

Ohio Chapter of the  
American Planning Association

# Annual Report

# 2022

*Downtown Willoughby, 2022 APA Ohio Great Place*





## Welcome

On behalf of APA Ohio, I am proud to present our 2022 annual report, summarizing the Chapter's activities and accomplishments over the past year.

This year's annual report is dedicated to board member and dear friend, Paul Logue, who passed away on July 5th, 2023 – leaving behind a legacy of integrity, kindness, and humor.

Paul's determination to create strong, sustainable cities came from his upbringing during Youngstown's steel mill closures. Paul's 15-year tenure as Athens City Planner was marked by his remarkable consensus-building skills and successful projects, including Athens 2040. Paul's life was characterized by cherished friendships, humor, and devotion to family.

This report summarizes our metrics of success, Chapter priorities, and reviews of how our organization spends our time and efforts.

Thank you for your membership with the American Planning Association and for doing your part to help us advance the mission of APA Ohio - reminding our stakeholders and constituents that it is **ONLY Because We Plan**, that great places happen.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eric Anderson'.

**Eric Anderson, AICP**

President, 2022-23  
APA Ohio



# Contents

04-05

## About Us

---

06-07

## 5-Year Strategic Plan

---

08-09

## Annual Work Plan

---

10-11

## Programming Highlights

---

12-13

## Financials + Sponsors

---

14-15

## Looking Ahead

---

16-17

## Call to Action



# OUR MISSION

**APA Ohio is dedicated to advancing the art, science and profession of good planning – physical, economic and social – to create vibrant communities that offer choices and improve the quality of life for all Ohioans.**

APA Ohio

## Objectives



## About

# APA Ohio

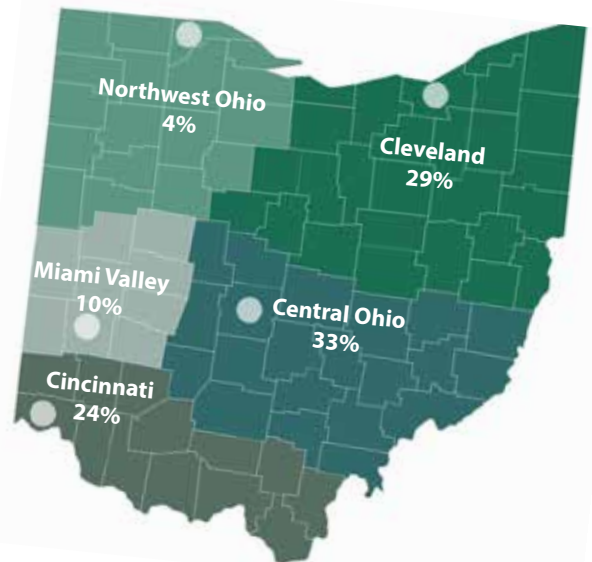
APA Ohio is a statewide, non-profit 501(c)(3) association of citizen and professional planners committed to promoting and enhancing planning and the quality of planning for all governmental entities in order to maintain and improve the quality of life for all Ohioans. APA Ohio is a state chapter of the American Planning Association (APA) and is in the top third grouping of largest chapters (based on membership).

## Sections

APA Ohio is comprised of five geographic sections. Sections coordinate and sponsor various activities and programs along with partnering with the Chapter to host state-wide conferences. Sections are well known for hosting their annual planning and zoning workshops.

# 1,200

2021 APA Ohio Membership



Membership Distribution among sections

Learn more about APA Ohio Sections at [www.ohioplanning.org/sections](http://www.ohioplanning.org/sections).

## Board of Trustees

APA Ohio operates under the guidance of a Board of Trustees elected from the general membership and sections. Board members are volunteers who donate time and effort to help further planning in Ohio communities. The Board of Trustees is comprised of:

- 16** at-large members
- 5** APA Ohio section directors or their reps
- 3** university reps from CSU, OSU and UC
- 1** executive director (non voting)

Learn more about the Board of Trustees at [www.ohioplanning.org/board](http://www.ohioplanning.org/board).

The APA Ohio Board of Trustees is a working organization; not simply an advisory group. Board members dedicate a significant amount of time and effort to working on programs and initiatives outside of the board meetings. Board committees have been established to perform the majority of APA Ohio's work.

Learn more about the Board of Trustees committees at [www.ohioplanning.org/board](http://www.ohioplanning.org/board).

Number serving on the APA Ohio Board of Trustees

# 24

# Strategic Plan

*The Strategic Plan is APA Ohio's guiding framework. It articulates the Chapter's mission and priorities and ensures that all Board actions serve the organization's strategic priorities. It serves as the foundation for the Chapter's annual committee work plans, which is how the Board implements strategic priorities along with the annual budget. The APA Ohio Chapter Board developed four strategic priorities, with supporting tactics to be implemented over a five-year period (2020-2024). Learn more at [www.ohioplanning.org/strategicplan](http://www.ohioplanning.org/strategicplan).*



## Expand Influence

Build on the success of #BecauseWePlan and develop a strategy to tell the planning story. Become a voice for emerging planning issues in Ohio.



## Grow Core Strengths

Continue to provide top-rated professional development and education programs that can evolve to meet the changing needs of planning professionals, citizen planners, and planning allies in Ohio.



## Activate Leadership

Develop performance metrics and organize the APA Ohio Board for successful transition of leadership and knowledge through succession planning. Develop the pipeline of future leaders.



## Support Membership

Inclusively engage members and partners across the spectrum to retain members, recruit new members and leaders, and build a network of planning advocates across the state. Continue to provide the services and programs that APA Ohio members find most valuable.



The Strategic Plan is meant to recognize APA Ohio's first 100 years as an organization, and inspire us for the next 100.

*Rachel Ray, AICP  
APA Ohio Past President*

## 2022 Accomplishments

from the Strategic Plan



Invited guest speakers from organizations including Greater Ohio Policy Center and the Ohio Department of Development to Board meetings to advance policy discussions and expand APA Ohio's influence across the state. Implemented a plan for regular updates to the communication strategy to keep the APA Ohio "planning story" relevant. This means timely eNews updates, relevant social media posts, and print pieces like this report and our quarterly newsletter that reinforce key messages and our policy platform.



Developed strategies to ensure local events and annual conferences continue to be effective and deliver value for members despite the ongoing pandemic. Started involving policy programming at local and chapter events, and in regular chapter communications. Worked diligently on the update to the Guide to Planning in Ohio.



Worked with Sections and Universities to grow a student awards program to showcase exceptional students in planning schools.

Maintained communication and engagement with APA National. Built a strong partnership with the APA Policy & Advocacy staff to ensure timely action in response to key federal planning policy issues.



Developed a "check-in" schedule with Ohio University representatives and Planning Student Organization (PSO) leadership to understand needs and deliver information to keep students engaged with our organization.

Formulated a method to touch base with our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion goals as it relates to our work plans and committee work.

Continued to grow partnerships with organizations like Greater Ohio Policy Center and the Ohio Economic Development Association to recruit potential members and maximize impact on legislative priorities.

APA Ohio

# Annual Work Plan

APA Ohio's Work Plan is a one (1) year plan with the intent to identify priorities and ways in which to accomplish short term goals based on the Strategic Plan. The Work Plan is divided up over APA Ohio's seven (7) Committees. Learn more at [www.ohioplanning.org/workplan](http://www.ohioplanning.org/workplan).

## 2022 Accomplishments from the Work Plan



### AWARDS

Administered student awards program through PAB accredited Ohio Schools resulting in almost \$5,000 in scholarships.

Administered biannual Great Places in Ohio awards program honoring three (3) great places.



### COMMUNICATIONS

Refreshed look of the weekly eNEWS newsletter.

Continued ongoing management of the APA Ohio Media Schedule.



### EDUCATION

Audited the latest AICP exam and updated content related to training and exam study prep.

Assisted in planning the 2022 Ohio Kentucky and Indiana (OKI) Regional Planning Conference.



### EXECUTIVE

Assisted with the 2022 APA Ohio Board of Trustees Elections.

Worked on advocacy coalition building and strategic member recruitment.



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The Annual Work Plan lays foundations and creates the structure for accomplishing bigger goals. It accelerates our impact and prepares us for the next Strategic Plan.

*Eric Anderson, AICP  
APA Ohio President*

**Did You Know?**

Members are always welcome and encouraged to serve on APA Ohio Committees.



## LEGISLATIVE

Continued updating the Guide to Planning in Ohio – the first update since the Guide’s original publication in 2008. The Guide is expected to be complete in 2023.

Sent representatives to various APA National hosted policy and advocacy events and sessions.

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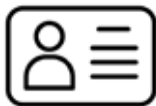
Continued to develop relationships with key Congressional leaders in Ohio.

Regularly incorporated APA Ohio Policy Platform stances within articles featured in The Ohio Planner’s News.



## GOVERNANCE

Administered the 2022 APA Ohio Board of Trustees Elections.



## MEMBERSHIP

Began establishing APA Ohio media kit to distribute to local sections for their use along with distributing targeted media information to Ohio Universities and Colleges with planning or planning adjacent programs.

By the Numbers

# Programming Highlights



## OKI REGIONAL PLANNING CONFERENCE

### OKI Regional Planning Conference

The 2022 OKI Regional Planning Conference was held September 28-30 in Louisville, Kentucky. The theme was “Explore Your Planning Superpowers” which was a playful reminder that planners are special – super if you will – and our Planning Superpowers must be enhanced in order to continue to make our communities great places to live, work, and play.

**364** REGISTRANTS

**28** SESSIONS

**6** MOBILE

### P&Z Workshops & Attendees

**CENTRAL OHIO 123**

**CINCINNATI 169**

**CLEVELAND 171**

**MIAMI VALLEY 357**

**NORTHEAST 107**

**NORTHWEST 35**

Citizen Planner Training is a new offering, developed because APA Ohio members asked for it.

What else can we do? Tell us!

While the majority of our in-person programming was postponed in 2021, the APA Ohio Board of Trustees made it a priority to continue offering quality professional development, from a safe distance. Learn more about all our current and future programming at [www.ohioplanning.org/calendar](http://www.ohioplanning.org/calendar).



Sponsored by APA Chapters & Divisions



*The Ohio Chapter of the American Planning Association celebrates excellence in planning.*

## Planning Webcast Series

The Planning Webcast Series, sponsored by 57 APA Chapters and Divisions in 2022, is a weekly webcast run by APA Ohio Executive Director, Christine Davis, AICP. Free to all members of the APA Chapters and Divisions that sponsor the program, it's continually one of the highest ranked source of CM credits for planners for almost 15 years. Live and on-demand (recorded) sessions are available along with a library of almost 400 sessions on a wide breadth of topics. Check out what the Series has to offer at [www.ohioplanning.org/planningwebcast](http://www.ohioplanning.org/planningwebcast).

**10,037 ATTENDEES**

**26 SESSIONS**

**39 CM CREDITS**

**57 SPONSORS**

## APA Ohio Great Places in Ohio

Modeled after APA's Great Places in America program, the Great Places in Ohio awards program is a biannual selection of places that represent the gold standard in Ohio's neighborhoods, public spaces, and commercial districts.

**NOMINATIONS 8**

**AWARDEES 3**

### 2022 Awardees

**JACKSON STREET PIER**  
Sandusky, Ohio

**DOWNTOWN WILLOUGHBY**  
Willoughby, Ohio

**MENTOR MARSH STATE NATURE PRESERVE**  
Mentor, Ohio

# Financials + Sponsors

APA Ohio is a not for profit 501(c)(3) organization. Section 5.9 of the APA Ohio Bylaws gives the APA Ohio Board of Trustees the charge of creating and maintaining a yearly budget. Section 5.8 gives the APA Ohio Treasurer (in partnership with the Executive Director) the responsibility of preparing annual budgets in consultation with the President for approval by the Board; maintaining accounts which shall be open to inspection by the officers and Governance Committee for the purposes of an audit; preparing for each meeting a financial report as prescribed by the Board; and providing an annual financial report to the membership at the end of the fiscal year. Learn more at [www.ohioplanning.org/about](http://www.ohioplanning.org/about)

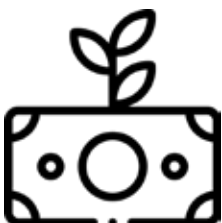
## 2022 Financial Snapshot



**\$81,526**  
Revenue



**\$72,308**  
Expenses



**\$117,335**  
Assets

Investments: \$34,000  
Conference: \$4,279  
Emergency Reserve: \$7,755  
Scholarship: \$44,191  
Webcast Series: \$27,110

Bridge Street, Ashtabula, 2022 APA Ohio Great Place



# APA Ohio Sponsors

Our sponsors help support the advancement of good planning in Ohio through yearly and event specific contributions. Thank you to all those that sponsored us in 2022. Learn more about our sponsors and how you can support us at [www.ohioplanning.org/sponsor](http://www.ohioplanning.org/sponsor).

## Yearly APA Ohio Sponsors



## 2022 APA Ohio Planning Conference Sponsors

- Bongorno Consulting LLC
- Burgess & Niple Inc.
- City of Cincinnati
- City of Dublin
- Compass Point Planning
- KZF Design
- Mannik & Smith Group, Inc.
- McBride Dale Clarion
- OHM Advisors
- planning NEXT

Not on the sponsor list? Ask us how you can support APA Ohio in 2023 while showing off your brand and what you believe in. **Won't You Join Us?**

# Looking Ahead

## APA Ohio Goals for 2023



The APA Ohio yearly work plan is a list of short term (1 year) action items that support the long range (5 year) strategic plan. Learn more at [www.ohioplanning.org/workplan](http://www.ohioplanning.org/workplan).

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We're excited to reunite in person again. That's where the spark is. Where the magic happens. Getting planners together in a room.

*Christine Dersi Davis, AICP  
APA Ohio Executive Director*

### **Expand Influence**

- Reinforce key messages to the APA Ohio audience (members, elected officials, allied professionals, citizen planners) via documents such as the annual report, strategic plan and other marketing pieces.

### **Grow Core Strengths**

- Complete the Guide to Planning in Ohio update.
- Implement annual legislative “meet and greet” between APA Ohio members and elected officials which will lay the foundation for instituting an annual “Planners on the Hill” day.

### **Activate Leadership**

- Finalize a leadership succession plan for the Chapter and Sections.
- Empower non board members to serve as volunteers to implement APA Ohio programs and initiatives to accelerate the implementation of APA Ohio programs and initiatives.

### **Support Membership**

- Continue developing relationships with allied organizations to recruit potential members and maximize our impact on legislative priorities.

# Call to Action

## APA Ohio Members

In October 1919, a group of future-oriented civic-minded Clevelanders organized the first Ohio State Conference on City Planning. The Ohio Planning Conference, later merging with the American Planning Association, **was the first organization of its kind and remains the oldest association of citizen and professional planners in the country.**

Our 1,200 members share passion and understanding of the value of planning in our communities. We are champions of the built environment and stewards of place.

Over the past one hundred years, the association and its members have changed and evolved but our mission remains the same – to promote good planning for the betterment of all Ohioans.



**Wendy Moeller, FAICP**  
APA Ohio Past President and Region IV Representative on the APA National Board of Directors.





# ACTIVATE

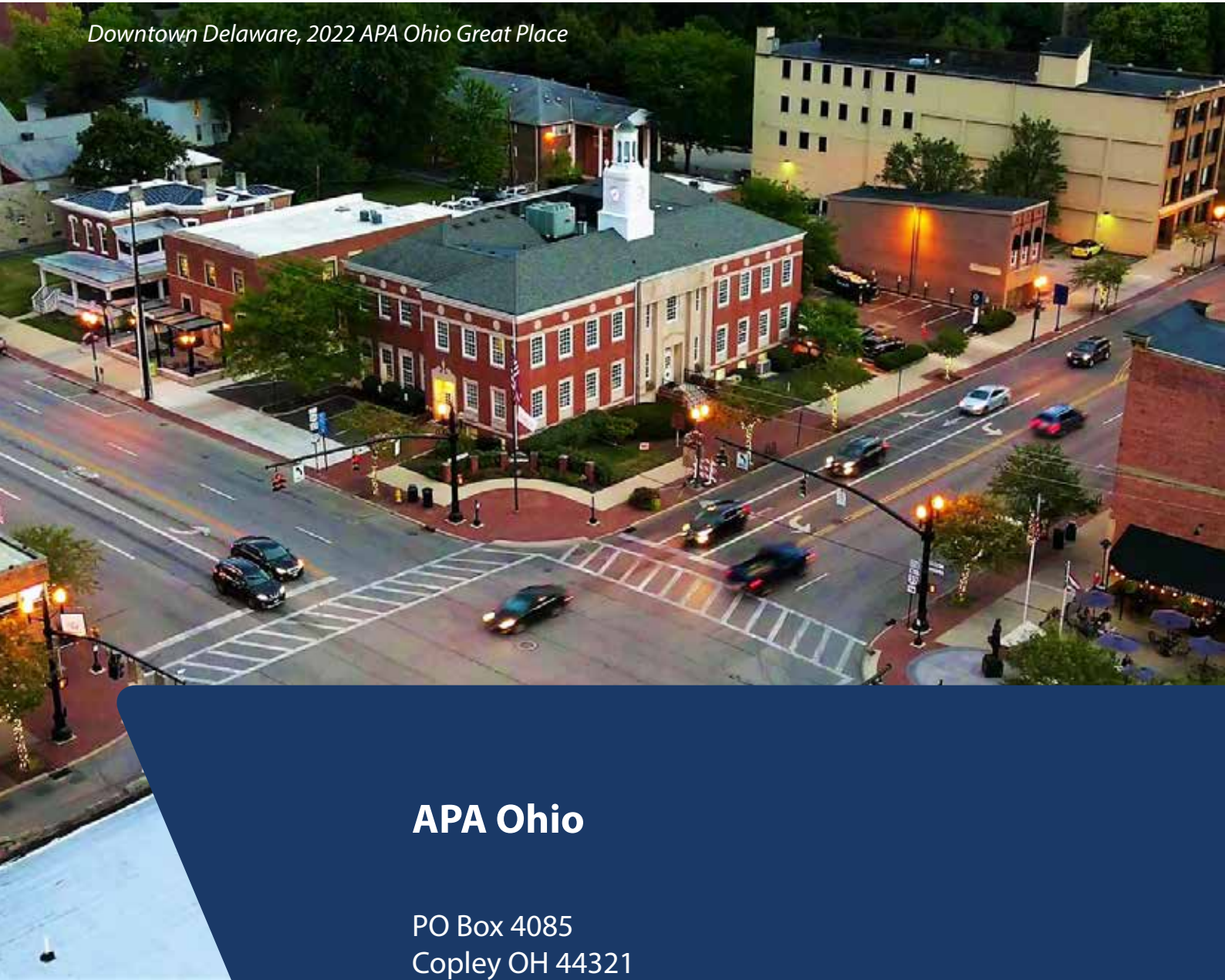
It is essential that planners, allied professionals, citizen planners, elected officials and decision makers join us in spreading our message that good planning is essential to creating great communities for all Ohioans.

## Because We Plan great communities activate for all

- » Join an APA Ohio Committee  
Sign up for the APA Planners Advocacy Network
- » Attend APA Ohio events
- » Volunteer with your local APA Ohio Section
- » Use the APA Ohio Policy Platform to help advocate for good planning in Ohio

Learn more at  
[www.ohioplanning.org/becauseweplan](http://www.ohioplanning.org/becauseweplan)

*Downtown Delaware, 2022 APA Ohio Great Place*



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