

# INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

## Intergovernmental Affairs Panels at the 2003 Denver APA National Conference

by Lee Schoenecker, AICP

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### Division Officers

Lee Schoenecker, AICP  
**Acting Chair**

Jim Hassinger  
**Past Chair**

Thomas Dow, AICP  
**Vice Chair/Treasurer**  
KSDOT  
217 SE 4th Street  
Topeka, KS 66603-3712  
785-296-2552  
tdow@ksdot.org

Rocky Piro, AICP  
**Vice Chair/Secretary**  
Puget Sound Regional Council  
1011 Western Avenue, Suite 500  
Seattle, Washington 98104  
206-464-6360  
rpiro@psrc.org

R. Scott Taylor  
**Newsletter Editor**  
MODOT  
PO Box 270  
Jefferson City, MO 65102  
573-526-4800  
taylor1@mail.modot.state.mo.us

The Intergovernmental Affairs Division will host two panels at the Denver National Conference: "Metropolitan Planning Innovations in the Rocky Mountain West," and "Managing Urban Form to Improve Transportation Choices, Air Quality, and Health." The preliminary and final conference programs for the Denver 2003 National conference will contain names of speakers, and dates and times for these two panels. The conference APA 2003 National APA conference will be held between March 30 and April 2. A preliminary description of each of the two conference panels follows.

**Metropolitan Planning Innovations in the Rocky Mountain West:** The first of these panels looks at recent and ongoing planning innovations in the Denver, Wasatch Front (greater Salt Lake City), and Boise areas. The Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) looked at various alternative scenarios and then developed a Metro Vision Framework Plan which was adopted as a planning framework in 1997. Since that time, planning implementation has been underway through development of a Mile High Compact under which 31 of the COG's 50 members have signed an intergovernmental agreement to implement the adopted framework. A DRCOG panelist will describe past and current activities including efforts to deal with the region's urban growth boundary in the absence of strong state legislation.

In 1997, under Envision Utah, the development of four alternative growth scenarios commenced, and in 2000, from among these alternatives, a Quality Growth Strategy was adopted. In 2001, Envision Utah received an APA national planning award at the national conference in Chicago. The Envision Utah panelist will detail these planning efforts and also describe the tool kit of implementation tools, including demonstration projects as

well as special studies to assist local governments, the private sector, and others to implement the Quality Growth Strategy.

In the greater Boise area, the Community Planning Association of Southwestern Idaho examined growth in the rapidly-developing, two-county metropolitan area. It subsequently developed planning principles and approaches whereby potential high-impact development could be better organized and channeled along the lines of more concentrated and smart growth development. In addition to describing these planning efforts, the Community Planning Association panelist will also discuss actions underway to promote and coordinate these orderly develop-



ment principles and approaches in their implementation as related to specific development actions.

**Managing Urban Form to Improve Transportation Choice, Air Quality, and Health:** The second panel, involves both interdisciplinary and intergovernmental efforts in the Puget Sound area to bring together land use and transportation planners with epidemiologists and air quality professionals in three different King County geographic areas. This is being done for purposes of better integrating pedestrian and bicycle usage via

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improvements to the County's regional transit system. The three geographic areas include White Center, an older Inner-area neighborhood, downtown Redmond, and outlying King East Hill. These three geographic areas and 13 other specific study areas are also included in a very much related partnership effort between King County and the National Institutes of Health to determine the linkages between urban forms and physical activity, including obesity.

Panel members will detail the above study and will also show how these efforts are being used to implement some of the findings and recommendations in King County's six-year Regional Transit Plan. They will also describe how implementation of these recommendations stands a relative good chance of success as King County plans and operates the Regional Transit System, it manages the county-wide public health department, and it plans and controls land use in the un-

### **APA's TEA-21 Reauthorization Committee**

by Thomas Dow, AICP

The Transportation Equity Act for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (TEA-21) will sunset on September 30, 2003. This is the federal legislation that authorizes spending for all surface transportation programs (basically highways and transit).

**APA Task Force Approach:** Many organizations, including APA, have begun drafting position statements on reauthorization. APA should continue to be a vocal advocate to strong planning provisions and smart growth principles in the next federal transportation bill. The major work of the Task Force will take place of the next several months. Position statements will be developed for each of seven functional areas. If you have input to offer, questions or concerns, pertaining to one of these functional areas, please feel free to contact one of the Task Force members assigned to that functional area. These functional areas include:

1. Connecting Communities
  - Intermodal transportation
  - Safe routes to school
  - Transportation enhancement funding
  - High speed rail/Amtrak
2. Creating Travel Choices
  - Promoting creative & flexible public transportation options
  - Urban corridor congestion management programs
  - Greenways & multi-use trail development
  - Value pricing
3. Transportation Equity and Access to Decision-Making
  - Environmental justice

- Community-based planning and programming
  - Meaningful public participation
4. Public Transportation and Smart Growth
    - Reduce auto dependence
    - Reduce oil dependence (national/economic security)
    - Funding assistance for the full range of modes
    - Transit oriented development
    - Expand tax incentives
  5. Promoting Economic Competitiveness
    - Efficient freight/goods movement
    - Access to jobs
    - Reduce oil dependence
  6. Preserving the Environment
    - Improve air quality
    - Reduce trip lengths
    - Environmental streamlining
    - Transit oriented development
    - Mixed-use development
    - Non-motorized transportation
    - Alternative fuels
  7. Governance
    - Flexible funding for MPO multi-modal planning and implementation
    - Incentives for Smart Growth
    - Role and professional capacity of MPOs in environmental streamlining
    - Funding for TCSP program
    - Research on land use patterns and travel behavior
    - Promote regional partnerships

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*“The Intergovernmental Affairs Division will host two panels at the Denver National Conference.”*

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with agencies, non-profit and community based organizations

**APA Task Force Schedule Is As Follows:**

- **July/August**  
Develop draft policy positions by functional area
- **August/September**  
Review and refine policy positions
- **September**  
Transmit draft policy positions to APA
- **October**  
Identify and develop communication methods/process
- **November/December**  
Communicate APA's message & developing strategic partnerships
- **Early 2003**  
Monitor legislative activity and efforts of other organizations
- **May 11-13, 2003**  
Legislative Conference in Washington DC

**APA Task Force Members:** The following individuals are members of the APA TEA-21 Reauthorization Task Force. Each task force member has been assigned to two functional areas.

Task Force Member

Whit Blanton, AICP  
Task force Chair / Transportation Division  
Functional Areas: 2, 3

Lucie Ayer, AICP  
Transportation Division  
Functional Areas: 1, 7

Brent Barnes, AICP  
Chapter Presidents Council  
Functional Areas: 2, 4

Thomas Dow, AICP  
Intergovernmental Affairs Division  
Functional Areas: 3, 7

Eugene Goldfarb, AICP  
Housing and Human Services Division  
Functional Areas: 4, 6

Eloise Hirsh  
City Planning & Management Division  
Functional Areas: 1, 7

Terry Holzheimer, AICP  
Economic Development Division  
Functional Areas: 1, 5

Bruce Knight, AICP  
Legislative and Policy Committee  
Functional Areas: 4, 7

Francis McCann, AICP  
Federal Planning Division  
Functional Areas: 2, 4

Chris McGetrick, AICP  
Legislative and Policy Committee  
Functional Areas: 3, 7

Annabella Roig  
Housing and Human Services Division  
Functional Areas: 3, 6

James Shelby  
Planning and the Black Community Division  
Functional Areas: 1, 3

Christopher Stienon, AICP  
Urban Design and Preservation Division  
Functional Areas: 4, 5

Steve Tocknell, AICP  
Chapter Presidents Council  
Functional Areas: 4, 5

David Vomacka, AICP  
Environmental Planning Division  
Functional Areas: 5, 6

APA staff support to the Task Force is being provided by Devin Cahill and Jason Jordan.

*“APA has begun drafting position statements on TEA-21 Reauthorization.”*



**TEA-21**  
Moving Americans into the 21st Century

## INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS DIVISION: PROGRAM AND BUSINESS MEETING, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, APRIL 15, 2002

by Rocky Piro, AICP

**Meeting and Past Year Summary:** The Intergovernmental Affairs Division held its annual program and business meeting on Monday, April 15, 2002, 5:30 to 7:00 P.M. in the Ogden Room, the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Chicago. It was held as part of the annual National APA Conference. Division Chair Jim Hassinger summarized recent activities of the Division. For example, Lee Schoenecker represented the Division at the APA/AICP Fall Leadership Conference in Washington, DC in September of 2001. And Thomas Dow, Vice Chair of the Division, is a member of APA's TEA-21 Reauthorization Task Force, which met for the first time on April 13 in Chicago. The rest of the April 15 meeting dealt with the following program and business matters.

**Program Sessions at National APA Conference:** The electronic newsletter has been updated to feature information of the sessions the Division sponsored at the National conference. One session, titled, "TDRs from Rural Areas to Downtown" described an innovative interjurisdictional program in Washington State between the City of Seattle and King County. The programs owners of agricultural lands in unincorporated areas of the County are encouraged to sell their development rights to developers in the City of Seattle's Denny Triangle Neighborhood, adjacent to the downtown. Approximately 55 people attended that session, which was moderated by Rocky Piro, Vice Chair of the Division. A second session, titled, "Partnerships in Regional and Local Planning" attracted more than 150 people. That session, moderated by Jim Hassinger, focused on three case studies basically showing how metropolitan-wide planning agencies work with local governments, whether through general or specific land use or transportation considerations. The case studies were from the Hillsborough Metropolitan Planning Organization in the Tampa, Florida area, the Puget Sound Regional Council in greater Seattle, and the Metropolitan Council in the Twin Cities, Minnesota area.

**APA Smart Growth Policy:** There was a discussion of the "Smart Growth Policy" formally endorsed by the APA Delegate Assem-

bly on April 14, 2002. Given this policy in tandem with the recently completed, seven-year and far-reaching APA *Growing Smart* project, there are state-regional-local facets to APA's Smart Growth and *Growing Smart* efforts that the Intergovernmental Affairs Division can be instrumental in guiding and developing. It was agreed that the Division take an active role in offering specific actions and programs to help advance this policy directive. One specific suggestion put forward, for consideration, would be to have the Division sponsor a scholarship program to advance research in the area of intergovernmental smart growth

**Relationships with APA's Transportation Planning Division:** The Intergovernmental Affairs division has had some productive interaction with the Transportation Division over the past year. Also, a new track made its debut at the 2002 Conference: Interrelations of Transportation and Community Track. TEA-21 reauthorization also provides a great opportunity to further develop relationships with the Transportation Division. (Since the first meeting of the APA TEA 21 Reauthorization Task Force on April 13, Vice-Chair Tom Dow has been active on this Task Force. Specially, he is leading an interdivision subcommittee looking at "governance provisions" changes which the APA might recommend in the renewal of this legislation.)

**Federal-Wide Considerations:** While the focus of intergovernmental planning of the past decade has been primarily on substate regionalism, there was concern raised at the meeting that there is little attention given to planning issues at the national level. The observation was made that there are no "high-profile" planning people in the federal government and this creates a vacuum at that level. Since national policies impact how growth occurs at state and local levels, it was recommended that APA get more involved in addressing the federal role and that the Association develop lines of communication with the federal government on planning issues.

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*"The Intergovernmental Affairs Division holds business meeting at National Conference."*

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#### **Possible Panel Sessions at the Denver 2003 Conference:**

There was a discussion of possible session topics the Division should consider sponsoring for the 2003 Conference in Denver. Suggestions which might be included but were not limited to: (1) the role of the regional agency in coordination inter-agency planning issues at "ground zero" in Manhattan such as the Regional Plan Association of New York,

(2) metro Denver case study, possibly in conjunction with other case studies, (3) inter-governmental aspects of "smart growth," (4) federal and local coordination in planning for critical areas or protected lands, (5) federal role in planning, (6) coordination efforts in planning for river corridors, and (7) tribal land use planning interrelations with federal and local agencies. Finally, it was recommended that, as Division-sponsored sessions are being developed for the Denver APA Conference, topic guidelines should be provided for session panelists.

Proposed Change in Officers: Jim Hassinger

announced his intention to step down as Division Chair, and he asked Sandra Pinel to seek nominations at the April 15 business meeting. After discussion, a proposed slate of Lee Schoenecker as Division Chair and Tom Dow and Rocky Piro continuing as Vice-Chairs was developed. Tom and Rocky would, respectively, also continue as Treasure and as Secretary. Said proposed slate will be presented to the Division membership for their possible voting approval in the next hard-copy of the newsletter. In the interim, Lee Schoenecker would be the Acting Chair of the Division. Further, it was also decided that on an interim basis, the outgoing Chair would be a Division Officer, and also, the Division will study further whether, on a more permanent basis, the outgoing Chair should become an officer such as the Past Chair, or perhaps the Vice Chair for Communications, or some other Officer designation. Finally, Scott Taylor was appointed as newsletter editor, and subsequently, he has also volunteered to become the Division's WEB-Master.

## **SMART GROWTH, *GROWING SMART*, AND THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS DIVISION**

by Lee Schoenecker, AICP

On April 14, 2002 the Chapter Delegate Assembly adopted an APA Smart Growth Policy, and on the next day, the APA Board of Directors ratified the same. These dates basically also mark the completion of APA's, seven-year, *Growing Smart* project that lays out state legislative guides and opportunities in just about every aspect of urban and regional planning. Both milestone events provide more than ample opportunity for the development of intergovernmental approaches and techniques, some of which might be developed by the APA's Intergovernmental Affairs Division.

***Growing Smart*** : This is a two-volume, 15 chapter project covering a wide array of subject-matter from local planning to regional planning to state planning. It provides a cafeteria-style, "one size does not fit all" approach to state and local legislative improvements for planning. And as it has been developed over the last seven years, it has already had an impact on state planning legislation in a number of states including Arizona, Georgia, Illinois, Maryland, New Jersey, Wisconsin,

and Tennessee.

**APA Smart Growth Policies:** APA's new Smart Growth Policy, again adopted last spring, focuses its rather substantial subject-matter around five policy frameworks: (1) planning structure, process, and regulation; (2) transportation and land use; (3) regional management and fiscal efficiency; (4) social equity and community building; and (5), environmental protection and land conservation. Each of these five policy frameworks have important intergovernmental elements, be they explicit or implicit. To illustrate, let us take a brief look at the policy framework: (1) planning structure, process, and regulation.

This latter policy framework, alone, has 12 sub-policies. Five of these 12 particular Sub-policies, in turn, have important intergovernmental considerations. In summary language, they include: the necessity of state legislation to implement Smart Growth; the need for statewide comprehensive planning;

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*"APA Board of Directors ratify Smart Growth Policy."*

“See You in Denver in  
2003!”

“APA 's Smart Growth  
Policy presents Division  
with intergovernmental  
challenge ”

## Take Your Conference Experience to New Heights...

*American Planning Association's National Planning Conference  
March 29—April 2, 2003*

Denver Colorado

Denver will host the APA National Planning Conference, March 29—April 2, 2003. See Denver's rehabbed warehouse district, planned neighborhoods, and new airport design and old airport conversion. Explore the region and see resorts and tourism planning, environmental protection programs, and the Rocky Mountain landscape.

Choose from more than 200 sessions and workshops covering topics in all areas of planning. Advance your GIS and Internet skills at one of the hands-on workshops. Learn about Denver's history or tour a downtown redevelopment site during one of the more than 70 mobile workshops.

For more information, visit the APA website at [www.planning.org](http://www.planning.org). Preliminary programs will be mailed in November. The program will also be available online.

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the coordination and modernization of local governmental units and services; the provision of clearinghouses for advance planning and geographic information across local governments via local, state and federal Internet systems; and, the requirement that federal agencies and the United States Postal Service include potential effects of their proposed actions on local and state plans and growth management considerations.

**Intergovernmental Affairs Division Activity:** The Division could, initially, identify for each of the five Smart Growth policy frameworks, intergovernmental considerations and then bring them together as a whole. As a second step, the Division could then develop recommendations for approaches and techniques to implement these intergovernmental considerations, including possible modification of the intergovernmental features themselves as might possibly be warranted. These first two steps would utilize *Growing Smart* for a cross-check. As a third and final step, these recommendations could then be submit-

ted to the Division Council, or the Chapter President's Council, the APA Board, or a combination thereof for their possible consideration and action.

While the APA Board ratified APA's Smart Growth Policy at the April, 2002 National Conference in Chicago, the Board will give further priority to the elements of this Smart Growth Policy at the Fall Leadership Conference to be held in Providence. Depending upon the resulting priorities, other considerations growing out of the Fall Leadership Conference, and the leadership of the new Intergovernmental Affairs Division, the Division membership will be notified of further possible next steps in this possible endeavor. In the mean time, if interested, let us know what you think.

Finally, if you have not read APA's important, new Smart Growth Policy, you can go to the APA National's WEB-page for the same. The WEB-site is: [www.planning.org](http://www.planning.org). From home page go to legislation and policy. Then go to policy guides, then scroll to smart growth, and print out the Smart Growth Policy.

## Biographies of Candidates

### For Chair: Lee Schoenecker, AICP

A long-time member of the Division, Lee also presently serves as Vice-President for Legislation of the National Capital Area Chapter of the APA. He recently retired from the federal government, where he served about half of his career in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget on such matters as the former OMB Circular No A-95 (areawide coordination of local and state grand-in-aid applications); and, the other half in U.S. Air Force headquarters, working on base closure matters and environmental pol-

icy. Either as a private consultant or a direct employee, Lee has also worked in state, metropolitan, and local planning positions for close to 10 years. And since the early 1990's, as a citizen, he has been highly active with the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments where he now serves as Co-Chair of that Metropolitan Planning Organization's Citizen Advisory Committee. Lee has a graduate degree in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

### For Vice-Chair: Thomas Dow, AICP

Thomas presently serves as Vice Chair/Treasurer of the Division and is also on the Executive Committee of the Kansas Chapter of the APA as an At-Large Representative. He is employed as an Urban Planning Manager with the Kansas Department of Transportation, working with that State's Metropolitan Planning Organizations, helping them to meet transportation planning requirements. He also is the Division's representative on APA's TEA-21 Reauthorization Task Force. Prior to his present employment,

Thomas was Director of Community Planning Programs and Disaster Mitigation Programs for the Kansas Department of Commerce and Housing. He has also been Planning Director in Scottsbluff, Nebraska as well as in Excelsior Springs, Missouri. Thomas has undergraduate and graduate degrees from the University of Kansas, the graduate degree being in Urban Planning. He teaches Introduction to Transportation Planning at the University of Kansas.

### For Vice-Chair: Rocky Piro, AICP

Rocky presently serves as Vice-Chair/Secretary of the Division. He is also on the Board of the International Urban Planning and Environment Association. Rocky is a Principal Planner with the four-county Puget Sound Regional Council, based in Seattle. He serves as Project Manager for Policy and Plan Review; one of his latest planning efforts was as Growth Strategies Manager for *Destination 2030*. This latter regional long-range transportation and land use plan met several federal and State of Washington

transportation and growth management laws and provisions. Previously, he was employed with the King County, Washington County Parks Department, serving as Project Manager for the Intergovernmental Planning Team. Rocky has a graduate degree in Planning and Community Development from the University of Colorado at Denver, and a Ph. D. in Urban Design and Planning from the University of Washington at Seattle. He is an Affiliate Faculty on the University of Washington's planning program.

*“Use the ballot on the back page of the newsletter to vote for this year’s officers!”*

### Have an Intergovernmental Success Story to Share in the January 2003 Newsletter?

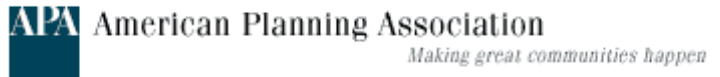
Please Contact:

R. Scott Taylor  
Missouri Department of Transportation  
PO Box 270  
Jefferson City, MO 65102  
573-526-4800  
taylor1@mail.modot.state.mo.us

**Intergovernmental Affairs Division of  
APA**

PO Box 270  
Jefferson City, MO 65102  
573-526-4800

Mailing Address Line 1  
Mailing Address Line 2  
Mailing Address Line 3  
Mailing Address Line 4  
Mailing Address Line 5



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**BALLOT FOR ELECTION AND CANDIDATE BIOGRAPHIES**

**Ballot for Election: Term Runs Through April 30, 2004**

**PLEASE VOTE FOR EACH OF THE FOLLOWING OFFICERS, OR  
WRITE-IN ANY OFFICER(S) OF YOUR CHOOSING**

Lee Schoenecker as Chair: \_\_\_\_\_

Thomas Dow as Vice-Chair for State Programs, and Treasurer: \_\_\_\_\_

Rocky Piro as Vice-Chair for Local and Regional Programs, and Secretary \_\_\_\_\_

Write-in Officers (If you so choose, provide a write-in name for any of the  
above positions; see note below if applicable.):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please cut out your ballot and mail it, **within 60 days of the receipt of this newsletter to:** Mike Welch, Leadership Affairs Manager, American Planning Association, 122 South Michigan Avenue, Suite 1600, Chicago, Illinois 60603. Telephone (312) 786-6372. His e-mail is: [mwelch@planning.org](mailto:mwelch@planning.org). **Should you want a roster of the Division for write-in-candidates**, contact either Lee Schoenecker at: [leeschoenecker@aol.com](mailto:leeschoenecker@aol.com), or Mike Welch at his e-mail address.