Dear Planning Association of Washington (PAW) Members,

The Planning Association of Washington 2015 Fall Conference is a wrap! The fall colors in Chelan were stunning, but we were all reminded of the disastrous summer wildfires by the backdrop of blackened hills surrounding the small town. Our thoughts are still with those who continue to rebuild their lives and work towards a better tomorrow.

Over 100 attendees joined us at Campbell’s Resort to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Growth Management Act, as well as learn from a slate of amazing speakers about new planning strategies and professional growth opportunities. Two distinct tracks, each with nine breakout sessions, provided ample learning experiences, numerous networking opportunities, and even time to unwind and take in the incredible experience that is Chelan.

We received a wonderful welcome from Rufus Woods, third generation publisher and editor of The Wenatchee World. Mr. Woods spoke about the changing nature of print media and shared observations about growth management and economic development in the Wenatchee Valley and Lake Chelan basin as seen through a media lens.

Our keynote speaker was Richard Hart who currently serves as Community Development Director for the City of Covington. Mr. Hart entertained us while providing valuable lessons from his remarkably successful career spanning more than 40 years. During his career, Mr. Hart has served as a planner, a department director, an elected official, and an inner city teacher in six different states. Mr. Hart inspired us by sharing his experiences and accomplishments in professional planning and community development work.

As another successful year draws to a close, the Planning Association of Washington would like to invite you and your colleagues to attend our 2016 Spring Conference in Everett next April 20-22. We will also be offering several “Boot Camp” trainings across the state in 2016. We look forward to seeing all of you next year at these great training events!

Sincerely,

[Signature]

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2015 Joint PAW-APA Planning Awards Recipients

For almost 30 years, the Planning Association of Washington and the Washington Chapter of the American Planning Association have jointly honored outstanding contributions to the field of planning in Washington State. This year, PAW was pleased to host award recipients at a dinner banquet on October 7, 2015, in Chelan. PAW presented awards for Implementation, Citizen Involvement and Transportation to the following recipients:

City of Shoreline – Comprehensive Planning for Large Cities & Counties/Development Regulations Award
This award is for the 185th Street Light Rail Station Subarea Plan. Award recipients are (left to right) PAW President Alex Wenger; Miranda Redinger, Senior Planner; Rachael Markle, Director of Planning and Community Development, both representing the City of Shoreline; and Mandi Roberts, Consultant - OTAK.

Yakima County – Citizen Involvement Award
This award recognizes community outreach for the public participation process on the “Horizon 2040 Visioning Goals Check-In” project. Staff members receiving the award are (left to right) Keelan McPhee, Alex Wenger, AICP (PAW President), Marla Powers, Thomas Carroll and Judy Pozarich (not pictured).

City of Mukilteo – Comprehensive Planning for Small Cities & Counties Award
For the “Moving Mukilteo Forward: Comprehensive Plan 2035” project. Award recipients are (left to right) PAW President, Alex Wenger; Patricia Love, Director of Planning and Community Development; and Bob Champion, Mukilteo City Council President.

City of Seattle – Transportation Planning Award
PAW President, Alex Wenger, with Kevin O’Neil, representing the City of Seattle Department of Transportation for the “Move Seattle” plan.

Other Award Recipients (not pictured):
- City of Tacoma - Implementation Award for the 13 Miles of Bikeways & Pedestrian Improvements project.
- City of Lacey - Comprehensive Planning for Large Cities/Development Regulations Award for the recent Sign Code Update.
- City of Tacoma - Sustainability Award for recent adoption of the Greenroads Policy.
- City of Bellevue (Honorable Mention) - Citizen Involvement Award for the Integrated Public Engagement Plan.

Employment Opportunities

PAW’s Employment page is a great resource for information on jobs, internships and other planning-related opportunities of interest for PAW members and friends.

Resources/Links

WA State Dept. of Commerce
Municipal Research Services Center
APA – Washington
National Assoc. of Regional Councils
Association of Washington Cities
WA State Association of Counties
Keynote Speaker: Richard Hart
PAW was extremely fortunate this year to have a long-time member and former board member, Richard Hart, Community Development Director for the City of Covington, deliver the keynote address at the conference. In so many different ways Mr. Hart symbolizes what being a professional planner is all about.

Mr. Hart’s keynote address drew on experiences and accomplishments compiled over his successful 40 year career to help us understand the importance of the this year’s conference theme, “Celebrating Our Success; Building Our Future!” by recognizing 25 years of GMA, as well as looking forward to the legacy the next generation of planners will create here in Washington. While being inspiring and entertaining, he passed on many valuable lessons and tips for us to take back to our work and career.

Session Spotlight: “Dynamic Teams, Dynamic Results”
In addition to the debut of PAW’s Planner Skills Camp, this year’s conference featured an entire tract dedicated to professional development. Karen Porterfield, a principal with Meta Management Consultants, as well as an adjunct faculty member at Seattle University, led two of the tract sessions, including “Dynamic Teams, Dynamic Results.”

Ms. Porterfield led the participants in this session through a series of hands-on exercises and group discussion exploring how to build trust, boost your team’s productivity, manage team conflicts and build accountability to be a great team leader and valuable team member!

2016 Planner Boot Camps
Be sure not to miss PAW’s Planner Boot Camps to be held on both the east and west side of the state. These tailored sessions will provide specialized training focusing on professional development for public administrators in 2016.

2015 PAW CONFERENCE RE-CAP

CHELAN SHORT COURSE
In connection with the PAW Conference, the City of Chelan hosted a Short Course on Local Planning at nearby Chelan City Hall. About 30 elected officials, planning commissioners and staff came from Chelan, Entiat, Moses Lake, Bridgeport and beyond to learn about the planning process.

The hot topic, as usual, was the Open Public Meetings Act, ably covered by Julie Norton, with OMW Law in Wenatchee.

A special thank you goes out to Roger Horn with the Olympia Planning Commission, for presenting at the course.

Commerce is currently booking Short Courses for 2016.
Requests should be sent to: Anne.Fritzel@commerce.wa.gov

DIGITAL SHORT COURSES
Commerce has organized about a thousand short courses since the program began in 1977, supported every year by PAW.

In 2015, Commerce is shifting Short Course offerings to the web! Check out the Short Course YouTube Playlist to watch the short course from home or with your planning commission!

You can also download the short Video Study Guide to follow along or the longer Resource Guide for more depth.