

# PW FORWARD



American Planning Association  
**Planning and Women Division**  
Making Great Communities Happen

A Publication of the Planning and Women Division  
of the American Planning Association

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Make sure to update your e-mail at <http://www.planning.org> to get all of the division's communications, as we rely upon the national directory.

## Chair's Corner

### Greetings of the New Year!



As we begin this New Year, Planning and Women's challenges are not many, but they are vital to our division. As one of the smaller divisions, we must be vigilant about promoting our membership.

We made significant progress in 2011 in many ways. We are maintaining and even adding to our membership. However, we must continue to promote membership among our colleagues.

We have a very exciting session planned for the 2012 APA National Conference in Los Angeles: "Creating Child and Age-Friendly Communities." A wonderful panel is lined up to speak about this timely subject.

Please let me know if you have any suggestions as to how to improve our division and become better advocates for women in planning.

Best personal wishes for a Healthy, Safe, and Prosperous 2012.

Vicki Taylor Lee  
[vtaylor@cherokeega.com](mailto:vtaylor@cherokeega.com)

## From the Newsletter Editor

I'm still looking for a few good women. Yes, this means you! Please submit material that will liven up the newsletter and help us to better know and appreciate one another.

Most of the material in Forward is submitted by the officers and me. We need YOU. Consider submitting an article, plan, report, book review, or news item to *Forward*. Let us know what you've been doing, what you've accomplished, what you're reading, where your new job is, when you reach AICP status, what conferences or workshops you've attended and their relevance to planning and women. Tell us about other women who are news- or noteworthy. Send us links to articles or websites of interest to our members.

Send your submissions to me at [jnatlevine@gmail.com](mailto:jnatlevine@gmail.com). Be sure to put "PWD" in the subject line so I won't overlook your message.

Thanks. I look forward to hearing from you!

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## Board News

The current members of the Board of the Planning and Women Division are:

Chair	Vicki Taylor Lee, AICP
Vice-Chair	Chekesha (Keshia) Nelson
Secretary	Kathleen Pagan, AICP
Treasurer	Ramona Mattix

Please join us at the Division's Annual Business Meeting in Los Angeles on Sunday, April 15 (see below for more information).

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## Join PW at the National Conference

Please join the Planning and Women Division at the American Planning Association's National Planning Conference to be held in Los Angeles, April 14-17, 2012. Early (discounted) registration is available through February 16. Click [here](#) for more information.

The **PWD Business Meeting** will take place on Sunday, April 15 from 11:45 AM until 1:00 PM (check conference program for location). All are welcome to attend to meet the division officers, hear about recent accomplishments, and learn about what's to come in the year ahead. Among the agenda items will be establishment of a new award for distinguished women in planning.

We look forward to seeing you in the City of Angels!

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## PW Division-Sponsored Session in Los Angeles

***Creating Child- and Age-Friendly Communities*** (Session S543, Monday, 10:30 - 11:45 AM)

Recently the planning profession has given more attention to the needs and demands of singles than to those of families with young children or the elderly. Yet America is undergoing two profound demographic transitions: The first is that the elderly population is growing, and Baby Boomers have indicated a strong desire to age in place rather than retire to age-segregated communities. Meanwhile, the demographic profile of younger families (those with young children) is becoming more diverse. People at both ends of the life cycle are more reliant on public services -- transport, social support, and appropriate housing, to name just three -- and demand more of caregivers, especially women. These needs can be addressed by more forward-thinking and integrated planning approaches that pay special attention to neighborhood and housing design that enhances the independence of children and the elderly.

This session will focus on both the demographic realities of population change and the fiscal realities that are shrinking budgets at all levels of government. It will explore new ideas in planning that link needs across generations and across sectors to build more supportive communities. Speakers will describe how planners can respond by implementing policies and practices in areas such as day care, recreation, housing, and transportation. Case studies of communities that successfully integrate planning across generations, at both the project and neighborhood levels, will be presented.

In addition, participants will be invited to share ideas on multi-generational planning that can be tested in a national survey to be conducted in 2012-2013.

**Moderator:** Elizabeth H. Tyler, PhD, FAICP, City of Urbana, IL

**Speakers:** Mildred Warner, PhD, Cornell University  
Deborah Howe, PhD, FAICP, Temple University  
Kenya Covington, PhD, California State University Northridge  
Ramona K. Mullahey, US Department of Housing and Urban Development

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## Make the Most of APA's National Planning Conference

Sessions, workshops, facilitated discussions, GIS training, mobile workshops, networking opportunities ... With hundreds of activities packed into four days, APA's National Planning Conference has something for everyone -- but having so much to choose from makes it difficult to know how to spend your time. Here are some tips to help you make the most of your time in Los Angeles.

**Plan ahead:** At any given time at the conference, you have dozens of options to choose from. Trying to decide on the fly can be tough. Instead, build your schedule before you get to L.A. The full list of conference activities is online at [www.planning.org/conference/](http://www.planning.org/conference/) and is searchable by keyword, topic, speaker name, and activity type. Sample schedules are also available to help you get started. You can pick and choose the activities that interest you most and save them in a customized schedule. You can then download the schedule to your phone or PDA.

**Don't miss the big events:** It's easy to find activities that specifically address your special interests -- but don't overlook the conference events that bring everyone together for big-picture looks at the field. The opening and closing keynote addresses will connect you to big names and big ideas. Plenaries on policy, international planning, and more offer broad perspectives and thought-provoking discussions. The National Planning Awards Luncheon gives you a glimpse of successful projects and potential models for your future work. The APA and AICP Annual Meetings are your chance to hear from your elected officers. Be sure to make room in your schedule for these events.

**Use tracks to organize your days:** Many activities at the conference are grouped into tracks to make it easier for you to follow a particular subject. Tracks in 2012 are The Changing Face of America; Communicating planning; Emerging Markets for Practitioners; Food Systems Planning; Military Installations Reinvented; Organizing and Managing the Planning Function; Scales of Planning; Small Town and Rural Planning; Transit, Rail and Alternative Modes: Reducing GHGs; and Urban Design and Public Benefit. You can search the online program by track.

**Make time for informal networking:** Past attendees say that one of the most valuable aspects of the conference is the opportunity to talk with colleagues from around the world. Stop by the Planning Expo to hear about the latest programs and services from the people who created them. Sign up for some social events to catch up with old friends and meet new ones. Sit in on a facilitated discussion. Stop by a division meeting or get-together.

**Go out and see the city:** Mobile workshops are your chance to see a world-class American city from a planner's perspective. See how Los Angeles is reinventing itself by investing in transit, green design, and livable neighborhoods. Go beyond the Hollywood image of the city and its surrounding communities to see how real Angelenos live and how your colleagues in the area are putting great ideas into practice. For a preview, check out APA's new blog, Reimagine Los Angeles at <http://blogs.planning.org/conference/>.

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## Article: Lessons from The Leading Age

Elizabeth H. Tyler, FAICP

Just over a year ago, I was elected to sit on the Board of Trustees of Clark-Lindsey Village, a retirement center in Urbana, Illinois. Clark-Lindsey is a beautiful 24-acre development in the heart of the prairie and is the choice living option for our older residents, providing a continuum from independent living to nursing care and rehabilitation. As a planner, I am keenly interested in the challenges of housing and providing services to our aging population. In addition to being a provider of services through the City of Urban Grants Division, I have had first-hand experience as a consumer of services, during several years of caring for my mother after a major stroke. I welcomed the board appointment as a great opportunity to provide service to this gem in our community, offering the organization the benefits of my own experience and my expertise in planning.

One of the perks of being a board member is the chance to participate in the annual meeting of Leading Age. Formerly known as the AAHSA, this organization is now in its 50th year and provides advocacy, leadership development, and applied research for 5,400 non-profit providers of home health care, hospice, community services, senior housing, assisted living residences, continuing care communities, and nursing homes. (See [www.leadingage.org](http://www.leadingage.org) for more information.)

The 2011 meeting took place in mid-October in Washington, DC, during a beautiful fall week. In addition to dozens of educational sessions, Leading Age has a gigantic exposition, an Idea House exhibit, and inspirational general-session speakers. We heard from the former President of Ireland, Mary Robinson, who is a member of the Elders, a group of prominent world leaders; celebrated poet Maya Angelou; and Nobel Prize winner Elie Wiesel. What a thrilling lineup! The 50th-birthday bash featured the music of the Village People. Having gone through my own disco-queen phase in high school, I was amazed to see the original motorcycle cop, cowboy, Indian chief, et al., still going strong. Yet somehow the act seemed tame and innocent now, while it was the height of subversive camp back in the '70s!

Among the educational sessions I attended was one about therapeutic gardens at Veterans Administration facilities. These gardens are part of a national effort to offer the benefits of healing gardens to senior veterans and those in rehabilitation. The gardens are the latest incarnation of a decades-long movement using gardening as an occupational therapy resource for veterans. The presentation reminded me of the powerful and empirically proven mental and physical benefits of green spaces to humans. To me, this is an endlessly fascinating field of research and something we should bear in mind in any plan or development. Add some nature! \

(Read more about therapeutic gardens for veterans at <http://www.va.gov/health/NewsFeatures/20100226a.asp> and <http://www.asla.org/ppn/Article.aspx?id=25302>.)

Another session focused on the Village Model. Villages are self-governing, grassroots, community-based organizations designed to enable people to remain living in their own homes and communities as they age. Villages work rather like co-ops, with members paying an annual fee to the organization in order to tap into a volunteer base that can provide transportation, home maintenance, technical support, companionship, and so on. Imagine a senior, living alone in his home of many years, who needs assistance with getting to doctor appointments or shopping, installing the latest software on his computer, shoveling the walkway after the latest snowstorm, and just having someone check in on him and offer companionship. What a wonderful alternative to moving prematurely to assisted living or a nursing home! Villages can also help to stabilize neighborhoods and keep them safe for all residents. As a planner, you might very well be instrumental in setting up a village in your own community.

Villages are supported by a national organization called the Village to Village Network ([www.vtvNETWORK.org](http://www.vtvNETWORK.org)). You can also find more information in "Aging in Place: The Village to Village Model," by Candace Baldwin and Karen Kali, which was published in APA's Private Practice Perspectives, Spring 2011 ([www.planning.org/leadership/divisions/initiatives/aging/](http://www.planning.org/leadership/divisions/initiatives/aging/)).

My visit to the Leading Age meeting reminded me that planners can learn a great deal from (and have much to offer to) other organizations in related fields. We can apply these lessons learned to our everyday work in improving our communities.

*Elizabeth "Libby" Tyler is Community Development Director for the City of Urbana, Illinois. She is the past Chair of the Planning and Women Division of APA.*

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## Article: Working with Youth in Action

**Yolanda Richards, Urban Design and Preservation Division Fellow**



I firmly believe in the power of youth. Whether it is a poem performed by a teen at a local cafe, a young activist fighting for social justice in her neighborhood, or a young resident addressing the city council about the problems he faces in the inner city, young people must be a part of their respective communities. And to best accomplish this, youth must plan!

As a Californian living in Urbana-Champaign, IL, I made many assumptions about life in the

Midwest. To begin with, I assumed that a city with a population of roughly 80,000 residents could not possibly understand the big social issues that metropolitan areas like Los Angeles or Chicago face. But I was wrong. My preconceived notions changed when a young man called Kiwane Carrington was killed by a police officer in Champaign on October 9, 2009. His death highlighted the social inequalities that urban youth face in the North End of Champaign, which is a predominantly African-American, and increasingly Latino, lower-income neighborhood. As an urban youth who lived in a world where people made assumptions about him due to his age and race, Kiwane's life and untimely death underscored the stereotypes and preconceived notions that overshadowed him and that failed to recognize the potential and optimism he possessed. His death and lost potential literally rocked my world, causing me to begin a journey into community service, researching youth development, working with governmental and non-governmental organizations, and addressing issues through my writing about involving young people in planning. Sounds crazy, huh? Not to me. Thanks to Kiwane's inspiration, I conducted workshops for young people in leadership development, developed a project on youth and planning, became a coordinator for the Young Planners Network, and became an advocate for youth.

As I graduated from the Department of Urban and Regional Planning at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, I had the privilege of preparing a Master's research paper entitled "Youth in Action: The Incorporation of Youth in Planning-Related Practices." That title says it all. I was also blessed to receive a fellowship from APA's Urban Design and Preservation Division (an award facilitated by the Planning and Women Division), which focused on use of urban design and planning activities with urban youth. For this fellowship, I collaborated with my capstone advisor and friend Ken Salo on a three-week summer urban youth planning workshop.

The project was called the Summer Youth Employment Program. Four young men participated in a series of activities. These included several walking tours of the northern portion of Urbana-Champaign and visits to the county jail, a local community garden, the Independent Media Center, and Booker T. Washington School. These tours exposed the youth to areas of the city they might never have set foot in. Furthermore, by walking through these particular landscapes, they learned about the social, economic, and political tensions that exist there. The students also met various leaders of the community, including activists, professors, students, and government officials who believe in social justice for all. The students learned computer programming and created asset-based maps of their community.

Last, but certainly not least, the young men journaled about their experiences. It was very interesting to see that they perceived journaling as something that men don't do. However, Ken Salo would not have this. He urged the young men to write every day about their walking tours, and to write outside the program about topics that interested them and they debated about. Most importantly, he told them to remember that they had individual voices.

The tours, maps, workshops, and journals helped the participants to more fully realize themselves. My summer project with these youth was a tremendous experience for me as well.

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## Your Article Here!

Working on an interesting project? Attended an interesting conference? Write an article and we'll publish it! Let's hear from planners in other parts of the country who have ideas and practices to share with their peers. Let's hear from YOU. You have experiences and knowledge worth sharing, so go for it!

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## Livable Cities Conference

International Making Cities Livable was founded in 1985, specifically to host two conferences annually, one each in the United States and Europe. The conferences are unique in enabling city officials, architects, planners, developers, community leaders, behavioral and public-health scientists, artists, and others responsible for the livability of their cities to exchange experiences, ideas, and expertise. What distinguishes these conferences is the breadth of themes and issues addressed, and how they are interconnected.

IMCL is hosting its annual American conference May 20-24 in Portland, OR. The theme this year is "True Urbanism: Planning Healthy Communities for All." Presentation topics include:

- Healthy Inclusive Communities
- Healthy Neighborhoods
- Integrating Public Health and Planning Methods
- Public Places for Social Life and Civic Engagement
- Community Participation
- Nature in the Urban Environment
- Healthy Food Accessibility
- Regional Planning for Healthy Cities

For more information, visit [www.livablecities.org](http://www.livablecities.org). Registration fee is \$595 until April 15, \$645 after April 15.

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## Women's Transportation Seminar Conference

The Women's Transportation Seminar (WTS) is holding its 2012 National Conference, "Elevating Transportation to New Heights," May 9-12 in Denver. Sessions address sustainability, livability, urban policy, and more.

Founded in 1977, WTS is an international organization dedicated to the professional advancement of women in transportation. Boasting roughly 4,000 members - both men and women - WTS is helping women find opportunity and recognition in the transportation industry. Through its professional activities, networking opportunities, and unparalleled access to industry and government leaders, WTS is turning the glass ceiling into a career portal.

Go to [www.wtsinternational.org](http://www.wtsinternational.org) for more information.

AICP certification maintenance credits for most sessions have been submitted for review.

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## Online Resources

<http://www.un.org/sustainablefuture/>: This United Nations website reports on Rio+20 and focuses on creating international dialogue on creating a more sustainable future for everyone. There is a feature that allows you to share your ideas and to read the ideas of other people around the world. Although many of the ideas are abstract or merely warm and fuzzy, there is great potential for real, usable ideas to surface and be shared.

<http://climatehealthconnect.org/content/climate-change-conference-cop17-coverage-november-28-december-9-2011>: The Public Health Institute's Center for Public Health and Climate Change has produced a report entitled "Enhancing Women's Leadership to Address the Challenges of Climate Change on Nutrition Security and Health". The report highlights five key messages: (1) Empowering women is a cornerstone of fostering adaptation and addressing the impacts of climate change on nutrition security and health; (2) Women's capacity to address health and nutrition risks resulting from climate change must be enhanced through greater gender equity; (3) Facilitating access to maternal and child care and nutrition services reduces hunger and malnutrition in the face of climate-related hazards and impacts; (4) Strengthening women's roles in promoting sustainable and diverse diets, resilient livelihoods, local food systems, and climate-smart agriculture is critical for ensuring food and nutrition security; and (5) Protection and enhancement of health is an essential pillar of sustainable development and of the response to climate change.

<http://www.nwlc.org>: The National Women's Law Center began in 1972 as a list of demands from the secretaries at the Center for Law and Social Policy, one of which was establishment of a women's policy institute. The lawyers agreed that it was time to put the law on the side of women. In 1981, the independent NWLC was born. Since then, the Center has worked tirelessly with all three branches of government to advocate for and challenge obstacles to women's rights. Their issues? Child care and early learning; education and Title IX; employment; health care and reproductive rights; judges and the courts; poverty and income support; Social Security and retirement; tax and budget; and "A Women's Agenda" that includes a Platform for Progress, a Treaty on the Rights of Women, voter education, and other items. Their resources? reports, toolkits, fact sheets, legal briefs and testimony, a video library, and webinars and presentations.

<http://www.truth-out.org/occupy-neighborhood/1326472096>: Truthout is a not-for-profit news clearinghouse that leans to the political left. It is pro-environment, pro-labor, pro-economic justice.

This article -- regardless of what you think of the Occupy movement -- describes the Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems (MERS) database and the way in which it has wreaked havoc on county title records by bypassing recording requirements. Straightening out the housing records and restoring the homes to occupancy is clearly in the public interest, and this news analysis by Ellen Brown suggests some things local governments can do to fight back.

[http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=press/press\\_releases\\_media\\_advisories/2011/HUDNo.11-121](http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=press/press_releases_media_advisories/2011/HUDNo.11-121): Anyone working on homelessness and affordable housing issues is familiar with the statistics and the human suffering that characterize them. Homelessness has been a national crisis for thirty years, and the recent recession and dramatic increase in foreclosures have made things much worse. This link leads to a press release through which you can access the Annual Homelessness Assessment Report.

[http://www.shelterforce.org/article/2485/the\\_human\\_right\\_to\\_housing](http://www.shelterforce.org/article/2485/the_human_right_to_housing): Normally an article with a title like this would focus on the developing world. Not so this time.

<http://www.census.gov/prod/2011pubs/acsbr10-05.pdf>: The latest government report on child poverty in the US.

<http://www.cafepress.com>: "Ask me about Urban Planning" clothing and lots of other planning-related goods, including city-themed note cards, totes, etc. Have some fun with your profession!

<http://www.allposters.com>: Looking for affordable artwork? AllPosters has a huge collection of city photographs and maps, both historical and contemporary. Worth checking out.

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## Don't Miss the Free PW Webinar in March

***The Economic Impacts and Opportunities of Families: Children, Elders, and Caregivers***  
***Friday, March 9, 2012, 1:00-2:30 PM***

Demographic transformation creates challenges opportunities for all communities. Retiring Baby Boomers are making new demands of the built environment, community services, and housing alternatives. Children and youth require investment to ensure healthy growth and development and productive economic futures. Caregivers, especially the sandwich generation caught in the middle, need more support to avoid burnout. Meanwhile, fiscal stress underscores the importance of finding new ways to meet changing needs.

This webinar will offer a fresh perspective on:

(1) Economics of families: Prevailing wisdom suggests that families with young children are a cost to communities, whereas retiring seniors represent "gray gold." The reality is that both groups entail important costs and benefits. Understanding these economic realities will help communities plan for all ages.

(2) Service integration: Traditionally, we have provided services in age-segregated silos. Taking advantage of the opportunity to integrate service delivery can improve service effectiveness and efficiency.

(3) Physical design: To promote more independence among children and elders, we need to design environments that provide housing and transport alternatives and enable independence, thereby reducing the need for some services and encouraging healthier lifestyles.

The presenters are Mildred Warner, who directs the Linking Economic Development and Child Care Project at Cornell University, and Deborah Howe, chair of the Department of Community and Regional Planning at Temple University.

The webinar is free and earns 1.5 CM credits. To register, go to [www2.gotomeeting.com/register/671661586](http://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/671661586).

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## Free CM Resources at APA

Keep an eye on the AICP website: You may be surprised by how many free materials are

available. Among the easiest to use are past Tuesdays at APA podcasts. There are now two each month, one each from Chicago and DC, on a variety of topics. Each provides 1.0 CM credits. Go to [www.planning.org/tuesdaysatapa/previous.htm](http://www.planning.org/tuesdaysatapa/previous.htm) for more information.

Another free resource draws on the 2009 Symposium, "Planning for Sustainable Communities: It's More than Being Green." This one's worth 2.5 CM credits, but will be available only until April 12, 2012. (Other symposia are available, too.)

You can check out all the resources at [www.planning.org/cm/free/](http://www.planning.org/cm/free/)

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## Are You Ready to Take the AICP Exam?

*Jennifer Evans-Cowley, PhD, AICP and Chris Steins, M. Pl.*

The comprehensive planning examination for acceptance into the American Institute of Certified Planners is the only certification exam for practicing urban planners nationwide. The exam is given at more than 300 testing sites in the U.S. and Canada, and offered twice a year in testing windows for two weeks each in May and November. Applications must be submitted roughly four months prior to the testing period. Verifications for each educational degree and job listed in the application are required in order for your application to be considered complete for review.

Fees are \$495 for new applicants, \$425 for returning applicants.

You can register to take the exam online on the APA's website: [www.planning.org/certification](http://www.planning.org/certification). Other information and materials are available there as well.

### Do You Qualify?

In order to take the exam, applicants must meet the following requirements:

1. Be a current member of APA
2. Be engaged in professional planning
3. Have completed a requisite number of years of education and professional planning experience (2 years of experience with a graduate degree in planning, 3 years with a bachelor's degree in planning, but other combinations are possible)

### Preparing for the Exam

There is a variety of ways to prepare for the exam:

#### *Seminars*

Many APA Chapters have professional development officers that provide or arrange for day-long seminars that introduce the exam and some of the topics. Contact your Chapter's Professional Development Officer for more information

#### *CPC Study Manual for the AICP Exam*

A good place to start is the APA's Chapter Presidents Council's CPC Study Manual. The purpose of this self-study manual is to help review basic planning concepts and to practice skills that are necessary for taking a multiple-choice test.

More information on the CPC Study Manual: [myapa.planning.org/certification/studymanual.htm](http://myapa.planning.org/certification/studymanual.htm)

#### *Online Courses*

If you'd like to start your studying early, and interact with students from around the US, consider an online course to guide you. The Planetizen AICP Exam Online Preparation Course, for example, is organized into a series of eight topics with a total of about 50 lessons. Each lesson is about 20-30 minutes to complete, enabling you to fit in a little studying whenever you have time -- during a lunch break, before work, or after you put the kids to bed. More than 10 hours of video presentations are also included, offering students a visual way to prepare. The course also provides over 450 sample questions, including a pretest exam and two sample exams. In addition, the course includes five discussion forums so you can interact with other students and course staff and ask any questions you might have as you prepare.

More information about Planetizen's AICP Exam Online Preparation

Course: [www.planetizen.com/courses/aicp](http://www.planetizen.com/courses/aicp)

### Study Groups

If you live in an urban area, there are likely to be others who will be taking the exam. Use your Section's PDO or individual networking to create a study group of 4-6 people. Take turns preparing sample questions and "study sheets" on specific topics to share with the other members of the group. Study groups can be a great way to keep you motivated and studying for the exam when things get busy at work.

### What's on the Exam?

The AICP Comprehensive Planning Examination consists of 170 multiple choice questions (20 of which are pre-test and do not count toward the final score) in two main areas: Knowledge (40 percent) and Skills (60 percent). In order to pass the exam, candidates must receive a score of 55 or higher. A score of 55 means that you got approximately 75 percent of the questions correct. Your score is in no way related to the percent of questions that you got correct. The exam is weighted as follows:

History, Theory and Law [15%]

Plan Making and Implementation [30%]

Functional Areas of Practice [25%]

Spatial Areas of Practice [15%]

Public Participation and Social Justice [10%]

AICP Code of Ethics and Professional Practice [5%]

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## Advertise in PW Forward!

We are now offering the opportunity to advertise in the PWD Newsletter! The rate for ads measuring up to the size of a regular business card is \$35. Black and white and full color are accepted as long as they are in .jpeg file formats. Please contact Newsletter Editor Joyce Levine at [jnatlevine@gmail.com](mailto:jnatlevine@gmail.com) for further information.

All job announcements and personal recognitions will continue to be published at no cost and should also be sent to Joyce.

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