



Photo Credit: Bo Laney

**Mississippi & Alabama Chapters of  
the American Planning Association**

# **JOINT ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

**IT'S NOT JUST LAND USE ANYMORE**

**14**

**SEPTEMBER**

**16**

# FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to the Mississippi Gulf Coast!

On behalf of the Mississippi Chapter of the American Planning Association we are excited about our 2016 Annual Conference entitled, "It's Not Just Land Use Anymore." With numerous sessions across a variety of topics, the conference will demonstrate how our profession continues to evolve and expand.

We are happy to be joined by the Alabama Chapter of the American Planning Association for this conference. This marks the third consecutive year that we have partnered with APA-AL. Over this brief period of time we have made many new friends, and we look forward to seeing them again.

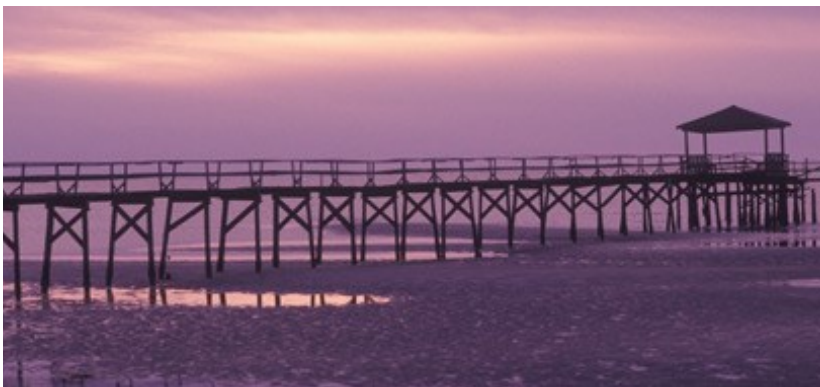
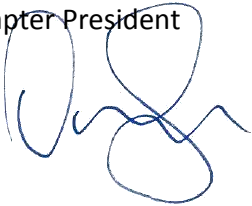
The 2016 conference will be held at the Beau Rivage Casino and Resort in Biloxi from September 14-16. The conference will involve a series of workshops, interactive sessions, and roundtable discussions led by skilled planners from across the country and region. AICP members will have the ability to acquire approximately 15 CM credit hours during the three-day event. In addition, we have added several sessions on the opening day designed for young professionals and students.

The Mississippi Gulf Coast has made tremendous strides since Hurricane Katrina but the scars are still present. The resurgence of the area should be applauded, and we hope to show it off! We will look at these efforts and those by other cities across the states of Mississippi and Alabama.

At the conference, presenters will provide planning lessons and perspectives from across both states and the nation related to planning in smaller communities, transportation, economic development, historic preservation, and environmental issues. Sessions on ethics and the law will be provided, and the Chapters will conduct their annual business meeting.

On behalf of the entire team at APA Mississippi, including conference committee, let me extend a very warm Gulf Coast welcome to all of our APA members from both Mississippi and Alabama, to our allied professionals and guests, and to the many friends of planning, as we catch up, learn, and share experiences at this year's conference. I look forward to seeing you here!

Donovan Scruggs, AICP  
Chapter President





Greetings.

It is a pleasure to welcome you to Biloxi to attend the Annual Alabama/Mississippi American Planning Association Conference taking place Sept. 14-16, 2016.

Biloxi is one of the oldest communities in the country, dating back to 1699. Today, our community is filled with many historic sites, including the Biloxi Lighthouse, and the Biloxi City Hall, educational museums, first-class accommodations, restaurants, casinos, deep sea fishing, and, of course, the world's largest man-made sand beach.



In Biloxi, we cherish and promote our history, culture and diversity. Biloxi is a city that offers its residents an excellent, authentic, unique quality of life and visitors a first-class experience with plenty of family orientated attractions.

Our goal is to keep this place – the Biloxi we love – safe, friendly and beautiful. I hope that you are able to attend the conference, gather a wealth of knowledge and enjoy what all this city has to offer.

All the best,

Andrew "FoFo" Gilich

# CONFERENCE LOCATION

## BILOXI, MISSISSIPPI

Biloxi is one of the oldest communities in the country, having first been settled in 1699. Today, the city is a cultural melting pot, with a year 'round schedule of celebrations, set against a backdrop of sugar-white sand beaches, great deep-sea or freshwater fishing, an array of championship golf courses, museums and historic sites, tantalizing seafood restaurants, and the excitement of 24-hour non-stop casino resorts.

## CONFERENCE HEADQUARTERS

This year's conference will be held at the Beau Rivage Resort and Casino in Biloxi, Mississippi. The Beau Rivage is located on the Mississippi Sound and adjacent to MGM Park. With entertainment and activities at the Resort and other dining and recreational options within walking distance, you should have no problem finding something to do!

## GET OUT AND SEE THE COAST!

Mobile workshops will demonstrate the successful efforts of Gulfport and Ocean Springs. Pack your running shoes for an early morning run to see how Ocean Springs has transformed its beachfront into a more active attraction. Two great receptions are planned at the Beau Rivage's Gulf Terrace and the Walter Anderson Museum – Community Center. These beautiful venues will provide opportunities to catch up with friends and relax....Gulf Coast style.



# THE MISSISSIPPI PLANNING INSTITUTE

In an effort to provide the much needed training to planning commissioners, board of zoning appeal members, locally elected officials, city staff, and others, APA Mississippi has partnered with the Stennis Institute of Government and Community Development at Mississippi State University and the Bouchillon Institute of Community Planning to develop the Mississippi Planning Institute (MPI).

This new educational opportunity will offer planning commissioners, board of zoning appeal members, locally elected officials, city staff, and others involved with local planning decisions a basic understanding of planning principles. This workshop will help local decision makers not only gain greater expertise in the area of land use planning, but also aid them in their decision making.

The training will focus on the fundamentals of planning and zoning, along with the ethical considerations associated with land use planning. Some of the important topics covered during the MPI workshop will include: what is community planning and why is it important, what are some of the roles and responsibilities of the various public bodies when it comes to local planning, and what are some of the legal issues impacting land use planning and regulations.

Planning commissioners, board of zoning appeal members, locally elected officials, city staff, and others involved with local planning decision process are encouraged to participate in the MPI.

For additional information regarding the MPI, please contact the Stennis Institute of Government and Community Development.



# WEDNESDAY September 14

## at the Beau Rivage

### 9:00 to 12:00

Exhibitor set-up (*Foyer-Camellia*)

### 10:00 to 12:00

Planning Commissioner Training (*Azalea C, D*) **2 CEC**

Planning commissioners will receive training and insight to the legal, ethical and political nature of the planning commission. The session will include legislative requirements and the history of planning in Mississippi.

### 12:00

Registration Opens (*Foyer-Camellia*)

### 12:00 to 1:00

Lunch – On Your Own

### 1:00 to 3:00

AICP Exam Preparations – Young Professionals/Students Track (*Oaks Boardroom*)

*Arrive early for the conference and get prepped for the exam! Experienced planners will provide information that will prepare participants to become a member of AICP.*

### 1:00 to 2:30

Ethics Cases of the Year – Donovan Scruggs, AICP and Bob Barber, FAICP (*Azalea C, D*) **1.5 CM Ethics, 1.5 CEC**

### 2:30 to 2:40

Break

### 2:40 to 4:10

Origins, Evolution, and Present Reality of the Fair Housing Act - Vic Franckiewicz (*Azalea C, D*) **1.5 CM Law**

### 3:00 to 4:10

A Day in the Life of a Planner – Young Professionals/Students Track (*Magnolia E, F*) **1 CEC**

### 4:10 to 4:30

Break (*Foyer-Camellia*)

### 4:30 to 5:30

SmartCode on the Gulf Coast: Lessons Learned post Katrina – Chris Watson, AICP and Vic Franckiewicz (*Azalea C, D*) **1 CM, 1 CEC**

### 4:30 to 5:30

Landing Your First Job: Entering the Planning Workforce – Young Professionals/Students Track (*Magnolia E, F*)

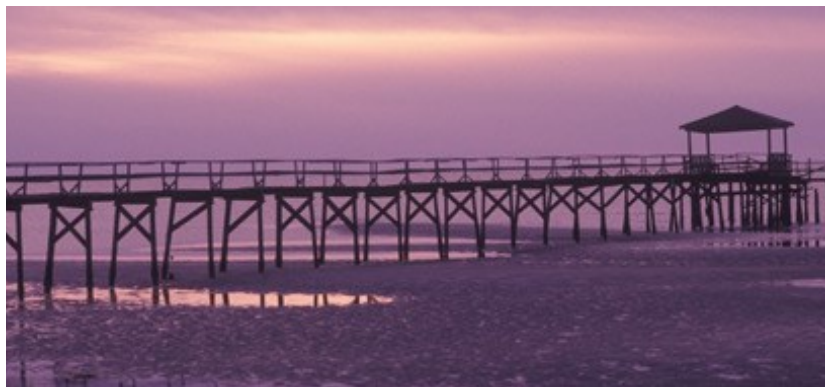
### 4:10 to 6:30

Mobile Workshop: Do it Downtown: All About Gulfport (*Pickup Bus Lobby*)– Greg Pietrangelo, Greg Holmes, David Parker, and Laurie Toups **1.5 CM**

### 6:30 to 8:00

Opening Reception on the Event Deck at the Beau Rivage/Student Poster Event hosted by Allen Engineering and Science

*875 Beach Boulevard Biloxi, MS*



# THURSDAY September 15

## 7:00 to 8:00

Mobile Workshop: Run Along the Water: (*Roasted Bean Patio*) Go for an approximate 4 mile run through Biloxi's downtown. With new parks, a new baseball stadium, new casino construction, and new investment in the area, Biloxi's resurgence continues after Katrina - Pat Bonck and Ed Shambra, AICP **.75 CM**

## 7:00

Registration Continues (*Foyer-Camellia*)

## 7:00 to 8:00

Alabama Chapter Business Meeting/Breakfast (*Magnolia E, F*)

Mississippi Chapter Business Meeting/Breakfast (*Magnolia G, H*)

## 7:30 to 8:30

Welcome Breakfast (*Camellia Ballroom*)

## 8:00 to 8:30

Welcome – Biloxi Mayor Andrew “FoFo” Gillich (*Camellia Ballroom*)

## Concurrent Sessions:

### 8:30 to 9:30

A Coastal Marine Planning GIS Tool for the Gulf Coast – Rebecca Retzlaff, AICP, Charlene LeBleu, FASLA, ACIP, and Josh Cameron (*Magnolia E, F*) **1 CM, 1 CEC**

Planning for Good Design in the Mississippi Delta – Bob Barber, FAICP and Thomas Gregory, AICP (*Magnolia G, H*) **1 CM**

### 9:30 to 9:50 Break

### 9:50 to 10:50

The Death and Life of Great Southern Towns – Christian Preus (*Magnolia E, F*) **1 CM, 1 CEC**

Engaging students in Watershed Education and Planning: Rotten Bayou and Brickyard Bayou Watersheds, Mississippi – Kelsey Johnson and Elizabeth Englebretson (*Magnolia G, H*) **1 CM**

### 10:50 to 11:00 Break/Session Change

### 11:00 to 12:00

Mississippi's Blue Economy: The Key to our Economic Future – Ashley Edwards (*Magnolia E, F*) **1 CM**

The Old Cotton Mill: Repurposing a Historic Landmark to Generate a New Growth Corridor - Jeff Barnes, AIA and Leigh Jaunsen, AIA, LEED AP (*Magnolia G, H*) **1 CM**

### 12:00 to 1:30

Awards Luncheon (*Camellia Ballroom*)

### 1:30 to 2:30

Comprehensive Plan Implementation: Capital Alignment, Regulatory Reform, and Plan Coordination – Dianne Irby and Shayla Beaco (*Magnolia E, F*) **1 CM, .5 CEC**

Gulf Coast Passenger Rail – Planning & Readiness Forum – Greg White, John Spain, Mayor Knox Ross, John Robert Smith, and Paul Nelson (*Magnolia G, H*) **1 CM**

### 2:30 to 2:40

Break/Session Change

### 2:40 to 3:40

Southside Revitalizations: Planning for Mixed-income Development in Mobile and Birmingham – Adam Rosa AICP (*Magnolia E, F*) **1 CM**

Gulf Coast Passenger Rail – Planning & Readiness Forum (continued) Greg White, John Spain, Mayor Knox Ross, John Robert Smith, and Paul Nelson (*Magnolia G, H*) **1 CM**

### 3:40 to 4:00 Break (*Foyer-Camellia*)

### 4:00 to 5:00

What Gets Measured Gets Done: A southern remedy for recycling, solid waste management and their implications for comprehensive planning – Moe Chowdhury. Ph. D., AICP (*Magnolia G, H*) **1 CM**

Weathering Future Floods: Linking Planning and Flood Hazard Mitigation - Marian Hanisko, Margo Posten, Jacqueline Rose, Tracie Sempier, and Michael Shelton (*Magnolia E, F*) **1 CM, .5 CEC**

### 4:00 to 6:00

Mobile Workshop: Creating a New Sense of Place: Downtown Ocean Springs (*Pickup Bus Lobby*)– Wade Morgan, AICP, Donovan Scruggs, AICP, and Christian Preus **1.5 CM**

### 6:00 to 8:00

Reception: Ocean Springs Community Center/Walter Anderson Museum of Art hosted by Orion Planning and Design

512 Washington Avenue,  
Ocean Springs, MS



# FRIDAY September 16

## *at the Beau Rivage*

### **8:00 to 9:00**

Green Infrastructure 2.0: How the Stormwater Mitigation Tools of the Present Become the Sustainable Framework for Tomorrow– Stephen Deal, Niki Pace, Jay Estes, AICP (Magnolia E, F) **1 CM, 1 CEC**

Re-Planning The Middle City - Roy Decker, AIA and Jocelyn Poe, AICP (Magnolia G, H) **1 CM**

### **9:00 to 9:15** Break (Foyer-Camellia)

### **9:15 to 10:15**

A Planner's Concise History of Madison, Mississippi: The Design Professionals who made it happen – Alan Hoops, AICP (Magnolia E, F) **1 CM, .5 CEC**

Developing a Local Food System in Your Community - Shelly Johnstone, AICP (Magnolia G, H) **1 CM**  
10:15 to 10:30 Break (Foyer-Camellia)

### **10:30 to 11:30**

Making the Most of Historic Preservation Planning – Stephen McNair, Ph. D. (Magnolia E, F) **1 CM, .5 CEC**

Planes, Cranes, and Automobiles – Jim Foster, A.A.E. (Magnolia G,H) **1 CM**

### **11:30 to 12:30**

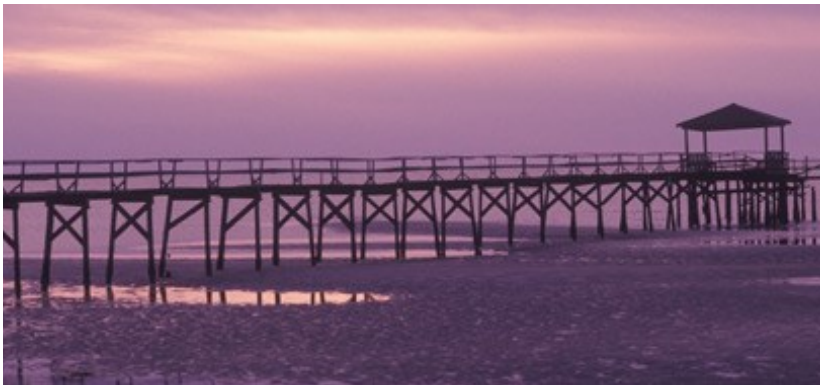
Keeping Up and Standing Out: The Carver-Jeter Plan (Opelika, AL) – Aaron Fortner, AICP and Jimmy Wright (Magnolia E, F) **1 CM**

Planning Tools for Linking Rural Development and Transportation - John Poros (Magnolia G, H) **1 CM**

### **Conference adjourns**

\*All CM sessions are tentative and are in the process of being approved. Several sessions have been approved for Continuing Education Credits (CECs) for Certified Floodplain Managers.

\*Please note: Conference session topics, speakers, and times are subject to change without notice. Credits may be available for other professional organizations although they may be self-reporting.



# CONFERENCE **SPEAKERS**

**Bob Barber, FAICP**

Bob is a planner and founding partner of Orion Planning Group and is the Region III representative on the AICP Commission.

**Jeff Barnes, AIA**

Jeff is partner/senior designer for Dale Partners Architects P.A. He has over 35 years of experience in all phases of architectural design process.

**Shayla Beaco**

Shayla is Mobile's Senior Director of City Planning. She previously worked in the City of Mobile's long-range planning division .

**Patrick Bonk**

Patrick has been the Zoning Administrator for Harrison County since 2000. Prior to joining Harrison County, he was a staff planner for the City of Gulfport, Mississippi.

**Thomas M. Booth**

Thomas is the Director of Aeronautics at the Mississippi Department of Transportation. Mr. Booth is affiliated with the National Association of State Aviation Officials.

**George Carbo**

George Carbo retired as a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners in 2014 after a 20+ year planning career working in the public and private sectors.

**Josh Cameron**

Josh has a Masters of Community Planning from Auburn University. He currently works for r360 Real Estate Research and Marketing in Birmingham .

**Dr. Moe Chowdhury , AICP**

Moe is an assistant professor of urban and regional planning at Jackson State University and serves APA Mississippi as professional development officer.

**Roy Decker**

Roy is a principal with Duvall Decker Architects, located in Jackson, Mississippi. Duvall Decker Architect's work includes community planning and affordable housing.

**Ashley Edwards**

Ashley was named President of the Gulf Coast Business Council in December 2015. He previously serves as CEO of the Hancock Port and Harbor Commission.

**Elizabeth Englebretson**

Elizabeth is a Public Design and Landscape Architecture Intern with the Gulf Coast Community Design Studio.

**Jay Estes, AICP**

Jay is a senior principal planner with Allen Engineering in Hattiesburg, specializing in grant writing and environmental planning.

**Aaron Fortner**

Aaron is a Principal, and founder of the Canvas Planning Group in Atlanta, Georgia. Aaron has twenty years of experience in community planning and design.

**Jim Foster**

Jim is the Assistant Executive Director of the Gulfport-Biloxi Regional Airport Authority. He retired from the United States Marine Corps Reserve as a Lieutenant Colonel.

**Vic Franckiewicz**

Vic focuses his practice on governmental and administrative law, zoning and land use, environmental regulation, and real estate development.

**Jennifer Gregory**

Jennifer is the Chief Executive Officer of the Greater Starkville Development Partnership, a community development organization.

**Thomas Gregory, AICP**

Thomas is currently the Chief Administrative Officer for the City of Greenwood, administering projects and implementing the comprehensive plan .

**Marian Hanisko**

Marian joined the NOAA Office for Coastal Management in 2010 as a Coastal Management Specialist with The Baldwin Group.



# CONFERENCE **SPEAKERS**

**Dianne Irby**

Dianne joined the City of Mobile Mayor's Staff in February 2014 as Executive Director of Planning and Development.

**Kelvin Jackson**

Kelvin is a planner for Harrison County, Mississippi and formerly worked as a planner for the City of Gulfport, Mississippi.

**Leigh Jaunsen AIA, LEED AP**

Leigh serves Dale Partners Architects P.A. as a partner. Having opened our Biloxi office in 2006, Leigh continues to oversee that location and is a registered architect.

**Kelsey Johnson**

Kelsey is a community planner with the Gulf Coast Community Design Studio.

**Shelly Johnstone, AICP**

Shelly is a planning consultant with Johnstone & Associates and is the former director of community development for Hernando, Mississippi.

**Charlene M. LeBleu, AICP, FASLA**

Charlene is an Associate Professor and Chair of the Landscape Architecture Program at Auburn University, Auburn, AL.

**Stephen McNair, Ph.D.**

Stephen is the owner and senior consultant of McNair Historic Preservation, Inc., a national full-service historic preservation consulting firm.

**Wade Morgan, AICP**

Wade has 38 years of experience in multiple areas of local planning. Since April of 2016 he has been Planner for the Mississippi coastal city of Ocean Springs, Miss.

**Brian J. Morton, Ph. D.**

Brian has more than 30 years of experience in research and policy analysis, technical assistance, and communications and outreach related to sustainable communities.

**Niki L. Pace**

Niki is a senior research attorney with the Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant Legal Program at the University of Mississippi.

**Jocelyn Poe, AICP**

Jocelyn received a Master of Community Planning from Auburn University after attaining a Bachelor of Architecture degree from Tuskegee University.

**John Poros**

John is an Associate Professor in the School of Architecture at Mississippi State University. He is currently the director of the Carl Small Town Center.

**Margo Posten**

Margo is the Coastal Training Program (CTP) Coordinator for the Grand Bay NERR, which is managed through the Department of Marine Resources and NOAA.

**Christian Preus, ASLA**

Christian is the owner and Principal of Christian Preus Landscape Architecture, a design and planning firm with offices in Fairhope, Jackson, and Ocean Springs.

**Saunders Ramsey, PE**

Saunders joined Neel-Schaffer in 2011 and serves as the Engineer Manager for Neel-Schaffer's Starkville (MS) office.

**Rebecca Retzlaff, AICP**

Rebecca is an Associate Professor and Director of Auburn University's Community Planning Program in the College of Liberal Arts.

**Adam Rosa, AICP**

Adam is a Senior Associate with Camiros and leads Camiros' Choice Neighborhoods planning efforts.

**Jacqueline Rose**

Jacqueline is the Regional Coordinator for the Gulf of Mexico Coastal Training Program. Jacqueline has 18 years of project management experience.

# CONFERENCE **SPEAKERS**

**Donovan Scruggs, AICP**

Donovan has been a practicing planner in Mississippi for over 20 years. At present, he is the City Planner/Director of Planning and Building with the City of Pascagoula.

**John Spain**

John serves as the Vice-Chair for the Southern Rail Commission and principally serves as the Executive Vice President of the Baton Rouge Area Foundation.

**Tracie Sempier**

Tracie is the Coastal Storms Outreach Coordinator for the MS-AL Sea Grant Consortium. She is also the Regional Program Manager for the Gulf of Mexico Alliance.

**Chris Watson, AICP**

Chris is an urban and regional planning consultant and owner of the planning consulting firm of Bridge & Watson, Inc., in Oxford, Mississippi.

**Edward H. Shambra, AICP**

Ed has served as the Executive Planner for the City of Biloxi for the past 26 years and has been involved with the review of all casino establishments in Biloxi.

**Greg White**

Greg has served on the Southern Rail Commission for six years as an Alabama Commissioner, appointed by Governor Bob Riley in 2010.

**Mike Shelton**

Mike is the Training/Watershed Program Coordinator at Weeks Bay Reserve. He has worked in environmental science and compliance for over 22 years.

**La'keylah White**

La'Keylah was appointed by Hattiesburg Mayor Johnny Dupree to serve as Director of Federal and State Programs.

**Mayor John Robert Smith**

Mayor Smith currently serves as Chairman of Transportation for America, where he advises on strategy, capacity building, and national outreach.

**Jimmy Wright**

Jimmy is the founder and president of the Opelika Community Development Corporation.

# CONFERENCE **COMMITTEE**

**Conference Planning Committee:**

- Donovan Scruggs
- Ed Shambra
- Kelvin Jackson
- Greg Holmes
- Patrick Bonk

**Additional Support:**

- Christ Watson - Finances/Registration
- Jordan Hillman - Web/Media/Graphics
- Joan Wesley - Awards
- Corey Proctor - Awards
- Brandon Bias - Alabama Chapter
- Katherine Ennis - Alabama Chapter

# CONFERENCE SPONSORS

## HORN ISLAND (PLATINUM)



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## APA EVENT LOCATIONS



ELEVATORS  
ESCALATORS  
RESTROOMS

### CONVENTION LEVEL

BALLROOMS  
BUSINESS CENTER

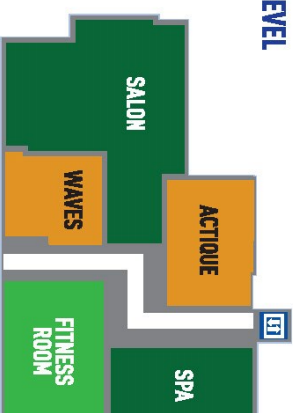
### SECOND LEVEL

RETAIL  
FITNESS ROOM  
SPA & SALON  
RESTROOMS  
POOL

### CONVENTION LEVEL



### SECOND LEVEL



WEST VALET & SELF PARKING



### FIRST LEVEL

CASINO  
HOTEL REGISTRATION  
RETAIL PROMENADE  
RESTAURANTS  
LOUNGE / BAR  
SHOWROOM  
ARCADE  
BUS LOBBY

