The Planning Association of Washington is a grassroots educational organization devoted to helping shape a vibrant Washington through effective and informed community planning. Our members and constituents are planners, planning commissioners, elected officials, tribes, special purpose districts, private sector firms, state agencies, students and interested citizens.
Message From the President

Happy New Year to all of you! And thank you all for your continued support of PAW.

This first newsletter of the year brings with it the opportunity to both celebrate last year’s accomplishments and to look forward to what the New Year will bring.

2017 started with the popular PAW boot camp series in March followed by PAW’s Annual Conference at Chelan in May with a conference theme of the Pace of Change. 2017 wound down with the exhilarating October PAW Spokane Convention highlighted by an informative downtown walking tour guided by the City of Spokane. A December Planner’s Boot Camp at Lake Stevens closed the year.

One of PAW’s partners, the Washington State Department of Commerce (“Commerce”), was equally busy in 2017. Commerce supported 16 Quarterly Planners’ Forum and 19 Short Courses (and two 2 mini short courses).

The success of PAW’s events throughout 2017, sound financial practices and membership growth have put PAW in a strong financial position as we start 2018.

PAW’s adopted 2018 budget allows for a full complement of services and events throughout 2018. Our first boot camp is planned this March in Lacey. The PAW budget also provides continued support to our partners such as Commerce’s Short Course and Regional Planners’ Forums.

Speaking of 2018, we start the year with full complement of Board of Directors. We welcome Emily Terrell of Sound Municipal Consultants as the Executive Board’s Vice President.

I’m also excited about this year’s PAW’s Annual Conference to be held May 2-4 at Lake Chelan’s Campbell’s Resort. “Living on the Edge” is this year’s conference theme. Besides tracks built around this theme, the Conference will feature a separate track on developing planners’ skills. Winners of the joint PAW-Washington APA Chapter awards program will also be announced. Conference sponsorship opportunities are available to showcase your firm or agency. Contact info@planningpaw.org for information.

This year PAW is also co-sponsoring the Great Places program in its first full year after last year’s successful pilot program. We will also continue to improve our website services which already include updated news and job announcements. Needless to say, 2018 will be busy. And as always, if you would like to get involved in PAW we would love to hear from you! There are a variety of volunteer opportunities available. Just send us an email at info@planningpaw.org and we will let you know how you can help.

Finally, the beginning of the year is the time we remind you to renew your membership and encourage others to join PAW if you haven’t already done so. We thank you again for supporting PAW and our mission of providing services to support effective and informed community planning throughout the State!

Alex Wenger, AICP
PAW President
PAW Annual Conference

Plan now for the Planning Association of Washington’s 2018 Annual Conference to be held May 2-4 at Campbell’s Resort in Chelan. We’re very excited on what this conference will offer.

This year’s conference theme is “Living on the Edge” - Balancing urban development with the protection of and from nature.

Conference sessions built around the conference theme are already shaping up. Tracks featuring “Cities by Design” (Open Space, Urban Trails, Urban Agriculture, Affordable Housing, Economic Development, Urban Design) and “Nature Bats Last” (Emergency Management, landslides, flooding, fire, critical area ordinances and shoreline master programs) are planned. Other informative, educational and professional skill building opportunities and sessions will be available. The Short Course on Local Planning session is also planned. Conference mobile workshops will be announced soon.

This year’s keynote luncheon speaker will be Knute Berger, a columnist at Crosscut magazine [http://crosscut.com/](http://crosscut.com/). Mr. Berger’s writings focus on the Pacific Northwest offering perspectives about culture, people and the challenges of planning for a sometimes unknown future.

The luncheon will also feature announcement of the 2018 PAW-APA awards winners. Information about how to nominate your project may be found [here](http://crosscut.com/).

Conference Sponsorship
Conference sponsorship opportunities at various levels of support are available to promote your firm or agency’s work. For information on sponsorship opportunities check [here](http://crosscut.com/).

Conference registration opening soon! Stay tuned!
Joint PAW/APA Awards Program

You may have seen the Request for Nominations for the State 2018 Planning Awards Program. This Awards Program, now in its 32nd year, is jointly sponsored by the American Planning Association (APA) Washington Chapter and the Planning Association of Washington (PAW).

The Awards Program is a great opportunity for communities to showcase planning efforts throughout the State, as well as student projects in university planning programs.

Has your project developed an innovative new subarea plan? Maybe promoted creative public outreach strategies to difficult-to-reach or underserved communities? Did you have a successful focus on mobility, transportation or sustainability?

These and many other projects fit within the Awards Program’s scope of review. We encourage all communities to nominate projects that exemplify what great planning work we do in the State. Awards are selected for large and small communities.

Details: The Request for Nominations should have arrived in your email inbox by now. Submittals are due by MARCH 16, 2018. Click here to submit now! A jury of our planning peers from both APA and the PAW organizations will meet soon thereafter to review the submittals and select this year’s winners. Winners will be announced and celebrated at the 2018 PAW Annual Conference to be held May 2-4, 2018 at Campbell’s Resort in Chelan.
Planners’ Forums & Short Course

2017 was a very busy year for the Washington State Department of Commerce ("Commerce") and its support for Planners’ Forums and managing the Short Course on Local Planning.

Planners’ Forums
Planners’ Forums offer a unique opportunity – at no charge – for planners, planning commissioners, elected officials, and community members across the state to talk informally about local issues, to share ideas, and to receive updates from state and federal agencies. Four Statewide regional Planners’ Forums each hold quarterly meetings. In 2017, Commerce supported 16 quarterly Planners’ Forums, offering a total of 57 presentations, and 52 free AICP “certification maintenance” credits to over 400 attendees.

Examples of topics covered in 2017 include the Hirst case on water availability, Growth Management Hearings Boards updates, affordable housing, farmland preservation, local economic development, planning ethics, and climate change.

The four regional Planners’ Forums are listed on Commerce’s web page (see link below). In addition, a new South Sound Section of the American Planning Association (APA) held a forum in 2017, and is planning another one in 2018.

Commerce partners with PAW and the Washington Chapter of the American Planning Association to produce the Planners’ Forums. For more information visit: www.commerce.wa.gov/serving-communities/growth-management/regional-planners-forums/

Short Courses
Commerce was equally busy organizing Short Course on Local Planning events throughout 2017.

19 Short Courses, providing free in-person training for 528 attendees were held. Three of the courses were in coordination with statewide conferences, providing a convenient way to get the training. Another 200 persons received training through the online Short Course video series. Mandatory training on the Open Public Meetings Act for local government officials is included in the Short Course. All courses are offered at no charge and are open to the public.

Thank you to the following people for their willingness to volunteer their time to present at Short Courses in 2017.

Attorneys: Megan Clark, Mike Connelly, Kristin French, Ken Harper, Andy Lane, Ray Liaw, Jim McNamara, Jeff Myers, Julie Norton and Phil Olbrechts

Comprehensive Planning: Commerce staff

Roles in Planning: Fred Evander, Brad Johnson, Michael Jones, David Osaki, Esther Schrader, Joe Tovar, Bill Trimm and JoAnne Wright

Besides PAW, Short Course partners with Commerce include: Washington Chapter APA, Washington Cities Insurance Authority (WCIA), the Association of Washington Cities (AWC) and the Risk Management Services Agency (RMSA).

Short Courses are already being held and scheduled for 2018. Fife, Clark County, Lake Stevens and Kennewick short courses are coming soon, not to mention one to be held at the Annual PAW Conference in May. For dates of upcoming Short Courses, the on-line video series and other information, visit: www.commerce.wa.gov/serving-communities/growth-management/short-course/
Educational Events 2018

The Planning Association of Washington (PAW) is working to broaden its education and training offers this year. In addition to continued support of the Short Course Program, PAW is working to strengthen the popular Boot Camp program. In March, PAW is working to schedule a Boot Camp in Lacey, WA, which will include a session on Annexation strategies. In September, PAW will be once again hosting a two day convention in Eastern WA that will include a full day Boot Camp and a full day Planner Skills Camp. The last Boot Camp of the year will be in December in Mercer Island (tentative) and will include a session on Code Enforcement.

Finally, we are expanding the “Planning Skills Camp” from a one night event on the first night of the Annual PAW conference to a complete conference tract that will provide offerings each day of the conference. This will cater to skill development ranging from new planners to planning managers. The sessions will focus on the Foundation of Project Review, the Review Process, Environmental Permitting, Public and Agency Involvement and the Public Face of Planning. Be a part of our diverse and dynamic presentation offerings.

FEBRUARY
6th Sequim Short Course
20th Annual Conference Registration Opens

MARCH
9th or 16th, Lacey – Boot Camp
21st Fife Short Course
26th Clark County Short Course (in Vancouver)
28th Lake Stevens Short Course

MAY
2nd-4th PAW Annual Conference; Campbell’s Resort, Chelan
2nd PAW Conference Short Course
3rd PAW - Washington Chapter APA Awards (at PAW Annual Conference)

SEPTEMBER
20th-21st, Eastern WA – Joint Boot Camp and Skills Camp

DECEMBER
7th, Mercer Island – Code Enforcement Skills Camp
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. Employment opportunities can be advertised on the PAW website at a cost of $50 for PAW members and $100 for non-members.

RESOURCES AND LINKS

Washington State Association of Counties  http://wsac.org/
Association of Washington Cities  http://www.awcnet.org/
Washington State Department of Commerce  http://www.commerce.wa.gov/
Washington State Department of Archeology and Historic Preservation  https://dahp.wa.gov/
Municipal Research Services Corporation  http://mrsc.org/Home.asp
National Association of Regional Councils  http://narc.org/

JOIN PAW OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP NOW.

The beginning of the year brings the reminder to renew your PAW membership and to encourage others to join.

Benefits of PAW membership include substantial discounts to all PAW events, including conferences and land use boot camps. Educational offerings with partnering organizations, quarterly newsletters, access to the Western Planner Journal and access to PAW’s new online discussion forum are other benefits.

Membership categories and rates are:
• **Individual Membership:** $75 One representative from any private organization or firm
• **Student Membership:** $20 All of the benefits of an Individual Membership at a reduced rate. A limited number of sponsored memberships are also available to students at no charge; contact the PAW office for more information.
• **Professional Membership:** $450 Unlimited representatives from any public or private organization or firm
• **Officials-Elected or Appointed:** $100 Unlimited elected or appointed representatives from any public agency or organization

The Professional Membership category has been highly popular. Unlimited representatives from any public or private organization or firm can enjoy the benefits of PAW membership for only $450.00.

Email us at info@planningpaw.org for more information about membership benefits and rates.
Board of Directors

Executive Board Members
Alex Wenger, AICP, President
Emily Terrell, Vice President & Education Chair
Lloyd Skinner, AICP, Treasurer & APA Board Liaison
Pete Dickinson, Secretary

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Ted Gage, AICP
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