

KC METRO CONNECTION



American Planning Association
Missouri Chapter | Kansas Chapter
Kansas City Metro Section

Making Great Communities Happen

A Publication of the Kansas City Metro Section of the Missouri Chapter and
Kansas Chapter of the American Planning Association

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Call for Candidates

Dear Members,

Have you ever wanted to participate in APA? Do you have great ideas for growing the section? Do you wish KCAPA offered more or different things? Then this is your chance!! KCAPA has three positions open for 2014. It is time to elect the Secretary, Treasure and Member-at-Large. We need your enthusiasm and ideas. Our timeline for the process is as follows:

- An email outlining the procedure for how to submit a bio and other submittal requirements will be provided by September 30th via email and at www.kc-apa.org
- Ballots will be sent to all members eligible to vote by October 31st.
- Announcement of election results will be provided at the annual meeting in early December.

Keep an eye out for future emails regarding the elections!

Best regards,

Diane

September Event Emerging KC Planning Issues

As a new school year begins the Kansas City metropolitan section of the American Planning Association (KCAPA) looks to discuss emerging planning trends and issues related to our region with the University of Missouri-Kansas City's (UMKC) Urban Planning + Design students. Topics ranging from transportation to sustainability to urban redevelopment will be discussed by a panel of professional planners, followed by an interactive Q&A session.

All students and anyone interested in hearing about emerging planning issues pertaining to Kansas City, and anyone interested in learning more about the



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Platinum



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Silver

MEMBER OF ARCHITECTURE
URBAN PLANNING + DESIGN
UMKC



DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES



Bronze

Urban Realty Interests



2013 Board Members

[Diane Binckley- President](#)

[Jim Potter - Vice President](#)

benefits of APA membership, should attend. KCAPA will provide a free lunch to all attendees.

September 27 | 12:00pm - 1:30pm
Katz Hall, Rm 101 | UMKC

Build Smart KC 2013 Conference

Join us for the Build Smart KC Conference on October 8th. Featuring keynote speakers Bob Berkebile, FAIA, and Puck Mykleby who will discuss the meaning, importance, and pathway to resilience in our communities. This year's program will host local experts taking on the different aspects of Building Smart including the reality of solar performance, materials reuse, holistic facility evaluations, 2012 International Green Building Code updates, green building financing and integrated building systems.

[Click here for session descriptions.](#)

[Click here to register.](#)

MDC | Focus Group Participants Needed

The Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) is conducting focus groups with Missourians throughout the state as part of a project to develop a campaign on the benefits of trees. One of the groups identified as important in this process is city planners. We are specifically interested conducting a focus group with city planners in the Kansas City area.

The focus group will take no more than 2 hours, and will be held at MDC Discovery Center, 4750 Troost Avenue in Kansas City. If interested, participants can choose to receive \$60 to thank them for taking the time to meet with us. In order to hold the focus group, we need a committed group of at least 8 but no more than 12 city planners.

If you would be willing to participate in the focus group **on Monday, September 23rd at 2 pm**, please provide your name, phone number and email address to Heather Scroggins, Human Dimensions Specialist with the Missouri Department of Conservation, at heather.scroggins@mdc.mo.gov by September 12th or you may phone her at (573) 815-7901 x 3931. Please do not feel you need to have any particular knowledge about trees or forestry to participate. Your opinions and thoughts as city planners are what is valuable to us.

APA Kansas Annual Planning Conference



Kansas Annual Planning Conference Sneak Peak

October 3-4, 2013 | Hilton Garden Inn | Manhattan, Kansas

[Jim Potter - Vice President](#)

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[Vincent Gauthier - Member at
Large](#)

[Amanda DeBrot - Media
Director](#)

Approved CM

Special Districts

This event was approved
for 1.5 Law CM Credit

Registration for the Kansas Annual Planning Conference will be live through September 18th. We are excited about the wide range of sessions that the conference will offer this year.

[Click here](#) for a sneak peak.

[Click here](#) for registration information.

APA Missouri Conference

The Ozark Mountain Section invites you to attend the 2013 Missouri State APA Conference. This year's conference will be held at the Hilton Convention Center located in beautiful downtown Branson near the Landing and Lake Taneycomo.

Our conference theme is Earth, Wind and Fire in the Hole, representing Codes/Policies/Plans; Natural Disaster/Politics; and Tourism/Economic Development. Choose to attend mobile workshops on Wednesday October 16 such as a visit to the Dewey Short Visitors Center/Fish Hatchery or a Behind the Scenes Tour of Silver Dollar City—Home of Outlaw Run, the world's steepest drop on a wooden roller coast (162 feet).

The Opening Reception will be held Wednesday Evening at The Titanic Museum. The Titanic is one of Branson's largest attractions. Enjoy drinks, visit with your peers and take a self-guided tour. You will be able to see the displays of over 400 personal and private artifacts directly from the ship on display. As a visitor, you will be able to touch a real iceberg, walk the grand staircase and third class hallways, reach your hand into 28 degree water and stand on sloping decks to get a feel for what it was like for the actual passengers of The Titanic.

Conference registration is open! Please visit www.mo-apa.org to register. Early bird registration is \$190. After October 2, 2013, registration increases to \$235. Register now! Information regarding reduced rates at the Hilton Hotel can also be found on the state chapter website.

KCAPA Book Review

The Control of Nature by John McPhee

While sitting in a meeting at the Lake of the Ozarks discussing wastewater management issues, Ameren UE officials were explaining to me their role with the Lake and that of the US Corps of Engineers. Interesting how this partnership of owner, government agency (along with the affected state agencies and local governments) works together to oversee this wonderful resource and indeed manage the natural environment to protect the public and private investments in the area. An Ameren UE soil scientist recommended "The Control of Nature" as a fascinating look into man's determination to come

out on top in the ongoing struggle against natural forces.

John McPhee, long-time contributor to the New Yorker Magazine, offers vivid stories of three unique circumstances where natural events threaten the human interest. McPhee details the strategies and tactics used to try and wrest control from nature itself in stubborn and often ingenious ways. The folksy narrative makes for a pleasant read and provides a kinder backdrop in which to meet the characters involved and impacted by each event.

The first story tells of the massive Corps of Engineers project to keep the Mississippi River from naturally changing its course to the Gulf of Mexico as it has done enumerable times throughout the centuries. Sensing such a natural change would forever alter the economic and social landscape of New Orleans and threaten the very shipping industry of the country, the Corps decided it could maintain the existing course of the river through a massive fortress – part dam, part valve – at a place called Old River. Our second story takes us to Iceland where in 1973 a small island split open and started pouring huge amounts of lava headed directly to a critical harbor and port city less than a half mile away. A plan was hatched to divert disaster resulting in an all-out endeavor unique in human history. The final story revolves around the hills of Los Angeles and how government agencies, under intense pressure from well to do homeowners in some of the priciest real estate in the nation, attempt to control the ongoing rock and debris flows threatening the mountain side mansions.

Living at the confluence of two major rivers, we in Kansas City know well the struggles against natural forces and the implications of those strategies to counteract them. Our region continues to explore the balance between proper river management and flood control with the potential for river front development and recreational use. And we as planners remain obligated to evaluate the impact to our natural environment within our master plans and development proposals. John McPhee places this balance and struggle in a much grander context and makes one wonder to what extent we should be willing to go to take control of nature.

[Click here](#) to view/purchase the book.

Job Opportunities

Senior Planning Technician

Full-time position available with the City of KCMO's City Planning Department. Normal Work Days/Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Works with professional planners in the production of documents for the City Planning Commission and the Board of Zoning Adjustment. Documents include docket maps, legal notice lists, graphics, renderings, and other necessary support materials. Creates, modifies, transfers, copies, and stores plat graphic files in the preparation of drawings and other related planning and engineering data using ArcGis 10, SketchUp, Adobe Acrobat, Pagemaker, InDesign, and autoCAD. REQUIRES high school graduation and 5 years of responsible experience in the various phases and techniques of planning illustration including cartography and map work: OR an

of planning illustrations, including cartography and map work, OR an equivalent combination of qualifying education and experience. Preference given for experience using ArcGis 10, SketchUp, Adobe Acrobat, Pagemaker, InDesign, and autoCAD. Salary Range: \$2,823-\$4,422/month. Application Deadline Date: September 16, 2013. Apply online at www.kcmo.org/jobs. EOE. The City of Kansas City, Missouri is an equal opportunity employer committed to a diverse workforce.

[Please Visit Our Site at www.kc-apa.org](http://www.kc-apa.org)

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