



American Planning Association

Creating Great Communities for All

What is APA?

The American Planning Association (APA) elevates and unites a diverse planning profession as it helps communities, their leaders and residents anticipate and meet the needs of a changing world.

APA's Vision is to lead the way to equitable, thriving communities by creating unique insights, as well as innovative and practical approaches that enable the planning community to anticipate and successfully adapt to the needs of a rapidly changing world.

APA's 40,000+ members are planners, commissioners, public officials, educators, students, and engaged citizens who are committed to creating vital communities. Four in 10 APA members have obtained required education, professional experience and passed a rigorous exam to become certified by the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP).

The AICP Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct guides and inspires ethical decision-making and protects AICP-certified planners when faced with controversial or difficult choices.

If you'd like to know more about APA, visit www.planning.org.

The Planning Officials Program provides fundamental onboarding and training materials for those who serve as appointed planning and zoning officials for their communities.

The program provides general information, insights, and sound practices applicable to zoning entitlement for most every community. However, it is essential to know that each state has unique and specific requirements for planning and zoning.

Throughout the videos we use terms to describe these officials and their actions that might differ from what is used in your state. Though the terms may differ, the lessons are universal.

There is no “one-size-fits-all” training for planning officials; make sure to check local state codes or state enabling legislation for relevancy to your community.

If there are any questions about what is appropriate or legal in your community or state, please contact your local staff or municipal officials.

Equity in Planning



Marjorie Press

*Founding Member, Terra Plata, LLC
Seattle, Washington*

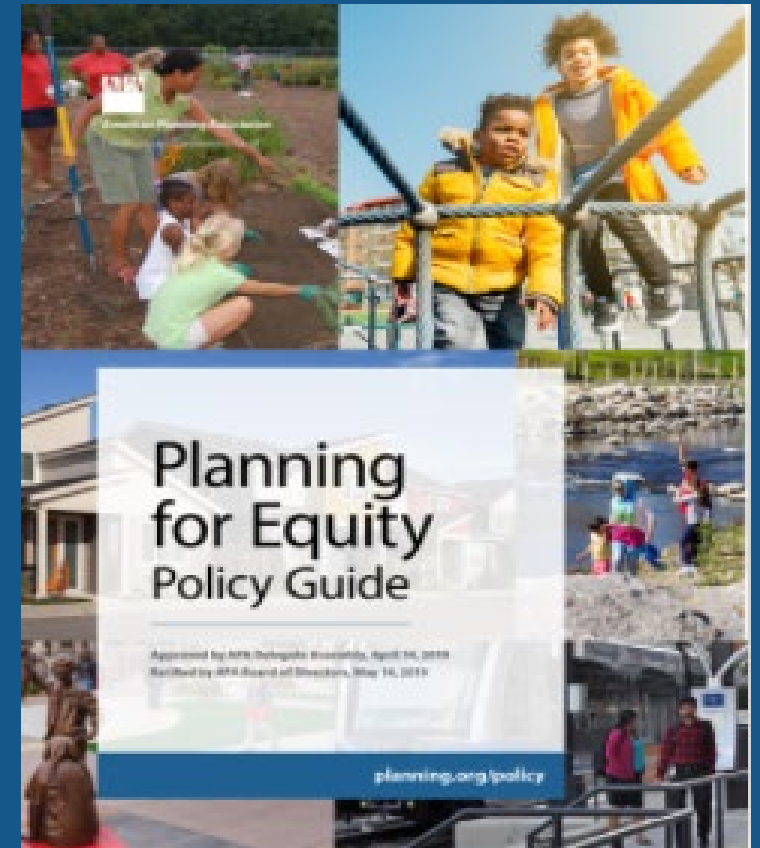
*Over 25 years of planning experience
Served on Seattle Planning Commission as Vice-Chair
Current Member, APA Board of Directors
Immediate Past Chair, APA Planning Officials Committee*



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Adopted in 2018

Social Equity in Planning



APA has made a focus on **Equity, Diversity and Inclusion** as a means to achieving thriving communities in which **everyone has equal opportunity to live a safe, healthy and prosperous life.**

APA's Definition of Equity

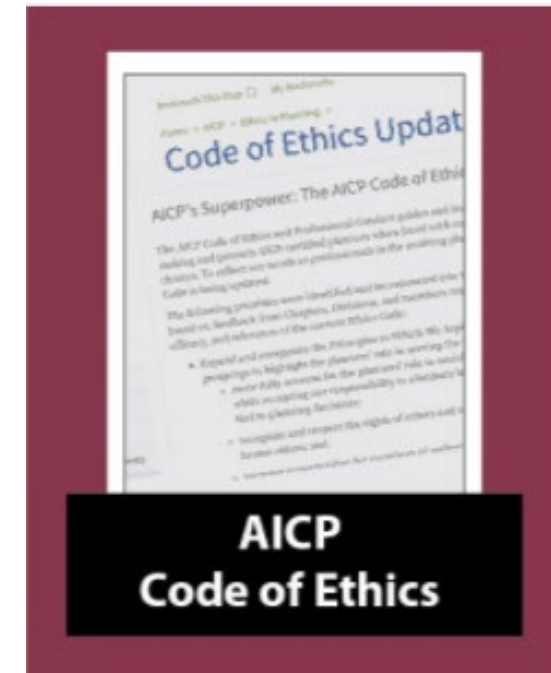
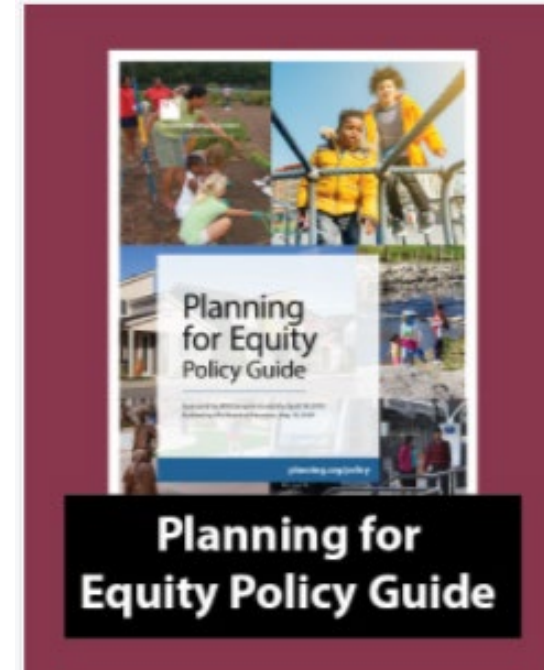
How?

- Responsive to changes
- Address challenges
- All residents treated fairly
- Equal access to resources
- Overcome biases



APA Resources

- [Planning for Equity Policy Guide](#)
- [APA Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy](#)
- [Ethical Principles in Planning](#)
- [APA Core Values](#)
- [AICP Code of Ethics](#)





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