three-family units targeted at families with incomes of 130% of AMI. Units in the first phase sold in the low \$300,000s. Today similar units are selling for \$600,000 to \$700,000. The extension of the 421A tax incentive program to south of Houston Street will produce additional private sector units under rent stabilization.

Given the recent sale of Stuyvesant Town and proposals to sell other middle income projects, attendees inquired about plans to preserve existing affordable units. Members of the audience suggested that more attention be paid to using inclusionary zoning to leverage more affordable units. These suggestions will hopefully be topics of future sessions, including at least one that will be co-sponsored with the Chapter's Housing and Zoning Committees.

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# APA NY Metro Chapter Member Profile - Christopher Gomez

The APA NY Metro Chapter has over 1,000 members who together engage in the full spectrum of professional planning activities. Our members also follow diverse career paths while finding time for fascinating lives outside of the office. With this issue, MetroPlanner begins a new series of interviews with Chapter members that will aim to capture some of that range. We start with Christopher Gomez, a planner at the beginning of his career. Chris joined the Westchester County Department of Planning staff in July 2005 after receiving an master's of science degree in planning from Columbia in 2005 and a degree in architecture from Lehigh University in 2001.

By Ed Burroughs

**Where was/is "home"?** I'm originally from Mount Kisco, a village in northern Westchester. I now reside in Peekskill.

**Is your "home town" a product of good land use planning?** Absolutely, Mount Kisco is a quintessential walkable community. In fact the sidewalk network is so good that I was able to walk to school starting at age 6. It has a quaint business district that serves as a regional shopping destination, complete with parking behind the store, and a Metro-North train station.

**What drew you into the planning field?** Maps plain and simple. For whatever reason I started collecting maps at an early age. I think it's because they provided a sense of security for exploration. Odd as it may seem, I was also inspired by reading the Power Broker as a teenager. I think when you get past some of Moses' sinister intentions, you find that he also achieved admirable goals.

**When did you decide on a career in planning?** I was drawn to the wide range of disciplines that make up the planning profession when I was studying architecture. I

like the career flexibility, and am constantly challenged by the variety of skills required to be an effective planner.

**What type of planning work do you do?** I currently work as a land use planner. My duties include writing municipal land use referrals, preparing GIS projects, developing the County's capital improvement program and most recently working on the update of the County's master plan, *Westchester 2020*. I also work as staff to the County's Planning Board and Historic Preservation Advisory Committee.



**Describe the size, scope and role of your agency.** There are about 75 staff members in our department in five sections: environmental, land use, design, housing and administration. We have an additional 30 employees in our Section 8 division. The public sector offers great professional development opportunity for a new planner. I'm constantly learning from our experienced staff that includes environmentalists, housing experts, lawyers and designers.

**Have you worked at more than one type of agency?** I worked at New York City DOT's Manhattan Borough Commissioner's office during graduate school as part of the NYC intern program.

**Have you always worked in the same geographical area?** Yes, probably because it's the region I'm most familiar with. I think knowing the communities you plan for is a huge benefit.  
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# APA NY Metro Chapter Member Profile - Christopher Gomez (cont.)

*Continued from previous page*

efit. The fact that I've lived in several areas of Westchester equips me to make better regional decisions.

**What are your primary planning interests?** Transit-oriented and infill development because they often allow areas to recreate themselves without bulldozing existing neighborhoods.

**What types of projects really captivate you personally?** I'm very interested in large-scale planned communities that attempt to recreate the sense of village life. However, I've yet to find a truly successful example.

**How well did your college and graduate education prepare you for your career?** Great, I just wish I immersed myself a bit more in the environmental classes that were offered.

**When did you join APA?** As a student in graduate school.

**Do you feel a connection or kindred spirit with other planners?** Certainly, I feel planners view the urban environment a bit differently than everyone else. At times we can become irritable that more people don't share our passion for sidewalks, swales and subways. But I think it's our job as professionals to question or criticize conventional development techniques when we believe there are better ways to shape the built environment.

**In your opinion, what are the most pressing issues of that we as planners can address?** I think the lack of affordable housing in our region is the critical issue that transcends all others. It's really about providing shelter in the simplest sense. Like most planners I'm very supportive of mixed use development, TODs etc., but at the end of the day we *all* need a decent place to live.

**How are you involved in community life?** I just moved

to Peekskill and I'm in the process of aiding the city with their historic preservation signage program. I'm helping to create a GIS map and database for a historic properties brochure.

**What do you do outside of the office?** I'm either playing or watching soccer. I'm a big NY Red Bulls fan and have taken a particular interest in the development of their new stadium in Harrison, New Jersey. It's part of large mixed-use project called Harrison MetroCentre that's being constructed on an industrial site across the river from Newark.

**Where do you want to be 10 or 20 years from now?** I would like to experience working as a planner in another region of the U.S. I think it would be interesting to grapple with similar planning issues within a different social framework. I also have a desire to work overseas as a Town Planner in Britain some day.

**Does planning make a difference?** Yes, although it's not always easy to see the difference we make in the short term. As a new professional, I'm idealistic enough to think that the plans and decisions we are making now will go a long way toward improving our communities in the future. If I didn't believe that I'd probably be in a different career.

Make a note of APA NY Metro's new contact information.

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# Metro Chapter Hears City Presentation on Long-Term Sustainability

*Continued from front page*

marginalized by creation of the new long-range planning office and increased planning by so many city agencies; whether the city is casting its net far enough to identify the best and most creative strategies to achieve the stated goals; whether adequate attention is being given to the need for regional coordination for sustainability; whether issues of social and economic equity are being overshadowed by a priority on physical growth and development; and whether the process is allowing for sufficiently broad input from the public, appropriate accountability mechanisms for elected officials and the right mix of expert technical input.

The presentation made clear that the administration has engaged more than a dozen city agencies on this initiative, with DCP providing crucial data and coordination. The PlaNYC 2030 process is designed to ensure that the selected goals tackle the necessary issues to achieve sustainable growth and have the broad support necessary to carry implementation forward beyond the three remaining years of the current mayoral term.

It is important to note here what PlaNYC 2030 is not: it is not a “comprehensive plan” in the usual sense of that term as employed by planners. Rather, it is intended to be a framework for addressing a limited but critical set of sustainability challenges. PlaNYC 2030 is not a “land-use” plan as such, and therefore is not subject to the Uniform Land Use Review Procedure (although individual land-use decisions and projects that grow from PlaNYC 2030 goals will be subject to the usual and budget review processes).

Also, because PlaNYC 2030 is not intended to be comprehensive, it is coordinated with, but designed not to duplicate, social and economic planning currently led by other agencies such as the Board of Education or the city’s Economic Development Corporation. Finally, despite the Mayor’s stat-



Photo by Diana Pargestu

**Ariella Rosenberg Moran discusses PlaNYC 2030**

ed goal of formulating a “final plan” by March, it appears that this will be a beginning, not the end to the process.

As was made clear during our lively forum on January 18<sup>th</sup>, the planning profession – generalists and specialists alike – have much to contribute to this initial “final” plan, and will have much to contribute toward implementation of its ambitious goals in the decades to come.

The presenters’ responses to the comments and questions raised at our January forum evidenced an openness to ideas, input and feedback. The administration is now collating and reviewing feedback received at dozens of public meetings such as ours, input from city agencies and departments, comments from individual submitted to the PlaNYC2030 website, [www.nyc.gov/planyc2030](http://www.nyc.gov/planyc2030), and formal feedback from organizations.

In late January the Metro Chapter executive board decided to draft general comments on the PlaNYC 2030 process and themes and asked Chapter committees to provide commentary on the specific preliminary goals of the plan. Members are also encouraged to review the PlaNYC website, and to participate in upcoming PlaNYC 2030 public forums to offer their expertise and input (for a schedule of events, see [www.nyplanning.org](http://www.nyplanning.org) or [www.nyc.gov](http://www.nyc.gov)).

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# Letter to the Editor: A Critical Response to PlaNYC 2030

The “briefing” on “PLANYC” from the Office of Long-Term Planning and Sustainability was enlightening about the state of planning in New York City. Nothing about the plans or proposals that are being considered was revealed; everything is being “looked at,” and to proposals from the audience, the response was likewise, “yes, we’re looking at that, too.” Little about any social concerns (social sustainability, and for whom) was in evidence: who it is that is in need of affordable housing, or better access to jobs, or in need of jobs to begin with, where what should be located, what problems there are in education or health care. The word “immigration” never came up, although the biggest change within the 10-year perspective of the plan is likely to be in the nature and extent of immigration.

What is most disturbing however, is the down-grading of the planning function in the city that is ongoing, and the abdication of the City Planning Commission and Department from its responsibilities in this regard. This is not simply a question of competence (anyone trained as a planner would have been concerned in the presentation to speak at least a little bit about the process being used, the problems being focused on, their causes, the resources available to meet them, the alternatives that might be considered, the criteria for choice, participation in the planning and decision-making on the plans). Nor is it a question of turf; City Planning has enough to do not to worry about others taking away their work. It is much more a matter of three related things: democracy, equity, and comprehensiveness.

The democracy issue is clear. New Yorkers have fought over many years to establish a thorough-going, responsive and participatory process for planning. It involves Community Boards, Environmental Impact Statements, hearings, technical assistance to citizens, a City Planning Commission, a City Planning Department with a substantial professional staff, public decision-making and vot-

ing, with subsequent recourse to the City Council and the Mayor’s influence. All of this is by-passed in PlaNYC; such participation as it will have is at its sole discretion, as is any transparency in the decision-making process.

The equity issue also seems pretty clear, if only by its absence from the discussion. For whom housing is to be made more affordable, whose travel times are to be reduced, who needs park facilities and where, what assumptions about the nature of jobs and industrial or commercial or services (and what services) are served, is diversity fostered or impeded, are questions simply not discussed. The fact that Sustainability is the name of a program within the office of the Mayor, whose advisory Board is chaired by the Deputy Mayor for Economic Development and Rebuilding, suggests that economic development per se is the underlying theme of the activity, with the plan intended to provide for the sustainability of those elements of the city, and particularly its infrastructure, that are designed to enhance economic development, as that office sees it.

Neither economic development nor urban design or zoning are comprehensive planning, and the connections between all these various efforts gets lost – as does any over-arching concern with the equity of the results or the democracy of the process.

We, as APA members, most of whom are professionally trained and concerned for our city’s future, should not be passive bystanders as all this happens, politely listening to public-relations-scripted presentations at our meetings, politely raising isolated questions and silently accepting inadequate answers, but should be the difficult and controversial questions about what, taking all this together, is happening the planning process in our city.

*Peter Marcuse, F.A.I.C.P.*



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## Letter to the Editor: Robert Moses, Visionary or Villain?

Long before Sinatra stole hearts in Times Square and Jackie Robinson bases in Brooklyn, Robert Moses was reorganizing the region with his public works projects. The recent museum exhibits and revisionist book have opened the debate once again. For quite some time, I have couched the discussion between the “visionary” or the “villain.” Moses as the visionary primarily relates to his work between the 1920’s and 1940’s and the building of the great parks and parkways. The images of the villain deals with his use of federal housing and highway funds after World War II through the 1960s when, in the words of Bob Dylan, the times they were a changin’. Clearly he was a little bit of both but on balance do you see him as a visionary or villain and why?

Caro’s book on Moses, first published in 1974 and researched back to the late ‘60s, along with Jacobs’ 1961 classic, are the best works about planning and development in this metropolis. They deal with both extremes from neighborhood grass roots to building big and top down approaches. Jacob’s theories still glow brightly 45

years later in any number of neighborhood and community efforts. Caro’s view of Moses has been dimmed by time.

With distance and time, we can evaluate the new and growing metropolis and the subsequent leaders in the positions held by Moses. More than 40 years have passed since he wore most of those 12 city and state hats. Put them on the many people since his demise, factor in ULURP, EIS, CEQRA, SEQRA, community boards, funded neighborhood groups and block associations, lawsuits, union work ethics, historic preservation and all the rest! In the words of Paul Goldberger, “If power was too centralized under Robert Moses, it is hard not to wonder if we have not paid the price for letting the pendulum swing so far the other way.” Now we need to find a place between the two extremes of autocracy and democracy and really finally learn to do meaningful public participation and get projects completed on time. In this way, we can exercise constructive leadership in the public sector once again and have a shared visionary experience.

*Floyd Lapp, FAICP*

## Mary Findlen Joins as NY Metro Chapter Administrator

As of January 1, 2007, the NY Metro Chapter has a new chapter administrator, Mary Findlen. She has more than 35 years of experience in corporate marketing and business development for leading engineering and architectural firms in the New York metro area such as Parsons Brinckerhoff, URS, Edwards and Kelcey and Thornton Tomasetti, Inc. where she focused on strategic marketing planning, public relations and internal and external communications. In addition, Mary has been a consultant, writer and editor to the industry for many years, including 20 years of experi-

ence as a contributing editor to publications of PSMJ Resources, Inc., Newton, MA. She has a bachelor’s degree in Comparative Literature from Cornell University and a master’s degree in business administration from Pace University. Mary can be reached at [mfindlen@nyplanning.org](mailto:mfindlen@nyplanning.org).



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# Sign Up Now for the Chapter's AICP Spring 2007 Review Course

Attention Prospective Professional Planners! Are you registered for the Spring 2007 AICP exam? Do you anticipate taking the Exam this Spring or next Fall? Would you like to participate in a review of AICP exam topics and materials? If so, please join us for the APA New York Metro Chapter Spring 2007 AICP Exam Review Course. The review course covers the following exam topics:

- o Ethics
- o History, Theory, and Law
- o Functional Topics (Land use, transportation, environmental planning and other general planning issues)
- o Plan Making (methods, strategies, and techniques)
- o Plan Implementation (land use regulations, budget and financing, intergovernmental relations).

The review course provides a mix of lectures and presentations from planning professionals, an overview of exam content, format, and techniques, as well as topic related discussions. The AICP Exam Review Course will be held on:

Saturday, March 24, 2007 from 10 AM to 4 PM;  
and

Saturday, April 21, 2007 from 9 AM to 4 PM  
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AICP exam review materials are included with course registration. For more information on the review course and review materials and/or to register for the review course please visit the Metro Chapter website at <http://www.nyplanning.org/aicp.html> or contact [office@nyplanning.org](mailto:office@nyplanning.org).



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# Call for APA NY Metro Chapter 2007 Award Nominations: *Sustainability in the Metropolitan Region*

Each year, the APA NY Metro Chapter bestows recognition on individuals, organizations and projects that exemplify the best of the metropolitan region's planning work. Given at the Chapter's Annual Meeting, the awards are meant to highlight excellence in the field and inspire planners of the next generation.

This year, the NY Metro Chapter is calling upon its membership to submit nominations for the six Annual Awards to recognize the planning profession's contributions to the pursuit of sustainability. Creating a more sustainable metropolitan region can encompass any number of initiatives, from "green" buildings to innovative storm water management, from carbon emission reduction strategies to re-use of brownfield properties, from transit-oriented development to parkland and open space development. The Chapter would like to reflect upon this movement through the recognition of individuals, organizations and projects that embody this forward-thinking philosophy and are helping the metropolitan region secure its future.

The APA NY Metro Chapter awards encompass a variety of achievements and include recognition for seasoned leaders as well as those just beginning to make their mark. Projects in the private and public sectors qualify, as well as community-based and civic advocacy initiatives. Innovation and impact are highly valued as are those initiatives that demonstrate collaboration and education. Projects at all scales are equally considered.


- **Lawrence M. Orton Award** for leadership in city and regional planning.
- **Paul Davidoff Award** for leadership in housing and equal opportunity.
- **Distinguished Service Award** to recognize individuals who have made outstanding contributions for a period of at least 15 years.
- **Meritorious Service or Achievement Award** to recognize work of unusual merit or achievement.
- **Journalism Award** for print, broadcast, or web-based work
- **William H. White Award** for creativity and ingenuity in planning.

## Nomination Deadline: March 15, 2007

Nominations should be submitted to Mike Bradley (michael.bradley@parks.nyc.gov) and Ellen Ryan (eryan@planning.nyc.gov), Co-Chairs of the Awards Committee.

Nominations should include:

- Your name and contact information
- Name of nominated individual(s), organization or project and contact information
- Category of award nomination
- Short narrative explanation for nomination (maximum 500 words)
- Supporting information (maps, reports, renderings, press coverage, etc.)



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