



# *Federal Planning Division Spring 2020 Newsletter* Vol. XX

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## FPD Chair Welcome

Hello Members and Friends of FPD. I am very pleased to see the revival of FPD's newsletter. I envision this will once again be a biannual resource for our members to stay informed of upcoming events, highlight accomplishments, and enable members to publish articles for the overall benefit of the community. Thank you to our Communications Publications team led by Rena Schlachter and David Leonard in putting this together and getting this out early after we were forced to cancel the Houston 2020 workshop. FPD now has a new communication plan that restarts the newsletter, regularly updates the division webpage and social media sites, and sends a welcome letter to new members monthly.

This is a significant year for our division and for us as professional planners, as it is a marker of two decades into the twenty-first century and both an election and census year. This begs us to reflect on the future. As we move further into the Information Age, new challenges have arisen, the COVID-19 Pandemic continues to evolve, and demands on government are increasing now more than ever before.

The Houston workshop may be the best planned event that never came to fruition. I can't thank enough Jill Schreifer for coordinating this event and everyone who led and participated in committees. The C. Balwin Hilton in Houston was great to work with and allowed us to walk away from our contract without cost to the division. We had amazing program and award submittals with pledged sponsorship higher than ever recorded. FPD continues to be a leader in APA by providing members professional development opportunities through this annual training workshop. So how do we make use of all the work accomplished? We are working with APA to answer this question and hopefully by the time this newsletter comes we'll have a better idea. The most obvious solution is utilizing a virtual method similar to what educational institutions are using across America. This will be a marathon, not a sprint as we adapt to changing circumstances this year; however, it could lead to new ways of reaching members and sharing what federal planning does with professionals in our field.

Our nation looks to us to assist in tackling many challenges: from resiliency to budget constraints, infrastructure modernization to implementation of new technologies, protection of the environment to preservation of our history. America needs great planning for those that work, live, and are impacted by federal actions. Now, more than ever, we need you to find new ways to plan for federal communities virtually and develop new approaches to engagement. We need you to be the visionaries: think big and inspire others of what could happen. We are the stewards of the future, enhancers of the present, and protectors of the past. Thank you for all you do to make FPD great!

**Andrew Wright AICP, PMP**  
FPD Chair 2020-2021



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## 2020 FPD Executive Board

Chair	Andrew Wright
Vice Chair (2 <sup>nd</sup> Year)	Joe Hart
Vice Chair (1 <sup>st</sup> Year)	Abbey Ness
Treasurer	Celeste Werner
Secretary	Katie Lamoureux
Communications Coordinator	Rena Schlachter
Membership Coordinator	Keith Hernandez
Professional Development Officer	Joshua Schiffer
Programs Coordinator	Sarah Watson
Student Representative	Alison Evans
Conference Chair	Jill Schreifer
Immediate Past Chair	Brett James

*Newsletter and Publications Director* David Leonard

## FPD Starts Small and Wins BIG- Best Overall Division in APA!

### APA Division Award

The Federal Planning Division of the American Planning Association started in the late 1980's from an idea fueled by human energy. It has survived and grown since that time, moved forward through the diligent efforts of countless volunteers and their vision with action to make FPD what it is today. It's an amazing organization serving an exciting and necessary niche market of federal land and facility planning. That inkling of an organization that started so many years ago with handful of enthusiasts in a San Francisco hotel has come a long way and was recognized for its accomplishments this past winter. Notification was informal--just word of mouth that found its way into an email that was passed around. Formal recognition was to take place at the now canceled 2020 Houston National Planning Conference. The recognition--FPD was awarded the BEST OVERALL DIVISION!!!

This is the second time FPD has won this award – the first was in 2012. Not many divisions have won this award once, let alone twice. This reflects on the enduring quality of our division and the continuity of excellence.

Our Division consistently executes at a high level. Many heads and hands make things happen. The annual workshop is unique, serving this niche crowd with exactly the information they need, specific to planning for the development and change of the Nation's federal lands and facilities. Nowhere else can those in our profession gather on a large scale which such a focus. The things we learn, the relationships we build, the energy we draw all feed directly into what we do within our organizations and for our nation and its citizens.

The annual workshop grows from a deep-rooted seed, our charter that drives us do better, to gather and discuss planning and land management policies, techniques, and procedures at federal properties; to support and enhance programs that protect and enhance federal properties and improve the quality of life of those they affect; to foster

positive economic, environmental, and social relationships between federal properties and their adjacent areas; to promote federal planning programs and their influence in the United States and around the world; and, to reach out to one another to succeed in our endeavors.

The keys to our success are many, but can be boiled down to the following:

- **FPD Offers Valuable Content That Meets Needs**  
FPD provides opportunities for 1) networking and business development; 2) learning and CM credits; 3) exposure to project excellence; 4) employee/employer connections; 5) recognition; 6) reconnection with colleagues; and 7) thought provoking conversations.
- **FPD Manages a Highly Sought-After Awards Program**  
Organizations are recognized for their outstanding work in support of a federal agency. The awards validate the work performed, recognize those involved, offer confirmation of the processes used to achieve results, and seed best practices used in federal planning. Accolades find their way into resumes and contract proposals, factoring into employment decisions and contract awards. Ultimately, FPD's awards program leads to best practices becoming mainstream.
- **FPD Communicates**  
FPD is reaching out to its members and others through social media platforms (Facebook, LinkedIn, and Twitter). The result is frequent, easier, and timely interaction with our members that also offers members the chance to collaborate and discuss content "real time."
- **FPD is a Village of Volunteers**  
Although not a particularly large division, FPD has an extensive network of dedicated volunteers who organize our annual and regional workshops, manage our awards program, and who beat the drum every month to deliver professional development opportunities, membership services, student outreach, special programs, financial management, and administration of our Federal Planning Division through their leadership and drive. You are the machine that makes us great!!!

FPD's success results from meeting member needs through this amazing and dedicated group of volunteers. Each of you sees the intrinsic value in FPD and are motivated to give back to the Division. Achieving our purpose through this symbiotic relationship with its unassuming roots feeds the betterment of federal planning for the federal government, its millions of acres and billions of dollars of public investment, all aimed at supporting important and vital public programs. THANK YOU FOR WHAT YOU DO!

**R. Brett James, LLA, AICP, FPD Chair, 2018-2019**



Mobile Tour of the Presidio (Photo Credit: Travis Curry)

## Online Learning Opportunities

If you were counting on the FPD Workshop to provide you with required CM credits, don't worry! The Professional Development Committee is looking to launch a pilot webinar program to offer FPD-sponsored virtual content this year; stay tuned to our communications platforms for further details. There are plenty of opportunities to earn CM credits online using the following resources:

- The APA Learn website (<https://www.planning.org/apalearn/>) offers CM-qualified learning opportunities to members. Some of these are free.
- FPD has purchased a subscription to the Ohio Planning Webcast Series so that our members can join them for free. There are a number of upcoming webinars, viewable at this link: <http://www.ohioplanning.org/aws/APAOH/pt/sp/planning-webcast-series> Click on the "Distance Learning" tab to see opportunities to earn Ethics and Law credits. Previous webinars are viewable on their YouTube page: <https://www.youtube.com/user/PlanningWebcast>
- Planetizen also offers CM-qualified course: <https://courses.planetizen.com/aicp>
- Free APA on-demand courses are viewable at this link: <https://www.planning.org/cm/free/>

## A Message from APA

"We understand that many AICP members plan on the CM earned at NPC to meet their reporting period requirements. We encourage members to explore distance learning opportunities to meet their CM requirements.

The grace period for those in the 2018-2019 reporting period ends May 29, 2020, which is an extension of one month beyond the typical four-month grace period. At this time, additional reporting period and grace period extensions have not been planned. As the AICP Commission evaluates the evolving circumstances facing planners, updates will be shared with AICP members directly.

AICP members in certain life and career situations may be eligible for a temporary or permanent exemption from the requirement to earn CM credits. If you were in any of these life situations during the 2018-2019 reporting period, you may apply for a CM Exemption."

## Celeste Werner, FAICP

Celeste Werner of Phoenix, our FPD Executive Committee Treasurer, has achieved the planning profession's highest honor by being named to the prestigious American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) College of Fellows for their outstanding achievements in urban planning.



Fellowship is granted to planners who have achieved certification through the American Planning Association's professional institute, the American Institute of Certified Planners, and have achieved excellence in professional practice, teaching and mentoring, research, public and community service, and leadership. Invitations to join the College of Fellows come after a thorough nomination and review process, ensuring the candidate has had a positive, long-lasting impact on the planning profession.

"Individuals who make up the College of Fellows are the true leaders of the planning profession," said past AICP President Valerie Hubbard, FAICP. "These individuals have made lasting contributions to the profession and have inspired generations of new planners. They are truly awe-inspiring."

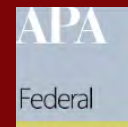
Celeste is the Executive Vice President for Matrix Design Group and has 35 years of planning experience. Prior to this position, she has worked for both the public and private sectors. She has successfully executed award-winning projects for municipal, state, federal, and military clients, in 40 plus states, hundreds of communities, Europe, Africa, Guam and Saipan. Celeste is a nationally recognized public facilitator with a focus on conflict resolution, collaboration, and partnerships. Her work promotes sustainable development and resilient communities, enhances quality of life, and improves community-civilian relationships.

Celeste is included in a group of 53 individuals from throughout the United States who will be inducted into the College of Fellows. Inductions are done biennially. The induction ceremony typically takes place during APA's National Planning Conference; however, the NPC2020 has unfortunately been canceled. We congratulate our FPD Treasurer and look forward to celebrating with her soon!



FPD 2019 Walking Tour (Photo Credit: Dr. Mark Gillem)

# Federal Planning Division Spring 2020 Newsletter



## Awards

We'd like to sincerely thank Lindy Wolner, PLA, of Stanley Consultants, who served as the FPD Awards Committee Chair and was supported by an outstanding awards committee and a diverse jury pool comprised of planners from federal agencies, universities, and planning firms.

### Awards Committee

Chair: Lindy Wolner, PLA, Stanley Consultants  
 Stevan Bevan, Michael Baker International  
 Barry Gordon, AICP, LEED Green Associate, The Urban Collaborative  
 Glenn Lattanze, RA, AFIMSC/AFSOC  
 Sean Martin, AICP, PMP, USACE Middle East District  
 Beth Rothman, AICP, AECOM

### Awards Jury

Britta Ayers, AICP, PMP, Cardno Government Services Division  
 Zoe Anton, PMP, LEED AP ND, The Urban Collaborative (Tiebreaker only)  
 Diana de Gonzalez, AICP, WSP  
 Jason Hayes, AICP, Texas A & M University  
 Carl (Tim) Hoffman, RA, Air Force Special Operations Command  
 Andrea Kuhn, FAICP  
 Maria Lane, AICP, DoD Agency  
 Mike Murphy, AICP, RLA, PMP, Black & Veatch  
 Joe Strasser, AICP, Strategic Planner, Headquarters USAF, Pentagon  
 Mark Theys, AICP, DoD Agency  
 Sandra Whitehead, PhD, MPA, George Washington University

Award Tier	Project #/ Name	Location	Sponsor	Contractor/Consultants
<b>Category 1 – Outstanding Federal Planning Program</b>				
<b>Honor</b>	Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) Worldwide Area Development Plans (ADPs) Program	Worldwide	DLA Disposition Services, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District	HDR Inc., Prosser
<b>Merit</b>	Wheeler Army Airfield, Flightline District Area Development Plan	U.S. Army Garrison, Hawaii (USAG – HI)	USAG Hawaii and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - Fort Worth and Honolulu Districts, Huntsville Center	Woolpert, John Gallup & Associates, Pond & Company, The Schreifer Group, Crawford Consulting
<b>Citation</b>	Facilities and Technical Support, U.S. Army Materiel Command	11 Installations	U.S. Army Materiel Command and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Fort Worth District and Huntsville Center)	Pond & Company, under contract to Shearer & Associates
<b>Category 2 – Outstanding Federal Planning Project</b>				
<b>Honor</b>	National Institute of Standards & Technology (NIST) Gaithersburg Campus Master Plan	NIST Gaithersburg Campus, Gaithersburg, MD	National Institute of Standards and Technology, United States Department of Commerce	Metropolitan Architects; Planners, Inc., Subconsultants: Affiliated Engineers, ERG, Gorove/Slade, RC Goodwin & Associates, Rhodeside & Harwell, RMF Engineering
<b>Merit</b>	Naval Support Activity Monterey, Installation Development Plan	NSA Monterey, Monterey CA	NAVFAC Southwest	The Urban Collaborative, under contract to The Onyx-Urban Collaborative Joint Venture
<b>Citation</b>	Tyndall Air Force Base Recovery Plan	Tyndall AFB, Panama City, FL	325th Civil Engineer Squadron, Tyndall AFB + Air Force Civil Engineer Center	AECOM
<b>Category 3 – Outstanding Area/Site Development Project</b>				
<b>Honor</b>	West Point Clinton District Area Development Plan	United States Military Academy, West Point, New York	Headquarters, U.S. Army Installation Management Command	Michael Baker International, Cardno, HB&A, and The Schreifer Group
<b>Merit</b>	Joint Task Force Guantanamo, Project Definition Report	Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Mobile and Savannah Districts)	The Urban Collaborative (subconsultant to Gulf South Research Corp.)
<b>Citation</b>	621st Contingency Response Wing, Campus Development Plan	Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, New Jersey	AGENCY621st Contingency Response Wing/787th Civil Engineer Squadron	The BTA/Onyx Group JV

Award Tier	Project #/ Name	Location	Sponsor	Contractor/Consultants
<b>Category 4 – Outstanding Technical Plan or Study</b>				
<b>Honor</b>	Zion National Park Management Scenario Tool	Zion National Park, Utah	Zion National Park, Utah	HDR, L2 Data Collection, Inc.
<b>Merit</b>	UFC 2-000-05N C5ISR Operations & RDATE Facility Planning Criteria Study	Global	Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Atlantic	AECOM
<b>Citation</b>	iNSIPP GIS ToolDock for Navy Planners	Navy Planning Enterprise-Worldwide	Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Atlantic	AECOM
<b>Category 5 – Outstanding Environmental Planning Project</b>				
<b>Honor</b>	Customs and Border Protection, Advanced Training Center, Sustainability Component Plan	Customs & Border Protection Advanced Training Center, Harpers Ferry, WV	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Fort Worth District + ERDC Construction Engineering & Research Lab)	Michael Baker International
<b>Merit</b>	Rogue River Regional Master Plan and Integrated Environmental Assessment	Rogue River Watershed Basin, Oregon	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Portland District)	The Urban Collaborative with support from Tetra Tech, Integrated Water Solutions, SWCA, and GEO Consultants Corporation
<b>Citation</b>	National Science Foundation, Arecibo Observatory, Environmental Impact Statement	Arecibo, Puerto Rico	National Science Foundation	Jacobs, Inc.
<b>Category 6 – Outstanding Collaborative Planning Project</b>				
<b>Honor</b>	Mid-Columbia River Regional Master Plan and Integrated Environmental Assessment	Mid-Columbia River Basin, Oregon and Washington	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Portland District)	The Urban Collaborative with support from Tetra Tech, Integrated Water Solutions, SWCA, and GEO Consultants Corporation
<b>Merit</b>	Fort Drum Joint Land Use Study	Fort Drum, New York	DoD Office of Economic Adjustment + Development Authority of the North Country, New York	Matrix Design Group, Inc.
<b>Citation</b>	Selfridge Air National Guard Base - Eisenhower Center's Veteran Care Transition Center Section 106 Report	Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Michigan	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Louisville District)	The Urban Collaborative, sub to UC + GEO Joint Venture



## Working from Home

As recent events unfold that have quarantined many of us to our homes, I am reminded that remote work capabilities are more relevant than ever. As a contractor, I find myself working remotely the majority of time from hotel rooms and on military installations. When not on the road, I have worked from home for the past 4 years. It is not only a cost savings, but there are many additional personal benefits. These benefits include no commute (cost and time), flexibility to handle personal tasks, and more time with loved ones. However, this approach does not come without its challenges. Let's review some of the opportunities and challenges in terms of home productivity, health, and the technology tools to facilitate working from home.

## Home Productivity

Focus, routine, and flexibility are necessary to work from home productively. Without focus we don't effectively get anything done. As a person with mild ADHD and a father of five children (whom I am now homeschooling in addition to parenting in quarantine), through much research and trial and error I've found four effective key ways to be more productive:

- **Create a Workspace Sanctuary** – First, make sure your workspace can be a sanctuary. Most of us have a desk at home, try to place it in a secluded environment. You WILL have conference calls, and your children and/or pets WILL make loud noises to make you look foolish in front of clients and coworkers. In addition to secluding yourself, have the ability to lock the door and place an "On Conference Call" sign on it. Depending on the age and temperament of your children you have a 50% chance of this being effective.
- **Listen to Music** – When not on calls, use music to drown out all other noises and thoughts. Working from home has endless distractions that will leave you wondering why you've accomplished nothing in the past 8 hours.
- **Distance from Social Media** – Social media distance yourself, even for TV news, it's just a distraction and even in a crisis you can set alerts on your phone.
- **Establish a Routine** – Next, much like being in the office, establish a routine that works for you. Many of

our efforts are time sensitive, and many of us work with people around the globe. Plan your schedule, but remain flexible. Your schedule will change if you have children. You may want to plan your day around their needs. This includes waking up extra early to accomplish tasks, or working after their bed-times. Schedule regular breaks and a set cutoff time towards the end of the day to refocus on making dinner, going on a walk with family, or working out to allow your brain to transition away from work. A new routine can come at a price to your health if you do not properly plan.

## Health

Without proper health you cannot be efficiently productive. Your health in the home office can be attributed to ergonomics, environmental control, personal hygiene, and finding personal balance to manage stress.

- **Ergonomics** – Ergonomics at home is much more challenging than you think. Most of us can't and won't purchase a \$500-\$700 chair to sit in. There are much better options. Many individuals use a stand-up desk as standing is not only more healthy, but can also enhance productivity. Since we can't stand all the time, a ball-chair can also be helpful (not just a ball, but the base and backing too). You can't slump, it reduces sciatic pain, and since you have to balance on it, you are more alert. It is recommended 70% standing time and 30% sitting, but do what is best for you and consult a specialist. This will start you on the road to stress reduction, however, there are many more factors at play.
- **Environmental Control** – Being in your home affords you the opportunity to control the temperature of your environment, wear comfortable clothes, eat homemade food (healthier and cheaper than eating out), and make your own super deluxe coffee. My fairly cheap espresso machine was the best home-office investment I've ever made, plus it makes it easier to fast in the morning, but I digress.
- **Personal Hygiene** – Other routine choices that will affect your health include hygiene. It's easy to put off a shower, or brushing your teeth, or even making your bed. There is a serious snowball effect to this!
- **Personal Balance** – Finally, you must balance. You will not be healthy or productive if you don't have it. Spending time with family is important. Make sure they are aware of your schedule and that you are planning time to love them. After all, you are working to provide them with a happy life. Little children will not understand why you are home all day, but not engaging with them. Your spouse will resent you working in late hours that was previously devoted to them, unless you effectively communicate your plan of action.

## Technology Tools

Having the proper technology tools when teleworking is essential.

- Use Authorized Applications – I recommend that you contact your supervisor and IT department to understand the regulations associate with working remotely and the software that is authorized. That being said, we all use web-based tools nowadays. Web conferencing comes in many forms from Webex to Zoom. These tools can provide us the direct connectivity we need for discussions and sharing our screens.
- Web-Conferencing – When in doubt set up a web-chat, it is much more effective than a phone call. Web chats are not the end-all solution. In these extraordinary times of quarantine many have begun investigation into new tools such as Microsoft Teams. Use of Microsoft Teams has increased 200% from 16 March- 9 April. There are many amazing features to this software including links and imbeds to Sharefile, Outlook, One Note, and many others. Still, this may not be enough.
- Virtual Workshops – To reduce impacts to our in-progress schedules we must further delve into virtual workshop tools. Face to face interactions will never be replaced, but for now let's make do. Tools for this include Microsoft Whiteboard (included in 365), ConceptBoard, RealtimeBoard, and Ziteboard. They all have costs, and not all can be used until they are authorized by your organization. For those in the DoD, you also have access to the Defense Information Security Agency (DISA) Defense Collaboration Services at <https://conference.apps.mil> or <https://www.dcs.apps.mil>.

In conclusion, we are all in this together. There are many choices to make. By enhancing home productivity, staying healthy, and using the tools available to us we can remain efficient and effective in a teleworking environment.

**David Leonard, AICP, ASLA, GISP, LEED Green Associate**  
FPD Publications Director

## Call for Contributions

If you have an article to share that is relevant to our FPD community, please contact our newsletter editor Rena Schlachter at [rena.schlachter@gmail.com](mailto:rena.schlachter@gmail.com)

## Call for FPD Social Media Director

The FPD Communications Team is seeking a volunteer to fill the position of Social Media Director to lead the following efforts:

- Manage all Division social media platforms (LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter, etc.)
- Schedule regular posts with the aim of distributing Division-related information and encouraging member engagement
- Helps coordinate featured content for the bi-annual newsletter

## Stay Connected

Please visit our social media pages and stay connected with your fellow FPD members. Get the latest news on events, publications, and job openings.

[www.planning.org/divisions/federal/](http://www.planning.org/divisions/federal/)

<https://planning.org/plannerprofile/federalplanners/>

<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/7066439/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/191774510270/>

For all past newsletters please visit:

<https://www.planning.org/divisions/federal/newsletter/>



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