



2019 APA OHIO PLANNING CONFERENCE

PROGRAM SESSIONS

Wednesday, October 2

Professional Development Workshop

WEDNESDAY | 8:00 - 9:00 AM

Conference Registration and Continental Breakfast

WEDNESDAY | 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM

Simpler and Better: A "Lean" Approach to Urban Planning

Hilton Downtown Cleveland | \$90 (includes breakfast and lunch)

Communities are increasingly looking for creative ways to cost-effectively serve residents and businesses and attract new investment. To do this, many local governments are turning to Lean Six Sigma, a process improvement approach that has been used in private industry for decades to reduce waste, ensure profitability, and provide a superior customer experience. In this interactive workshop, attendees from the public sector, private sector and anything in between will learn how they can use basic Lean Six Sigma tools to identify and initiate process improvement projects to reduce costs and improve efficiency, while implementing meaningful, customer focused change in the communities they serve.

WEDNESDAY | 8:15 AM - 4:30 PM

Offsite Workshop: Shrink or Swim? Akron's Bold Plan for Growth

Bus and Walking | \$90 (includes breakfast and lunch)

The prevailing narrative about how to fix struggling Rust Belt cities has revolved around "Shrinking Cities" and "Smart Decline" – theories that argue for restructuring, retrenchment and relocation to better serve ever-smaller populations. Akron is rejecting these notions. Instead, they are focusing on how to grow the city and build on its assets. This mobile workshop will discuss the plans, policies, relationships and partnerships working in collaboration to achieve this bold goal of growth in the face of systemic decline. The day kicks off with a panel discussion hosted by the Downtown Akron Partnership. A walking tour of Downtown Akron highlights the Main Street Promenade, new residential development, small-scale interventions such as the activation of Lock 4 and a zen-inspired street mural on Northside Green, and the new start up incubator and urban market, Northside Marketplace. Second stop: the Middlebury neighborhood. Learn about the multifaceted efforts of the Well CDC and take a caffeine break at Compass Coffee, which has become a bustling new hub for the neighborhood. The final stop will be the Kenmore neighborhood, where the Kenmore Neighborhood Alliance has tapped into the local music and arts scene to breathe life back into Kenmore Boulevard. Highlights include Akron's first protected bike lane, the Live Music Now! venue, more coffee and the revamped Rialto Theater.

Opening Reception

WEDNESDAY | 5:30 - 8:00 PM

Dante's Inferno, 1059 Old River Road

The 1969 Cuyahoga River fire ignited the modern environmental movement and led to the creation of the US Environmental Protection Agency. Celebrate the river's recovery and kick off the conference at a casual riverfront happy hour on the East Bank of the Flats. Registration includes drink tickets and appetizers; guest tickets available for purchase.



2019 APA OHIO PLANNING CONFERENCE

PROGRAM SESSIONS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3

Conference Registration and Networking Breakfast

THURSDAY | 6:45 - 8:00 AM

Conference Registration and Continental Breakfast

Opening Plenary

THURSDAY | 8:00 - 9:30 AM

Looking Back, Moving Forward

The planning profession has evolved over the last 100 years in response to emerging issues, trends and technologies. Join us for a brief look back at the history of planning in Ohio with former APA Ohio President Greg Dale, FAICP. Explore what comes next with a moderated panel discussion led by Dan Moulthrop, City Club of Cleveland CEO. Our esteemed panel will discuss how planning must evolve in the face of climate change, diversity and inequity, and disruptive new technologies – from autonomous vehicles to the sharing economy. Speakers Rick Stein, Dean Roland Anglin, and Terry Schwarz, FAICP will expand your views on the future of our profession.

Morning Concurrent Sessions & Mobile Workshops

THURSDAY | 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Mobile Workshop: Cleveland's Intersection of CHOICE

Bus and Walking | \$15 | 40 participants

Cleveland's Central CHOICE Neighborhood Transformation Plan identified opportunities and strategies to improve the lives of all residents, students and businesses. The mobile workshop will emphasize realized urban design initiatives that stitch together a fragmented community, with an intense focus on the East 30th and Community College intersection in the City of Cleveland's Central Neighborhood. The Central neighborhood is home to over 10,000 residents and several large institutions, ranging from college campuses to medical facilities. The Central plan is one of 85 CHOICE Plans funded nationwide since the program's inception in 2010, and has served as a guidepost for initiatives. We will highlight major investments in the 670 acre study area, including the Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority's reconstruction of the Cedar Estates into a connected mixed-income neighborhood, Sankofa Village (named by residents); Cuyahoga Community College's \$80M+ investment in its campus, including the repositioning of its plaza to directly link to the neighborhood (overcoming a 1960s bunker mentality); and the reconstruction of a major corridor, East 22nd Street, as a multi-modal link between employers and other institutions.

THURSDAY | 9:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Mobile Workshop: Transit Oriented Development: Old and New

Walking and transit | \$15 | 30 participants

This transit-oriented mobile workshop will visit two different TODs on the RTA Blue Line train: the historic Shaker Square in Cleveland and the new Van Aken District in Shaker Heights. Participants will board the train at the Downtown Tower City station and stop for walking tours at both locations. The first stop is Shaker Square, where attendees will hear about the recently completed visioning process that targeted the revitalization of the public realm in and around Shaker (cont.)

THURSDAY | Mobile Workshop: Transit Oriented Development: Old and New (continued)

Square. Shaker Square is a hinge between suburban Shaker Heights and Cleveland's Buckeye and Larchmere communities. Originally developed as a transit hub, Shaker Square has seen many different commercial iterations over its 90-year history and is a critical link between disparate communities. The second stop is the Van Aken District, a new mixed-use, transit-oriented neighborhood in historic Shaker Heights that includes retail, office, and housing at the eastern terminus of the RTA Blue Line rapid transit. The project is the result of sustained planning over 18 years including 5 plans and 60+ public meetings. Learn about the planning documents that set the stage for creation of a new downtown at the center of a city originally planned over 100 years ago, and learn about the strategies used to implement the vision. Hear from the developer and their design team, as well as city design consultants. Tour the first phase of development, including the Market Hall, brand new apartments, the transit station area and the Living Room public park. Experience the unique local flavor created via a combination of local and regional tenants specifically curated to create the new neighborhood. Purchase lunch in the Van Aken District and return to downtown Cleveland via RTA on your own schedule.

THURSDAY | 9:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Mobile Workshop: Putting People First in Neighborhood Planning - Old Brooklyn & Clark Fulton Trolley and walking | \$15 | 30 participants

Attendees of this mobile workshop will have the opportunity to take a bus tour of two near west side Cleveland neighborhoods. The Old Brooklyn and the Clark Fulton neighborhoods are both seeing a resurgence of commercial, residential, and recreational investment. Unlike other neighborhoods, this growth isn't building from entertainment districts, the arts, or waterfront adjacencies. Instead, it's based on celebrating the history and culture of the neighborhoods, and providing amenities and services that put the neighborhood first. In Old Brooklyn this has meant rebuilding its main street core, creating unique programming that responds to the community's demographics, and launching "a great place to grow" marketing campaign to attract young families. While in Clark Fulton, where the densest population of Hispanic and Latino residents live in the state of Ohio, celebrating the diversity and heritage of the residents is vitally important to creating community and a thriving neighborhood. Clark Fulton's La Villa Hispana is creating a space for a resident-owned small business incubator and public spaces designed to celebrate Latin traditions. In each neighborhood, the tour will include stops that highlight local business development, parks, unique residential streets, and the other amenities that put the people of the neighborhoods first in planning decisions. Attendees will have the chance to purchase lunch at one of a number of local, ethnic businesses highlighted during the tour.

THURSDAY | 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Mobile Workshop: Cuyahoga Riverfront and the Flats East Bank Walking | Free | 20 participants

Join experts for a walking tour of the ongoing and planned redevelopment of Downtown Cleveland's Cuyahoga Riverfront. This tour will start and end at the Hilton, with attendees having the opportunity to hear the story of the rebirth of the Flats from a once faltering entertainment district to what is today a vibrant mixed-use neighborhood that unites businesses, entertainment and public space with the area's industrial heritage.

THURSDAY | 9:45 - 10:45 AM

Ohio's Small Cities Are Regaining Their Might: A Look Inside the Tiffin Story

While many rural areas in the Midwest are facing aging populations, declining manufacturing and the clustering of tech and service jobs in larger cities, some rural, small cities are showing that success can come in small packages with good planning and local, strategic investment.

THURSDAY | 9:45 - 10:45 AM

Building Neighborhoods with Youth

City planning has evolved beyond physical development to focus on ensuring there is a “people component” in development. The session will explore new ways to engage youth in building their own community through parks and programming.

THURSDAY | 9:45 - 10:45 AM

Preparing Visionary Practitioners: Considering the Future of Planning Education

This session discusses the issue of how we educate our students to succeed in the planning profession and prepare them for the job market, while setting them up to be visionary thinkers about the future of the communities, cities and world in which they work.

THURSDAY | 9:45 - 10:45 AM

Has Pedestrianism Gone Too Far? Planning for Walkability in a Multi-Modal Context

For decades planners have been advocating for pedestrian-first design in our streets and streetscapes. What about other travel modes, such as transit and cycling? The session will prepare us to ask the hard questions about what we want to achieve when retrofitting streets in our communities.

THURSDAY | 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Attitudes and Progress Towards Regionalism in Northeast Ohio

The session will discuss the implications of collaborative planning and policymaking as an adaptive approach to mitigating population loss, altering regional trends, and pursuing a more sustainable future for Northeast Ohio and other Legacy City regions.

THURSDAY | 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

The Once and Future Suburbs: How Maturing Communities are Evolving with the Times

Explore creative planning and urban design strategies that maturing communities are adopting to evolve in light of emerging economic, demographic and cultural changes.

THURSDAY | 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Kindling and Re-Kindling: Firing Up Innovation in a Cool Place

Innovation Districts bring anchor institutions and companies together with start-ups, business incubators and accelerators to provide a compact, accessible, livable space. Learn how two places - one urban, one suburban - are using the districts to advance economic development and create diverse, interesting places.

THURSDAY | 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Media, Stories and Community: Getting Personal

Traditional media outlets and urban planning processes often inadvertently exclude large segments of the population, with the result that only the worst news or loudest voices are heard. Speakers will show how the fields of journalism and urban planning can inform each other, helping both to evolve to become more equitable and more helpful to the communities they serve.

THURSDAY | 11:00 AM - 12:15 PM

AICP Exam Prep

Are you considering taking the next step in your career to become a certified professional planner? This AICP (American Institute of Certified Planners) exam prep session is a valuable starting point. You will learn details on the application process, exam content and testing tips. You'll also hear from a recent test taker with the ability to ask questions and make study group connections.

Afternoon Concurrent Sessions & Mobile Workshops

THURSDAY | 1:15 - 2:15 PM

Short and Sweet

An entertaining mix of bite-sized presentations highlight a variety of planning efforts and perspectives across Ohio.

THURSDAY | 1:45 - 4:45 PM

Mobile Workshop: From Private to Public: Reclaiming Euclid's Waterfront
Bus and walking | \$15 | 40 participants

In 2009, the Euclid Waterfront Improvement Plan established a \$30M vision for the city's Lake Erie shoreline, of which only six percent was publicly accessible. Through a public consensus-building process, the first phase of improvements - a fishing pier and ADA-accessible trails linking the lakefront to downtown - were constructed. Phase II will be completed in October 2019, featuring a three-quarter mile public all-purpose trail at the water's edge, erosion mitigation, shoreline stabilization and habitat/beach reclamation, providing for environmental tourism and recreational opportunities. This represents the longest coastal project ODNR has ever permitted. Through land donations and easement agreements from over 100 land owners, the vision reinforces regional goals for healthy communities and sets a precedent for catalytic economic development along Lake Erie. Euclid is the 17th largest city in Ohio, with a majority-minority population with income below state average. Historically, the lakefront was publicly accessible, but a 20th-century housing and industrial boom changed the landscape. Now, the city is reclaiming its best natural asset for the benefit of all. This project is positioned to transform not only the deteriorating shoreline and natural habitats of Lake Erie, but to elevate property values, quality of life and overall attractiveness of the lakefront city to new investment.

THURSDAY | 1:45 - 4:45 PM

Mobile Workshop: The Opportunity Corridor - Insights from Neighborhoods being Transformed by Infrastructure Investment
Trolley and walking | \$15 | 30 participants

Join neighborhood and transportation planners on a tour of one of the largest multi-modal roadway projects under construction in the region. The Opportunity Corridor is a planned boulevard that will run from East 55th Street at Interstate 490 to East 105th Street in University Circle where it is anchored by one of the region's largest education, medical and arts job hubs. It includes a separated cycle track and four underutilized rapid transit stops that may see increased economic activity due to the boulevard. With neighborhoods along its route once referred to as the "Forgotten Triangle" due to the lack of economic activity, communities in and around the Opportunity Corridor are each finding unique ways they can use this infrastructure investment as a catalyst for much more. Encompassing nearly 1,000 acres on Cleveland's southeast side, attendees of this mobile workshop will tour the corridor and hear the first-hand stories of the opportunities and challenges this investment is bringing to residents of the Slavic Village, Central, Kinsman, Fairfax and University Circle neighborhoods.

THURSDAY | 2:30 - 3:30 PM

The Road to Vision Zero: Lessons and Next Steps

Vision Zero is a strategy to eliminate all traffic fatalities and severe injuries, while increasing safe, healthy and equitable mobility for all. Learn about the technical challenges of developing a Vision Zero Action Plan and the alignment of values and priorities across varied partners.

THURSDAY | 2:30 - 3:30 PM

Evolving Economic Development Practices: Job Hubs and a More Competitive Future

As development trends have changed, jobs have transitioned from dense urban cores to regional job hubs where people are able to choose where they live and commute to work. This session will discuss how job are in alignment with civic priorities and economic development opportunities, as well as prioritize development to utilize existing infrastructure and connect labor to jobs.

THURSDAY | 2:30 - 3:30 PM

Urban Design for Ohio Communities

Community design centers are non-profit organizations or university-based programs that provide urban design and planning services to cities and towns with a focus on vulnerable communities and underserved areas. Hear about the work of Ohio's four design centers and how these organizations might be helpful to your community.

THURSDAY | 2:30 - 3:30 PM

Building a Culture of Community Health in Cleveland

Hear from one Community Development Corporation that is incorporating a health lens in traditional planning and programming to create opportunities to make health the easy option. Outcomes include strengthened social connectivity, expanded resident engagement and cultural inclusion, and increased access to healthy food and wellness opportunities.

THURSDAY | 2:30 - 3:30 PM

APA Ohio Board Meeting

Join us at the annual membership meeting of the APA Ohio Board of Trustees. Learn about our Strategic Plan Update currently in process and how to get more involved in chapter activities, including advocacy for good planning policy in Ohio.

THURSDAY | 3:45 - 4:45 PM

Community as Expert: New Approaches to Planning and Development with a Racial Equity Lens

We often rely on experts and technocrats as our consultants to provide a vision for the future of cities. But, what if residents and community members were our consultants and co-designers for a collective vision too? Join speakers for a lively discussion on constructive and disruptive ways to create equitable and inclusive places and spaces for all people.

THURSDAY | 3:45 - 4:45 PM

Building and Sustaining Mixed-Income Communities: From Theory to Reality

Cities across the nation are faced with the opportunity of revitalization, alongside the challenge of displacement and the potential alienation of low-income residents of color. Panelists will share best practices and lessons learned from the redevelopment and restoration of one historic building, and strategies for connecting the benefits of revitalization to residents of all incomes.

THURSDAY | 3:45 - 4:45 PM

Ohioans in Orbit? Planning for the City's Evolving Relationships with Outer Space

How will human settlement evolve alongside the innovations in aviation and aerospace infrastructure? As the historic home of some of the world's greatest aviators and astronauts, Ohio is a fitting place to reflect on the relationship between human settlement and air transportation over the past 100 years and look to the next 100 years.

THURSDAY | 3:45 - 4:45 PM

Seeing the Urban Forest Beyond the Trees: The Cleveland Tree Plan

In 2015, the City of Cleveland adopted the Cleveland Tree Plan as a rallying cry for restoring the urban tree canopy in the Forest City. This session will highlight key aspects of the plan, including GIS tools for assessing tree canopy and identifying vacant land, public education and engagement, financing the planting of trees, and the crucial aspect of maintenance.

THURSDAY | 3:45 - 5:15 PM

Last Call for Planning Ethics

Dive into ethics in the planning profession with an overview of key state ethics laws, applicable to all who work with the public, as well as the AICP Code of Ethics. The session will include participatory discussion of the Ethics Case of the Year and other scenarios your peers have struggled with on a state and national basis. Cash bar.

Conference Reception and APA Ohio Planning Awards Ceremony

6:00 - 8:30 PM

The Ohio Theatre, Playhouse Square, 1511 Euclid Avenue

It's a birthday party and you're invited! We will celebrate the APA Ohio centennial in style with a cocktail reception in Cleveland's historic Playhouse Square. The 2019 APA Ohio Planning Awards will be presented at 6:30 PM. Registration includes open bar, hors d'oeuvres and cake! Guest tickets available for purchase.



2019 APA OHIO PLANNING CONFERENCE

PROGRAM SESSIONS

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4

Conference Registration and Networking Breakfast

FRIDAY | 6:45 - 8:00 AM

Conference Registration and Continental Breakfast

Morning Concurrent Sessions & Mobile Workshops

FRIDAY | 8:00 – 9:00 AM

Projecting Progress: A Dashboard for Tracking Plan Implementation and Showcasing Success

As planners, we dedicate significant time and energy to the plan-making process. But what comes after Council's seal of approval? Learn how Cincinnati is communicating information to stakeholders through interactive dashboards in a real-time format - assisting with the delivery of government services, increasing transparency and ensuring accountability in implementing the vision of the city.

FRIDAY | 8:00 – 9:00 AM

100 Years of Zoning in Ohio: How Cities Have Fared and Where We Go from Here

This session will look at Ohio's influence on American zoning: as early adopters in Ohio's large cities, the Euclid v. Ambler case, its role in the proliferation of the urban automotive era, white flight, suburbanization and re-urbanization. Looking to the future, speakers discuss how zoning is assisting Ohio's cities in reclaiming their status as some of the most vibrant urban places in America.

FRIDAY | 8:00 – 9:00 AM

Community Benefits Agreements

Community groups have gone beyond local governments to demand participation in the planning of major projects which impact their communities, proposing Community Benefits Agreements to offset negative impacts and/or to include positive benefits for their communities. We will review the structure of these agreements, discuss examples, and focus on the role of planners in making and implementing CBAs.

FRIDAY | 8:00 – 9:00 AM

From Lifeless Pedestrian Mall to Rejuvenated Downtown Main Street

Over the past century, Downtown Cuyahoga Falls has adapted to meet the evolving demands of the retail marketplace. Hear from the planners, market analysts and historic preservationists who led recent work, using past revitalization efforts and current retail trends to visualize and implement a new Front Street for the 21st century.

FRIDAY | 8:00 - 11:00 AM

Mobile Workshop: Habitat for Hard Places - A Cuyahoga River Cruise

Boat and trolley | \$20 | 62 participants

Fifty years ago, the Cuyahoga River was so polluted that it caught on fire. This workshop will highlight how today, water quality is much improved. Opportunities for development and recreation along the river are expanding and the river has a small but growing population of fish. However, challenges remain. The last six miles of the Cuyahoga River flow through the industrial center of Cleveland and past new development areas in the Flats. Steel and concrete bulkheads hold back the river banks and ensure clear passage for 700-foot-long lake carriers as they navigate the river's twists and turns. The channel is dredged to 23 feet to allow these behemoths to pass. It's not a welcoming place for fish. Larval and juvenile fish coming out of the shallow natural river have to navigate the ship channel to get to Lake Erie. The water is silty, large ships roil the waters and discharges of warm water from sewer overflows and industries make some areas inhospitable for cold-water fish. Welcoming habitats that provide oxygen, food and shelter are few and far apart. Without accommodations for young fish, this habitat gap affects the health of the lake/river fishery that is so important to people and the Great Lakes economy. Cuyahoga River Restoration's Habitat for Hard Places initiative has implemented habitat projects on the bulkheads and has plans for behind-the-bulkhead habitats to give small fish places to feed and rest as they travel through the ship channel, as well as areas where adult fish could spawn.

FRIDAY | 8:00 - 11:00 AM

Mobile Workshop: Great Places: Public Square & Ohio City's West Side Market

Walking and transit | \$15 | 30 participants

APA began the Great Places in America Awards twelve years ago to recognize the neighborhoods, streets and public spaces that make communities strong and bring people together. Many great places have been recognized here in Ohio, including two unique destinations in Cleveland that will be the focus of this mobile workshop. Speakers will talk about these special places, and how they're shaping community interaction and economic development in surrounding neighborhoods. Downtown's Public Square is the physical and symbolic core of the city and region. Included in the original city plan from 1796, it was transformed in 2016, and is once again inspiring Clevelanders to recognize the value of civic public spaces. Attendees will then visit the historic West Side Market in the Ohio City neighborhood. The West Side Market, opened in 1912, is both a neighborhood amenity and tourist destination offering an array of grocery stands, many of which have been in families for generations. The Market serves as the focal point of Ohio City's Market District, one of the city's most popular neighborhood commercial districts. Attendees will have the chance to visit and shop in the Market and tour the surrounding community that continues to grow and transform around this iconic Cleveland public space.

FRIDAY | 8:00 - 11:30 AM

Mobile Workshop: Collaboration to Connect Communities by Trails – A Bike Tour of Cleveland's Waterfront and Trail

Walking and biking | \$20 (includes bike/helmet rental) | 30 participants

Join us for a guided, 8.5-mile bike tour of the growing network of trails and bike lanes in Cleveland. This 3.5-hour tour will include segments of three major trail projects underway or recently completed: the final phases of the 110-mile Towpath Trail, the Cleveland Lakefront Bikeway and the Re-Connecting Cleveland TIGER-grant funded trail project. Speakers will discuss how partnerships were formed and how stakeholders were engaged to build the support needed to advance these projects from plan to reality. The variety of funding sources that were assembled will be covered. The impacts of these investments, the evolution of how the city's transportation facilities are used and changing views on how waterfront assets are utilized will be explored. Finally, speakers will share the importance of clear wayfinding and communications when navigating trails managed by multiple entities. We will visit a pilot wayfinding program along the Cleveland Lakefront Bikeway. The bike tour will make stops in various neighborhoods to explore the community impacts of park and trail projects and to hear from other community partners. This workshop is for advanced riders as portions of the tour will include grade changes and use of on-street bicycle facilities/riding with vehicular traffic.

FRIDAY | 8:00 - 9:00 AM

Mobile Workshop: The Burnham Plan for Cleveland's Civic Center

Walking | Free | 20 participants

Tour Cleveland's Civic Center as you learn how Daniel Burnham's visionary City Beautiful plan spawned the creation of grand buildings and expansive green spaces. Tour guides and historical figures will tell the story of how the Burnham Plan continues to be implemented even today with the Hilton complex and planned lakefront connectors.

FRIDAY | 9:15 – 10:15 AM

Sparkling Revitalization in Retail Corridors

The death of bricks and mortar retail has been greatly exaggerated. As technology evolves and disruption is commonplace, how do our cities, towns and suburbs adapt to accommodate the rapidly changing retail environment? This session aims to showcase how our communities can evolve to create great places for retail built to last.

FRIDAY | 9:15 – 10:15 AM

Revitalizing Youngstown: Putting Youngstown 2010 to Work

Learn how one Legacy City is using planning skills and tools to transform itself. Speakers address the nuts-and-bolts of addressing wide-spread abandonment, updating obsolete codes and practices, reviving the city's housing market and encouraging private reinvestment.

FRIDAY | 9:15 – 10:15 AM

Form-Based Zoning for the Rest of Us

You want the kind of pedestrian-friendly development and vibrant, mixed-use districts that a form-based zoning code is designed to achieve. But you're not ready to get rid of your traditional "Euclidean" zoning code and map. The good news is that there is a third choice. Learn how to update your familiar zoning code, strategically, to incorporate form-based elements to achieve design goals for your community.

FRIDAY | 9:15 – 10:15 AM

Take Back the Mic: Stop Planning Public Meetings and Start Hosting Engaging Events

Cancel your public meetings. Throw out the agenda. Take back the mic. Tired of hearing from the same 20 residents about planning initiatives in your town? Increase attendance and input from citizens by engaging them in fun, interesting events. Learn how to attract crowds of engaged citizens, because planning for the future of your community should be exciting for everyone that lives there.

FRIDAY | 9:15 - 11:15 AM

Mobile Workshop: A Day in the Life of a Downtown Resident

Walking | Free | 20 participants

Tour guides will take attendees on a walking tour of Downtown Cleveland, viewed through the lens of a typical downtown resident. From leaving home, to getting a coffee, taking the trolley to work, grocery shopping and joining friends for dinner and entertainment, this tour will showcase the ways the downtown has grown into an active urban neighborhood.

FRIDAY | 10:30 – 11:30 AM

Creative Funding and Financing in a “New Normal” Small City

Learn about the tools the City of Sandusky used to reinvigorate its downtown, lakefront and neighborhoods including creative funding and financing, leveraging assets and ecology, building public-private-philanthropic partnerships and a little bit of good timing. The result is a renaissance of this city of 25,000 residents in less than four years.

FRIDAY | 10:30 – 11:30 AM

A Paradox for Transit in the Age of Autonomy

As mobility evolves to rely on autonomy, some predict inevitable doom for transit. But is it equally possible that opportunities for dense auto-free development will come hand-in-hand with a new era of transportation in which transit plays a central role? Speakers will share examples from across the nation of how transit agencies are reacting to mobility changes and preparing for the technology of the future.

FRIDAY | 10:30 – 11:30 AM

Shrink or Swim: Akron’s Bold Plan for Growth

The prevailing narrative about how to fix struggling Rust Belt cities has revolved around restructuring, retrenchment and relocation to serve ever-smaller populations. Akron is rejecting these notions, instead focusing on how to grow the city and build on its assets. A panel will discuss the projects, plans, policies, relationships and partnerships working to achieve this bold goal of growth in the face of systemic decline.

FRIDAY | 10:30 – 11:30 AM

The Executive View: How Community Master Plans Shape a Community

Each of Cuyahoga County’s 59 communities have diverse needs, issues and opportunities in demographics, jobs, land use, transportation, sustainability and funding. Reflecting on their work with the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission to develop master plans, four city executives will share lessons learned regarding ways to improve the mobility, health, well-being and economic vitality for all communities in the County.

Keynote Luncheon

FRIDAY | 11:30 AM – 1:15 PM

Anthony Townsend, Bits and Atoms

Dr. Anthony Townsend is an internationally-recognized expert on the future of cities and information technology. He is the founder of the New York City-based firm Bits and Atoms, a strategic advisory practice focused on technology-enabled urban development, and author of the book *Smart Cities: Big Data, Civic Hackers, and the Quest for A New Utopia*. Townsend's research focuses on autonomous vehicles and the future of mobility, how data and artificial intelligence are reshaping urban life and urban governance, and how cities are planning for technology. He was recently named one of Planetizen's Leading Thinkers in Urban Planning & Technology and one of the Top 100 Thinkers tracking the Internet of Things by Postscales.

As Townsend says, he "writes stuff about cities and things that blink and beep" and will share with us the numerous ways in which smart city technology manifests itself. He sees comprehensive planning as a critical tool to preserve human values and ethics in an age of rapid technological change. These "digital master plans" can help communities effectively balance the need for local development and innovation with the understandable caution regarding the unknown - prioritizing smart city functions and outlining the steps required to achieve them.

Afternoon Concurrent Sessions & Mobile Workshops

FRIDAY | 1:30 – 2:30 PM

Get Smart: Future Technologies Meet Your Community

Continue the conversation with keynote speaker Anthony Townsend and dive deeper into how automation, data and artificial intelligence are reshaping our communities and how we can plan to get smart.

FRIDAY | 1:30 – 2:30 PM

Planning for Age-Friendly Communities in Ohio

By 2025, more than one in four Ohioans will be age 60 and older. Communities need to innovate and adapt to these shifts in age demographics. Planners will play a unique role in addressing the needs of older adults and ensuring equitable outcomes across the age spectrum. Learn from two Ohio communities - a large city and a rural county - about their age-friendly efforts born from planning agencies.

FRIDAY | 1:30 – 2:30 PM

The Future Was Then: Lessons Foreseen in a Fully Electric Future

Taking a hindsight perspective, speakers review Ohio's transportation system at the beginning of the 21st century, the technologies and policies needed to shift away from the internal combustion engine, the ways in which our interactions with the built environment changed, how our approaches to housing and the rural-urban divide progressed and the impact all of this has had on equity, energy and the environment.

FRIDAY | 1:30 - 2:30 PM

Small Cell Deployments

The shift to 4G/5G is an opportunity for cities to have the infrastructure backbone for truly smart cities in the future. Everyone wants digital connectivity at their fingertips; however, the unappealing result of past installations is a big reason governments are slow to allow small cell poles. Learn about new, attractive options being offered for 4G/5G small cell deployments.

FRIDAY | 1:30 – 2:30 PM

Downtown Walks

Get a move on after lunch! Breathe some fresh air, stop for a coffee, burn a few calories and learn more about Cleveland. Small group tours will visit different Cleveland highlights, including Public Square, the Cleveland Public Library, the Warehouse District and the Cleveland Arcades.

FRIDAY | 2:45 – 3:45 PM

Preserving Ohio's Rural Character: Hard Truths and New Strategies

Defining "rural" in 2019 is not simple. Over the last 100 years, changes to the agricultural industry, demand for housing, changing preferences in the farming community and cultural factors have led to rural development that has a distinctly different look and feel. This session draws from recent county planning efforts to share strategies for preserving the rural character of Ohio in this new era.

FRIDAY | 2:45 – 3:45 PM

Stuck Without the Middle: How Timid Housing Policies Could Hold Ohio Back

Many communities in Ohio are not meeting housing demand given projected population growth over the next 30 years, partly due to the region's reticence to embrace the full range of housing types. Examine best practices from two Ohio communities and elsewhere in the country. This session will focus on issues of affordability, housing type and design.

FRIDAY | 2:45 – 3:45 PM

Beyond Blades of Grass: Strategic Planning for Vacant Land

A decade ago, Northeast Ohio and much of the United States was in the middle of one of the worst economic downturns of a generation. Our state is now at an inflection point, economically and politically. This panel will discuss strategies around creative placemaking, green space restoration, alternative forms of land ownership and acquisition, infill development and the tools used to address this looming issue.