

Newsbrief



Placemaking in Virginia — Highlights from the 2005 Annual Planning Conference

During the last week of April 2005, more than 150 planners from throughout the Commonwealth gathered in one of the most beautiful places on Earth to learn state-of-the-art principles and techniques for placemaking. Airlie Conference Center in Fauquier County, just outside of Warrenton, provided a breathtaking backdrop for three days of lively dialogue, thought-provoking presentations, and relaxing times among friends and colleagues.

Nationally recognized experts, including keynote speaker Dan Burden and featured speaker Gerald P. McCarthy joined an array of outstanding Virginia planners to offer a richness of perspectives, experiences, and ideas about placemaking in rural, urban, and suburban communities.

In addition to the sessions highlighted throughout the following pages, the annual awards ceremony marked a high point for this year's conference. Submissions were better than ever, making the committee's work delightfully difficult.

The conference received rave reviews from participants. VAPA owes tremendous thanks to Conference Committee Chair Anne Goode, VAPA President Denise Harris, and the many Board members and staff who donated their time and resources toward this remarkable event.

2006 Conference Focus — Implementation

Now that we know what placemaking is — how are we doing? Bring your experiences, ideas, and questions at the 2006 VAPA Conference, scheduled for **March 29-31** in Portsmouth.

The call for presentations will be sent out soon, so start thinking now about what you can share with your colleagues. For more information, contact Conference Chair Anne Goode at AGoode@ReedSmith.com or call 703-729-8536.



The Gardens at Airlie

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Shenandoah Regions! Contact Hannah
Twaddell to volunteer.

President's Message

Greetings!

This issue of Newsbrief focuses on VAPA's annual Awards winners. I would like to give a big "Thank You" to the Awards Committee who sorted through many inspirational plans and to the many planners who worked on them. They highlight some of the best work in our state. Please take a few moments, especially if you missed the Awards Ceremony at the conference, to read how your colleagues are implementing techniques in the forefront of the planning profession.

On the national scene, the U.S. Supreme Court concluded this spring with several significant rulings that pertain to our work. While some of these rulings may not seem to apply to your particular specialty, if is important to read each ruling to gain understanding on their wide reaching impacts. Four cases stand out, including:

- *Lingle v. Chevron* where the U.S. Supreme Court overturned the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals by upholding Hawaii's rent control statute;
- *City of Rancho Palos Verdes v. Abrams* where again the U.S. Supreme Court overturned the opinion of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals that said municipalities and officials who make zoning and other land use decisions which are allegedly inconsistent with the Telecommunications Act of 1996 are subject to actions for damages and attorney's fees;
- *National Advertising Company v. City of Miami* which relates to the billboard industry and vested rights in the U.S. Court of Appeals Eleventh Circuit; and finally,
- *Kelo v. City of New London* which has been on the front page of countless newspapers and the subject of talk radio. The U.S. Supreme Court ruled in favor of the City of New London's power of eminent domain. As I am writing this Congress is now debating how to react to the ruling, including possibly withholding Federal funds for any jurisdiction that chooses to enact eminent domain for profit-making projects. In Virginia, several members of the General Assembly are exploring new legislation to further protect private property owners.

The American Planning Association realizes these rulings will have significant impacts on planning around the country. The Association is pledging to explore the issues in detail in future publications of *Planning Magazine*, as well as devoting an entire track to the subject at next year's national conference. Closer to home, VAPA is also working to distill the meaning of the rulings for Virginians. In upcoming issues of *Newsbrief* we hope to bring you more information on how these rulings affect us at home.

Finally, by the time you are reading this I hope that the next version of TEA-21, the Federal transportation bill, will have been reauthorized. It has been a long debate over the last two years. In the end, Congress and the Administration must agree upon funding levels to avoid a Presidential veto.

I hope everyone is enjoying their summer!

Denise Harris

VAPA WELCOMES NEW ADMINISTRATOR — We bade a fond farewell to out going staff Robin Schmitz in June, and hello to our new Chapter Administrator Robin Morrison. Please note our updated address, phone, fax and email address — take a moment to contact our new Robin and say hello!

Robin Morrison, VAPA Administrator
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What Is Placemaking?

Everyone knows intuitively that people shape places. Over time, the people who live and work in a community define its “fingerprint” – its collective history and cultural identity. What may not be so obvious, however, is that places also shape people. The ongoing story of any community influences, and is influenced by, its characteristics of place – the way in which its streets, buildings and civic spaces, framed by its natural environment, are proportioned and placed in relationship to each other.

Placemaking is the art of shaping healthy, attractive communities by cultivating scale, density, and relationships among built and natural settings that promote the community’s desired character. Whether our vision is to revitalize a dusty village, corral suburban sprawl in a fast-growing town, or attract new growth to an old urban neighborhood, we can use the principles of placemaking to —

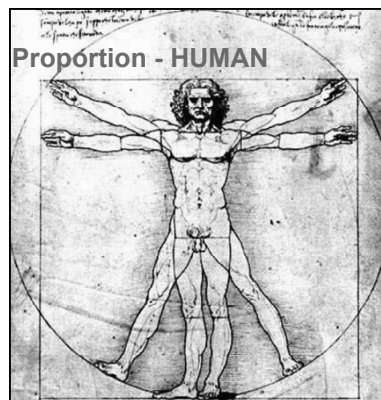
- 1) Understand how the natural landscape sets the context for the placement and scale of the built environment;
- 2) Determine and articulate desired density, diversity and design elements of the community and its neighborhoods; and
- 3) Plan a variety of appropriately scaled transportation connections among neighborhoods, communities, and regions.

VAPA members enjoyed a lively discussion of placemaking issues at an opening session of the conference conducted by Leigh Wilkerson and Hannah Twaddell of Renaissance Planning Group. In addition to sharing ideas about how to work with private developers, the group identified two ways in which planners can promote good placemaking “from within” by influencing the design and location of our public facilities:

- Work with VDOT to improve street connectivity and pedestrian accessibility; and
- Work with local school boards to promote schools as pedestrian-friendly community centers.

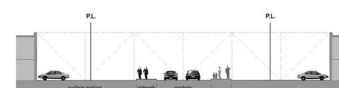
Ideas for accomplishing these goals were explored at sessions throughout the remainders of the conference, and will no doubt continue to flourish as Virginia planners apply placemaking principles throughout the Commonwealth.

Leonardo’s “Vetruvian Man” defines human proportions, from which we develop our understanding of appropriate proportions for healthy “human-scaled” communities.



Proportion - STREET

Spatial enclosure – “the public room”

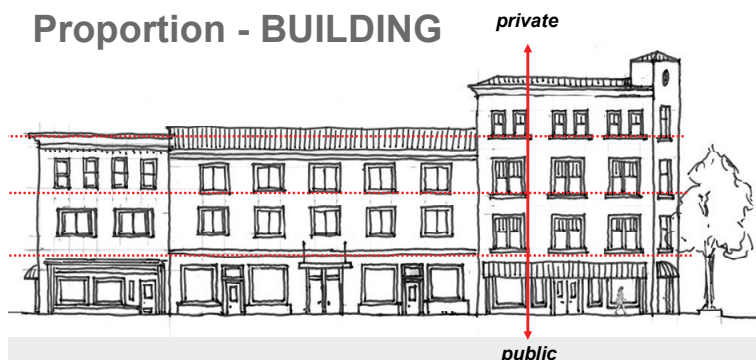


1:6 ratio



1:2 ratio

Proportion - BUILDING



VAPA Recognizes Virginia's Outstanding Planning Students

Virginia Tech University School of Urban Affairs & Planning



Graduate Jessica Sacksteder

Jessica is in the five-year bachelor's degree/master's degree program with an overall GPA of 3.7. She participated in the School's Washington Semester Program, which included an internship with the City of Alexandria. There her work was so good they invited her back. While in Alexandria she assisted in the development of a case report for the Urban Land Institute. She interned with Blacksburg's Neighborhood Enhancement Program and according to her supervisor, "She is on her way to becoming a superb planner. A number of the office staff have expressed their positive experiences...and have asked if she can come back as an employee."

Undergraduate Erin McKelvy

Erin graduated in December 2004 with a 3.4 GPA. She is active in a variety of social development and community improvement programs, including mountaintop removal, community supported agriculture, alternative transportation, community organization, volunteerism, participation, and alternative fuels,

for which she received a fellowship award. Erin is proficient in Spanish and her degree included study abroad at the Universidad Veracruzana, Mexico.

University of Virginia School of Urban & Environmental Planning

Graduate Angie Williamson

Angie has shown outstanding academic



performance with a 3.97 GPA. Additionally, she has demonstrated a consistent professional quality and craftsmanship in her work and contributions to planning research.



Undergraduate Bryan Eckstein

Bryan has shown outstanding academic

achievement as an undergraduate planning student holding a 3.88 GPA. Furthermore, he has demonstrated excellent leadership within his classes and professional quality work in his applied courses and his commitment to sustainable communities both locally and globally.

Virginia Commonwealth University Master Urban & Regional Planning

Graduate Kyle Meyer

Kyle is a student and a part-time



employee of the Virginia Department of Historic Resources, working with the historic tax-credit program. He has been an outstanding planning student and his approach to planning is mature, holistic and very creative. Kyle's dedication to planning and, especially, community revitalization through historic preservation and adaptive reuse, is deep and sincere. He will make an excellent planner.

2005 Awards - Kudos to UVA Student Project

Honorable mention was given to the *Charlottesville Watershed Assessment* student project at the Virginia Chapter of the American Planning Association's annual conference. The project was the product of a semester-long graduate level planning course in the Urban & Environmental Planning program at the University of Virginia. The focus was to apply principles of watershed

management planning in an assessment of the Meadow Creek, Moore's Creek and Rivanna River watersheds encompassing the City of Charlottesville, Virginia. Thirteen students participated in the course.

Assessment teams independently analyzed conditions and conducted water quality and macro-invertebrate sampling; stream corridor visual

assessments; land use and zoning analyses; and an inventory of impervious surfaces. Observations were mapped using GIS, and course participants collaborated in a series of workshops to develop a set of solutions to the environmental issues. Additionally, the class produced an action plan for implementing a range of different solutions.

"...teams independently analyzed conditions and conducted water quality and macro-invertebrate sampling..."

2005 Awards - Fairfax Effort Citizen-Inspired

The Outstanding Plan Award for a Community Comprehensive Plan to the Fairfax County Park Authority (FPCA) for their *Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment*

In 2004, the FPCA completed a comprehensive Park and Recreation Needs Assessment to address the recreation, open space and park needs of Fairfax County residents for the next ten years. The assessment defined future land acquisition, facility renovation and new capital improvements. Based on extensive research, analysis, and findings; the Assessment provided a comprehensive list of community needs and recommendations for a 10-year capital improvement plan.

The needs assessment was based on an active extensive public input process that included stakeholder interviews, focus groups, public forums, and a community survey.

Important themes emerged from the analysis of the survey data. Eight out of ten households had visited a park and the parks enjoyed widespread popularity, visited by at least 70% of the households in every major racial/ethnic group. The survey reflected citizen support for capital funding to maintain facilities and purchase land for open space.

Contribution levels, defined in the assessment, formed the basis of the 10-year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). The CIP reflected \$376 million in near, intermediate, and long-term projects for land acquisition, new facilities and renovations. These were then used as guides for the FPCA's bond programs, long range planning, site-specific master planning, development impact analysis and Comprehensive Plan amendments.

Referendum, \$50 million had been initially requested. However, due to near term needs, park officials requested an increase. Using the needs assessment as a base, the Board of Supervisors increased the bond authorization to \$65 million, which was approved with 73% of citizens voting in favor.

"The CIP reflects \$376 million in near, intermediate and long-term projects..."



Fairfax County Park Authority accepts award

During the 2004 Parks Bond

2005 Awards - Hampton's Commitment To Redevelopment

The City of Hampton's Outstanding Plan Award for a Master Plan highlighted the Coliseum Central Master Plan, the second in a series of six plans to be adopted by the City Council. The plan encompasses nearly three square miles including commercial, neighborhoods and natural environments. The Coliseum Central Business Improvement District (CCBID), is one of the largest such districts in the nation, centrally located within the region at the crossroads of Interstate 64 and Interstate 664, where 140,000-170,000 vehicles pass through its borders every day.

The district has historically served as one of the major regional shopping districts for the Virginia Peninsula and generates a significant proportion of taxes for the City. However, due to aging infrastructure and lack of available land, the CCBID has experienced many disinvestments in recent years.

Drafted through a public process, the plan embraces standards for sustainable development by incorporating principles of mixed use, higher densities, increased open space, and pedestrian connectivity through a redevelopment effort.

Zimmerman/Volk Associates and Economic Research Associates provided residential and commercial market analyses, identifying opportunities for housing, retail, and offices. Illustrations, GIS maps, photographs, and design conceptualizations provide a visual framework for the District.

Overall, the Plan embraces principles of community livability and sustainable develop-

ment by supporting a balance of mixed-use, higher density development, decreased automobile dependency, housing alternatives, recreational and entertainment opportunities, integrity of the natural environment, architectural features, and community identity.



City of Hampton accepts the award for Coliseum Plan.

2005 Awards - Arlington County's Neighborhood

The Nauck neighborhood within southern Arlington County has been characterized by stability and a strong sense of community. In fact, homeownership rates and tenure lengths are among the highest in the County. In spite of these strengths, the commercial core has declined. In order to address development pressures and provide for an improved environment, the neighborhood and Arlington County adopted *The Nauck Village Center Action Plan* in June of 2004. VAPA awarded the County an honorable mention for an Outstanding Master Plan.

The future envisioned for the Nauck Village Center is for a mixed-use, pedestrian friendly environment centered around a "town square" at the intersection of Shirlington Road and 24th Street South. The areas bordering the town square would be characterized by 4-5 story buildings with retail on the ground floor and housing above. To the north of the town square, the scale of

development decreases with residential uses beginning to predominate. South of the town square, the scale of development would increase with a greater emphasis on commercial development along streets that adequately address the needs of pedestrian, bicycle and automobile traffic. Finally, development within the area will be shaped by urban design guidelines that further the goal of an attractive and vibrant mixed-use environment.

Beyond its role as a policy framework, the *Nauck Village Center Action Plan* provides a number of implementation measures aimed at ensuring that the vision is achieved. The plan includes recommendations addressing the following areas:

- Land Use and Zoning
- Transportation

- Implementation Management
- Pre-Development Assistance
- Development Incentives
- Special Projects
- Affordable Housing

Through its sound policy framework and effective implementation measures, the *Nauck Village Center Action Plan* represents an achievable blueprint for a revitalized commercial core to benefit the Nauck community.



VAPA President Denise Harris presented Arlington County staff their award.

2005 Awards - Participation Key to Charlottesville Ordinance

VAPA recognized the City of Charlottesville for its Zoning Ordinance with the Outstanding Implementation Tool Award.

The process for changing the Zoning Ordinance began with the adoption of the City's 2005 Comprehensive Plan in June of 2001. The Planning Commission began a 27-month process to develop a new zoning ordinance to implement the Plan's land use objectives. A citizen committee was appointed with the task of crafting an ordinance that would:

- Help create the urban pedestrian and transit friendly community that is desired by the community.
- Facilitate economic development/housing development that is sensitive to neighborhoods.
- Serve as a coordinated, well-written document that meets constitutional test.

- Provide for maximum citizen/community involvement.

Toward these ends, the Zoning Committee established five other committees with particular expertise and interest in Historic Preservation; Landscape Standards; Residential Regulations; University Districts; and Urban Design Corridors. Each committee reported their findings and recommendations to the Zoning Committee, which then refined the work and recommended the draft Ordinance to the Planning Commission. After some months of review, discussion and revisions, the Planning Commission recommendations and zoning map were adopted by the City Council.

With the passage of the new Zoning Ordinance and Map in September of 2003, numerous discrepancies between the old zoning and the 2025 Land Use Plan were corrected. The new zoning map reflected the

Land Use Plan and provided for new districts and regulations that address numerous issues that the Planning Commission, City Council and the community found significant.

Several land use tools were introduced in the new ordinance and map including the designation of eleven mixed-use corridor districts and two new University area high-density residential districts. The result has been a channeling of growth along the corridors and in high-density areas immediately adjacent to the University of Virginia that helps take the pressure off established neighborhoods and provides for many benefits to the community in terms of quality of life, improved choices in transportation and a more pedestrian environment.

"...the new ordinance and map included the designation of 11 mixed-use corridor districts and two new University area high-density residential districts."

"...if an area is designed to prevent crimes that we all fear...then the design will also address a number of threats that could be identified as terrorism."

2005 Awards - Preventing Crime Through Design

The Virginia Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) Committee and the Virginia Crime Prevention Association developed and designed the document, *CPTED Guidelines – Safety by Design: Creating a Safer Environment in Virginia*, which was awarded the 2005 VAPA Public Awareness and Journalism Award. The document is a response to the growing interest in standardized crime prevention strategies and design features for citizens, businesses, police and designers who are dealing with concerns for crime and terrorism in Virginia.

Design professionals have always integrated into their work resistance to natural threats such as fire, earthquakes, floods and harsh weather. However, more recently, they have also recognized crime as a man-made threat that can be resisted through quality design. Furthermore, in 1994, Virginia broadened the responsibility for addressing crime beyond law enforcement agencies by amending the Zoning

Enabling Legislation Zoning § 15.2-2283, which now includes the words "to provide safety from fire, flood, **crime**, and other dangers." The guidelines clarify CPTED basics and illustrate how these concepts and strategies may be used in a variety of applications.

Created for design professionals, police personnel and anyone involved in development, the concepts and strategies provided for various applications of CPTED measures. The strategies range from residential to commercial and industrial uses and include lighting and landscaping considerations.

This document is an effective tool that will assist planners and design professionals with incorporating specific CPTED design principles into their development plans to help reduce opportunities for crime to occur. Currently, more than 13 jurisdictions in Virginia apply CPTED in their site plan review process and it is becoming a "standard practice" for site plan reviews.

The concepts and strategies can be applied in existing and new development, as well as in rural, suburban and urban environments. Ideally, CPTED concepts and strategies should be applied during the initial design phase to more fully benefit from its applications and to later avoid costly changes.

Virginia has been a national leader in the area of crime prevention initiatives for many years. Crime and its effects on people, businesses, and communities have always been an issue, but since 9/11, many communities and states view crime and terrorism in a new light. The VCC and VCPA firmly believe that if an area is designed to prevent crimes that we all fear on a day-to-day basis, it will also address a number of threats that could be identified as terrorism.

2005 Awards - Virginia Tech Students Honored

Virginia Tech's Urban Affairs and Planning program at Old Town Alexandria Center the Outstanding Student Project award for the East Fall Church Metro Plan.

In his essay *Almost Gone, But Not Forgotten*, local historian John F. Lekel observes: "(The) central business district (of the East Falls Church neighborhood) was surrounded by a residential area that sported . . . graceful Victorian-era dwellings. . . Residents could commute to work downtown . . . within walking distance of their front doors. They needed to go no more than a few blocks for groceries, prescriptions, clothing, movies, and hot meals."

Beginning in the 1950's, the streetcars were dismantled, Interstate 66 tore through its heart, and in the 1970's an above-ground Metro rail station was constructed with a sea of asphalt surrounding it.

Members of the Arlington/East Falls Church Civic Association (AEFCCA) decided to take the future in their own hands. They raised some funds and, with support from the County, enlisted help from VA Tech's Old Town Alexandria Center.

The planning process included inventories and assessments, identification of barriers and opportunities, and scans of economic and community development trends. The students found that without a plan based on association goals, the market would very likely succeed in finishing off the remnants of community.

The report lays the groundwork to revitalize the Metro station area. It outlines market-feasible land use and transportation treatments reflecting community goals that include locally serving uses, compatible density, human

scale pedestrian orientation, central public places, gateways to support community identity, connectivity to residential areas, diverse economic opportunities, and affordable housing.

The AEFCCA believes the report positions the community to become pro-active in guiding development and improving the area around the Metro station. It is the vehicle by which the community can work to become whole again.



VT Students accept their award.

Some Useful Books by Dan Burden

- Street Design Guidelines for Healthy Neighborhoods
- Streets and Sidewalks, People and Cars—the Citizens' Guide to Traffic Calming
- Emergency Response—Traffic Calming and Traditional Neighborhood Streets

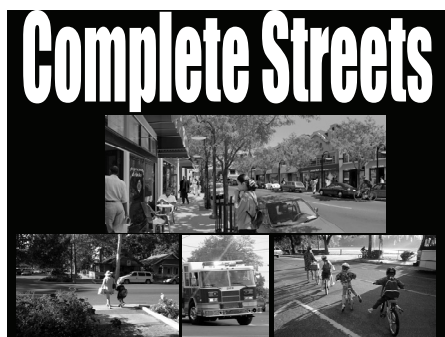
Published by the Local Government Commission Center for Livable Communities, www.lgc.org, 916-448-1198



Street design features such as roundabouts, mountable curbs, and bike lanes make room for trucks and fire engines while meeting the needs of pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers.

Encourage your hopes — NOT your fears!

This was the inspiring message of internationally recognized transportation planner **Dan Burden** at the 2005 conference. The founder and Executive Director of Walkable Communities, Inc., (www.walkable.org) Dan offered a wealth of information, a bit of which is highlighted here. We hope to see Dan back in Virginia often.



A key measure of walkability and livability is the number of children walking or bicycling to school. In Pre-WWII days virtually all children walked and bicycled to school. Today, fewer than 20% do. Returning mobility and personal trips to children is one of the highest measures of livability.

Place Versus No Place



Walkable communities put urban environments back on a scale for sustainability of resources (both natural and economic) and lead to more social interaction, physical fitness and diminished crime and other social problems. Walkable communities are more livable communities and lead to whole, happy, healthy lives for the people who live

Secure by Design - Roundtable on CPTED

Representatives of local, state, and national agencies and associations interested in creating safer environments met Friday, May 20, in Henrico County at a roundtable hosted by the Virginia Crime Prevention Association (VCPA) to discuss ways that they can collaborate to prevent crime and terrorism through secure design. For many years, Virginia has been a crime prevention leader by incorporating Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) into community policing and community planning. Yet, some states and national government agencies are just beginning to see the value of using design as a tool to fight crime and terrorism. The purpose of the roundtable was to bring together key officials from a variety of disciplines to discuss ways they could work together to develop national guidelines that professionals may use in historic preservation, landscape design, lighting design, building design as well as fire prevention, crime prevention, homeland security and community planning.

The diverse group reviewed and discussed major policy documents developed by several of the meeting participants, including *CPTED Guidelines: Safety By Design*, published by the VCPA (www.vcpa.org); *Policy Guide on Security*, recently approved by the American Planning Association (APA) (www.planning.org/policy/guides/security.htm); draft *Guide for Premises Security* which will be voted on by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) (www.nfpa.org) at its annual meeting this summer and *Security Lighting Guidelines* published by the Illuminating Engineers Society of North America (IESNA).

Patrick Harris, Executive Director of the Virginia Crime Prevention Association stated the VCPA hopes to build bridges between community planning, architecture, landscape architecture, crime prevention and fire prevention to develop statewide and national design guidelines that improve security. Harris said, "CPTED is a process that helps create healthy, safe communities through well planned design and management. So we are trying to reach out to develop secure design strategies upon which we can all agree, without compromising safety and security."

Ms. Kim Vann, Henrico County Division of Police CPTED Planner, is the chair of the VCPA CPTED Committee that organized the roundtable. Lt. Colonel Doug Middleton attended as a representative for the International Association of Chiefs of Police. He said, "The County's adoption of CPTED policies and guidelines is due to Kim Vann's hard work and perseverance. I am also a strong proponent of CPTED and firmly believe that it should be a part of law enforcement everywhere."



AICP Update

Revised AICP Code of Ethics

The AICP Commission has approved the revised AICP Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct, effective June 1, 2005. The new Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct can be found at www.planning.org/ethics/conduct.html.

AICP Exam

For those of you interested in taking the AICP exam, the next application submission deadline is September 15, 2005 for the November 7-19, 2005 testing window. Due to overwhelming demand, the AICP exam application will only be available as an interactive online form effective with the November 2005 exam cycle. Prospective candidates for the November 2005 AICP exam may submit their applications now through to September 15 deadline at www.planning.org/certification/index.html.

The Chapter Presidents Council's AICP Exam Prep Manual is currently undergoing an update. The CPC hopes to have the 7th edition manual out by late summer in time for the November 2005 exam. Once published copies will be available for sale through VAPA. For more information contact Glenn Larson, VAPA AICP Professional Development Officer, Larsong@chesterfield.gov, 804/748-1970

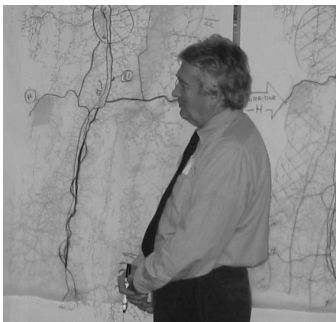
Member News

Mike Tompkins has recently accepted the position of Assistant Director with the Chesterfield County Planning Department. Previously, Mike served as Deputy Planning Director for Prince William County, Director of Planning for Leesburg, and various other planning positions in Texas and Maryland.

Jennifer B. DeBruhl ended her five-year tenure as a Community Planner for FHWA last October and returned to VDOT as Assistant Division Administrator in the Local Assistance Division which is part of the Finance Directorate. She oversees the Urban Program, Urban Construction Initiative (First Cities), Enhancement Program, and Scenic Byway Program. Jennifer can be reached at (804)786-0334. jennifer.debruhl@VDOT.virginia.gov

Chris Lawrence, AICP, has accepted a position as the Management Administrator in the Town Manager's Office for the Town of Blacksburg. He vacates his post as a Blacksburg Town Planner after 6 years as the Development Administrator and most recently the Comprehensive Planner. His new position will include Strategic Planning, program and policy evaluation, and project management. He can be reached at (540) 961-1130; clawrence@blacksburg.gov.

In Memoriam



**C. Richard "Dick" Keller,
President of Kellerco, Inc.**

Noted transportation planner Dick Keller passed away on July 4, after battling lymphoma for more than a year. He was 69. He leaves his wife Tucker, four daughters, a son and six grandchildren.

Dick was widely known for his creative solutions to traffic congestion, his love of long range 50-year planning, his great sense of humor and his high energy level. He was also a cat enthusiast and kept up to a dozen cats at his rural home near Round Hill, Virginia. He had a tremendous intellectual curiosity and was constantly reading about cultural, economic and technological trends, and brought that knowledge to his planning work. He was a strong advocate of integrating land use and transportation planning. He was an expert not only in traffic modeling and conducting detailed traffic studies, but was also extraordinarily capable in preparing long range conceptual plans for transportation networks.

He founded his firm, Kellerco, in 1982 after working for Alan Voorhees, a pioneer in traffic modeling. During the 1980's Kellerco worked mainly for private sector clients, but for the past 15 years focused on serving public sector clients. Dick began his career working for the Virginia Department of Highways and Transportation (now VDOT). He had a B.A. in Civil Engineering from the Virginia Military Institute, and an M.S. in Highway Planning from West Virginia University.

I worked with Dick as a consulting colleague on many planning projects over the past 15 years, throughout Virginia and in other states. He was a wonderful team member and friend. I will really miss his humor, creativity, boundless energy, depth of knowledge about transportation, and his commitment to good planning.

— Milt Herd

Legislative Update

By Jeryl Rose Phillips, AICP, Legislative Director

Surveys taken at the VAPA Conference at Airlie indicated that legislative advocacy and tracking ranks high on the list of services our the VAPA membership receives. In previous years, the VAPA Legislative Director has posted messages to the VAPA Listserve, but we are aware that only a portion of the membership subscribes to the Listserve. Therefore, in order to ensure that all members are receiving legislative alerts and updates in a timely manner, Denise Harris and I have worked with APA staff to establish an email notification process for the entire membership. I will use this system, rather than the VAPA Listserve, to post legislative updates to the membership throughout the year, especially during the General Assembly Session. The messages will come to you from Lynn Jorgenson at APA, which administers our full membership email system.

VAPA was represented at the APA Legislative & Policy conference in Washington, D.C. in May. Participants were briefed on APA's legislative agenda priorities, which included

- Restoring full funding to the Community Development Block Grant Program budget and keeping the program housed in the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) versus transferring administration of it over to the Treasury Department; and
- Funding for TEA-21 transportation programs, which have an emphasis on funding for planning and construction of transit.

Participants were trained in advocacy and had opportunities to meet with key members of Virginia's Congressional Delegation on these issues. As a result, and in large measure to do continuing lobbying by APA, Congress decided to keep the CDBG program at HUD for this next fiscal year. For a full update on these efforts and the outcome, please visit APA's "From Washington" legislative affairs newsletter on the APA website at www.planning.org.

VAPA participated by invitation in the "Secure by Design Roundtable" in Henrico in May, sponsored by the Virginia Crime Prevention Association (VCPA) - see related article in this issue. I presented an overview of APA's latest Policy Guide on Security, adopted by the Delegate Assembly at the 2005 APA Conference in San Francisco, and thereafter by the APA Board. This policy guide addresses ways in which we can continue to retain a sense of place in our built environment as we rethink how we plan and construct public buildings and spaces in a new era of public security concerns.

VAPA and VCPA have been partners in the past by co-sponsoring annual conference sessions on Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) planning principles. A commitment statement to planning to be "Safer by Design" is now under consideration for endorsement by a number of allied professional and industry organizations, including the American Institute of Architects - Virginia Society, and the American Society of Landscape Architects—Virginia Society. The VAPA Board endorsed the "Safer by

Design" commitment statement at its meeting in July. The statement is posted on the Legislative Page of the VAPA website.

Also at the June Board meeting, and as a follow up to the Growing Smart closing plenary session at the VAPA Conference at Airlie, the VAPA Board considered a draft *Blueprint for Smart Growth for the Commonwealth of Virginia*. This draft blueprint espouses the benefits of growing in more sustainable development patterns and includes policy and legislative recommendations for consideration by the Administration and the General Assembly in the areas of general planning, transportation planning and funding, housing and community development, agricultural and open space preservation, and siting standards for schools. It is based in large measure on APA's *Policy Guide on Smart Growth*.

The Board recommended that the draft blueprint be circulated for input from the VAPA membership during the coming months, and once finalized, be used as a basis for Chapter planning advocacy efforts on various fronts. It will be important that VAPA seek the support of allied organizations which share similar interests in pushing forward a Smart Growth agenda in Virginia. Therefore, in short order, some information contained in the blueprint with specific regard to better linkage between transportation and land use planning and funding for transportation, will be forwarded to the General Assembly's START Committee, a joint committee of senators, delegates, and citizen appointees discussing the future of transportation in Virginia. It was also proposed that policy recommendations be forwarded to the Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB), and that Dan Burden, the VAPA Conference keynote speaker, be encouraged to address the CTB on the benefits of better land use planning which supports alternative transportation modes in the Commonwealth.

I will be calling a meeting of VAPA Legislative Committee before the summer is over to prepare a Chapter Legislative Agenda for consideration and adoption by the Board at its September meeting. This is a first for the Chapter in an effort to be more organized with regard to legislative advocacy. Anyone who is interested in joining the Legislative Committee, please contact me at vapalegs@charter.net.

Job Opportunity—Senior Planner - AES Consulting Engineers, Williamsburg, VA. AES Consulting Engineers is a dynamic, growing firm with career opportunities that offer challenge, experience, and diversity. We attribute our success to the hard work and dedication of our employees, and we are looking for skilled professionals to join our team. Benefits include a supportive team environment, competitive salaries, health insurance coverage, 401K participation, and ownership potential. We are currently seeking candidates for a Senior Planner position in our Williamsburg, VA office. The Senior Planner position is a project manager with a technical background, who assists in the design and planning of both residential and commercial Land Development. The successful candidate should have experience in representing clients who are engaged in private land development seeking zoning and other local land use permits, as well as working with staff in planning and design. Projects range from small single-use sites to large-scale mixed-use communities, residential subdivisions, shopping centers, office parks, and medical centers. The individual should have a demonstrated background of developing creative and forward-thinking land planning solutions, and the ability to promote work with prospective clients. The applicant shall have experience in managing work flow and communication between land planning, in-house engineering staff, and local government staffs.

REQUIREMENTS

- Bachelor's Degree in Landscape Architecture, Urban/Regional Planning, Civil Engineering, or similar field required; Masters Degree in Planning or related fields as plus
- Licensure or Certification required
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Citizen Planning Conference — The Good, The Bad, And

Sunday October 9 at the Hotel Roanoke -- Jesse "The Kid Dillon" Richardson will face Milton "The Man with a Plan" Herd in the opening card for the 2005 VCPA Planning and Zoning Conference.

The Citizens Planning Education Association of Virginia, formerly known as the Virginia Citizens Planning Association or VCPA, will sponsor the October program. Twenty sessions will feature training for planners and planning commissioners, as well as BZA members and zoning practitioners, will be featured.

In addition to the lively opening debate, a superior cadre of speakers is being assembled for the October event.

Be there!

**VA Citizen Planning Education Association
Annual Conference
October 9-11, 2005
Hotel Roanoke**

For information and to register, contact Mike Chandler at 804-794-6236, rmchan@vt.edu.

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VAPA's mission is to promote planning as the foundation for effectively addressing the physical, economic and social changes taking place in Virginia. The Virginia Chapter of the American Planning Association is committed to promoting awareness about planning's many benefits, through effective leadership in order to enhance our practice throughout the Commonwealth.

VAPA Member Services Information

- **Chapter Office:** The Virginia Chapter is administrated by Robin Morrison, President, Association Consulting Services, Inc. in Richmond.. Contact: (804) 754-4120 or email vaplanning@comcast.net.
- **Chapter Meetings:** The Annual Meeting is held each Spring as a conference in rotating locations throughout the State. The Board of Directors meets quarterly and all meetings are open to the membership. Sections meet throughout the year – contact your Section Director for a schedule or check the VAPA website for postings.
- **VAPA Website:** www.vaplanning.org Access information about the Virginia APA Chapter, Board of Directors, Section contacts and events, and Chapter programs and publications. Job announcements are posted at no charge on the website by sending a message to the webmaster.
- **VAPA Listserve:** This is an email bulletin board administered by the Chapter and has a digest feature. To subscribe, send a message to majordomo@listbox.com. In the body of the message type, "subscribe vaplanning" without the quotes. To unsubscribe, send a message to the same and in the body of the message type, "unsubscribe vaplanning" without the quotes. When you send a message to or reply to a message on the listserve, it posts to all subscribers; therefore, courteous use of this service is appreciated. Please unsubscribe prior to activating an automatic "out of office" message. Listserve traffic is monitored to catch any problems and to contact users who abuse it.
- **APA Website:** www.planning.org Access information about APA and AICP, including all State APA Chapter membership directories. You'll need to use your APA Member ID to login to certain areas on this website.
- **Want to Join APA and/or VAPA?** You can become a member two ways: 1) join APA, and you automatically become a member of VAPA or 2) join VAPA through Chapter-only membership. Contact Robert Stout, Membership Director, at 804-550-9211 or rmstout@resourceintl.com for more information and dues schedule.
- **Already AICP or Want to Become Certified as AICP?** All AICP information is obtained through the APA website. For VA information, contact Glenn Larson, AICP Professional Development Officer, at (804) 748-1970, email larsong@co.chesterfield.va.us.
- **Change of Address?** All address changes are made through APA, not VAPA, unless you are a Chapter-only member. Visit the APA website for more information or call 312-786-6733. Chapter-only members should contact the VAPA Chapter Office.