



Surfcoast Chapter Newsletter



January 2018

The President's Corner *By Scott Ashley*

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HAPPY 2018. However, before we go forward, I would like to briefly reflect on the end of 2017, which closed with the annual Surfcoast Chapter December Awards Gala. On behalf of the Board of Directors and the membership, I wish to extend a special thank you to all our sponsors for their continued support for the Surfcoast Chapter of FPZA. In addition, I would like to again congratulate all our 2017 award winners.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention that the new year has brought about change to the chapter's Board of Directors during the annual election of officers. We all want to thank past President Helen LaValley for her dedicated service to the Board and Chapter in leading us to record Chapter membership levels, as well as the largest membered FPZA Chapter in the State of Florida with 102 members. Thank you, Helen, for your tireless service while simultaneously serving as the FPZA State President.

The Surfcoast Chapter was quite active in 2017 by hosting and/or co-hosting 8 luncheon programs, which provided 16 credit hours of continuing education units. We started off 2018 with a January 26th event *Why Solar Energy?* that was co-sponsored by VCARD, and hosted at the Daytona Beach Racing and Card Room. We appreciate our featured speakers for taking time to speak at the event and, in one case, filling in on short notice.

Two State related events will occur in the first half of the year. The Springs Chapter is planning the next FPZA Regional Forum to be held at the Plantation Inn in Crystal River March 23rd & 24th. The regional forum will include lunch and a planned boat tour of the Crystal River and Bay. For more details see page 9. The program information will be posted on the FPZA website. So, mark your calendars.

An early 'save the date' notice that the State Conference will be held June 6th through 8th in Downtown Orlando. This year's theme is "Character Towns". More details will be provided in an upcoming newsletter, as well as a future posting on the FPZA website. I hope to see you there!

Your board is planning several future events on a variety of planning and development based issues that we hope will be interesting and highly informative. These events will be in addition to our annual membership appreciation social and community service project. If you have a topic or event suggestion that you would like the chapter to host, please contact any board member with your information.

Thank you all for your continued support and participation in the FPZA Surfcoast Chapter.

Scott Ashley

Chapter President

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Upcoming Events



Dolphin Lighthouse
Cruise

Marine Discovery Center
Friday, April 13
5—7 p.m.

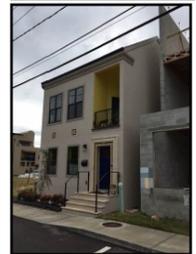
2017 ANNUAL CHAPTER AWARD WINNERS

Outstanding Innovation & Design

City of NSB and White Challis

TABBY HOUSE

The City owned two parcels totaling 1.4 acres downtown that contained 17 shuffleboard courts; a clubhouse; a parking lot; open property; and a former fire station. The City demolished all structures except the fire station and issued a Request for Proposals in 2011 (no responses) and again in 2013 (one response). A contract was negotiated with the respondent who then sold the fire station, which was renovated. The remaining property was rezoned and platted for 17 townhouse lots. A CRA grant helped pay for infrastructure. All lots are now sold and three townhouses are completed, with four more under construction.



Outstanding Public/Private Partnership

City of Deltona, Avcon Engineering & and White Challis

LAKESHORE LOOP TRAIL

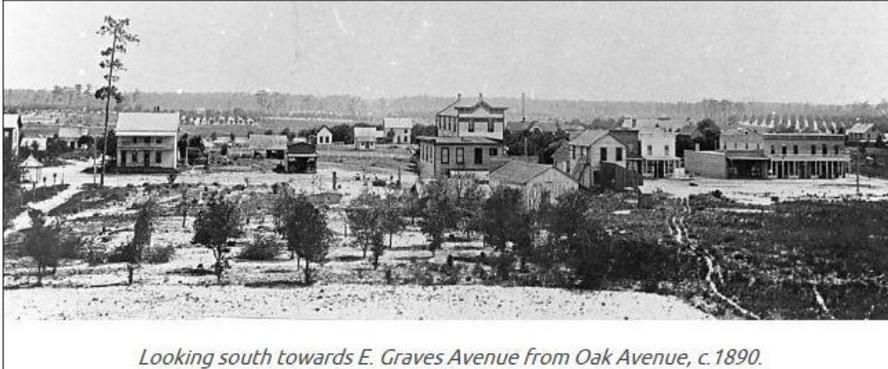
The city of Deltona's Lakeshore Loop Trail connects Deltona's Thornby Park, the Deltona Community Center, Deltona Boat Ramp Park, Lake Monroe and Volusia County's Green Springs Park and connects to the Coast2Coast and River2Sea trails. This project took 7 years from vision to completion and the wait was worth it.



This lakefront trail offers scenic view, Live Oak trees estimated to be over 500 years old, and a pair of rustic looking bridges that have quickly become photographic hot spots. Both local and non-local residents have quickly fallen in love with the Lakeshore Loop Trail.

2017 FPZA CHAPTER AWARDS

Outstanding Planning Study Orange City **HISTORIC PRESERVATION ORDINANCE**



The city's historic area contains approximately 700 structures that are 50 years or older, with more than 200 designated on the national registry. Since 2004, the city has lost 7 contributing structures due to demolition. In 2016 the city council directed staff and historic preservation board members to draft an ordinance to protect the city's historic resources. After a series of public workshops and discussions, the city council adopted the Historic Preservation Ordinance in April 2017, which established procedures to review building permits for both major demolition and minor renovations. Since that time, the city has reviewed 2 permits resulting in the preservation of significant architectural features that would have otherwise been lost, enriching the area's sense of place.

Outstanding Planning Initiative City of New Smyrna Beach **CORONADO ISLAND NEIGHBORHOOD PLAN**

The city of New Smyrna Beach launched an initiative to plan for future development and redevelopment of neighborhoods which endure quality, livability and character. The goal was to support an attractive and functional mix of living, working, shopping and recreational activities for citizens of all ages. One neighborhood plan that epitomized this effort was the Coronado Island Neighborhood Plan. As part of the adopted comprehensive plan, the city identified and prioritized this individual neighborhood. The leveraging of community networks determined the success of this initiative.



2017 FPZA CHAPTER AWARDS

Sustainability Award

City of Port Orange and Dredging & Marine Consultants

RIVERWALK PARK—PORT ORANGE

The Riverwalk Park project is the keystone for the long planned revitalization of the 35-acre waterfront district within the city of Port Orange. This project, the first phase of the waterfront revitalization has recently been constructed for a cost of \$4.7 million, and the city hopes it will become a central hub for special events and other recreational activities, as well as serve as a vital anchor the city's Port Orange Riverwalk District Planned Community.



Sustainability Award

City of DeLand and Tailwinds DeLand CC, LLC

COUNTRY CLUB CROSSING—DELAND



This is a successful redevelopment of a golf course site that was once contaminated with pesticides. The city of DeLand designated the property as a Brownfield and the property owner began redevelopment of the site into a residential and commercial development. The 71-acre planned development is comprised of 237 single-family lots and 33-acres for commercial use.

2017 FPZA CHAPTER AWARDS

Member of the Year Patty Rippey

Patty is currently the redevelopment director for the city of South Daytona since 2006. She is a 3rd generation Daytona Beach native with a Masters degree in Public Administration from the University of Central Florida.



Castagnacci Focus Award for 2017 Lois Bollenback

Lois Bollenback has been involved in transportation planning and transit management in the Volusia County area for over 18 years. Currently, she is the executive director for the River 2 Sea TPO since 2009. She served in the US Air Force and received a master's degree in Applied Economics from the University of Central Florida.



2018 Events



January 2018 Luncheon Program **Why Solar Energy?**

The Surfcoast Chapter hosted their monthly luncheon at the Daytona Racing and Card in Daytona Beach on Friday January 26, 2018. The attendees gathered to hear about the benefits of solar energy use. The featured speakers were Mr. Fred Guzman, General Manager of the Racing and Card Room, Ms. Heaven Campbell with Florida Solar United Neighbors, and Ms. Colleen Kettles with the Florida Energy Solar Center/ University of Central Florida.

The speakers brought very diverse aspects of information related to the usage of solar energy. The event location was selected because the Racing and Card Room is a solar energy facility, so Mr. Guzman, General Manager of the facility provided statistical information and the benefits he has experienced from using solar energy. Ms. Campbell provided information about the set up and operation of solar energy co-ops while Ms. Kettles discussed the technologies available, local land use restrictions and ordinances, and permitting of solar equipment.

For more information visit our website at www.fpzasurfcoast.org to view the PowerPoint presentations.

2018 Events

FPZA State Conference
June 6-8, 2018
Orlando, Fl.

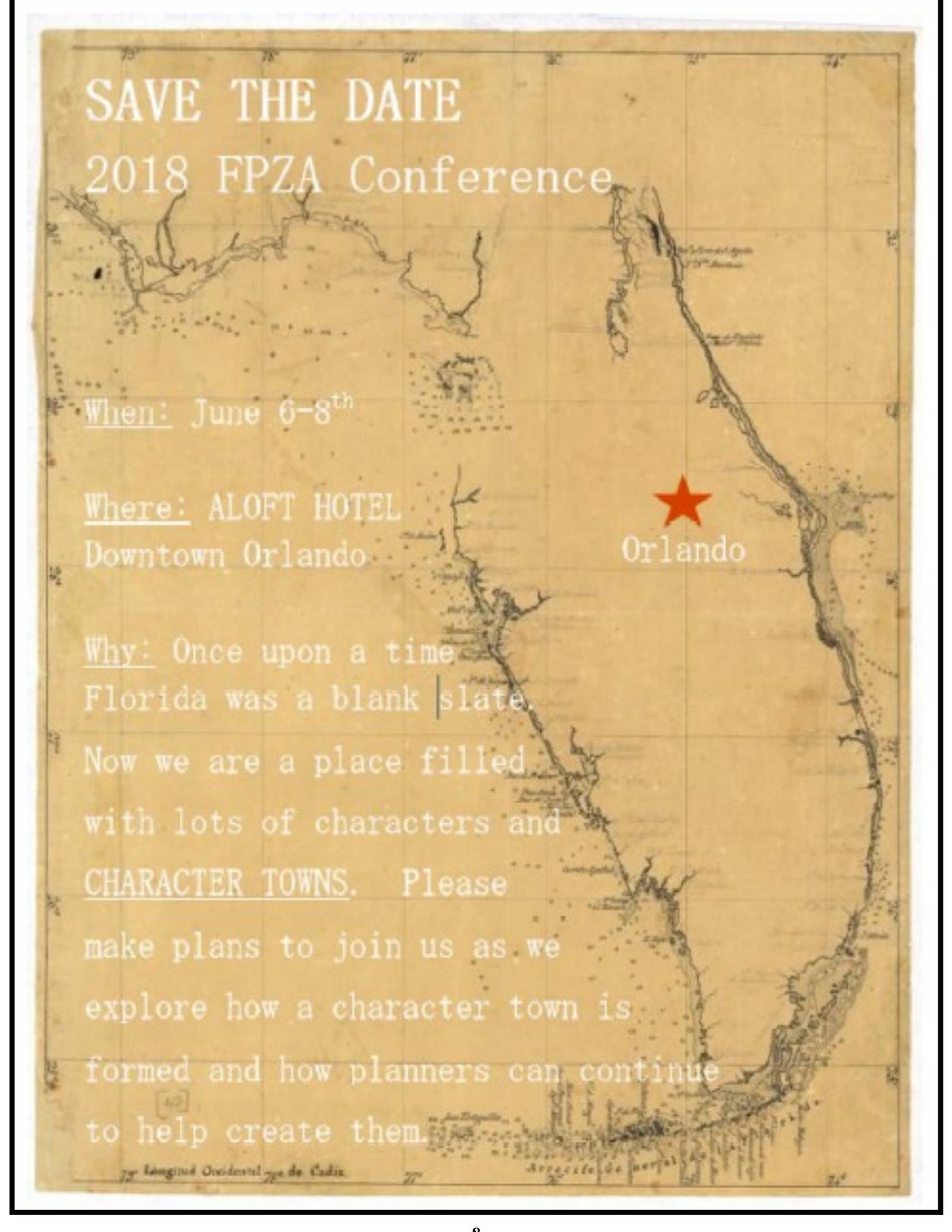
“Character Towns” **2018 FPZA Conference Preview**

This year’s FPZA State Conference is set to take place in downtown Orlando Wednesday June 6th - Friday June 8th. The theme of this year’s conference is “Character Towns”, inspired by Bill Kercher’s book of the same title. As Bill describes in his book, Character Towns are comprised of diverse neighborhoods, vibrant main streets with cafes and shops combined with an open space system of wetlands and parks with a respect for historic and natural resources. Successful examples provide us with checklists and practical guides to preserved what we have and build what we need.

Character Towns are the places that let us feel good by appealing to our senses of sight, sound, smell and touch while presenting a strong economic development picture. The role of community leaders is to help the community create the social, economic and physical setting supporting a society this is proud of its hometown, protective of its heritage and committed to its well-being. Vision and Leadership change everything!

This year’s conference will be broken down into four tracts: **Planning 101, Character Towns, Smart Cities, and Law Enforcement**, and will include 16-18 individual sessions divided amongst the tracts. Also included in your conference registration is a Thursday afternoon Mobile Tour to Sanford via a trip on the Sunrail. The mobile tour will depart from the Church Street Sunrail Station and will include a presentation by Evolve Design Group during the journey to Sanford. Participants will then take the City of Sanford’s new Historical Trolley to downtown Sanford, during the trolley ride passengers will have a presentation on the redevelopment efforts and development trends redefining the Character of Sanford. While the cost of dinner is not included, reservations will be made for the Willow Tree Café, an authentic German restaurant, from 5:30 to 7:00. The Mobile Tour, including travel times, will last from approximately 4pm - 9pm.

Registration for this year’s conference is open – for more details and to register visit our website at www.fpza.org. We look forward to seeing you in Orlando in a couple months!



SAVE THE DATE

2018 FPZA Conference

When: June 6-8th

Where: ALOFT HOTEL
Downtown Orlando


Orlando

Why: Once upon a time
Florida was a blank slate.

Now we are a place filled
with lots of characters and
CHARACTER TOWNS. Please
make plans to join us as we
explore how a character town is
formed and how planners can continue
to help create them.

72° Longitud Occidental 72° de Cadix

Arrecife de Puerto

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆
**The Springs Chapter of FPZA and Sun Coast
Section of APA Florida Proudly Present...**



As a designated Waterfronts Florida Community, the City of Crystal River has a rich and diverse history centered around its namesake Crystal River and spring-fed Kings Bay. Join us for a lunch and boat tour as we review exciting trends in the City's waterfront revitalization, as well as natural systems management and restoration efforts within Kings Bay/Crystal River.

Featured speakers include City Manager Dave Burnell and Dr. Chris Anastasiou, Chief Environmental Scientist with the Southwest Florida Water Management District, who will provide engaging presentations on these topics, followed by a discussion led boat tour of the bay and river waterfront.

2.5 CM Credits!

WHEN: Friday, March 23rd from 11:30 a.m. 'til 2:30 p.m.

**WHERE: Plantation on Crystal River
9301 West Fort Island Trail
Crystal River, FL 34429**

COST: \$25 includes lunch, boat tour & credits

Register Online:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/crystal-rivers-waterfront-renaissance-tickets-43129332996>



2018 Events

2018 Florida Legislative Wrap Up

- FREE**
- This event has been approved for 1.5 AICP CM LEGAL Credits for planners*
- 1 CEC for Certified Floodplain Managers*
- 2 CLE for Florida attorneys*
- 150 CEUs for Florida Environmental Health Professionals.*

1000 Friends President Ryan Smart, Policy and Planning Director Thomas Hawkins, and Board Member Emeritus Lester Abberger will discuss key growth management, environmental and related bills and budgeting that passed and failed during the 2018 Legislative Session and how this impacts state and local governance and planning in Florida.

Details

Date:
March 21
Time: 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm

Event Categories:
[CM Credits Available](#), [FREE!](#), [Webinar](#)

Website:
<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/7516469682260271875>



Surfcoast Chapter Member Accomplishments

Planners on the Move



STEVEN SPRAKER has been promoted to Planning Director for the City of Ormond Beach .

TIM BURMAN has been promoted to Planning Director for the City of Port Orange.

STEVEN BAPP has joined the Planning Department of Volusia County.



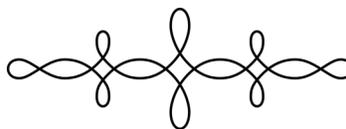
Planning Job Opportunities

New Smyrna Beach:

The City of New Smyrna Beach has a Planner I position available that would be responsible to provide professional and administrative assistance in updating the comprehensive plan, Land Development regulations and other planning and development activities; provide customer service to the general public and other City departments.

The City of New Smyrna Beach has a Planner II position available that would be responsible to interpret land development regulations and update the comprehensive plan, provide administrative assistance with agendas and staffing for the advisory boards; provide customer service to the general public and other City departments.

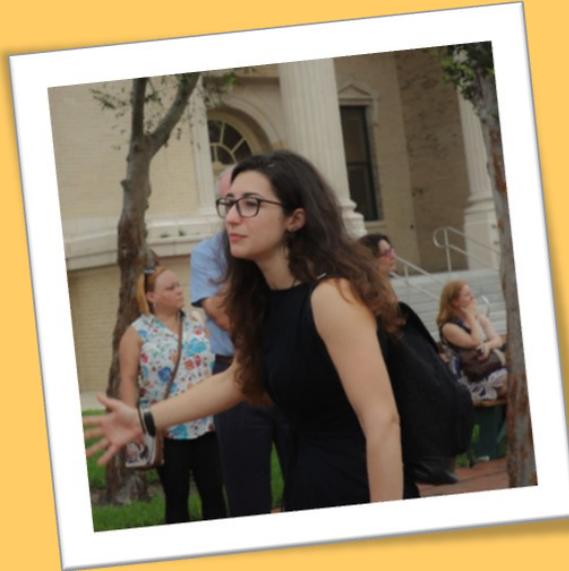
For further information about equal employment opportunities, contact the Human Resource Assistant at (386) 410-2643



If you have or know of someone who has an accomplishment or has won an award please let us know. The Chapter would like to acknowledge it and share the news. Please send us the information to include in a future edition.

FPZA Quarterly Newsletter - Planning Profile

**ANNA CAVA GROSSO
Senior Planner, City of DeLand**



Give us a little background on where you are from, and how you arrived here.

I grew up and completed my undergraduate degree in the state of Delaware (no, not the county in Ohio, or the one in Pennsylvania, or even the one in New York) before moving to New Jersey to get my planning degree from Rutgers. After a stint as a county-level planner in my home state, I relocated to Boston just in time for the 2015 Snowpocalypse. Following eight cumulative feet of snow, my husband was offered a job transfer to Volusia County and we jumped at the opportunity to swap our fleece for flip flops.

Tell us about your family.

Members of my beautiful extended family live all over, but most are concentrated along the I-95 corridor between Burlington, VT and Miami, FL. More locally, I live with my wonderful husband Adi and our rambunctious cat Houdini in Ormond Beach.

How did you become a planner?

I've had a lifelong interest in buildings and cities but was dissuaded from pursuing a career in architecture after slogging through my high school's STEM-focused curriculum. In college I discovered sociology and later geography and was amazed by the impact these broad phenomena can have on individuals' lives and opportunities. I decided to pursue urban planning to make a positive impact on our built and natural environments and hopefully to increase quality of life for people across the socioeconomic spectrum.

What responses do people give when you tell them you are a planner?

"Oh, my niece is getting married next year and she's totally overwhelmed! Could you give her some advice?" Then I explain the differences between party planning and what I do, and they usually ask me when DeLand will finally have a Panera Bread.

Planning Profile - Anna Cava Grosso

What improvements would you like to see in the community you live or work in?

As I near my fourth year working for DeLand, I would love to see a variety of options for people who love our city and want to take advantage of all it has to offer. This includes expanding our enviable downtown and making its events accessible and welcoming for all, as well as providing a variety of housing types and transportation options through transit-oriented development. We're ready when you are, SunRail!

What are your hobbies and how do you enjoy spending your free time?

My hobbies include going to the beach, entertaining my cat, rooting for the Green Bay Packers, and watching escapist television. In my free time I enjoy traveling by plane, train and automobile to visit family and experience new places, especially baseball stadiums.

What is your favorite part of your job?

I love working for a community filled with passionate and involved residents who are willing to put in the time and work to improve their community. DeLand is truly fortunate to have so many innovative and tireless advocates, from visitors, residents and businesses to nonprofits and public servants. The fruits of their labor and their insights make my job so much easier. (Second place goes to our gridded street network!)

What is the least favorite part of your job?

This is a challenge faced by municipalities from coast to coast, but I wish DeLand had the resources and legal jurisdiction to control our own destiny when it comes to specific land uses and how rights of way are utilized. A huge part of planning is coordinating with other agencies and working on limited budgets and timelines, but when your own organization is so solution-oriented it can be frustrating to work with bureaucracies, public or private, that don't prioritize responsiveness and best-fit outcomes.

What are the goals you hope to attain in your planning career?

In the short term I'd like to improve my presentation skills, mentor new entrants in the planning field, and obtain AICP certification. In the longer term I hope to be part of a land development code overhaul, including an intensive public outreach and participation initiative, which culminates in a well-loved mixed-use development.

Recent Planning and Zoning Articles

Cleaning vacant lots leads to safer and healthier neighborhoods, new study finds

Monday, February 26, 2018

By [Darryl C. Murphy](#)

Cleaning up a vacant lot leads to less crime, more socializing outdoors and increased perceptions of safety in the surrounding neighborhood, according to a new study done in Philadelphia and released on Monday by Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health.

The 38-month analysis of 541 randomly selected vacant lots around the city found that crimes including gun assaults, robbery, burglary, and illegal drug trades decreased by at least nine percent in all neighborhoods that experienced a blight cleanup.

Of the lots selected, 201 received makeovers that included trash removal, grading, planting new grass and small trees, and small wooden fencing; 174 received minor upgrades, trash pickup and grass-mowing. The remaining lots received no treatment until the research was complete. Researchers then observed the lots for 18-month periods before and after cleanup. All the lots that received any form of restoration showed a significant decrease in crime.

The findings reinforce a 2015 [study](#) from the American Journal of Public Health that sought to establish a biological link between residents and vacant lots. That research found that study participants experienced a drop in stress levels when looking at greened vacant lots, as opposed to untreated lots.

“The effectiveness of infrastructural interventions in decreasing gun violence and crime and increasing perceptions of safety also offers a practical example of a public health approach that transcends the conventional model of targeting behavior change on an individual level,” the paper concluded.

Kirtrina Baxter, a community organizer for the Garden Justice League Initiative, started working to turn Philadelphia's empty lots into community green spaces in 2012. The study comes as no surprise to her, but she hopes it leads to policymakers taking her work and that of her peers more seriously.

“Hopefully, that’ll help with legislation that says these are good things and great things for our cities,” said Baxter, who also works with Soil Generation, a coalition of farmers, gardeners, and residents. “Maybe people will recognize now that the growing spaces we’re creating... are not only beneficial to our communities and each other but also beneficial to the city as a whole.”

(Excerpt from APA Interact 2/28/2018)

Recent Planning and Zoning Articles

Why Hospitals Are Subsidizing Apartments For The Homeless

01.29.18

WORLD CHANGING IDEAS

BY ADELE PETERS

Homelessness is often both a symptom and a cause of chronic health issues—and it stands to reason that the health industry should support a solution.

During harsh Chicago winters when he was homeless, Glenn Baker used to spend as many as 20 nights each month in local emergency rooms—both because of his chronic medical conditions and, at times, just to get out of the cold. But for the last year and a half, Baker has lived in his own apartment, paid for in part by the University of Illinois Hospital. His health has improved, and when he visits the hospital now, it's usually just to say hello.

The Center for Housing and Health had studied the impact that supportive housing could have for homeless people leaving hospitals in the past, and saw benefits for patients as well as cost savings; it's that same logic that inspired a bill proposed in the Hawaii state legislature last year to allow medical practitioners to prescribe housing for the homeless, just as they would medication. A member of the nonprofit's board worked at the hospital and helped start conversations between the two organizations.

By helping someone stay healthier, providing housing can also save the healthcare system money. In the current program, the U.S. Department of Housing and Human Development pays for part of the cost of housing, and the hospital pays \$1,000 per month per person to cover the supportive services that go along with the apartment. In comparison, a single day in the ER can cost \$3,000. That cost usually isn't borne by the hospital alone—it might be largely covered by Medicaid via managed care organizations, for example. The hospital is currently in talks with those organizations to make the case that it makes financial sense for them to invest in housing as well.

For advocates for the homeless, the growing support from the healthcare industry is not only helping in a financial sense, but helping change the narrative about homelessness. “The homeless community is strong and we're loud, but the healthcare sector is much larger,” says Peter Toepfer, executive director for the Center for Housing and Health. “People listen to people who work in healthcare, whether they're doctors or hospital administrators in a way that is different than people who are in the human services sector.”

In Chicago, as other hospitals also begin to help fund supportive housing in existing apartments throughout the city, the next step may be to invest in new housing. “We already do not have enough,” Toepfer says. “So while there's a lot of promising outcomes that we can demonstrate from this type of project, it's really meant to be a springboard for a larger initiative that can create the volume of housing that we need.”

(Excerpt from APA Interact 1/31/2018)

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 Belinda Williams-Collins - Newsletter Editor
 Tom Brooks - Professional Development Officer

Directors:

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 John Thomson
 Joel Ivey
 Dave Castagnacci

Past President:

Helen LaValley

Surfcoast Chapter is well represented at the State FPZA Board level. John Thomson serves as a Past FPZA President and Helen LaValley serves as the current FPZA State President . Scott Ashley, John Stockham and Tom Brooks serve as Chapter Directors on the State FPZA Board.



2018 Board of Directors

Contact information

<u>Name</u>	<u>Email Address</u>	<u>Board Position/ Committee Chair</u>
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Becky Mendez	bmendez@ourorangecity.com	Treasurer/Awards
Belinda Williams-Collins	collinsb@deland.org	Newsletter Editor
Joel Ivey	joeli@iveyppg.com	Membership
Tom Brooks	tbrooks@volusia.org	Professional Development Officer/Legislative

Treasurer's Report

Becky Mendez, AICP – Chapter Treasurer

The Chapter's final 2017 financial report includes a beginning balance on January 1, 2017 of \$8,090.49 and ending balance on December 31, 2017 of \$9,962.70, for a net profit of \$1,872.21. 2017 revenues totaled \$9,089.11 and expenditures totaled \$7,216.90.



Surfcoast Chapter
WWW.SURFCOASTFPZA.ORG

To get to the Surfcoast Chapter website, go to
<http://www.fpza.org>

AND REMEMBER TO JOIN OUR FACEBOOK PAGE!