

2026 Northeast Ohio Planning & Zoning Workshop

Request for Session Proposals

APA Cleveland invites you to submit a session proposal for the annual Northeast Ohio Planning & Zoning Workshop. Conference attendees include a broad audience of citizen and professional planners, community officials, zoning administrators, attorneys and others with an interest in planning and zoning-related topics.

Session proposals are encouraged to cover a variety of planning topics and to appeal to attendees across the diverse spectrum of planning expertise. Selected sessions will be submitted for continuing education credit approval for planners (AICP CM). A list of most requested topics is below.

Please send your session proposals to David Radachy at david.radachy@lakecountyohio.gov.

- Shipping Containers
- Board Basic – how to run a meeting
- Sunshine Laws/Records Retention, Guidance in Explaining Zoning Changes using Social Media
- Board Duties – BZA, Zoning Commission, City Planning Commission, County Planning Comm.
- Alternate Energy – Wind and Solar
- Changes in environmental regulations (Federal, State, Local)
- Zoning Software
- Interaction between State, County and Township
 - a. Building, Planning, Engineering, Zoning, Fire, Service
 - b. Manufactured Home Parks – State vs. Local Administration
 - c. Working with ODOT, ODNR, Ohio Dept. of Health
- Re-use of schools, churches, camps
- The next technology and effects on local communities (Small cell, fiber optics)
- BZA, looking at zoning from a different perspective
- ABC's of Economic Development, Opportunity Zones, CRA, JEDD, Enterprise
 - a. Economic Development and interaction with local communities
- Annexation (Type 1 and 2), Detachment, Merger
- Planning and zoning on tight budget - Finding Grants
- How to effectively use committees
- Code Enforcement/Nuisance Properties, Commercial code enforcement
- Attracting, Training, retaining employees and board members
- HSDS Rules/Interaction with Health Department
- Lot Splits/Subdivision
- Limited Home Rule Townships and extra powers
- Working with Amish, Hispanic Communities
- Storm Water Management/Green Infrastructure
- Protecting open space – conservation easements, fee simple, other
- Smaller plans (Corridor, neighborhood)
- Regulating Landscape Businesses operating in your communities
- Regulating Home Occupations, Tele-commuting
- Working with special districts (Park, School)

- Electronic Signs/Signs
- Right of way code vs. zoning code
- Shooting ranges
- Map Reading/Plan Reading/Easements
- Zoning Maps/Interactive Maps/Story Maps
- Mixed Use Zoning
- Cleaning up your zoning code. When to get rid of text and districts. When to update your code.
- Comprehensive Plans and Township Zoning
- How to implement a comprehensive or economic development plans
- Administering agriculture – Zoning, Planning, Subdivision, Fire and Building, Agriculture Tourism
- Using Drones in zoning and planning
- Short term rentals
- Understanding zoning classifications and uses
- Age Restrictive Housing Administration