



Hyatt Regency Riverfront
September 15-18, 2009

2009 APA Florida Conference
Jacksonville, Florida

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 17, 2009

2009 Florida Chapter of the American Planning Association Conference

The First Coast Section of APA Florida will be the Host for the 2009 APA Florida Annual Conference to be held September 15-18 at the Hyatt Regency Jacksonville Riverfront.

This year's conference theme, *Bridging the Past to Tomorrow*, says it all. Primary focus areas for the conference include historic preservation and revitalization, economic development and stimulus, infrastructure, water resources, and professional development. In total, there will be over 55 sessions spanning 6 conference tracks.

In addition, eight mobile workshops are planned, highlighting the historic cities of St. Augustine and Fernandina Beach, the St. Johns River, preservation and revitalization efforts in the urban core and beach communities, and economic development issues involving the Port of Jacksonville and Naval Station Mayport.

Keynote speakers are **Neal Peirce**, a nationally-syndicated columnist and foremost writer on metropolitan regions; **Mariia Zimmerman**, Vice President For Policy of Reconnecting America and the Center for Transit-Oriented Development; and **Paul Farmer, FAICP**, Executive Director and CEO of National APA.

Jacksonville Mayor John Peyton, the Honorary Conference Chair will open the conference with an update on planning and development in northeast Florida that will also include **Ron Barton** of the Jacksonville Economic Development Commission (JEDC) and **Brian Teeple, AICP** of the Northeast Florida Regional Council.

The closing session of the conference will feature an expert panel discussing water supply issues such as conservation, reuse, identifying new sources. The session will include a discussion on the Apalachicola River tri-state water rights issue between Alabama, Florida, and Georgia.

For more information, go to www.floridaplanning.org/conference or contact:
Dawn Sonneborn – Conference Marketing Chair - dawns@genesisgroup.com
Wiatt Bowers - APA Florida VP for Conference Services - wfbowers@pbsj.com

The American Planning Association and its professional institute, the American Institute of Certified Planners, are organized to advance the art and science of planning and to foster the activity of planning - physical, economic, and social - at the local, regional, state, and national levels. The objective of the Association is to encourage planning that will contribute to public well-being by developing communities and environments that meet the needs of society more effectively. The Florida Chapter of the American Planning Association serves APA members in the state, and is the state-level resource for networking and professional development. The chapter conducts legislative programs, holds an annual conference and other educational workshops, and provides public information to and about the planning profession.



American Planning Association
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