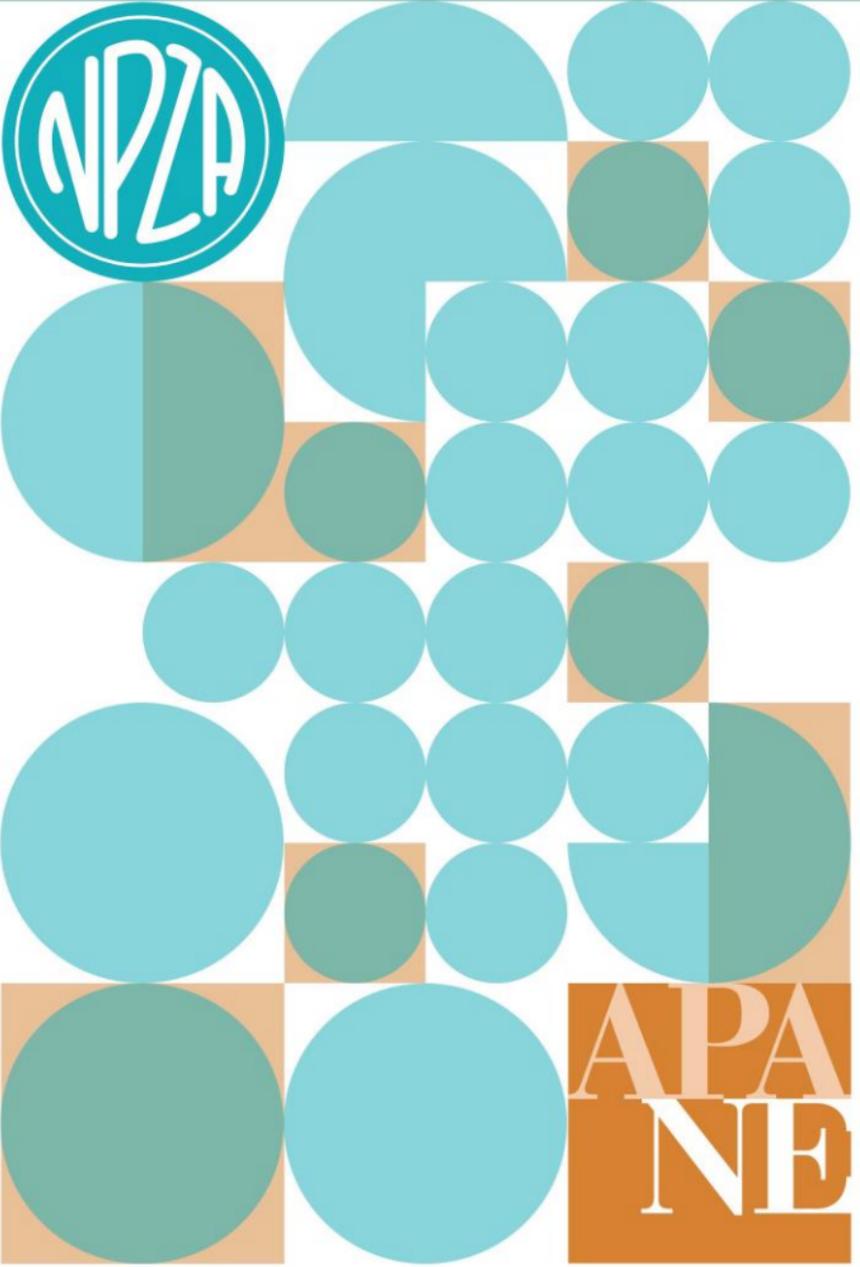


2023

NEBRASKA
PLANNING
CONFERENCE



Welcome

From the Presidents...

Welcome to the 2023 Nebraska Planning Conference!

The Nebraska Planning and Zoning Association (NPZA) and the Nebraska Chapter of the American Planning Association (NE APA) are excited for this year's conference and the excellent opportunities for training it provides.

We are excited to say that once again, this agenda provides an excellent selection of sessions meeting a variety of interests and training options. These sessions deliver opportunities appealing to different community needs including housing, economic development, environmental changes and rural community concerns. This conference provides attendees with the opportunity to hear from a variety of experts in their field, as well as some notable national speakers, including representatives from the American Planning Association.

We are also proud to have a program full of local experts presenting at the conference as well. These include notable names in the Nebraska planning field like David Ptak, DHP Consulting; Chad Nabity, Planning Director of the Hall County Regional Planning Department; David Levy, Attorney at Law at Baird Holm; and Keith Marvin, owner of Marvin Planning Consultants.

This incredible conference and training opportunity would not be possible without the generous support of our conference sponsors. Please take a moment to say "thank you" to our sponsors for their contribution in making the conference a huge success. Many of the sponsors have booths in the sponsor area and are listed on the back of the conference agenda as well.

Additionally, a special thank you to each and every board member of NPZA and APA Nebraska. Planning for this annual event is nearly a year-round process, and this year it was completed within six months! There is an extensive amount of work for all those involved, and without the work of these energetic volunteers, this conference would not have become what it is today and what it will become in the future.

We hope that you all enjoy the educational opportunities available at the conference as well as the chance to catch up with your colleagues in the profession. While you are here, take some time to explore Kearney and all it has to offer.



Judy Clark, AICP
President, NPZA



Jeffrey B. Ray, AICP
President, APA Nebraska

General Information

Conference Overview

The Nebraska Planning Conference is an annual event providing training to planning commission members as well as continuing education for professional Planners. Each conference session will be led by one of our experts on a specific planning topic, developed around emerging areas as well as continually challenging issues in the field of planning. These sessions may be considered to be above the understanding of the lay person and planning commission member but may provide some insight for these individuals.

Conference session presenters will range from planners, attorneys, professors, consultants, and engineers, all of which are locally or nationally recognized for their efforts in the field of planning. (Conference sessions are not intended to be a platform for vendors focusing on their products and/or services.)

Learning Objectives

Conference attendees will leave the conference with more knowledge and examples regarding current and future planning issues on both a local and national level.

Conference attendees will be equipped with new tools to improve planning process and invoke community change.

Conference attendees will be provided examples of processes and data that can be duplicated and applied to the planners' individual community.

Schedule at a Glance

For a quick look at the conference schedule, see the centerfold (pages 9-10).

Registration

The registration desk will be open from 7:00 AM to 12:00 PM on Wednesday, March 8th and Thursday, March 9th, and from 7:30 AM to 9:00 AM on Friday, March 10th.

Continuing Education

Available credits are provided in the Schedule at a Glance and next to each session description.

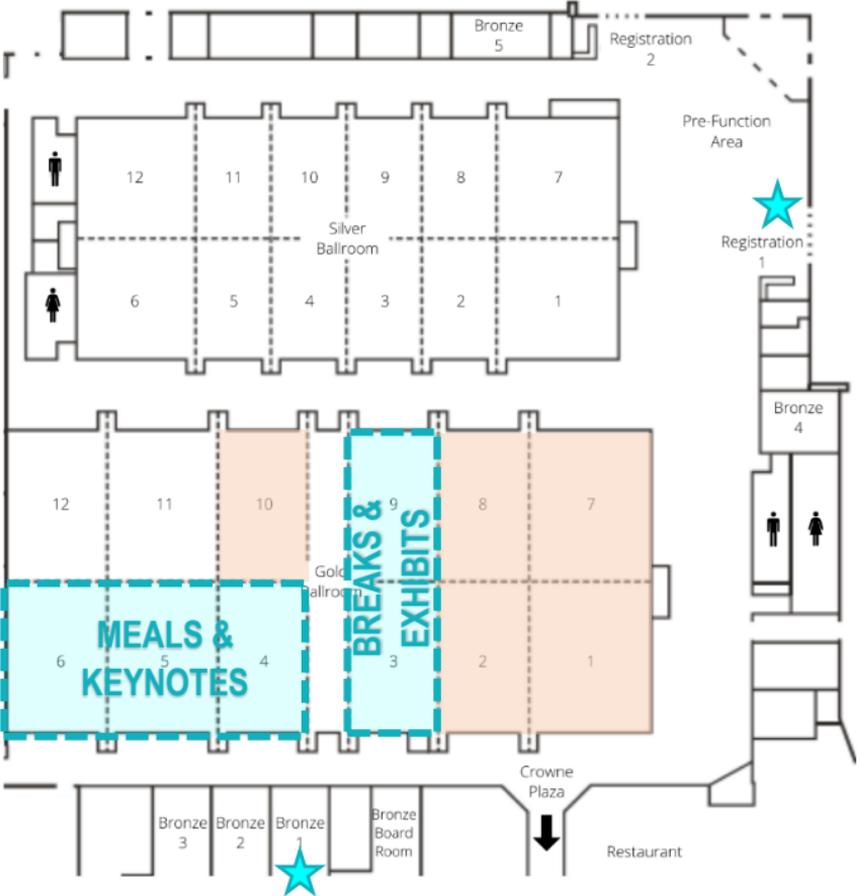
For Planners: Members of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) will have the opportunity to receive Certification Maintenance (CM) credits. Please visit the Certification Maintenance section of APA's website (www.planning.org/cm) to claim your credits.

For Attorneys: Active attorneys will have the opportunity to receive Continuing Legal Education (CLE) credits. Uniform Certificate of Attendance forms are available at the registration desk. Please submit completed forms to registration after you've completed all training events.

Younes Campus Map



Younes Conference Center North Map



Wednesday, March 8

Welcome

7:45 AM, GOLD 4/5/6

David Ptak Institute for Legal Issues in Nebraska Planning

8:00 AM - 4:30 PM, GOLD 1 | 5 CM | 5 CLE

David Ptak, Attorney at DHP Consulting

This full-day institute covers the legal foundations of planning and zoning in Nebraska. Dave has spent nearly 30 years engaged in the general practice of law including representation of the City of Battle Creek, Village of Meadow Grove, Madison County, City of Norfolk, and City of Hastings. Mr. Ptak has presented several workshops and institute courses for NPZA and NE APA over the past 10 years. His working knowledge, understanding, and experiences working with land use law and its applicability will provide you an excellent learning experience. A range of issues will be discussed which include zoning, subdivision, annexation, incompatible uses, non-conforming uses, responsibilities, conflict of interest, and many more.

Harry Milligan Institute for Planning Fundamentals

8:00 AM - 4:30 PM, GOLD 7 | 5 CLE

Andrew Willis, Partner at Cline Williams Wright Johnson & Oldfather, LLP

Chad Nabity, AICP, Planning Director at City of Grand Island

An interactive presentation and discussion focused on the basic knowledge of land use planning. This full-day institute is focused on the practical application of land use planning legislation carried out by planning commissioners, administration, attorneys, and elected officials. This program provides an excellent opportunity for community representatives to gain a better understanding of their responsibilities; understand the legal principles of planning and its application; become better aware of community planning's decision-making process; and interact with community neighbors.

Crafting Meaningful Connection: Values Driven Engagement Practices at Work

8:00 AM - 9:15 AM, GOLD 8 | 1.25 CM

Jeff Spiehs, AICP, Senior Planner at Lamp Rynearson

Sydney Embray, Planner at Lamp Rynearson

The City of Bellevue were looking for a creative way to engage the public and change the conversation about parks in the future. Lamp Rynearson worked with the City and partners to develop a creative and engaging strategy for outreach and engagement. The tools and tactics used not only provided the data needed to support clear park recommendations, but helped build community among those engaged in the process. The team will share how spending time asking the right questions the right way can result in creative solutions to engagement challenges and speak to the community in a values based approach.

Creative Districts: Planning for the Arts

8:00 AM - 9:15 AM, GOLD 2 | 1.25 CM

Suzanne Brodine, Public Engagement Specialist at Olsson

Kyle McLaughlin, Project Planner at Olsson

In 2020 the Nebraska State Legislature passed LB 780, charging the Nebraska Arts Council with overseeing a process for designating Creative Districts and administering funding to promote activities that further the arts and a connection to economic development. As of December 2022, only five communities in Nebraska (Ashland, Benson, Brownville, North Platte, and Norfolk) have received this designation and are eligible for up to \$250,000 in Creative District funding. Learn about the impetus for this legislation, the planning process for establishing a Creative District, and how it can fit into the long-term goals of your community.

Solar 101

8:00 AM - 9:15 AM, GOLD 10 | 1.25 CM

Courtney Kennedy, PE, Manager, Alternate Energy Program at OPPD

Michaela Valentin, JD, Government & Community Relations Manager at OPPD

An overview of solar technology-how it works, equipment used (including inverters, racking, panels), criteria needed to successfully locate a solar installation (topography, near transmission lines, out of floodplain, etc.), how financed & why aligning financing and the conditional use permit matter, impact of the Inflation Reduction Act provisions on public utilities and renewable developers. Applies to: planning consultants, planning/zoning administrators, planning commissioners, county officials, county attorney.

Break

9:15 AM - 9:30 AM, GOLD 3/9

Beyond Engagement: Micro & Macro Communication in Planning

9:30 AM - 10:45 AM, GOLD 8 | 1.25 CM

Sarah Runkel, Planner at MSA Professional Services, Inc

Christopher Janson, AICP, Team Leader, Planning at MSA Professional Services, Inc

Keith Marvin, AICP, President & Founder at Marvin Planning Consultants, Inc

As community-focused professionals, we often aim our communication strategies on engaging as many people as possible in the means that we provide. Community engagement strategy and accessibility plans are often the focus of communication in planning. This session will simultaneously refocus onto minute communication practices such as inter and intrapersonal communications and broaden to macro communications such as media interactions - both traditional and social. The session will focus on ways to efficiently and effectively engage in reciprocal communication and linear communication. Participants will become more comfortable with one-on-one communication and mass communication.

Tax Increment Financing Update

9:30 AM - 10:45 AM, GOLD 2 | 1.25 CM

Michael Sands, Partner at Baird Holm Law Firm

This session will cover legislative updates related to TIF and/or other incentives under the Nebraska Community Development Law and provide a refresher on such incentives.

Emerging Technologies

9:30 AM - 10:45 AM, GOLD 10 | 1.25 CM

Michal Lisowyj, Senior Alternative Energy Specialist at OPPD

Nathan Horrell, Alternative Energy Specialist at OPPD

An overview of renewable technologies including: solar, battery, wind, and small modular nuclear reactors. Discuss their prevalence in Nebraska, how OPPD is using these technologies and related issues to be considered by planning officials (view shed, setbacks, landscaping, etc.). Applies to planning consultants, planning/zoning administrators, planning commissioners, and county officials.

Break

10:45 AM - 11:00 AM, GOLD 3/9

Fostering Grassroots Community Building

11:00 AM - 12:15 PM, GOLD 8 | 1.25 CM

Zack Fergus, PLA, Landscape Architect at Lamp Rynearson

Regan Pence, PLA, ENV-SP, Group Lead at Lamp Rynearson

Manne Cook, Urban Development Manager at Spark CD1

Led by grassroots community leaders and backed by local philanthropic groups, two community building projects emerged in North Omaha. The North Omaha Trail and Miller Park Re-Design. Groundbreaking projects that build connections between neighbors and community. These projects required collaboration and effective communication between the project teams as well as project team and community. Both projects had been discussed as potential for many years and only recently were completed. This session will share how empathy, communication, and shared accountability to a common goal can bring complex projects to life while uplifting the communities they serve.

A Planner's Guide to Economic Incentives

11:00 AM - 12:15 PM, GOLD 2 | 1.25 CM

Bruce Fountain, AICP, Community Development Director at City of La Vista
Christopher Solberg, AICP, Deputy Community Development Director at City of La Vista
Cale Brodersen, AICP, Assistant City Planner at City of La Vista

Planners and Zoning Administrators in Nebraska often have to "wear multiple hats". This includes municipal representation in relation to economic development incentives. Bruce and his team at La Vista will review what economic development incentives they have used at the City and the planner's role in working with developers to incentivize the type of development a community wants.

The session will review various economic development incentive programs like TIF (tax increment financing), EDP (economic development program), GBOT (general business occupation tax), and PACE (property assessed clean energy) and how La Vista has leveraged these incentives to drive the type of development that the City desires.

Solar @ Scale

11:00 AM - 12:15 PM, GOLD 10 | 1.25 CM (1 SR)

Christy Eichorn, AICP, Planning Consultant at Sun Daisy Enterprises, LLC
Brian Ross, AICP, Vice President of Renewable Energy at Great Plains Institute
Robert Latimer, Consultant at Right of Way Land & Compliance LLC

Join ICMA and APA for a deep dive on how local government policies and actions affect large-scale solar development outcomes. This session will include an overview of key themes in the new Solar@Scale guidebook. The presentation and discussion will feature real-world community examples and takeaways you can implement in your jurisdiction. This session is a supplement to the APA/ ICMA nine part Solar @Scale webinar series.

Keynote: Asset-Based Economic Development

12:30 PM - 1:30 PM, GOLD 4/5/6 | 1 CM

Ed McMahon, Senior Resident Fellow at Urban Land Institute

Do all chain stores and franchises all have to look alike? The answer is "no" of course not. This session will demonstrate how national chains can and will change their standard, off-the-shelf designs "fit in" with local communities. The workshop will provide examples of everything from dollar stores, to gas stations, to grocery stores, to chain drug stores, to fast food restaurants, to big box stores that have changed their designs and site plans to be better neighbors. The session will also outlines the techniques, both regulatory and non-regulatory that communities are using to achieve better, pedestrian friendly, site specific design in both downtowns and commercial corridor settings.

Tend to Your Own House: Civility & Collaboration in the Workplace

1:45 PM - 3:00 PM, GOLD 8 | 1.25 CM

Nichollette Meyer, at Civic Nebraska

Daniel Bennett, AICP, Rural Civic Health Program Manager at Civic Nebraska

For local government and community-centered organizations or businesses, the culture of the workplace internally will manifest itself externally. Communities are best served when the workplace is connected, trusting, and engaged. In this session, team members from Civic Nebraska will lead a discussion of old and emerging workplace dynamics that may erode trust, collaboration, camaraderie, and productivity and present strategies and techniques for promoting a positive workplace environment. Strategies discussed include mindfulness, managing differing styles of conflict, transparency in communication, and engaging staff in the co-creation of a positive work environment.

What Happens When Goliath Comes to a Small Town

1:45 PM - 3:00 PM, GOLD 2 | 1.25 CM | 1.25 CLE

Keith Marvin, AICP, President & Founder at Marvin Planning Consultants, Inc

Alan Zavondy, Former Mayor at City of David City

David C. Levy, Attorney at Baird Holm Law Firm

What happens when Goliath (that major industry) comes knocking on a small town's door? Are you prepared? How will this new development "opportunity" impact the community at large? This session will use the recent announcement of a major soybean processing facility by AGP for David City and will focus on some of the lessons learned during the initial stages of the development opportunity. These include topics such as TIF, rezoning, annexation, utilities (especially electrical power and water), and potential eminent domain.

Playing in the Sand: Permitting Sandpit & Gravel Pit Operations

1:45 PM - 3:00 PM, GOLD 10

Chuck Chase, CFM, Outreach Coordinator at Nebraska Dept of Natural Resources

Permitting a process, such as a sand or gravel mining operation, in the floodplain is different than permitting a structure that will be constructed and remain static. Chuck will discuss the requirements of FEMA, Army Corps of Engineers, the Nebraska Department of Energy and Environment, Nebraska Game and Parks, and Nebraska Department of Natural Resources when permitting sandpit operations.

Break

3:00 PM - 3:15 PM, GOLD 3/9

Have it Your Way: Tools & Techniques for Getting Chain Stores & Franchises to Respect Community Character

3:15 PM - 4:30 PM, GOLD 8 | 1.25 CM

Ed McMahon, Senior Resident Fellow at Urban Land Institute

Do all chain stores and franchises all have to look alike? The answer is “no” of course not. This session will demonstrate how national chains can and will change their standard, off-the-shelf designs “fit in” with local communities. The workshop will provide examples of everything from dollar stores, to gas stations, to grocery stores, to chain drug stores, to fast food restaurants, to big box stores that have changed their designs and site plans to be better neighbors. The session will also outlines the techniques, both regulatory and non-regulatory that communities are using to achieve better, pedestrian friendly, site specific design in both downtowns and commercial corridor settings.

Western Sarpy County I-80 Planning & Environmental Linkages (PEL) Study

3:15 PM - 4:30 PM, GOLD 2 | 1.25 CM

Craig Mielke, Technical Manager, NEPA Services at Alfred Benesch & Company

Jim Boerner, Transportation Planner at MAPA

Steve Wells, Senior Vice President at HG Consult

MAPA, Sarpy County, Gretna, and Papillion retained Benesch to prepare the Sarpy County I-80 Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) Study. The study was funded through federal planning dollars and included oversight by Nebraska Department of Transportation (NDOT) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). The study evaluated the need for transportation improvements along I-80 from Pflug Road to the Nebraska Highway 370 interchange, including potential environmental red flags, identified a range of alternatives, invited feedback from the public, and recommended alternatives that could be advanced into preliminary design, National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation, and an Interchange Justification Report (IJR).

A Midwest Approach to a Net Zero Carbon Economy

3:15 PM - 4:30 PM, GOLD 10 | 1.25 CM (1 SR)

Christy Eichorn, AICP, Planning Consultant at Sun Daisy Enterprises, LLC

Brian Ross, AICP, Vice President, Renewable Energy at Great Plains Institute

Great Plains Institute (GPI) is creating partnership approaches to wind and solar siting, working a broad range of stakeholders (communities, state agencies, utilities, agricultural producers, natural resource advocates). This takes the form of facilitating discussions on land use best practices to answering technical questions that need scientific validation.

GPI has created model land use ordinances tailored to state enabling legislation in six states, convened natural resource and agricultural advocates on beneficial site design for solar farms, developed best practices for stormwater and water quality benefits in renewable deployment, and helps cities and counties receive technical assistance and solar-ready certification under national SolSmart program (from the solar roof to the solar farm). GPI’s mission is to decarbonize the energy system for the benefit of the economy, environment, and people.

This session will also touch on CPIs work with the agricultural sector on bioeconomy issues and the multiple programs directed at electrification of transportation at the local, state, and regional levels.

Ethics for Planners & Attorneys

4:30 PM - 6:30 PM, GOLD 1 | 2 CM | 2 CLE

David Levy, Attorney at Baird Holm Law Firm

Michael Sands, Attorney at Baird Holm Law Firm

This session should be helpful to all professionals who face many ethical dilemmas. An overview of the new AICP Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct will be given along with a description of ethics principles, rules of conduct and ethics complaint procedures. The session speaker will share “real life” ethical situations and scenarios. Come and learn about ethical situations that your peers face in the region and on a national basis.

Emerging Planners Group Networking Event

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM, Thunderhead Brewing, 18 E 21st St, Kearney

You are invited to the Emerging Planners Group (EPG) Social! The EPG is comprised of individuals passionate about the next 50 years of planning in Nebraska - whether you consider yourself an emerging planner (early in your career) or are someone interested in sharing their experiences, join us for a beer and conversation! Pizza and a drink ticket will be provided.

Thursday, March 9

Keynote: How to Talk to a Karen and a Chad

8:00 AM - 9:15 AM, GOLD 4/5/6

Sheila Shockey, Founder/CEO/Futurist at Shockey Consulting +80 Santa Fe Art Gallery

Learn how to deal with a specific type of person—Karen and the male equivalent Chad—using FBI Hostage negotiation techniques. Let’s face it, we’ve all had out interactions with Karens and Chads, but if you work in local government, you probably get more than your fair share. Who is Karen & Chad? Types of actions this type of person take: (straight out of the urban dictionary)...makes solutions to others’ problems an inconvenience to he/her although s/he isn’t even remotely affected. ...sues local city council after they installed a new STOP sign that hides the sun from he/her window for two minutes a day. The sign was installed after a child on their bicycle was hit by a speeding driver and died. ...refuses to wear a face mask for her 5-minute trip to the supermarket during a pandemic. S/he harasses the workers, asks to see the manager, and threatens to sue.

Break

9:15 AM - 9:30 AM, GOLD 3/9

Conflicts of Interest

9:30 AM - 10:45 AM, GOLD 1 | 1.25 CLE

David Ptak, Attorney at DHP Consulting

As an appointed or elected official, the concept of a conflict of interest can be a tricky proposition. The official can often be asking themselves questions such as “What is a conflict of interest?” “If I have a conflict of interest, does that mean I can’t participate?” “What does the law say about conflicts of interest?” and “What steps should I take to determine if I have a conflict of interest and how do I let the body know I believe I have one?” In this session, we’ll cover the answers to these questions and more regarding conflicts of interest.

UNL Student Session

9:30 AM - 10:45 AM, GOLD 7

Three graduate students from the Master of Community and Regional Planning (MCRP) degree program at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln will briefly present projects that they are currently pursuing or have recently completed.

Dollars & Sense: Building What the Public Wants--The Johnston Town Center

9:30 AM - 10:45 AM, GOLD 8 | 1.25 CM

David Wilwerding, AICP, Community Development Director at City of Johnston IA
Christopher Shires, AICP, Principal at Confluence, Inc

Johnston, Iowa is a growing Des Moines suburb with everything it needs except a town center and public gathering space. With the market only delivering traditional strip retail developments, and after years of careful planning and significant city led investment, the Johnston Town Center and its public space "The Yard" opened in August 2021. Attendees of this

presentation will get an understanding of the planning and implementation processes used to design and develop a community supported Town Center that includes numerous public amenities, a state-of-the-art multi-purpose City Hall, public art, and activated open space that engages citizens through all seasons.

Dream, Play, Build: Community Engagement without Language Barriers

9:30 AM - 10:45 AM, ****MEET AT FRONT ENTRANCE**** | 1.25 CM
Charity Adams, Owner at Vision Fusion Consulting

Lori Cody, Economic Development & Community Engagement Consultant at Inspirata

A common and correct criticism of community engagement is that it is overly focused on language, either spoken or written. This often leaves community stakeholders out of the engagement process. We began using model building, which is based on the book written by James Rojas and John Kamp, DREAM, PLAY BUILD which uses found objects to help participants create models to describe their feelings about certain community aspects. This ****MOBILE**** session offers a model building workshop to participants in our shared yoga shala, located in Downtown Kearney. In addition to showing this unique community engagement technique, we also plan to demonstrate how we've used simple breathing and meditation practices to improve our ability to communicate and LISTEN to others.

All Things Nebraska

8:00 AM - 9:15 AM, GOLD 10

Katelyn Larson, Extension Educator at Nebraska

David Varner, Associate Dean/Associate Director at Nebraska Extension

Jamie Kleinsorge, Assistant Director & Senior Project Coordinator at Center for Applied Research & Engagement Systems, University of Missouri Extension

All Things Nebraska, a first-of-its kind platform, will integrate datasets of critical importance to real-time decision making for Nebraskans. This mapping application and database is co-created to meet the needs of communities, municipalities, residents, and the UNL system.

The platform will archive and serve up thousands of curated data layers and customized reports, as well as insightful, just-in-time user-generated data from across Nebraska.

All Things Nebraska will provide insight for decision-making and increasing UNL Extension's ability to address critical issues. Public access to this one-stop data platform will engage partners and constituents, local decision-makers, and industry and community members.

Break

10:45 AM - 11:00 AM, GOLD 3/9

Open Meetings Act

11:00 AM - 12:15 AM, GOLD 1 | 1.25 CM (1 L) | 1.25 CLE

David Ptak, Attorney at DHP Consulting

Chad Nability, AICP, Planning Director at City of Grand Island

The Nebraska Open Meetings Act guarantees that every meeting of a public body shall be open to the public. This session covers the legal responsibilities of the public bodies--elected official bodies, planning commissions, and officials/staff who represent the local government--in order to create transparency in government by requiring advance public notice and an opportunity for public participation.

Step by Step Planning & Progressive Development in two Nebraska Communities

11:00 AM - 12:15 AM, GOLD 7 | 1.25 CM

Tim Keelan, Principal & Community Planner at Hanna:Keelan Associates, PC

Keith Carl, Community Planner at Hanna:Keelan Associates, PC

Stephanie Fisher, City Administrator at City of Waverly

The Nebraska Communities of Waverly and Nebraska City are leaders in the preparation of planning documents and implementing pertinent catalyst projects that enhance the quality of life in their Community. Each Community supplements local planning efforts by organizing public and private partnerships to aid in implementing proposed community and economic development projects that address residential, commercial, industrial, and public facility needs. This Session highlights the individual planning and project implementation processes of these two important Nebraska Communities and how their efforts can serve as an example for other rural Nebraska Communities.

The ABCs of ADUs

11:00 AM - 12:15 AM, GOLD 8 | 1.25 CM

Jeffrey B. Ray, AICP, Planning Department Manager at JEO Consulting Group

Derek Miller, AICP, Long Range & Mobility Planning Manager at City of Omaha Planning

With communities large and small across Nebraska in a housing crisis, one potential tool to assist with more housing units at an affordable cost is Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs). ADUs are being utilized across the country as short-term rental, long term rental, age in place, and employee housing. This session will focus on the several types and when and where they should be utilized with zoning standards.

The Kearney Water Trail: From Flatwater to Whitewater

11:00 AM - 12:15 AM, GOLD 2 | 1.25 CM

Steve Miller, AICP, Kayak Enthusiast & Planner at Clark & Enersen

Alex Duryea, Recreational Trails Manager at Nebraska Game & Parks Commission

Scott Hayden, Director of Recreation Services at Kearney Parks & Rec Department

Carson Rowh, Executive Board Member at Kearney Whitewater Association

Nebraska has over 79,000 miles of river - more than any other state in the U.S. and there are 11 designated Water Trails in the state covering 518 river miles. One of the newest and most creative water trails in Nebraska is the Kearney Whitewater Park. The whitewater section of the 2.3-mile-long Kearney Water Trail opened in April 2022. It's the only whitewater trail in Nebraska and it's attracting kayakers from throughout the region and providing outdoor recreation and economic development opportunities to the community.

Strategies for Scoping Community Engagement

11:00 AM - 12:15 AM, GOLD 10 | 1.25 CM

Andrea Gebhart, AICP, Community Engagement Manager at JEO Consulting Group

Scoping for community engagement can present the ultimate dilemma: how do you scope and budget for tasks that aren't yet determined or may need to evolve as the project progresses? This presentation will provide a template for public participation plans, as well as practical tips for developing scopes of work and cost estimates for contracts with community engagement tasks.

Ludemann Women in Planning Panel

12:30 PM - 1:30 PM, GOLD 4/5/6

Char Carpenter, Recording Secretary at NPZA

Judy Clark, City/County Planning Administrator at City of North Platte & Lincoln County

In this panel, women in the planning and zoning field discuss their journey as a woman in the academic and the professional world. Our panelists will inspire and encourage others to be leaders in the planning and zoning field and to change how the future of planning and zoning will be shaped.

Findings of Fact

1:45 PM - 3:00 PM, GOLD 1 | 1.25 CM (1 L) | 1.25 CLE

David Ptak, Attorney at DHP Consulting

Christopher Solberg, AICP, Deputy Community Development Director at City of La Vista

How do you express the reasons for saying yes or no to a planning request? Yes or no to a variance? How do you express the specific facts that support your decisions and recommendations? Come find out the proper way to make solid findings using the facts needed to support the decision. Proper findings of fact are critical to a successful court challenge or a losing one.

Nebraska's Statewide Strategic Housing Framework

1:45 PM - 3:00 PM, GOLD 7 | 1.25 CM

Shannon Harner, Executive Director at Nebraska Investment Finance Authority

This session will address the most critical housing challenges in Nebraska, as identified by the 2022 Statewide Strategic Housing Council ("Council"), incorporating the data from the 2022 Statewide Housing Needs Assessment. We will discuss the Shared Priorities of the Council, including the strategies developed for addressing these priorities in the Nebraska Statewide Strategic Housing Strategy Framework ("Framework"). The Framework identifies four pillars and goals intended to ensure all Nebraskans have safe, affordable, quality housing choices to rent or own.

What You Always Wanted to Know but Were Afraid to Ask

1:45 PM - 3:00 PM, GOLD 8 | 1.25 CLE

David C. Levy, Attorney at Baird Holm Law Firm

Opportunity for planners and zoning / municipal officials to raise questions of law or process that have arisen recently.

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design

1:45 PM - 3:00 PM, GOLD 2 | 1.25 CM

Cale Brodersen, AICP, Assistant City Planner at City of La Vista

This session, back from last year's conference, is an introduction to the concept of Crime Prevention through Environmental Design or "CPTED". CPTED is the proper design and effective use of the built environment that contributes to a reduction in the fear and incidence of crime to improve quality of life. Planning departments and law enforcement agencies around the world are designing with CEPTED in mind to create safer spaces without defaulting to simply putting up security cameras. CPTED prioritizes strategies such as lighting, landscaping, maintenance, natural surveillance, natural access controls, and territorial reinforcement.

Coach Your Leaders

1:45 PM - 3:00 PM, GOLD 10

Sheila Shockey, Founder/CEO/Futurist at Shockey Consulting +80 Santa Fe Art Gallery

Bill Ebel, Retired City Manager at City of Overland Park KS

The role of professional staff is to coach elected officials and planning commissioners so they can be more effective in their role. Understanding how to operate in this polarized environment is more critical than ever for elected officials. Learn how to focus your elected officials and planning commissioners, to work together on big ideas, to transform your community, create energy and inspire each other to be better leaders. We give professional managers specific tools to help elected officials and planning commissioners find their authentic self, identify their values and big ideas, and cultivate stronger relationships. As a result, elected officials and planning commissioners will make better decisions for the community.

Break

3:00 PM - 3:15 PM, GOLD 3/9

Annexation: Rural versus Urban & Suburban

3:15 PM - 4:30 PM, GOLD 1 | 1.25 CM

Keith Marvin, AICP, President & Founder at Marvin Planning Consultants, Inc

As a community sees growth and needs to extend its corporate limits, what are some of the key things to know and understand when annexation becomes necessary? What have the Nebraska courts said about annexation? The session will also present case examples of the do's and don'ts.

RentWise: Tenant Education

3:15 PM - 4:30 PM, GOLD 7 | 1.25 CM

Kurt Elder, AICP, Location Intelligence / Planner at City of Lincoln

Lynn Fisher, General Manager at Great Place Properties

RentWise is a tenant education program that helps people know how to find and keep decent rental housing, and how to become more successful renters. Renters who complete this program of six modules earn a certificate of completion to show potential landlords and property managers that they want to be good tenants. Come join us as we share about how RentWise has helped stabilize at risk populations.

Statewide Planning for Nebraska's Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure

3:15 PM - 4:30 PM, GOLD 8

Jesse Poore, AICP, Planner at Felsburg Holt & Ullevig

Bill Troe, Principal at SRF Consulting

Hunter Arias, Planner at Felsburg Holt & Ullevig

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) was signed by President Joe Biden in November 2021, which includes the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Formula Program. It provides states with \$7.5 billion to expand the electric vehicle (EV) charging network. Over the next five years, Nebraska will have access to \$30.2 million (~\$6 million/year) in formula funds for EV charging infrastructure while also still being able to compete for a portion of an additional \$2.5 billion in discretionary grant funding. This presentation will summarize the planning process that NDOT completed to quickly prepare the federally compliant plan. Key elements of the planning process included definitions of alternative fuel corridors (AFCs), programmatic resource

constraints, project evaluation processes, Justice40 compliance, and the outlook for program implementation beginning in 2023.

Tackling Downtown Revitalization Using Main Street's Toolbox

3:15 PM - 4:30 PM, GOLD 2 | 1.25 CM

Elizabeth Chase, Executive Director at Nebraska Main Street Network

Michael Sothan, Executive Director at Main Street Beatrice

Every downtown commercial district is different, with its own distinctive assets and sense of place. The Main Street Approach® is centered around transformation strategies that articulate a deliberate path to revitalizing or strengthening a community's downtown economy. In order for these strategies to work, organizations must have a solid understanding of local and regional market data, sustained and inclusive community engagement. Learn more about how Main Street Beatrice has utilized Main Street's "toolbox" to transform and strengthen their downtown.

Are You Leaving a Legacy, or a Future Failure?

3:15 PM - 4:30 PM, GOLD 10 | 1.25 CM

Chrissy Land, Western Community Forester at Nebraska Forest Service

Trees, are you leaving a legacy, or a future failure? Trees are the bone structure of community green spaces, intended to live long lives and supply many benefits. When designing or re-designing landscapes with trees, sustainable practices are a must if they are to live a long life. Let us talk about ways to properly plan for trees, give the big trees a new chapter in life, and review case studies of the good, the bad and the ugly. It's time for planners to step up and speak for the trees. In Nebraska, where there are trees, there are people.

Social Hour

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM, BRONZE 1

Join other conference attendees before the Banquet in the Lakeview Hospitality Room at Crowne Plaza.

Banquet

6:00 PM, GOLD 4/5/6

The NPZA and Nebraska APA Awards Banquet will recognize individuals and organizations for excellence in the field of planning in Nebraska.

Friday, March 10

Coordinating the Comprehensive Plan & Zoning Regulations

8:00 AM - 9:15 AM, GOLD 1

Keith Marvin, AICP, President & Founder at Marvin Planning Consultants, Inc

Mason Herrman, Community Planner at Marvin Planning Consultants, Inc

John Shepard, AICP, Senior Planner at Marvin Planning Consultants, Inc

An explanation of the Comprehensive Planning requirements, statutory and "should bes" and how the plan and zoning regulations interact.

Lean Comp Plans

8:00 AM - 9:15 AM, GOLD 7 | 1.25 CM

Christopher Janson, AICP, Team Leader, Planning at MSA Professional Services, Inc

Sarah Runkel, Planner at MSA Professional Services, Inc

Shawn O'Shea, AICP, Client Service Manager at MSA Professional Services, Inc

"Comprehensive Plan": The title itself implies a big document, a plan that tries to account for all the topics, all the data, all the ideas. But it's time to rethink the Comprehensive Plan. This session will explore the idea of the Lean Comp Plan – what it looks like and how to get there. We'll start with the challenge of information overload, and the distinction between interesting and useful in the data collection process. Then we'll make the case for brevity and simplicity, and discuss how this approach applies to communities big and small.

People-First Planning: WELL Design for Mental, Emotional, & Physical Health

8:00 AM - 9:15 AM, GOLD 8 | 1.25 CM

Heather Keele, AIA, NCARB, IIDA, WELL AP, Architect, Interior Designer, Board Member & Principal at Clark & Enersen

Karen Nalow, PLA, ASLA, LEED AP, Landscape Architect, Director of Landscape Architecture, Board Member & Principal at Clark & Enersen

Early planning and community-wide support are critical for successfully implementing WELL Building and Community Standards. The design of physical environments improves health, responds to crises, and unites communities. Learn the role Planning plays with WELL to support future growth and support public and private projects. Backed by scientific research this approach improves physical and mental health, happiness and productivity. We will share how we applied the WELL Building Standard to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's (UNL) Kiewit Hall and provide the necessary tools for evaluating existing city and campus features, engaging key stakeholders, and implementing WELL design.

Downtown Design

8:00 AM - 9:15 AM, GOLD 2 | 1.25 CM

Chrissy Land, Western Community Forester at Nebraska Forest Service

Downtown renovations are happening all across the state. There are many details that must be incorporated to make the space inviting and functional. Most of them being related to traffic, utilities, walkability, and aesthetics. Trees typically fall low on the priority list, let's talk about why that's a big mistake in developing the design. Ways to avoid future failures and discontent. We want shade to park in, to sit in as we watch a parade, and for the summer car show. We want to create and maintain spaces with high real-estate value, spaces that everyone shows up early for.

Charging Ahead: The Importance of Preparing for Electric Vehicles

8:00 AM - 9:15 AM, GOLD 10 | 1.25 CM

Brian Marshall, Electric Vehicle Subject Matter Expert at Olsson

Kyle McLaughlin, Project Planner at Olsson

Electric Vehicle (EV) popularity has grown as manufactures release new vehicle models and commit to increase production. However, despite the growing prevalence of EVs, there is still a significant shortfall of EV Charging Infrastructure in our communities. EV Readiness Planning supports widespread community engagement necessary to facilitate adoption and momentum towards electrification objectives. This presentation will discuss EV related issues, impacts, and considerations facing communities and provide information about competing for future funding to offset EV infrastructure costs.

Break

9:15 AM - 9:30 AM, GOLD 3/9

Board of Zoning Adjustment

9:30 AM - 10:45 AM, GOLD 1 | 1.25 CLE

David Ptak, Attorney at DHP Consulting

The presentation will be a two-fold approach. The first approach will be to inform and educate the audience on the state statutes regarding the Board of Adjustment as well as the statutory role of the Board of Adjustment. Remarkably, there are educated planners that do not understand the specific requirements and laws governing this body. This educational portion will also teach using past case law from the different courts in Nebraska. The second item addressed during the session will be an update on all court cases and legislation in Nebraska that have come down in the past year.

Not Just a Hospital: Healthcare Planning for Rural Communities

9:30 AM - 10:45 AM, GOLD 7 | 1.25 CM

Jeff Monzu, AIA, ACHA, NCARB, Market-Sector Leader - Healthcare at LEO A DALY

Michael D. Harvey, MBA, CRT, FACHE, President & CEO at Syracuse Area Health

In a rural or small community context, healthcare facilities fulfill auxiliary roles that are less necessary in an urban context. Understanding the impact of the facility's multiple roles enhances the ability to fund, plan and design a modern facility complete with the programming and equipment to provide high-quality care in a rural context — and with enough flexibility to grow and adapt during subsequent years. Presenters will discuss ways to identify these roles through engagement with staff and community members, the result of which is more successful criteria for facility planning.

Getting to the 'Heart & Soul' of Plan Implementation

9:30 AM - 10:45 AM, GOLD 8 | 1.25 CM

Daniel Bennett, AICP, Rural Civic Health Program Manager at Civic Nebraska

For most small towns, the capacity of volunteer and community-minded residents to work together and solve problems is the primary driver of successful plan implementation. Centered on the methodology of resident-driven planning process, Community Heart & Soul, this session will present how network building, story sharing, a laser-like focus on what matters most, and smart engagement tools set the stage for successful implementation.

Business Improvement Districts Case Study & International Relations

9:30 AM - 10:45 AM, GOLD 2 | 1.25 CM

Rashad Moxey, Planner I at City of Grand Island

Chad Nabity, AICP, Planning Director at City of Grand Island

This is the case study of the 4th Business Area, a varied and ethnically diverse business district on the north side of the railroad tracks in the oldest part of Grand Island, NE. For more than 20 years, business owners has contaminated formation of the district. Efforts by UNL Extension, the Grand Island Planning Department and a core group of dedicated business owners have pushed through initial approvals. This session will highlight the process and efforts and challenges involved in the creation of this multi-ethnic district. In addition the presenters will walk through the statutory process of creating a BID.

Climate Action for EVERYONE

9:30 AM - 10:45 AM, GOLD 10 | 1.25 CM (1 SR)

Molly Hanson, Conservation & Community Outreach Specialist at RDGPlanning&Design

Amy Haase, AICP, Principal, Urban Planner at RDG Planning & Design

Climate action is as necessary as it is daunting. Our communities are already experiencing the effects of climate change, and these impacts challenge our quality of life, economy, and future. To better coordinate our response to climate change, reduce harmful emissions, and chart a more resilient future, we can work with cities to develop community-wide climate action and adaptation plans.

To do this, and do it well, we must commit to an equitable and inclusive process, recognize that robust community involvement and input are essential to the success of both the planning effort and the future implementation.

Break

10:45 AM - 11:00 AM, GOLD 3/9

Final Questions & Answers

11:00 AM - 12:15 PM, GOLD 7

Is there something you need answered but it didn't seem to come up during the conference? Did a session bring up other questions or do you just want some clarification? If so, this session is for you. Harry Milligan will facilitate this Question & Answer session along with conference speakers in attendance. There is no need to leave with unanswered questions.

Zoning Administrator Q & A

11:00 AM - 12:15 PM, GOLD 1 | 1.25 CLE

David Ptak, Attorney at DHP Consulting

If you are a zoning administrator, you are invited to attend this session. This is a Question & Answer session with David Ptak, Attorney at Law. If you are wondering how to deal with a specific issue regarding the public, planning commission, or even elected officials, then this session may be for you. You are welcome to attend even if you want to listen and learn. Again, this is for Zoning Administrators only.

Conference Closing

12:15 PM - 12:30 PM, GOLD 1

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