



UTAH PLANNER

A PUBLICATION OF THE UTAH CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN PLANNING ASSOCIATION



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: PLANNING WITH URGENCY, PRIDE, AND PURPOSE

Dear APA Utah Members and Friends,

On June 6th, APA Utah gathered at the new Ballpark at America First Square in Daybreak for a night of baseball, conversation, and community. It was more than just a social event — it was a reminder of what great planning can achieve. The ballpark, with its stunning mountain views, thoughtful design, and seamless integration into its surroundings, is a shining example of place-making at its best. It was also a fitting setting to reflect on the deeper purpose behind what we do as planners: creating spaces that bring diverse people together and stand the test of time....

Read the full message at [this link](#).

SPRINGVILLE'S ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN: A COMMUNITY-LED PATH TO SAFER STREETS

Springville is making major strides toward becoming a safer, more walkable and bikeable city — thanks to passionate residents and a collaborative planning process.

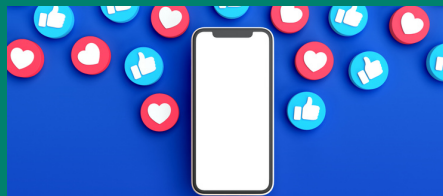
Read the full message at [this link](#).

CALL FOR CONTENT

As you read this, know that any APA Utah member can contribute. If you have ideas for an article or are willing to write one yourself just reach out to Ted (ted@wfrf.org) and Nicole (admin@apautah.org).

To be great planners we need to share our stories not just with each other but also with the broader community.

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U OF U'S COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE + PLANNING KEYNOTE SPEAKER

One of the Utah Chapter's American Planning Association's very own was the keynote speaker at the University of Utah's College of Architecture + Planning's graduation ceremonies, held May 1, 2025.

Ms. Laura Hanson, Senior Advisor for Long-Range Planning, State of Utah, congratulated the College's graduates and asked them to lead, be visionary, courageous, and apply their skills and talents to building and making all places and spaces locations of safety, well-being, and inspiration. As a College graduate, Laura returned to her alma mater to encourage her colleagues to be brave and lead in meeting the tasks ahead, embracing their responsibilities as community leaders who value the natural and built environments of Utah and the nation.



NPC25 STUDENT CONFERENCE EXPERIENCE

Written By Tanner Visnick

This March and April, I had the privilege of attending NPC25 along with nine other students from the University of Utah. Due to generous support from the Department of City and Metropolitan Planning, we brought a large group and made our presence known. On Saturday, we arrived bright and early and witnessed a rush of eager attendees into the exhibition hall. I met students from across the country and professionals at cities and consulting firms, big and small. It was intimidating meeting so many seasoned professionals, and at first, I felt like a deer in the headlights; however, after several discussions, I found my footing. Regardless of experience level, we are all united by a shared passion for making our communities a better place to live.

I was impressed by Utah's presence at the conference. From Tippe leading a workshop on Gendered Ageism to Nick Norris' participation on WSP's panel, planners in Utah were leading meaningful discussions, showcasing Utah's commitment to forward-thinking practices. One of my highlights was the APA Utah social on Monday. Meagan organized a phenomenal event that allowed students and Utah planners to share their conference experiences and takeaways in an intimate setting.

I am grateful to have attended NPC25 with my peers at APA Utah and the University of Utah. I recommend attending NPC in the future for those who have yet to attend, especially students and emerging planners like myself. It served as a reminder that while local and regional differences can be significant, we benefit from learning from one another."



PLANNING TOOL: TEST DRIVE THE NEW HOUSING ACCESSIBILITY CALCULATOR

Written by Ted Knowlton

Housing affordability is arguably the number one quality of life challenge in Utah. As communities and planners consider addressing housing needs, it's important to consider the location of housing. What places are the most advantageous for future residents?

WFRC recently produced a Housing Accessibility Calculator tool that helps communities understand the best locations for housing based on their interests.

Read the full article at [this link](#).

ENGAGING THE PUBLIC

By Stephen Nelson, AICP

Engaging with the public is one of the most challenging aspects of a planner's job. In any democratic society, the public's feedback, interest, and rights are essential to local planning efforts.

Read the full article at [this link](#).

NATIONAL CONFERENCE SPEAKER HIGHLIGHT

This year, three planners from Utah showcased their work at the National Conference.

- Meagan Booth, Principal Planner with the Salt Lake City Planning Division
- Nick Norris, Planning Director for Salt Lake City
- Tippe Morlan, Senior/Long Range Planner with Saratoga Springs

Here are the highlights of their presentations at [this link](#).

A CHANGING VIEW FROM HOME

By Francis Xavier Lilly, AICP

I remember whiling away several hot Saturday evenings at Derks Field with my dad in the late 1980s. At the time, Salt Lake's storied ballpark was home to the Trappers, and they were winning often. Although it was old and shabby by the time I started paying attention, Derks Field had a magic ingredient: the view of the Wasatch Front from home plate was among the best in professional baseball. In 1993, Derks Field was torn down and replaced with a new state-of-the-art ballpark that bore several different names and hosted two professional clubs, the Buzz and the Bees, as well as the Utes baseball team.

Read the full article at [this link](#).



Derks Field, 1958 - Source: Old-Time Baseball Photos
([@OTBaseballPhoto / X](#))



Smith's Ballpark, c. 2023 - Source: Trent Nelson, The
Salt Lake Tribune, [Facebook](#).

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR RETIREMENT!

Dave Petersen's retirement open house



Celebrating Dave
Petersen's 30+
years of hard
work and
dedication.

Monday

July 14th from 4-6 pm
Farmington City Hall
Community Room

CONGRATULATIONS ON PASSING THE AICP EXAM! WHAT AN INCREDIBLE MILESTONE!

- Tyler Smithson
- Kathrine Skollingsberg
- Evan Van Tassel
- Sophia Frankenburg
- Madlyn McDonough
- Olivia Thomas
- Anders Bake

UTAH PLANNER

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR UTAH PLANNERS

Planning Resources Webinar



July 22, 2025
12:00-1:00 PM

July 22: Planning Tools You'll Actually Use: A Member-Favorite Resource Roundup

July 31: Empathic Design with Elgin Cleckley

PLANNING WEBCAST SERIES

The live webcasts are held every Friday from 1:00–2:30 PM ET, and recordings are also available. Don't miss these upcoming sessions:

- July 18– AI in Action
- July 22– Planning Tools Webinar
- July 25– Assistants for Planners
- July 31– Empathic Design with Elgin Cleckley
- Aug 1– Use By Right & Administrative Approvals
- Aug 20– ULI TAP



August 28: Developing And Building A Network That Works For You

Utah Legislative Timelines and Deadlines Affecting Land Use

Existing Deadlines from Prior Years' Bills

- December 31, 2025: Station area plans due for existing public transit stations (2022 HB 462)
- December 31, 2025: Add water use & Conservation element to General Plan (2024 SB 110)
- July 1, 2030: Secondary water meters must be installed or else fined (2022 HB 242)

New Deadlines from 2025 Bills

- May 7, 2025: General effective date for new law from bills pass in 2025 session
- August 1, 2025: Revised initial MIH report due for safe harbor provision (HB 37)
- October 15, 2025: UDOT & SLC to report on mobility & environmental impact analysis on highway reduction strategies in SLC
- December 31, 2025: GOPB will adopt a state housing plan (HB 58)
- January 1, 2026: Building officials must meet new qualifications (HB 58)
- July 1, 2027: Certain Cities must include water conservation as element in determining water rate charged for at least the highest usage block (HB 274)
- July 1, 2027: All cities in MPOs must update General Plan traffic circulation impediments (SB 195)
- July 1, 2030: Secondary water provider must charge lowest rate to those growing food (HB 274)



APA UT Fall Conference
The Gateway, SLC, UT
Oct 9-10, 2024
Registration is Open!