

AMERICAN PLANNING ASSOCIATION  
ALASKA CHAPTER



COLLABORATING  
FOR RESILIENT  
COMMUNITIES



2020 ALASKA PLANNING CONFERENCE

FEBRUARY 9-11 2020 | ANCHORAGE DOWNTOWN MARRIOTT



## President's Welcome

### DEAR FELLOW ALASKA PLANNERS, COLLEAGUES, PARTNERS & COLLABORATORS

On behalf of the Alaska Chapter of the American Planning Association (APA), a Warm Welcome to Anchorage and the 2020 Alaska Planning Conference. We are honored and excited to present this year's outstanding program of keynote speakers, presenters, and other opportunities to share and explore the many ways we are and can Collaborate for More Resilient Alaska Communities.

At any time, but now more than ever, we have a responsibility as planners, and as Alaskans, to think creatively and strategically about how we can better work together, leverage our collective strengths and assets, to address our communities' and state's biggest challenges. The tools and potential opportunities we have as municipal, tribal, regional, state and federal partners are stronger and have a broader reach when we act together.

For this year's conference, we have aimed for a program that showcases successful collaborations across our state, including specific examples of how Alaska Native leaders, communities and organizations, including Alaska's:

- 229 Federally Recognized Tribes,
- 198 Village Corporations,
- 13 Regional Corporations,
- 12 Regional Non-Profit Corporations,
- 14 Regional Housing Authorities, and,
- their sister profit and non-profit entities across the state,

have and continue to spearhead best practices and lead the way in establishing creative partnerships, applying innovative solutions, and making strategic and substantial investments in Alaska's people and communities...**TO THE BENEFIT OF ALL ALASKANS.**

**THANK YOU** – Aaron Leggett, President & Chief of the Native Village of Eklutna; Representative Tiffany Zulkosky of Bethel; Carol Gore, President & CEO of Cook Inlet Housing Authority; Amos Philemonoff, President of the Aleut Community of St. Paul Island; David L. Andrew, Tribal Administrator for the Native Village of Napakiak; and, Walter Nelson, Napakiak City Council Member. We are honored for your time and significant contributions to the 2020 AK Planning Conference.

This year's conference is an opportunity and a challenge to all to:

- Learn something new.
- Forge new partnerships.
- Develop new ways of working together.
- Answer the question (before the conference ends on the 11th!) – how, SPECIFICALLY, will you apply what you learn and the connections you make to the work you do as a planner?

Let's set an example for each other, our colleagues, and for all Alaskans by striving for equity, expanding our knowledge, and creating connections and relationships that translate directly to increased and sustained quality of life for all Alaskans.

In my new role as President of the Alaska Chapter of APA, I am anxious to hear more from you, to learn the specific ways our state chapter can better support the Alaska planning community. Other directors and I also want to share our strategic priorities that includes both established and new ways of investing and building our collective planning capacity. Join us on Tuesday, February 11th, 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. for our annual business meeting and presentation of planning award winners!

THANK YOU, to all of you, for committing your valuable time to the conference, for embracing the opportunities and challenges it presents, and for all of the work you do for our communities, tribes and great state.

THANK YOU, to Alexa Greene, Karlie Gedig, Taryn Oleson-Yelle and Ben Coleman, my conference committee collaborators, fellow board members and outstanding Alaska planners.

And, THANK YOU, to former AK Chapter President and Board Member, Laurie Cummings, for 15 years of hard work and commitment to Alaska planners!

Also, THANKS to all our sponsors and speakers. Without your support, participation and commitment to APA AK, this conference would not be possible.

Sincerely,



**SHELLY WADE, AICP**

President, Alaska Chapter of the American Planning Association  
2020 AK Planning Conference Chair  
Co-Chair, Tribal and Indigenous Planning Interest Group of APA  
Western Planner Board Member





## Conference Information

### REGISTRATION/CHECK-IN

The registration/check-in table is located in the Pre-function Balcony. Please stop by with any questions you may have.

### MOBILE DEVICES

As a courtesy to meeting attendees, please silence electronic devices during all sessions. If it is necessary to use your device, step outside the meeting room to an area that will not disturb other attendees.

### WIFI

WiFi Network Name: Marriott\_CONFERENCE  
Password: akplanning

### PARKING

Self parking is available for \$1.25 per hour in the EasyPark garage at the corner of 7th Ave & G Street. Marriott Valet Parking is available for conference attendees at a discounted rate of \$10 (Daily Parking) or \$20 (24-hour Parking).

### FOOD & BEVERAGE SERVICE

Sunday: Lunch at 12:15 PM  
Monday & Tuesday: Breakfast from 7:00 AM to 8:30 AM, Lunch at 12:00.

Coffee, Tea, and Water is provided throughout the day in the Pre-Function Balcony.

### AWARDS LUNCHEON GUESTS

Welcome! The APA AK Awards Luncheon is Tuesday at 12:00 PM. Awards Luncheon Guests can check in at the registration/check-in table outside of the Anchorage/Fairbanks Ballroom.

### EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN

In the event of an emergency evacuation of the building, please remain calm, follow exit signage, and proceed to the nearest exit.

In the event of a medical, police or fire emergency, please remain calm, dial 911 and request assistance at the Anchorage Marriott Downtown.

### CERTIFICATION MAINTENANCE

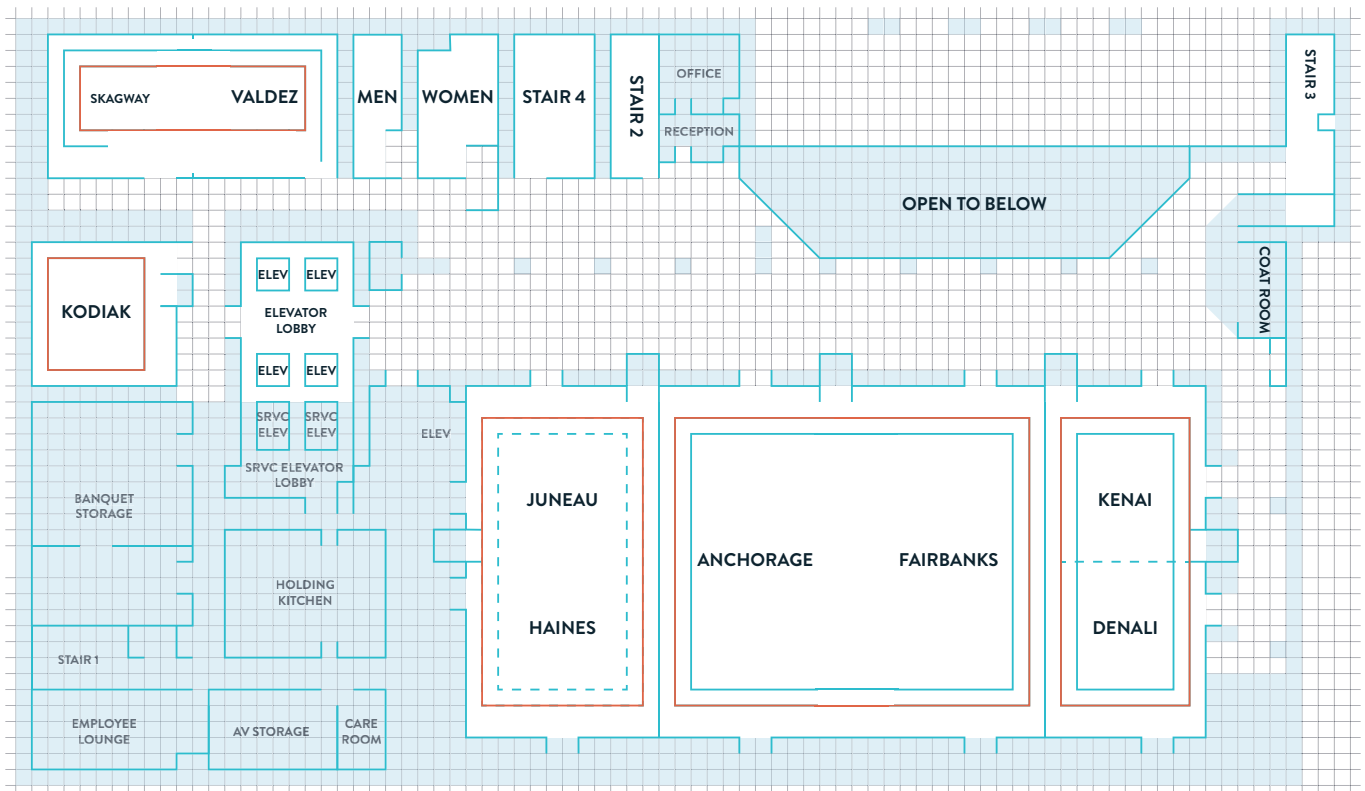
When CM credits are available for sessions and other events, they are noted after the presentation title in the conference program. To earn CM credit, you must attend the entire activity. You will not be able to claim CM credit for more than one concurrent session. APA Alaska will not scan badges to track CM credits; you must manage your own CM entry and evaluation. Track your session attendance by logging them at [www.planning.org/cm](http://www.planning.org/cm).

### SILENT AUCTION

Proceeds from the silent auction will go directly into a student scholarship fund to aid future Alaskan planners in their education, growing the base of up-coming community change makers.

Opens Tuesday at 8:00 AM and closes at 1:30 PM at the conclusion of the APA AK Business Meeting

# Conference Map



# PEOPLE WHO MAKE IT HAPPEN

**YOUR LOCAL PLANNING, DESIGN, AND RELATED SERVICES SOLUTION.**



**Environmental & Land Development**



**Water**



**Civil**



**Bridge, Structural, & Marine**



**Geo-Construction**



**Transportation**



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# Conference Schedule

SUNDAY 02.09.20

MONDAY 02.10.20

TUESDAY 02.11.20

## PLANNING COMMISSIONER TRAINING ANCHORAGE/FAIRBANKS BALLROOM

SUNDAY  
02.09.20

8:00 AM

8:30 AM - 9:00 AM  
**REGISTRATION**

9:00 AM

9:00 AM - 9:45 AM  
**PLANNING COMMISSIONER 101**  
A general overview of the material covered in the Alaska Planning Commission Handbook, covering the statutory basis for planning in the state, basic roles and responsibilities of Planning Commissioners, types of meetings and decisions, and effective planning and zoning.

9:45 AM

9:45 AM - 10:00 AM  
**BREAK**

10:00 AM

10:00 AM - 11:30 AM  
**LEGAL BASIS FOR PLANNING AND DECISION-MAKING**  
AS Title 29.40; US Constitution; The link between comprehensive planning, zoning, and platting decisions; Case law specific to planning in Alaska.

11:30 AM

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM  
**LUNCH (PROVIDED)**





**WORKSHOP LEADER: MICHELLE MCNULTY**

Michelle is the Planning Director for the Municipality of Anchorage. She is a certified planner with more than a decade of experience working with both the private and public sectors on an array of planning and development projects. Michelle has an in-depth knowledge of transportation and land use planning issues throughout the state from working on master plans, zoning overlay districts, site selection studies, conditional use permits, zoning map amendments, site plan reviews, due diligence reports, and facilitating extensive public involvement efforts. Michelle holds a Bachelor of Arts in Cultural Anthropology from The Ohio State University and a Master of Arts in Rural Geography from Northern Arizona State University.

**12:30 PM**

12:30 PM - 1:15 PM

**PLANNING FUNDAMENTALS - TYPES OF DECISIONS**

What are the differences between a quasi-judicial, legislative, and administrative decisions?

**1:15 PM**

1:15 PM - 2:45 PM

**WRITING FINDINGS OF FACT**

Using real-life scenarios, groups will be asked to write findings of fact to support their decision.

**2:45 PM**

2:45 PM - 3:00 PM

**BREAK**

**3:00 PM**

3:00 PM - 4:30 PM

**IMPORTANT LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Groups will be given scenarios that are similar in material facts to existing case law to see how their decisions align with the courts' decisions.

**4:30 PM**

4:30 PM - 5:00 PM

**QUESTIONS AND CONCLUDING REMARKS**





# Conference Schedule

**MONDAY**  
**02.10.20**

**7:00 AM**

7:00 AM - 8:30 AM

**ETHICS SESSION | CHECK IN | REGISTRATION | BREAKFAST PROVIDED**  
**ANCHORAGE/FAIRBANKS BALLROOM**

**8:45 AM**

8:45 AM - 10:30 AM

**WELCOME PLENARY & KEYNOTE SPEAKERS**

Aaron Legget, President & Chair, Native Village of Eklutna  
Shelly Wade, AICP, APA AK President, Conference Chair  
Ethan Berkowitz, Mayor of Anchorage  
Tiffany Zulkosky, AK Legislative Representative  
Carol Gore, President & CEO, Cook Inlet Housing Authority

**ANCHORAGE/FAIRBANKS BALLROOM**

**10:45 AM**

10:45 AM - 12:00 PM

**BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

**12:00 PM**

12:00 PM - 1:30 PM

**LUNCHEON KEYNOTE SPEAKERS**

Amos Philemonoff, President, Aleut Community of St. Paul Island | Walter Nelson, Napakiak City Council & David Andrew, Tribal Administrator, Native Village of Napakiak

**ANCHORAGE/FAIRBANKS BALLROOM**

**1:45 PM**

1:45 PM - 3:00 PM

**BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

**3:15 PM**

3:15 PM - 4:30 PM

**BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

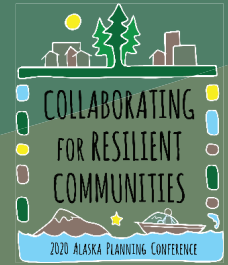
**6:00 PM**

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

**CHAPTER SOCIAL & NETWORKING EVENT**

Join us!

**DETAILS TO BE ANNOUNCED!**



# TUESDAY 02.11.20

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| 7:00 AM  | 7:00 PM - 8:30 AM<br><b>REGISTRATION   CHECK IN   BREAKFAST PROVIDED   SILENT AUCTION START</b><br><a href="#">ANCHORAGE/FAIRBANKS BALLROOM</a>   |
| 9:00 AM  | 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM<br><b>KEYNOTE SPEAKER</b><br>Tom Jentz, AICP, Retired Kalispell Planning Director<br><a href="#">ANCHORAGE/FAIRBANKS BALLROOM</a>  |
| 10:00 AM | 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM<br><b>BEST PRACTICES LIGHTENING PRESENTATIONS</b><br>Six best practices in 30 minutes!<br><a href="#">ANCHORAGE/FAIRBANKS BALLROOM</a>                                    |
| 10:45 AM | 10:45 AM - 12:00 PM<br><b>BREAKOUT SESSIONS</b>   |
| 12:00 PM | 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM<br><b>PLANNING AWARDS LUNCHEON   APA AK BUSINESS MEETING   SILENT AUCTION END</b><br>Shelly Wade, APA AK Chapter President<br><a href="#">ANCHORAGE/FAIRBANKS BALLROOM</a> |
| 1:30 PM  | 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM<br><b>BREAKOUT SESSIONS</b>   |
| 3:15 PM  | 3:15 PM - 4:30 PM<br><b>TAKING IT HOME - HOW TO APPLY WHAT YOU'VE LEARNED IN YOUR COMMUNITY</b><br><a href="#">ANCHORAGE/FAIRBANKS BALLROOM</a>   |



# Conference Schedule

SUNDAY 02.09.20

MONDAY 02.10.20

TUESDAY 02.11.20

## MONDAY BREAKOUT SESSIONS

10:45 AM - 12:00 PM

### PLAN YOUR CITIES & ENGAGE YOUR COMMUNITIES USING INTERACTIVE WEB-BASED GIS SOLUTIONS

Terri Morganson, ESRI

**KENAI**

**1 CM CREDIT**

Focus Area: Collecting Data, Monitoring & Evaluating Community Projects; Planning Across Cultures & Jurisdictions

### HOW TO END HOMLESSNESS IN ANCHORAGE: LOCAL SOLUTIONS FOR A NATIONAL CRISIS

Anna Brawley & Molly Mylius, Agnew::Beck

**DENALI**

**1 CM CREDIT**

Focus Area: Building Affordable, Quality Housing; Planning Across Cultures & Jurisdictions; Collecting Data, Monitoring & Evaluating Community Projects

### BROWFIELD REDEVELOPMENT ALONG KODIAK'S MILL BAY ROAD

Erin Welty, Kodiak Islan Borough; Ryan Givens, Stantec; Shanna Zuspan, Agnew::Beck

**JUNEAU**

**1 CM CREDIT**

Focus Area: Creating & Implementing Successful Economic Development Strategies

1:45 PM - 3:00 PM

MONDAY BREAKOUT SESSIONS

**UNALASKA AIRPORT CLOSURE PLANNING ACROSS CULTURES & JURISDICTIONS**

Bill Homka & Erin Reinders, City of Unalaska

**JUNEAU**

1 CM CREDIT

Focus Area: Building & Sustaining Community Infrastructure;  
Planning Across Cultures & Jurisdictions

**AUKE-WARD: WORKING THROUGH CHANGE IN AN ESTABLISHED NEIGHBORHOOD**

Allison Eddins, City & Borough of Juneau

**HAINES**

1 CM CREDIT

Focus Area: Creating & Implementing Successful Economic  
Development Strategies

**PUBLIC NOTICE. CAN YOU DO BETTER?**

Michelle Stephens, Bang the Table

**KENAI**

1 CM CREDIT

Public Engagement; Collecting Data, Monitoring, & Evaluating  
Community Projects

**WHERE WILL WE NEED NEW SCHOOLS?**

Tom Davis, Municipality of Anchorage

**DENALI**

1 CM CREDIT

Focus Area: Building & Sustaining Community Infrastructure;  
Planning Across Cultures & Jurisdictions



# Conference Schedule

SUNDAY 02.09.20

MONDAY 02.10.20

TUESDAY 02.11.20

## MONDAY BREAKOUT SESSIONS

### ANCHORAGE INDIGENOUS PLACEMAKING MOVEMENT: A MOVEMENT TO BRING DENA'INA CULTURE TO OUR BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Bri Keifer, Huddle; Aaron Leggett, Anchorage Museum; Michael Fredericks, SALT AK

JUNEAU

1.5 CM CREDIT

Focus Area: Indigenous Planning; Planning Across Cultures & Jurisdictions

### COASTAL HAZARD MAPPING & MONITORING FOR DECISION MAKING

Jacquelyn Overbeck & Richard Buzard, State of Alaska Division of Geological & Geophysical Survey

HAINES

1.5 CM CREDIT

Focus Area: Addressing Environmental Change; Planning Across Cultures & Jurisdictions; Collecting Data, Monitoring & Evaluating Community Projects

### HOW A PLANNING PROCESS LED TO INCREASED FUNDING & A NEW TRANSIT ROUTE

Bart Rudolph & Christine Schuette, MOA Public Transportation

KENAI

1.5 CM CREDIT

Focus Area: Building & Sustaining Community Infrastructure; Collecting Data, Monitoring & Evaluating Community Projects

### THE CONFORMING & THE NONCONFORMING

Beth McKibben, City & Borough of Juneau

DENALI

1.5 CM CREDIT

Focus Area: Building Affordable, Quality Housing; Building & Sustaining Community Infrastructure

3:15 PM - 4:30 PM

# PLAN » DESIGN » BUILD



*Taking your project from*



DREAMS  
*to*  
REALITY





# Conference Schedule

SUNDAY 02.09.20

MONDAY 02.10.20

TUESDAY 02.11.20

## TUESDAY BREAKOUT SESSIONS

10:45 AM - 12:00 PM

### MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING & PROGRAMMING IN ALASKA

Jennifer Eason, Alaska DOT&PF; Ryan Cooper, Stantec

DENALI

1 CM CREDIT

Focus Area: Building & Sustaining Community Infrastructure

### STREAMLINING CAPITAL PLANNING WITH GIS

Cameron Dean & Thomas Roufos, City of Unalaska

HAINES

1 CM CREDIT

Focus Area: Collecting Data, Monitoring & Evaluating Community Projects

### ENVISIONING POSITIVE FUTURES FOR THE NORTH

Julie Decker & Bodil Kjelstrup, Anchorage Museum; Shannon Kuhn, Municipality of Anchorage; Issac Vanderburg, Launch Alaska; Tanya Iden, Agnew::Beck

KENAI

1 CM CREDIT

Focus Area: Addressing Environmental Change; Understanding/Collaborating with Private & Non-Profit Partners

### WHEN OUR SHIP COMES IN - STRIVING FOR AN EVEN KEEL

Beth McKibben, City & Borough of Juneau; Sarah Leonard, Alaska Travel Industry Association; Kirby Day, Holland America Line & Seabourn Cruise Line; Richard Harney, Ketchikan Gateway Borough

JUNEAU

1 CM CREDIT

Focus Area: Creating & Implementing Successful Economic Development Strategies



1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

TUESDAY BREAKOUT SESSIONS

**DOWNTOWN ANCHORAGE: REVITALIZATION THROUGH HOUSING AND PLACEMAKING**

Amanda Moser, Anchorage Downtown Partnership; Michelle McNulty, Municipality of Anchorage; Tanya Iden & Shanna Zuspan, Agnew::Beck; Sezy Gerow-Hanson, Cook Inlet Housing Authority

**JUNEAU**

**1 CM CREDIT**

Focus Area: Building Affordable, Quality Housing; Creating & Implementing Successful Economic Development Strategies

**BRINGING GIS TO PLANNING: WEB-BASED SYSTEMS FOR PLANNING & ENGAGEMENT - WORKSHOP**

Terri Morganson, ESRI

**DENALI - BRING YOUR LAPTOP!**

**1 CM CREDIT**

Focus Area: Collecting Data, Monitoring & Evaluating Community Projects

**THE SALCHA-BADGER ROAD AREA PLAN: HOW THE FASTEST GROWING AREA IN THE FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH IS MANAGING THEIR VALUES WHILE LEVERAGING AND MANAGING UNPRECEDENTED GROWTH**

Kellen Spillman & Melissa Kellner, Fairbanks North Star Borough; Shelly Wade, Agnew::Beck

**KENAI**

**1 CM CREDIT**

Focus Area: Building & Sustaining Community Infrastructure; Collecting Data, Monitoring & Evaluating Community Projects



## Session Descriptions

SUNDAY 02.09.20

MONDAY 02.10.20

TUESDAY 02.11.20

10:45 AM - 12:00 PM

### PLAN YOUR CITIES & ENGAGE YOUR COMMUNITIES USING INTERACTIVE WEB-BASED GIS SOLUTIONS

**KENAI**  
1 CM CREDIT

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TERRI MORGANSON  
ESRI ACCOUNT MANAGER  
tmorganson@esri.com

No longer used solely for mapping roads and land use, geographic information systems (GIS) are now interactive platforms that help users engage, collaborate, build consensus, and inform the public. This session explores emerging interactive GIS technologies that planners use to streamline scenario planning, engage the public, and build consensus in their communities. The goal of the session is to inform planners of new GIS technologies that are available to them and to demonstrate the real-world applications of these innovative technologies. The case studies will show planners how they can take advantage of Web GIS technology to improve urban planning and decision-making.

10:45 AM - 12:00 PM

### HOW TO END HOMELESSNESS IN ANCHORAGE: LOCAL SOLUTIONS FOR A NATIONAL CRISIS

**DENALI**  
1 CM CREDIT

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ANNA BRAWLEY | MOLLY MYLIUS  
SENIOR ASSOCIATES, AGNEW::BECK  
anna@agnewbeck.com  
molly@agnewbeck.com

This session will give planners a crash course in the issue of homelessness, a national crisis that has been keenly felt close to home, here in Anchorage. An expert panel with diverse perspectives, including those with lived experience, will provide an overview of the causes of homelessness; current data and stories about homelessness in Alaska, particularly Anchorage; and efforts underway to turn this trend around, via the Anchored Home plan and the work of the Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness (and many partners). Participants will learn the basics of homelessness policy and current trends, which may be new to many planners, even if they work in the field of housing. They will also learn what works, what is already happening in Anchorage and how planners can help: for example, supporting policies to increase affordable housing and supporting funding for critical services like shelter and mental health treatment.



10:45 AM - 12:00 PM

## BROWNFIELD REDEVELOPMENT ALONG KODIAK'S MILL BAY ROAD

JUNEAU  
1 CM CREDIT

ERIN WELY

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DIRECTOR, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, KODIAK  
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RYAN GIVENS, AICP

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SENIOR PLANNER, STANTEC  
ryan.givens@stantec.com

SHANNA ZUSPAN, AICP

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PRINCIPAL::OWNER, AGNEW::BECK  
shanna@agnewbeck.com

Alaska's communities are an eclectic mix of urban and rural, where newer neighborhoods are mixed in with older commercial corridors and aging infrastructure. While large portions of Alaska are wild and untouched, many of Alaska's communities were developed over thirty years ago and are home to underutilized corridors with capacity to support much needed services, housing, and employment. Community redevelopment is a critical strategy to achieve a more sustainable future for Alaska. When partners work collaboratively to capitalize on existing assets, successful redevelopment projects lead to improved economic opportunity. Redevelopment projects face many challenges, including access to financing, complex regulatory controls, environmental liabilities, infrastructure deficiencies, market perceptions, and local skepticism. Redevelopment planning requires creativity and effective collaboration to put actions to motion. Using Kodiak's Mill Bay Road Corridor Area-Wide Planning initiative as a case study, session participants will learn about a multi-disciplinary approach to economic development along a priority community corridor. The corridor has several vacancies, underutilized properties, and brownfield sites. At the same time, community stakeholders collectively shared that Mill Bay Road is a commercial asset, it is surrounded by a growing population and is home to residents and businesses willing to invest. Recently, there is renewed interest to transition the corridor into the community's primary commercial and employment hub. Speakers will share how the planning process included a market study, buildable lands analysis, stakeholder interviews and collaboration, as well as and a physical site assessment. Strategies are proactive land use/regulatory amendments, capital projects, opportunity sites, and financial incentives. Implementation includes a roadmap to guide the Borough and its community partners in their future actions.



## Session Descriptions

SUNDAY 02.09.20

MONDAY 02.10.20

TUESDAY 02.11.20

1:45 PM - 3:00 PM

### UNALASKA AIRPORT CLOSURE PLANNING ACROSS CULTURES & JURISDICTIONS

JUNEAU

1 CM CREDIT

ERIN REINDERS

CITY MANAGER, UNALASKA  
ereinders@ci.unalaska.ak.us

BILL HOMKA, AICP

PLANNING DIRECTOR, UNALASKA  
bhomka@ci.unalaska.ak.us

On October 17, 2019 a fatal accident occurred at the Tom Madsen Airport (PADU) in Unalaska. The airline, Ravn Air, suspended all flights between Anchorage and Unalaska. The City of Unalaska issued a Declaration of Emergency effective October 29, 2019 due to a crisis created by the lack of air transportation services which threatened Unalaska's health and safety, economy, and educational programs. Unalaska is the largest fishing port in the nation; the interruption threatens the City and Alaska's economy with significant reductions of tax revenue from the fisheries, processing plants, and support services. It was critical for the short and long-term health of the community that passenger services stabilize and to develop alternate, readily deployable solutions. Ravn Air provides Unalaska's only commercial passenger service to Anchorage and maintains authorization and certification to fly only one type of aircraft into PADU. In the week following the crash, the City of Unalaska City Council authorized the administration to purchase charters from Ravn Air. The City, legislative representatives and Alaska DOT lobbied USDOT for a waiver exempting the City from certain rules regarding public charters. The airline agreed to assist the city by offering to accept reservations through Ravn Air via a telephone number. The City began charter services on a first come, first serve basis except for the top priority, travel necessary for medical reasons. The airline resumed airline service on November 2019. In the interim Unalaska has begun to ask questions about the Department of Transportation's Essential Air Service and Alternate Essential Air Service programs. Although Unalaska has a unique airport situation, there are many remote airports that would also suffer from a cancellation of regularly scheduled air service. This session serves to highlight the risks associated with having only one airport, one airline, and the host of partners and agencies that are required to address the hurdles that need addressed to improve the situation. In Unalaska, the solutions range from the EAS/AEAS programs, to runway enhancements, to understanding how airplanes are qualified for specific runways and how multiple planes need to be certified for use at each airport or communities run the risk of closure during a crisis.



1:45 PM - 3:00 PM

**AUKE-WARD: WORKING THROUGH CHANGE  
IN AN ESTABLISHED NEIGHBORHOOD**

**HAINES**  
1 CM CREDIT

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ALLISON EDDINS  
PLANNER, CITY & BOROUGH OF  
JUNEAU  
Allison.Eddins@juneau.org

One of the most beautiful neighborhoods in Juneau is Auke Bay. The homes and businesses are built along the water with views of the bay and mountains in the distance. The zoning, however, is not as pretty. Within a half mile radius, there are eight zoning districts ranging from waterfront commercial to low density single family and everything in between. Zoning districts with heights maximums of 55 feet block the views from zoning districts with height maximums of 35 feet; a zoning district with densities of 80 units per acre is next to a district with a density of 3 units per acre with no buffer in between. This is not causing problems....yet, partially because of a highly-engaged neighborhood interested in maintaining the charm and functionality of the neighborhood. A few residents from the neighborhood came together around an area plan, but the momentum and vision seem to have faded. Seeing the writing on the wall, Juneau got to work. The Planning Commission formed an Ad Hoc Committee. A planner was assigned to make sense of the mixture of zoning districts. A year and a half worth of public meetings were held. The process wasn't always copacetic; at times the meetings got downright contentious. The end results are a proposal to replace the eight zoning districts with two zoning districts and one overlay district, and a neighborhood who worked through their concerns utilizing a collaborative public process.

1:45 PM - 3:00 PM

**PUBLIC NOTICES. CAN YOU DO BETTER?**

**KENAI**  
1 CM CREDIT

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MICHELLE STEPHENS, AICP  
ENGAGEMENT MANAGER, BANG THE  
TABLE  
michelle@bangthetable.com

Digital-first public engagement is a best practice initially developed as a concept to challenge traditional thinking around community engagement. The purpose of a digital-first public engagement strategy is to acknowledge and build-on the fact that the use of online tools broadens the reach of any engagement process. In this session, participants will learn about the risks and benefits of a digital-first public engagement strategy, the steps to design a digital-first public engagement strategy, key considerations for implementation of a digital-first strategy, and ideas and best practices for online public engagement. Audience participation is encouraged throughout the session.



## Session Descriptions

SUNDAY 02.09.20

MONDAY 02.10.20

TUESDAY 02.11.20

1:45 PM - 3:00 PM

### WHERE WILL WE NEED NEW SCHOOLS?

**DENALI**  
1 CM CREDIT

**TOM DAVIS**

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SENIOR PLANNER, MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE

davistg@muni.org

The Anchorage 2040 Land Use Plan's housing analysis identified where to fit enough new housing to meet Anchorage's forecast population needs. It even estimated the number of residences by housing type, in each part of town. But will Anchorage have the right infrastructure capacity in the right places to handle that housing? How do we ensure that adequate public facilities including water, parks, and fire stations will be available when and where we need them? Among public facilities, our schools are one of the most important, expensive, and longest-term targeted infrastructure investments. What does it mean for a neighborhood elementary school near Downtown, Midtown, or the UMED District if the number of residences in its attendance area is set to nearly double by 2040? Does the type of housing such as manufactured homes versus apartment complexes change the likely student population? Participants in this session will learn about (a) how Anchorage's 2040 Plan sets policies and actions that seek to coordinate future land use planning with public infrastructure capacity, (b) tensions Anchorage found between forecasting housing/land use needs versus infrastructure investments, (c) how a team of implementing partners converted Anchorage's planned housing units into scenarios of what the 2040 K-12 student population may be for each school attendance area; (d) possibilities for what that might mean for Anchorage's school capacity needs; and finally (e) ways that land use planning might become more resilient in the face of earthquakes, recessions, and high costs of infrastructure.



3:15 PM - 4:30 PM

**ANCHORAGE INDIGENOUS PLACEMAKING: A MOVEMENT TO BRING DENA'INA CULTURE TO OUR BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

**JUNEAU**

1.5 CM CREDIT

**BRI KEIFER**

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LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT, HUDDLE AK  
bri@huddleak.com

**AARON LEGGETT**

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CURATOR OF ALASKA HISTORY & CULTURE, ANCHORAGE MUSEUM  
aleggett@anchoragemuseum.org

**MICHAEL FREDRICKS**

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PRESIDENT, SALT AK  
mfredricks@salt-ak.com

In 2018, the Anchorage Park Foundation and the Alaska Native Heritage Center received grants from the Rasmuson Foundation and the NEA, to begin work on an indigenous place names signage project. The project aims to creatively, accurately, and beautifully highlight the indigenous place names of Anchorage. Soon after the project began, it became clear that parks and trails signage is a contributor and catalyst

to a larger movement. From this project, we've learned that to create a city that honors the Indigenous Place, there must be three components:

1. The leadership of a local culture bearer;
2. Advisory oversight from a broad base of stakeholders; and
3. Involvement of an Indigenous artist if it is appropriate to the project.

It is the combination of these three elements that allow a project to become part of a Movement and live beyond initial contributors. To develop interpretive signage with broad stakeholder input and guidance, the project team assembled an Advisory Committee with strong connections to the Alaska Native community and partner organizations. The team reached out to local Dena'ina culture bearer Aaron Leggett, Curator of Alaska History and Culture at the Anchorage Museum to lead the committee. The project team worked with both Joel Isaak and Melissa Shaginoff, artists who brought the project an increased level of depth and meaning. We would like to present the history behind the larger movement and the process and details of the signage project to engage others in an indigenous placemaking movement for Anchorage.



## Session Descriptions

SUNDAY 02.09.20

MONDAY 02.10.20

TUESDAY 02.11.20

3:15 PM - 4:30 PM

### COASTAL HAZARD MAPPING & MONITORING FOR DECISION MAKING

HAINES

1.5 CM CREDIT

JACQUELYN OVERBECK, GEOLOGIST

RICHARD BUZARD, DIGITAL COAST FELLOW

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STATE OF ALASKA DIVISION OF GEOLOGICAL &  
GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY COASTAL HAZARDS PROGRAM

[jacquelyn.overbeck@alaska.gov](mailto:jacquelyn.overbeck@alaska.gov)

[richard.buzard@alaska.gov](mailto:richard.buzard@alaska.gov)

The Alaska Division of Geological & Geophysical Surveys (DGGGS) develops statewide mapping tools and monitoring protocols for assessing community risk to coastal flooding and erosion, two of the most impactful environmental changes in Alaska. This two-part session will first summarize and give direction on using tools available to Alaska communities, focusing on how DGGGS tailors the creation of data products for specific community functions (i.e. disaster declarations, planning meetings, specific engineering projects, etc.). Mitigation of erosion and flooding often requires collaboration amongst state, federal, and local entities, which makes simple and easy to understand vulnerability mapping critical to multi-cultural and multi-jurisdictional decision making. Examples of past DGGGS projects will be used to show attendees how vulnerability mapping can be used for decision making and highlight possible funding opportunities for engaging with DGGGS, including the Bureau of Indian Affairs Tribal Resilience and the FEMA Cooperative Technical Partners grant programs. The second portion of the session will be used to describe monitoring protocols communities can use to stay up-to-date on understanding and tracking risk through community-based monitoring. Meeting attendees should walk away with a better understanding of how to address coastal flood and erosion hazards in their community with possible paths for funding future work.





3:15 PM - 4:30 PM

**HOW A PLANNING PROCESS LED TO INCREASED FUNDING & A NEW TRANSIT ROUTE**

**KENAI**  
1.5 CM CREDIT

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BART RUDOLPH  
PLANNING & COMMUNICATIONS  
MANAGER, MOA PUBLIC  
TRANSPORTATION  
bart.rudolph@anchorageak.gov

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CHRISTINE SCHUETTE  
TRANSIT PLANNER, MOA PUBLIC  
TRANSPORTATION  
christine.schuette@anchorageak.gov

Ridership is on the rise in Anchorage after the city overhauled its bus system in 2017. The increase follows a decade of declining numbers. So, what's next for the Municipality of Anchorage's Public Transportation Department (PTD)? Learn how PTD used its data to fuel a community engagement process that informed the development of a short-range transit plan called Transit on the Move. The new plan features a prioritized list of transit projects for when additional funding becomes available. It also serves as a key resource for community members and elected officials as they discuss the future of the city's transit system. As a result of the plan, support from the Assembly and the public participating in the decision-making process, the 2020 municipal operating budget was amended to include additional funding for the top ranked transit project in the plan.

3:15 PM - 4:30 PM

**THE CONFORMING & THE NONCONFORMING - A PLANNER'S SOAP OPERA**

**DENALI**  
1.5 CM CREDIT

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BETH MCKIBBEN, AICP  
SENIOR PLANNER, CITY & BOROUGH  
OF JUNEAU  
beth.mckibben@juneau.org

The session would explain Juneau's interesting historical development, the challenges the community has recently encountered with financing and selling of nonconforming situations and our approach to addressing these challenges through the nonconforming code. Recognizing that not all nonconforming situations are the same – some are benign and other have significant detrimental effects, the new approach doesn't treat all nonconforming situations the same. The session will explain the various approaches and the new flexibility created through the amendment, including the creation of a new nonconforming situation – nonconforming density. Nonconforming residential density occurs when a residential use is an allowed use in the zoning district and was constructed at a lawful density at the time it was constructed, but due to changes in the zoning district or zoning regulations, now has greater density than is currently allowed in the zoning district. The amendment preserves and sustains existing housing – another approach to affordable housing, as well promoting sustainability.



# Session Descriptions

SUNDAY 02.09.20

MONDAY 02.10.20

TUESDAY 02.11.20

10:45 AM - 12:00 PM

## MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING & PROGRAMMING IN ALASKA

**DENALI**  
1 CM CREDIT

JENNIFER EASON  
LEAD PROGRAM  
DEVELOPMENT PLANNER, AK  
DOT&PF  
jennifer.eason@alaska.gov

RYAN COOPER  
ASSOCIATE, STANTEC  
ryan.cooper@stantec.com

Airports are economic lifelines for our communities. Rural Alaska has come to rely on the goods, passenger services, medical care, and industrial support our airports provide. The costs to provide these services in rural Alaska are paid for by the State. How do we plan to keep our airports sustainable in a cost-effective manner? Come and see how we are approaching these challenges in real world examples. We are stitching together the complex set of engineering, safety, maintenance, economic, and community stakeholders to build more effective airports.

10:45 AM - 12:00 PM

## STREAMLINING CAPITAL PLANNING WITH GIS

**HAINES**  
1 CM CREDIT

CAMERON DEAN  
GIS ADMINISTRATOR, CITY OF UNALASKA  
cdean@ci.unalaska.ak.us

THOMAS ROUFOS  
ASSOCIATION PLANNER, CITY OF  
UNALASKA  
troufos@ci.unalaska.ak.us

In 2019 the City of Unalaska Planning Department implemented a new system for the city's Capital Maintenance and Management Plan. It replaced a cumbersome, error-prone process tracking capital projects through multiple unconnected documents with a single database utilizing the City's existing GIS capabilities. Previously, capital projects were nominated by city departments and manually collected and reviewed by the Planning Department. This became difficult to manage as projects were frequently shuffled from year to year and funding requests were revised. It was also challenging for staff to gauge capacity, as it was difficult to track new capital projects together with the city's existing ones. To improve this process, the Planning Department used the city's existing ArcGIS Online service to build a simple online portal for city staff to propose projects and developed a new, more transparent review process to prioritize them. Simple questions in several categories based on the City Council's priorities, as well as objective measures, give a score for each project. Project nominators have the opportunity to give feedback on how their proposals meet each criterion. The database generates reports automatically as revisions are made, and staff and the public can view projects interactively online. The new system has streamlined the yearly task of producing the Capital Maintenance and Management Plan and provides a means to track projects as the city undertakes them.



10:45 AM - 12:00 PM

## ENVISIONING POSITIVE FUTURES FOR THE NORTH

### KENAI 1 CM CREDIT

JULIE DECKER  
CEO, ANCHORAGE MUSEUM  
jdecker@anchoragemuseum.org

ISAAC VANDERBURG  
CEO, LAUNCH ALASKA  
issac@launchalaska.com

BODIL KJELSTRUP  
CURATOR, ANCHORAGE MUSEUM  
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TANYA IDEN, AICP  
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SHANNON KUHN  
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR, MOA  
shannon.kuhn@anchorageak.gov

Alaskans know we have a changing climate, we see it when the fish don't return to our rivers, when wildfires spark up in the middle of Anchorage parkland, when ski races are canceled due to lack of snow. SEED Lab, a partnership between the Anchorage Museum and the Municipality of Anchorage seeks positive solutions in response to climate change. It knows Anchorage and Alaskans can innovate and creatively adapt and export our solutions to the world. SEED Lab is a belief in the power of creative practitioners to participate meaningfully in creating a more just, equitable, sustainable, compassionate, and positive future. SEED Lab projects expand the capacity of the community-building already happening in Anchorage neighborhoods and ignite new or furthered conversations about possibilities for the future. SEED Lab is one of five winners of the Bloomberg Philanthropies Public Art Challenge – a highly competitive and coveted award. In this session participants will learn:

- how SEED Lab is engaging the Anchorage community in dialogue and action around our changing climate.
- SEED Lab's method of prototyping solutions and formats to advance civic conversation and action around issues of civic concern.
- SEED Lab's focus on the future, through ideas of Prototype, Respond and Connect
- techniques and tips for working with creative practitioners to further placemaking activities.
- how SEED Lab links to two Municipal initiatives, Welcoming Anchorage and the Climate Action Plan.
- how the museum and SEED Lab are helping to revitalize a few square blocks in a corner of downtown Anchorage.



## Session Descriptions

SUNDAY 02.09.20

MONDAY 02.10.20

TUESDAY 02.11.20

10:45 AM - 12:00 PM

### WHEN OUR SHIP COMES IN - STRIVING FOR AN EVEN KEEL

#### JUNEAU

1 CM CREDIT

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BETH MCKIBBEN, AICP  
SENIOR PLANNER, CITY &  
BOROUGH OF JUNEAU  
beth.mckibben@juneau.org

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KIRBY DAY  
PORT MANAGER, PRINCESS  
CRUISES, HOLLAND AMERICA LINE &  
SEABOURN CRUISE LINE

---

SARAH LEONARD  
PRESIDENT & CEO, ALASKA  
TRAVEL INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION  
sleonard@alaskaTIA.org

---

RICHARD HARNEY  
DIRECTOR, PLANNING & COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT,  
KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH  
richardh@kgbak.us

Planners uniquely balance the impacts of tourism with the community benefits. Some communities directly benefit from sales taxes, bed taxes, or user fees. But what about indirect community benefits from tourism? How do we promote a sense of place and mitigate impacts of tourism? Can we remain a place that people want to both live and visit? What if we planned for tourism the same way we plan for any type of community growth? Alaska had more than 2 million visitors in 2019. As planners, we have an opportunity to work collaboratively with economic development organizations and destination management and marketing organizations to create communities where people want to live, work and visit. This session will look at tourism as a force for positive community change – a powerful economic development tool that develops talent; creates and attracts businesses; improves infrastructure and services; and engages residents, while recognizing the challenges and pressure that residents experience. It will discuss the challenges of finding a common ground between quality of life and visitor experience – the community’s hospitality is the industry’s product. Mitigating tourism-related impacts creates a better experience for residents and visitors alike. This session will highlight Juneau’s Tourism Best Management Practices as a successful tool for managing these impacts and feature Juneau’s Blueprint Downtown Area Plan and Ketchikan’s tourism strategy.



1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

## DOWNTOWN ANCHORAGE: REVITALIZATION THROUGH HOUSING & PLACEMAKING

**JUNEAU**  
1.5 CM CREDIT

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AMANDA MOSER  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,  
ANCHORAGE DOWNTOWN  
PARTNERSHIP  
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MICHELLE MCNULTY, AICP  
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SEZY GEROW-HANSON  
DIRECTOR, PUBLIC & RESIDENT  
RELATIONS, COOK INLET HOUSING  
AUTHORITY  
sghanson@cookinlethousing.org

Downtown Anchorage is our community's downtown and the heart of the city. Many people work and experience downtown on a regular basis. With the addition of Downtown Edge, Elizabeth Place and Susitna Flats more people are making downtown Anchorage their home. Recently, the Municipality of Anchorage Planning Department initiated the first step toward implementing a more modern land use code for downtown with expectations for updating the Downtown Comprehensive Plan during 2020. The Anchorage Downtown Partnership representing hundreds of downtown property owners continues to collaborate across sectors to create more vitality through activating our public spaces and finding opportunities for placemaking. This session will explore the opportunities and constraints to adding more vitality to downtown with updates and perspective from a multi-disciplinary panel. Session participants will learn about the following:

- Market opportunities for housing and financial feasibility limitations
- Economic and demographic benchmarking to other downtowns, including Boise, Salt Lake City, Minneapolis and Oklahoma City. What can we expect as we add more housing in our downtown?
- New housing incentives that are leading to new places to live in downtown Anchorage
- Updates on the planning process to update and implement the Downtown Comprehensive Plan
- How a downtown improvement district, funded through a voluntary property tax assessment implemented by the private sector, is successfully working to make our downtown more clean, safe and vital.



# Session Descriptions

SUNDAY 02.09.20

MONDAY 02.10.20

TUESDAY 02.11.20

1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

## BRINGING GIS TO PLANNING: WEB-BASED SYSTEMS FOR PLANNING & ENGAGEMENT INTERACTIVE WORK SESSION

**DENALI**  
1.5 CM CREDIT

TERRI MORGANSON  
ESRI ACCOUNT MANAGER  
tmorganson@esri.com

INTERACTIVE WORK SESSION! Bring your laptop!

Around the world, cities use GIS to visualize the built environment, make smarter plans, engage stakeholders, and foster vibrant communities. Government leaders, partners, and citizens increasingly expect engaging online maps of their community that convey planning information in an easy-to-understand format. Innovative cities are starting to utilize 3D mapping of zoning and plausible future conditions to communicate effectively to non-experts through a visual representation of what can be developed. Attend this workshop for an overview of ArcGIS Urban, a web-based 3D system designed to improve city planning and decision-making. ArcGIS Urban allows planners to visualize, track, and review development projects throughout their life cycle and streamline the creation and sharing of zoning and land-use plans, directly in a web browser. Explore the use of ArcGIS Urban's plan authoring tools to create and evaluate multiple alternatives or scenarios, using metrics and performance indicators as design feedback. Engage stakeholders and the public with interactive plans and online comments. Urban offers a comprehensive overview of development activities along with a suite of tools to shape the future of your community.

1:30 PM - 3:00 PM

## THE SALCHA-BADGER ROAD AREA PLAN: HOW THE FASTEST GROWING AREA IN THE FNSB IS MAINTAINING THEIR VALUES WHILE LEVERAGING & MANAGING UNPRECEDENTED GROWTH

**KENAI**  
1.5 CM CREDIT

KELLEN SPILLMAN  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR, FAIRBANKS  
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SHELLY WADE, AICP  
PRINCIPAL::OWNER, AGNEW::BECK  
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The mostly rural area along the Richardson Highway from Salcha north to North Pole and Badger Road is growing and will soon experience a lot more growth with the influx of several thousand new residents associated with the arrival of the F-35s at Eielson. This area is made up of several distinct communities with very different interests, priorities and concerns, and in general it hadn't received a lot of planning attention in the past. This session will cover the need for the plan, the planning process, and lessons learned, with a focus on how these could apply in other communities.



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- Public Involvement
- Transit Studies & Design
- Civil Engineering
- Non-Motorized Planning & Design
- GIS Services
- NEPA Documentation & Permitting



Anchorage | Fairbanks | Palmer | Homer



## Keynote Speakers

MONDAY 02.10.20



**TIFFANY ZULKOSKY**

Representative, AK Legislature,  
District 38, Bethel

Tiffany Zulkosky was born and raised in Bethel, Alaska and has spent her entire career working to improve life for rural Alaskans. Of Yup'ik and Polish descent, she is the daughter of Patricia Zulkosky of Bethel and the late Joe Hinz of Kipnuk. Elected to Bethel City Council at the age of 23 and serving as Mayor by the time she was 24, Tiffany became the youngest mayor in Bethel's history. Appointed to serve as Rural Director for U.S. Senator Mark Begich, Tiffany has held leadership roles in both community and energy planning organizations. Tiffany currently works as the Vice President of Communications for the Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation. She has a Master's Degree in Public Administration from the University of Alaska Southeast, and a Bachelor of Arts in Organizational Communication from Northwest University.

On March 9, 2018, Tiffany was sworn in to the Alaska State House to represent District 38. The western Alaska district includes the communities of Akiachak, Akiak, Aniak, Atmautluak, Bethel, Chefornak, Chuathbaluk, Crooked Creek, Eek, Platinum, Goodnews Bay, Kasigluk, Kipnuk, Kongiganak, Kwigillingok, Kwethluk, Marshall, Mekoryuk, Napakiak, Napaskiak, Newtok, Nightmute, Nunapitchuk, Oscarville, Platinum, Quinhagak, Russian Mission, Tuluksak, Tuntutuliak, Toksook Bay, Tununak, Lower and Upper Kalskag. Tiffany is the only Alaska Native woman currently serving in the Alaska State Legislature and serves as sole chair of the House Special Committee on Tribal Affairs and Co-Chair of the House Health & Social Services Committee.

MONDAY 02.10.20



**CAROL GORE**

President & CEO, Cook Inlet Housing  
Authority, Anchorage

Carol Gore has been involved in the development, acquisition, management, and disposition of residential and commercial real estate for over 30 years. Carol is enjoying her 19th year as the President and Chief Executive Officer of Cook Inlet Housing Authority in Anchorage, Alaska – the designated housing entity for Cook Inlet Region Inc. CIHA supports a wide range of affordable housing activities, including the development, ownership and management of affordable rental housing for families and seniors, a homeless shelter, construction and sales of affordable homes for immediate homeownership, third party project management for nonprofit organizations and the establishment and operation of an affiliate Native Certified Development Financial Institution, Cook Inlet Lending Center. Under Carol's leadership, the CIHA team has more than doubled its affordable rental housing, from 267 units in 2000 to over 1,626 units owned and managed in 2019. Carol has been honored numerous times for her service to the community and outstanding leadership: she is the recipient of the YWCA Women of Achievement Award, the recipient of the Virginia Kizer Award from the Native American Indian Housing Council and the recipient of the Pacific Northwest Council National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials President's Award and the recipient of the M. Justin Herman Award from the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials.

Ms. Gore is a proud Alaskan of Aleut decent.



## Keynote Speakers



MONDAY 02.10.20



**AMOS PHILEMONOFF**  
President, Aleut Community of St.  
Paul Island

Amos will share the Aleut Community of St. Paul Island's experiences and success stories establishing creative and fruitful partnerships with the public and private sector to implement community and economic development projects on St. Paul Island. Amos Philemonoff has been self-employed as a commercial fisherman for 39 years and is the owner of the F/V-Karen Ann here in St. Paul. Until marriage 13 & ½ years ago, he was a year-round fisherman, crabbing in the fall/winters and chasing halibut in the summer. Twelve (12) years ago he was elected to a Tribal Council seat and the very next year was sworn in as President of the Council. In addition to the many committees and boards he serves on, Philemonoff is very passionate about his board service on the local CDQ group board. Amos is a very staunch tribal advocate and loves working with the tribal government team to raise the quality of life in his hometown. Together, he and his team have accomplished many achievements that he is very proud of including growing annual tribal revenues from \$3M to over \$12M during his leadership. Amos has built a strong foundation for the Tribe through securing recurring federal funding, expanding business enterprises, and securing a better health partner in the community. He has landed several major capital projects for his community including over \$30M for tribal waterfront and harbor improvements. Through strong partnerships and teamwork, Amos has been instrumental in creating a viable economy in St. Paul that will continue to prosper for years to come.

MONDAY 02.10.20



**WALTER NELSON**  
Napakiak City Council

Walter Nelson has served in his role as City Council member for ten years. As a City Council member, he shares the responsibility for the management of the city's affairs with other council members. His duties include: overseeing operations of the city, hearing citizen complaints and concerns, evaluation projects, proposals, and ideas brought forward by city staff and community members, establishing policies that provide guidelines for the management and administration of public affairs. Walter leads the city council's efforts to address concerns related to infrastructure impacts from erosion within the community. He also sits on the Napakiak Planning Committee, a multi-jurisdictional committee with representation from the Native Village of Napakiak and the Napakiak Corporation that works together on issues that affect the entire community. Previously, Walter served as the City Administrator.





## Keynote Speakers

**MONDAY 02.10.20**



**DAVID ANDREW**

Tribal Administrator, Native Village of  
Napakiak

David Andrew has been working as the Tribal Administrator for the Native Village of Napakiak for four years. As Tribal Administrator, he is responsible for the overall tribal management functions, which encompass administration, financial management, supervision of tribal employees, policies and procedures, grant, and program management. He works for the Napakiak Indian Reorganization Act Council which provide and promote for and fair and equal treatment for all its recognized Tribal Members through social services, programs, to protect the welfare of its community members, and have a working relationship with entities in and out of our region. David works for the I.R.A. Council's efforts to address concerns related to infrastructure impact from erosion within the community along with Walter Nelson. He also sits on the Napakiak Planning Committee with other Committee Members from the City of Napakiak and Napakiak Corporation. David earned his AAS in the field of Information Technology from UAF – Kuskokwim Campus in Bethel, Alaska before serving as Indian General Assistance Program Coordinator and currently as Tribal Administrator for the Native Village of Napakiak.

**TUESDAY 02.11.20**



**TOM JENTZ, AICP**

Retired Kalispell Planning Director,  
Kalispell, MT

Very recent retired (December 5, 2019!), Tom Jentz served as the Director of the Kalispell Planning, Building and Community Development Department since 2005. From 2001 – 2005 Tom served as the director of the former Tri-City Planning Office serving the cities of Kalispell, Whitefish and Columbia Falls and from 1983 to 2001 he served in various capacities including director of the former Flathead Regional Development Office which provided joint planning services to Flathead County and its three cities. Tom was also the City Planner for Lewiston, Idaho from 1979-1983 and served as the land use planner for a five-county planning office in southeastern North Dakota from 1977-1979. He received a Master's Degree in Community and Regional Planning from North Dakota State University and is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP). He has a fabulous wife and 3 phenomenal children.





## PLANNING PROJECTS

### 2019 BEST COMMUNITY PLAN

This award recognizes a plan completed within the past two years that demonstrated public participation & innovative approaches.

#### SALCHA-BADGER ROAD AREA PLAN

Presented to the Fairbanks North Star Borough, Community Planning Department & Agnew::Beck

The Salcha-Badger Road Area Plan serves as a community resource and guide for both short and long-term housing, transportation, utilities, recreation, and commercial needs. The study area was large and made up of several unique communities (Badger Road West and East, City of North Pole, Moose Creek, Eielson Farm Road, Eielson Air Force Base, and Salcha), the team developed a working group to create boundaries for seven subareas within the planning project boundary. Through a robust public engagement effort, involving two large mailouts to thousands of area property owners and two rounds of in person community meetings involving hundreds of residents and other stakeholders, it quickly became apparent that residents of different subareas have very different ideas about their preferred futures. It was important to represent those differences in the plan.

The plan also recognized there is no building code in much of the area; road maintenance varies widely; and zoning limitations are minimal. Priority strategies and related action items are identified for implementation under land use, transportation and housing topics to address those challenges.

### 2019 BEST INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN

This award recognizes an infrastructure plan completed within the past two years that demonstrated a visionary approach through excellent analysis & graphics.

#### MIDTOWN CONGESTION RELIEF PLANNING & ENVIRONMENTAL LINKAGES (PEL) STUDY

Presented to Alaska DOT&PF & DOWL

The MCR Study utilized the innovative PEL process that enabled the team to explore potential solutions to safety, access, and traffic in the Midtown corridor along the Seward Highway between Tudor Road and 20th Avenue. The PEL process incorporated considerations of the natural and human environment, coordination with resource agencies, and the public, and created clear documentation of decisions and rationales that went into the planning process. Over the course of the two-year study, the team identified and assessed 10 alternatives, incorporated the input from a robust and innovated public engagement process, screened alternatives to discern the most effective solutions to multifaceted improvement needs, and developed a preferred concept with five recommended projects. One additional outcome was the continuation of public engagement in the facilitation of a placemaking initiative – creating space and movement to dovetail community building with the recommended transportation projects.



# APA AK Awards

## PLANNING PROJECTS

### 2019 BEST PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

This award recognizes the public engagement aspects of planning & its effectiveness in supporting good planning; including creative outreach & involvement methods.

### 2019 KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Presented to the Kenai Peninsula Borough, Planning Department & Agnew::Beck

The Kenai Peninsula Borough is 24,754 square miles in area with a population of 58,000 with approximately 35% of its population living in its six incorporated cities and the remaining 65% living in its additional 30 Census Designated Places. Because of this, the public engagement process was more intensive than is typical for many community plans.

The values, vision, goals, objectives and strategies in the plan was developed through an extensive public engagement process, including input and ideas from residents, businesses, tribes, non-profit and community organizations, associations, and government agencies including cities within the Kenai Peninsula Borough. The project team traveled to communities across the borough to invite people to participate, gather thoughts and ideas about what the plan should include, and share how and why the plan is relevant to the entire community.

Despite the large geographical and cultural diversity across the borough, the plan was able to address the needs of the borough and was adopted with a great deal of public support. Over 2,000 residents shared their ideas with the project team; more than 50 interviews and small group discussions with local organizations; over 600 telephone survey responses; and attended 20 public events; including Kenai River Festival, Moose Pass Solstice Celebration, Funny River Festival, Kenai Peninsula Fair, and Industry Appreciation Day.

### 2019 MOST INNOVATIVE

This award is for a specific planning tool, practice, program, project or process that represents state-of-the-art thinking or an advance in a specific element of planning. Emphasis is placed on results & how the innovative methods helped implement a project.

### BLUEPRINT DOWNTOWN JUNEAU - COMMUNITY VISIONING

Presented to City & Borough of Juneau, Community Development Department & MRV Architects, along with Sheinberg Associates & Lucid Reverie

The City and Borough of Juneau (CBJ) Community Development Department (CDD) is developing an Area Plan for downtown Juneau to guide development over the next 20 years. The project is broken into two separate, but complementary components: The Community Vision and the Plan. Work on the Blueprint Downtown visioning process occurred from August 2018 through February 2019; in this short time period an intensive public outreach process occurred over 6,000 comments were collected. The best estimate is that substantial input was gathered from 800 to 900 individuals through the following mechanisms:

- 300 public participants from three public meetings (with attendance of 120+, 100, and 78).
- 426 on-line comment surveys, and emailed comments;
- 318 street interviews with seasonal visitors (mostly cruise ship passengers);
- 56 “nightlife” interviews, with individuals socializing downtown later at night;
- 46 interviews with downtown merchants and vendors;
- 130 participants in a Gallery Walk “pop up” booth;
- 40 participants from “meetings-to-go,” or facilitated community group meetings;
- 55 responses to comment forms left in businesses downtown;
- 105 participants in three January theme-based walking tours.

Each of the meetings and public interactions were intended to be both fun and informative, working to create a sense of engagement and community spirit. It was also important to establish public confidence that their input was appreciated and was being used as the study moved forward.

## LEADERSHIP AWARDS

## APA AK Awards



### EMERGIN PLANNER OF THE YEAR

This award honors a new professional planner with five or less years of experience that has helped elevate the profession, build public support for planning, & who's work demonstrates continual influence on the profession for years to come.



**KARLIE GEDIG**

**Municipality of Anchorage, Current Planning Division**

Karlise is an Associate Planner for the Municipality of Anchorage, Planning Department. She graduated from the University of New Mexico with a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Planning and Design in 2017. She excels in the department with her positive, can-do attitude and impeccable customer service. Karlise works diligently in providing staff analysis on a variety of planning application submittals. She takes a well-balanced approach to her work in understanding the needs of applicants and protecting the quality of life and safety of the community. Her reports and analysis are well prepared, providing an on-point narrative with graphic support that provides decision makers with the material needed to make well-informed decisions.

### PLANNER OF THE YEAR

This award honors planning professionals who have made outstanding contributions to the planning field in Alaska over an extended period of time, & who exhibits qualities which lead to the successful accomplishment of planning goals, programs or projects.



**COLLIN HODGES**

**Municipality of Anchorage, Current Planning Division**

Collin graduated in 2012 with a master's degree in Urban and Regional Planning from the State University of New York at Albany and moved to Alaska in 2015. He joined the Planning Department in July of 2018 as a Senior Planner and brought with him a broad range of planning experience. The skills that makes Collin indispensable are his professional-level skills in GIS analysis and cartography, urban design tools including illustration and 3D visual modeling, document page layout and design, planning research and analysis, and excellent writing skills. Collin has an appetite for learning. His work often includes findings from research of planning literature with examples and studies to a level beyond the norm. He's aware of urban design and planning trends in places around the world. With each project, he knows more.

### PLANNING ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR



**SYVERINE BENTZ**  
City of Homer,  
Planning Commissioner

This award recognizes an individual, or an appointed or elected official who has advanced and promoted the planning cause in the public area & had demonstrated an understanding of planning processes.

Syverine is a Planning Commissioner has served on the Homer City Planning Commission since 2016 and when a vacancy occurred on the Kenai Peninsula Planning Commission in 2017, where she readily accepted an invitation to apply. She also participates in the KPB's Material Site Working Group which hold contentious and long meeting. Both the City of Homer and KPB Planning Department would like to recognize Syverine's above and beyond volunteerism and advocacy for planning.

She serves with integrity on these planning commissions when hearing the applications that are presented. When conversations stray, she will often steer her fellow commission members back to the code requirements. Regardless of her personal beliefs and professional training, she carefully and thoughtfully makes her decision based upon code requirements and the facts presented.



## APA Board of Directors



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## OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE ON THE APA AK BOARD OF DIRECTORS

We need you! The APA AK Board is an additional opportunity to share your passion and expertise, and to help build our collective capacity to plan for a stronger and more resilient Alaska.

Please consider volunteering for the APA AK Board and broadening the positive impact you have in Alaskan communities.

For more information or to become a candidate, please email Chapter President, Shelly Wade at [shelly@agnewbeck.com](mailto:shelly@agnewbeck.com) with your name, contact information and a short paragraph about yourself, including why you would like to serve on the Board.



**ALEXA GREENE**  
Region 4 | DB/FBNSB



**VACANT**  
Planning Commissioner Representative



**VACANT**  
Student and Young Professional Development Officer



**VACANT**  
Western Planner Representative (Non-Voting Member)



## Sponsors and Thank You

### SPEAKERS

Thank you to the presenters and speakers for sharing your knowledge and passion with the attendees. Many of you have traveled from far away to share your gifts and we are thrilled to have you as our guests. The conference would not be the success it is without your contribution.

### CHAPTER MEMBERS

Thank you for attending the conference. You are the greatest asset for our profession and continuing to grow our shared knowledge not only better the Chapter, but better our communities.

### SPONSORS

Thank you for sponsoring the state's only planning conference, continuing to advance the planning profession, and advocating for the use of best planning practices to improve Alaskan communities.

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## APA ALASKA CHAPTER BOARD

The APA Alaska Chapter Board is composed entirely of planning professionals who choose to volunteer and the time, effort, and knowledge to the advancement of the profession.

Thank you for your continued leadership and contributions!

## CONFERENCE TEAM

The conference would not be possible without the amazing team work of the conference team volunteers. Thank you for everything!

- SHELLY WADE - CHAIR
- KARLIE GEDIG - CO-CHAIR
- ALEXA GREENE
- BEN COLEMAN
- TARYN OLESON-YELLE
- SUZANNE TAYLOR

## AWARDS COMMITTEE

The awards program is coordinated by a team of volunteer APA AK chapter members who also serve as the selection committee. Thank you for promoting the profession and recognizing outstanding work.

- ALEXA GREENE - CHAIR
- ERIKA GREEN
- LAURA BOYCE
- ELIZABETH APPLEBY



METAL in the MTNS



Blonde Matters



## SILENT AUCTION SPONSORS

Thank you for your generous support and sponsorship to the first APA AK Silent Auction! Proceeds from this event will go directly into a student scholarship fund to aid future Alaskan planners in their education, growing the base of up-coming community change makers.







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