



# 2017 Annual Report

## **2017 APA-IL Executive Board**

### Executive Committee

President - T.J. Blakeman, AICP, City of Champaign

Secretary - Lorrie Pearson, AICP, City of Urbana

Treasurer - Jake Seid, AICP, CMAP

Professional Development Officer - Trevor Dick, AICP, City of Naperville

Planning Officials Development Officer - Michael Blue, FAICP, Teska Associates

Chicago Metro Section Chairman - Brandon Nolin, AICP, CMAP

Illinois State Section Director - Stephanie Ashe Brown, AICP, MSA Professional Services

Legislative Committee Chair - David Silverman, AICP, Ancel, Glink, Diamond, Bush, Et. Al.

Diversity Committee Chair - Marcella Bondie Keenan, Center for Neighborhood Technology

UIUC Student Representative – Francesca Sallinger / Nick Keeling, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

UIC Student Representative - Justin Keller, University of Illinois Chicago

Chapter Awards - Christina Bader, AICP, Farr Associates

Mentoring Program - Christina Bader, AICP, Farr Associates

UIUC Faculty Representative - Mary Edwards/Rob Olshansky, FAICP

UIC Faculty Representative - Kate Lowe

### Staff

Executive Director - Dawn Peters, NIU Center for Governmental Studies

Assistant Executive Director - Paula Freeze, NIU Center for Governmental Studies

Chapter Finance/Billing - Ian Livingston, NIU Center for Governmental Studies

## 2017 Annual Report for the American Planning Association – Illinois Chapter

**Membership** – Our membership continues to remain relatively consistent at 1,460 members as of September 2017. Because of the APA's new student membership program, there has been a significant increase in the number of student members since September 2016 (+215).

**Conferences** – For the first time, the APA-IL held their annual State Conference in Naperville, IL at the new Hotel Indigo development. The approximately 650 attendees enjoyed a keynote by John Nordstrom along with sessions and mobile workshops. We had 40 high school students spend a few hours listening in on sessions and talking with professionals about careers in planning. We have come to offer Plan Commissioner Training and AICP Exam Training during each year's state conferences and this year was no different. New for 2018 was the use of 3 different venues, all within walking distance, which gave attendees a taste of the community. This multi-venue conference had excellent post-conference feedback and the APA-IL Executive Committee hopes to return to the venue in the future. Thank you to Conference Chair Rory Fancler, AICP.

**Diversity Committee** - The Diversity Committee had an outstanding year in 2017. Their programs fostered diversity and inclusion through educational programs, networking and mentoring events, speaking engagements, and other initiatives. Their most successful program was their October Planning for Equity panel discussion at UIC's Great Cities Institute.

**Legislative Committee** – The Legislative Committee held the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Planners Legislative Action Day on March 14<sup>th</sup> at the President Abraham Lincoln Double Tree Hotel in Springfield, IL. Attendees enjoyed an engaging discussion with Tom Henderson, Executive Director of the Illinois Tax Increment Association before touring the Capitol, sitting in on House and Senate sessions, attending committee meetings, and meeting with their legislators.

**Mentoring Committee** – The annual mentoring event once again took place after the annual CMS Bar Exam in February. New this year, there was a panel discussion that discussed the differences, benefits, and challenges of working in planning's different sectors.

**Professional Development** – This year we continued to carry out the same innovative programs in previous years. The free AICP Exam Prep session was offered as part of the 2018 State Conference, we offered 2 scholarships to planners taking the AICP Exam, and administered the offering of over 118 CM credits!

**Planning Officials Professional Development** – Training faculty held 8 training sessions in 2017. Communities included Blue Island, Lakemoor, Beach Park, Chicago Southland, Itasca, Darien, Wheaton, Hanover Park, and Wheeling.

**Planners4Health** – In 2017, the APA-IL received a grant, sponsored by the American Planning Association through the Planners4Health initiative, to help build local capacity for integrating planning and public health with the goal of creating stronger, healthier communities. An Advancing a Healthy Community Workshop was held in Chicago with attendees represented various levels of government.

**Chicago Metro Section** - The Chicago Metro Section had an amazing year. 2017 Programs were well attended and provided hours of training, education, and CM credits to professionals in the Chicago area.

**Illinois State Section** – The 2017 APA-ISS Spring Conference was held in Moline, June 1-2, 2017. Chris Mathias, AICP, and Shawn Christ, AICP chaired the event and planned out an exciting conference which included a day of sessions and a day of mobile workshops. Thank you to the City of Moline and our sponsors!

**Student Sections** – SPO and UPPSA, APA-IL's two student sections, held numerous programs for their students.

UPPSA was very active, organizing their annual Urban Symposium, numerous Transit Oriented Dinner excursions, workshops, social events, and assembling a submission to APA for 2018 Outstanding Planning Student Organization Award (spoiler alert – they won!). UIUC's SPO organized Park(ing) Day, Professional Development trips to St. Louis and Indianapolis, SPO Skills Share Workshops, City Café speakers, general meetings and social events.

# 2017 APA-IL Award Recipients

## 2017 Project Awards



Daniel Burnham Award

The Yorkville Plan

A comprehensive plan that utilized scenario planning to right-size a city that never grew to meet optimistic population projections.



Best Practice

Downtown Rockford Strategic Action Plan

Check out Downtown Rockford's "TLC: Tactical, Lean, Climax" approach for action when your community has years of past plans but hasn't been able to kickstart implementation.



Community Outreach Award

Envision Oak Park

Envision Oak Park provided meaningful opportunities for residents to contribute directly to the plan. For example, groups of resident experts developed implementation metrics on topics uniquely relevant to the community.



Community Outreach Award

Wicker Park Bucktown Master Plan

A best practice in how to conduct a master plan update packed with great ideas for outside-the-box engagement.



Implementation Award

Argyle Shared Street

A fully constructed example of a traffic calming- chicane where pedestrians, bikes, and cars coexist on a shared street- with added benefits of sustainable stormwater design best practices.



## Strategic Plan Award

### Arts Block Master Plan

Compelling plan graphics provide the community with inspiration how to combine an arts mission with neighborhood redevelopment.



## Strategic Plan Award

### MWRD Robbins Master Plan

This inspiring plan identifies green-infrastructure solutions in the chronically flooded community of Robbins that saves homes and revitalizes the Village's economy.



## Sustainability Award

### Carbondale Bicycle Master Plan

A bike master plan with implemented results including over seven miles of new bike lanes, a multiuse trail connecting two community anchors (SIU campus and downtown), and other amenities like public bike repair stations.



## Student Award

### Vision for a New Lawrence, Michael Sewall, University of Illinois at Chicago

A thorough examination of the existing conditions and vision for the future of Lawrence Avenue in Chicago's Ravenswood neighborhood, including an impressive analysis on how changing densities will impact the community.

## 2017 Service Award Winners

Award winners in the service category were announced at the 2017 APA-IL State Conference during the Awards Program. We congratulate the following winners



### Distinguished Service Award

Lee Brown, FAICP

Lee's career is noteworthy not only for his professional practices, but for the depth and breadth of his service to the field of planning. Lee tirelessly and quietly works behind the scenes to improve the planning profession at the local and national levels.



### Emerging Planner

Katanya Raby-Henry

Katanya exemplifies commitment to the planning profession and to the communities and residents we serve.



### Planning Advocate

John Lobaito

John Lobaito has spent the majority of his professional life planning and setting the stage for the Village of Mundelein's evolution and growth for years to come.

All award winners were honored at the 2017 APA-IL State Conference during an Awards Program on September 13, 2017. After the Awards Program, guests and attendees mingled with award winners and exhibitors at a meet and greet.



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### Market and Economic Feasibility and Impact Analysis

Market Analysis and Financial Feasibility  
Economic and Fiscal Impact Analysis  
Land Use and Transportation

### Development Strategy and Planning

Redevelopment Strategy  
Transit-Oriented Development  
Subarea, District and Corridor Plans

### Public-Private Financing/Implementation

Special Districts/Tax Increment Financing (TIF)  
New Markets Tax Credits (NMTCS)  
Financial Incentive Requests  
Deal Structuring and Negotiation Support  
Developer Solicitation/RFP







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# People · Place · Story

1929  
Northwest Tower  
Wicker Park Bucktown  
Chicago, IL

1876  
Novelty Iron Works  
Historic Millwork District  
Dubuque, IA

1873  
Town Clock  
Dubuque, IA

1895  
CTA Damen Blue Line Station  
Wicker Park Bucktown  
Chicago, IL

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**2017 Outreach Award Winners**

**Wicker Park Bucktown SSA #33 Master Plan**  
APA-IL Outreach Award

**Imagine Dubuque Comprehensive Plan**  
APA-IA Outreach Award

