

## SUMMER KICK OFF HAPPY HOUR

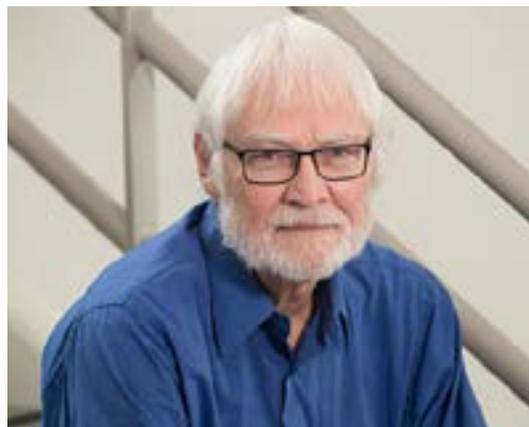
The Nebraska Chapter of APA held their first virtual happy hour on May 28th. Attendees dropped into the virtual hangout with a beverage of their choice and stayed as long as their schedule allowed. A second event was held on June 25th. Chapter leadership is interested in continuing these virtual happy hours on a monthly basis throughout the summer. Watch for email invites or follow us on social media to stay up to date on the upcoming events. Hope to see you there!

## HAPPY RETIREMENT!

If you came through the University of Nebraska's Community and Regional Planning Program you know two recently retired professors very well—Associate Professor Rodrigo Cantarero and Director Gordon Scholz. Combined they worked in the CRP department for over 75 years. Their contributions as faculty and chapter members cannot be overstated. Gordon served as president of the Nebraska chapter twice and received the Mitsuo Kawamoto Excellence in Planning Award and the Wozniak-Selander Award for a Planning Pioneer. He has also served as the UNL Planning Faculty Liaison to the Nebraska Chapter. Rodrigo was a co-founder and director of the Latino Research Initiative, a fellow of the Center for Applied Rural Innovation, research associate of the Monteverde Institute in Costa Rica and a member of the Lincoln-Lancaster County Board of Health. We thank them both for their amazing contributions to the profession and helping shape young planners and wish them all the best in their retirement!

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# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

The Legislature will reconvene on July 20, although Speaker Jim Scheer reserved the right to change the date if necessary. Speaker Scheer asked senators to amend priority bills to decrease or eliminate the financial impact the bills may have on the General Fund. We therefore anticipate Senator Kolterman will amend Legislative Bill 720, which as you may recall is an economic stimulus bill that would replace the Nebraska Advantage Act.

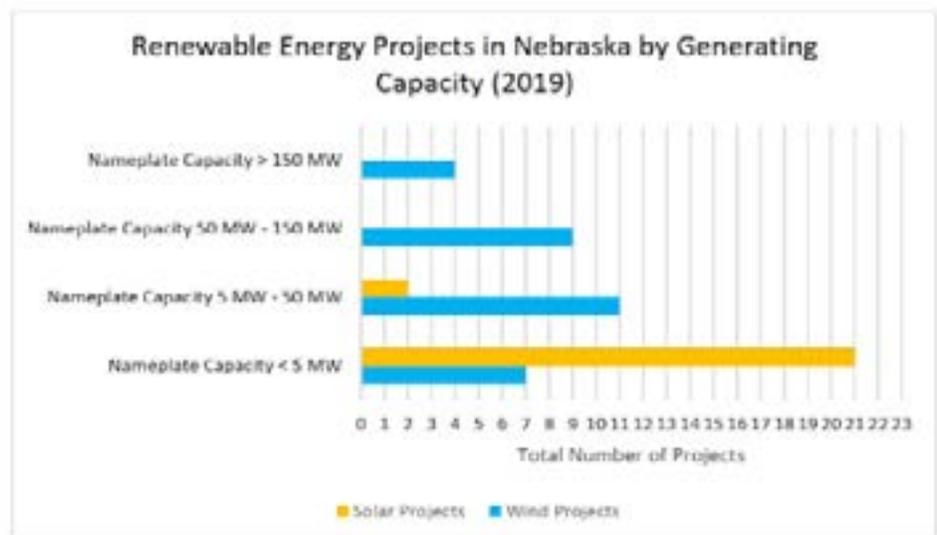
The following is a reprint of the Baird Holm Dirt Alert Report on Renewable Energy in Nebraska from June 15, 2020.

Nebraska is among the top five states in the country for wind energy investment according to a 2020 report from the American Wind Energy Association (“AWEA”). Nebraska’s wind and solar resources continue to attract other new investment such as Facebook, Adobe, Hormel and Smuckers. Other economic giants are rumored to be looking at Nebraska due to its renewable resources and investment.

Nebraska’s renewable energy generation facilities are a considerable source of tax revenue to schools and other taxing entities. In 2019, renewable energy generated approximately \$6,928,800 in nameplate capacity tax revenue. Nameplate capacity tax is a substitute for tax on personal property. Because wind turbines and solar panels are personal property that depreciates over their lifetime, the Nebraska Legislature created the nameplate capacity tax. The tax is a flat rate of \$3,518 per megawatt of the project’s generating capacity for each year of the project’s lifetime. Even though the value of personal property, and thus the tax on personal property, typically depreciates, the nameplate capacity tax remains flat, thus providing additional financial benefits and stability to Nebraska’s taxing jurisdictions, including schools.

Renewable energy generation facilities also pay a similar amount in real property tax. Thus, the total new property tax from renewable energy generation facilities in Nebraska is approaching \$12,000,000 per year. Especially for a small rural county, a share of this can be a significant benefit. For example, a 200 megawatt wind energy generation facility in Perkins County, Nebraska, would increase the county’s annual property tax revenue by approximately 40 percent.

Renewable energy projects are increasing in Nebraska. According to the Nebraska Department of Revenue, at the end of 2019, there were 53 operating renewable energy projects in Nebraska, covering 35 of the state’s 93 counties. The projects generated approximately 2,040 megawatts of clean energy in 2019.



*Of Nebraska’s renewable energy projects:*

- » 3 new projects went into commercial operation during 2019;
- » 31 are wind energy generation facilities;
- » 23 are solar energy generation facilities;
- » 8 are exempt from the nameplate capacity tax because public power districts operate them; and
- » 9 are community-based energy development projects.

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# PRESIDENTS UPDATES



What a wild ride 2020 has been so far. As each month on the calendar flips on the march to the end of the year I'm finding myself asking, "What's next?!" Although we must remain safe and vigilant in these times, we can take solace in the fact that Nebraska as a whole has fared better than many other areas of the country though these tough times. As restrictions ease we should take time to raise a glass with our friends in salute to those impacted and to the hope of a return to "normalcy" in 2021.

Due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic the NPZA Board has elected to make our annual Fall Workshop a virtual event. Although we will miss the face-to-face interaction with our fellow planners and zoning administrators the most, moving this event online for 2020 will have positive impacts. Those who are unable to escape work or the preparation for the fall harvest to drive to the Workshop will now be able to attend without leaving town. This added flexibility can open up the possibility of training to planning commission members, city council members, and other land use decision makers from multiple levels of government that typically cannot attend the annual conference.

Stay tuned for more information regarding the Fall Workshop as we work on preparations for this annual event. Also, check out the NPZA website or follow our activities on Facebook and Twitter as well.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christopher Solberg".

Christopher Solberg, AICP - NPZA President



It's hard to believe that a mere four months ago we were all gathered in Kearney for a successful and thought-provoking annual conference. While many of the discussions were focused on the planner's role in planning for and recovery from a major event, little did we know what was around the corner as we are now in the midst of a pandemic and social unrest on the heels of the 2019 flooding.

The impacts of our current issues will color our lives and our roles as planners this year and into the future. While there is a new way of living with people working from home, kids not in school but in on-line classrooms, virtual public meetings and other impacts, many people call it the "new normal". In addition, many communities are dealing with governance in the social equity arena. While these issues may seem to have surprised us, there have been hints that both issues have needed to be address for some time.

As planners, we recognize that many things are changing every day and events such as these are catalyst for change. I have been asking questions like: Is there enough internet capacity for the new demands? Are the public services and amenities fair to all people? Will more people work from home reducing the need for office space and parking? Is there an opportunity to promote your community as an alternative to big city life? Is the public more engaged with virtual meetings? How can local retailers compete in the on-line marketplace? By recognizing potential issues now, we can help guide our communities through the affects and recovery to be healthy communities again.

We do not know what tomorrow will bring, but I challenge you as a planner to help your community thrive by identifying the changes and guiding them to a better future. If you have any questions for me, please feel free to email, call or text me at [jray@jeo.com](mailto:jray@jeo.com) or 402-779-1070

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Ray".

Jeff Ray, AICP - APA-NE President

# MENTOR MATCH SPOTLIGHT



Andrew Thierolf

Long Range Planner, Lincoln-Lancaster County Planning Department

Hometown: Lincoln, NE



Kristen Ohnoutka

Student, UNL MCRP

Research Fellow, New Power Nebraska

Youth Survey Coordinator, Nebraska Community Foundation

Hometown: Columbus, Nebraska

## 1) What do you like to do outside of work or school?

Andrew: A personal interest of mine is history, and historical geography was my gateway to city planning. My last trip before everything shut down was to visit my wife's family near Chicago. We were able to spend some time in Jackson Park, site of the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition. It's a beautiful place and there's still many remnants of the fair throughout the park.

Kristen: I enjoy volunteering for my neighborhood association and organizing for a number of community and statewide causes.

## 2) What is something that you did together as part of the mentor match program?

Kristen: Andrew set up an afternoon of speed interviews for me with his colleagues in the Lincoln and Lancaster County Planning department. It was so great to hear from professionals in the field whose skills and experiences covered a wide spectrum of interests. I was able to ask questions about their education background, what it is like working in the public sector, and what they are most proud of achieving for the City of Lincoln in their work as planners. Connecting with individuals who are applying the skills I learn every day in the classroom brought life to the field of planning, and, it solidified for me that this is the same work I hope to be doing someday.

## 3) What is something that you learned, or a perspective that you have gained about planning from your mentor or mentee?

Andrew: Kristen is very ambitious and has a real interest in serving rural Nebraska. She's focused on connecting the dots between environmental issues and rural planning, which is a great perspective that I don't experience much in my current position. She speaks well for the "next generation" of up and coming planners.

Kristen: My mentor, Andrew, has worked in both the private and public sector. This was very helpful for me to get to pick his brain about the benefits and challenges of both, and the unique opportunities each can offer you as a planner. He has given me great professional and academic advice that has given me a better vision of what I hope to achieve with this master's degree.

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# EVICTED

By: Kurt Elder, AICP

EVICTION. It's a scary word that implies struggle, and the sympathy of that struggle usually falls into one of three buckets: for the landlord, for the tenant, and for the neighborhood. As a planner and renter understood evictions but did not understand how it fully affected the local housing market, neighborhood stability and community. I began digging into the topic by reviewing information found on The Eviction Lab's website <https://evictionlab.org/>, and by listening to *Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City* by Matthew Desmond to further work for the City of Lincoln and to create a 12-part series for 'Our Street,' a weekly radio show on KZUM 89.3FM.

Along with my cohost we interviewed a landlord who owns 250+ units and manages another 350+ units, an attorney for landlords, an attorney for tenants, a housing educator that is housed in our local community action program, an elected official, a person who had been evicted, a homeless outreach specialist within our local school district, and even interviewed, informally, a local judge to learn about that facets surrounding this issue from his experience. These and the other interviews can be found at [www.kzum.org/ourstreet](http://www.kzum.org/ourstreet).

To begin an eviction is a tool, granted by the State of Nebraska through the Uniform Residential Landlord and Tenant Act, also known as the Nebraska Landlord Tenant Act (NLTA), for landlords and other property owners to help resolve problems that arise when tenants violate contract terms. The most common reasons are unpaid rent and damaged property. The NLTA describes the kinds of notices a landlord can send a tenant and a tenant to a landlord. This article does not cover all aspects of that law; however, I would recommend contacting Legal Aid of Nebraska, your local commission on human rights, or the Nebraska Real Estate Commission to learn more about this legislation. Links to these resources are at the end of the article.

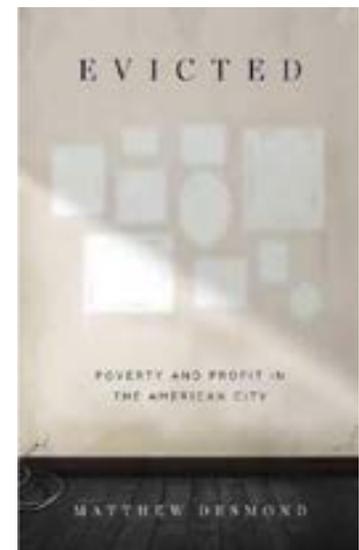
The following are strategies and solutions to address evictions going forward based on the interviews conducted for Our Streets. These ideas will help ease tensions among all parties involved and create safer and more stable housing solutions in our communities.

**Prior to an eviction hearing, and possible subsequent writ of restitution a landlord and tenant in question are required to meet for mediation to negotiate – if possible – a solution.** The reasoning for this is based on two factors (1) in other court proceedings such as small claims court a judge with require mediation before a judgment is issued, and (2) oftentimes communication just breaks down and a resolution other than an eviction notice is often all that remains.

**Increased tenant and landlord education through the RentWise program.** RentWise is a tenant education program that provides resources on how to find and keep decent rental housing, and how to become more successful renters. Renters who complete this six-module program earn a certificate of completion to show potential landlords and property managers their commitment to being a good tenant. We heard numerous times that misinformed renters would take incorrect actions (i.e. not paying rent to get the landlords attention based on feedback from friends or Facebook).

**Move one eviction hearing a week to night court.** Not only is the number of people who do not make their court date remarkably high but activating local advocates willing to assist in court proceedings is limited as they occur during the workday.

**Provide a computer workstation and printer for people to email photos, texts and screen captures.** In an eviction hearing, a tenant or landlord might say, "I have the proof on my phone!"; however, if that proof is only on a phone the judge will require them to turn the phone in for evidence, which a tenant cannot usually do.



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**Embed housing investigators in cultural centers or libraries.** We heard that it can be intimidating to enter a large government facility and ask for help or input on a housing issue. This is especially true of our immigrant families. By reducing the barriers to education and assistance we can improve neighborhood stability.

**Change the court forms to collect more information about those being evicted to better understand the issue.** When we access eviction records through research requests, we are given some information such as whether tenants were represented by counsel, eviction address, and judgment; however, we often do not know the size of the household, age, gender, race or ethnicity. Some believe this is not reasonable as it adds little to no value to the case at hand, but from a policy perspective can be very helpful in developing legislation to help unrepresented populations.

**Create a free landlord registry to aid landlord/tenant education efforts.** In the years after the 2008 recession, a surge of first-time landlords and investors took advantage of the low cost of housing, but their lack of experience can lead to errors. A registry would provide tenants the opportunity to vet potential landlords, but also to track whether they are taking landlord education classes, offered free of charge in many communities.

**Require educational materials (i.e. mediation groups, etc.) to be sent to all parties when an eviction is filed.** This could be implemented by having a constable also present this material when they deliver their eviction notice. With a delay between notice and a court date of 10 days, this extra education could benefit both parties.

**Create a website that better informs the rental marketplace.** For example, landlords can look up Rent Wise graduates and tenants can look up housing code violations of specific properties or by the landlord. As we learned through these interviews there is a spectrum of tenants and landlords. Some are good and some are bad, and they often find each other. The hope is that with better education we can avoid some of the mismatches.

**Utilize vacant city storage to hold personal property for on a temporary basis during an eviction proceeding for a nominal fee.** Being evicted is tough and humiliating for some. It's not just about the loss of housing, eviction is also about the loss of belongings (i.e. the texture of one's life). Providing affordable storage options for those still looking for new housing eases some of the stress created by an eviction.

In closing, we recognize that we didn't cover all the aspects that surround evictions. We focused on the three reoccurring themes from the interviews conducted which are better tenant education, improved communication, and access to quality advice. These should be part of a reformed eviction process that attempts to keep tenants in their homes, provide better education and resources, and open communication between landlords and their tenants.

## LINKS:

Legal Aid of Nebraska: <https://www.legalaidofnebraska.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Landlord-and-Tenant-handbook-2017.pdf>

Nebraska Real Estate Commission: <https://nrec.nebraska.gov/legal/landlordacttoc.html>

Book Review: <https://www.theguardian.com/books/2016/apr/07/evicted-poverty-and-profit-in-the-american-city-matthew-desmond-review>

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# PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT:

## The Pandemic and Plan Forward 2050

By: Steve Miller, AICP

Have you ever been Comp Plan Cruisin' or kicked back with a cool drink to take in The Late Afternoon Show with David Cary. Every planner needs to binge watch these new videos produced as part of the public participation process for Plan Forward 2050, the City of Lincoln and Lancaster County's comprehensive plan update. Check it out at [www.planforward2050.com](http://www.planforward2050.com).

The planning team, under the guidance of Paul Barnes, Long Range Planning Manager, David Cary, Planning Director, and many other city staff, kicked-off the update with a fun and educational video that looked back at planning and development in Lincoln 30 years ago to see how it shaped the city we have today. Like the theme for the NPR podcast Throughline, the video . . . "goes back in the past to understand the present."

The plan website explains the intent of the process . . . Plan Forward - Lincoln-Lancaster County 2050 Comprehensive Plan: The Lincoln-Lancaster County 2050 Comprehensive Plan embodies Lincoln and Lancaster County's shared vision for the future, out to the year 2050. The theme of the Comprehensive Plan is Plan Forward, because it will envision a future that not only looks forward in time, but also forward in concept with new and innovative ideas to support our growing community.

Plan Forward 2050 started before the coronavirus pandemic and the need to quarantine and to implement directed health measures. The Plan Forward 2050 team planned to use videos to engage, educate and inform the community about the two-year comprehensive plan update. The team quickly adopted video, other communication and social media strategies to engage the Staff Committee, the Community Committee, stakeholders and the broader Lincoln community via several different channels.

All committee meetings are conducted via Zoom, the web-based video conference platform and broadcast to the public via Facebook Live. Common social media platforms Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/PlanForward2050/>), Instagram (<https://www.instagram.com/planforward2050/>) and Twitter (<https://twitter.com/planforward2050>) are used to inform and engage the community too. Facebook has over 130 followers and is the most popular. The primary goal for public participation isn't only to reach large numbers, it's to provide a platform for as many diverse perspectives in Lincoln and Lancaster County as possible. The number of people reached so far it great too! Comp Plan Cruisin' reached over 1000 viewers in two posts, the Facebook ad for the February public event reached over 16,000 people in Lincoln and Lancaster County, and the initial visioning survey had over 600 responses.

The Plan Forward 2050 process is only about 25% complete and the team is taking an adaptive and flexible approach as it moves ahead. It's building on results from an early visioning survey, on-going input from community stakeholders, and guidance from the Staff and Community Committees that yielded four big themes for the plan – Livable, Thriving, Innovative and Resilient. The next big public event is a virtual open house on July 7th where participants will complete a survey and engage the team and each other in discussing future growth scenarios. The virtual open house is not a one-time event and will be open through August 31st. Learn more at [www.planforward2050.com](http://www.planforward2050.com) – you don't even have to leave your couch!



### YOUTUBE VIDEO LINKS:

Comp Plan Cruisin' 1 — <https://youtu.be/JGh9-9aPTNY>

Comp Plan Cruisin' 2 — <https://youtu.be/2irVTAXNNDM>

Comp Plan Cruisin' 3 — <https://youtu.be/rj6MSJYdl6k>

*The Late Afternoon Show with David Cary* —

<https://youtu.be/hcFcrWaEm7U>

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# COMBATING APATHY

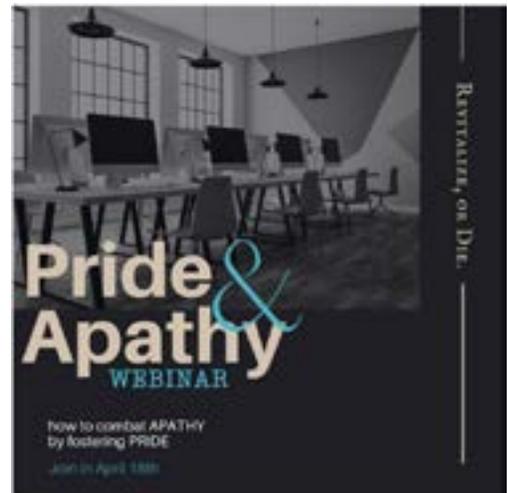
By: Stephanie Rouse, AICP

On April 16th, the Nebraska Main Street Network & the Student Planning Association of Nebraska (SPAN) hosted a live webcast with Founder of Revitalize or Die, Jeff Siegler. The overall message of the webcast was that lack of pride in our communities is what leads to disinvestment and deterioration. Cities are just a collection of people and they reflect the feelings of their residents. When residents are apathetic, the city becomes apathetic. Siegler suggested we start treating struggling communities like we would treat people with depression. Instead of throwing money at the problem, he suggests we focus on the following points of pride.

- » **Identity:** The image of the community, its brand, and the traditions that make that community unique.
- » **Standards:** Communities must raise their standards and force residents to rise to the occasion when asked to help their community grow. Setting design standards is actually a positive for communities. Investors work within regulations every day, what they dislike is risk. So setting clear standards and expectations keeps your community beautiful and helps developers manage risk.
- » **Ownership:** Supporting greater home ownership and building a culture of ownership of the community is important. Getting residents to attend public meetings, keeping their streets cleaned, and supporting local developers boosts a collective sense of pride and ownership.
- » **Communityness:** Find ways to support gathering and meeting in person. Residents need to feel like they are part of the effort to improve the community. Neighbors Night Out or community clean up days are great opportunities to foster a sense of community.
- » **Appearances:** We all form opinions about cities based on what we see. Broken windows, weeds, and trash give the impression of a neglected city lacking a sense of pride. Poor appearances lead residents to care less about their community. Pride is directly tied to appearances and can increase or decrease self-esteem in the community.

So how do you begin to foster pride and reverse an apathetic trend in your city? A civic pride campaign. Spend one year being intentional about each component mentioned above. Focus your efforts on improving each and promoting it to the public. Develop a special hashtag to use on social media. Communities all across the U.S. have embarked on such a campaign including New Orleans, St. Louis, and Philadelphia.

Our communities do not look the way they did 50 years ago. In most places you will not find residents strolling Main Street, building sturdy and detailed brick buildings, or working in second or even third generation family businesses. The big box store and the automobile has transformed our communities and hurt the sense of community once integral in our cities. By focusing on squashing apathy, cities can return pride and ownership to the residents and create walkable, friendly, beautiful cities for this generation and the next.



# PRESENTING VIRTUALLY

By: Steve Miller, AICP

NPC20@Home was a big success for the American Planning Association (APA). APA reports that more than 5000 planning professionals were part of NPC20@Home. For those who don't know, NPC20@Home was a digital conference that brought the spirit of NPC – the National Planning Conference – directly to attendees. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, APA canceled the NPC in Houston and organized and conducted the digital conference on April 29 – May 1, 2020.

**What the Gig?**  
Private Practice in the Gig Economy



Steve Miller, AICP  
Siva Yargal, FACP, LEED-AP  
Elizabeth Garvin, Esq., AICP



The conference was organized around three daily themes – Rebuilding Community, Planning in the Digital Era, and Navigating the Future of Planning. There were 27 sessions conducted via Zoom including daily keynote addresses, networking events and educational presentations. Recordings of every session are available at <https://www.planning.org/conference/digital/> for a fee.

I was fortunate to be able to participate in NPC20@Home as an attendee and a presenter. I found the Opening Keynote Session, “Rebuilding Community” to be positive and inspirational, and very prescient in how the speakers addressed the topics of equity, diversity and inclusion. The big takeaway for me is that APA provides excellent resources for planners as we address dramatic changes in the communities where we work, whether those changes are natural disasters, human-created or health-related.

I also was part of presentation team that felt privileged to have our session selected for NPC20@Home. Our session – “What the Gig? Private Practice Today” – was on Friday, May 1 and focused on the theme that the “Gig for Government” trend is creating new kinds of consulting opportunities for planners. More than 45 percent of state and local government officials said they need professional workers who can be available “on demand”.

While the theme of our presentation was especially timely due to the potential impact of the pandemic on employment trends in planning, we found that the experience of presenting to between 2500 – 3000 people via Zoom to be a well-spring of lessons learned! In the Zoom presentation mode, luckily you don't see you your audience! However, you see the other presenters, you can chat with the other presenters and the session manager, you manage the interactive poll feature and see the responses in real time, and you see ALL of the questions being submitted by the audience.

The lessons we learned from this experience that we think are applicable to any web-based presentation are:

- » There is so much going on in this format that speakers should try to minimize the distractions, e.g. don't chat with each other, turn off the Q&A feature so you don't see it and get distracted, pay attention to your fellow speakers!
- » It was really hard to keep up with the presentation flow while also paying attention to speaking notes, the polls, the internal chat, AND the audience questions. Yikes!
- » Have a moderator! Trying to be a speaker and moderator in the digital format is very difficult and because we didn't have a moderator, we also made the decision (which turned out compounded the issue) of splitting the moderator role and ask each other questions. As a result, we easily lost track of the intentional questions we wanted to ask of each other.
- » Make sure to close the poll questions after a short time or they will continue to pop up on the screen and distract you, as a speaker, and your audience.
- » Don't try to answer the audience questions on the fly! The audience posted over 125 questions during our 30-minute presentation and in attempting to try to answer them, we lost track of where we were in the presentation and most likely didn't address the most relevant questions.
- » Have fun!

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# JOB POSTINGS

Looking to hire? Send us your posting! Email [srouse@rdgusa.com](mailto:srouse@rdgusa.com) with a short description and link to the job posting.

## **CITY PLANNER - NEIGHBORHOOD PLANNING**

Type: Full Time  
Location: Omaha  
Employer: [City of Omaha](#)

## **Planner Specialist - Development & Acquisitions**

Type: Full Time  
Location: Omaha  
Employer: [City of Omaha](#)

For more job postings visit:

- » <https://npza.org/resources/careers>
- » [www.iowa-apa.org/resources/job-postings](http://www.iowa-apa.org/resources/job-postings)
- » <https://www.lonm.org/classifieds/careers.html>

## **Planner Specialist - TIF**

Type: Full Time  
Location: Omaha  
Employer: [City of Omaha](#)

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# UPCOMING EVENTS

To register for any of the below webinars visit: <http://www.ohioplanning.org/aws/APAOH/pt/sp/planning-webcast-series>

## **JULY 23 [THUR]**

Ethics for Planners: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/7713413125908477453>  
Sponsored by: APA Ohio Chapter  
CM | 1.5 ETHICS

## **JULY 24**

Urban Planning in a COVID-19 World: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/58300912205287696>  
Sponsored by: APA National Capital Area Chapter  
CM | 1.5

## **JULY 29**

Leading Edge in Trees, Stormwater, and Urban Design: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3503799818352705804>  
Sponsored by: Urban Design & Preservation Division  
CM | 1.5

## **JULY 31**

Corridor Urbanism: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8720545986033649420>  
Sponsored by: APA Nebraska Chapter  
CM | 1.5

## **AUGUST 19 & 20 (VIRTUAL)**

Registration is now open for the 31st Annual Nebraska Data Users Conference. The conference is conducted by the Center for Public Affairs Research at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, the lead agency in the Nebraska State Data Center Network, which partners with the U.S. Census Bureau to share demographic and socio-economic information.

[cpar.unomaha.edu/conference](http://cpar.unomaha.edu/conference)

## **SRC PODCAST CLUB**

This summer, the Student Representatives Council (SRC) will be hosting a podcast club — like a book club, only you will simply listen to a podcast episode in preparation for a virtual group discussion. Podcast topics will vary, but the conversations and the club's intent will be centered around systemic inequities and racism as it relates to urban planning; given worldwide civic unrest in response to wide-scale systemic racism in the US and elsewhere, there is no other topic that presently needs such urgent learning and space for discussion. Topics and discussions will be curated and facilitated by experts from within APA. The first podcast club meeting will be Tuesday, July 28 at 4 pm CT. Click [here](#) to register in advance. Registrations are capped at 500 registrants, on a first come basis.

[www.nebraska.planning.org](http://www.nebraska.planning.org)

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# RESOURCES

## APA NE Board Members

- Jeff Ray, AICP – President
- Bruce Fountain, AICP – Past President
- Stephanie Rouse, AICP – Vice President/  
Professional Development Officer
- Troy Anderson, AICP – Treasurer
- Jesse Poore, AICP - Secretary
- Chris Solberg, AICP – NPZA Liaison
- Andrew Conzett, AIA – Allied Professionals Liaison
- Anthony Kohel – Student Planning  
Association of Nebraska (SPAN) Liaison
- Vacant – UNL Planning Faculty Liaison

## APA NE Subcommittees

- Legislative: David Levy, Baird Holm; Amy Haase, RDG
- Membership Recruitment & Appreciation: Paul Barnes, City  
of Lincoln
- Emerging Planners Group: Kurt Elder, City of Lincoln; Cale  
Brodersen, City of La Vista
- Social Events/Networking: Don Gross, Metropolitan Area  
Planning Agency; Kaitlin Bolte, Confluence
- Conference/Workshop: Keith Marvin, Marvin Consulting;  
Stacey Hageman, City of Lincoln; Jeff Ray, JEO; Bruce  
Fountain, City of La Vista
- Mentorship/Student Outreach: Cale Brodersen; Gordon  
Scholz, UNL Faculty liaison to the APA-NE Board; Bruce  
Fountain
- Allied Professional Collaborations: Andrew Conzett
- Newsletter and Social Media – Stephanie Rouse, RDG
- Awards/Nominations – Jeff Ray, JEO

## NPZA Board Members

- Chris Solberg, AICP – President
- Judy Clark, AICP – 1st Vice President
- Dan Giittinger – 2nd Vice President
- Chad Nabity, AICP – Immediate Past President
- Char Carpenter – Recording Secretary
- Steve Charleston – Membership Sec/Treasurer
- Stacey Hageman – Conference Coordinator
- Jeff Ray, AICP – NE APA Liaison
- Gordon Scholz, AICP – UNL Liaison
- Dave Ptak – Legal Counsel

## NPZA SUBCOMMITTEES

- Conference Committee – Keith Marvin, AICP
- Newsletter Committee – Kurt Elder, AICP, GISP
- Awards Committee – Christopher Solberg, AICP
- Zoning Administrator Certification Committee –  
David Ptak
- Nebraska Planning Handbook Committee –  
Vacant

### Submit Your Content!

The NE Planner welcomes readers and associates to submit articles for publication within the newsletter. We are also happy to include RFP/RFQ's, new job postings, and upcoming events. Email [srouse@rdgusa.com](mailto:srouse@rdgusa.com) to be included in the next Newsletter.