



American Planning Association
New York Metro Chapter

Making Great Communities Happen

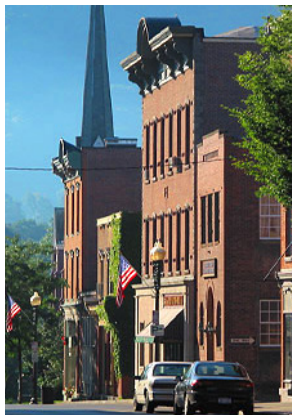


2015 Annual Report

APA NY Metro Chapter

Supporting our members by advocating for good planning practice, hosting diverse events and facilitating professional development opportunities in the metropolitan region.

www.nyplanning.org



New York City

Long Island

Hudson Valley East

Hudson Valley West



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NY Metro Chapter President's Message

James J. Rausse, AICP

What a year the Chapter has seen! I have served as American Planning Association—New York Metro Chapter President the last two years, and I thank you for the opportunity to serve for another two. A lot of great developments have occurred since our last annual report. The Chapter continues to expand its strategic partnerships with government agencies and other professional organizations, co-host numerous Certification Maintenance-eligible events, and strengthen the organization of our Chapter as a whole. Below are some of the activities we planned and implemented, and you helped make happen.

>> Plan4Health- Live Well Kingston

In partnership with the New York State Public Health Association, the Chapter was awarded a \$125,000 Plan4Health grant from the Center for Disease Control to support Live Well Kingston. Working with our sub-recipients, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Ulster County and HealthAlliance of the Hudson Valley, the Chapter will position Live Well Kingston to promote active living and obesity prevention in the City of Kingston. The aim of this two-year grant is to not only improve health in Kingston, but to have the city serve as a model for the region. The Chapter is in the process of hiring interns to assist with the coordination and planning studies.

>> Changes in Chapter Leadership

This year David Gilmour, AICP stepped down as Hudson Valley West Section Director. David served as Section Director for many years and was instrumental in the Chapter receiving the Plan4Health grant through targeted coordination. We thank David for his years of service and wish him well in his new role as the New Paltz Village Planner. Replacing David will be Heather Jacksy, AICP. Heather is a resident of Narrowsburg in Sullivan County and serves as an Associate Planner for the county. Prior to her tenure in Sullivan County, Heather was a planner, project manager and program manager at the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development and a planner at Urbitran Associates. She is a graduate of the Hunter College Urban Planning Master's Degree Program and received her Bachelor of Fine Arts from Parsons School of Design.

There also has been a shift with the Student Relations Committee (SRC). Jocelyn Dupre has stepped out of her role as SRC Chair and will be assuming a newly created Executive Committee position, Interim Vice President of Communications. Jocelyn has a strong background in planning, marketing, and fundraising and will be leading our communications efforts around website development, social media, branding, and partnership outreach. Replacing Jocelyn as SRC Chair is Alisha Beatty, a graduate student at New York University.

Please join me in thanking David for his service and congratulating Heather, Jocelyn and Alisha!

>> Communications Consultant

The Chapter is happy to announce the hiring of Jake Garver Graphic Arts to handle online Chapter outreach. Jake will work with our new Vice President of Communications and the Executive Committee to revamp the website, better target our social media presence and assist with branding. Please welcome Jake and his team aboard.



>> Thank you for taking time to review the American Planning Association—New York Metro Chapter 2015 Annual Report. We hope you find the report engaging and readable.

>> The Chapter is always looking for opportunities to adapt and improve the quality of our products and services to better address your needs. We welcome your comments and suggestions. Please send them to admin@nyplanning.org. Enjoy!

>> Our membership is composed of APA members, students, young planners, retired planners, community advocates and AICP professionals. We are proudly home to some of the most recognized planners in the world.

>> The Chapter wishes to thank the past Director of Long Island Section Ela Dokonal, AICP CUD, LEED AP for her time spent designing and formatting this report.

>> Executive Committee Retreat

This past June the Executive Committee participated in a half day retreat to discuss the current state and future of the Chapter. Please refer to the Secretary's Report for more details.

>> Diversity Committee Revamp

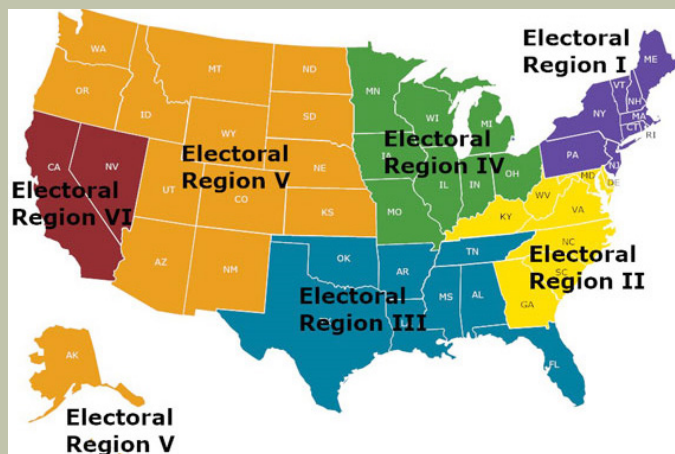
We are proud to announce the Ethnic and Cultural Diversity Committee has been restructured and relaunched as the Diversity Committee. Co-Chairs Giovania Tiarachristie and Tiffany-Ann Taylor have stepped in to lead the committee and will be looking to update the Chapter's 2001 landmark report: *Lagging Behind: Ethnic Diversity in the Planning Profession in the APA New York Metro Chapter Area*.

>> Events

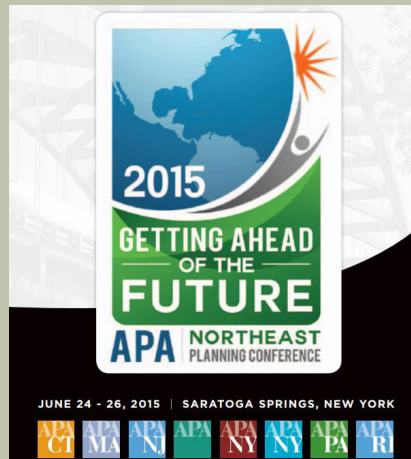
This past year we held a number of great events outside of our usual Annual Conference, Holiday Party, and Arthur Kunz Breakfast.

The Chapter co-sponsored the APA Northeast Conference in Saratoga Springs this past June. It was the first Region 1 Conference in fifteen years. Five hundred planners throughout the entire Northeast traveled to the two-day event and took in the sights of beautiful Saratoga Springs. Special acknowledgement to for APA Region 1 Director, Angela Vincent, AICP for coordinating such a spectacular event.

For the third year in a row, we partnered with the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA), to co-host this year's June Conference theme, *Community Engagement in the Design Process*. We thank the New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects for co-sponsoring and RAB Lighting for hosting the morning portion of the event. The afternoon included a tour of the proposed QueensWay.



The American Planning Association has 6 Electoral Regions. Region I consists of: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Canada: Ontario, Quebec, and the Maritime Provinces. The 2002 APA Region 1 Conference in Providence was primarily organized by the National American Planning Association and some members from the Rhode Island, Connecticut and Massachusetts Chapters. The 2015 Northeast Planning Conference was organized by a Conference Coordinating Committee and 4 Sub-Committees with representatives from all nine states.



Plan4 Health, LiveWellKingston

This past September, the Housing and Neighborhood Revitalization Committee toured housing and economic development projects in the South Bronx with a group of mayors from China.

The Chapter also put together numerous events through our Sections and committees, which are described throughout this report.

>> Position Papers, Letters and Testimonies

The Chapter was very active this year on the policy front. We issued statements on the Vanderbilt Corridor and Move NY proposals and testified to City Council on proposed procedural changes to the Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC), requesting that LPC lead the charge in overhauling the calendar system or that City Council reconsider legislation to allow longer review timeframes more akin to the city's land use review process. Earlier in the year we issued support for the Phase One Straw Poll for Reforming the Energy Vision (REV) that was being received by the New York State Public Service Commission.

>> Education

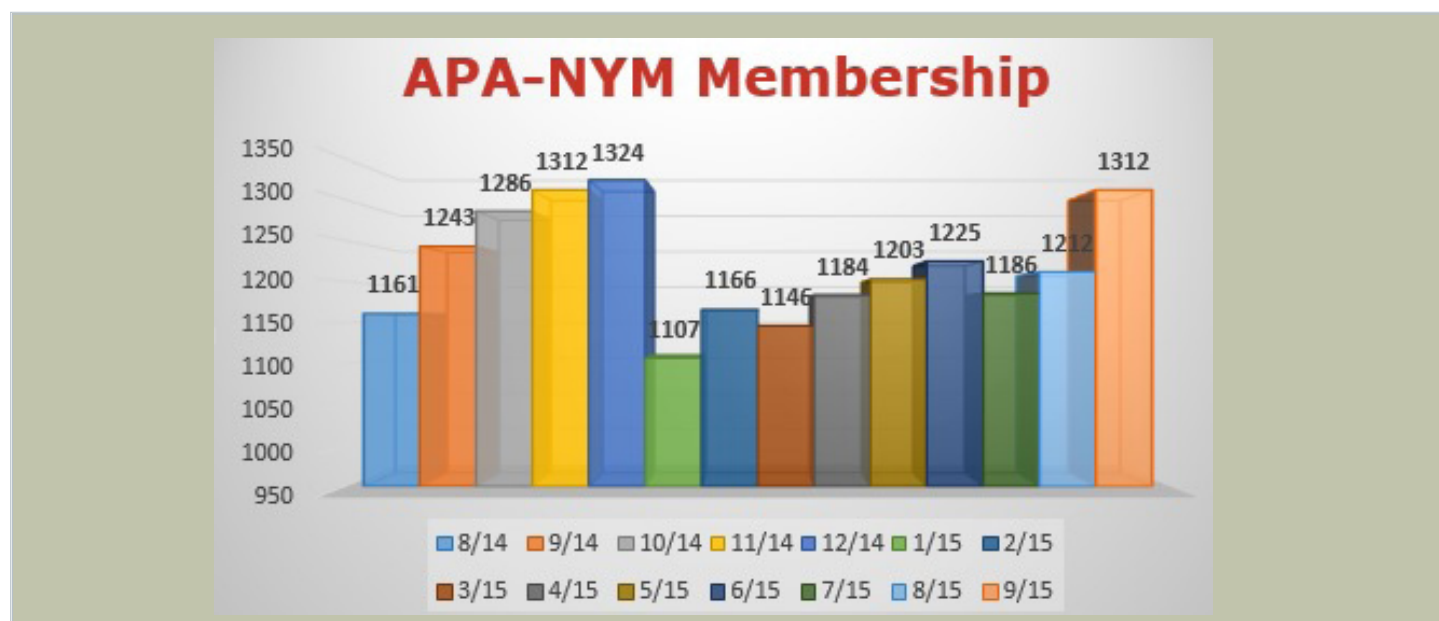
In the educational aspect of our mission, we continued to offer a cavalcade of CM opportunities. This year we offered a total of 82 CM credits. Keep the workshops and panels coming!

Our Young Planners Group continued to be successful with our growing Mentorship Program, which expanded significantly this year. Our Youth in Planning program worked with students on redesigning La Marqueta, and continues to garner interest in other Chapters.

We will also be working to establish a greater connection with our planning school faculty in the coming year. The APA Chapter President's Council has identified outreach efforts to improve communication and CM opportunities on the Chapter level.

>> Membership

Membership ebb and flow remained consistent. After the holidays, renewal time kicks in and membership historically lags. The table below shows the Chapter membership since the last Annual Report where our membership fluctuated from a low of 1,107 in January 2015 to a high of 1,324 in December 2014. Membership is up by 69 members from this time last year. Part of this is due to expansion our outreach efforts, including greater partnerships with other professional organizations, establishment of Chapter-Only membership and rebranding our communications strategy.



Source: APA New York Metro Chapter Rosters

NY Metro Chapter Executive Committee & Staff

The APA New York Metro Chapter is served by an Executive Committee of 12 elected members, as well as the Immediate Past President, the APA Board Director for Region 1, the AICP Commissioner for Region 1, and the Immediate Past President. The Executive Committee is assisted by the director of the Young Planners Group (YPG) and the Chapter Administrator.

President

James J. Rausse, AICP

VP Professional Development

Fiona Akins, AICP

VP Programs

Kovid Saxena, AICP, LEED AP

VP Committees

Max Sokol, AICP

VP Intergovernmental Affairs

Michael A. Levine, AICP

VP Communications

Jocelyn Dupre (interim)

Long Island Section Representative

Sean Sallie, AICP

Lower Hudson Valley East Section Representative

Gina D'Agrosa, AICP

Lower Hudson Valley West Section Representative

Heather Jacksy, AICP (Interim)

New York Section Representative

Paul Lozito

Student Representative Committee

Alisha Beatty, Chair

Treasurer

Ryan Harris, AICP

Secretary

Gregory Holisko, AICP

Immediate Past President

Donald Burns, AICP

Young Planners Group Chair

Alex Lieber, AICP

Chapter Administrator

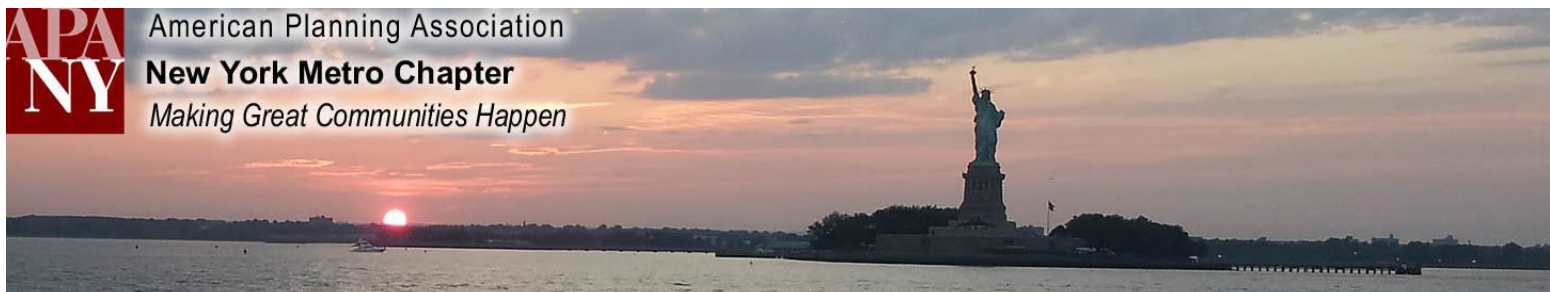
Angie Witkowski



American Planning Association

New York Metro Chapter

Making Great Communities Happen



American Planning Association *Leadership*



APA President
Carol Rhea, FAICP

Carol Rhea is a founding partner of the Orion Planning Group, and previously created and staffed Rhea Consulting. In addition to her work as a consultant, Rhea has worked as a city, county, regional, and state planner. Her passion is helping local governments build planning capacity, and working with small to medium-sized communities to address planning challenges. She has a history of volunteer work that includes serving as a planning commissioner, on a historic foundation board, and in many leadership roles within APA.



Director Elected
Region I
Courtenay D. Mercer, AICP

Courtenay Mercer is the New Jersey Director of the Regional Plan Association, and the principal/owner of Mercer Planning Associates. Previously, she served as the director of planning and state Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) coordinator for the New Jersey Office of Smart Growth. She has held a number of leadership positions within APA, including Chapter President's Council Secretary/Treasurer and APA New Jersey Chapter President. She has also served on the NJ State Agriculture Development Committee, State TDR Bank Board and the New Jersey State Historic Preservation Plan Advisory Committee. She is the treasurer for the Jersey City Parents for Progress and chair of the PS#3 PTA Playground Committee.



Commissioner Elected
Region I
Deborah Lawlor, FAICP

Debbie Lawlor has more than 29 years of planning experience. She has been the chief of sustainability and economic growth, chief planner, and supervisor of land use planning at the New Jersey Meadowlands Commission. She also worked in the private sector at Edwards and Kelcey, Inc., and PQA Engineering. She has been active in APA's New Jersey Chapter and the APA Regional and Intergovernmental Planning Division. She received the Chapter's Distinguished Service Award in 2009. She has participated in the New Jersey Governor's Smart Growth Task Force and Rutgers University Center for Green Building Advisory board. She has a BS in environmental planning and design and an MA in geography, both from Rutgers.

American Planning Association National 2014 Conference Highlights



The New York Metro Chapter was well-represented at the 2015 APA National Conference, held from April 18 to 21 at the Washington State Convention Center in Seattle, Washington.

The conference was attended by over 6,400 planners and featured more than 600 conference sessions. The keynote speaker was Ron Sims, former secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Other speakers include the current HUD Secretary, Julian Castro, and closing keynote speaker Stewart Brand. The National Planning Conference is designed for planners, elected officials, business leaders, and citizens, with the purpose of addressing planning innovations and challenges in communities large and small.

The NY Metro Chapter's Young Planners Group (YPG) was recognized at

the conference, with Chapter President James Rausse and YPG Chair Alex Lieber accepting the Karen B. Smith Award for Outstanding Service to Members.

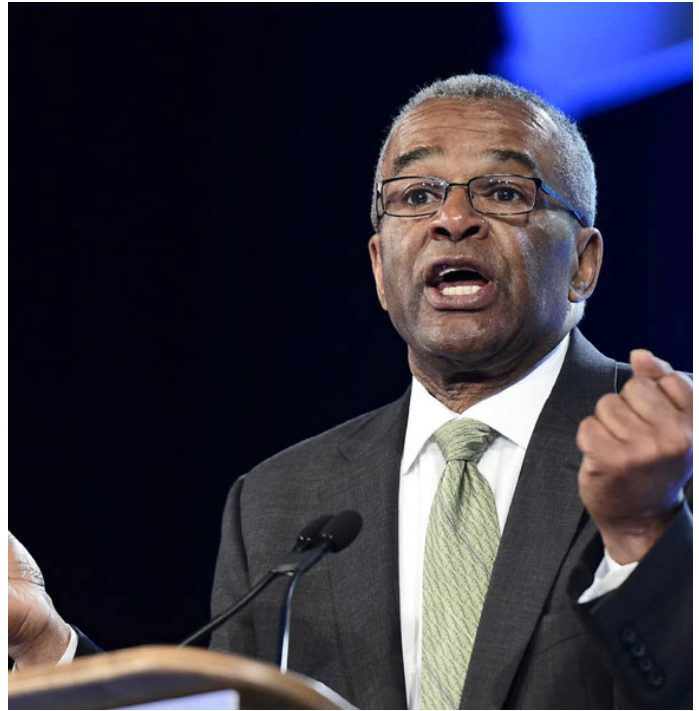
Finally, a very successful joint happy hour by the New York Metro and New Jersey Chapters took place on Saturday April 18 at Pike's Brewery.

Thank you to all the members of the New York Metro Chapter who represented the Chapter at the National Planning Conference.





APA President Bill Anderson welcomes Awards Luncheon speaker, HUD Secretary Julián Castro.



Former HUD secretary Ron Sims's opening keynote trended at #1 on Twitter in Seattle



YPG Award

NY Metro Chapter Treasurer's Report

Ryan Harris, AICP

>>> Ryan Harris, AICP, served as Chapter Treasurer in 2015, and is happy to report that the Chapter's finances are in strong health, with an endowment of approximately \$75,000. The Executive Board has reserved these funds for expenses leading up to and during the hosting of the 2017 APA National Conference here in New York. Chapter expenses for the year were approximately \$40,000 under budget, due in part to increased sponsorships, the departure of our paid webmaster, and under budget charges for the annual conference and committee programs. This illustrates the Chapter's ability to continue to expand our programming and offerings to Chapter members.

>>> The Chapter's fiscal year is changing from a Oct 1 to Sept 30 accounting year to an annular January 1 to December 31 accounting year to match the shift being undertaken by APA National. This shift will also impact the voting and Executive Board tenure cycles. Accounting will proceed as usual with a new budget drawn up to reflect Chapter operations over the final three calendar months of 2015. These expenses and revenues will be credited to 2015 accounts, with a new 2016 budget drawn up to reflect Chapter operations beginning January 1, 2016. The FY15 budget is being prepared with changes to reflect the experience of FY14 so that Chapter expenditures do not exceed budgeted amounts during the upcoming year. The Board also expects to revisit how we may use the large endowment currently in our savings account to better serve the membership with improved programs, scholarships and events.

>>> Work on the CDC Plan4Health program is well underway, with charges of almost \$12,000 drawn on the \$125,000 grant, reflecting activities over the spring and summer. The grantor released \$76,000 for the Chapter to administrate Live Well Kingston programs in 2015. Charges are anticipated to ramp up over the coming months, but all labor and expenses thus far have been well within budget.

>>> Finally, the Chapter has awarded a contract for a complete overhaul of the website. The Executive Board has allocated funding in the FY15 Fifth Quarter budget for this expense.

FY15 Budget				FY15 Actuals			
FY15 OPENING BALANCE				FY15 OPENING BALANCE			
	Checking	\$32,291			Checking	\$32,291	
	Savings	\$75,001			Savings	\$75,001	
REVENUE (FY15 Budget)				REVENUE (FY15 Actual)			
	Membership Reimbursement	\$35,000			Quarterly Disbursements	\$34,588.87	
	2014 Chapter Conference Income	\$25,000			FY14 Conference Registrations	\$13,205.00	
	Holiday Party	\$1,000			FY14 Holiday Party Registrations	\$2,125.00	
	Website Advertising	\$1,000			Website Advertising	\$0.00	
	Sponsorships	\$10,000			Sponsorships	\$19,830.00	
	Chapter Only Memberships	\$490			Chapter Only Memberships	\$539.00	
	CDC Plan4Health Grant	\$125,000			Plan4Health Grant	\$76,061.00	
	Other Income	\$4,000			Section/Committee Revenue	\$1,425.74	
EXPENSES (FY15 Budget)				EXPENSES (FY15 Actual)			
Contracted Services				Contracted Services			
	Website	\$10,000			Website	\$1,000.00	
	Administrative Support	\$9,000			Administrative Support	\$9,773.34	
Board				Board			
	President	\$1,500			President	\$57.31	
	Dues	\$250			Dues	\$730.00	
	Events	\$2,500			Events	\$69.76	
	CDC Plan4Health Program	\$10,000			CDC Plan4Health Program	\$11,915.00	
Administrative				Administrative			
	Supplies	\$500			Supplies	\$389.26	
	Insurance	\$1,500			Insurance	\$1,321.00	
	Postage & P.O. Box	\$100			Postage & P.O. Box	\$82.00	
	Phone/Fax/Voicemail	\$250			Phone/Fax/Voicemail	\$214.62	
	Email (Smartmail)	\$200			Email (Smartmail)	\$152.84	
	Website (Crystaltech)	\$50			Website (Crystaltech)	\$0.00	
	Accuconference (Conference Calls)	\$500			Accuconference (Conference Calls)	\$1,138.07	
	Constant Contact (eBlast and Event)	\$700			Constant Contact (eBlast and Events)	\$920.00	
	SurveyMonkey	\$200			SurveyMonkey	\$250.00	
Travel Reimbursements				Travel Reimbursements			
	2015 APA National Conference	\$2,500			National Conference	\$1,973.69	
	2015 APA National Conference (Student)	\$1,250			2015 APA National Conference (Student)	\$1,000.00	
	2015 Fall Leadership Meeting	\$2,000			2015 Fall Leadership Meeting	\$988.40	
	2015-2016 Chapter Retreat	\$2,000			Region 1 Conference	\$833.94	
Chapter Programs				Chapter Programs			
	FY 15 Chapter Holiday Party	\$10,000			2014 Holiday Party	\$12,493.00	
	FY15 Annual Conference	\$35,000			2014 Conference	\$18,193.01	
	National Conference Reception	\$1,000			2015 National Conference Reception	\$5,115.70	
Professional Development				Professional Development			
	AICP Training Sessions	\$800			AICP Training Course	\$119.08	
	Webinar Program	\$250			Webinar Program	\$150.00	
	Register AICP CM Credits (net of Disbursement)	\$1,000			Register AICP CM Credits (net of Disbursement)	\$1,040.00	
	Two AICP Scholarships	\$500			Two AICP Scholarships	\$0.00	
Sections/Committees				Sections/Committees			
	Hudson Valley East	\$2,000			Hudson Valley East	\$1,114.91	
	Hudson Valley West	\$2,000			Hudson Valley West	\$0.00	
	Long Island	\$2,500			Long Island	\$2,195.00	
	New York City	\$4,500			New York City	\$1,192.00	
	Committees	\$5,000			Committees	\$1,288.19	
	Young Planners Group	\$1,500			Young Planners Group	\$832.00	
	Mentor Program --	\$1,500			Mentor Program --	\$757.75	
	Youth in Planning --	\$3,045			Youth in Planning --	\$1,164.35	
	Student Resource Committee	\$2,500			Student Resource Committee	\$1,455.29	
FY15 EXPECTED CLOSING BALANCE				FY15 ACTUAL CLOSING BALANCE			
	Checking	\$85,196			Checking	\$79,817	
	Savings	\$65,000			Savings	\$125,538	

Fiona Akins, AICP

VP Professional Development

>> **Certification Maintenance**

As the Chapter's VP of Professional Development (or Professional Development Officer, "PDO"), Fiona Akins, AICP oversaw the Chapter's certification maintenance (CM) credit efforts in 2015. A total of 82 CM credit hours of planning education were provided by the Chapter over the past year (compared to 80 CM hours over the previous year). The Chapter's programs have maintained a high level of quality, as evidenced by an average reviewer rating of 4.3 out of 5 stars. These events included 8.25 law credit hours, but no ethics credit hours. An effort will be made over the coming year to prioritize the offering of ethics credit hours within the Chapter.

>> **AICP Exams**

Thirty-six Chapter members took the AICP exam in the past year and the Chapter saw an annual average pass rate of 75% (73% for the November 2014 exam and 76% for the May 2015 exam) – significantly above the national average pass rate of 65%. While the Chapter did not provide instruction on the exam topical areas due to declining interest in such sessions, we have been providing a "What to Expect from the AICP Exam" session. In this session, we provide an overview of the structural aspects of the exam as well as study tips and technical advice. The February 2015 session had 23 attendees, and three new AICP recipients shared their experiences with those planning to take the exam. Thank you to our volunteers who supported this event.

>> **PDO Meeting**

Ms. Akins took part in the Professional Development Officer meeting at the APA National Conference in Seattle, where the discussion centered on efforts to better serve AICP test takers without a traditional classroom setting, and providing input and feedback to APA's new CM Portal, unveiled in October 2015.

>> **A New Direction**

Recognizing a need to address professional development opportunities more broadly and proactively, the Executive Committee is considering a proposal to expand the VP of Professional Development role to better address both (a) certification maintenance, and (b) educational opportunities. This change would include strengthening relationships with academia, and take account of the need for greater oversight of the certification process.

>> **Share Your Ideas**

How can we serve you better? If you have ideas for how the Chapter can support emerging and practicing professionals through certification and education development, please let us know! Reach out to Fiona Akins at pdo@ny-planning.org.

Congratulations to our new AICP Members:

<i>Sandra Acosta</i>	<i>Christophe</i>	<i>Norabelle</i>	<i>Elaine Mahoney</i>	<i>Georgia Sarkin</i>
<i>Susan Bemis</i>	<i>D'Antonio</i>	<i>Greenberger</i>	<i>Maulin Mehta</i>	<i>Gregory Scruggs</i>
<i>David Burgy</i>	<i>Victoria Farr</i>	<i>Jonathan</i>	<i>Munmun Parmar</i>	<i>Gabriel Seidel</i>
<i>Estelle Chan</i>	<i>James Finegan</i>	<i>Hawkins</i>	<i>Jeffrey Peel</i>	<i>Daniel Suraci</i>
<i>Gregory Contente</i>	<i>Jennifer Gonzalez</i>	<i>Suneet Jain</i>	<i>Sandra Rothbard</i>	<i>Jocelyn Torio</i>
<i>Michael Curley</i>	<i>Jennifer Graeff</i>	<i>Alexander Lieber</i>	<i>Paul Salama</i>	<i>Alex Wallach</i>

Kovid Saxena, AICP VP Programs

>> Kovid Saxena, AICP, LEED AP, continued in his role as the Chapter's VP of Programs in 2015. The 2014 annual conference was an all-day event held on October 17, 2014 at Scandinavia House in New York City. In the Chapter's tradition of alternating between larger and smaller conference formats, due to limitations of a volunteer organization, the 2014 conference was the "small" conference. Nonetheless it was an all-day event with expert technical sessions, tremendous networking opportunities (and CM credits!).

>> Heads of key planning-related agencies of the incoming de Blasio administration discussed their policy goals and plans to achieve them in the keynote panel, including Vicki Been (Housing Preservation and Development), Kyle Kimball (Economic Development Corporation), Carl Weisbrod (City Planning), and Polly Trottenberg (Transportation). The conference features panels on resilience, green infrastructure, energy, and planning law, followed by a networking reception. Panelists represented the diversity of planning professionals in the metropolitan area from organizations including public agencies (the New York City Department of Environmental

Protection, the City of Newark Planning Department, the New York City Mayor's Office of Long-term Planning and Sustainability), non-profits (Trust for Public Land, Regional Plan Association, Hudson Square BID, City Energy Project), academia (Pace Energy and Climate Center, Pace School of Law), utilities (ConEd), and consulting/law firms (BFJ Planning, Buro Happold, HDR, Shipman and Goodwin, Starr Whitehouse).

>> 2015 Annual Conference

The Planning for the 2015 Annual Conference on October 30 at Columbia University has been underway for more than a year. This collaborative effort has involved executive committee members, committee chairs, and, most importantly, Chapter members who enthusiastically responded to the call for session proposals—thank you! Chapter members are reminded that ideas for programs, recommendations for speakers, and discussion topics are always welcome and should be either submitted to the Vice President for Programs, Committee Chairs, Section Directors, or the Executive Committee. Contact information is available at www.nyplanning.org

Volunteering to serve your professional organization is an excellent way to meet new people, learn about new topics, and know the inner workings of the organization—please get involved and volunteer.

Michael A. Levine, AICP

VP Intergovernmental Affairs

Michael A. Levine, AICP, Vice President for Intergovernmental Affairs and Legislative Liaison, represented the Chapter at the Legislative & Policy Forum at the National Planning Conference in Seattle where he co-moderated a discussion on the APA Sustainability Policy Guide. As a member of APA's Legislative & Policy Committee, Mr. Levine is working with planners from around the country on an upcoming guide regarding water use policy. He is also working on the Planning Commissioner's session track for the 2016 national conference in Phoenix, as a member of APA's Public Officials Committee.

Mr. Levine attended the 2015 Policy & Advocacy conference in Washington D.C. and the associated Planner's Day

on Capitol Hill. There he met with Congressman Steve Israel and representatives for Senators Schumer and Gillibrand. This year's legislative priorities were the reauthorization of the annual Transportation Housing & Urban Development spending authorization (H.R. 2577 / S.R.114-075), the Land & Water Conservation Fund (S. 338 / H.R. 1814) and the long-range surface transportation bill known as the DRIVE Act (S.1647 / no House companion bill yet; successor to MAP-21).

Locally, he authored or co-authored the Chapter's position statements on the Vanderbilt Corridor rezoning, the Move NY Fair Plan, and attended the Landmark Preservation Commission hearing on proposed changes to the landmarks application process.



Photo of Vanderbilt Avenue, NYC Department of Planning

Maxwell Sokol, AICP

VP Committees

There are a wide range of thematic Committees in the APA NY Metro Chapter. The Committees offer an avenue for Chapter members to actively participate in the work of the Chapter.

Chapter members often ask: what does the Chapter do for me? The Committees provide added value for Chapter members in a number of ways. In addition to supporting the VP of Programs and the Chapter's Executive Committee in organizing the Annual Conference, Committees also plan topical events throughout the calendar year, and these events typically offer Certification Maintenance (CM) credits for AICP planners. Individual Committees are encouraged to collaborate with other Committees, the Chapter's geographic sections, APA National Divisions, and related professional organizations to offer inter-disciplinary programs with wide appeal to the Chapter membership.

One noteworthy inter-organizational partnership that continued to evolve in 2015 with the help of the Committees is between the APA, the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA), and the American Institute of Architects (AIA). The third annual co-sponsored June Conference focused on the topic of "Community Engagement in the Design Process," and included keynote speeches, panel discussions, and a site tour. To complement their event planning efforts, the Committees also author and contribute to timely policy position statements on behalf of the Chapter membership and in collaboration with the Vice President of Intergovernmental Affairs. In 2015, Chapter position statements covered a range of topics, including the Move NY Fair Plan and the Reforming the Energy Vision proposal.

In addition to the thematic Committees, the Chapter also offers an Awards Committee to identify Annual Chapter Awards for excellence in the practice of planning in the New York Metro area, as well as a Young Planners Group (YPG) and School Relations Committee (SRC) for young professional planners/planners new to the profession and graduate students, respectively. There are a number of ways to get involved in the

work of the Chapter Committees. Each Committee has either one Chair or two Co-Chairs, who can assist Chapter members in becoming an active Committee member and/or joining a Committee's email list to remain up-to-date on Committee initiatives. There are also periodic recruitment events throughout the year that offer targeted opportunities to find out about the Committees.

To express your interest in becoming more involved in one or more Chapter Committees, please email the Committee Co-Chairs, whose contact information is included on the Committee-specific webpages on <http://nyplanning.org/committees.html>. If you have any questions about the Chapter's Committees, please feel free to contact the VP of Committees, Maxwell Sokol, AICP, at committees@nyplanning.org.

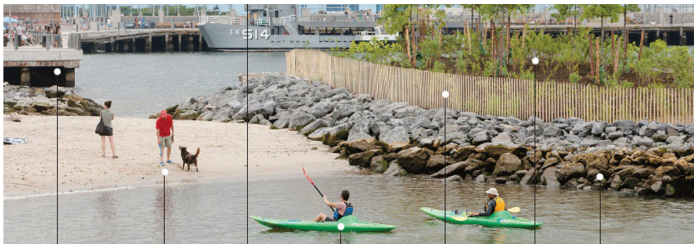
>>Awards Committee

The Chapter is proud to honor the following awardees at our October 2015 annual conference:

- **Lawrence M. Orton Award**, for leadership in city and regional planning: **Ernest Hutton, FAICP**
- **Paul Davidoff Award**, for leadership in housing and equal opportunity: **Association for Housing and Neighborhood Development**
- **Andrew Haswell Green Award**, to recognize individuals who have made outstanding contributions for a period of at least 15 years: **Patty Clark of the Port Authority of NY and NJ**
- **Meritorious Achievement Award**, to recognize work of unusual achievement: **The Waterfront Alliance's Waterfront Edge Design Guidelines (WEDG) Program**
- **Journalism Award**, for print, broadcast, or web-based work: **"Politics Across the Hudson: The Tappan Zee Megaproject" Philip Mark Plotch**
- **William H. White Award (formerly the Distinguished Service Award)**, for creativity and ingenuity in planning: **New Rochelle Recommended Action Plan – City of New Rochelle and RDRXR, Downtown Redevelopment Project**



William H. White Award: New Rochelle Recommended Action Plan for Downtown Redevelopment, City of New Rochelle and Master Developer RDRXR (above)



Encourage cost-effective solutions

Commit to equity and community input

Encourage maritime activity

Enhance public access, especially for boats

Use a science-based, evaluative process for restoration

Enhance ecology

Promote resiliency

Photo: Deane Friesland



Meritorious Achievement Award; The Waterfront Alliance's Waterfront Edge Design Guidelines (WEDG) Program (above)

>> Economic Development Committee

Under the leadership of Co-Chairs Chisato Shimada, LEED AP and Anthony Drummond, the Economic Development Committee plans forums and events to understand the economic impacts of local planning decisions and to identify the ways in which planning can enhance economic development in the New York metropolitan region.

In partnership with the Zoning and Legislation Committee, the Economic Development Committee is currently planning a forum entitled "Industrial Dilemma," which will explore industrial-zoned land and its linkages with economic development. This fall, the Committee will also be revisiting post-Sandy recovery efforts in the Rockaways, which will include a discussion and walking tour.

Chapter members who are interested in assessing the relationship between planning and economic development are encouraged to join the Committee. For more information, email economicdevelopment@nyplanning.org.

>> Environmental Committee

Under the leadership of Robert White, AICP, the Environmental Committee meets to discuss natural resource and environmental planning issues in the New York metropolitan area. In the past, this has included discussions related to water quality protection, wetland restoration, watershed management, coastal zone management, procedural changes in environmental review, and stormwater management/green infrastructure. More recently, the Committee has been focused on coastal and resiliency planning.

The Committee seeks to hold at least one field tour and one panel discussion each year. To that end, in the fall 2014, the Committee led a tour of a stream daylighting project in Yonkers. In September 2015, in conjunction with the Waterfront Committee, the Environmental Committee hosted a panel discussion that addressed planning, design, and engineering/construction for resiliency projects in the New York metropolitan area. The Committee is also interested in submitting policy papers and having more general discussions about environmental topics that are essential to the region.

The Committee is always looking for new members, so email environmental@nyplanning.org for more information and to get involved.

>> Diversity Committee

The Diversity Committee (formerly the Ethnic & Cultural Diversity Committee) went through some major changes in 2015, including the appointment of two new Co-Chairs to lead the Committee: Giovanna Tiarachristie ("G") and Tiffany-Ann Taylor. In an effort to reinvigorate Chapter discussions around diversity initiatives, G and Tiffany have re-branded the Committee as the Diversity Committee in an effort to be more inclusive and relevant in 21st century planning. The shortened Committee name is an acknowledgement that discussions surrounding diversity are much larger than culture and ethnicity, and include topics such as gender, sexuality, geography, religion, etc.

With this name change, the Diversity Committee also reorganized its mission statement and goals. The Committee's new mission is "To increase diversity and cultural competency within the planning profession and provide a resource for planners of different backgrounds in the NY Metro Area to build meaningful connections and share ideas." The goals of the Diversity Committee are as follows:

- Foster a welcoming environment, safe space and community for planners of varied backgrounds to share experiences, find mentorship, personally/professionally grow, and make deep connections.
- Actively address barriers to recruitment and retention of underrepresented peoples in the profession, including but not limited to people of color, women, and LGBTQ-identifying individuals. This includes assisting the national APA's Diversity Task Force in implementing objectives towards improving diversity, and turning the lens on the planning profession.
- Serve as a resource of information on diversity and planning issues, success stories, events, leadership training, workshops, etc., especially for institutions.
- Work together with other APA NY Metro Committees, sections, and national divisions to ensure that content of programs include diverse voices/panels and cover concepts of equity and inclusivity.

Since April, the Diversity Committee has held regular monthly meetings (the second Thursday of every month), co-hosted a successful networking happy hour with the Young Planners Group, and co-hosted a Mobile Workshop in October in an effort to support National Community Planning Month and contribute to the discussion around diversity at the 2015 NY APA Metro Chapter Annual Conference.

>> Food Systems Committee

The Food Systems Committee is the newest Committee in the APA NY Metro Chapter. Established in 2014, the Committee seeks to further an understanding among planners of the ways in which food is grown, produced, distributed, consumed, and discarded in New York City, and to connect issues surrounding food systems to the context of planning. The Committee is exploring opportunities to comment on food-related policy in the region, and is also open to collaborations with other organizations working to further public knowledge surrounding food systems issues that affect New Yorkers.

Under the leadership of Chair Jinny Khanduja, the Committee is actively recruiting new members. To get involved, email foodsystems@nyplanning.org

>> Housing and Neighborhood Revitalization Committee

Over the past year, one of the principal goals of the Committee was to build up membership and more actively address local housing and neighborhood revitalization concerns through public comment and discussions amongst diverse stakeholders.

Under the leadership of Co-Chairs Martha Sickles and Gary Brown, the Committee authored and contributed to Chapter testimonies on a variety of issues, including the Housing New York Plan, the New York State Reforming the Energy Vision, Intro. No 775 concerning time limitations for the New York City Landmark Preservation Commission review process, and the city's Zoning for Quality and Affordability zoning text amendment proposal (ongoing). Committee members also met with staff from the Real Estate Board of New York (REBNY) about their landmarking and planning priorities, and attended the Association of Neighborhood Housing Developers (ANHD) annual conference.

In May, the Committee held a public forum on the "Future of 421A," which was up for renewal by the state legislature along with other New York City housing legislation.

More recently, the Committee hosted a delegation of Chinese planners from the Sichuan province of China who traveled to the US to learn about successful redevelopment of distressed areas. The delegation was led on a tour of new housing in the Melrose and Mott Haven neighborhoods of the South Bronx, and also visited SOBRO and Nos Quedamos to learn of their roles in facilitating community planning for the development sites.

To get involved in the work of the Committee, email housing@nyplanning.org.

>> Transportation Committee

The Transportation Committee had some changes in leadership this year, as Co-Chair Jeffry Peel, AICP was joined by Beth Zall, AICP as a new Co-Chair in the summer. Along with other new members of the Committee leadership, Beth and Jeff are working to internally re-organize group communication in order to best manage Committee events. In addition to the Co-Chairs and a communications lead (Harrison Peck), the Committee leadership includes an events coordinator (Stephanie Shelloe), secretary (Matthew Cunningham, AICP), and researcher/aviation liaison (Antonio Sieunarine).

The Committee continued inter-organizational partnerships from prior years in collaborating with WTS and the Young Professionals in Transportation (TPT)—in addition the APA's New York City Section—to plan the annual Transportation Trivia and Scavenger Hunt events. The Committee also drafted a position paper in response to the Move NY Fair Plan, and the Executive Committee adopted the position paper in September 2015.

Please contact Jeffry or Beth at transportation@nyplanning.org if you are interested in getting involved with the Transportation Committee as it continues to plan events into 2016.

>> Urban Design Committee

2015 has been a busy and productive year for the Urban Design Committee, led by Co-Chairs Katie Theis, AICP, RLA LEED AP and Christopher Riale, AICP. In addition to the Co-Chairs, the Committee has 6 members and 49 Urban Design Network members who remain informed of events that have an impact

on the design of the built environment. The Committee meets monthly to plan AICP CM events, to discuss issues of concern, and to strategize on media outreach and public advocacy on issues relevant to urban design in the New York metropolitan area. The Committee sponsored several CM events during the year, including:

- “Walking Tour of Hudson Square” on June 4th, 2015, which included a presentation at the NYC Fire Museum introducing the Hudson Square Streetscape Improvement Project, followed by a walking tour of the Hudson Square neighborhood.
- “Hudson Walking Tour: Creative Economies & Socioeconomic Change” on October 10th, 2015, which was organized as part of the National Community Planning Month and presented contemporary planning issues in a unique placemaking context.
- “Leveraging Transportation Infrastructure Investment to Revitalize the Public Realm” on October 30th, 2015, the goal of which was to elucidate the synergies of transportation planning and urban design from both an historic and contemporary context as part of the Chapter’s Annual Conference.

In addition to planning CM events, the Committee also hosted a panel discussion that targeted graduate students and young professionals, called “Pathways to Success in Urban Design for Urban Planners” on September 1st, 2015.

The Committee has also been active in outreach and advocacy. For instance, the Committee:

- Assisted with the APA/ASLA/AIA “Community Engagement in the Design Process” event;
- Participated in monthly Fine Arts Federation (FAF) board meetings;
- Assisted in the FAF Landmarks 50/No Longer Empty event at the Bronx Borough Courthouse;
- Presented to participants in the Youth in Planning program on Tactical Urbanism; and
- Organized a Chapter review of the City’s Zoning for Quality and Affordability zoning text amendment proposal.

The Committee developed and maintained a strong social media presence throughout the past year. After establishing a comprehensive communications plan, the Committee launched a LinkedIn Group, APA NY Metro Urban Design Forum (current membership 90+), that shares news articles and posts event notices and reports focused on urban design in the New York metropolitan area. The Committee also launched the Voices of Urban Design Medium blog series showcasing stories from practitioners and students around the region. To date, there have been 11 Medium blog posts as a part of Voices of Urban Design (<https://medium.com/voices-of-urban-design>).

The Co-Chairs offer their special thanks to Committee members who helped make this year such a success – Gregory Haley, Victoria Hallas, Michele McInnes, AICP, Christina Un-

gureanu, AICP, Renee Schoonbeek, and Chris Rhie.

Throughout the year, the Committee posts updates to their webpage (http://www.nyplanning.org/comm_urbandesign.html) with monthly meeting minutes, information on Committee members, and contact information. Communication with Chapter members interested in urban design is carried out through email blasts to the Urban Design Network. To stay informed, email nyurbandesignnetwork@gmail.com.

>>Waterfront Committee

Under the leadership of Chair Robert Balder, AICP, and co-secretaries Josh Schneider, AICP and Patrick Hewes, AICP, the Waterfront Committee discusses projects, trends, culture, and opportunities/challenges for the waterfront in the New York metropolitan area. The Committee updated its mission statement in 2015 to acknowledge the role of waterfront planning in addressing sea-level rise and the intensification of major weather events.

The Committee participated in a number of events in 2015 to promote sound land use policies in support of its mission, including the APA/ASLA/AIA June Conference, a panel discussion about regional resiliency in partnership with the Environmental Committee in September, and a session on post-Sandy waterfront planning in New York City during the Chapter’s Annual Conference.

The Committee meets monthly and is actively looking for new members. To get involved, email waterfront@nyplanning.org

>>Zoning and Legislation Committee

After a temporary hiatus, the Zoning and Legislation Committee (formerly the Zoning Committee) was revived in August 2015 under the leadership of Co-Chairs Ahmed Tigani and Kate Holmquist, PLA, LEED AP BD+C. The re-launch of the Committee was prefaced by a number of planning meetings and conversations with interested Chapter members to help hone a mission for the future. Out of those discussions emerged an emphasis on promoting knowledge and understanding of local and regional zoning issues, the New York City Zoning Resolution, and the relationship of those regulations to planning issues and the profession at large.

Moving forward, the Committee will be working to expand its membership, develop forums to bring planners and allied professions together on various topics, devise a combination of informal and formal responses to proposed zoning initiatives in their earliest stages, and to prepare—from a planning as well as a technical perspective—draft position statements with regard to proposed zoning amendments.

If you are interested in joining and having a formative role in the development of the Committee, or if you were previously involved and would like to reconnect, please contact Ahmed or Kate by emailing Zoning@nyplanning.org.

Sean Sallie, AICP

Long Island

Section Representative

Sean Sallie, AICP began his term as Section Representative in January of this year. Long Island section members are private and municipal planners, public officials, and concerned citizens that work or reside in Nassau or Suffolk Counties. The section offers educational and networking events focused on current planning issues, organized by the Steering Committee.

>> Arthur H. Kunz Scholarships

Since 1994, the Long Island Section has been awarding planning scholarships in Arthur H. Kunz's memory. Arthur was a Long Island planner who was committed to preserving and enhancing Suffolk County by balancing its growth and development with environmental protection. He played an integral part in Suffolk County's development for almost 30 years and worked for the Nassau County Planning Commission from 1958 to 1969. In 1969, he became Assistant Planning Director for the Suffolk County Department of Planning, and Director in 1989. Every year, eligible applicants are chosen among Long Island entry-level planners or students in a planning-related major. This year the Section had ability to issue three scholarships of \$1,500.00 to two new planners and one planning student, Gabrielle Alper, Emily Humes, and Megan Porter, for their attendance to the APA National Planning Conference that was held in Seattle Washington, April 18-21, 2015. The scholarship covers the majority of expenses related to the conference registration, APA membership for one year for non-members, and some additional expenses. Mr. Kunz spent most APA conferences attending as many mobile workshops as possible and believed in the value of seeing planning in action in other

parts of the country. Therefore, the scholarship stipulates participation in at least one mobile workshop and a short presentation at the Section's Annual Memorial Breakfast event.

>> Walking Tours Series

The Walking Tours Series has been a very popular initiative, with relatively high interest and attendance. The 2015 series began on May 29th with a tour of downtown Valley Stream led by Village Mayor Ed Fare, Vincent Ang, Downtown Initiatives Specialist and local small business owner and APA NY Metro Chapter member David Sabatino. The tour included a first look at the interior of a new residential apartment complex steps from the Long Island Rail Road station. The second walking tour took place in downtown Riverhead on July 9th. Roughly 15 planners and representatives from nearby East End communities participated in the afternoon tour led by Riverhead Town Supervisor Sean Walter and his staff. The tour began at a new downtown mixed-use development featuring outdoor dining; other highlights included environmental and ecological sustainability improvements at Grangebel Park, new shared-office development, street side breweries/tap rooms and the restored Suffolk Theatre. On September 24th, as an introduction to the East End Conference, the "behind the scenes" tour of the Marine Sciences Center at the Stony Brook University Southampton Campus led by Christopher Paparo, Manager of the Center set the stage for the afternoon conference that focused on aquaculture and sustainability. The tour was attended by more than 20 planners who were treated to a fantastic view of the East End waterfront through the facility's wraparound glass cladding. The tour also featured a first-hand look at the

facility's state-of-the-art indoor seawater lab and flexible research space. All tours offered CM credits and the section looks forward to future tours in Wyandanch and Baldwin later this year and early in 2016.

>> Annual Arthur Kunz Memorial Scholarship Breakfast

On May 15, the Section held its annual Scholarship Breakfast and Panel Discussion at Molloy College's Suffolk Center at Republic Airport, themed "Water Quality Management: A Coastal New England Case Study". Sarah Lansdale, Director of the Suffolk County Planning Department moderated a pair of guest speakers on the subject of water quality protection in a multi-jurisdictional regulatory environment. Kristy Senatori, Deputy Director and Erin Perry, Special Projects Coordinator from the Cape Cod Commission spoke to the Cape's plans for water quality management. Kristy and Erin presented the similarities and parallels to water quality management on Long Island and shared lessons learned from the recent update to the Cape Cod Regional Wastewater Management Plan along with technical and policy solutions that are being implemented across municipal boundaries on the Cape Cod peninsula. Two young planners and one planning student, the winners of the Section's Arthur Kunz Scholarship, reflected on their experience from the 2015 APA National Conference in Seattle. The Breakfast was attended by over 80 planners, zoning and planning board members. The program offered 1.5 CM credits.

2015 Arthur Kunz Scholarship winners: Gabrielle Alper, Emily Humes and Megan Porter.

>> Annual East End Conference

On September 24, the Long Island Section organized the Annual East End Conference at the Stony Brook

School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences in Southampton. The Conference started after an introductory walking tour of the nearby Marine Sciences Center. Southampton Town Supervisor Anna Throne-Holst provided welcoming remarks before turning to the first of two sessions. Gerry Bogacz, Planning Director at the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council moderated the first session dubbed “East End Transportation Challenges” consisting of a diverse panel of private and public sector professionals involved in operating and planning for East End transportation services. Steve Bate, Executive Director of the Long Island Wine Council, Andrew Lynch, Vice President of Hampton Jitney and Thomas F. Neely, Transportation & Traffic Safety Director at the Town of Southampton reflected on the ten years since the completion of the Sustainable East End Development Strategies (SEEDS) Study and the ever pressing need to balance the interests of North and South Fork residents who prefer a quieter, agrarian quality of life, with the needs of the middle-income commuters and the “trade parade” and tourism visitors who fuel the region’s continued economic growth and success. The second session, dubbed “Needed Infrastructure to Support Burgeoning East End Aquaculture Communities” took a hard look at the condition and innovations of the East End aquaculture and shellfish industry. The panel was moderated by Gregg Rivera, Aquaculture Specialist at Cornell Cooperative Extension; presenters included Scott Carlin, Ph.D., Chairman of the Southampton Sustainability Committee, Dewitt Davies, Ph.D., Chief Environmental Analyst at the Suffolk County Department of Economic Development & Planning, Donna Lanzetta, Founder of Manna Fish Farms, Konstantine Rountos, Ph.D., Stony Brook School of Atmospheric Sciences and Ed Warner, Southampton Town Trustee. The panel engaged in a robust discussion on present-day infrastructure gaps needing attention to ensure the protection of sensitive aquatic habitats and support of sustainable aquaculture and commercial fishing on the East End. Three CM credits were offered.

>> Co-sponsorships and Section Collaboration

In early 2015, representatives of the Section’s Steering Committee met with the Sarah J. Adams-Schoen, Director of the newly-formed Touro Land Use & Sustainable Development Law Institute to form a collaboration on training, educational and networking programs. To date, the Section and Touro have partnered to offer over 11 CM credits in connection with Touro’s “Bagels with the Boards” monthly lecture series and the inaugural Long Island Coastal Resiliency Summit hosted by Touro on April 16. The Section also partnered with Hofstra University and the Nassau County Planning Commission by offering CM credits at the annual “Hofstra Land Use Training Program for Municipal Planning and Zoning Officials” held on September 21, and has partnered with Sustainable Long Island (SLI) to provide CM credits at SLI’s annual conference on April 17. The Section Steering Committee continues to reach out to other organizations on Long Island in an effort to provide a range of CM credit-offering programs and networking opportunities



>> LI Section Officers

- Kathy Eiseman, AICP; Treasurer
- Ann Fangmann, AICP; Secretary
- Denise Harrington, AICP; PDO

>> 2015 Steering Committee Members

Patricia Aiken, David Berg, AICP, LEED AP; Patti Bourne, AICP; Kyle Collins, AICP; Ela Dokonal AICP CUD, LEED AP, Marwa Fawaz, AICP; David Geneway, AICP; Julie Hargrave, AICP; Emily Humes; Tom Isles, AICP; Janice Jijina, AICP, PE, LEED AP; Sarah Lansdale, AICP; Aryeh Lemberger; Jefferson Murphree, AICP; Megan Porter; Alexandra Sabatino; David Sabatino; Maxwell Sokol, AICP; Wes Sternberg; AICP; David Viana; David Wallach, AICP; Elissa Ward; Eric Zamft, AICP

>> 2015 LI Section’s sponsors



Annual A. Kunz Scholarship event (above);
2015 scholarship recipients with Section officers (bellow)



Gina D'Agrosa, AICP

Lower Hudson Valley East Section Representative

The Lower Hudson Valley East Section includes Westchester, Putnam and Dutchess Counties on the east side of the Hudson River. Section members work in a diverse environment that ranges from large urban cities, such as Yonkers, to small rural villages and towns. Gina D'Agrosa, AICP, has served as the Section Representative for the Lower Hudson Valley East Section since January 2015.

The Section hosted a book discussion in March with author Professor John Nolon for *Protecting the Environment Through Land Use Law: Standing Ground*. Approximately 25 planners and others attended the event held at the Hudson Valley Writer's Center in the historic Philipse Manor train station in Sleepy

Hollow. Attendees learned about the use of local land use law to protect natural resources, enjoyed a wine and cheese reception and earned 1 CM credit.

Ms. D'Agrosa is planning additional CM credit events for later this Fall such as a walking tour of some of the Hudson Valley East communities. Additionally, a Holiday gathering will be held in December for membership to socialize, network and share ideas. The Section Representative also hopes that the Holiday gathering will provide an opportunity to network with and build cooperative relationships with some other organizations such as ULI and AIA in advance of the 2017 National Conference in NY.



David Gilmour, AICP, Heather Jacksy, AICP (interim)

Lower Hudson Valley West

Section Representative

The October issue of Planning Magazine features 'On the Health Track'. It highlights the first 18 coalitions funded through the federal Center of Disease Control's partnership with the American Planning Association to establish the Plan4Health initiative. The bulk of efforts over the last year within Hudson Valley West involved the Chapter's successful application to be part of Plan4Health on behalf of the Live Well Kingston coalition. Implementing the two-year project, in collaboration with the New York State Public Health Association, and local partners, has been a massive undertaking, but worth the effort to build a process and model for how a small city can use community engagement, planning and leadership from non-profits to advance an active living and healthy food environment and policies that are equitable and support health in all. Health planning started in earnest over five years ago in Kingston. We can learn a lot from this project about bringing different kinds of parties together to address common interests, making an impact, and sustaining collaboration as the initiative evolves. Moreover, prior to this award the Chapter

has not administered this scale of grant, so the project is an important next step in the growth of this vital organization. Chapter President James Rausse, AICP and Chapter Administrator Angie Witkowski are commended for their focus on getting this project off the ground and sustaining it.

Dave Gilmour, AICP, served as Section Representative before stepping down towards the end of 2015. The APA New York Metro Chapter thanks Mr. Gilmour for his many years of service.

Replacing David will be Heather Jacksy, AICP. Heather is a resident of Narrowsburg in Sullivan County and serves as an Associate Planner for the county. Prior to her tenure in Sullivan County, Heather was a planner, project manager and program manager at the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development and a planner at Urbitran Associates. She is a graduate of the Hunter College Urban Planning Master's Degree Program and received her Bachelor of Fine Arts from Parsons School of Design.



Paul Lozito

New York City

Representative

The New York City Section hosted and coordinated a number of events and programs in New York City for Chapter members. This year the section co-hosted events with peers within the Chapter and the Chapter's Young Planners Group (YPG), as well as other organizations including Young Professionals in Transportation (YPT), Women's Transportation Seminar (WTS), and NYM Student Representative Committee (SRC), and members of the NYC community. In collaboration with others, here is a list of the events that the New York City Section brought to Chapter membership:

>>Annual Holiday Party

The Section co-hosted the Annual Holiday Party this past December at Fourth Unitarian Society on Central Park West, providing an informal setting for Chapter members to network and to celebrate the holiday season with planners from across the region.

>>Bronx Brewery Tour

Planners from throughout the Chapter joined Section members and YPG members to tour the Bronx Brewery in March to celebrate the South Bronx, breweries, and explore the topic of economic development. Approximately 40 planners were in attendance

>>Transportation Trivia

Over 50 transportation planners from a variety of agencies and companies joined the Section, WTS, and YPT for

the Annual Transportation Trivia event in April. This annually sold-out event provided teams the opportunity to compete based on knowledge of transportation in the New York Region.

>> APA NY / NJ Seattle Social

At the National Conference in Seattle in April, 150 planners from New York and New Jersey convened for a social event at Pike Place Market. This gathering provided the opportunity to planners across the region to network and exchange conference notes. The event was co-hosted with YPG and SRC.

>> The Great Saunter

In May, the Section invited over 20 hearty planners to a "Great Saunter", a 34-mile walk around the entire perimeter of Manhattan. The walk is memorialized in the Cy Adler book, "Walking Manhattan's Rim: The Great Saunter". The book is crammed with local history and will serve as a great companion on the walk. The walk took 14 hours and ended at Pier A at 8:00 PM. The event was made possible by the efforts of Manhattanites Matt Cline and Brad Vogel.

>>Transportation Scavenger Hunt

In June, local planners met at Bowling Green to form teams and receive clues for a three hour long Scavenger Hunt of transportation infrastructure across lower Manhattan and Brooklyn. The event ended at a Beer Hall in Brooklyn at 4PM where the winners were an-

nounced. The event was attended by over 50 planners and was co-hosted by YPT, WTS, and the Section.

In addition to event planning, the New York City Section coordinates with the executive committee to comment on policies and action by planning institution that impact the professions.



Bronx Brewery Tour (above)



Transportation Scavenger Hunt (above)

Alishia Beatty

Student

Relations Committee Representative

The Student Relations Committee (SRC) provides professional networking and educational opportunities for graduate urban planning and urban studies students in the New York Metropolitan area. The committee represents the students at the four American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP)-accredited schools: Columbia University, the City University of New York—Hunter College, New York University, and Pratt Institute, as well as Pace University's Land Use Law Center. Pace University is the newest member of SRC and the first non-AICP school to join the committee.

The Student committee meets on a monthly basis to plan events and share news and information between the schools. During this past year, the committee welcomed student participation from Cornell University students visiting New York for the fall semester and Rutgers University Students at our annual Planning Studio presentations in the spring.

In 2015-2016 the committee will continue to look for new institutional partnerships and opportunities to collaborate with schools across the region.

>> Student Relations Committee Members

Chair: Alishia Beatty

Columbia University: Matthew Do & Da'Quallon Smith

CUNY Hunter College: Jeremiah Cox & Cindy Lenti Penn

New York University: Tallant Burley & LeMel Lindsey

Pace University: Fyanne Betan

Pratt Institute: Casey Uy & Adam Garrett

In September 2015, the committee selected Alisha Beatty to serve as the next chair. Alisha will take office for the 2015-2016 Executive Committee term.

>> Events

September 2014: Fall Welcome Back Happy Hour —SRC students welcomed students (new and old) to a cross-school event in Brooklyn. The gathering served as an informal welcome to new planning students as well as a chance for some to reconnect after the summer hiatus. Over 70 students attended the event.

September 2014: Land Use Summit—Hosted by NYU, SRC and the three additional New York City planning schools held a Friday evening land use summit to discuss pressing land use issues in the 21st century, including the future of manufacturing and affordable housing. Close to 200 students attended to engage with prominent speakers and panelists including a keynote address by Susan Fainstein from Harvard Graduate School of Design and author of Just City.

November 2015: Cloisters Museum Tour—The SRC co-hosted a curated private tour of the Cloisters Museum and Gardens, where over 30 students came to learn about the history of this historic landmark. Following the tour, students went on a hike through Fort Tryon Park.

December 2015: Holiday Party & Trivia Night —SRC co-hosted a holiday party in Queens with the Young Planners Group, providing an opportunity for students and new professionals to network and test their knowledge in planning trivia. A great time was had by all.

February 2015: Spring Happy Hour—Responding to demand from the students, SRC hosted the first annual spring happy hour to reconnect students who had met in the fall and continue to build relationships and collaborations across the schools. Close to 90 students attended the event from all of the NYC planning schools.

March 2015: Professional Development / Networking Event—Co-hosted with the APA-NYM Committees, Young Planners Group and Hunter College, the evening provided an opportunity for students and young professionals to network with experienced professionals and engage in discussions around diverse topics in the planning field from urban design to transportation and economic development. The event also showcased the different APA committees and how to get more involved with the Chapter. Over 100 students and professionals attended the evening event.

May 2015: Studio Presentations—The SRC's annual signature event, the Student Studio Presentations, was held this year at New York University on May 8th and attracted hundreds of stu-

dents and faculty from across the region. Every year, each of the Chapter's planning schools selects a marquee presentation to showcase the work of their students, including participation from Rutgers University.

This year topics included redevelopment of the Jersey Street Waterfront in Jersey City, community-based planning and resiliency on the East Shore of Staten Island, a community-driven plan for Hunts Point in the South Bronx, preservation of neighborhood affordability and character in Bushwick, Brooklyn, and recommendations for urban freight mobility in East Williamsburg, Brooklyn. The event was moderated by the Chapter's Immediate Past President, Donald Burns and one selected judge from each of the participating schools.



Land Use Summit (above)



Land Use Summit (above)



Riverkeeper Sweep (above)

Alex Lieber, AICP

Young Planners Group

This was an eventful year for the Young Planners Group, which continues to be recognized by APA National for its efforts to support emerging planning professionals in the New York Metro region. In April, at the APA National Planning Conference in Seattle, YPG received the Karen B. Smith Award for Outstanding Service to Members, awarded by the APA Chapter Presidents Council to groups that have made major strides in providing new or improved services that benefit APA's members. The award was a recognition of YPG's innovations in providing professional development opportunities for young planners and expanding the role of young planners in APA's mission locally. In particular, YPG was proud to have the Mentorship and Youth In Planning programs recognized through the Karen B. Smith Award and hopes that these programs can serve as models for other emerging professional groups within APA to follow.

In accepting the Karen B. Smith Award on behalf of YPG, Alex Lieber, AICP, Chair of YPG, was proud to share the award with past YPG Chairs (including Reyna Alorro, Kathleen d'Erizans, and Keri Ouellette) as well as everyone who has contributed to YPG's efforts throughout its young history. YPG continues to welcome new members, and Mr. Lieber looks forward to developing new and better ways to support young planners.

Now in its seventh year, YPG fulfills its mission through three main efforts: networking and social events, the Mentorship Program, and the Youth In Planning outreach program. Reports on each effort are included below.

>> Events

YPG has continued to provide social and networking events to help young planners forge connections with their colleagues and encourage their participation with the NY Metro Chapter. YPG was happy to collaborate with other Chapter groups on several events. In March, YPG and the New York Section sponsored a visit to the Bronx Brewery, where planners could learn about the emergence of microbreweries in the city (and sample the local wares!). In August, YPG hosted a happy hour with the newly re-formed Diversity Committee to help spread the word of the committee's efforts supporting underrepresented groups and encourage the participation of young planners. YPG also continued to pursue opportunities for young planners to volunteer in the local community, including participating in the Riverkeeper organization's annual Sweep in May, where a group of YPG planners helped clean up the city's waterfront in East River Park. In the coming year, YPG

hopes to continue to provide young planners with a diverse variety of events to support their professional development and provide networking opportunities.

>> Mentorship

The YPG Mentorship Program celebrated its sixth year in 2015. The Mentorship Subcommittee that plans the annual Program is chaired by Max Sokol, and the Subcommittee includes Renata Silberblatt and several prior mentees from the Program: David Burgy, Marla Weinstein, and Patrick Cammack.

In this year's round of the annual Mentorship Program, the Mentorship Subcommittee formed 19 partnerships of mentors and mentees. As in previous rounds of the Program, the mentorship pairings were made based on the results of a brief but focused application process, including responses to a multiple choice and short answer-format survey as well as submittal of an updated resume. In forming the partnerships, the Subcommittee considered several factors, including areas of interest in the planning profession as well as preferred frequency and format of communication. The mentors comprised a wide range of senior and mid-level planners across a variety of specializations, and the mentees included mid-level and entry-level planners, as well as graduate students.

The six-month program began with a kick-off event in February, hosted at the offices of Parsons Brinckerhoff. The kick-off event offered participants in the Program the opportunity to meet and mingle with their peers, as well as time for mentor/mentee pairs to begin developing informal mentorship plans for the six-month program. The Subcommittee circulated a Mentorship Program Guide Book, updated from previous years, and also shared a list of planning-related events in the New York City area in an effort to suggest ideas for possible activities for the mentor/mentee pairs.

Following the kick-off event, the Subcommittee coordinated a mid-point check-in event in May. This second event included an open discussion among the mentors and mentees about their status to date, reflections on their mentorship plans, and their intentions going forward in the Program. The mid-point event also included a talk by Veronica Vanterpool, Executive Director of the Tri-State Transportation Campaign.

Continuing a tradition started in 2014, the Subcommittee also planned a closing event for the mentor/mentee pairs. The third and final event was held in collaboration with the Chap-

ter's Committees, and all of the Committee Chairs and members were invited to attend. The event served as a celebration of the end of the Mentorship Program and also offered an opportunity for mentors and mentees to learn about and get involved in the Chapter's Committees.

At the conclusion of the Program, the Subcommittee circulated an anonymous exit survey by email to be filled out by the participants, the results of which are used by the Subcommittee to inform subsequent rounds of the Program. The next round of the Mentorship Program is currently in the early planning stages, and the Subcommittee intends to host the kick-off event in early 2016.

>> Young In Planning

Youth in Planning (YIP) had another successful year in 2015, providing a program to introduce local students to the planning field and support their engagement with local issues as members of the community. In partnership with the Urban Assembly network of schools and the New York City Economic Development Corporation (EDC), YIP brought together a group of local students to explore La Marqueta, a community market in East Harlem, Manhattan. The program was supported by contributions by YPG coordinators (Laura MacNeil, Jed Poster, Elan Peskin, Dan Moran, and Kevin Luzong), EDC's partners and representatives (Shawn McLearen, Max Taffett, and Emily Rhodes), and a terrific group of guest speakers from the APA NY Metro Chapter's Urban Design Committee (Katie Theis and Victoria Hallas) and Habitat for Humanity (Matt Dunbar). The program was also greatly supported by Eric Dryden of the Urban Assembly School for Global Commerce in performing outreach to local students, as well as the generous contribution of classroom space by Hunter College's Urban Affairs and Planning program.

During YIP's week-long program in July, the student group used La Marqueta as a forum to learn more about planning practice and developed new ways to use the market as a resource for the East Harlem community. The YIP students conducted site analysis, background research, and mapping exercises to explore issues with urban design, economic development, and community engagement. Once again, the YIP team was thrilled by the students' thoughtful engagement with the issues surrounding La Marqueta and wowed by the innovative ways they developed to use the space as a community center. The students developed particularly strong ideas for redesigning the market space to

better serve local food vendors and repurposing spaces for a more diverse array of services, including educational programs. The students also developed ideas to create a more inviting and attractive market space to draw in patrons. The students' recommendations for improvements to La Marqueta and other nearby spaces were delivered in a presentation to NYCEDC and its partners, and the YIP team was greatly encouraged by the potential for the students' work to contribute to the La Marqueta project.

Once again, the YIP team was proud of the program as a means of sharing planning practices and providing young members of the community with tools to bring to issues affecting their neighborhoods. YIP team was particularly pleased to learn that all of the participating students enjoyed the program and were interested in continuing to learn about planning issues. Moving forward, YPG is looking to build on this year's model and expand YIP to provide a more comprehensive introduction to planning. This includes exploring a continued partnership with the Urban Assembly network to expand outreach to a greater number of students and seeking future opportunities for collaboration with city agencies such as EDC on real-world projects. While the week-long summer session format has proven to be an effective way to engage students in a planning project, YPG is seeking ways to provide a more expansive planning curriculum through YIP.



Young In Planning (YIP)



Bronx Brewery

Fun Sharing Chapter events

The New York Metro Chapter wishes to thank everyone who made our events a success this year, including the organizers who did the hard work to make them happen, and everyone who attended. Included are the photos of just a few of the Chapter's events.



APA, ASLA, AIA June Conference



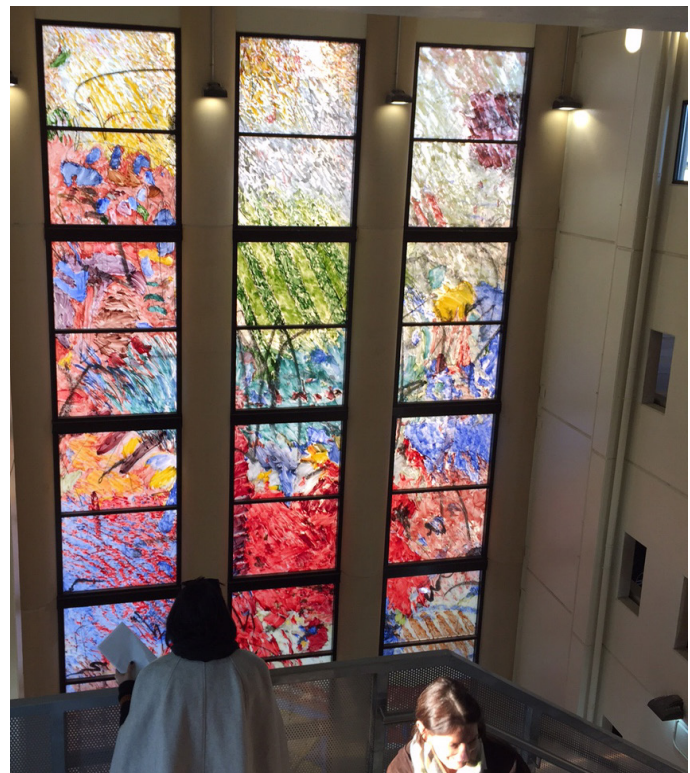
Hudson Valley East Conference



Wyandanch Walking Tour, Phase 1, LI Section



Housing Committee



Wyandanch Walking Tour, New Commuter Parking Facility, LI Section



Waterfront Committee



Urban Design Committee



Urban Design Committee



Urban Design Committee



Spring Happy Hour, Student Relations Committee East End Conference, LI Section



Plan4Health, Live well Kingston



Riverhead Walking Tour, LI Section



Valley Stream Walking Tour