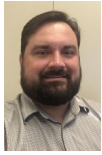




## President's Corner



Mac Martin, AICP  
City Planner  
City of Hoover

### ALABAMA'S PLANNING EDUCATION PROGRAMS ARE STRONG

Happy Labor Day!

As planners and community leaders, our education is never complete. Registration recently opened for the 2023 AL-MS APA Annual Conference, set to convene on October 18 in Starkville, MS. I hope you will join us for what is sure to be a rewarding, educational event.

Speaking of education, I thought this edition of the newsletter would be a good opportunity to highlight the strong position our educational programs presently hold. The graduate school programs of both Alabama A&M University and Auburn University have both achieved re-accreditation by the PAB. I was honored to participate in the re-accreditation proceedings of both programs (Auburn in 2020 and A&M this year), and am proud of the dedicated and hard working faculty and students at these institutions. Our State is truly blessed to have these two programs! I encourage all of our members to check out their respective websites and see all the ways they are helping to improve communities across Alabama.

I'd also like to recognize the hard work of the Alabama Planning Institute. The API continues to provide valuable continuing education for our practitioners and officials, appointed and elected, through the CAPZO courses offered annually across the state. For more information on courses, or if you're interested in teaching them, please reach out to API. They have a dedicated space on the ALAPA website.

# Summer/Fall 2023 Newsletter

## In this edition...

- **2023 Annual Conference**
- **Remembering Steve Foote**



**Registration for the 2023 Fall Joint Chapter Conference on October 18 - 20 is now available.** Please visit the conference registration website to access registration details.

<https://apams.regfox.com/apa-mississippi-alabama-fall-conference>

- **Regular (Early Bird) Registration (\$225.00)**  
This registration type is available to all full members that register prior to September 23, 2023.
- **Non-Member (Early Bird) Registration (\$275.00)**  
This registration type is available to all full members that register prior to September 23, 2023.
- **Students, Retired Planners, Elected Officials and Planning Commissioners (\$75.00)**  
This reduced registration type is available to all students, retired planners, elected officials and planning commissioners that register prior September 23, 2023.
- **Wednesday Only Registration (\$125.00)**  
This registration is available to those planning to attend on Wednesday October 18, 2023 only.
- **Thursday Only Registration (\$175.00)**  
This registration is available to those planning to attend on Thursday, October 19, 2023 only.
- **Friday Only Registration (\$125.00)**  
This registration is available to those planning to attend on Friday, October 20, 2023 only.

This year's conference will be held at The Mill Conference Center in Starkville, MS. Two blocks of hotel rooms have been secured for the conference.

[Courtyard by Marriott - The Mill Conference Center](#) -  
Book by September 18, 2023 to secure the discounted rate of \$145 per night.

[Comfort Suites](#) - Book by September 18, 2023 to secure the discounted rate of \$119 per night.



## Remembering Steve Foote

Back in February, we lost a great member of the Alabama planning community in Steve Foote, AICP. A native of northern Virginia, Steve was hired as the City of Auburn's planning director in July of 2021, bringing more than 30 years of experience in planning and community development to the Plains.

"Steve was a talented and knowledgeable professional with a rare depth of experience," said Auburn City Manager Megan McGowen Crouch. "He spent his career pursuing planning practices with a desire to improve the quality of life for residents of the communities in which he served. He made an impact for the better here in Auburn not only through his work but through his kindness and strength of character."

Steve came to Auburn after serving in the same position in Nicholasville, Kentucky, a fast-growing suburb of Lexington. He also previously worked stints in planning and community development at Spring Hill, Tennessee; Dunwoody, Georgia; and in Gulf Shores, where he worked for 13 years as director of community development. Steve started his career in Arizona, where he worked as a planner in Mesa and Prescott after earning a master's degree from Arizona State University. He will be greatly missed.



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