

Maryland Planning Commissioners Association 2019 Conference

November 9, 2020, Preliminary Program (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

Virtual Conference

8:30 am: GoToWebinar Session Opens

9 - 10 am Maryland's Climate Change Adaptation Framework

Megan Grenato Senior Program Director, Chesapeake and Coastal Service, Maryland Department of Natural Resources
Dr. Jim George Policy Advisor, Water and Science Administration, Maryland Department of the Environment

Local communities are on the front line of preparing and responding to climate impacts. This session will introduce the State's new strategic adaptation initiative and seek planning board member views. The state is developing an adaptation framework to reduce vulnerability to climate impacts. Key information will be shared across the framework's sectors, including health, infrastructure, state & local partnerships, working lands, and water and natural resources. Diversity, environmental justice, climate jobs and training are being incorporated across all sectors and will also be presented.

10 - 12 pm Open Meetings Act Training

Frank M. Johnson Deputy City Attorney, City of Gaithersburg

In the 2017 legislative session, the Maryland General Assembly passed legislation requiring at least one member of each public body to take a training class on the Open Meetings Act. Under current law, each public body must designate at least one individual who is an employee, officer, or member to take the training class. While employees or staff can continue to take the training class, at least one member of the public body must be also designated to take the class. This training satisfies the requirement.

12 - 1 pm MPCA Annual Meeting

Treasurer's Report

Elections

Bylaws Update

Recognitions

2021 Initiatives

1 - 2 pm Designing for a Pandemic

J. Kirk Eby, AICP, GISP GIS Planner, City of Gaithersburg Planning & Code Administration

The Covid-19 pandemic has upended all our lives and will likely continue to do so for some time. In our rush to adapt to a world of social distancing and home-based work and learning, the resiliency of our public space and infrastructure has shown its cracks. This session will explore approaches that professional and citizen planners can use to design communities and communication networks for greater adaptability in times of stress.

The planning committee strives to create a robust schedule of topics that will be valuable to attendees.

Rev: October 8, 2020

2 - 3 pm **Continuity Planning for State and Local Boards**

Deepa Srinivasan, AICP, CFM
Andrew Estrain

President, Vision Planning and Consulting, LLC
Planner/Analyst, Vision Planning and Consulting, LLC

Many governments plan for emergencies through their Hazard Mitigation (HMP), Emergency Operations (EOP), or Continuity of Operations (COOP) Plans. While these plans provide excellent information, assumptions, procedures, checklists, and other tools for the jurisdiction at-large, they may not provide “frontline” actions or considerations for Planning Boards. This presentation will discuss the various steps, procedures, and technologies that planning departments, boards, and commissions can take to ensure that they can continue working both during, and in a post-disaster environment.

3 - 4 pm **Virtual Planning During a Pandemic**

Kathy Maher, AICP

Director of Planning and Code Administration, City of Hagerstown

Megan Flick

Planner, City of Hagerstown

Paul Fulk, MBA, MCEP

Neighborhood Services Manager, City of Hagerstown

Donnie Harckom, MBA

Neighborhood Services Inspector II, City of Hagerstown

Doug Wright

Chair, City of Hagerstown Planning Commission

The City of Hagerstown Planning and Code Administration staff and Planning Commission Chair will discuss how the city maintained a regular Planning Commission meeting schedule by conducting virtual meetings via Zoom software. Staff and Planning Commission members have proved their resiliency and dedication to service during this pandemic by quickly adapting to the new meeting format and maintaining consistent attendance. This session provides guidance for other municipalities, boards, and regional governments that are committed to conducting business as close to normal as possible during unprecedented times such as this one.

4:00 pm **Conference Adjourns**