

# KC METRO CONNECTION



American Planning Association  
Missouri Chapter | Kansas Chapter  
Kansas City Metro Section  
*Making Great Communities Happen*

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Kansas Chapter of the American Planning Association

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## KCAPA Elections - Call for Nominations

As advertised in the September newsletter, KCAPA elections are coming soon! Your KCAPA Board is looking for energetic and dedicated planners to run for three open Board positions: President-Elect, Kansas Chapter Representative, and Missouri Chapter Representative. These three positions will be elected by KCAPA membership. In addition, the Board is also seeking nominees for the Media Director position, which is appointed by the Section Officers. These positions will serve a term of two years, from January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2019. The KCAPA has significantly enhanced its role for our local planning community over the past five years and candidates interested in the open Board positions should demonstrate a strong commitment to continuing and strengthening this momentum. Please consider becoming more involved in the Kansas City Section to help promote, educate, and advocate for planning in the region. Please refer to the list of duties for each position listed below. The three available positions are Section Officers and are part of the 11-member Executive Committee. For more information, please consult the [KCAPA bylaws](#).

The duties of the **President-Elect** shall be to:

1. Act in the absence or incapacity of the President.
2. Discharge such duties and authorities delegated to the position by the President as are necessary to carry on the business of the Section.
3. Be responsible for any membership duties as may be required of the Section.
4. Assist the President with overall Section responsibilities and the Section's responsibilities to the Chapters and the National Office.
5. Attend to correspondence, national election, and day-to-day maintenance of relationships with the Chapters and the National Office.
6. Perform such other duties as are customary to the office.

The duties of the **Kansas Chapter Representative** shall be to:

1. Be eligible for and represent the Section on the Kansas Chapter Executive Committee and monitor all Kansas Chapter Executive Committee meetings.
2. Serve on the Executive Committee of the Section.

The duties of the **Missouri Chapter Representative** shall be to:

1. Be eligible for and represent the Section on the Missouri Chapter Executive Committee and monitor all Missouri Chapter Executive Committee meetings.
2. Serve on the Executive Committee of the Section.

The duties of the **Media Director** shall be to:

1. Develop and manage the communication plan between the Executive Committee and Section

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## 2016 Board Members

[Jim Potter, AICP](#)  
[President](#)

[Corey Fischer, AICP](#)  
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[Chris Chiodini, AICP](#)  
[Treasurer](#)

[Tyler Means](#)  
[Secretary](#)

[Ashley Winchell](#)  
[MO Section Representative](#)

[Victor Burks, AICP](#)  
[KS Section Representative](#)

[Diane Binckley, AICP](#)  
[Past President](#)

[Tom Worker-Braddock](#)  
[Member-at-Large](#)

[Amanda Anderson](#)  
[Media Director](#)

3. Manage the Section website, including providing notices, information updates, etc.
4. Prepare, edit and publish the Section newsletter in electronic form on the Section website.
5. Coordinate with programming committee to promote monthly events through the section website, section emails and social media.

#### Approximate Election Timeline:

- October 21, 2016: Statement of Interest due
- October 28, 2016: Ballots sent to membership
- November 18, 2016: Ballots due
- December 1, 2016: Results announced at Annual Meeting
- January 1, 2017: Term begins for new officers

If you are interested in serving on the KCAPA Board, please submit a statement of interest (200 words or less) to Victor Burks ([victor.burks@skw-inc.com](mailto:victor.burks@skw-inc.com)) by the close of business on October 21, 2016.

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## Planning to Help Communities Where Growth Isn't in the Forecast

By Nick Pappas, AICP, Planner with Shafer, Kline & Warren



When communities engage in a comprehensive planning effort, they often look 30 or more years into the future to determine infrastructure needs, housing demands, and the need for schools, libraries and parks. Over the past century, communities have largely planned for growth, which most communities embraced through the lenses of economic development and progress. However, projections suggest this trend may be coming to an end for many rural communities across Kansas and the Midwest, which will require a shift in the way these communities approach planning.

Earlier this year, Wichita State University released research that detailed the population projections for counties in Kansas through 2064. Although metro areas will continue to grow, rural areas are predicted to lose population, and by 2064, roughly 80 percent of Kansas's total population will reside in metro areas.



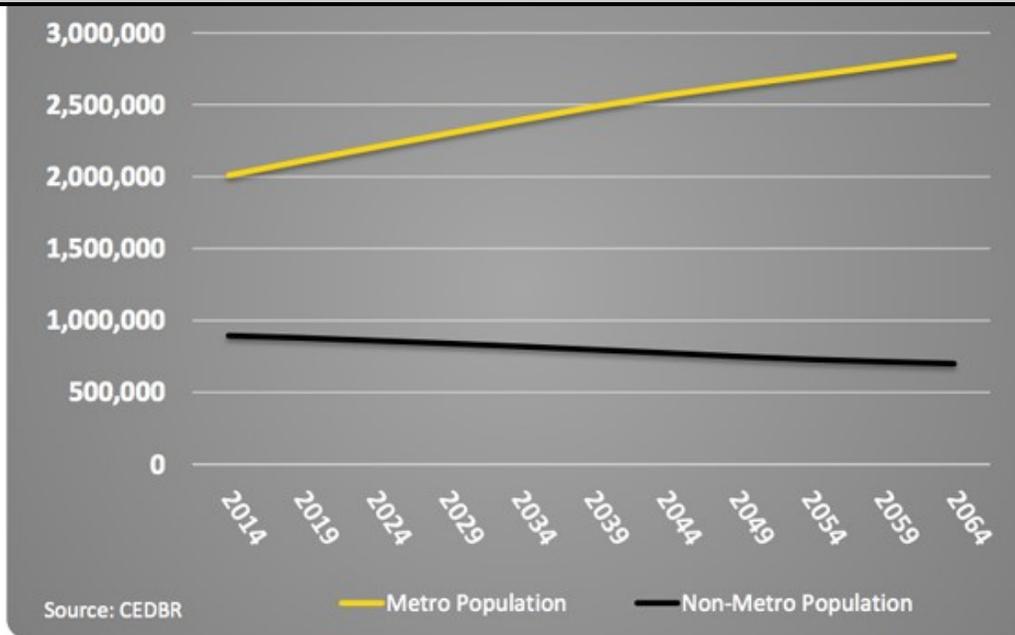
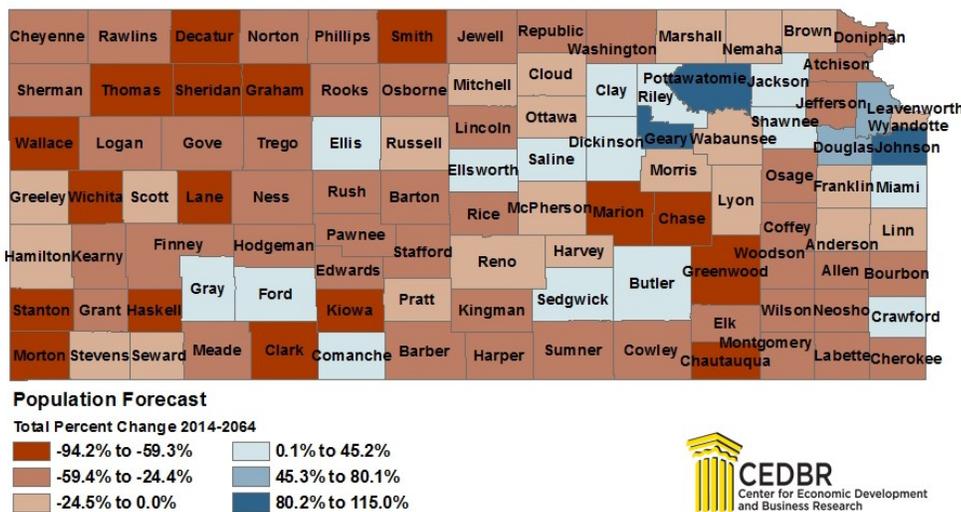


Figure 1: Comparison between metro population and non-metro population trends through 2064. (Credit: CEDBR)

While metro areas will still need to contend with the traditional aspects of urban planning, rural communities will face a different set of challenges. Instead of focusing on how to extend new infrastructure to rapidly growing areas, concerns regarding how to finance the repair and overall maintenance of the community’s existing infrastructure will be of primary concern. Instead of a community priding itself in spending more per student as a show of supporting education, the reality that families – especially younger families – are moving away and not returning will demand that communities find alternative ways of raising education revenue. Instead of the community focusing on the aesthetics of the built environment, attention may instead turn to the extreme number of vacancies plaguing its downtown. However, by working with a planner in a proactive way, novel ways of addressing these issues can be investigated and implemented before the situation becomes dire for a community.



<http://www.cedbr.org/content/2016/Total%20Change%2014%20to%2064%20-%20Branded.jpg>  
 Figure 2: Map of Kansas’s 105 counties showing population change from 2014 through 2064. (Credit: CEDBR)

In cases like those pictured above where communities are predicted to lose more than half their

updated, and zoning regulations and processes encourage development. It is also important to ensure an open dialogue exists between the community and regional/state officials and elected representatives, and “shovel-ready” projects are prepared to take advantage of grant opportunities when state and federal programs become available. Other efforts include having an active Main Street program, Chamber of Commerce, and ties to a local or regional economic development agency so the community’s vision and goals are aligned across all fronts.

Unfortunately, despite a community’s best efforts to encourage growth and progress, sometimes it makes sense to look into “smart decline” in ways that other hard hit cities of the country have done – places like [Youngstown, Ohio](#), for example. Smart decline is a planning approach that assumes a future of fewer people, fewer buildings and fewer land uses in a community. It is a development method focused on improving the quality of life for the current residents while realizing that traditional growth may no longer be inevitable. It allows a community to cut costs and address problems in a dignified and well thought out manner that promotes and relies on citizen engagement. Obviously, this course of action should only be considered after every other potential solution is exhausted.

While some of these changes and challenges can be daunting for communities, for planners, these circumstances provide an opportunity to engage communities and their citizens, and guide the creation of strategic plans to help them adapt and stay ahead of trends. Although planning for a declining population can be more challenging than planning for growth, it can make a world of difference for the community’s future and the citizens who continue to call that community home.

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## Member Highlight: Jim Hubbell

Greetings, fellow KC APA members! I’m Jim Hubbell, AICP, and I work as a Principal Transportation Planner at the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC), metropolitan planning organization for the greater Kansas City region. (As planners, we rarely get to write in the first person, so I intend to take full advantage of this opportunity!) At the risk of sounding mushy, I absolutely love my job at MARC. It’s hard to believe over 15 ridiculously short years have passed since I landed a job as a planning intern. Since then, I’ve worked my way up through the various planner titles and have been involved with just about every metropolitan transportation planning activity imaginable. From digitizing hand-drawn maps of bike trails to developing aviation plans, from sitting on the roadside counting the number of people in each vehicle to estimating (and prioritizing) billions of dollars in transportation funding over a 30-year planning horizon, the list goes on and on. One of my favorite things about working at MARC is having the opportunity to meet and interact with so many stakeholders and decision makers from across the Kansas City region. It’s a fascinating perspective to witness the unfolding of a vision for such a unique metropolitan area.



When I’m not working at MARC, I enjoy other activities that keep me connected to the planning profession. I am a member of the Standing Committee on Urban Data and Information Systems for the Transportation Research Board (TRB). Besides staying on top of the latest advancements in transportation (and all things related), my involvement with TRB provides an opportunity to guide research in a way that benefits planning practitioners. Also, I serve on the Oversight Board for the [Census Transportation Planning Products](#) (CTPP) program, which provides administration for the largest special tabulation of US Census data in support of transportation planning. I chair the

Board in various capacities. Participation in KC APA activities—attending programs, serving in a leadership role, helping plan and host an APA State Chapter conference—is an unbeatable way to connect with other planning professionals throughout the area and stay on top of the latest tools, topics and research. (And, for the record, nobody asked me to promote KC APA.)

My life isn't just about work and professional development, though. I manage to find time for hobbies and other interests, too. Ask any of my friends, family, or coworkers, and they'll tell you that I have a mild (?) obsession with food and all the things related to it: restaurants, ingredients, chefs, history, chemistry, etc. While I desperately try to avoid the label of "foodie" (the other "f" word, in my opinion), I am absolutely fascinated with the myriad ways we can prepare animals and plants for human consumption. Having lived in the Crossroads District for nearly 17 years (since before the neighborhood even had a name), I relish all the restaurants—past, present and future—within walking distance from my front door.

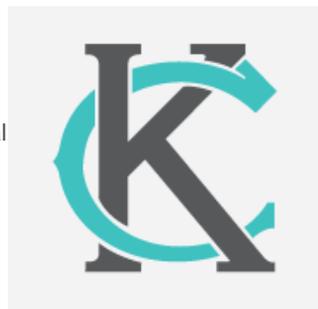
Another tidbit I'd like to share about myself is that I speak fluent Spanish. While this is probably more of a skill than a hobby, it definitely influences how I spend a lot of my spare time and is something in which I take great pride. After studying the language for several years in high school and college, I truly learned to speak Spanish while spending a semester abroad in Santiago de Compostela, Spain. Spanish, in terms of native speakers, is the second most widely spoken language in the world (Mandarin is first, and English is third.) The ability to communicate with hundreds of millions of other Spanish speakers on this planet is amazing to me, and has enhanced my experiences travelling through Spain and Latin America. Here in Kansas City, I've forged great friendships with Hispanics from all over the world, including many individuals I've met through the [Seville-Kansas City Sister Cities](#) program.

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## KC is Selected for NEA/Kresge Creative Placemaking Program

### Project will Enhance Visioning and Planning for West Bottoms

Kansas City is one of seven applicants from around the country selected by the National Endowment for the Arts for a pilot program that will provide tailored assistance for creative placemaking projects. The Office of Culture and Creative Services' (OCCS) winning proposal highlights an effort to integrate ideas of local artists and design professionals in the planning of public space for the City's historic West Bottoms.



The [Kresge Foundation](#), a national foundation that works to expand opportunities in America's cities through grantmaking and social investing, is partnering with the NEA to advance the OCCS' ability to lead a project that results in positive short- and long-term outcomes. [Local Initiatives Support Corporation](#), [National Creative Placemaking Program](#) (LISC) and [PolicyLink](#), will manage the program.

The West Bottoms Reborn project is a partnership between the City of Kansas City, Missouri, Kansas City Design Center, Historic West Bottoms, Unified Government of Wyandotte Country and the creative community committed to this important phase of dynamic growth.

through similar challenges, discovering solutions for comparable situations and celebrating successes around creative placemaking strategies,” KCMO Director of Creative Services Megan Crigger said.

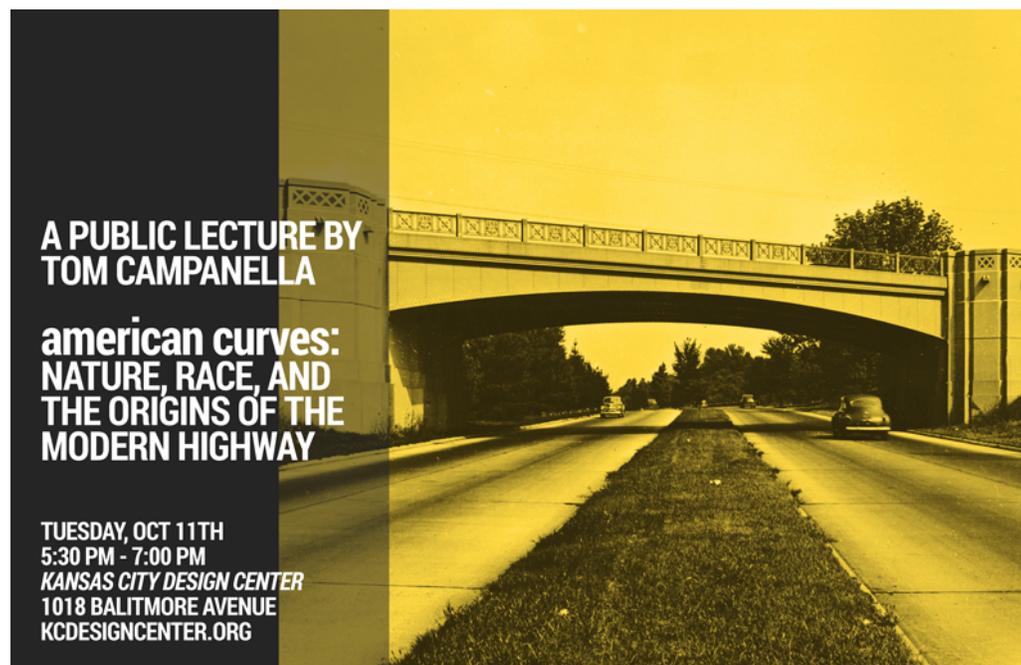
Regina Smith, managing director of Kresge’s Arts and Culture Program added “Stronger, more collaborative partnerships that foster equitable and inclusive community development will help advance creative placemaking projects that improve the life circumstances of vulnerable populations and strengthen neighborhoods. We are thrilled to partner with NEA, LISC and PolicyLink to pilot this initiative.”

The OCCS, with the Kansas City Design Center as the project design team, was awarded the NEA Our Town Grant in May 2016 to begin a collaborative process involving artists, community stakeholders and city departments and policymakers to address infrastructure and public space needs through arts-based strategies, to facilitate the design and production of art in public spaces and shape policy that maintains the viability of artistic production in the West Bottoms.

LISC supports projects that revitalize communities by providing capital and expertise to community-based organizations. PolicyLink is a national research and action institute advancing economic and social equity by Lifting Up What Works®

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## KCDC Lecture: Tom Campanella



Join us Tuesday, October 11th at the KCDC for a lecture by Tom Campanella. A social hour will be held starting at 5:30pm, with the lecture following at 6pm; admittance is free and street parking is available.

### About the lecture:

We tend to associate the emergence of the American expressway with the Eisenhower era and the Interstate highway program. But the origins of the modern motor road date back much further, to a series of parkways built in Westchester County, New York in the 1920s. The first of these, the Bronx River Parkway, was begun not as a road but as an effort to restore a terribly polluted waterway, led by one of the most problematic figures in American environmental history, Madison Grant. This talk

### About Tom Campanella:

Campanella is an historian of city planning and the urban built environment. He teaches at Cornell University and writes about the culture-space nexus in a variety of contexts, seeking to explain the manifold agents, actors, and forces that have shaped urban landscapes around the world. Though primarily an Americanist, he has also studied and written about the extraordinary growth of Chinese cities in the post-Mao era.

Campanella has received Guggenheim and Fulbright fellowships, and is a Fellow of the American Academy in Rome and the James Marston Fitch Foundation. His books include *The Concrete Dragon: China's Urban Revolution and What It Means for the World* (2008), and *Republic of Shade: New England and the American Elm* (2003), winner of the Spiro Kostof Award from the Society of Architectural Historians. He has held visiting appointments at Columbia, Harvard GSD, Nanjing University, and the Chinese University of Hong Kong. Campanella holds a Ph.D. from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (1999), a M.L.A. from Cornell (1991), and a B.S. from SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry (1986).

\*Please Note: AICP members can earn Certification Maintenance (CM) credits for this event. More information about AICP's CM program can be found at <http://www.planning.org/cm>

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## Sponsor Highlight: mySidewalk



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*Shockey Consulting, and Vireo.*

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## Job Opportunities

The following jobs have been recently posted to the KC APA's website. [Click here](#) to view the current openings.

### Job Opportunities

- **Community Development Director**

### Request for Proposals

- **Creation of a Unified Development Ordinance - City of Lansing**

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