

Candidate to be Included on Slate

Michigan Chapter, American Planning Association

Board Position – At large Board Member

Keith Baker, AICP,CFM

203377

Position Statement

I am honored for the opportunity to run as an incumbent for a second term to continue to serve on the Michigan Association of Planning (MAP) Board of Directors. I currently sit on the board's Executive Committee as the Secretary/Treasurer. If reelected, following MAP's ascendancy policy, I would serve as Vice President in 2027, President in 2028, and Past-President in 2029. Executive Committee service requires two terms on the board. I have been a planner for thirty-three years and have worked in both the public and private sectors. As a planner I have served as staff liaison for the Planning Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals in Coldwater, Union City and Midland and as a consultant to many other communities. My career expanded to include municipal administration, first serving as Village Manager with the Village of Union City and now as City Manager for the City of Coldwater.

I am a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP). As a member of MAP, I have participated as a long-standing member of the MAP Law Committee (until 2020). During my tenure with the City of Midland, I became a Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM) which expanded my land use, climate, watershed and regulatory experience.

My focus as a planner has been in zoning administration and master planning while serving as a city manager has allowed me to expand my efforts to affect positive change through community (particularly housing) and economic development. As a manager, my planning education and experience as helped me to be a positive influence on the communities that I have served.

I enjoy public service, helping people solve problems and making our communities better places to live on a daily basis. I would welcome the opportunity to continue to serve our association and profession as a member of the MAP Board for a second term. Thank you.

Work Experience

- 2016 – Pres. City Manager, City of Coldwater, MI (pop. 13,000)
- 2011 – 2016 City Planner/Director of Neighborhood Services, City of Coldwater, MI

- 2007 – 2011 City Planner/Director of Planning & Community Development, City of Midland, MI
- 2002 – 2007 Village Manager, Village of Union City, MI
- 1999 – 2002 Senior Planner, McKenna Associates, Kalamazoo, MI
- 1993 - 1999 Planning & Grant Coordinator, City of Coldwater, MI

Education

Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

- Bachelor of Science - Urban & Regional Planning (1993)

Other Experience and Affiliations

- American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP)
- ASFPM Certified Floodplain Manager (CFM)
- MAP Law Committee Member
- MAP Above Par Participant (2013)
- MAP Zoning Reform Stories & Studies Participant (2024)