

1st COAST PLANNER

The Monthly e-Newsletter of the First Coast Section, Florida Chapter, American Planning Association



www.FirstCoastAPA.org

Issue 1, Volume 2

May 2006

First Coast APA

Mark David Major, AICP
Chairman
Mark.Major@Pulte.com

Brian Teeple, AICP
Vice Chairman
bteeple@nefrpc.org

Alfred E. Walker, AICP
Secretary
a.walker@gaiconsultants.com

Donald R. Smith, AICP
Treasurer
smithd@etmnc.com

Michael Herzberg, AICP
Former Chairman
mherzberg@sliman.com

Board of Directors

Kevin Feldt, AICP
kfeldt@jtafla.com

Jennifer K. Ingels, AICP
jingels@ci.palm-coast.fl.us

Sean N. Kelly, AICP
skelly@coj.net

Steven G. Lindorff, AICP
slindorff@jaxbchfl.net

Anthony S. Robbins, AICP
trobbins@prosserhallock.com

Lindsay Stevens, AICP
Editor, 1st Coast Planner
lindsay.stevens@tpl.org

Bradley C. Wester, AICP

The Town Planner is a publication of the First Coast Section, Florida Chapter of the American Planning Association and is a copyrighted document. © First Coast APA, 2006

Spring Luncheon Topic to Cover

Hurricane Recovery and Preparedness

First Coast APA will host its Spring Luncheon on Thursday, June 1 at the University Center, University of North Florida.

Stephen Tocknell will be discussing recovery efforts in the Gulf Coast in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Stephen currently works as a Senior Project Manager for Reynolds, Smith and Hills (RS&H). In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, Stephen served on behalf of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) as the long-term planning team leader for the Washington Parish in Louisiana. In that role, he helped to establish the parish's first ever Planning Commission. In recognition of Stephen's efforts on behalf of Washington Parish, the parish president proclaimed March 3, 2006 as "Stephen E. Tocknell Day."

Brian Teeple will be discussing our state of preparedness in Northeast Florida and the challenges we face in preparing for - as well our vulnerability to - a Katrina-like disaster. Brian is the Chief Executive Director of the Northeast Florida Regional Council (NEFLRC). NEFLRPC is responsible for coordinating the emergency management planning of counties and municipalities in Northeast Florida.

Registration for the event can be sent to Lori Hodges, First Coast APA, c/o England, Thims and Miller, 14775 St. Augustine Road, Jacksonville, FL, 32258. Individual, group and sponsorship rates are available (see promotional flyer with this newsletter). The luncheon entrée is beef, so an alternative menu is available to those with special dietary requirements. (Please specify this on your registration form.) Space is limited so please make sure you pre-register. It's going to be a great event and we look forward to seeing you there!

AICP Short Course Dates Set

The First Coast Section's 2006 AICP Short Course will kick off with a mixer Thursday, **July 13 from 5:00 until 6:00**. Refreshments will provided at the offices of Prosser Hallock, Inc., 13901 Sutton Park Drive South in Jacksonville. The mixer will offer an opportunity for those interested in taking the exam in November to meet Short Course facilitators, learn about available study resources, as well as discuss preparation techniques with members who have taken the exam and lived to tell the tale. The syllabus for the course and the intended procedure for the study sessions will be discussed. Attendance at the mixer is not mandatory for those planning on attending the course. APA members interested in participating in facilitating the course are more than welcome to attend as well.

The testing window for the November exam will be November 6-20, 2006. Applications must be received by AICP no later than **September 1, 2006**. Those interested in participating in the First Coast APA Short Course should mark their calendars for Saturday **August 19 and 26** as well as Saturday **September 9 and 16**. Topics for each session as well as the location(s) they will be presented at the July 13 mixer. For more information please contact Tony Robbins at (904) 739-3655 or trobbins@prosserhallock.com.

FIRST COAST EVENTS

First Coast APA Luncheon Event
UNF University Center
12 noon, Thursday
June 1, 2006

First Coast APA Board Meeting
8:30 am, Friday
June 2, 2006

First Coast APA
AICP Short Course Mixer
5:00 pm, Thursday
July 13, 2006

First Coast APA
AICP Short Course
Saturday, August 19, 2006

First Coast APA
AICP Short Course
Saturday, August 26, 2006

First Coast APA
AICP Short Course
Saturday, September 9, 2006

First Coast APA
AICP Short Course
Saturday, September 16, 2006

FAPA State Conference
Marco Island, FL
September 27-30, 2006

*First Coast APA Board Meetings
are held at England, Thims &
Miller, 14775 St. Augustine Road,
Jacksonville, FL 32258*

COOL LINK OF THE MONTH

Want to know how much your boss' home is worth?

Zillow.com

Comps, maps, aerials,
and other fun stuff.

Legislative Wrap-Up

by Steve Lindorff, AICP

As the 2006 Session of the Florida Legislature came to a close, the Florida APA was monitoring the status of 109 House and Senate bills. The range of topics included the leaders – Eminent Domain (18 bills), Affordable Housing (16 bills), and Growth Management (8 bills) – onto such esoteric planning issues as regulating (or not) outdoor advertising, governmental accountability, agricultural economic development, interlocal service boundaries, community redevelopment agencies, impact fees, brownfield redevelopment, incentive-based permitting, etc., etc. In the end, 17 of FAPA-tracked bills were passed and sent onto the governor for his signature.

The “poster child” for planning-related issues during the session was eminent domain. Following on the heels of the U.S. Supreme Court’s decision in the *Kelo* case, the Legislature bowed to the purported outcry (primarily from conservative pundits, property rights interest groups, and eminent domain lawyers), and approved two bills. One (HB 1567) essentially removes the use of eminent domain as a tool for carrying out community redevelopment. The other (HB1569) places this prohibition on the ballot as a constitutional amendment. So, instead of addressing the narrow issue raised by *Kelo*, the Legislature has left its cities and counties to find other ways to deal with the problem of slums and blighted areas.

A complete list of the bills that passed can be viewed on the FAPA website (www.floridaplanning.org). Click on “Legislative” and then on “Bill Tracking & FAPA Legislative Reporter”. The 17 bills that passed are listed under “ENROLLED BILLS 2006.” Go to www.myfloridahouse.gov, and type in the bill number to read the full text of act labeled “HB” or www.flsenate.gov to read a bill labeled “SB.” Happy reading!

NOTE: Any opinions, expressed or implied, are those of the author and not the Florida Chapter of APA or First Coast Section of FAPA.

From the Chairman...

Mark Major, AICP

Chairman – First Coast Section

The First Coast APA Spring Luncheon is nearly here and I couldn’t be more excited about the event! Stephen Tocknell is going to provide us with a unique perspective on the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina and Brian Teeple is going to discuss the relevance of the Katrina lessons to us in Northeast Florida. There isn’t a more urgent issue for us, as planners, to discuss because the consequences of our planning – for good or ill - on people’s lives are clear after last year’s tragic events. I look forward to seeing all of you at the University of North Florida!

In future emails from the Section, some of you might notice Volusia County colleagues included on the distribution list. This is because FAPA has asked us to include Volusia County APA members in our mailings, as they are relatively close in proximity to our section. I’m happy to keep our colleagues in Volusia County updated on what is happening in the First Coast Section and I hope to see them at some of our events.

Design work on the First Coast APA website is proceeding but it still needs more work before it’s ready for uploading. I’d like to thank Don Smith, and Jay Roebuck at England, Thims and Miller for assisting the Section in getting the website ready. Also, please join me in welcoming Wiatt Bowers to the First Coast Section. Wiatt just moved to Jacksonville and was heavily involved with the Tampa Section. Wiatt is looking to get involved with the First Coast APA and we need more eager and energetic people like him. On that same note, Section elections are in September and the Board has established a *Nominating and Bylaws Committee* to prepare nominations for the election and review the bylaws, specifically with reference to email voting. If you want serve as an officer or board member, then let us know. Also, we will probably vote via email, so it’s extremely important that everyone keep their contact details up-to-date on the National APA website. National APA generates our member roster for us and to ensure you’re getting the latest mailings – as well as making your vote count in September – we need to know where to find you!

Comings and Goings

Brad Wester has left Prosser Hallock, Inc. to become Director of Planning and Development of Itera.

Wiatt Bowers, AICP has moved from the Tampa office of PBS&J to their Jacksonville office.

Paul Crawford has moved from Jacksonville’s Parks and Recreation Department to become Deputy Director of JEDC.

AICP Training Anyone?

The First Coast Section would like to offer something to its AICP members in an effort to contribute to the development of, and respect for, our profession by improving knowledge and techniques. In the past, the Section has focused more on those who are taking the exam. Now, the Section would like to offer AICP young and old and offer them professional development opportunities to help them envision new possibilities, solve problems, save resources, and improve performance. Not everyone is fortunate to be able and attend national or state conferences. Budgets are tight enough these days that expenditures for training materials are rare to say nothing of finding time to get away and focus on broadening our horizons. The Section is interested in offering one or more “lunch and learn” sessions free of charge to active AICP members at convenient times and locations. These courses are valid for Continuing Professional Development Program (CPDP) credit.

AICP offers CD-ROM training packages on topics on advanced topics in planning innovations. They tend to last between 60 to 90 minutes. Tony Robbins is willing to purchase at least one and make it available to members at a convenient location during lunchtime. He is seeking input from those who would be interested in attending such a session. If interested, please contact Tony at trobbsin@prosserhallock.com and relay which of the following, if any, appeal to you most:

Smart Growth Codes: Learn best which practices have emerged in terms of development codes that carry out smart growth objectives (CPDP: 3)

Defensible Design Review: Learn what aspects of design can be translated into code and how to draft principles (CPDP: 3)

Smart Growth Street Design: Learn about changing standards in planning and engineering practice with case studies of successful implementation of smart growth in street design (CPDP: 3)

Economics of Density: Consider different aspects of density from real estate, fiscal, social, social, and environmental perspectives. Learn how planning plays a role in the outcome and what makes for the best decisions (CPDP: 3)

Coming Up Next Month:

Our Feature Story: Using a Virtual River to Plan for the St. Johns

Josh Sweigart and Kraig McLane, AICP

**FIRST COAST
AMERICAN PLANNING ASSOCIATION
SPRING LUNCHEON**

Katrina Recovery in the Gulf Coast

Stephen E. Tocknell, AICP

Reynolds, Smith & Hills

DISASTER!



How Ready are We?

Brian Teeple, AICP

Northeast Florida Regional Planning Council

June 1, 2006, 12 NOON

University Center

University of North Florida

\$ 30 per person

\$ 100 Associate Sponsorship

\$ 200 Full Sponsorship

\$ 120 Organization Rate

Register by sending a check or money order to:

Lori Hodges

First Coast APA

c/o England, Thims and Miller

14775 St. Augustine Road

Jacksonville, FL 32258



www.FirstCoastAPA.org

Space is limited so pre-register for this event!
Let us know if you have any special dietary requirements

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip _____

- Individual \$30
- Associate Sponsorship \$ 100
One (1) attendee plus advertising/
recognition for your organization at
the luncheon.
- Full Sponsorship \$ 200
Two (2) attendees plus advertising/
recognition for your organization at
the luncheon.
- Organization Table \$ 120
Five (5) attendees for the price of 4
representing the same organization.