

Michigan Association of Planning President's Report

Steve Robinson, MAP President

This report covers Association activities from July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011. Even with the significant economic and political changes in Michigan, it was yet another successful year for the Michigan Association of Planning (MAP)! We continued to advance policy development, strengthen partnering and advocacy efforts, and improve our educational offerings to both citizens and professional planners.

MAP Board Initiatives

The MAP board operates under the Policy Governance model of organizational management. Its primary focus is to develop and adopt the land use and planning policy that drives MAP's educational programming, advocacy and information dissemination, and to "link with the owners". Ownership linkage includes outreach and communication with our members and other land use stakeholders to identify the issues and challenges facing Michigan's planning community, and to respond through the creation of policies and initiatives that meet those identified needs.



Board Linkage efforts in 2010 - 11 included:

- Detroit Outreach with Detroit planning and development leaders in August and September 2010, and raised funds to provide scholarships to Detroit planners to attend the MAP Annual Planning Michigan conference in fall 2010 in Detroit.
- The Board Annual Retreat was held in Grand Rapids in January 2011 wherein the board identified its policy and linkage direction for the year.
- The board conducted a joint meeting in March 2011 with its Government Relations committee, and invited Gongwers publisher John Lindstrom and Adrian Hemond, lobbyist at GCSI, to discuss the new Governor's policy direction and its implications for local government.

- In April 2011 the board learned about regional planning efforts in Midland MI.
- In June 2011 more than 30 planning leaders from the Grand Rapids area joined the MAP board to hear from a panel of regional experts, to learn about issues and to network over lunch.
- August 2011 brought the board to Traverse City to expand knowledge about regional cooperation, with presentations about the Grand Vision and LIAA's Partnerships for Change program.
- And in September 2011 the Board circled back to Detroit, inviting planning leaders from Planning and Development Department, City Planning Commission, Board of Zoning Appeals, and the DEGC.

Policy Development

The Board's Government Relations Committee researches policy topics and provides the board with background information, alternatives, and draft language. Policies on transportation and regional planning were initiated, and research for food systems planning and social equity were on-going.

Legislative Activities

The law committee focused its attention over the last fiscal year on the Regional Councils Act, drafting, engaging with the Michigan Association of Regions, and drafting support resource materials.

Information and Resources

The *Michigan Planner* magazine is published 6 times per year, and is an excellent source for relevant, high level information for both professional planners and officials. The *Michigan Planner E-DITION* is a bi-monthly electronic newsletter that was launched at the end of fiscal year 2010-11 to provide resources and links to members on *Michigan Planner* off months.



Education Programming 2010 - 2011

Professional Planners

Annual Conference (491 attendees) at the Detroit Marriot, Fall 2010

Spring Institute (114 attendees) focused on sustainability and climate change and highlighted many national speakers including Mark Hertzgaard, author of the bestselling book "Hot".

Transportation Bonanza II 326 attendees over 1.5 days in partnership with SR2S, MDOT, and the Department of Community Health, this event focused on complete streets, safe routes to school, health and livability.

RLUIPA Webcast, more than 550 attended.

Elected and Appointed Officials

2011 Spring Basic Training at 2 locations, 60 attendees

On Site Programs More than 209 attendees educated at 5 workshops

Students

Student Conference February 2011, 165 attendees

Specialty or Grant Funded Education

MSHDA Cities of Promise Workshops 17 workshops were conducted educating 550 participants.

DEQ Filling the Gaps Two workshops providing education for 80 attendees.

Advocacy, Partnering and Special Projects

MAP worked with many organizations and state agencies on various initiatives in 2010 - 2011, including:

Michigan Department of Transportation

MAP closed out the Michigan Department of Transportation Land Use Action Team (LUAT) Michigan Development Impact Study. The final report recommended new processes for review of large scale development projects regionally.

Safe Routes to School Program – Partner for 2010 Transportation Bonanza, which attracted 326 attendees. MAP partners included SR2S Program, MDOT, Michigan CNU, and Department of Community Health.



Certification Maintenance

Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA)

*Centers for Regional Excellence-*Project and financial management for 8 grantees doing regional collaboration work

*Technical Assistance Provider-*develop and launch training programs for Michigan's Cities of Promise.

*Land Use Executive Committee and Sense of Place Council—*MAP represented on both initiatives.



Department of Community Health (MDCH)

Healthy Kids Healthy Michigan Community Policy Action Team, co Chair –Worked closely with coalition of leaders to advance Complete Streets legislation through legislature; managed grant to create and launch a 5 module workshop series for Complete Streets, including a train the trainer series that attracted more than 100 attendees.

Service as Technical Advisor and Expert

MAP participates as an advisor for the following initiatives: Complete Streets Advisory Council (appointed by Governor Granholm in December 2010); LIAA 's Partnerships for Change program; Michigan Suburbs Alliance - Redevelopment Readiness Communities (RRC); Congress for New Urbanism/Michigan Chapter: Healthy Kids/Healthy Michigan; Safe Routes to School Network Partner; MSHDA Sense of Place Council member; Planning Active Communities; MSHDA Main Street Advisory Council;

American Planning Association

MAP continues to strengthen its relationship with the APA in many ways including participation at the national level on the Chapter President's Council, administering the Certificate Maintenance Program, and leading the Chapter Administrators group.

