

APA  
AL

In concert with the State Tourism Department's 2010 Year of Small Towns and Downtowns, the next Alabama APA Spring Conference will recognize Alabama's downtowns. The conference is being planned for March 17-19 in Tuscaloosa at the Hotel Capstone. The City of Tuscaloosa Planning Department will lend support to the chapter in putting together a great program. The Spring Conference will give the City of Tuscaloosa the opportunity to show off the tremendous work that has been going on in and around Downtown Tuscaloosa since the AL APA was there last.

The authors identify regulations that can confound efforts to address watershed issues. Infill and redevelopment, which can abate a range of environmental issues, by reinvesting and intensifying the use of already developed land rather than continued greenfield conversion, runs into obstacles with parking, setback and frontage requirements. Time consuming regulatory review can also be a disincentive to redevelopment projects, especially when variances and exceptions are necessary to build projects that don't fit one-size-fits-all regulations. Bulk limitations such as Floor Area Ratio (FAR) restrictions and height limitations can also challenge compact development, which provides the opportunity to reduce cumulative impervious cover within a watershed.

Another key contributor is single-use zoning. Euclidean use restrictions disperse development horizontally,

See CAREFUL page 10

## Alabama Chapter APA 2010 Awards Program

*Each year the Alabama Chapter of the American Planning Association, through its Annual Awards Program, seeks to recognize the notable contributions and achievements of individuals throughout the state, whether they are planning professionals, elected or lay persons, the media or our state planning students. In addition to these individuals, the chapter seeks to recognize the outstanding planning efforts, including programs, plans and projects prepared and implemented by local governments, private consultants, as well as other local organizations and agencies throughout the state.*

*While the official announcements for nominations of Chapter Awards will be mailed to the Chapter membership in November, 2009, the Chapter's Awards Committee is happy to begin accepting nominations now for the 2010 Awards Program. The Awards Program will be held in conjunction with the ALAPA Chapter's annual meeting in Tuscaloosa in March, 2010.*

*The Awards Committee encourages anyone who knows of any worthy persons, projects, programs or plans to give serious consideration to submitting a nomination for this year's Awards Program. The awards program information, including the Awards Program categories, nomination criteria and submission information, is available on the ALAPA's web site under [Chapter News](#).*

ALAPA Awards Committee

## A SEASON IN STATE HISTORY

November 21, 1818

Cahaba—originally "Cahawba"—becomes the first state capital.

November 20, 1826

The state capital moves to Tuscaloosa.

September 27, 1830

The Choctaw tribe cedes parts of west Alabama to the federal government.

November 12, 1833

A spectacular meteor shower, seen across the Southeast, becomes known as "the night the stars fell on Alabama."

October 1, 1867

African Americans vote in a statewide election for the first time in Alabama.

November 24, 1869

The state legislature gives African Americans the right to vote.

September 13, 1892

The Agricultural and Mechanical College of Alabama, now Auburn University, becomes the state's first co-ed college.

November 16, 1873

Father of the Blues W.C. Handy, is born in Florence.

November 16, 1875

The 1875 Alabama Constitution is ratified, giving Democrats and Black Belt planters greater control of state government.

October 8, 1896

Innovator George Washington Carver becomes director of the Tuskegee Institute's agricultural school.

October 12, 1896

The Alabama Girls' Industrial School, later the University of Montevallo, opens.

September 17, 1923

Country legend Hank Williams is born in Georgiana, Alabama.

October 4, 1937

Clay County native Hugo Black is appointed to the U.S. Supreme Court by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

September 19, 1953

The state legislature gives women the right to vote.

October 31, 1954

Martin Luther King, Jr. becomes minister of Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery.

September 8, 1960

The Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville is dedicated, later producing rockets for the 1969 American moon landing.

September 2, 1963

Governor George Wallace delays the opening of Tuskegee High School to prevent its integration.

September 15, 1963

A bomb explodes at the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, killing four black girls.

October 30, 1979

Richard Arrington becomes the first black mayor of Birmingham, the state's largest city.

# PLANNING FOR ENERGY SAVINGS

Diane Burnett, AICP

The federal administration has determined that lowering our dependence on fossil fuels is a priority. This sounds good, right? But what does that really mean and what are the alternatives to fossil fuels? One alternative is hydro-electric power. Hydro-power is not available to most of Alabama as we do not have a water source that can be harnessed and used as a power source. There is wind, but we don't have enough windy days. Then, there is solar, but believe it or not, we have too many cloudy days to rely on solar power. So what this federal mandate means to you and me, as well as everyone else living in the Southeastern United States, is that our electric bills are going to increase.

As our local power companies try to meet the federal guidelines of reducing our usage of fossil fuels, there are some steps that local communities can take to assist with this dilemma. Planting trees is one. Planting trees is nothing new but understanding the benefits may be. Trees provide enormous cooling benefits, principally through two mechanisms. First, because they absorb sunlight and offer shade, trees prevent sunlight from reaching surfaces such as concrete, brick, and asphalt that convert solar radiation into heat. Second, trees release water vapor through tiny openings in their leaves—a process known as evapotranspiration: the water vapor absorbs heat directly from the air and cools it. Evapotranspiration is important not only in modifying extreme heat in yards and neighborhoods, but also for moderating regional and even global climates.

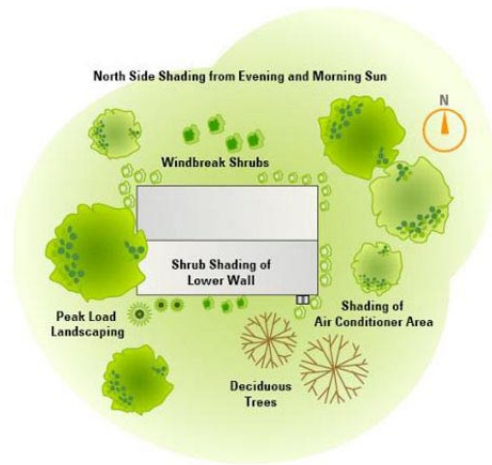
By lowering extreme temperatures, trees reduce the physical discomfort that people suffer in high heat and reduce the need for energy to run air conditioners. In addition to reducing the actual energy bill for a business or homeowner, this reduction in energy usage cuts down on pollution produced by utilities.

The savings that homeowners can reap from well-placed trees range from 10 to 50 percent during the summer cooling season. These estimates are based on computer modeling studies by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Forest Service.

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*The savings that homeowners can reap from well-placed trees range from 10 to 50 percent during the summer cooling season.*

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Source: US Department of Energy

Location, location, location. The general rule of thumb when considering where to shade a building is “west is best”. Believe it or not, the location of trees is critical. Western exposures struck by the summer sun reach the hottest temperatures adding considerably to the discomfort felt within a home. Shading eastern exposures may prove to be just as important because trees that shade both eastern and western walls greatly reduce heat extremes in the summertime.

Another important strategy is to shade the air-conditioner or central heating/air conditioner unit itself. This alone can reduce a household's summer energy bill by 10 percent.

Site design and site planning also have a large impact on the energy efficiency of homes. The sun is the main source of heat in all homes. By understanding how houses receive sunlight, site planning can help optimize how much solar energy is available to heat a house and control how much heat must be removed with air conditioning.

As developers map out lots and roads, they should carefully consider the relationship between buildings and the sun. Roads are placed to allow houses to take advantage of great views, or to work around hillsides and other landscape features. Site planning should also consider how road design, lot lines, and orientation will influence the way that houses face the sun.

Lot lines and roads should be situated to minimize home exposure to east and west because these orientations provide the greatest solar heat gains. Single-family homes in contemporary subdivisions tend to have longer fronts and backs and narrower sides. In these



## APA LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

*Larry Watts, FAICP, Chair, Legislative Committee*

The Legislative Committee's long term goals were reviewed with the Executive Committee at its summer retreat in Tuscaloosa, including: eventual improvements to state planning legislation; promoting best practices and use of current planning and related authorities to accomplish comprehensive planning in local communities; monitoring of legislation that APA can partner with or oppose, as need be; and strengthening a working partnership with those citizens and business groups that have mutual interests in better statewide planning legislation and other initiatives (something similar to various "Friends" groups in other states that have lead to advanced planning legislation).

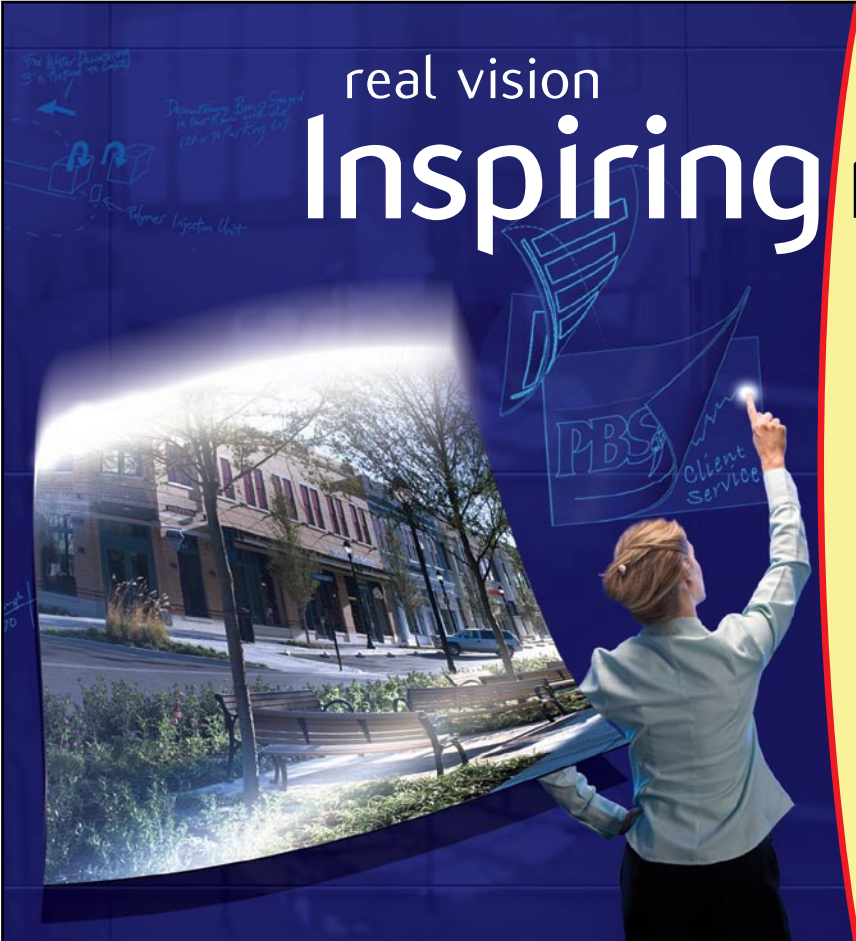
A specific initiative, introduced by Bill McAllister and Fred Peterson at the Annual Meeting, concerning APA supporting Citizens for Constitutional Reform, especially with regard to home rule, was discussed with the Executive Committee. The Committee agreed to authorize the President to sign a resolution - a draft resolution was presented to the Executive Committee for consideration - confirming such support, subject to

the Legislative Committee's recommendation as to the final wording of the resolution. Larry Watts, Chair of the Legislative Committee will circulate the wording of the resolution to the Legislative Committee for comment and provide the final language to the President and Executive Committee for signing. A copy of the draft will be posted on the ALAPA web site before the resolution is signed.

The Executive Committee also agreed that updating the manual on Municipal Planning in Alabama, authored by Bob Juster, FAICP, would be a good way to incorporate various planning-related authorities into a current and topical guide. The Legislative Committee hopes to have a draft ready for comment by the 2010 state conference. This undertaking will require considerable volunteer effort from throughout the state's planning community.

There have been lots of legislative initiatives at the national level that can impact various planning issues in Alabama, perhaps positively and negatively. A summary of some of these initiatives will be included in coming newsletters.

The 2010 Legislative Session is just around the corner, so, stay tuned!



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## RECESSION HARD ON GRADUATING PLANNERS

*Mona Scruggs*

Lately everywhere you turn, from used-car commercials to the daily news headlines, there are reminders that we are experiencing difficult economic times. Undoubtedly planners are feeling the effects, and—as a planning student—I can assure you that we are as well. As anxious as we are to put our new knowledge and skills into practice, we know it is a difficult time to be searching for our first jobs in the planning field.

To shed a little light on the matter, I turned to my trusted professor Dr. Michael Clay. Dr. Clay has been an assistant professor in the Community Planning department at Auburn University since 2005 and has worked closely with students in the classroom as well as in his Transportation Modeling Lab. He has also enjoyed helping students find jobs. Dr. Clay noted that, “in every other year my students almost always had jobs lined up 2 or 3 months before graduation. Many had multiple offers – it was a great time to be a professor and to see your students succeed.” However, he has noted a dramatic difference during the past year in the students’ difficulties at finding employment. For instance, one of his students, who had a great skill set and had excelled in his academic work, began the job search early on and sent out over 50 job applications, only to receive one positive response. This student did not find his current job until three months after graduation. And, this case is not unique, many of the best students struggle. This news can be more than a little depressing for a student

who is currently job searching. However, it is not my intent to frighten planning students out of the job market to give myself an edge! On the contrary, I hope to call attention to the seriousness of the situation and to present suggestions that can make our efforts more effective.

It is important to stand out among all the other job applicants, and to do so you must make yourself marketable. Dr. Clay offers this advice “Planners must be diverse – even specialists require many skills. Someone, who can do two or three things well, is going to have an advantage over the person with only one main focus.” A student who has good GIS skills and the ability to communicate effectively, demonstrates such diversity. Therefore, for those of us who still have a few months of school left, we should take advantage of any opportunities to improve and expand on our skill sets. One way to do so is to take an internship or part time job in the planning field. Dr. Clay encourages students to take, even unpaid, internships. “They often turn into paid positions.”

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*"Planners must be diverse—  
even specialists require  
many skills."*

Dr. Michael Clay,  
Auburn University

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Dr. Clay directs students, who are beginning to actively search for employment, to use two important factors to focus their search. The first is location, ‘where would you

*See RECESSION page 9*

# AGING IN SUBURBIA

Jason Fondren, AICP, LEED AP

In a recent *Wall Street Journal Encore* report, contributor Glenn Ruffenach investigated the quality of life that the nation's suburbs provide for those who are growing old. The article "Making Suburbia More Livable" opens up the discussion about the viability of aging in place in today's suburban communities and how the lifestyles of our later years are affected by where we choose to take root in our younger years.

Ellen-Dunham Jones, associate professor of architecture and urban design at the Georgia Institute of Technology opined, "All that privacy that drew people to the suburbs...can become isolation" for older citizens. The lack of adequate sidewalks and separation of basic commercial services from most suburban neighborhoods make everyday errands more difficult and anxiety laden for the aging population. Ruffenach noted research showing that men and women live six to ten years beyond their ability to safely drive. In communities where driving is an unofficial requirement of citizenship, our sunset years may be very limited.

That empty nesters are downsizing is no surprise. The kids have grown up, gone to college and are raising their own families. A smaller home and less yard work makes sense too many middle-aged couples. And, the same or a smaller home in the same suburban location can work well for several years, until the empty nester gets older and driving becomes a challenge. For those living in use-segregated communities, leading a relatively independent and full life becomes a problem because driving is such a necessity for so much of our daily lives. Ruffenach's estimates indicate that about half the U.S. population - approximately 30 million people - are 55 years and older and are living in such monofunctional environments. In his book *The Columbia Retirement Handbook*, Abraham Monk proclaims, "The ability to be mobile and to move easily from place to place is critical to older people if they are to remain independent and experience a sense of control over their lives."

For decades communities and regions have developed and supported special transit services, such as rideshare programs, to bridge the gap, a necessary but symptom-treating measure to reduce the isolation of the elderly who are so often far removed from the core life-giving functions of a community. We can and must do better than this.

The goal to age in place—to live a comfortable, older but otherwise equal, life in the community one chose to

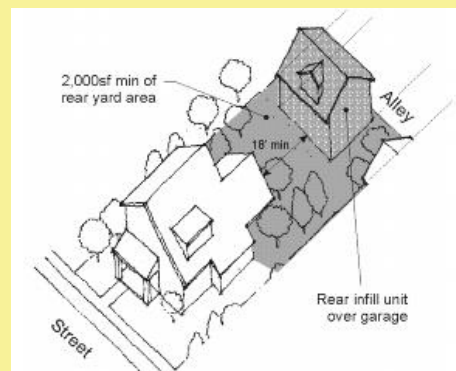
raise a family in—is a challenge placed on our parents and grandparents mostly unnoticed by the larger community. The pattern of conventional suburban development in critical ways runs counter to this desire. And, it has been institutionalized in the way that many communities plan and regulate development. Yet, most citizens, if asked directly, would probably agree that they should have desirable options, in the communities they live in now, for where and how they live as they get older. Anything to the contrary might even seem un-American.

*...The ability to be mobile  
and to move easily from  
place to place is critical to  
older people...*

*The Columbia Retirement Handbook*  
Abraham Monk

Our older citizens deserve more choices - the options suburban communities have traditionally made available are too few, too limited or too nearly inhumane. There are some elderly, who will be fortunate enough to live with their adult children. Though those numbers are on the rise due to soaring housing and healthcare costs, it is still a fairly small proportion. "Accessory dwellings" or "mother-in-law units" are a housing option that can make family caregiving situations less straining, by affording greater privacy and independence. Unfortunately, accessory dwellings are not legal in single-family zones in typical suburban zoning ordinances. The American Association of Retired Persons, new urbanists, smart growth supporters and other advocates have argued for zoning changes to make these dwellings legal, thereby increasing affordable housing options for all.

Cottage housing is a fairly recent affordable housing typology to hit the market in the United States. But, as



*Alley-loaded, detached accessory dwelling*



is too often the case, zoning rules can prohibit them. Cottage housing involves usually 6-12 small homes arranged around a common yard. Because each unit does not have street frontage, they run afoul of zoning requirements. Advocates have made some headway by developing zoning code provisions to allow this new housing typology, which is ideal for retirees who want to maintain the independence of homeownership while being part of a community.

Of course, there are various types of retirement communities and living care facilities. But, how many of these are located in walking distance of stores, healthcare services or parks? Of those, how many are connected by adequate, safe sidewalks?

If it is any indication, countless Alabama zoning ordinances permit the generic land use classification "nursing home" in agricultural districts. This speaks volumes, as if we are literally sending out to pasture, our older citizens. Some ordinances allow independent, assisted or nursing care facilities in multi-family residential zoning districts. But because of community fears, this type of zoning is begrudgingly meted out, often relegated to geographically isolated parts of a community. Townhouses and garden homes are scattered willy nilly throughout our towns, and few such housing developments are connected by sidewalks to the business and civic areas that older people require access to for a sense of self-sufficiency.

There is good news according to Ruffenach's article. More and more cities are resolving this holistically by planning for the development of "lifelong communities", where housing suitable to older citizens would be within walking distance of shops, health care, and other basic necessities. Ruffenach cites several examples, including Lakewood, Colorado and Fayetteville and Mableton, both in Georgia.

Mableton, a suburban community 15 miles west of Atlanta, has prepared a plan to redevelop declining strip developments into multiple mixed-use neighborhood centers that include housing types appropriate for older residents. This was initiated by a [Lifelong Communities Charrette](#) hosted by the Atlanta Regional Commission, and renowned planning and design firm Duany-Plater Zyberk.

The Belmar project in Lakewood converted an indoor shopping mall on 104 acres into a 22-block mixed-use neighborhood. The development includes shops, offices and a broad mix of housing types. Retired city manager Mike Rock said in Ruffenach's article "The change is pretty dramatic... Buildings are pulled right up to the

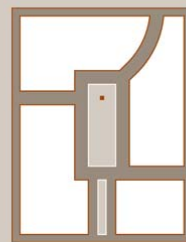


*Greenwood Avenue Cottages in Shoreline, WA developed by The Cottage Company*

sidewalk; residential living is above the retail outlets. You don't expect to see this in a suburban setting."

Perception is a challenge that must be overcome anytime something "dense" or "urban" is proposed in a suburban community. Regardless of the opportunities it might bestow upon our aging citizens, the NIMBYs will cry out against crime, traffic, noise and loss of property value.

But as planners, we must be aware of the unintended consequences that land use policies, though well-intended, have on the quality of our elderly residents' lives. In Alabama, where suburban schools depend on—nationally low—property values, "affordable housing" attracts much opposition. But, while we are making decisions for the good of our children, what are we doing with our parents? Land use policies that are overly restrictive on density and mixed-use development, while too lax to require sidewalks, may just be throwing the baby (or grandparent) out with the bathwater.



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cases, lots facing north or south will tend to be more energy-efficient. The Florida Solar Energy Center



estimates that proper orientation can result in substantial savings of heating and cooling costs, depending on specific site conditions and house designs.

Simple, but well thought out, changes to your Zoning Ordinance and Subdivision Regulations could significantly reduce local energy consumption.

Source: US Department of Energy

## BIRMINGHAM CHARTER

In late September, Karan Grover, acclaimed as the world's "greenest architect," joined a group of national green design experts and local planners, architects and developers to draft a framework for what would be a set of protocols on sustainable planning, design and development. The summit took place at the Center for Regional Planning and Design in Downtown Birmingham. Participants posed the Birmingham Charter, as it takes shape, to replace the 1933 Athens Charter. That charter represents much of what critics say has gone awry with modern city planning, promoting communities where residential, commercial, and industrial uses are separated but connected by major transportation corridors. Sound familiar?

To find out more, read [How the Birmingham Charter Could Change the World](#) by *Birmingham Weekly* staff writers Jesse Chambers and Madison Underwood.

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Alabama APA Chapter Membership,

I'm very excited about the upcoming year for the Alabama Chapter.

It will soon be time for the Chapter Membership to elect new executive board members. I encourage all of you to consider serving on the executive board but also to participate in the election process. This is your chance to help shape the future of Alabama APA.

Our Conference Committee is already hard at work planning the Annual Spring Conference that will be held March 17-19 at the Hotel Capstone on the Campus of the University of Alabama. The theme of the conference will be Alabama Downtowns: Preservation & Progress. The 2010 theme coincides with the state's yearlong celebration of Alabama's small towns and downtowns.

The 2010 Spring Conference will also include The 13th Annual Zoning Administrator's Workshop presented by the University of North Alabama's Continuing Education Program. The featured speaker for the Workshop will be Philip L. Walker, who worked on Northport's AL APA award-winning downtown plan. Walker's presentation will focus on downtown planning for smaller and mid-sized communities.

So, make your plans to join us in Tuscaloosa in March and don't forget to vote.

Johnny Blizzard AICP, CFM

President-Alabama APA



## SOUTHEAST REGION



like to work'? The second is 'what type of work do you want to do'? It is important that you can be content in the position for which you are applying. "If you are not happy at your job, your life will be more stressful and you will not perform your best...your employer will be happiest when *you* are successful and happy". Dr. Clay has observed that students do not spend enough time on introspection. By introspection he means knowing "what you are good at and what you enjoy, as well as what you are not good at and what you do not enjoy". He makes the point that, in this process, we must be honest with ourselves. And, he discourages students from applying for an employer simply because there is an opening. "If it's not something you want to do or in a place that you want to live, save the organization time and money by not applying."

After a student has gone through the process of introspection and has a good idea of what she wants to do and where she wants to live, the actual search can begin. There are several websites that are helpful at this point. The National APA ([www.planning.org](http://www.planning.org)), Alabama APA ([www.alaapa.org](http://www.alaapa.org)) and Planetizen have job listings for various types of planning. In addition, Alabama's website [www.personnel.alabama.gov](http://www.personnel.alabama.gov) lists state openings and [www.usa.gov](http://www.usa.gov) is an excellent place to find federal job listings for planners. However, some cities have job postings only on their own websites. So, if you know a

## JOBS FOR PLANNERS

If you have a job opening, or know of open positions that might be of interest to Alabama Planners, please email them to [jfondren@kpsgroup.com](mailto:jfondren@kpsgroup.com) or mail them to:

Jason Fondren, AICP  
c/o Alabama Planner  
2101 First Avenue North  
Birmingham AL 35203

There is no charge for placing job postings in the newsletter.

place where you would like to work, search municipal websites in that area.

The recession is affecting the planning field as it is affecting all other job sectors. Planning students on the job search must be proactive and determined. Hopefully, this advice will be useful in your job search. If you still feel unclear how to go about things, consult professors or planning professionals. Also, take advantage of workshops and conferences offered by the Alabama and National APA. These events offer good opportunities for networking and getting advice. Above all, stay optimistic. We have been trained and educated in a very important field, and with enough effort I am hopeful that we will eventually land the jobs that are right for us.



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creating multiple building footprints where one mixed-use building could have satisfied demand for new businesses and dwellings. This in turn creates the need for more roads, parking lots, and vehicle trips, which add more pollutants into stormwater runoff. The article also acknowledges that a broader list of allowable uses in a given zoning classification encourages reinvestment in existing buildings through adaptive reuse. This, for example, avoids the artificial demand for new construction when existing buildings are sitting vacant.

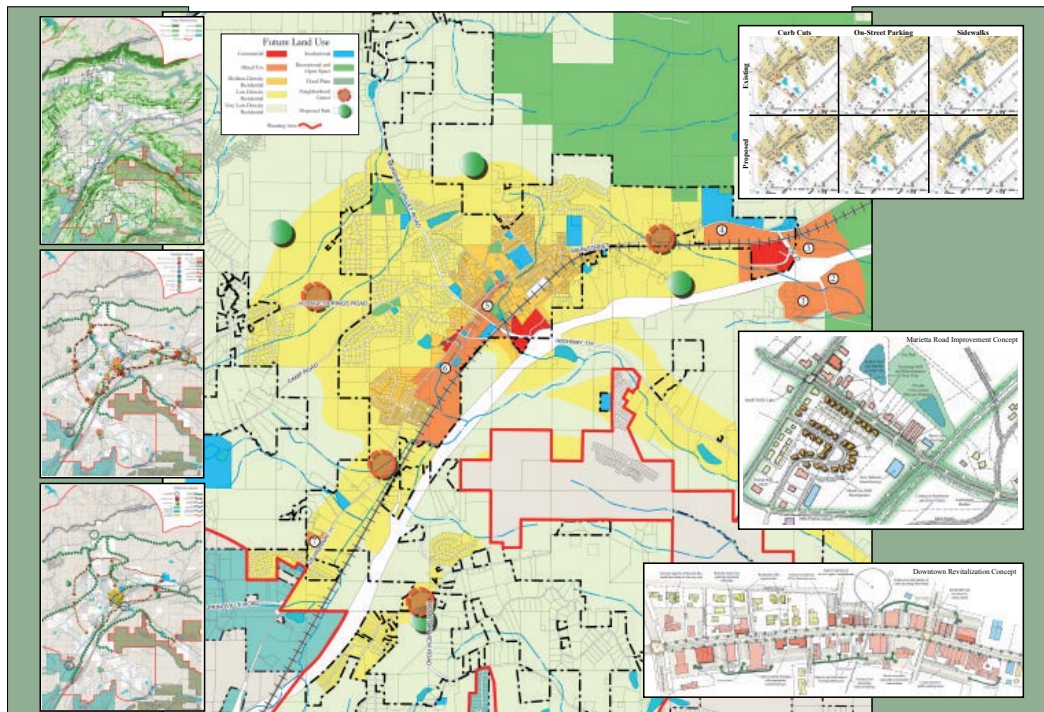
Regulatory changes can address watershed problems by enhancing mobility. With greater pedestrian, bicycle and transit use—once the compactness and mix of uses is allowed through zoning—increases in impervious cover needed to move and store cars can be brought under control, including shared parking and loading provisions. Then, upgrades to a community's standards for street design can also be undertaken. Narrower streets reduce impervious cover, which helps balance out the additional imperviousness created by sidewalks that are needed to enable pedestrian mobility. The article also notes that sidewalks can be designed with pavers and infiltrative materials to further address this possible contention.

Site design standards can also be amended to support stormwater management efforts by removing any barriers

to low impact development. Nisenson and Anderson note that intent and purpose statements in codes may be too vague or weak to fully acknowledge or encourage design practices supportive of stormwater management.

Good stormwater practices can also be enabled through small-area planning, such as those that focus on neighborhoods, downtowns, redevelopment areas, or even watershed sub-basins. More and more communities are using overlay codes and area-specific regulations to implement small-area plans. Such area-specific regulatory tools can better affect stormwater practices because they can be calibrated to the unique conditions of specific parts of a community.

Finally, when developing strategies to improve local codes, sort out and prioritize the various changes that are needed. "Quick fixes," for which there is a strong consensus, can be addressed in the near term. Identify state requirements that might conflict with or limit local code improvements and determine how those might be resolved. Develop multiple sets of BMPs that are suitable in different contexts. The article further organizes potential changes into categories such as process changes, cross-code compliance, small-area planning and economic development. The full article is available at [Thou Shalt Review Ordinances...and Then What?](#)



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Springville Comprehensive Plan- Alabama APA 2009 Comprehensive Plan of the Year

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## AROUND THE STATE

### ► *Coastal Tourism Up in Downturn*

Figures released by the Alabama Gulf Coast Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) indicated a three percent increase in condominium occupancy during July, compared to similar numbers from 2008. The rise in visitation was made more notable due to the fact that there were over 700 additional units available since last July. In Orange Beach, July 2009 lodging tax and retail sales tax revenues rose by 5.1% and 13.5%, respectively, over those taken in during July 2008.

### ► *Jemison at the Finish Line*

After a three-year plus process, the City of Jemison, Alabama has completed an overhaul of the community's growth management system. In early 2006, Jemison, with the assistance of the Regional Planning Commission of Greater Birmingham (RPCGB) began work to develop a comprehensive plan. As of September 21, 2009 the City has adopted the plan, new subdivision regulations and a new zoning ordinance. During that time, the city also sought training on planning and zoning laws and procedures for its elected and appointed officials.

### ► *North Alabama Cities Receive National Praise*

In August, *U.S. News and World Report* ranked Madison the second best place to grow up in the nation. In the November issue of *Fortune Small Business*, Huntsville is named the top medium-sized city in America to launch a new business.

### ► *West Montgomery Initiative*

With about a dozen individual projects conceived as part of a massive revitalization effort, the West Montgomery Initiative is intended to transform the West Fairview Avenue corridor into an attractive city gateway from I-65 and bring more private investment into the area. The City hopes construction of a new park adjacent to Fairview and I-65 will be an early success and catalyst for continued renewal. The City is also seeking consultants and developers to redesign the corridor and launch new development activity in the area.

### ► *Sardis City Contracts EARPDC*

On October 5, the Sardis City Council approved a contract with the East Alabama Regional Planning and Development Commission (EARPDC) to prepare a new comprehensive plan, overhaul its zoning ordinance and subdivision regulations and create a GIS mapping system. The total cost of the work is \$57,500, of which half will be paid by the City. The work is expected to be completed within three years.

## STUDENT PLANNING COMPETITION 2010

The Alabama Chapter of APA is proud to announce that the student planning competition will again be a part of the chapter's Spring Conference. AL APA and student organizers are developing the program to improve upon the competition coordinated last year by then student Mac Martin (now a planner in Athens, Alabama). The chapter hopes the Student Planning Competition will continue and evolve into a full-fledged tradition bringing together the professional and student organizations.

More information, as the competition details are worked out, will be made available through the AL APA website and in the next issue of the Alabama Planner.

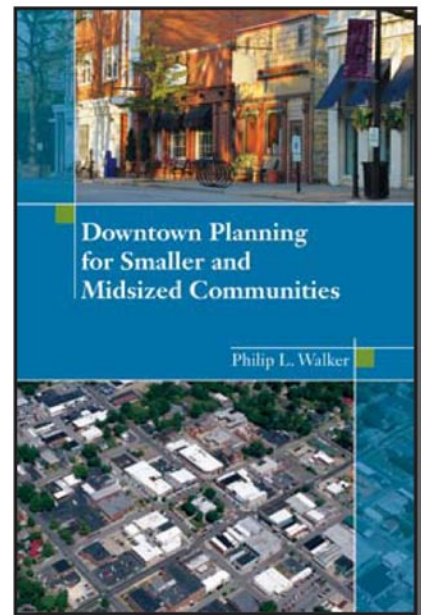


### *Urban & Regional Planning*

### *Downtown Revitalization*

### *Historic Preservation*

*Principal  
Phil Walker's  
recently  
released  
book on  
downtown  
planning can  
be purchased  
through the  
American  
Planning  
Association's  
Planners  
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## **ALABAMA PLANNING INSTITUTE FALL COURSE SCHEDULE**

### ***The Legal Foundation for Planning and Zoning in Alabama***

October 21 @ Enterprise 8:30 am-12:00 pm

### ***Powers, Duties and Responsibilities of Planning Commissions and Boards of Adjustment***

October 21 @ Enterprise 1:00 pm-4:30 pm

### ***Comprehensive Planning: How to Prepare, Update and Implement Your Plan***

October 22 @ Enterprise 8:30 am-12:00 pm

November 7 @ Thorsby 9:00 am-12:30 pm

### ***Basic Zoning and Subdivision Regulations***

October 22 @ Enterprise 1:00 pm-4:30 pm

November 7 @ Thorsby 1:30 pm-5:00 pm

### ***Meeting Management and Dispute Resolution***

October 23 @ Enterprise 8:30 am-3:30 pm

October 24 @ Madison 9:00 am-4:00 pm

November 14 @ Thorsby 9:00 am-4:00 pm

### ***Sign Regulation and Manufactured Housing in Your Community***

October 23 @ Enterprise 8:30 am-3:30 pm

### ***Economics of Planning: Costs of Action & Inaction***

November 13 @ Fultondale 7:30 am-4:30 pm

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# ALABAMA PLANNER

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