

OKLAHOMA PLANNER



American Planning Association
Oklahoma Chapter

Making Great Communities Happen

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Note from Paula Dennison, President of APA OK

Oklahoma, where the wind comes sweepin' down the plain

And the wavin' wheat can sure smell sweet

When the wind comes right behind the rain.

...

You're doin' fine, Oklahoma!

As I sit here and ponder my final newsletter piece as President of this Great Chapter, I can't help but reflect on the people and places that have come into my life.

Over the past two years as your President, I've gotten to know so many local and national planners and have witnessed ideas and dreams become realities. What is being accomplished in Oklahoma is setting many bars across the region. We are in the forefront of change, ideas, advancements and just plain 'ol progress. Be proud of our accomplishments; Keep up the excellent work.

With the winds of change, come opportunities. Your new Board of Directors will assume their posts beginning January 1, 2016. With these new leaders, the APA Oklahoma membership has another open door for involvement in the Chapter. Check out the Board at www.okplanning.org. Attend meetings throughout the year. Volunteer to serve on an ad hoc committee. Propose your community to be the host for an annual planning conference. There are many areas that individuals can become involved in the happenings across Oklahoma. Get involved...we all benefit!

Finally, I relish the time I've served the Chapter as President. I have seen the reinstatement of our Newsletter and of our Awards Program. I've seen partnering with state and professional
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Quad State Conference October 21-23, 2015, Kansas City, MO

October 21-23, planners from Oklahoma, Arkansas, Missouri and Kansas will come together in for a conference to remember. With the theme, *Planning: What we do Matters*, expect many interesting sessions that explore many elements of planning that are affecting our communities big and small, rural and urban.

The conference is located at the Westin Kansas City at Crown Center, just south of downtown and within walking distance of many great sites. [Book your room](#) by **September 21st** to receive the conference rate.

Are You Registered?

Early registration is available [online](#) until **October 7th**! Plan now to attend this conference. You will not want to miss it!

Registration will include 3 days with 60 sessions to choose from; two keynote lunches; and a reception. For an additional cost, 10 mobile workshops are available to explore planning at work in Kansas City and surrounding area! The conference schedule is available on the [conference website](#).

Do You Want to Sponsor?

A variety of [sponsorships levels](#) and benefits are available now! Sponsorship levels include complimentary conference registration, program advertising, exhibit space, and sponsorship of a special event or session.

OKAPA Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting for the Oklahoma Chapter of the American Planning Association will be held on Friday, October 23, 2015 At the Quad-State Conference in Kansas City, Missouri. If you are attending the meeting and not the conference, please contact Paula Dennison at pdennison@stillwater.org. You do not have to register for the conference to attend only this meeting.

OKAPA Awards Presentation

The Awards Ceremony for Oklahoma will be held at the Quad-State Conference in Kansas City, Missouri on two separate occasions. A joint awards recognition program is scheduled for Thursday, Oct 22 at Union Station, just prior to the evening's reception. The formal Awards Ceremony will be part of our Chapter's Annual Meeting scheduled for Friday, Oct 23, over the breakfast hour. We hope to see everyone there for our renewal of the Planning Awards Program in Oklahoma.

Note from the President (cont.)

agencies to provide trainings for our membership. I've watched as we come together with a wide range of interests & groups to prepare applications for grant funding. I've helped promote the energetic, professional and passionate leaders across our Great State. Most importantly, I've been able to serve the Chapter membership. Thank you for this time in my life.

You're doin' fine, Oklahoma!

Paula J. Dennison, AICP

APA Oklahoma President

Meet the Current OKAPA Board!

Here are just some of our OKAPA Board Members. More to come in the next issue!

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:



Vice President: Susan F. Connors, AICP

Susan Connors is currently the Planning and Community Development Director for the City of Norman, OK. This is a challenging position in a city that is steeped in the traditions of the University of Oklahoma. Throughout her career she has worked to design, plan and implement projects in communities in New Mexico, Colorado, and Oklahoma. Her career has spanned over 30 years of working in various positions in both the private and public sectors. Her experience includes city, county and regional projects

that included neighborhoods, intergovernmental discussions and overall regulatory interpretation. She has witnessed progressive changes over the years to land use requirements which enrich and embellish communities and make them more livable. She has also worked on many neighborhood, sector and comprehensive plans in her career. In the last fifteen years she has been in department director positions which have expanded her involvement in all levels of planning, development and coordination.

Susan holds a master degree in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Colorado and a bachelor's degree in Geography from Boston University. She is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners, the American Planning Association.

Treasurer: Eric Enyart, AICP



Erik Enyart is the City Planner and directs the Planning Department for City of Bixby, OK. His experience includes Comprehensive Planning, practical application of zoning and development codes to various development situations, creative problem solving, and regular updates to zoning, subdivision, and development regulations for the City of Bixby. Mr. Enyart has previous experience as Planning Director for Creek County and city planner for Collinsville, OK. Mr. Enyart is accredited with the American Institute of Certified Planners and is a member of the national American Planning Association and its Oklahoma Chapter, for which he serves as

Treasurer on its Executive Board.

Professional Development Officer: James Wagner, AICP



James Wagner, AICP is the Principal Transportation Planner for INCOG, the Metropolitan Planning Organization in the Tulsa metro area. His work includes public transportation planning and bicycle/pedestrian planning for Tulsa metro area cities and counties. At INCOG, he works with member governments on programs to improve transit and bicycle/pedestrian transportation options. His current work involves managing a regional Bicycle/Pedestrian Master Plan, commonly known as the GO Plan.

In 2012 Mr. Wagner was recognized by *Oklahoma Magazine* as a Top 40 Under 40 and by the *Tulsa Business Journal* as a Tulsa 40 award recipient.

In May 2009, he was recognized as one of the nation's top 20 transportation graduate students as an Eno Transportation Fellow in Washington, DC.

His educational background includes a B.S. in Finance from Oklahoma State University and a Masters of City & Regional Planning and Civil Engineering from Georgia Tech in Atlanta. He is a daily bicycle commuter and a League Certified Instructor able to teach safe cycling courses by the League of American Bicyclists. He loves the challenge of working to make Tulsa a more bicycle friendly place to live.

AT-LARGE AND OTHER MEMBERS:

At-Large 2: Tori Raines



Tori Raines is a native Texan but has been in Oklahoma since graduating from the University of Texas in 2006. She works as an environmental planner and architectural historian for the consulting firm CP&Y, working with large scale transportation improvement projects doing federal regulatory compliance work. She graduated from the OU Regional and City Planning Masters program in 2013 and was named the AICP Outstanding Graduate from OU. She has been a member of OKAPA since starting the Planning Masters program in 2011, and served as

the Student Planning Association President and liaison to the OKAPA Board since 2012. Tori lives in Oklahoma City with her husband, John and her cat, Kitty. She loves being involved with the community and is a member of several non-profit organizations and boards.

At-Large 3: Dawn Warrick, AICP



Ms. Warrick has served as the City of Tulsa's Director of Planning & Development since December 2011. In this role, her focus is on implementation of the community's comprehensive plan, adopted in 2010, which was the result of the very successful PlaniTulsa community engagement process. She is responsible for the staff, programs and activities of two City divisions including Planning and Development Services.

Ms. Warrick previously served as the Assistant Director of Planning & Design Services for Louisville Metro Government where she was responsible for supervising all areas of current and long range planning activities. While in Louisville, Ms. Warrick also taught as an adjunct lecturer in the accredited Masters in Urban Planning program at the University of Louisville.

She began her professional career in the Planning Department of the City of Fayetteville, Arkansas serving in various positions including Zoning and Development Administrator, which included management of all current planning activities. Ms. Warrick has served in various leadership positions in the Kentucky, Arkansas and Oklahoma chapters of the American Planning Association.

At-Large 4: Nancy Warring

Nancy Warring is the Grants Administrator for the City of Bartlesville, OK. Her career started 24 years ago, after graduating from OSU with a Bachelor of Landscape Architecture degree and taking her first job as a planner with a Florida engineering firm. When Nancy moved back to her



home state, she became a planner for the city of Lawton and then Bartlesville. Her planning experience includes zoning and subdivision regulations, plan review, long range planning, and site planning.

Nancy has been with the City of Bartlesville for over 15 years. For the past 4 years, she has served as the City’s Grants Administrator. In this role, she seeks out, applies for, and manages grants for several City departments. She also collaborates with other community partners on projects to improve the quality of life in Bartlesville. Nancy is a Certified Floodplain Manager and a member of Toastmasters International. She’s a Leadership

Bartlesville graduate and a graduate of the State’s Leadership Arts Program. Nancy is married and has 2 children and 3 step-children. She enjoys volunteering in her community, traveling, movies, and yoga.

University Liaison: Dawn Jourdan



Dawn Jourdan is an Associate Professor and Director of the Division of Regional and City Planning at the University of Oklahoma. Previously, she held a joint appointment between the Colleges of Design, Construction, and Planning and the Levin College of Law at the University of Florida. While at UF, Dawn also served as Director of the Center for Building Better Communities. She began her academic career as an Assistant Professor of Planning at Texas A & M University in College Station, Texas. Before returning to academia, Dawn worked for the State and Local Government Division of Holland & Knight LLPs Chicago offices. Dawn earned a Ph.D. in

urban and regional planning from Florida State University in 2004, a joint degree in law and urban planning from the University of Kansas in 2000, and a B.S. in Urban Affairs and Theatre Arts from Bradley University in 1996.



National Professional Development Officer Award

Your Chapter Professional Development Officer (PDO), James Wagner, AICP, is the recipient of the 2015 Chapter President Council Leadership Award! James was nominated for his outstanding leadership in increasing training opportunities, expanding the recognition of APA and APA Oklahoma to professional agencies across the state, and encouraging additional memberships from non-planners. James’ idea was for the Chapter to purchase the Unlimited CM (Certification Maintenance) package from APA and be the “provider” for all qualifying agencies with whom the Chapter may partner.

Through these partnerships, a total of 16.5 CMs have been provided that are non-APA Oklahoma originated. In addition to James' work to spread planning throughout Oklahoma, he is active in his community by taking a lead role in setting the example. As a transportation planner, he commutes daily on his bicycle and is instrumental in proposing activities and initiatives to have Tulsa, Oklahoma become a more bicycle-friendly community. To this calling, James is the right person to lead the professional growth and development of APA Oklahoma's members, to promote education and knowledge throughout Oklahoma and to stand for intelligence and ethics. CONGRATULATIONS, JAMES!!!

Jobs and Events Needed

Do you have a planning job open in your community that you would like OKAPA to post? Do you have an event, workshop, training, or conference of interest to Oklahoma Planners you would like OKAPA to post? OKAPA is accepting jobs and events to post on our website and facebook page. Send to okapachapter@gmail.com.

October is National Community Planning

Is your community planning an activity for National Community Planning Month? This year's theme is Healthy Communities, Healthy People. The theme underscores the impact that the built environment can have on residents' health.

There are a lot of great ideas on how to participate on the [National APA website](#). Let us know what you are planning and we will put it on our [events webpage](#)!



Board of Directors

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At Large 3: Dawn Warrick, AICP
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