



American Planning Association
**Planning and the
Black Community Division**

Making Great Communities Happen

A Publication of the Planning and the Black Community Division
of the American Planning Association

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President Elect Barack Obama

photo courtesy of: <http://barackobama.imagelibrarys.com>

PBCD—Meeting the Challenge

By Calvin Whitaker, Editor

Barack Obama was elected by the American people to become the 44th president of the United States of America on November 4, 2008. The historic nature of the presidential campaign and election of Mr. Obama demonstrates a multitude of lessons learned from our forefathers, children, a nation and the world. Americans stand poised to embrace a historic presidency not witnessed by any of us in our lifetime. Though the election is over, we stand at an important crossroad in our country as we begin to collectively address numerous critical economic, political and global crises not witnessed in generations.

PBCD challenges all of us to pledge to work harder and strategically to codify and further our mission and objectives as a Division and continue to make great communities happen at the local, regional and national level.

During his presidential campaign, President-elect Obama said, "I'm asking you to believe. Not just in my ability to bring about real change in Washington ... I'm asking you to believe in yours." Change that we need to improve the quality of life for America starts with national inclusive and insightful policy followed with

strategic implemental measures. President-elect Obama's has a comprehensive policy platform that stands ready to meet the challenge. Debbie Ettiene offers a perspective on Obama's policy strategies and local measures in this issue of PBCD News on page 4.

Pain at the Pump, Suburban Blues and the Resurgence of Compact Growth



Author, Kofi Sefa-Boakye (pictured)

[Reprinted by permission]

A paradigm shift is occurring in the development patterns of American cities -- even the inner cities that have struggled for decades with decay and abandonment, writes Kofi Sefa-Boakye of the Compton

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Community Redevelopment Agency.

In his 1962 book *The Structure of Scientific Revolution*, Thomas Kuhn coined the classic iron law of social change -- paradigm shift: One theory supersedes another primarily because it proved better at explaining the empirical observations that remained anomalous in terms of the earlier theory. The defeat of sprawl and the resurgence of compact development -- the use of smart growth strategies to revive urban America through development of sustainable patterns of mixed-use, walkable, transit-friendly neighborhoods -- is an empirical manifestation of Kuhn's theoretical construct.

Over the past three decades, urban professionals from various disciplines within and outside academia have finger-pointed suburban sprawl as the key culprit for the continued decay of many inner cities. Metropolitan Los Angeles is an unfortunate example. Businesses that decamped Watts, and Boyle Heights and Compton, for the suburbs, the argument goes, also saddled these communities with empty storefronts, buildings and polluted lots requiring expensive cleanup investments. Massive redevelopment efforts unveiled to stem urban decay in these neighborhoods failed to reverse urban exodus. *Cont. on Pg. 8*

AICP CM Credit Report Period Ends

The first two-year CM reporting period began January 1, 2008, and will end December 31, 2009. AICP members must earn 32 CM credits and complete all requirements before the end of the four-month grace period that ends April 30, 2010. A member who exceeds the required 32 credits during a two-year reporting period may carry over a total of 16 credits to the next reporting period.

The "Member Information" section of *APA Interact for Certified Planners* can help you track of your CM credits. The information provided reflects your current CM credits log and includes:

- CM credits required — The total number of credits you are required to earn in a two-year reporting period. Unless you have been given an authorized exemption for some or all credits, this number will be 32.
 - CM credits earned — The number of credits you have earned and recorded in the current two-year reporting period.
 - CM credits needed — The remaining number of credits you must earn and record by the end of the current two-year reporting period.
 - CM credits to carry over — CM credits earned in excess of 32 that will be applied to the next two-year reporting period. A maximum of 16 credits may be carried over to the next reporting period. (Excess law and ethics credits may not be carried over.)
- CM reporting period end date — The end of the current reporting period. For most members, this will be 12/31/09.

There will be a four-month grace period at the end of the two-year reporting period. AICP members who have not met all CM requirements at the end of the grace period — April 30, 2010 — will lose AICP certification and be obliged to seek reinstatement to regain the AICP credential.



Chandra C. Frederick, AICP

Letter From PBCD's Chair

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

I extend greetings to you as Chair of this great division. Since I saw many of you in Las Vegas, our Executive Committee has been very busy. I attended the Fall Leadership Meetings in Washington, DC. These meetings are held annually so that APA leadership (including Division and Chapter officers) can meet to discuss strategies for the year. The Divisions Council agenda was very ambitious, covering policies for developing new divisions and for increasing membership within the divisions.

Our Vice Chair for Programs, Zunilda Rodriguez, has been diligently planning activities for the Planning and the Black Community Division's (PBCD) at the 2009 APA conference in Minneapolis. If you attended the Las Vegas conference in April, you will recall that conference was packed from beginning to end with activities for our Division members. The APA conference in Minneapolis will be no different. Two PBCD sessions and one mobile tour are planned. "African-American Heritage Preservation" and "Engaging Low-Income Communities of Color through Land Use Planning." The mobile tour, entitled "Revitalization in North Minneapolis & Cedar-Riverside" will explore revitalization efforts

along a predominantly African-American commercial corridor in north Minneapolis and in the Somali-American Cedar-Riverside neighborhood. We also will have our annual Scholarship Recognition Luncheon, Business Meeting and numerous themed networking opportunities.

I hope to see you all in Minneapolis. At the PBCD business meeting, I will transition out of my role as a Chair of this great division. I hope that the mark that I leave will be lasting. I am so encouraged by the leadership of the Division. The Executive Committee is talented, creative and industrious. I feel confident that they will continue to grow this Division, while also continuing to engage the existing membership that has helped us become what we are and what we do.

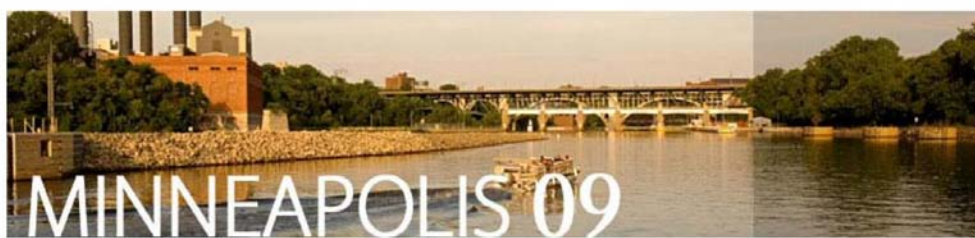
I would be remised if I did not acknowledge the historic election that has recently taken place in our country. The election of Barack Obama as 44th President of the United States clearly introduces a new chapter in American history. However, we are all aware that there are many challenges ahead for his administration and for the American people, in general. It will be very important for us to have a clear understanding of President-Elect Obama's urban policy agenda. It is our responsibility, as planners and advocates for communities of color, to make sure that federally-proposed strategies work well for our communities. I expect that Mr. Obama seeks thoughtful feedback through our Congressional representatives, as well as through electronic avenues that he continues to utilize.

Happy New Year and Best Wishes in 2009!

Chandra C. Frederick



Plan now to attend APA's 2009 National Planning Conference in Minneapolis April 25-29 to learn about great planning happening in the Twin Cities and around the world. Online registration is now open and available. For more information, visit www.planning.org.



MD-DC-VA Planning Networking Social Recap

Zunilda Rodriguez, AICP

PBCD partnered with the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission and the Prince George's County Planning Department to host a MD-DC-VA Planning Networking Social held on October 28, 2008 from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM. PBCD extends our appreciation to all those that helped put together this event including Marc Lewis Degross, Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Prince George's County Planning Department, Fern Piret, Albert Dobbins, Phillip Taylor, Yvonne Magee, Crystal Prater, Fatimah Hasan, Candy Laudenberg, Bill Washburn, Ivy Thompson, Chalita Brandly and Julia Lane. Special thanks are extended to our division members, the Maryland APA Chapter, DC Office of Planning and National Organization of Minority Architects.

This successful event marked the PBCD Membership Outreach Campaign kick-off event geared at strengthening divi-

sion networking and regional partnerships. Nearly 75 professionals were in attendance from local and regional organizations, planners, directors, architects, consultants, academics and PBCD members at the elegant and historic Oxon Hill Manor in Maryland. The event featured catered hors d'oeuvres, refreshments and jazz entertainment from a local high school institution.

Attendees dialogued with colleagues about exciting planning projects, available job opportunities in the region, met the PBCD membership committee to explore membership benefits and opportunities and exchanged business contacts. PBCD is excited to welcome several new members that joined our division as a result of this event! Many in attendance had a great time and with anticipation look forward to future networking opportunities.

PBCD plans to hold another regional networking again in early Spring 2009 in this region and in other regions in the country. If you would like to help partner with us in bringing a regional networking event near you, send an email to zuniz89@hotmail.com.



PBCD member Carlton Eley (left) dialogues with president-elect Bernard Suber of DC Chapter of the National Organization of Minority Architects at MD-DC-VA Planning Networking Event



PBCD members and regional affiliates meet and converse at the MD-DC-VA Planning Networking Social in October 2008

2009 National Planning Conference Important Dates

January 22	Conference scholarship applications due
February 3	Exhibit/sponsorship applications due
February 26	Early registration deadline
March 26	Last day to preregister Hotel reservation deadline Student volunteer applications due Sightseeing Tours registration deadline Last day to register for APA's child care services
April 25	Conference begins

Visit: www.planning.org/nationalconference/index.htm

Member News



Joe Barris, Zunilda Rodriguez, Bonnie Goldschlag from Monmouth County Planning Board received the NJAPA 2008 Outstanding Planning Education award by NJAPA President Courtenay Mercer (left to right) for its technical assistance outreach initiative on municipal planning



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Did you know you can change your contact information, pay an APA invoice, subscribe to an APA publication, join a division, etc. online?

It's easy... Try it out now to review and update your contact information. Remember: You must keep your information current to receive PBCD Communications.

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- Do not create a new record.
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- At the bottom of the screen, click on Submit Details.
- All correctly submitted information will appear immediately.

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For Job Opportunities:

Visit: www.planning.org/jobs

Abandoned Houses: Back to Basics A grassroots approach to reclaiming and maintaining our residential communities

By Debbie Etienne

Take a walk around any neighborhood at any given time. Chances are you will find one or more vacant homes with some for sale, characterized with tall grass, debris, swarms of mosquitoes near pools, vandalism or unwanted guests such as squatters or vermin that undermine the morale of an entire community and cast negative perceptions for the residents and others. Abandoned properties may be the single most destructive blighting catalyst in any community. These structures detract from the quality of life and economic opportunities for residents that live nearby. Abandoned properties are barriers to neighborhood revitalization goals. Long-term vacant units may trigger more abandonment as property owners see the derelict structures surrounding them as harbingers of the neighborhood's declining future. However, there is hope. Communities have a chance to mitigate conditions leading to blight by implementing grassroots measures to preserve community vitality.

The nation is facing a financial crisis that directly affects local governmental agencies and the neighborhoods which support them. Many municipalities around the country have taken initial steps to impose ordinances to combat negligent property owners. However, local governmental agencies already experiencing dwindling revenue levels may discover implementing strategies to improve abandoned properties may be cost prohibitive since all community priorities must be evaluated.

In some communities homeowners have taken steps to remove blight by opting to roll up their sleeves to mow lawns or even hiring pool maintenance workers to clean the green cesspool next door. One example exists in Richmond, California where a

group of women launched GIVE (Grassroots Initiative for Volunteer Energy). They said it's not a matter of being a good neighbor; it's about protecting their own homes which is their biggest investment. "We see the financial landscape for what it is -- that this is a problem that's going to be with us for awhile and it's larger than any municipality can handle on its own," said one GIVE member.

Some communities hold a police sponsored clean-up day in targeted neighborhoods. These cities provide supplies and the neighbors perform the labor. Since citizens cannot legally enter private property they resolve to just cleaning perimeter areas. Some legal advisors specify in cases where no trespassing signs are posted volunteers may proceed onto private property to complete their work. This strategy seems like a feasible approach that may be incorporated into a local abandoned property ordinance.

Another worthwhile option is to establish neighborhood beautification award programs that recognize and honor residents, property owners, neighborhoods and community groups whose individual properties reflect community pride and have an aesthetically pleasing appearance. As a marketing tactic neighborhood beautification programs can help to build a strong sense of community and make cities beautiful places to live and work. These efforts may also encourage citizens to start similar programs in neighboring communities.

Still another effective approach is to establish partnerships with code enforcement, police and fire departments with citizen neighborhood watch groups. A neighborhood watch program can help to mitigate blight and conditions leading to blight. It also allows neighbors to befriend each other and form an empowering collective to instill public safety.

John Donne, an early 17th century English poet and writer said, "No man is an island entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main." A community can only succeed or fail as a whole. It is absolutely crucial for community leaders and stakeholders to express a sense of urgency for grassroots initiatives a movement driven by local constituents as an ongoing process.

We are near the end of the first decade of the 21st century and now more than ever it is time to eliminate hidden agendas and work collectively to save our communities. Neighborhoods possess viable individuals who have the power to protect and maintain valuable residential resources. The biggest challenge continues to be finding creative ways to maintain and revitalize properties within our communities currently sitting vacant or abandoned and generating little or no property tax revenue from absentee owners. At least for the immediate future the number of vacant properties in a given low- and or middle-class neighborhood will increase as our national economy continues to decline.

We are at a point in time where we need to get back to basics. Under the direction of President-elect Barack Obama, we need to focus our efforts on proven remedies that are based at the local level and encourage the change we need by centering upon grassroots initiatives throughout our urban and suburban communities.

Debbie Etienne is a Community Development Specialist for the City of North Lauderdale located in Florida.



The Edgecombe Group, Inc.
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Lee Edgecombe, AIA, ASLA, AICP, Planning and the Black Community Division member, would like to send a quick note to alert the membership of a number of courses offered on-line by the Professional Development Institute of Rutgers University Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy. AICP CM credits are available on some of the courses. Lee Edgecombe will be teaching the "Intro. to New Urbanism" Course which begins on January 19, 2009. *Copy/paste this url link:*
<https://rutgers.catalog.cerkit.rutgers.edu/course/display/7601>

New Urbanism is one of today's hottest topics in urban development and planning. This course is for professionals who want to learn the fundamentals of New Urbanism so they can make better decisions about whether it is a good choice for their communities. The course instructor, Leland Edgecombe, brings a distinct perspective as both an architect and urban planner. This course will offer a mixture of resources, tools, knowledge, and skills students can apply to their professional office work, such as: 1. Urban design principles, standards and guidelines; 2. Web-based resources; 3. Urban design analysis; 4. Placemaking and defensible space design approaches; and 5. New Urbanist design applications.

Scholarship Available for Online Courses

Use promotion code EB21 to get an \$85 scholarship. If none are available, please use promotion code BGBBS to get one of four \$50 scholarships.

[Brownfields Redevelopment:](#) 2 EB21 scholarships; 4 BGBBS scholarships

[Introduction to Urban Planning:](#) 4 BGBBS scholarships

[Introduction to New Urbanism:](#) 4 EB21 scholarships; 4 BGBBS scholarships

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You can get up to \$1,250 in scholarships to attend an upcoming Leading from the Middle program. Leading from the Middle teaches a model of entrepreneurial, cost-effective leadership suited for professionals in planning, community and economic development and public affairs. The program challenges your thinking about power, influence, communication, and planning. It gives you tools to put your knowledge to practice. It gives you opportunities to explore real leadership challenges facing your organization or community in a supportive and results-oriented environment.

The New York program starts in late January. The New Jersey program starts in March. For more information, please go to <http://www.theleadinginstitute.org/lm/>

New Blog: Planning in the Dark (Improved Student Facebook Group)

By Augustus Anderson

Toni Morrison has made me think more deeply about the profession that I currently pursue, and ultimately the way I could, should, can, need or want to fit in it. Morrison writes, "My work requires me to think about how free I can be as an African American woman writer in my genderized, sexualized, wholly racialized world." I, too, wonder this as a becoming planner. The title of this weblog *Planning in the Dark* (<http://planninginthedark.blogspot.com>) derives from Morrison's work *Playing in the Dark*, where Morrison's objective is to look at the formation of the American White identity in American literature against the backdrop of the primitive other—the Africanist population. It must be acknowledged that the perspective of White males has dominated the field of planning. Generally, I am interested in how the Africanist's unique perspective influences planning. I believe that our history causes some issues to be more important than others, and these inclinations should not be resisted, but acknowledged, critiqued and either embraced or discarded.

This blog includes the students' unique perception on the field of planning as they move through their graduate programs. One will read thoughts and opinions of students developed under the overarching theme of Development—and all the topics that it encapsulates—sustainability, human development, community leadership, etc. The blog also will connect students to fellowships, conferences, employment opportunities, relevant news, and each other. Students can submit pieces to the blog manager through the site as well as make comments on postings. Drawing ideas from a spectrum of places to create a compendium for the becoming planner, this blog will assist those of you that are also *planning in the dark*. Let us get there together.

Please join our global Facebook group titled, "Planning and the Black Community" to connect with Planning students across the nation.

Augustus Anderson is a doctoral student in the City and Regional Planning Department at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and currently serves on the Planning and Black Community Division's Executive Committee as Student Representative.



Highlights

1000 Conferences In 1

www.planning.org/nationalconference/index.htm

PBCD Mobile

Tour: Revitalization in North Minneapolis & Cedar Riverside
Sunday, April 26, 2009,
11:00 AM - 4:00 PM

PBCD Scholarship Luncheon:

Monday, April 27, 2009,
11:30 AM - 1:30 PM

PBCD Business Meeting:

Monday, April 27, 2009,
5:30 PM - 7:00 PM

PBCD Sessions:

African-American Heritage Preservation

Tuesday, April 28, 2009,
10:30 AM - 11:45 AM

Engaging Low-Income Communities of Color

Wednesday, April 29, 2009,
9:30 AM - 10:45 AM

PBCD Member Related

Events:

Minority Youth Engagement in Planning (session)

Monday, April 27, 2009,
11:00 AM - 12:15 PM

Navigating Careers in Down Economies (facilitated discussion)

Monday, April 27, 2009,
3:00 PM - 4:15 PM

PBCD Conference Networking in Minneapolis:

5 Themed Networking & Professional Events (Careers, Education, Arts, Politics/Policy, Entertainment)

PBCD Navigating Itinerary Connection to Conference (available March 2009)

Revitalization in North Minneapolis & Cedar Riverside Post-Mobile Tour Mixer

PBCD Business Meeting



American Planning Association
**Planning and the
Black Community Division**

Making Great Communities Happen

The Robert A. Catlin/David W. Long Memorial Scholarship

Named after committed planners and long-standing members of the Planning and the Black Community Division, The Robert A. Catlin/David W. Long Memorial Scholarship was created to foster increased interest among Black students in the field of urban planning. The \$2,500 scholarship will be awarded to one student on a competitive basis to cover costs associated with the pursuit of graduate studies.

Eligibility Criteria:

The scholarship is available to:

- Black undergraduate students currently applying to or who have been accepted into an urban planning program for graduate studies;
- Black graduate students, majoring in urban planning or a related field (geography, environmental studies, urban studies, urban policy etc.);

Students who satisfy all of the above criteria can obtain an [application](#) from PBCD representatives or by visiting the PBC Division Website:

<http://www.planningandtheblackcommunity.org/scholarships/scholarships.htm>

All application materials must be received via email by 5:00pm EST, Friday, February 13, 2009.

A review committee comprised of members of the division shall review applications and select a recipient. The anticipated notification date is February 27, 2009. The winner will also be honored at the Planning and the Black Community scholarship event that takes place during the National APA Conference.

For more information, contact:

Eric D. Shaw, Vice Chairperson of Policy

pbcd.policy@gmail.com



Announcing APA Monthly Webcasts 2009 Series Begins in January



Co-Sponsored by the Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Missouri, New York Upstate, Ohio, Orange County, Pennsylvania, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Western Central and Wisconsin Chapters.

Earn up to 18 CM credits on your computer – no cost to APA members

For registration information visit: <http://www.utah-apa.org> for details.

NOTE: To access the monthly webcasts participants will need an internet connection and a telephone. Below is a summary of the 2009 schedule including a session summary, instructor, date, time, and sponsoring chapter.

* CM Credit Pending (All times shown are eastern time)



Energy Efficient Land Use Planning
February 6, 2009 – 1 pm – 2:30 pm EST

Glen Larson – Assistant Director
Chesterfield County, Virginia Planning Department

CM 1.5*

As the cost of energy increases, so is the need to consider energy efficiency in making land use and public facilities location planning decisions. This session will focus on how the economics of energy will influence development patterns and density, and how such considerations as commuting times and public sector fuel consumption should be factored into both short and long-range community planning. Included is an overview of new LEED Neighborhood Development (LEED-ND) standards.



Sustainability in Codes and Public Policy – Diving Deep
March 6, 2009 – 1 pm – 2:30 pm EST

Soren Simonsen, AIA, AICP, LEED
Director – Urban and Environmental Design, CRSA Associates

CM 1.5*

This session will focus on background information that makes a compelling case for more sustainable practices in our city codes and regulations, and presents case studies of several regional and local initiatives that highlight sustainable policy implementation. The instructor has worked for many years on developing and implementing public policy to create safe, healthy, beautiful and sustainable communities.



Building Safe Healthy and Livable Communities Conference

Building Safe Healthy and Livable Communities Conference – Thursday, January 22, 2009 – Saturday, January 24, 2009, Albuquerque, NM. The New Partners for Smart Growth Conference has grown significantly since it began several years ago -- increasing in scope, attendance, and prestige -- and is now considered to be the "premier" smart growth conference held each year. The strength of this conference comes from the variety of participants and speakers who cross disciplines to share experiences and insights, and valuable tools and strategies to encourage smart growth implementation and "get it done." Planning for the 8th annual conference comes on the heels of a hugely successful conference held in our nation's capitol in February '08. Join us in January 2009 in the beautiful state of New Mexico, for the latest in smart growth -- the latest research, cutting-edge implementation tools and techniques, best practices, model projects, policies and codes, coordinated networking activities, interactive learning experiences, and new partners. Most importantly, this dynamic event offers you the opportunity to network and coordinate with your peers as well as practitioners from many different disciplines.

Event Website: <http://www.newpartners.org/about.html>

(Cont. from Page 1)

Fast forward to 2008. Today these very communities, left for dead, are suddenly enjoying an unprecedented comeback. Like the Phoenix rising from its ashes, Compton last year unveiled an unprecedented \$80 million shopping center at its southern fringes and a \$40 million residential development to boot right in the heart of its downtown. Boyle Heights to its credit is steadfastly putting finishing touches to a proposed \$2-billion upscale commercial and residential development in an area that has been blighted for decades. Watts, a community that has struggled for decades with grinding poverty and crime has become the venue for market rate residential developments. And the list goes on!

Question: Why this sudden back-to-the-city frenzy? What happened to the almighty sprawl? Undoubtedly, a confluence of several factors might have something to do with it. Yet, truth be told, compact growth is trouncing suburban sprawl not because the destructive environmental consequences of the latter have made it unacceptable development policy. Compact growth is flourishing simply because high commuting costs exemplified by oft-cited "pain at the pump" are demagnetizing the suburban mystique and suddenly catapulting compact development into the forefront of urban revival.

Sprawl, the antithesis of compact growth, gained prominence in the LA metropolis and other regions during the '60s, '70s, '80s, and '90s simply because powerful developers and the apostles of the unfettered free market model deemed sprawl the consequence of market choices and hence the epitome of economic efficiency, freedom and property rights. Ironically, during the same period, others took an opposite view of sprawl by arguing that Los Angeles and its haphazard land use portfolio had transformed the metropolis into an unplanned, unchecked, profit-driven growth machine (Calthorpe 1993, 2000). For example during the early years of the current decade, a classic paper from the USC Southern California Studies Center and the Brookings Center on Urban Metropolitan Policy demonstrated the environmental inequities of sprawl by showing graphic evidence of unequal concentration of air pollution and health hazards in LA.'s inner cities (Sprawl Hits the Wall, 2001).

Yet such warnings were not enough to dethrone the politically entrenched proponents of sprawl because sprawl was deemed economically, scientifically and politically good at this specific time – as long as energy is cheap. However, as Kuhn equally pointed out, conventional wisdom, may become subject to question, as facts inconsistent with them come to light. The questioning intensifies as such facts accumulate through time. And conventional wisdom is rarely overthrown unless some alternative theory that accounts for those facts is advanced. Such is the scenario behind the rise and fall of sprawl.

Smart growth developments that enable people to live within walking distance of such amenities as workplaces, shops, schools, parks and transit stops have become a land use reality of the 21st century. Suddenly, the once 'market'-poor communities have become strategic locations for compact mixed use developments that are not auto dependent. Transportation projects that had historically turned inner city

(Cont. on Pg. 9)

MAIN STREET Innovation Lab

WEBINAR SERIES WINTER | SPRING 2009



Main Street
NATIONAL TRUST FOR
HISTORIC PRESERVATION



THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2009

Why Tourists Shop: How to Become a Powerful Heritage

Travel Destination—Brochures and tourism agencies “introduce” our Main Streets to the traveler indirectly. But how can we reach them directly? Most importantly, how can we create an “authentic” visitor experience that will translate into more feet on the street and in the stores? Learn a new way of looking at the visitor experience, and explore marketing venues that can really put your town on the heritage travel map.

Panelists:

Scott Gerloff, National Trust Heritage Travel Initiative
Barbara Wold, Wold International

REGISTRATION FEE: \$25



THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 2009

Upstairs Downtown: Successful Upper-floor Housing Development

Whether the goal is to increase investor returns, expand the district’s usage round-the-clock, or create a built-in market for retailers, upper-floor housing can be an effective solution for under-utilized space. Yet building codes, financing, and buyers’ attitudes often present challenges. Hear from national and state leaders who are making it happen in local Main Street districts.

Panelists:

Linda Sorden, National Trust Loan Fund
Thom Guzman and Tim Reinders, Main Street Iowa

REGISTRATION FEE: \$25



THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2009

Green Main Streets: Practical Steps You Can Take Now—

Everyone is talking “green,” and the efficient design/density of downtowns can make Main Street the core of any sustainable community initiative. At the same time, our districts must retrofit buildings and rethink how we do business. But confusing terminology and competing technologies for green design make it hard to know where to begin. Let these leaders in the field of design and sustainability show you how it’s done.

Panelists:

Patrice Frey, National Trust Sustainability Initiative
Carl Elefante, AIA, LEED AP, QUINN EVAN | ARCHITECTS

REGISTRATION FEE: \$25

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(Cont. from Pg. 8)

communities into dumping grounds for the region's NIMBY projects (highways, freeways and transit routes) have ironically become diamonds in the rough. Transit systems like the Metrolink and the MTA's Blue Line that were once considered symbols of inner city blues have now become symbols of inner city boom – and are enjoying the envy of auto-dependent suburbanites. Along the major corridors of these inner-city communities is a proliferation of mixed-use transit oriented developments (retail, residential and entertainment centers).

As the affluent neighborhoods of L.A.'s Westside shudder and resist the intrusion of the so called Manhattan-style dense mixed-use developments in their fortress-like neighborhoods, distressed urban communities on the other side of town are having the last laugh. If affluent L.A. is giving 'Manhattanization' a luke-warm reception, smart growth is earning a front row seat in the theater of inner city revitalization- a paradigm shift in L.A. land use policymaking indeed.

Kofi Sefa-Boakye is the Redevelopment Director of the City of Compton, California. He holds master degrees in Economics and Urban Planning from the University of Southern California, a doctorate in Policy, Planning and Development from USC, as well as a Knight Fellowship in Community Building at the University of Miami (Florida, 2003). Additionally, Kofi has authored several op-ed articles in the Los Angeles Times and the Los Angeles Business Journal.



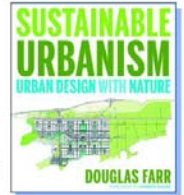
Join us January 27th, 1:30-3:30 ET, for the next session in the Sustainable Urbanism webinar series led by author Doug Farr!

"Sustainable Urbanism 3: Urban Design with Nature" will cover:

- Applying the 2030 Challenge in Your Community
- Ecosystem-Based Management and Planning
- Sustainable Urbanism and LEED ND
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TECHNOLOGY DIVISION WEBINARS

FIRST SESSION: MASHUPS FOR PLANNING

FEBRUARY 19TH, 12:00-1:30 EASTERN

Mashups are combinations of existing technology to create new tools. These mashups can be excellent tools for planning and public input. This first session of the Division's webinar series will be hosted by Jennifer Evans-Cowley of The Ohio State University and Harsh Prakash, IT and GIS Consultant.

Mashups for Planning will cover:

- What is a Mashup?
- Using Existing Mashups
- Create your own Mashup

Visit <http://techdivisionwebinars.eventbrite.com> to register!

- \$50
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PBCD NETWORKING CIRCLE on NING:

Are you familiar with Facebook, Myspace or Linked-In networking concepts?

PBCD has launched a professional, interactive networking circle website on NING. Stay connected with EACHOTHER anytime!

All PBCD members will receive an email invitation to join PBCD on NING this week. This free website is open only to members by invitation and administered by PBCD. <http://pbcd-apa.ning.com>

See what you will find such as....

- Forum Discussions
- Regional Member Groups (South, West, Midwest, Central, Northeast)
- PBCD Students Group
- PBCD Committees
- Events
- Private Chat Room
- Blog Posts
- Notes
- Photos / Videos
- RSS
- Email Inbox
- Customized Alerts

If invitation has not been received, send an email to zuniz89@hotmail.com



Join! Planning and the Black Community Division

Dues for Division: APA regular members \$25; APA student and new professional members \$10; Nonmembers \$40.*



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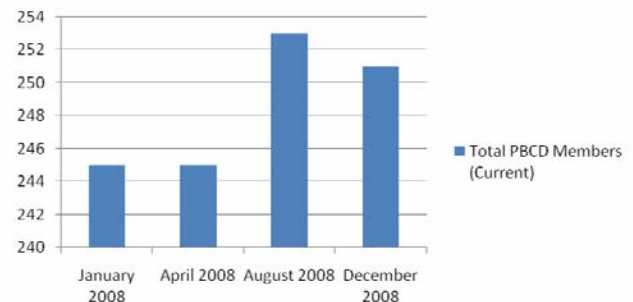
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VISIT THE PLANNING AND THE BLACK COMMUNITY WEBSITE FOR OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND OPPORTUNITIES AT:

www.planningandtheblackcommunity.org

Total PBCD Members (Current)



High School Essay Contest

What Is the Contest?

APA sponsors this contest to encourage high school students to address critical planning issues in their communities. By responding to a challenging essay question, students will:

- Deepen their understanding of their own community;
- Learn how planning is part of the democratic process through which Americans can create communities of lasting value for today's residents and for future generations;
- Develop an appreciation for the important role that elected officials, planning professionals, and citizens of all ages play in that process;
- See how the knowledge and skills they acquire in high school (and continue to develop) will enable them to participate fully in the planning process wherever they may choose to live.

Contest Details

Who Qualifies?

This contest is open to students who meet the following criteria: (1) are high school juniors or seniors during the 2008-09 academic year; (2) are enrolled in a public or private high school, in a high school equivalency program, or in a program of home schooling recognized by the local school system; and (3) are residents of the United States or a U.S. Territory, or who are U.S. citizens living abroad.

Scholarships & Awards

There will be two first place awards, one to a public school student and one to a private school student. First place winners will receive \$5,000 scholarships to the college or university of their choice and recognition on APA's website and other media. The college or university must be located in the United States or in a U.S. Territory. Students must send proof of enrollment to APA in the form of a tuition statement, at which time the check will be sent directly to the institution.

Winning students will also be invited to attend one of APA's National Planning Conferences during the five-year period after they first matriculate at a college or university. APA will provide these students with a free registration and will reimburse travel expenses up to \$1,000.

Awards for honorable mention will be given to 10 contestants. Each honorable mention winner will receive a \$100 gift certificate to [APA's PlanningBooks.com](http://www.planningbooks.com).

All winners will be notified by e-mail and regular mail no later than March 15, 2009. Visit the APA Website: <http://www.planning.org/scholarships/index.htm> for this and other scholarship opportunities.

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URBANE PLANNING

by Robert A. Jonas, AICP



at-tached gar-age n. part of dwelling used by its owners as a secret entrance and exit from their house in order to avoid any contact with neighbors.

catch ba-sin n. outdoor garbage can for litterbugs who don't want to clutter up the inside of their cars with food wrappers and cans.

char-rette n. a quick and cheap process by which to obtain a plan without all the nicks and cuts of a consultant.

cul-de-sac n. suburban crop circles springing up in agriculture fields all across the country; an American phenomenon (see also 'dead end').

ga-ted com-mun-i-ty n. modern day subdivisions modeled after medieval mote-surrounded castles only without the hassle of alligators.

o-pen space n. land that can't be built upon and thus 'donated' to the community by a developer.

o-ver-sight com-mit-tee n. (1) a group of people usually gathered together to fix an oversight from a previous planning effort; (2) a group of people who inadvertently overlook the obvious solution to a problem.

ped-es-tri-an n. someone walking from their car to a store (or other similar destination) and back to their car.

sign-age n. advertisement that is never small enough to satisfy planners and never large enough to satisfy business owners.

smart-growth n. a style of development that is perceived to make sense but not dollars.

stake-hold-er meet-ing n. an event where a group of people hold a stake so that others can drive it through the heart of a plan with a large hammer often killing the project.

sus-tain-a-ble de-vel-op-ment n. old-school development where a community exists and lives within its means (see also 'endangered species').

ur-ban plan-ner n. jack of all trades; master of none (see also 'scapegoat').

zon-ing code n. a document people hate to abide by but are more than willing to push on their neighbors.

New and revised planning-related definitions

Jonas@one.net

Robert A. Jonas, AICP is the GIS Specialist for Boone County Planning Commission in Burlington, KY. While working as an urban planner since 1993, he has been exposed to a wealth of unusual and frustrating situations that probably are shared by many planners. In response to some of these experiences, he began drawing editorial cartoons to vent his frustrations. The cartoons are titled *Urbane Planning* as a play on the profession of urban planning. The word 'urbane' means "refined or polished," which we all know is not normally used to describe our profession or the situations planners face. He hopes that fellow planners can relate to and have a laugh at the experiences depicted in *Urbane Planning*.



Planning And The
Black Community
Division

A Division of the
American Planning Association



Our Mission Statement:

- 1) *To provide a forum for planners, administrators, public officials, students and other APA members to address issues of significance to the Black community; and*
- 2) *To promote knowledge exchange between members and other organizations, encourage and support professional development among Black planners and provide career information.*

PLANNING AND THE BLACK COMMUNITY DIVISION

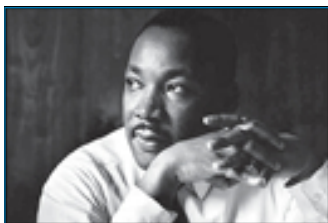
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***DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
HOLIDAY CELEBRATION
January 19, 2009***