THE POLYCENTRIC CITY

Call for Session Proposals

APA-AL/MS Conference, Oct. 16-18, 2019 – Huntsville, AL

Welcome!

2019 is an important year for Alabama – It marks the State's bicentennial, and it also recognizes the 50th anniversary of the lunar landing. Both events have deep roots in Huntsville. The first State constitution was signed in Huntsville, and the City has a well-known history in the "Space Race." With the anniversaries of two iconic events in Alabama, what better time for Huntsville to host the APA-AL/MS convention!

2019 isn't just about history for North Alabama; the future looks bright too. Some of the largest economic development projects in the Southeast have landed in the Huntsville region. New additions include the $1.4B Mazda/Toyota plant, the new Blue Origin rocket facility, and an enormous Facebook data center. Innovative new redevelopment projects are shaping the landscape throughout the metro, including the "Mid City" redevelopment of the Madison Square Mall site; the Town Madison mixed-use development, anchored by the new Rocket City Trash Pandas Baseball Park; the South Huntsville Business Association/Main Street Alabama partnership, breathing new life into an aging corridor; and the Stovehouse adaptive reuse project, among many others.

It's not solely about development either. Recreation is center-stage in the region, with efforts like the City of Huntsville/Land Trust of North Alabama partnership to accelerate greenway implementation; the Ditto Landing Master Plan expanding options along the Tennessee River; and the Singing River Trail project linking communities across North Alabama, and beyond.

Huntsville is excited to welcome planners, landscape architects, engineers, developers, and other guests from throughout Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, and across the Southeast on October 16-18, 2019. The main sessions will be held in the Von Braun Civic Center in Downtown Huntsville, and we anticipate having many mobile workshops to explore projects and initiatives throughout the metro area. In fact, it is precisely that feature – multiple distinct nodes and neighborhoods forming a sustainable community – that informs our theme for 2019: **The Polycentric City.**

APA-AL would like to issue a call for Speaker/Presentation Proposals for the APA-AL/MS conference, and we call on you to share your stories and experiences that illustrate how our communities develop their identity via the interplay of varied and oft-times conflicted nodes, sub-areas, and initiatives. This could cover a range of topics and concerns, including:

- Updating and modernizing approaches to zoning and land use regulation;
- Dealing with mobility challenges;
- Supporting affordable housing and equitable growth;
- Ensuring access to health and recreation resources;
- Defining and implementing sustainable practices and policies;
- Improving links to employment opportunity;
- Addressing food insecurity and modern/urban agriculture;
- Preserving historic fabric and encouraging adaptive reuse;
- Developing "Town and Gown";
- Accommodating an aging population;
- And other topics that might be of interest.

We are seeking interesting, informative, and engaging session proposals that attendees will find valuable and compelling. We welcome submittals from private firms, municipal entities, and educational institutions.

Submittal Instructions

Sessions should be 75 minutes (including Q&A) or 90 minutes for Law/Ethics submittals.

For sessions seeking CM credits, they must meet the APA eligibility criteria:

- Must be designed to meet a specific planning-related training objective. The educational purpose or objective must be clearly identified.
- Should address the demonstrated educational needs of AICP members as outlined in AICP's Core Competencies.
- Must be designed to teach subject matter in appropriate depth and scope for the following minimum level of a planner in current practice with at least four years of professional experience after earning a 2-year master's degree in planning.
- Must be unbiased and non-promotional in nature. An organization's services or products may be discussed prior to or after the completion of the CM credit portion of the activity.
- Must be led by one or more experts on the subject matter.

If you are a solo presenter, please consider naming a substitute in the event you are unable to attend. Proposals with more than one presenter will be given greater consideration.

To be eligible for participation on a session panel, APA and AL/MS chapter members will be required to register for at least the day of the conference on which they will be speaking. Non-members are not required to register to participate on a panel unless they plan on attending the rest of the conference.

Session proposals are due by **5:00 p.m. CDT, July 15, 2019.**
Submit to: **dennis.madsen@huntsvilleal.gov.**

1. Presentation Format (check one)
   - Lecture
   - Moderated Panel Discussion
   - Moderated Interactive Discussion
   - Training
   - Interactive Outdoor Workshop

2. Title and Type of Session
   - Standard Session (75 min)
   - Law or Ethics Session (90 min)
   - "Deep Dive" Session (double session)
   - Board/Commission Training

3. Provide a description of your session suitable for the conference program (must not exceed 100 words).

4. Contact information for the session coordinator. This person will be the primary contact for the conference committee.

5. Presenter names, titles, email and phone numbers, professional certifications, organizations, and presenter headshots and biographies. Please limit biographies to 100 words or less per presenter.

6. Scheduling. Select all times when presenter/panel is available to present. Please note that we may not be able to accommodate you if there isn't some flexibility in when you might be scheduled.
   - Wednesday, 10/16 - Afternoon
   - Thursday, 10/17 - Morning
   - Thursday, 10/17 - Afternoon
   - Friday, 10/18 – Morning

7. Audio Visual Requests. Please indicate equipment needs beyond microphone, laptop, projector and screen, which will be provided for each session.

8. For CM activities to fulfill the ethics requirement, providers must demonstrate that the content of the activities is related to the AICP Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct. For CM activities to fulfill the law requirement, providers must demonstrate that the content of the activity is related to planning law. Such activities may include, but are not limited to, topics such as environmental law, land use law, redevelopment law, administrative and housing law.