

OCTOBER 27-29, 2021

PLANNING MICHIGAN 2021

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS



Wednesday, October 27, 2021

9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Welcome/ Opening Session

The Time is Now for Zoning Reform

Sara Bronin is a Mexican-American architect, attorney, professor, and policymaker whose interdisciplinary work focuses on how law can foster more equitable, sustainable, well-designed, and connected places. She is a professor at the Cornell College of Architecture, Art, and Planning, an Associated Faculty Member of the Cornell Law School, and a Fellow of the Atkinson Center for Sustainability. She is also the lead organizer and founder of DesegregateCT, a coalition of neighbors and more than 75 non-profits who have been working to change the landscape of zoning in Connecticut. In 2021, the Connecticut legislature enacted Public Act 21-29, an important step toward a more affordable, sustainable, and economically dynamic state, marking the first significant update to the State's zoning enabling act in decades. Learn about the statewide zoning atlas, the coalition, and the transformative changes to the Zoning Enabling Act. Can the Connecticut experience become a model for change in Michigan?

10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Break

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Building Community Resilience is Both Necessary and Possible

Quality of life hinges on stability for people as well as systems. Stability is not a fixed state; it is an active process of collaboration, adaptation, and investment. Building resilience is about working toward social, economic, and environmental stability. As part of the MEDC's pandemic recovery strategy, the RRC program and SmithGroup created a resource for Michigan communities to assess their resiliency approach holistically across people, place, infrastructure, and economy. Learn about the RRC Resiliency Toolkit and how to strengthen your next plan, policy, or assessment.

Alicia Adams, LA, SmithGroup

Katrina Kelly-Pitou, PhD, SmithGroup

Pablo Majano, Michigan Economic Development Corporation

Effective and Efficient Master Planning

Master planning is an essential tool to guide your community's future, but the master planning process can be time consuming and expensive. This session focuses on how to define your community's planning needs upfront, and provides techniques and approaches to efficiently address them.

Ben Levanger, AICP, Downtown Redevelopment Services

Rob Bacigalupi, AICP, Mission North

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Lunch Break

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Wednesday, October 27, 2021 (continued)

1:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Keynote: The New Framework for Connection

Zoom meetings, colleagues you haven't seen face to face in ... more than a year, yearning for connections with others, and with ourselves. The challenge is real, and as public servants planners are often on the front lines navigating codes, helping residents, easing developers through the review process. Work and family demands were challenging before the Covid shutdowns, and now more than ever we crave connections that make our work meaningful, our contributions valued, and our place in the world balanced.

The Oh-Lay framework provides practical tools to uncover the foundation of any strong organization - its culture and its people. Learn how building strong connections enhances personal power and increases professional performance while tapping into community strength. This session tees up the interactive breakouts scheduled later during the conference (Thursday at 1:00 p.m.) that will help us create meaningful connections and build greater engagement in the workplace.

Nikolay Borisov, Ohlay

Alex Oh, Ohlay

1:30 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.

Break

1:45 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.

Bringing it all Together: Tackling the Big Issues of the 2020s in a Comprehensive Plan

If it exists in Michigan, it can be found in Holland Charter Township. The community features redeveloping urban neighborhoods, growing suburban greenfields, prime farmland, waterfront, industry, and even a re-imagined mall. Join us as we explore how the Township's Unified Vision Plan process combined these disparate elements to form a coherent comprehensive plan in order to create a resilient, dynamic community.

Christopher Khorey, AICP, McKenna

John D. Said, AICP, Holland Charter Township

Project Management – Hosted by the Emerging Professional Planners Section

A Conversation with the 2021 Award Recipients

You can watch the MAP award program videos to learn about the communities and projects, but come to this session to hear what happened behind the scenes. Did the panelists always think these plans would be award worthy? From start to finish, what were the opportunities and challenges? How can their "lessons learned" help you with your community and its projects?

2:45 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Break

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Wednesday, October 27, 2021 (continued)

3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Master Planning for Renewable Energy Systems

The session will provide Michigan communities with perspective and strategy for how to plan for renewable energy, including solar and wind energy systems. We will discuss why we need to plan and zone for deployment of solar and wind energy systems. Participants will learn about policy tools and successful examples so that they can lead an informed conversation in their own community.

Brad Neumann, AICP, MSU Extension

Mary Reilly, AICP, MSU Extension

Sarah Mills, PhD, University of Michigan, Graham Sustainability Institute

3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

How Can Planners Shape Michigan's Future?

Planners are uniquely positioned to lead innovative policy and practice change at the local, regional, and state level. Though we each serve in our individual capacities, we think about issues on a large scale and beyond jurisdictional boundaries. Michigan faces new challenges in our changing world, but existing structures and institutions were designed to respond to different issues. As big thinkers, what is our responsibility to forge a different future? How can we embrace the influence of our profession to develop integrated, innovative, and impactful solutions for the 21st Century? How can we apply and lead with our collective wisdom to transform Michigan's ability to be a successful and vibrant state? This brainstorming session will challenge ourselves to think about how our profession can shape the future of Michigan.

John Sych, AICP, Charter Township of Garfield
Steve Hannon, AICP, Charter Township of Garfield
Additional panelists TBA

Ethics Cases of the Year: 2021 | 1.50 AICP CM ETHICS

This session will provide an overview of the AICP Code of Ethics with a summary of developments from the past year, and go on to explore several recent ethical scenarios based on real-life situations. Panelists will explore the applicable areas of the Code and APA Ethical Principles relating to each scenario and reveal how each of these situations was actually resolved.

Erin Perdu, AICP Commission

Wayne Beyea, JD, AICP, MAP Board of Directors and MAP Professional Development Officer (PDO)

5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Emerging Planning Professional's Trivia Challenge

Hosted again this year by MAP's Emerging Planning Professional section, these remarkable leaders are developing questions sure to stymie even the most experienced planners. Test your knowledge of planning and have some fun!

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9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Keynote Session | Planners' Friends in DC

With every new administration comes new policy, new directions, and new faces. Covid brought a moment of reckoning to global health systems, and it also served as a reminder that federal policy has huge implications on the work of government and of planners. This trifecta of federal power players will highlight the potentially transformational actions coming out of Washington DC. Not since FDR and the New Deal have we seen the kind of investment - from the historic Infrastructure deal, to the American Rescue Plan and the USDOT Transportation funding bill – that can alter our built environment and improve lives.

Dan Kildee, Congressman, Michigan's 5th District
Jason Jordan, Policy Director, American Planning Association

10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Break

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Recovery and Resilience Planning for Rural Communities

Rural communities in Michigan were hard hit by the Covid-19 crisis and continue to struggle with recovery efforts. Small businesses and local non-profit organizations led the way during the crisis and continue to do so during the long recovery. This session will explore lessons learned, as well as tools and programs that communities can use to build resilience into the local economy.

Dr. Mary Ann Heidemann, FAICP, Regional Planner, EUP Regional Planning

Jeff Hagan, CEO, EUP Regional Planning

Mariah Goos, Associate Planner, EUP Regional Planning

Detroit's Corktown – Past, Present, Future

Greater Corktown is one of the fastest growing areas within the City of Detroit. When Ford announced it would be redeveloping Michigan Central Station to host a campus focused on the Future of Urban Mobility, it presented many changes that centered around equitable development: land disposition, housing, parking. Building on a Community Benefits Agreement established between Corktown residents and Ford Motor Company, the City of Detroit's Planning Development Department, along with Perkins + Will, launched the Greater Corktown Neighborhood Framework Plan. Hear about the planning opportunities in this historic neighborhood and how they align with other planning efforts around the city.

Andrew Broderick, AICP, Perkins + Will

Trey Scott, Planner II, City of Detroit Planning and Development Department

Kevin Schronce, Central Region Design Director, City of Detroit Planning and Development Department

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12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Lunch Break

1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Boundaries for Greater Personal Development and Care

"Empathy without boundaries is self-destruction" (Silvy Khoucasian) and a direct, accelerated road to burnout. If we don't set boundaries for ourselves, our work, our responsibilities, then others will set those boundaries for us. In this workshop, we will reflect on where we're feeling depleted and burnt out, and build practices that prioritize our well-being, allow us to recharge, and communicate more effectively.

Nikolay Borisov, Ohlay

Alex Oh, Ohlay

1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

Tribal Sovereignty, Planning, and Land Use

Michigan is home to 12 federally-recognized Indian tribes that are sovereign governments exercising their own direct jurisdiction over their members and their territory. Sovereignty for tribes includes the right to establish its own form of government, determine membership requirements, enact legislation, and establish law enforcement and court systems. This session will cover relationship-building with non-Tribal governments, challenges Tribal Governments face including sovereignty, Trust v. fee land, contracting and sharing resources with non-Tribal governments, and infrastructure development in rural Reservation communities.

Chris Rogers, NHBP Tribal Member and Planning and Land Use Committee Member
Nat Spurr, NHBP Tribal Member and Planning and Land Use Committee Member
Dan Green, NHBP Chief Planning Officer

2:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Break

2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

The Project for Code Reform: Small Updates for Big Impacts

Is an outdated zoning ordinance holding your community back because you don't have the staff time, budget, or political support to tackle a rewrite? The Project for Code Reform, working with MEDC's Redevelopment Ready Communities program, has produced Michigan-specific guidebooks that show how to fix your codes incrementally. You will walk away from this session with fixes you can implement to overcome the biggest obstacles to better development.

Richard Murphy, AICP, Michigan Municipal League;
CNU Project for Code Reform
Christina Anderson, City Planner, City of Kalamazoo;
CNU Project for Code Reform

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Thursday, October 28, 2021 (continued)

2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Housing Our Neighbors and Ourselves: A Regional Approach

In 2020, CUPPAD's Housing Needs Assessments for Dickinson and Marquette Counties was the start of a conversation that would bring together local and regional partners, businesses, financial institutions, realtors, landlords, and many others to tackle the area's housing market. This session describes how partners from across the region will coordinate actions and bring to the table resources to undertake the fundamental housing supply issue that is impacting much of Michigan.

Ryan Soucy, AICP, CUPPAD

Callie New, Design Workshop, Inc.

Evan Bonsall, Marquette City Commission

3:30 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.

Break

3:45 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.

Can We Blow It Up?

Terms like compatibility and context were thrown out and replaced with demolition and density in the Reimagine Plainfield Corridor Plan. Township leaders tasked an advisory committee to make bold recommendations after their Corridor Improvement Authority went defunct and auto-oriented uses were multiplying like gremlins. Building vibrant places, greening, and making a corridor that people want to go "to" as well as "through" became cornerstone themes after in-depth trends and best practices analyses resulted in (surprisingly) strong

community support for radical change.

Suzanne Schulz, AICP, Progressive AE

Elizabeth Curcio, Plainfield Charter Township

Pete Elam, Plainfield Charter Township

From Idea to Financing to Review to Execution: Filling the Process Knowledge Gaps

While planners typically possess a strong grasp of master planning, development review, and the role of the zoning ordinance in guiding development in their community, they often lack understanding about the principles of finance, the market, or what a developer must do to get a project through the municipal review and approval process. And THAT process is only part of the equation: A lot of work has already been done long before the planner sees a site plan. Planners often start in the middle of the process. Understanding what happens before and after can help both the planner and the developer deliver higher quality development products.

Mark McDaniel, President and CEO, Cinnaire

Ryan Kilpatrick, AICP, Executive Director, Housing Next

Jennifer Acosta, Jenifer Acosta Development

5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Networking

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Friday, October 29, 2021

9:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.

General Session

Rodney Harrell leads a group that provides thought leadership on livable communities and long-term services and supports by developing research, policy analysis, and innovative solutions. Creating age-friendly, livable communities enhances personal independence; allows residents to age in place; and fosters residents' engagement in their community's civic, economic, and social life – the team works to ensure that all people of all ages have access to the options that enhance livability across the lifespan. Rodney's research on housing preferences, neighborhood choice, and community livability are integral to the groundbreaking Livability Index, which measures the livability of every neighborhood and community in the United States. He is also a speaker, researcher, and blogger on livable communities issues and leads AARP's Future of Housing efforts.

Rodney Harrell, PhD, Vice President, Family, Home and Community, AARP

Facilitated by Jill Jill Bahm, AICP, Giffels Webster

10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Break

10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Placemaking-When Life gives you Wide Lanes and Big Setbacks, You Make Bike Paths

Southfield, a first-ring suburb of Detroit, was developed in the 1960's with auto-centric wide roads, large setbacks for parking, few sidewalks, and limited public transit. The City is addressing a legacy of inequity by recapturing and developing the public realm for pedestrians, persons with disabilities, and cyclists, while supporting public transit and greater access to education and employment. The Southfield City Centre Trail is the backbone of this network. Hear about a new urban greenway that brings community-desired walkability to a suburb once hostile to any form of transportation other than the personally owned vehicle.

Terry Croad, AICP, ASLA Director of Planning, City of Southfield

The Care and Feeding of Planners

Planners are often required to handle highly emotional situations and face public criticism, which can cause a great deal of stress and lead to burnout. Self-care is vital to a successful and fulfilling career in planning, yet it is not typically part of our professional education and training. This session works to remedy that, by exploring the need to make self-care a core competency in the planning profession and how we can get started.

Heather Seyfarth, AICP, City of Ann Arbor





Friday, October 29, 2021 (continued)

10:30 a.m. – Noon

Sign Regulation Guidebook | 1.5 AICP CM LAW

As the U.S. Supreme Court takes up yet another sign regulation case this year, sign regulation remains one of the thorniest areas of planning and law. This session will focus on legal and planning updates in the area of sign regulation, with special focus on the recently-released second edition of the Michigan Sign Guidebook.

Brian J. Connolly, JD, Otten Johnson Robinson Neff + Ragonetti PC

