



HEALTHY PLANNERS FOR HEALTHY PLACES

CALL FOR SESSIONS

OHIO KENTUCKY INDIANA REGIONAL PLANNING CONFERENCE

SEP 30 *to* OCT 2 | Dayton, Ohio

OKI26 DETAILS

September 30 - October 2
Dayton Convention Center
Dayton, Ohio



CONFERENCE THEME
Planners perform at their best when they prioritize wellness - both in and out of the workplace. This year's theme, *Healthy Planners for Healthy Places*, highlights the essential connection between personal well-being and the ability to shape thriving communities. Now more than ever, the well-being of planners matters.

The 2026 OKI Regional Planning Conference is brought to you by:



Contact our team
with questions:

Christine Davis, AICP
info@ohioplanning.org



CONFERENCE SESSIONS

All sessions submitted must be eligible for AICP Certification Maintenance credit. Session durations will vary throughout the conference schedule. Therefore, session proposals can be submitted in various increments depending on the maturity of the topic and range of speakers.

Final conference tracks will be identified as the schedule develops. Select what topic(s) you feel your proposal best addresses.

SESSION FORMATS

Traditional Sessions (60 min)

A standard session for the APA Ohio Statewide Planning Conference. This traditional panel presentation focuses on one topic and features a variety of speakers with common experience, but varying perspectives. These sessions may include a moderator and are given in presentation form with questions from the audience at the end.

Deep Dive Sessions (60 min)

Intended for more experienced attendees, deep dives are interactive and thought-provoking sessions that allow for a more focused, in-depth exploration of a planning topic than is possible in regular sessions. Rooms are set up in rounds of 8 and limited to 25 participants for maximum engagement and participation.

Technical Sessions (60 min)

Intended for more experienced attendees, technical sessions are hands-on, interactive sessions focused on learning practical skills and understanding specific technical concepts and/or technologies. Rooms are set up in rounds of 8 and limited to 30 participants for maximum engagement and participation.

Mobile Workshops (90–120 min)

Mobile workshops will travel outside the conference venue to give attendees a first-hand look at communities and projects. Organizers of these workshops should include logistics in their submission such as transportation, site(s), speakers, as well as educational value. Keep in mind travel times and transportation alternatives when submitting ideas.

Other

APA Ohio is always open to new and exciting ways of providing education to planners in Ohio. Put on your thinking cap and imagine a session attendees will talk about till 2026! Put your best, creative foot forward and tell us how you would like to present your topic.

*BEHIND THE PHOTO:
Historic homes in the Dayton View Historic District.
Photo Credit: Preservation Dayton*



SESSION GOALS

Provide educational, fun, and interactive sessions

Proposals will be reviewed based on their ability to engage the audience. We encourage attendee participation, interactive elements or activities that are a different format than a traditional lecture followed by Q&A.

Know your audience

There is a wide array of planners, community board members, allied professionals and others that attend the conference. Highlight if the session is geared toward a professional audience or citizen planners. Also, indicate the content level, whether the material is introductory, or intended to advance the skills of experienced planners.

Represent all cities and regions

Sessions will be selected to ensure a conference program that is representative of a diversity of geographies to include urban, suburban, and rural locations from all areas of the tri-state area.

Be real!

It is great to show off successes and what has worked well. However, there are many lessons that can be learned from what has not been a success. Let us not be shy and share these situational experiences. Also, ensure sessions have applicable take-aways for the audience.

Let's talk about wellness

Our theme HEALTHY PLANNERS FOR HEALTHY COMMUNITIES showcases the necessity to prioritize wellness - both in and out of the workplace.

Ensure diversity of speaker representation

Proposals should demonstrate the diversity of the planning profession wherever possible through the speakers identified. This may include cultural, racial and gender diversity, as well as diversity of speaker experiences. We intend to have strong AICP representation, though a broad array of viewpoints from other professionals and community members is encouraged.

BEHIND THE PHOTO:

The historic Dayton Arcade glass-domed rotunda was part of a recent \$162 million restoration and is home to our Conference Reception on Thursday evening.

Photo credit: Dayton Arcade



SUBMITTING A PROPOSAL

- Proposals will be accepted exclusively through the online submission form at ohioplanning.org/conference.
- Session proposals must be received by 11:59 pm on May 15, 2026.
- Late and/or incomplete proposals will not be considered. Your proposal **MUST** include information on all speakers (including bios).
- Ahead of submitting a proposal, please review the proposal questions on the following pages.
- All speakers must register for at least the day they are presenting. As a courtesy, early bird registration rates will remain available to all speakers regardless of registration date.

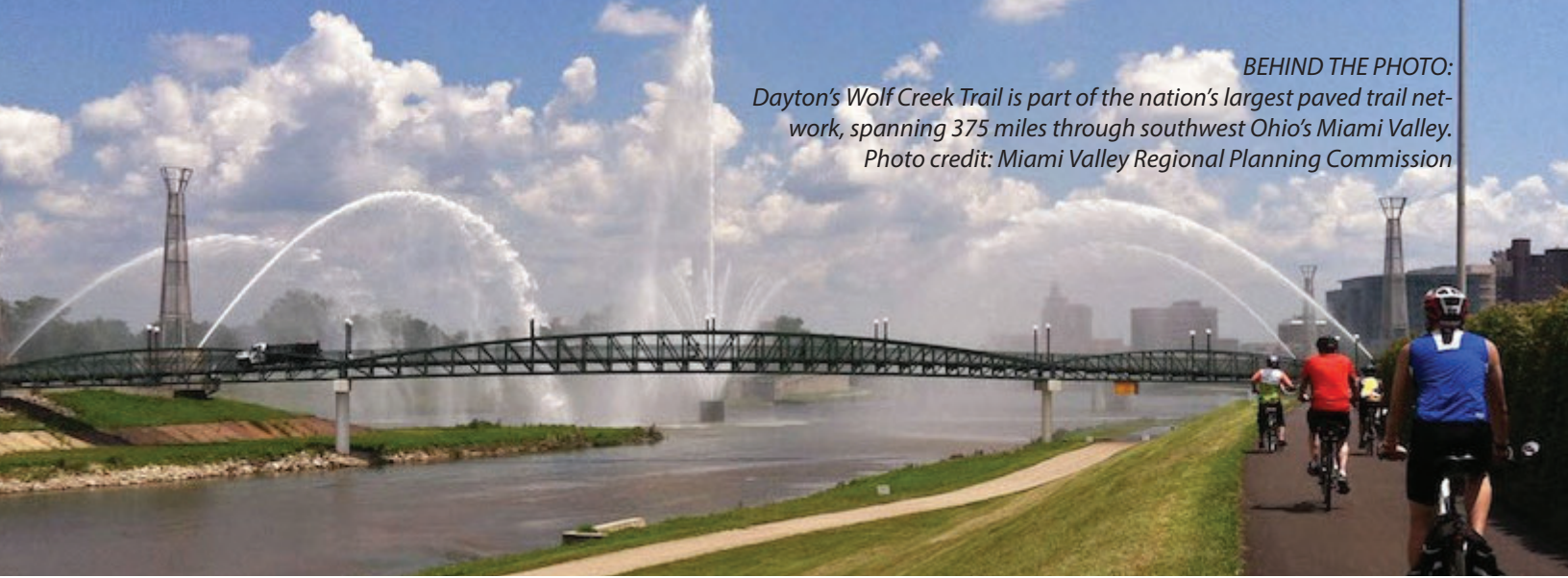
QUESTIONS

Please direct questions to APA Ohio Executive Director Christine Davis, AICP at info@ohioplanning.org.

BEHIND THE PHOTO:

The 60-acre historic Oregon District neighborhood is at the heart of Downtown Dayton. Not only is it listed on the National Register of Historic places, it has won numerous APA and APA Ohio awards.

Photo credit: Downtown Dayton Partnership



BEHIND THE PHOTO:
Dayton's Wolf Creek Trail is part of the nation's largest paved trail network, spanning 375 miles through southwest Ohio's Miami Valley.
Photo credit: Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission

SESSION PROPOSAL QUESTIONS

To help you prepare responses, below is the requested information within the Call for Sessions.

Session Title:

Although fun titles are catchy and attention grabbing, please ensure it adequately portrays session content.

Format of Session:

Choose one.

- Traditional multi speaker (60 minutes)
- Deep Dive (60 minutes)
- Technical Session (60 minutes)
- Mobile Workshop – Walk
- Mobile Workshop - Bike
- Mobile Workshop - Bus
- Other

If your session proposal is a mobile workshop, do you have transportation needs already covered?

Choose one.

- Yes
- No

Does your proposal meet one of the mandatory CM topics?

Please review APA's criteria for approved mandatory topics [here](#). Choose one.

- Ethics
- Equity
- Law
- Sustainability & Resilience
- None of these – this is a regular CM session

Does your session proposal incorporate diversity, equity, and inclusion?

Choose one.

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

Location of speakers and/or session subject matter:

Check all that apply.

- Ohio
- Kentucky
- Indiana
- Regional
- Not applicable
- Other



Population:

Population density of session subject matter, etc. Check all that apply.

- Urban
- Suburban
- Rural
- Regional
- All the above
- Not applicable
- Other

Topics:

Choose at least one (1) but no more than three (3) topic areas (for AICP CM credit submission)

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| Artificial Intelligence | Career Development | Law |
| Commercial Land Use | | Mixed Land Uses |
| Community Revitalization | | Natural Resources & Environment |
| COVID-19 | | Parks & Recreation |
| Demographics | | Partnerships & Agreements |
| Economic Development | | Planning History & Theory |
| Energy | | Planning Methods & Tools |
| Ethics | | Plans |
| Finance | | Public Participation |
| Food Systems | | Public Service Delivery |
| Government | | Residential Land Use |
| Hazards | | Social Justice & Equity |
| Health | | Sustainability |
| Historic Preservation | | Technology |
| Housing Policy | | Transportation |
| Industrial Land Use | | Urban Design |
| Infrastructure | | Zoning & Ordinances |
| Institutional Land Use | | |

Session Description:

Provide a 200-300 word description of the session. Make certain it is thorough, clear, well-written and grammatically correct. It is suggested that you first draft the session proposal in a word processing program to ensure grammatical errors are corrected.

Does your proposal include speakers that identify as diverse (gender, cultural, racial, age, disability, etc.)?

Check one.

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

Speaker Information:

Up to four (4) speakers may be entered. The first entry should be the session point of contact.

- Name
- Title + Organization
- AICP/FAICP/Neither
- Address
- City State Zip
- Email
- Short Bio

BEHIND THE PHOTO:
 Downtown Dayton skyline and the Great Miami River.
 Photo Credit: Destination Dayton