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**AMERICAN PLANNING ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES OUTSTANDING OHIO CHAPTER VOLUNTEER**

**Detroit, MI** (April 24, 2026) – The Ohio Chapter of the American Planning Association (APA Ohio) is pleased to announce that Joyce Braverman has been named the **2026 Outstanding Ohio Chapter Volunteer**.

This national honor, awarded by the Chapter Presidents Council (CPC) of the American Planning Association (APA), recognizes individuals who have made exceptional contributions to their local APA chapters. Nominees are evaluated based on the quality, relevance, originality, and impact of their volunteer service.

Ms. Braverman is the Director of Planning for the City of Shaker Heights, Ohio. Through her time at Shaker Joyce has united transit-oriented development, parks planning, grant writing, short- and long-term planning, zoning, design guidelines, transit infrastructure, and public participation to transform the city – constantly looking towards a sustainable future. This includes projects ranging from the massive VanAken District redevelopment to the grass roots community engagement efforts.

Following a Bachelor of Urban Planning from the University of Cincinnati and a Master of Public Administration from Cleveland State University Joyce joined the APA in 1980. Since that time, she has donated countless hours furthering the APA's efforts in education, legislation, advocacy, empowering new planners, and ensuring we've all had fun together along the way! She was on the APA Ohio Board of Trustees from 1994 – 2022 – (28 years!) - serving as President of APA Ohio from 1998-2000. Joyce's legacy in the Ohio Chapter's leadership has shaped the organization and region, and she continues to inspire us all through her insight, motivation, and friendship.

Ms. Braverman's selection reflects her outstanding leadership, dedication to committee work and conference planning, and her ongoing commitment to advancing professional development opportunities for APA Ohio members.

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**About APA Ohio:**

APA Ohio is a statewide, non-profit association of citizens and professional planners committed to promoting and enhancing planning and the quality of planning for all governmental entities in order to maintain and improve the quality of life for all Ohioans. APA Ohio is a state chapter of the American Planning Association (APA). APA Ohio encourages legislation and action programs to enhance sound planning at the state, regional and local levels. APA Ohio operates under the guidance of a volunteer Board of Trustees elected from the general membership. Chapter sections include Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, Miami Valley and Northwest. Visit [www.ohioplanning.org](http://www.ohioplanning.org) for additional information.