The Washington and Oregon chapters of the American Planning Association invite you to submit your session proposal(s) for the 2020 Joint Conference, to be held on October 14, 15, and 16 at the Hilton Vancouver Convention Center, in Vancouver, Washington. October 14th is being reserved for mobile workshops, although some may also be offered on the 15th and 16th. In addition, some more intensive training sessions may be offered on the 14th. [See submittal instructions for potential alternative arrangements, if necessary, resulting from ongoing COVID-19 impacts]

THEME
This year’s theme is **Growing Together**, recognizing the importance and challenges of planning for evolving communities, large and small, in these challenging and polarizing times. The conference will provide the opportunity to share, learn from each other, and grow as professionals. The challenges before us are significant, with a significant one being: How can we help out communities rebound after COVID-19?

You are encouraged to propose sessions that address any aspect of planning practice, with special focus on the main conference theme or the following general categories:

- COVID-19 Recovery Ideas
- Design and the Public Realm
- Transportation and Connectivity
- Housing
- Environmental Policy and Climate Resiliency
- Economic Development and Jobs
- Planning Career Development
- Healthy Communities

To allow attendees to easily identify sessions of interest, the following “tags” may be associated with sessions:

- Equity
- Sustainability
- Skill building
- Technology
- Innovative community engagement
- Networking opportunity
- Career development
- Healthy communities
- Interactive sessions
- Public/private partnerships

SESSION FORMAT

- Formats other than the traditional presentations are encouraged, including: Point/Counterpoint, Panel Discussions, Single Speaker, Moderated Debate, Interactive Workshops, etc.
- Number of presenters in each session is typically no more than 5 including the moderator (75–90-minute session).
- Presenters are expected to register and pay to attend the APA Conference in accordance with the speaker registration policy.*
- Audio visual equipment (including laptops and LCD projectors) and a technician will be provided for each session. Please indicate if your session will require any other special arrangements (e.g., group tables, multiple microphones, etc.).

**PLEASE NOTE:** Speaker Registration Policy: The conference registration fee is waived for the day of the speakers’ session only. There will be a nominal fee if the speaker wants to attend lunch that day.

We do not pay honoraria or reimburse for travel or lodging expenses.
CALL FOR CONFERENCE SESSIONS
PROPOSALS DUE JUNE 5, 2020

REVIEW OF SESSION PROPOSALS
The conference Program Committee will review the session submissions and choose sessions based on relevancy of the topic, originality, format, and completeness of the proposal. The Program Committee will ensure that the conference includes a wide variety of session topics, formats, and speakers, and may make changes to sessions to better balance the program. Speakers/presenters can be from one or both Chapters, but we encourage joint representation where possible and/or session topics of interest to both Chapters.

All session applicants will be notified by July 3 if your proposal was accepted or not. The Program Committee will confirm session details and ask you to provide information needed for AICP CM credits within the following month. You will be asked to address the following questions, and provide speaker names and bios:

1. How will your session offer a professionally relevant learning experience for a planner (e.g., for a planner with at least four years of experience after earning a two-year master's degree)?

2. How does this session meet a specific-planning-related training objective?

3. What are the specific training objectives and how does your session meet them?

SUBMITTAL INSTRUCTIONS
Please e-mail session proposals in a MS WORD document named with the proposed session title only. Please include the following information in the order presented and do not include any additional information unless requested.

- Submittals are limited to one, single-sided 8.5" x 11" page.
- Session name (brief, 4 to 5 words, catchy, yet fully descriptive of topic preferred).
- Paragraph describing the topic and message. Provide enough detail in the description so that the committee can fully understand your topic. (500-word maximum - no exceptions. Marketing brochures and other similar types of materials will not be accepted with proposals.)
- Describe the format of your presentation and list the theme category you have selected and any tags (previous page) that apply.
- If it is necessary or advisable that we make this a virtual conference:
  - Would/could you deliver the session in a virtual setting?
  - Do you have the technology in place to be able to offer your session virtually?
- Names, e-mail addresses, mailing addresses and phone/fax numbers of the proposed moderator and all presenters.
- Send your submittal via e-mail to Stephanie Kennedy, conference event manager, totaleventconnection@gmail.com.

SUBMITTAL QUESTIONS
Please e-mail any questions regarding proposals to Stephanie Kennedy, conference event manager, totaleventconnection@gmail.com.

SUBMITTAL DEADLINE
5:00 pm on June 12, 2020