



Georgia Planning Officials Newsletter

September 2008

ATTENTION PLANNING COMMISSIONERS: TRAINING DESIGNED SPECIFICALLY FOR YOU!

Georgia Planning Association Fall Conference PLANNING COMMISSIONER TRAINING TRACK

*Marriott Hotel & Suites, Augusta, GA
Thursday, October 2, 2008*

Citizens elected to office or appointed to serve on city and county planning boards are called upon to make important decisions that affect a community's physical, social and economic development. GPA has developed a track at the annual conference devoted specifically to enhancing the knowledge and skills of city and county planning officials.

KEY SESSIONS

What did you say? (8:15 am – 9:15 am)

The objective of this session is to provide planning officials with an overview of common planning terminology, concepts and acronyms in plain English.

Legal Foundations of Planning & Zoning in Georgia (9:25 am – 11:00 am)

This session will provide an overview of the constitutional and legal basis for planning and zoning in Georgia including critical legal concepts and what they mean to the appointed planning official.

Making a Planning Commission Difference (11:15 am – 12:15 pm)

You've been appointed—now what? This session introduces you to the role and responsibilities of the planning commissioner. Learn how to prepare for meetings, make your participation effective, and enhance the community's planning.

The Tools of Planning (1:00 pm- 2:15 pm)

The objective of this session is to provide participants with an overview of local planning tools including the purposes of each tool, and how they should fit together to provide a solid basis for local officials' on-going decision making on behalf of the community.

Size Matters (2:30 pm- 3:15 pm)

The objective of this session is to provide an overview of the planning resources available to communities that have little or no planning staff.

Ethics Clinic (3:20 pm- 4:30 pm)

This roundtable discussion will explore the relationship between legal responsibilities and ethical responsibilities and how commissions consider varying points of view while keeping the long-term interests of the community in focus. This is intended to be an interactive session between panelists and class members.

To register, visit www.georgiaplanning.org/2008-fall-conference.

Upcoming Events

Southface Sustainable Roundtable

September 5, 2008—Atlanta, GA

Confronting Atlanta's Sprawl

For more information visit www.southface.org

Community Planning Academy:

Training for Planning Officials

September 10, October 9 and November 12, 2008—Atlanta, GA

The objective of this 3-day workshop is to equip citizen planners and community leaders with the technical knowledge and leadership skills necessary to successfully plan vibrant communities. Still accepting registration.

For more information call (404) 463-3211 or visit

www.atlantaregional.com/commerce

Georgia Planning Association

Planners' Luncheon

September 19, 2008—Atlanta, GA

Revisiting South Fulton

For more information visit www.georgiaplanning.org

Georgia Planning Association Fall Conference

October 1-3, 2008—Augusta, GA

Planning Officials Track

For more information visit www.georgiaplanning.org

ACCG Fall Policy Conference

and Commissioners Training

October 8, 2008—Atlanta, GA

For more information visit www.accg.org

Georgia Municipal Association Training

October 22—Athens, GA

For more information visit www.gmanet.com

Another great resource for planning commissioners is the Planning Commissioners Journal. The Journal provides an insightful look into current issues facing commissions across the country on a quarterly basis.

To subscribe to the PCJ, visit www.plannersweb.com. Subscribers may also purchase archived articles from past issues at a discounted rate. Check out the site for the latest in planning commission education!