

Message from the Chair

Ralph Willmer, AICP

In about a month, we will be meeting in Philadelphia for our National Planning Conference. There are a number of ENRE related activities I wanted to make you aware of, including our by-right sessions and Annual Business Meeting. As usual, ENRE is sponsoring two by-right sessions:

- Sunday, April 15th at 10:30 AM – Emerging Eco-Municipalities and APA's Policy Guide on Planning for Sustainability. This session will be led by Sarah James who was the author of the policy guide. Sarah will discuss the spreading eco-municipality movement and how APA's policy guide establishes a framework for municipal sustainable practices.
- Tuesday, April 17th at 9 AM – The Superfund Alternative Site (SAS) Process. This session will be led by Clive Graham, Senior Planner, with Environmental Resources Management. It will focus on a process that allows a faster transition of highly contaminated sites from blight to reuse.

Additionally, there will be a session on Monday, April 16th at 4:30 PM on Reflections on Sustainability and Big City Planning. After this session, ENRE will sponsor a reception that is open to all. Refreshments will be provided and we hope to see you there. Numerous other sessions deal with environmental, energy and sustainability issue (note how many sessions actually use the term "sustainability" in the title).

Our Annual Business Meeting will take place

at the Marriott at 7:00 AM on Monday, April 16th. We will discuss the Division's plans for the upcoming year including work on policy guides and legislation. Breakfast will be served and again, anyone is welcome. Check at the final program for the specific location at the hotel.

For those of you interested in sustainability, ENRE member Bruce Wiggins reports that Philadelphia has made great strides in that direction. He says the City is doing good work, especially on transportation, greening, urban farming, stormwater treatment, and work with neighborhoods and Community Development Corporations. It has some LEED buildings, solid waste diversion, energy initiatives, and green businesses.

The following is some further information on green and sustainable work going on in Philadelphia (by no means a complete list) that ENRE members may want to know about for the conference. There are mobile workshops and host committee sponsored sessions on many of these topics - consult the conference program.

1. A description of some of the good work Philadelphia is doing is on the Edens Lost and Found web page, link below. This from a PBS series and book highlighting four cities (Chicago, Seattle, L.A., & Philadelphia) One can get a promo video clip here, too.

<http://www.edenslostandfound.org/home/preview.php?id=45>

2. The city is ranked #8 of the 50 biggest cities on SustainLane.com (a sustainability web page):

http://sustainlane.us/city_study_8%

In This Issue

Green Infrastructure Lets Nature Help Carry the Load of Our Cities.....p.3

Book Review and Commentaryp.6

Announcements and Initiatives.....p.8

ENRE Division Officers

Chair

Ralph R. Willmer, AICP
Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc.
101 Walnut Street, P.O. Box 9151
Watertown, MA 02471-9151
(617) 924-1770 ext. 1102
rwillmer@vhb.com

Chair-Elect

Ingrid Kelley
Energy Center of Wisconsin
455 Science Drive, Suite 200
Madison, WI 53711
(608) 238-8276 ext. 136
ikelley@ecw.org

Secretary-Treasurer

Ian Crelling
Bay County
707 Jenks Avenue, Suite B
Panama City, FL 32301
(850) 784-4024
icrelling@co.bay.fl.us

Past Chair

Deanna Glosser, Ph.D., AICP
Environmental Planning Solutions, Inc.
22 Hollyhock Drive
Riverton, IL 62561
(217) 629-8949
dglosser@insightbb.com

[2Philadelphia.jsp](#)

Philadelphia ranks strong in many categories, including transportation (tied for #2 in overall mobility), local food and agriculture (#3), and energy and climate change policy (#5).

3. Here's a Sustainable Philadelphia web page, for a nonprofit people may want to hook up with: <http://www.sustainablephiladelphia.com/>

4. Here's a web page for a Sustainable Business Network

<http://www.sbnphiladelphia.org/>

The ENRE workplan will be posted on the website once it is approved at the business meeting. Feel free to contact me if you would like to see a draft in advance of the meeting, which I expect will be available mid- to late- March.

ENRE is assisting APA in funding a new research project entitled "Planning Our Way to a New Energy Future: Integrating Energy Sustainability into U.S. Planning Practice". ENRE is very excited to be participating in this timely and important topic, which is a great example of how divisions can work with APA on major projects. It also illustrates a successful implementation of a policy guide (the energy and planning policy guide was adopted in 2004 and can be found on APA's website under the legislation link). A description of this project can be found elsewhere in this issue. Additional details will be provided on our website as well.

This is my last column as Chair of the Division. I value being given the opportunity to serve the Division for the last four years and look forward to working with our new Chair. After the Annual Business Meeting in Philadelphia, the reins are turned over to Ingrid Kelley, the current Chair-Elect. I would like to thank my predecessor, Deanna Glosser for her help in a number of activities over the last four years that helped move the Division forward on so many fronts. I also want to thank Ian Crelling for his assistance as Secretary-Treasurer and with the website. Thanks also to previous Division officers Bob Kull and Lisa Haderlein. Lastly, I appreciate Ingrid's willingness to take on the leadership of ENRE.

Editorial Board Biographical Sketches, continued from the Fall 2006 issue.

Tracy Hall

I currently work as a land-use planner for the city of Columbus, Georgia; however, my academic background is in environmental science and in geology. My research focus was on climate, which remains my primary area of interest, but I also have an interest in the relationships between human health and the physical environment. In addition to my current position as planner, my professional experience also includes environmental assessments and other NEPA-related analysis, soil analysis, and science education. In my work with the city of Columbus, I am currently involved in air quality issues and regional watershed management issues. In addition to APA and ENRE membership, I am also a member of the National Association of Environmental Professionals (NAEP) and the International Medical Geology Association (IMGA).

Call for Submissions

The Environmental Planning Newsletter invites your submissions—all articles of relevance to the membership are welcome. The next deadline for submissions is May 20, 2007. All submissions should be e-mailed to the Editors, contact information below. We also welcome letters, notes, and suggestions for future articles.

Co-Editors

John Anderson
janderson@rc.com

Jane Gurney
jgurney@uoguelph.ca

Green Infrastructure Lets Nature Help Carry the Load of Our Cities by Ashwani Vasishth

Our urban areas desperately need investment in infrastructure. However, we have come to a place, removed from nature, where we think of infrastructure rather narrowly. We plan to build with concrete and steel and asphalt, importing electricity and water, exporting waste and pollution, and relying increasingly upon the automobile to carry us about a landscape that we have segmented out into distant and disjointed uses.

But there is another form of infrastructure that we could just as easily and far more cheaply deploy to help carry the burden we place upon the land. Green infrastructure. The goods and services nature would dearly love to offer us, ours for the taking and only in exchange for an intelligent recognition of our ecological context, and a respect that is due the land.

Dark, heat-absorbing, impervious surfaces, namely roofs, roads, and parking lots, are the quintessential hallmark of urbanization. This often unmitigated fact has a range of significant and cumulatively detrimental effects on the ecological and bio-geo-chemical processes and functions that underwrite our cities and shape our inhabited world. We reduce the effective carrying capacity of the land by generating needless waste and pollution. This waste is not merely waste, but rather an actual increase in the costs we must incur in the form of the enhanced infrastructure needed to counteract our often unthinkingly expressed preferences. We choose NOT to live lightly upon the land, and then groan at the added burden our civilization must carry.

Conventional building practices result in increased ambient temperatures due to the proliferation of heat-absorbing surfaces. Urbanized regions can be 4 to 10 degrees Fahrenheit hotter than their surrounding countryside. This generates increased biological and material heat stress, a substantial part of which we could

easily alleviate, at little additional cost. This also increases the load we place on our air conditioning systems, consuming electricity that we could very easily put to more productive uses. The higher temperatures also increase the formation of photochemical smog. And groundwater recharge is reduced, even as urban stormwater runoff is increased, due to a mindless proliferation in impervious surfaces.

Our sprawling patterns of urbanization force us to drive further and longer, to and from our multiple daily tasks, increasing traffic exhaust. Our freeway surfaces receive increased depositions of toxic dust and exhaust particles, building up through the year, nano-layer over nano-layer and quite invisible to our eyes, awaiting that first flush of the winter rains that will wash these toxins into our stormwater drains. Of course, this will require additional expenditures in water purification to maintain the quality of our water bodies.

The piece-meal and haphazard appropriation of lands for urbanization results in a needless fragmentation of natural habitats. The large-scale insertion of often non-native vegetation in the form of ornamental gardens shaped to mimic images imported from far away and long ago, the broad sweeps of synthetically maintained and copiously irrigated grass lawns, all come together to disrupt indigenous landscape ecologies and to interfere with the pulsing patterns of regional bio-geo-chemical processes. And so, without thought and without ill-intent,

the land becomes more and more a receptacle for the toxic effluvia of our unconsidered urban lifestyles. All of which results, ultimately, in the more unequivocal separation of humans from nature. And in lots more of that expensive concrete and steel infrastructure stuff we need to live our lives.

With time and with technological modernization, our cities have come to rely increasingly on the bending of nature to our whim. This has led to a corresponding reduction in our need, and so our willingness, to even think to adapt to the particulars of our environmental context. Rather than build in a vernacular, using climatically appropriate building materials and locally adapted dwelling types, we choose instead to impose our will upon the land, capitalizing on the apparent economic benefits of a mass-production mass-culture. Of course, we must then compensate for the ecological consequences of such choices through the increased use of air conditioning and heating, more of the personalized transportation infrastructure to support our lone commutes across sprawling landscapes bereft of localized neighborhood connectivity.

We choose to deny our ecological context, and impose instead our own production of place. But by denying our ecology, we come also to live more heavily upon the land. And at least some of the infrastructure we are now forced to build may have just as easily been avoided, without loss to quality of life and to our pre-

Editorial Board Members

Jan Bush (Water Resources)

Thomas Cafcus (Environmental Economics)

Carol Garey (Wetlands)

Tracy Hall (See the Biographical Sketch in this issue)

Christopher Kallajer (Energy)

Anindita Mitra (Sustainability)

Michel Paque (Groundwater)

Aaron Rucker (Conservation Design)

Bev Suderman (Native American Environmental Issues/Sustainability)

Ashwani Vasisht (International Planning)

Aaron Weieneth (Water Resources, Water Supply Planning)

ferred lifestyles.

It doesn't have to be this way! We can let nature back into our cities, using intelligence, innovative materials, suitable tree species and native vegetation to lighten our tread. Three strategies from urban ecology: heat island mitigations, urban forestry, and impervious surface management, together provide many of the infrastructure benefits our contemporary society needs. Together, these strategies will considerably reduce air pollution and water pollution, significantly enhance our natural water supply, substantially strengthen connectivity across the rich and diverse habitats within which we dwell, while at the same time reducing the carbon dioxide emissions that mark our copious transfer of below ground carbon into the atmosphere, in the form of fossil fuels.

Heat Island Mitigation Measures: Lighter colored and heat reflecting building and paving materials, used for roofs, driveways and roads, would help reduce temperatures by 4 to 6 degrees Fahrenheit. This would reduce the air conditioning loads during peak demand by 20 to 25 %. This is partly due to the reduction in ambient temperatures, but also by directly cooling roof membranes by 40 to 60 degrees Fahrenheit, which substantially increases the effective life span of each of these treated roofs. (Green roof technologies have now reached a point where we have a very good understanding of how to build these and what plants to use for a low-maintenance result.) And at the same time we would also reduce the formation of smog by some 10 to 15 %.

Urban Forestry Measures: Ecologically suitable species of trees and shrubs, strategically planted to provide shade for our built environment, would also cool the air through the entirely natural process of evaporative transpiration, even as their copious leaf surfaces help to trap toxic dust particles locally. (If they were to be planted in dense stands downwind of hot-spots such as freeway corridors with high volumes of truck traffic, residential neighborhoods in these areas would be relieved of the

substantial health impacts they now face.) At the same time, and at no additional charge, they would capture and store copious amounts of rainwater, even as they penetrate the soils to increase groundwater recharge, improve the health of our quite organic soils, and provide precious habitat.

Impervious Surface Management: There are innovative and now quite well-tested materials technologies that would allow us to make our denser landscapes more porous. The square miles of sun-baked asphalt parking lots that now frame our downtowns could easily be turned into tree-shaded, rain-water receiving reservoirs that would help recharge our water tables even as they capture and bioremediate the toxic drippings of hot commuter automobiles. (If we were to implement a 50%-tree cover strategy for our parking lots, we would substantially reduce evaporative emissions from the countless cars that now stand baking in the afternoon sun, in every downtown parking lot.) We know also how to deploy xeriscape plants that naturally need less water to grow, and so are more drought-resistant, across our lawns and gardens. We can make our cityscapes prettier even as we make them more porous, allowing nature to do many of things that it does best, and at little cost to us.

By integrating such green infrastructure measures into our planning, we would come, cumulatively, to reduce our ecological footprint, and, at the same time, to increase the effective carrying capacity of our land. If we intelligently deployed more green infrastructure as an integral element of our infrastructure planning process, we would need far less concrete and steel. Ensuring that such plans are built around a green infrastructure core that takes account of ecological processes will result in substantially better returns on investment today, while ensuring a benefit stream that continues much further into the future. Green or grey, we get to choose.

Ashwani Vasishth is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Urban Studies and Planning

at the California State University, Northridge, and a member of the California Community Forest Advisory Council. His research is focused on the development of an ecosystem approach to integrative regional planning, and he can be reached at vasishth@csun.edu, or from <http://www.csun.edu/~vasishth>.

Washington State Initiative Anindita Mitra, AICP Seattle Washington

Washington State planners have been investigating the connections between climate change, energy delivery and consumption patterns and land use planning for the past two years through an ad-hoc Energy Task Force that was established in early 2005 by the Chapter. Based on the year-long discussion, this group is in the process of finalizing a "vision for an energy independent state." In 2006, at the State planning conference in Yakima, members of this Task Force led a workshop where state planners developed a list of priority actions. In order these are: Require an Energy Element in Comprehensive Plans, Develop a Database of Information, and Educate whenever possible. There are positive outcomes of the first strategy. The Chapter drafted a bill (SB 5871) that will make an Energy Element a mandatory element but subject to monetary appropriations from the state. While this Bill did not clear this legislative assembly, all signs and the interest remains in raising the issue at next year's assembly. Early discussions and testimonials at the Bill Hearing suggest that while there is cautious support for the Bill, the monetary implications of making such a task mandatory remains a concern. (Of note is that the Washington State Growth Management Act specifically states that any mandatory element introduced after 2002 cannot be required, unless it is fully funded. This would apply to this element as well). In the meantime, the city of Lynnwood applied for and secured a grant to prepare an Energy Element for their comprehensive plan. The Chap-

ter is now considering ways to develop a database of information to share among the many interested constituencies. Another State that developed such an element requirement is South Carolina. Florida, while it drafted the requirements for an energy element, has not formally required the element to be adopted.

State of Fear by Michael Crichton Crichton's Book on Global Warming Review and Commentary by Bruce G. S. Wiggins, AICP

I found Crichton's story absorbing. I found myself staying up late at night to read it – though it was partly my interest in the topic of climate disruption (my preferred term to "global warming") that propelled my reading. I wanted to find out what he would say. But the first time through, I only cursorily read the footnotes, graphs, bibliography, and appendices.

Footnotes, graphs, bibliography and appendices in a novel? Yes. Crichton purports to set the reader straight on the hoax of global warming and the scare-mongering of self-interested environmentalists. He says in the Author's Message at the end of the book that he has read for three years on the topic. Since he is well-known as a Harvard medical school graduate, many will assume he is accurate -- especially since he has footnotes.

The villains in this novel are environmentalists who are manipulative ideologues and zealots. They are terrorists, really, who are aiming to cause environmental disasters to try to convince the world to take global warming seriously. The hero is out to foil the schemes. Along the way, he provides countless speeches, graphs and citations to show how and why the environmentalists are wrong, that global climate change is a myth.

The hero argues against the “Everybody knows” syndrome. In our popular U.S. tradition of the rugged individualist, he appears to be battling the odds and fighting for truth. But one has to ask, at what point does the preponderance of evidence become convincing? And when is the protagonist fighting windmills (an apt analogy here)? For Crichton’s theses to be true, one would have to believe there is a vast conspiracy involving thousands of scientists across the globe and numerous periodicals, including many peer-reviewed scientific journals.

State of Fear is a novel, and that causes some problems for the reader. Much like Dan Brown’s *Angels and Demons* and *The Da Vinci Code*, the book is based on some facts, but it is hard to tell where facts end and the novel starts. The footnotes and graphs with sources listed will make it seem to many readers that Crichton is presenting the truth. However, many of us know that footnotes do not guarantee truth. In fact, at least some of the sources he quotes have been discredited by other scientists. But the reader won’t know that without exploring the subject in detail.

The author knows he is dealing with a controversial topic. He states his point of view in the Author’s Message -- though that is clear (at least to this reader) from the tale in the book. He lists 25 bullet points (pp. 569 - 73) as his conclusions. In my view, he lists some good points here, acknowledging that this is a complex topic. For example, he writes that atmospheric carbon dioxide is increasing and human activity is the probable cause. He also rightly states that environmental principles can be used as an instrument of privilege to preserve economic advantage, thus constituting modern imperialism toward the developing world.

However, he overstates some of his points. For example, he claims that no one knows how much of the present warming trend might be a natural phenomenon and how much man-made. Crichton asserts that the “Precautionary principle . . . is self-contradictory . . . therefore cannot be spoken of in terms that are too harsh.” Finally he says that, “Everybody has

an agenda. Except me.” What arrogance! Crichton apparently rejects mainstream scientific evidence, information such as that published by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, information that is widely available in respectable popular and scientific publications like *National Geographic* and *Scientific American*, and also information available from other excellent sources, such as the web page from the Pew Center on Climate Change (<http://www.pewclimate.org/>).

A problem can be seen when politicians and one side of the political spectrum take a novel as gospel truth. Many people -- mostly conservatives -- laud it as telling the true story about global warming. Indeed, one conservative journal, “Environment & Climate News,” published by The Heartland Institute, says it is an “accurate and tenacious presentation of the science of global warming theory.” The Institute crows on its web page that Crichton is right, that it exposes junk science, and the real threat is government bureaucrats and self-serving activists. In fact, today, when one Googles “Michael Crichton,” at the top of the page appears a box, “Why Michael Crichton is right.” It is a sponsored link to the web page of the Heartland Institute.

Crichton himself testified at a September 2005 hearing in front of the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works, then under the chairmanship of James M. Inhofe, the Republican Senator from Oklahoma. Inhofe called the threat of catastrophic global warming the “greatest hoax ever perpetrated on the American people.” Among other points, Crichton testified about the danger of politicized science -- which is ironic given that he was being used as a “poster child” for politicized science.

State of Fear was published a little over two years ago (December 2004), and Crichton has since published another book (in late 2006). However, discussion of the book is still useful -- because of the subject matter, because so many people read Crichton, and because there are still sites on the internet that support

Crichton's view that global warming is a hoax. While Al Gore's movie, *Inconvenient Truth*, has done much to change the once popular view the climate change is a hoax or that nothing can be done about it, Crichton's view is still widespread enough that it is holding up many people's moving to do something about climate disruption.

Although Crichton attempts to use real-world data and studies within the novel to highlight some of the realities and uncertainties in climate science, the book contains a number of strawman arguments, misinterpretations of the scientific literature, and misleading statements drawn from the so-called skeptics. Several scientists he quotes have written that he misinterpreted their data, and a scientist who testified in Congress has written that Crichton distorted his testimony. It appears to me that, despite his research and the book's many footnotes, Crichton has a less-than-commanding understanding of climate change science. The book is much more of a vehicle for his opinions than it is an objective commentary.

Some readers found the plot silly and the thriller unsatisfying. Some see *State of Fear* as cleverly-veiled polemics. In any case, this novel represents a powerful, beguiling, and entertaining step backwards in terms of helping readers understand global climate disruption. That is too bad, because we are facing difficult challenges and we need to be able to debate them and chart a course that better balances many needs and interests across the globe.

Bruce G. S. Wiggins, AICP holds Master of Divinity and Master of Public Administration degrees. He is employed by the City of Kansas City, Missouri.

Editor's Note

Replies to this commentary are invited, as are other book reviews and commentaries from division members. Please send your submissions to the Editor (jgurney@uoguelph.ca).

Planning Our Way to a New Energy Future

Overview

Not since the early 1970s have energy issues consumed as much national attention as today. Americans are living with rising gasoline prices, electricity blackouts, and soaring heating and cooling costs. Our overdependence on petroleum and other fossil fuels threatens our national security, exacerbates the U.S. trade deficit, affects our global climate, and harms the health of our most vulnerable populations — low-income residents, the elderly, and children. The manner in which our communities are sited and developed has an impact on both energy demand and the type of energy resources available to use in the future.

Planners are on smart growth's front lines, but few are fully aware of the impact their work has on energy consumption and energy choices. Many have had no direct experience with energy-efficient community design or with the range of renewable energy options now available.

Planners can encourage efficient energy use and diversification of energy supply through their influence over the built and natural environments — including both where and how we build, and where and how we preserve open spaces. Professional planners have a real opportunity to affect change on a wide variety of subjects through their strategic position as advisors to policy makers in town, city, county, and regional governments.

For more cities and towns to implement efficient and clean energy strategies, planners must be aware of the energy implications of what they do and have the knowledge and tools to incorporate energy considerations in all aspects of planning.

How connected are energy issues to planning in your community? Has your jurisdiction been a leader in renewable energy promotion?

What efforts still need to be made to unite energy conservation and planning?

APA and the Environmental and Energy Study Institute (EESI) have come together to address these concerns. With funding from the Surdna Foundation and the Gund Foundation, APA and EESI are undertaking initiatives that will lead to better integration of energy sustainability with planning. In August 2005 the team conducted survey of APA members to learn more about the state of planning with energy issues in mind.

Results of the survey are available online, <http://www.planning.org/energy/preliminaryresults.htm>.

Announcement

Citizen & Planner Leaders for Local Sustainability

Eco-municipality Leadership Training

June 1-6, 2007
Tufts University, Medford, MA

In early June, 2007, a 5-day national training session will take place at Tufts University to increase citizen and planner leadership capacity in communities and their local governments to initiate and lead a change process to become a sustainable community. This sustainable communities approach has a substantial track record of successful implementation – possibly the most extensive in the world - in over 70 municipalities in Sweden and a growing number of communities in the US, as well as beyond. The objective of the training is to prepare potential local leaders – including citizens, local officials, planners, or municipal staff – to be able to lead a process involving sustainability education, communication, and a strategic implementation process.

Faculty:

Sarah James & Torbjörn Lahti, co-authors of *The Natural Step for Communities: How Cities & Towns Can Change to Sustainable Practices* (New Society Publishers, 2004, winner of the 2005 Planetizen Top Ten Book Award.

Torbjörn Lahti is the founder of the Swedish eco-municipality movement, and he and Sarah James are co-founders of the emerging U.S. eco-municipality movement. Between them, they have worked with over 150 municipalities in Sweden and the United States.

Kelly Baxter & Chad Park, *The Natural Step Canada*. TNS-CA has worked with Canadian municipalities such as Canmore and Halifax, introducing the Natural Step approach to sustainability.

Julian Agyeman, Associate Professor of Urban and Environmental Policy and Planning, Tufts University. He is author of *Sustainable Communities and the Challenge of Environmental Justice* (New York University Press, 2005), among other books.

Cost: The fee for attendees requiring accommodations will be \$2150, inclusive of tuition, room, and board. For persons not requiring accommodations, the cost will be \$1850. Unfortunately, no scholarships or reduced rates are available.

Primary Sponsor:

The Tufts University Department of Urban and Environmental Policy & Planning. Co-sponsors: The Massachusetts Chapter of the American Planning Association and the American Planning Association Environment, Natural Resources, & Energy Division.

To register for this training, send the accompanying registration form (last page of this newsletter) and a check made out to MA-APA to Chris Skelly, MA-APA, PO Box 912, Greenfield, MA 01302. (Sorry, no credit cards!) There is a 25-person limit. In the event of over-subscription, priority will be given to individuals presently leading or involved in local eco-municipality initiatives. Deadline: April 30, 2006.

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN IN THIS TRAINING SESSION

- An in-depth understanding of what sustain-

ability means both at the global and local community level, including the Natural Step framework for sustainability.

- An in-depth examination what it means to satisfy human needs within a sustainability context, including psycho-social human needs.
- How to present and communicate sustainability ideas and concepts to a variety of different audiences, plus tools and materials to accomplish this.
- How to design and lead a five-year “bottom-up” process for transforming a municipal government and its larger community to become an ‘eco-municipality’ – a sustainable community led by (particular) sustainability objectives which are practiced throughout the government and larger community.
- How to engage and involve the entire community – citizens, businesses, institutions, municipal departments and agencies – in defining a guiding vision and implementing actions to move toward sustainable practices.
- How to bring key municipal tools, such as master plans, land use regulations, capital improvements planning, and municipal budgeting into alignment with sustainability objectives.

Program questions:

Email Sarah James at james.s@att.net

Tufts facility & accommodations questions:

Email Monica Magari at monmater@gmail.com

A registration form is included on next page of the newsletter for your convenience.

Food Planning Policy Guide

The APA Legislative and Policy Committee voted yesterday to move the Local and Regional Food Planning Policy Guide to the next level of review by APA leadership. This policy guide addresses a newly emerging topic for planners - developing a sustainable local and regional food system. Anyone wishing to review the draft can contact Deanna Glosser at dglosser@insightbb.com.

Upcoming Events

Federal Planning Workshop. April 10-13, 2007, Philadelphia. www.federalplanning.org/annual_workshop_2007.htm

Ongoing audio/web conference training series, covering topics including Inclusionary Housing and Maintaining Neighborhood Character. www.planning.org/audioconference/

APA Planning Fellowship Deadline is April 30, 2007. More information is available on www.planning.org/institutions/scholarship.htm

Submit your upcoming events and announcements to the Division webmaster by email at info_ENRE@planning.org.

Don't miss the APA National Conference in Philadelphia, April 14-18, 2007.

Visit the website for more information:

www.planning.org/2007conference/

**Citizen & Planner Leaders for Local Sustainability
Eco-municipality Leadership Training
June 1 -6, 2006, Tufts University**

**REGISTRATION FORM (Please print)
(deadline for registration + payment – April 30, 2006)**

Name _____

Affiliation/organization _____

Title _____

Mail address _____

Telephone (day) _____ email _____

Do you require accommodations? Yes _____ No _____
Amount of check enclosed \$2,150 _____ \$1,850 _____

Please describe your current involvement or interest in eco-municipality leadership.

**Please cut and send this form with check made out to MA-APA for appropriate amount
to: Chris Skelly, MA-APA, PO Box 912, Greenfield, MA 01302**