

WHAT ARE YOU PLANNING?

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

THE 2007 TAPA ANNUAL CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD SEPTEMBER 5th - 7th AT THE HILTON HOTEL, MEMPHIS

This year's theme is Building Great Communities. For more information, please visit:

www.buildinggreatcommunities.org

IN THE NEXT ISSUE...

Highlights of the 2007 Winter Retreat
AICP Continuing Education Requirements

Preview of 2007 Annual Conference

Look for the next issue in your inbox in July!

CHATTANOOGA BICYCLE PLANNING INITIATIVE WINS THE 2007 NATIONAL PLANNING EXCELLENCE AWARD FOR IMPLEMENTATION!

"This obviously was a sustained effort, and they weren't deterred by funding setbacks. They also got quantifiable results."

-Chandra Foreman, AICP, Juror and Principle Planner, Land Development Department, Polk County, Florida

Congratulations to the City of Chattanooga and the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Regional Planning Agency for winning the 2007 National Planning Excellence Award for Implementation for its Bicycle Planning Initiative. The Chattanooga Bicycle Planning Initiative was also the winner of TAPA's 2006 Outstanding Planning Award for Implementation.

The initiative began in the 1960s with the founding of the Chattanooga Bicycle Club and the appointment of city planner Ron Littlefield, AICP, to the city's first bicycle committee. The continued success of Chattanooga's planning efforts since the 1960s is due in large part to the planners and community citizens maintaining and expanding the pedal pushing partnerships that have fostered excitement, motivation and support for city-wide bicycle facilities. The partnerships have included local, state and federal governmental agencies,

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Carol Rhea, AICP, chair of the APA 2007 Awards Committee; Melissa Taylor, Senior Planner with the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Regional Planning Agency; Karen Rennich, Director of Comprehensive Planning for the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Regional Planning Agency; and David Siegel, President of APA.

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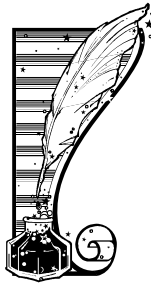
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FROM THE PRESIDENT...

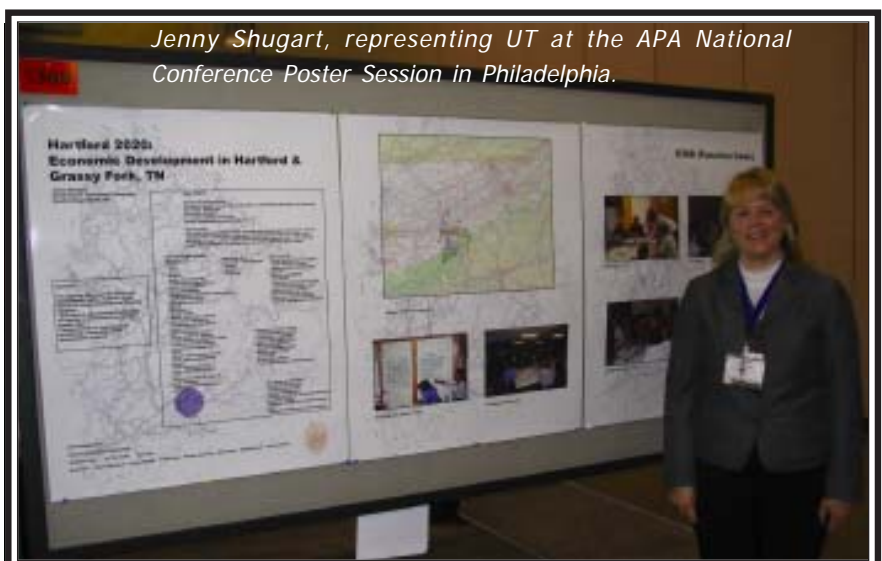
I would like to offer a special congratulations to Melissa Taylor, Karen Rennich, the City of Chattanooga, and the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Regional Planning Agency for winning APA's National Planning Excellence Award for Implementation. This is outstanding example of area cooperation and reflects well on planning in Tennessee. TAPA's deadline for the 2007 awards is July 13th. There is more submittal information on our website (www.tnapa.org). TAPA nominates all Chapter award winners for national awards. Who knows, next April it could be you walking across the stage accepting an APA national award in sunny LAS VEGAS!!

As most of you are aware, the AICP Commission **formally voted to adopt a Certification Maintenance program**. In summary, this program will require, within each two-year period, AICP certified planners to engage in at least 32 credits of eligible professional development activities. All 32 credits are to be earned from APA, APA-sponsored, or registered providers. A minimum of 1.5 credits will be on the topic of ethics and the topic of current planning law. The program will officially start in January 2008, although continuing education credits earned starting on April 14, 2007, may be applied to the first reporting period.

This new program will put more pressure on our Chapter and Sections to provide more training opportunities. At a recent TAPA Executive Committee meeting, the committee agreed that developing a training program should be a top priority. Beginning with the 2007 fall conference we intend to provide additional training hours and include sessions on planning law and ethics. In addition, we hope to develop a speaker's bureau to provide training for those who cannot attend state training.

As always I am very interested in your concerns. If you have any thoughts you would like to share, please contact me at develop@johnsoncitytn.org

Steve Neilson, AICP
Tennessee Chapter President
American Planning Association



And the Winners Are...

Mid 2006, the Tennessee Chapter of APA issued a Call for Awards to recognize excellence in planning and individual contributions. Awards were presented for six (6) different categories:

- Outstanding Planning Award for a Plan;
- Outstanding Planning Award for a Project/Program/Tool;
- Outstanding Planning Award for Implementation;
- Outstanding Planning Award for Student Project;
- Planner of the Year; and
- Lifetime Achievement.

Awards were presented at the 2006 Tennessee Conference of Planning, Landscape Architecture and Urban Forestry held in Nashville, Tennessee September 6-8. Winners of the Outstanding Planning Awards for Plan, Project/Program/Tool and Implementation were submitted to the APA National for entry into the 2006 National Award competition.

Outstanding Planning Award for a Plan

The Outstanding Planning Award for a Plan is presented for an ordinance, plan, text that has been adopted or implemented that demonstrates innovative planning, and simplicity and ease of understanding, and could be replicated elsewhere. This year's award was presented to the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Regional Planning Agency for the *Chattanooga-Hamilton County Comprehensive Plan 2030*. The plan focuses on community diversity and provides specific goals, policies and action steps that can help prepare for change, or if necessary, minimize change while supporting a variety of community types and choices. Instead of providing a traditional land use plan and map, this plan identifies eight different Development Sectors with recommendations for each. For more information, contact Greg Haynes, Director of Comprehensive Planning, Chattanooga-Hamilton County Regional Planning Agency, (423) 757-5216 or haynes_greg@mail.chattanooga.gov.



Steve Neilson (left) presenting the Outstanding Planning Award for a Plan to Greg Haynes (right), Director of Comprehensive Planning, Chattanooga-Hamilton County Regional Planning Agency.



Jim Bryant, Director, Planning and Development, City of Sevierville, with the Special Recognition Award for Project/Program/Tool for *Charting the Course: Sevierville 2020*.

Special Recognition Planning Award for Plan

This year, the Award Committee awarded special recognition to the City of Sevierville for *Charting the Course: Sevierville 2020*. *Charting the Course: Sevierville 2020* was developed by a task force of community volunteers divided into four committees, each addressing a distinct topic area: environment and natural resources; land use and transportation; cultural resources, recreation and leisure services; community image; and economy, business and labor. Each committee was chaired by a member of the Sevierville Planning Commission and assisted by a member of the City's planning staff.

Beginning with a shared vision for the city in 2020, each committee produced a report outlining community goals, policies and actions/projects for their topic area. The resulting plan serves as an implementation guide for city staff and officials when it comes to making decisions about programs, budgets and regulatory matters. For more information, contact James Bryant, Director, Planning and Development, City of Sevierville, (865) 453-5504 or jbryant@seviervilletn.org.

Outstanding Planning Award for Project/Program/Tool

The Outstanding Planning Award for Project/Program/Tool is awarded to a project that demonstrates creative, innovative techniques; serves as a model for other communities; and fits within surroundings and context of adjacent properties. The 2006 Outstanding Planning Award for a Project/Program/Tool was presented to the Metropolitan Planning Department of Nashville-Davidson County for the *Subdivision Regulations of the Nashville-Davidson County Planning Commission*. This submission was also a 2006 APA Award finalist.

The newly adopted subdivision regulations expand traditional planning ideas about subdivisions by providing a range of development standards to implement varied development patterns in diverse physical contexts. In developing a variety of plans and policies to guide the work of the Planning Department, the Department has relied on the Transect model. The primary result of incorporating the Transect model into the Subdivision Regulations is the introduction of the Walkable Subdivision and the Conservation Subdivision. For more information, contact Ann Hammond, Assistant Executive Director, Metropolitan Planning Department, Nashville-Davidson County, (615) 862-7174 or ann.hammond@nashville.gov.



Steve Neilson (left) presenting the Outstanding Planning Award for a Project/Program/Tool to Brenda Bernards (right), Special Project Planner, Metropolitan Planning Department, Nashville-Davidson County.

Outstanding Planning Award for Implementation

The Outstanding Planning Award for Implementation is awarded for the implementation of an initiative, policy, etc. that addresses local needs in a visionary and/or innovative manner. The implementation must demonstrate sustained improvement and increased community interest for planning and the pursuit of similar initiatives. The 2006 Outstanding Planning Award for Implementation was presented to the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Regional Planning Agency for the *Chattanooga Bicycle Planning Initiative*. This submission was also the winner of the 2006 APA National Planning Excellence Award for Implementation. For more information, contact Melissa Taylor, Senior Planner, Chattanooga-Hamilton County Regional Planning Agency, (423) 757-5216 or taylor_melissa@mail.chattanooga.gov. See page one for more about the *Chattanooga Bicycle Planning Initiative*.



Melissa Taylor, Senior Planner, Chattanooga-Hamilton County Regional Planning Agency and Phil Pugliese, Bicycle Coordinator, Outdoor Chattanooga, accepting the award for Outstanding Planning Award for Implementation via video.



Steve Neilson (left) presenting the Outstanding Planning Award for Student Project to Lori Chapman (right).

Outstanding Planning Award for Student Project

The Outstanding Planning Award for Student Project is awarded to a student project that illustrates a creative application of planning concepts or techniques. It must demonstrate consideration of practical factors and excellence of thought, analysis and writing. The 2006 Outstanding Planning Award for Student Project was presented to Lori Chapman for *Planning for Arts and Culture in the Urban Realm: Understanding How Arts and Culture Affect the Formation, Change and Sustainability of Communities*.

Lori's study takes a comprehensive approach to understanding the role of art and culture in the urban realm, considering a variety of factors that affect the formation, change and sustainability of arts districts. Lori's project begins with an exploration of the origin and history of art and culture in urban planning and community development from the late 19th century through the early 20th century and concludes with a set of seven guiding principles for planning and developing sustainable arts districts.

Planner of the Year

Jim Svoboda, Planning Director for the City of Gallatin, was the 2006 Planner of the Year. During Jim's eight year tenure with the City of Gallatin, he has initiated and completed a comprehensive overhaul of Gallatin's zoning ordinance, developed a land use plan update for the City, and updated the City's commercial development standards to ensure sustainable and aesthetically pleasing development. Jim has also worked actively with the planning commission, city council, the mayor's office, Main Street Gallatin, downtown business associations, and other local civic groups to promote good planning policies and practices in Gallatin.

Lifetime Achievement

The 2006 Lifetime Achievement award was presented to Dr. Michael Marchioni, AICP, Associate Professor of Urban Studies at East Tennessee State University. Dr. Marchioni, or Dr. Mike, as he is affectionately known by his students, has made a significant contribution to planning in east Tennessee, the State, and the southeastern U.S. As a professor, he has trained and mentored many planners and city administrators. Dr. Marchioni has been very active in TAPA, serving as the first director of the State of Franklin Section and on the TAPA executive committee.

Dr. Marchioni began his teaching career as a Teaching Assistant at Louisiana State University in 1963. He joined East Tennessee State University (ETSU) as an Assistant Professor of Geography in 1976. During the 1980s, he created the undergraduate and graduate planning programs at ETSU. Serving as an Assistant Professor of Urban Studies, he has chaired over 30 thesis committees and aided more than 100 students on their capstone reports.



Steve Neilson (left) presenting the 2006 Lifetime Achievement Award to Dr. Mike (right),

National Winner continued from page 1

the private sector, non-profit organizations and dedicated advocacy groups. When Chattanooga's first comprehensive bicycle plan was drafted in 1980, it marked a big change for cycling--it was no longer seen as solely childhood recreation but also as an effective and efficient form of transportation.

The plan empowered the newly emerging Bicycle Club to further their advocacy and outreach to community residents to try cycling. The group collaborated with the city to promote the first bikeway in 1967.

In the 1990s, national transportation policy reflected concern about increasing air pollution by encouraging state and local governments to provide alternative transportation options. Chattanooga welcomed this opportunity by establishing a Bicycle Task Force as a citizens' advisory committee to the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The group worked with the local government and bicycle club to develop a downtown bicycle corridor that became known as the North-South Corridor. In 2000, bicycle planning in Chattanooga suffered a potentially fatal setback when the 13-member MPO voted to provide only one percent of the Federal Surface Transportation Funds to alternative transportation projects despite overwhelming public and private opposition to such minimal funding. In an effort to satisfy the public, the MPO identified funds for a Chattanooga Urban Area Bicycle Facilities Master Plan. With strong support from the mayor, this plan resulted in many collaborative bicycle events and projects from 2001 to the present. The efforts of the City of Chattanooga, its citizens and supportive private partners have resulted in increased bicycle facilities, events and ridership. Since the Chattanooga Urban Areas Bicycle Facilities Plan was completed in 2002, 28 miles of on-street facilities have been built. Cycling advocates have put bike racks on city buses, conducted annual bike counts and bolstered the bike to work program.

THE USE OF MASONRY IN COMMERCIAL DISTRICTS Gallatin, Tennessee

To ensure consistent and high-quality design standards throughout the city, Gallatin, Tenn., passed a building ordinance in 1998 requiring that brick and/or stone be used as the predominant (minimum of 70 percent) exterior façade material in all commercial zoning districts. The ordinance additionally included a masonry requirement that a minimum of 65 percent of exterior façade material on all community and multi-family buildings built in medium density zones be masonry.

Mayor Don Wright said, "because Gallatin is over 200 years old, the masonry ordinances went along with the historic theme. We kept the aesthetic value in place and the growth is consistent citywide. The downtown is all brick. Brick is the theme of the town."

The masonry ordinances have been received extremely well within the community. "We've gotten very positive feedback from the city residents; they're all very pleased about how the city is developing," added City Planner Jim Svoboda, AICP

The original masonry ordinances were so well received that Gallatin recently enhanced its community and multi-family masonry ordinance on Nov. 15, 2005 by unanimously passing an amendment extending the community and multi-family masonry ordinance citywide, encompassing low density and agricultural zones along with the medium density zones. The new citywide masonry ordinance states that any building, other than single-family detached residential units, shall use brick and/or stone materials as the predominant (minimum 65 percent) exterior facade materials. The citywide ordinance extends the benefits of Gallatin's high standards for sustainability to all city residents.

The community buildings and multi-family masonry ordinance, coupled with a masonry ordinance that requires 70 percent brick in all commercial zoning districts, ensures brick requirements on all commercial, multi-family, and

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An 1892 building that formerly housed the People's Store. It was renovated in 2001 and is currently home to a bookstore downstairs and an 1800 square foot apartment upstairs with exposed brick, 15-foot ceilings and original pine floors.



Mayor Ron Littlefield on the Tennessee Riverwalk

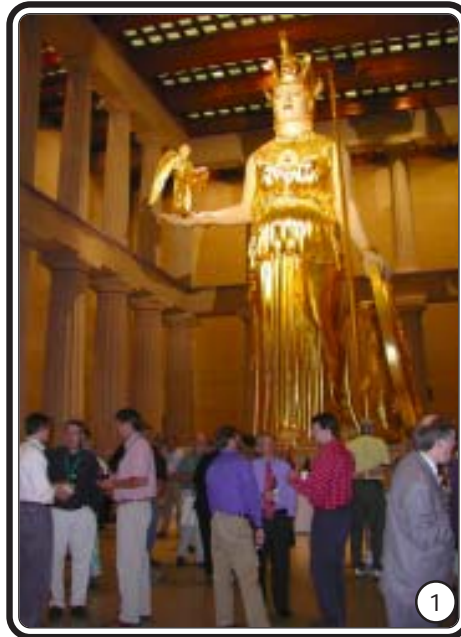
2006 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The 2006 Annual Conference was held September 6 - 8 at the DoubleTree Hotel in Downtown Nashville. The conference was joint with the Tennessee chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) and the Tennessee Urban Forestry Council (TUFC). The conference created a lot of energy with over 325 people in attendance.

The conference kicked off Wednesday with the opportunity to tour Murfreesboro or ride the brand new Music City Star to Mt. Juliet. The opening reception was held at the Parthenon.

On Thursday, Nashville Mayor Bill Purcell welcomed everyone to the conference and praised the work of planners, landscape architects and urban foresters. Thursday's mobile workshops included a tour of Nashville's newest downtown residential development, a downtown Nashville walking tour that included a tour of a green roof, and a downtown honky tonk tour. Dr. Kathy Wolf, Research Social Scientist at the University of Washington was the keynote luncheon speaker. The 2006 Awards ceremony topped off the evening with awards presented by TAPA, ASLA and TUFC. Congratulations to all of the award winners!

Friday started bright and early with a breakfast for members of public boards. Dan Hawk, AICP and Tim Roach presented a half-day workshop for planning commissioners. At the workshop, entitled *Tennessee Planning Commissions, What Can They Do?*, the powers and duties of the planning commission were discussed in addition to the relationship between the planning commission and other in the community development process. Other sessions on Friday included presentations on the Cumberland Region Tomorrow's *Quality Growth Toolbox*, Chattanooga's design review process, enterprise GIS systems, and TDOT's Roadscapes program. Dana Brown, President of the Louisiana Chapter of ASLA, gave Friday's keynote luncheon address. She discussed regional planning in disaster recovery and mitigation in south Louisiana in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.



1. Athena presiding over the opening reception at the Parthenon.
2. Hunter Gee, with Looney Ricks Kiss, leads a tour of the newly revitalized Gulch area.
3. The Music City Star at the Mt. Juliet Station.
4. Nashville Mayor Bill Purcell welcomes everyone to the conference.
5. Tony Giarratana, president of Giarratana Development, LLC., leads a tour of downtown Nashville residential development.
6. Mary Farrara, an attorney with Farrara and Bates, and Roger Horner, city attorney for the City of Brentwood discuss ways to avoid a first amendment challenge.



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

2006 LEGISLATIVE SESSION RECAP

Bill Terry, AICP
TAPA Lobbyist

Here is a short summary of some events and bills from the 2006 session.

As TAPA members may recall, the 1st session of the 104th ended with the FBI indicting four sitting legislators, one who had resigned to take a new job and a couple of so-called bag men on charges of bribery. Another cash for votes type thing. Other representatives who were not indicted were tainted. Consequently, the 2nd session of the 104th began with a special called session to deal with ethics legislation. A bill was finally passed, but its effect won't be known for a while.

Probably the biggest impact bill to come out of the 2006 general session was the eminent domain bill that arose because of the rabid and publicity driven reaction to the Kelo decision of the Supreme Court. The bill that passed was most likely the least obnoxious one from a perspective of limiting governmental actions, but it will still have an impact on any state or local government action that involves the power of eminent domain. Other publications have already dissected the bill thoroughly, so that will not be duplicated here. Rather, this little piece will examine some issues that don't normally get much press.

It was a relief that no bills that would negatively impact the Title 13 planning legislation or the PC1101 growth planning law passed this year. Another way of looking at it is that neither did any bill that would have improved these areas of the TCA. Below a brief synopsis of some, but not all, bills is presented.

- Known as the *County Powers Relief Act*, a bill was passed that authorized counties to levy a privilege tax on

persons and entities engaged in the residential development of property in order to provide a county with an additional source of funding to defray the cost of providing school facilities to meet the needs of the citizens of the county as a result of population growth. After the effective date of this bill, no county could enact an impact fee on development or a local real estate transfer tax by private or public act, and this amendment would be the exclusive authority for local governments to adopt any new or additional adequate facilities taxes on development. However, this amendment would not prevent a municipality or county from exercising any authority to levy or collect similar development taxes or impact fees granted by a private act that was in effect prior to the effective date of this bill. A county levying a development tax or impact fee by private act on the effective date of this bill would be prohibited from using the authority provided in this amendment so long as the private act is in effect.

To levy a tax pursuant to this amendment, a governing body must meet one or more of the following criteria:

- (1) The county experienced a growth rate of 20 percent or more in total population from the 1990 federal census to the 2000 federal census, or the county experiences growth of 20 percent or more between any subsequent federal decennial censuses; or
- (2) The county experienced a 9 percent or more increase in population over the period from the year 2000 to 2004 or over a subsequent four-year period according to U.S. Census Bureau population estimates.

- One area of Title 13 was amended to create new authority although many have been doing it for years. There has been a continual discussion for several years among

members of the legal community and the planning community about whether a zoning ordinance could regulate different aspects of building and design and whether cities and counties have the statutory power to create a design review commission. Many lawyers say no to both of these based on the fact that Tennessee is a "Dillon Rule" state and that since the statute does not specifically address these powers, they don't exist. Some planners have taken a more expansive view of the police power and included such regulations in zoning ordinances and created such commissions, generally as a part of a municipality's power to pass ordinances and regulate activities under the general police power. The issue has never been adjudicated.

At the request of one city in West Tennessee, legislators introduced a bill to authorize a municipal government to create a design review commission which shall have duty and authority to develop specific review and approval procedures for the exterior appearance to residential or non-residential developments within such municipality; provided such authority is subordinate to and in no way exceeds the authority delegated to the planning commission. The bill was limited to the mayor/ aldermanic form of government. To some observers' surprise, the bill passed with very little discussion. An effort may be made next year to extend this bill to all municipalities no matter the form of government if for no other reason than to clear the gray out of the issue.

- A bill was passed that requires that no permit for an alternative treatment system (STEP systems) shall be issued or shall any such system be installed for any dwelling in a subdivision unless such dwelling complies with all restrictive covenants and zoning requirements in such subdivision.
- An interesting situation developed when a legislator called and asked about a specific section of the

Continued on page 10

2006 Legislation continued from page 9

planning statute that provided for the combination of substandard lots by order without a survey. The language was limited to regional planning commissions, and the legislator wondered if the same authority should be included in the municipal planning regulations. Sam Edwards, the TAPA Legislative Committee Chair and this writer met with the legislator and all concluded that no, the language should not be included in the municipal statute. Furthermore, that provision should not even be included at all. Consequently, a bill was drafted and introduced to repeal that section of the planning statute, TCA 13-3-402(b), and the bill passed.

- A bill was introduced that would have required that property owners be notified by certified mail of a pending rezoning of the property. After discussions and meetings, the bill was withdrawn.
- A bill was passed that creates a study commission to review the state's sunshine or open meetings laws.
- A bill addressing eminent domain and setback lines from streams was introduced. It would have allowed the state, counties and municipalities to establish setback lines from streams. This bill would require local governments to implement due process procedures for persons who are affected by the setback lines for streams, and any landowner who is affected by any such setback would be eligible for compensation from the appropriate governmental entity. It was killed in sub-committee by not scheduling it for a vote.

This is a particularly dangerous bill because it would establish a precedent for requiring a government to pay compensation for a land use restriction. While the bill only applied to stream setbacks, it could easily be amended and expanded to include all kinds of land use restrictions. The House sponsor, Rep. Casada from Williamson County, is committed to this approach and may bring the bill or something similar back next year.

The bill also may be related to the private property rights movement that is developing across the west using the initiative process, which is available in many western state constitutions. Oregon's Measure 37, which requires compensation for development restrictions or a lifting of the restriction, was upheld in the state's highest court and is now in effect. A similar initiative is under way in Washington and in some local jurisdictions in California. Since the initiative process is not available under the Tennessee Constitution, such a movement will have to go through the usual legislative process. Be wary and be prepared.

- All bills relating to annexation or challenges thereto were referred to TACIR for study as were a variety of other bills.
- One bill that was referred to TACIR and may generate interest among planners is a bill that would require all zoning ordinances to contain provisions and standards for housing for persons 55 years of age and older. These provisions relate not only locations for parking places but also typical building code requirements for width of doorways and halls as design of bathroom facilities. This writer has argued that a zoning ordinance is not the proper place for such restrictions, and other ways of implementing these desires should be found. This bill will likely be reintroduced in some form next year.

The conclusion here is that, as always, it was a lively legislative session. There will be new challenges raised next year that TAPA will have to address as the only organization that has as its primary focus planning and legislation that has an effect on planning. While we do have a lobbying presence at Legislative Plaza, more needs to be done. We need to establish some kind of email alert system of which planners in all parts of the state will be a part. The purpose of the alert system would be to get out a message to contact legislators, key city and county officials and other groups to oppose or support important bills.

Please contact me if you are willing to participate in such an email alert system. Also, contact me if you would like to receive a more detailed summary of legislation. The email address is <billterr@comcast.net>.

*Use of Masonry continued from page 7*

community buildings (facilities) with the exception of single family detached structures.

To ensure the conservation and protection of established single-family residential neighborhoods in the City of Gallatin, the City Council also passed an infill development ordinance on November 15, 2005. This infill development ordinance requires that any new residential development that is planned to be built adjacent or within an existing neighborhood must gain approval for the uniformity of building standards before the planning commission. This ordinance will ensure that new neighborhoods and existing developments will contain uniform quality standards.

"People want to move to Gallatin, Tennessee," says Svoboda. The city's charm and appeal are partly due to fact that many of the original buildings in this 200-year-old town still remain. The community is very proud of their history and knew that an architectural ordinance was needed in order to uphold the precedence of superior building practices that was set by the early founders.

"The design and characteristics of new construction is important in planning a community. Masonry ordinances are a way to help maintain quality and we wanted to enhance the look of our city with brick and stone," said Svoboda.

Masonry ordinances improve property values and encourage continued development. "Officials from other cities are now looking to us on how to do things," said Svoboda.

In discussing his city's masonry ordinances, Mayor Wright concluded, "I would advise and encourage any city to take the upper hand now and not just let things happen. The city has seen a lot of growth and we are able to direct it. I'm very satisfied with the results."

Submitted by:
Brick SouthEast

SECTION NEWS

MIDDLE TENNESSEE SECTION

The Middle Tennessee Section held a holiday get together on December 6 at The Acorn Restaurant in Nashville. The get together was held the same day that the Chapter sent out the initial notice about the proposed AICP mandatory continuing education requirements, which made for a lively discussion.

Valerie Birch, the Middle Tennessee Section director, is currently forming a program committee to develop a strategy to help members earn continuing education credits through section brown bag sessions and workshops. We are looking for ways to offer approved sessions for no cost or low cost. If you are interested in serving on the program committee or have some suggestions, please contact Valerie at 615-340-9186 or birchv@pbworld.com.

STATE OF FRANKLIN SECTION

On February 23, 2007, the SOF Section hosted a one-hour training session during a Dutch-treat lunch at a local café in the historic downtown of Johnson City. Ambre Torbett, Section Director, organized the event and introduced the speaker. The speaker was Stanley Harrison, Jr. who is the Regional Director of the State's Local Planning Assistance Office. Stan gave a PowerPoint

presentation on "The Planning Commission In Action:" detailing the roles of the Planning Commission, its obligations to serve the public, how to avoid conflict, maintain a code of ethics, adherence to the Open Public Meetings Act/Sunshine Law, Conflicts of Interests Disclosures, Model Ethics, Meeting Behavior, and responsibilities of chair, vice-chair, secretary, etc. Stan continued the presentation by leading an open discussion of cases and examples that would be of interest to the attendees. While there were over 40 folks pre-registered, the count was over 55 ranging from city planners, county planners, support staff, Planning Commission members and others. Ambre Torbett also distributed a simple Future Topic Questionnaire to the attendees to be used to assist in future program topics and arrangements. All attendees received a certificate as record of their attendance in the approved one-hour of continuing education credit. This is the fifth program the State of Franklin Section has organized with attendance and interest continuing to exceed expectations. Past topics have included: TVA's Growth Management Training Program; FEMA's Floodplain Mapping Program; The Powers and Duties of the Board of Zoning Appeals and Planning Commissions; and the Coordination Between the MPOs and RTPs. For more information on these topics please contact Ambre Torbett at planning@sullivancounty.org or phone 423.279.2603 or your region's TECD

office, Division of Local Planning Assistance.

AICP NEWS

On April 13, 2007, the AICP Commission approved the above plan for Certification Maintenance (CM) which includes requirements for continuing education for certified planners. Many details of the program still need to be determined. Please send your questions about CM to AICP@planning.org, and keep checking the website for updates on the program. Members will also be updated through e-mail communication as program details are resolved.

The AICP Commission determined that credits earned starting on April 14, 2007, will be credited towards the new Certification Maintenance requirements. If you do not find these credits logged in the old CPD log system (www.planning.org/cpdp/), please maintain a paper log of the courses you took. The online logging system will be inaccessible from May 22, 2007, to around the first of August 2007.

For more information on Certification Maintenance, please go to <http://www.planning.org/certification/maintenance.htm>.



Sullivan County Commissioners attending the SOF February training session.

Tennessee Conference of Planning, Landscape Architecture and Urban Forestry



September 6-8, 2006

Nashville, Tennessee

A SPECIAL THANK-YOU TO ALL OUR SPONSORS!

CONFERENCE LEVEL



Metropolitan Nashville-Davidson County Planning Department
 USDA Forest Service & Tennessee Department of Agriculture,
 Division of Forestry



MURFREESBORO TOUR

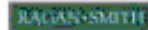
Jeff Gill, Pioneer Land Company City of Murfreesboro



PARTHENON RECEPTION



Metro Parks Ragan-Smith & Associates, Inc.



THURSDAY BREAKFAST AND WALKING TOUR

TVA

THURSDAY MORNING BREAK AND DOWNTOWN RESIDENTIAL TOUR

Looney Ricks Kiss Architects

KEYNOTE LUNCHEON THURSDAY

Hodgson Douglas Park Trust Development

AWARDS BANQUET RECEPTION



Lose & Associates, Inc. Outdoor Lighting Perspectives, LLC

THURSDAY AWARDS BANQUET

Tennessee Department of Transportation



FRIDAY BREAKFAST



Nashville Electric Service

KEYNOTE LUNCHEON FRIDAY

Moon's Tree Farm



GRAPHICS



Parsons Brinckerhoff

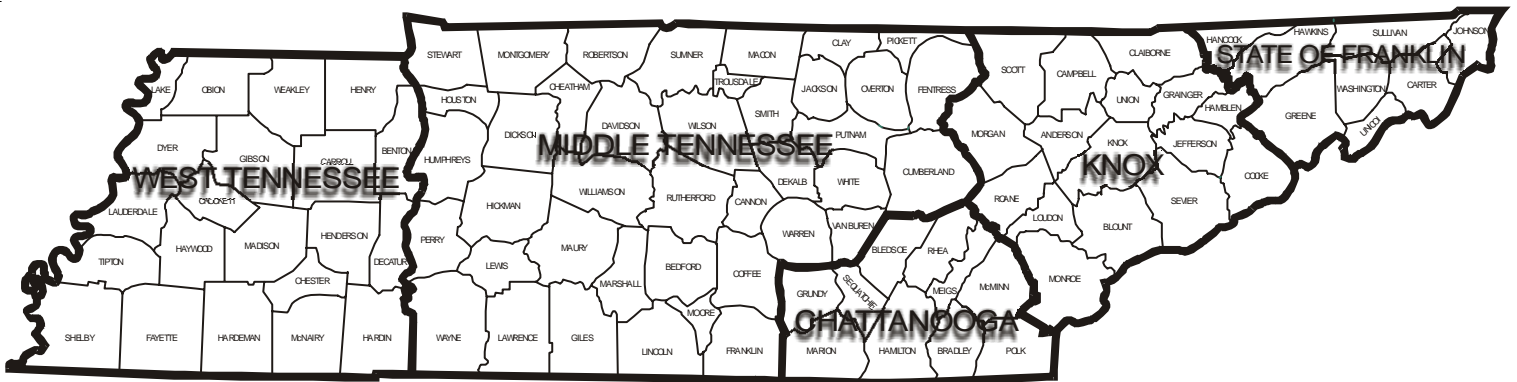
EXHIBITORS

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| Barge, Waggoner, Sumner and Cannon | Quality Trees |
| BBA Fiberweb, Inc. | Ragan-Smith & Associates, Inc. |
| Brick SouthEast | Samara Farms, LLC |
| Carolina Paving Concepts, Inc. | Smith Turf & Irrigation |
| Cortese Tree Specialists | Tennessee Concrete Association |
| Ewing Irrigation Golf & Industrial Irrigation Consulting, Inc. | Tennessee Department of Agriculture |
| Landscape Forms | Tennessee One-Call System, Inc. |
| Parsons Brinckerhoff | Tennessee Urban Forestry Council |
| Pine Hall Brick | TIPCO |
| | The Verdin Company |
| | Vicars Recreation |

FRIENDS

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| Ben Page & Associates | Land Design |
| Gresham Smith & Partners | Southern Land Company, LLC |

The Tennessee Planning Letter
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1900 Church Street, Suite 203
Nashville, TN 37203



TAPA SECTION LOCATIONS

Change of Address?

Please send the information to:
American Planning Association
122 S. Michigan Avenue
Chicago, IL 60603-6107
Email: membership@planning.org
Telephone: 312-431-9100

Deadline for Submissions

The next issue of the Tennessee Planning Letter will be emailed in July. The deadline for submission of articles, information and other tidbits is June 15, 2007. For more information, contact Valerie Birch: birchv@pbworld.com or 615-340-9186.