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OP-ED: DALLAS AND THE NEW URBANISM FORUM
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APATX 18 LEGACY PROJECT COMPETITION

The Student Planning Association (SPA) would like to invite you to participate in the American Planning Association Texas Chapter (APATX) 2018 Legacy Project Committee.

Join your peers to help create and present a resiliency plan for the City of Hitchcock at the TXAPA18 Conference, which is taking place October 17-19 in Galveston, Texas.

By participating in the Legacy Project, you will:
- Network with working professionals
- Strengthen your collaborative skills
- Develop your resume and portfolio
- Create real-world solutions

CONTACT SPA.CAPPA@GMAIL.COM BY 8/31/18 TO JOIN THE LEGACY PROJECT COMMITTEE

ALL CAPPA STUDENTS WELCOME!

If you are interested in being part of the Legacy Project Committee email spa.cappa@gmail.com by August 31st, 2018.

Register for the conference.

The SPA is also looking for student volunteers for the conference. Students who volunteer will receive a $50.00 reimbursement to their conference entrance fee. Email spa.cappa@gmail.com to sign up to volunteer by September 17, 2018.
UPCOMING EVENTS

DFW PLANNING LECTURES, WORKSHOPS, & NETWORKING EVENTS

Event: The Greater Dallas Planning Council Collaborative Event/ Happy Hour
Date: August 28, 2018
Host: The Greater Dallas Planning Council
Register

Event: Maverick Cook-Out & Activity Fair
Date: August 29, 2018
Host: The University of Texas at Arlington
Details

Event: Midwest Service Project: Tarrant Area Food Bank Learning Garden Workday
Date: September 8, 2018
Host: APATX Midwest Section
Register

Event: Resilient Region Part: Urban Wildfires (1.5 AICP CM)
Date: September 19, 2018
Host: Mid-West Texas APA
Register

Event: 2018 Park(ing) Day Dallas Main Street Competition
Date: September 21, 2018
Host: Park(ing) Day Dallas (The SPA has reserved a parking spot)
Details

Event: The Intimate Realities of Water Movie Screening + Discussion –
Date: September 27, 2018
Host: The Student Planning Organization
TBD Details/ Mark your Calendar

TRAININGS & JOBS

BD+C University Understanding Low-E Coatings
Understanding Low-E Coatings introduces how high-performance architectural glass can significantly improve the energy efficiency of buildings while reducing their operating costs and carbon emissions. This course provides in-depth information about the solar energy spectrum and common glass performance measures, including the manufacturing processes for passive and solar control low-e coatings and how the energy, environmental, and economic benefits of low-e glass are quantified.

Register to take the free course.

North Central Texas Council of Governments:
Environment Development Internship
Department of Environment and Development is seeking an energetic professional to join its team as an Intern. The successful applicant will provide general support for planning staff. This position will support environment and development programs including supporting water resources, stormwater quality and quantity, public works coordination, grease abatement, energy and energy-efficiency, air quality, and/or planning for the growth that promotes quality of life improvement initiatives. The Intern position also provides administrative support to facilitate department coordination, communication, and outreach efforts with NCTCOG’s member governments.

Visit the Environment and Development website to learn for more information about more about the department’s programs.

Apply on the NCTCOG website.
APATX STATE CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE SCHOLARSHIP

2018 AMERICAN PLANNING ASSOCIATION TEXAS MIDWEST SECTION

The Midwest Section is offering two $150 scholarships to Undergraduate, Masters, or Ph.D. students to assist with travel expenses to the 2018 APA Texas Conference in Galveston.

In order to be eligible for the scholarship stipend, students must participate in the APA 2018 Legacy Project and/or volunteer for a minimum of 4 hours during the conference. Involvement in other SPA and APA activities will also be considered.

If you are interested in applying for these funds, please complete the application form. Selected applications will be notified by September 14, 2018 so they have time to make travel arrangements.

CLICK HERE TO VIEW THE APPLICATION

APPLICATIONS MUST BE SENT TO TAMARA COOK

(TCOOK@NCTCOG.ORG)
BY SEPTEMBER 7, 2018

PLANNING IN THE MEDIA

PLANNING RELATED ARTICLES, OP-EDS, AND PODCASTS

Media Outlet: University of Chicago Press Journals
Topic: The History of Economics
Title: The Past, Present, and Future of Economics:
Author: Richard H. Thaler
Read

Media Outlet: Bloomberg
Topic: American Land Use
Title: Here's How America Uses Its Land
Authors: Dave Merrill and Lauren Leatherby
Read

Media Outlet: Washington Post
Topic: Migration
Title: In about 20 years, half the population will live in eight states
Authors: Philip Bump
Read
DALLAS AND THE NEW URBANISM: HOW WE GOT HERE.

CLINT HAIL, AUGUST 16, 2018

CLINT HAIL IS A SECOND YEAR MCRP CAPPA STUDENT AND AN AUTOMATED TRANSPORTATION PLANNER AT THE NORTH CENTRAL TEXAS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS.

On a balmy morning in July of 2018, in a packed Horchow Auditorium at the Dallas Museum of Art, an important conversation took place led by D Magazine and platoon of influential urbanists. It’s important for a couple of reasons. In one sense, the conversation represented a widely felt dissatisfaction in the current state of the urban form in Dallas. In another sense, this represented the union of our City's two driving qualities.

You can learn a lot about a city by examining its origins. Here I’m not just referring to a city’s geographic or economic genesis; instead, I’m interested in its philosophical origins. Two clear strands run through the life of our fair city.

First, and perhaps easiest to perceive, is an indefatigable entrepreneurialism. For the geographic determinist, Dallas stands as a living, ever-growing rejoinder—we have no good reason to be here. Furthermore, the railroads had no good reason to direct lines to Dallas as Fort Worth was the logical, economical choice. But, our city’s founders saw what no else could see and hustled their way to relevance.

The second strand is one of reflection. This one is harder to detect for outsiders and new-comers. In the middle of the nineteenth century, a group of French and German philosophers settled in Dallas County with the intent to build their own “city on a hill.” At La Réunion, on the north bank of the Trinity River, they pursued their dream of establishing a Fourierian paradise. Though the project ultimately failed, their salons and desire to build a community founded upon ideas left a permanent intellectual imprint.
Dallas’ history, at first glance, seems oceanic and monolithic—a business-driven, striving, sprawling urban expanse—like the prairie in which it’s placed. Yet, like the blackland prairie, a closer look discloses a fascinating ecology; one interjected by creeks, floodplains, and cross timber forests. The subtle beauty and complexity of the blacklands reveal a more compelling story than what we thought we knew.

We’re in the midst of an urban renaissance that has its roots in our philosophical heritage, but, in it, shines something special. If we look closer, we see an exciting union taking place. Where the two strands—entrepreneurial drive and philosophical reflection—once stood apart, now they appear to be coming together opening entirely new possibilities.

What could be more reflective than a dialogue guided by our D Magazine? As the glossy manifestation of our ambitious city’s self-awareness (or, at times, our guilty conscience), the Magazine has taken on the burden of casting a new vision for Dallas. That July morning, an august group of dedicated citizens set out to think through the meaning and image of our city. From urban form to neighborhood identity, an earnest conversation stood center stage. Many questions remain, and serious issues are still outstanding, but it was an important moment nonetheless.

Cities, like each of us, exist on a cross. On the horizontal axis stands time—past and future. On the vertical axis is our inward- and outward-looking postures. We and Dallas are constantly wrestling with our pasts and the possibilities of our futures; likewise, we struggle to be vulnerable to what exists outside of us and what should remain guarded within. It’s folly to give ourselves wholly in one direction. Clinging to our past leads to dishonesty, and decadence, yet to ignoring our history leaves us adrift and unlocated. Looking too inward will make us neurotic and unchanged, but to spend all of our time looking elsewhere for answers, to the examples other cities (those “real” cities) only alienates us from ourselves. (As the saint once said, “What hath Dallas to do with Seattle”...or something like that.)

The conversation Dallas is having about New Urbanism extends far beyond arguments about mixed-use zoning, form-based codes, and boulevards versus highways. This is a moment for each of us to reflect on what kind of city we want to build for our future: one built on an honest, yet grateful understanding of our past, of our unique place, and of our relationship to the world around us.

Visit the Congress of New Urbanism’s website to learn more about their approach to planning, placemaking, and to learn how you can get involved in your local chapter.

THE SPA WANTS TO KNOW WHAT CAPPA PLANNING STUDENTS ARE READING AND WORKING ON! EMAIL SPA.CAPPA@GMAIL.COM TO BECOME A CONTRIBUTING AUTHOR OR TO SHARE ANY PLANNING RELATED ARTICLES, PICTURES, OR EVENTS THAT YOU WOULD LIKE PUBLISHED IN THE SPA NEWSLETTER AND SOCIAL MEDIA PAGES.

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