

# FALL 2013 CONFERENCE

## planning works!



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October 16-18, 2013  
Spartanburg Marriott  
Spartanburg, South Carolina

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American Planning Association  
**South Carolina Chapter**

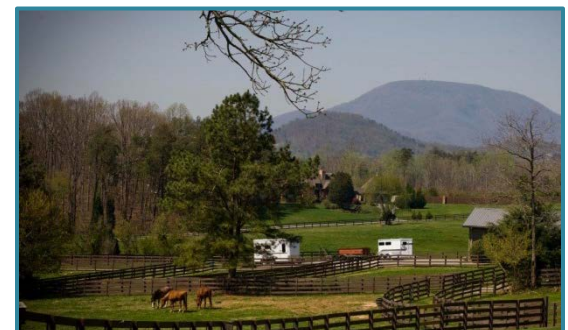
*Making Great Communities Happen*

## Welcome to Spartanburg!

The South Carolina Chapter of the American Planning Association (SCAPA) welcomes you to Spartanburg for its Fall 2013 Conference. Spartanburg was born of the American Revolution. The Spartan regiment rose up from the South Carolina backcountry to fight for independence. Fierce battles fought on Spartanburg soil were a turning point in our nation's struggle for freedom. Today, "Sparkle City" revolves around rich cultural offerings, extensive educational opportunities, musical heritage, racing legacy, outstanding food, and the simple abundance of a stunning landscape. Spartanburg is at the crossroads of all that is dynamic about the modern South as it continues to evolve and change the course of history.

### Spartanburg, South Carolina – Revolutionary!

With over 160 registrants, 60 speakers, and mobile and training workshops, the SCAPA Fall 2013 Conference is sure to be one our best ever. Our theme, "Planning Works!" will showcase planning at its finest. Four educational tracks include topics on economic and community development, recreation and heritage tourism, housing, active lifestyles, transportation, planning law, and ethics. In addition, SCAPA is proud to host the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Southeastern Planning Students Conference as part of our Fall Conference.



### SPECIAL THANKS

SCAPA would like to express its appreciation to the Local Host Committee. The success of the Fall 2013 Conference is directly attributable to the time, talent, and dedication of these individuals.

#### Local Host Committee

Joan Holliday, AICP – Chair	Bob Harkrader, AICP
Chris Story	Joshua Henderson
Lisa Bollinger	Jim D'Amato

SCAPA would also like to thank the Spartanburg Convention and Visitors Bureau and the Spartanburg Downtown Association for all of their support.

### SC PLANNING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

All SCAPA conference sessions are approved for continuing education (CE) required by SC Code 6-29-1310 et. SEQ., Educational Requirements for Local Government Planning or Zoning Officials and Employees. SCAPA will provide the confirmation in the form of a certificate of attendance within a few weeks of the conference.

### \*AICP CERTIFICATION MAINTENANCE

All sessions have been submitted to the American Planning Association and are pending approval for Certification Maintenance (CM) credits at this time. Based on the content of the sessions and the credentials of the presenters, it is anticipated that CM credits will be approved.

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2013**

**12:00 noon – 5:00 pm** Registration (Lobby)

**1:00 pm – 5:00 pm** Pre-Conference Mobile Workshop – The Impacts of Economic Powerhouses: BMW, GSP, and the Inland Port (Heritage D) (4.00 CM\*) (separate registration and fee required)

*Max Metcalf, Manager of Government and Community Relations, BMW Manufacturing Corporation*  
*Jack Ellenberg, Senior Vice President of Economic Development & Projects, SC Ports Authority*  
*Kevin Howell, Chief Operating Officer, Greenville Spartanburg International Airport*  
*Bob Harkrader, AICP, Director of Planning and Development, Spartanburg County, SC*

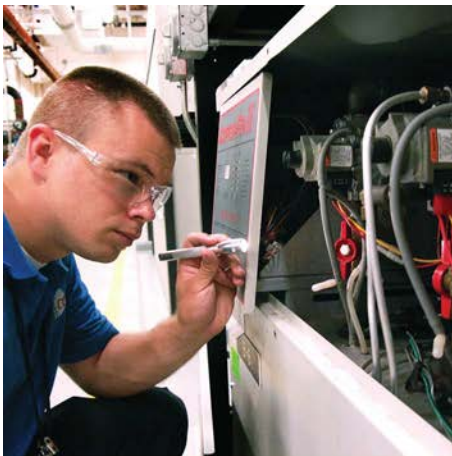
BMW Manufacturing Corporation has been an economic mainstay for the Upstate since the off-shoring of textile jobs in the early 1990s, and it has increased its capacity in the last year in order to bring additional lines to the Greer plant. The Greenville Spartanburg International Airport is in the midst of a major facelift and is ramping up efforts to attract new distribution and logistics facilities to the land it owns around its terminals and runways. This timing meshes well with the opening of the South Carolina Ports Authority Inland Port which will attract cargo from across the Southeast and improve the efficiency of shipping from the Upstate through the Port of Charleston. The Inland Port, set to open at about the same time this conference takes place, will be a powerful economic generator. Representatives from these economic powerhouses will discuss local and regional impacts (past and anticipated) and future plans. The session will include a bus trip to the area to view the sites.

**6:00 pm – 7:30 pm** Welcome Reception – Hosted by the Young Planners Group (Terrace Fire Pit)

While this kickoff party will be hosted by the newly formed Young Planners Group, it is for planners young and young-at-heart. Come for the food and beverages, stay for the good company and good times.

**7:30 pm** Dinner on Your Own

Discover downtown Spartanburg and its eclectic mix of eateries and entertainment.



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**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2013**

**7:30 am – 8:30 am Registration (Lobby) and Breakfast (Buffet at Sparks)**

**8:30 am – 9:00 am Welcome and Opening Remarks (Heritage D)**

**9:00 am – 10:15 am Opening Keynote – Planning Builds Great Places (Heritage D) (1.25 CM\*)**

*Rodger Lentz, AICP, APA Board of Directors*

Great places don't just happen. They are the result of planning and implementation of a community's vision. Come hear about APA's Great Places initiative, the stories behind some of the places recognized so far, and what makes these places special.

**10:15 am – 10:30 am Break**

**10:30 am – 11:45 am The Northside Initiative – The Most Ambitious Redevelopment in Spartanburg's History (Heritage D) (1.25 CM\*)**

**Economic/Community Development**

*William Barnett, III, Chairman, Northside Development Corporation*

*Curt McPhail, President, Greenlab Strategies, LLC*

*Raymond Kuniansky, Vice President of Development Operations, Columbia Residential, LLC*

A comprehensive effort to fundamentally transform the Northside community, the Northside Initiative represents an unprecedented collaboration of public, private, civic, educational, and philanthropic institutions in Spartanburg. The Northside Initiative will result in a completely revitalized, mixed-income, mixed-use neighborhood attractive to families and business located close to downtown and served by a mix of highly rated educational opportunities, recreational amenities, and responsive and engaged social services.

**Recreation/Heritage Tourism**

**Mobile Workshop - Connecting the Carolinas with B-cycle**

*(Conference Center Circle) (1.25 CM\*) (separate registration and fee required)*

*Anne Piacentino, Active Lifestyles Coordinator, Partners for Active Living*

*Lisa Halo, Program Director, B-cycle Greenville*

*Dianna Ward, Executive Director, B-cycle Charlotte*

*Moderators – Lisa Bollinger, Senior Planner, SPATS MPO; Vonie Gilreath, Mobility Manager, BCDCOG*

Choose to leave the car at home! The B-cycle bike share system is an easy, cost-effective day-to-day transportation choice! Since April 2010, B-cycle members have taken more than 755,000 bicycle trips, saving more than 118,000 gallons of gas, and losing 14,000 pounds! Members can access B-cycle stations in 15 cities with the swipe of a card. Learn from Spartanburg, Greenville, and Charlotte coordinators on their successes and challenges.

**Planning Potpourri**

**SCDOT – Moving People (Heritage B) (1.25 CM\*)**

*Mark Pleasant, AICP, Chief of Statewide Planning, SCDOT*

*Carol Jones, PE, Traffic Signal and Systems Engineer, SCDOT*

*Jim D'Amato, PhD, AICP, Transportation Planning Manager, SPATS MPO*

Both regional transportation planning and localized traffic solutions will be explored as leaders from SCDOT present both the Statewide Multimodal Plan and the utility of signal timing and coordination. Understanding SCDOT's perspective moving into the future will affect both transportation and land use planning statewide. Participants will also be informed about efficient methods to keep traffic flowing in their communities. They will be better able to decipher basic traffic engineering approaches, and how such approaches would facilitate the operation of a transportation corridor.

**Southeastern Planning Students Conference**

**Investigations into Transit (Heritage C) (1.25 CM\*)**

*Taylor Tyger, MCRP Candidate, Georgia Institute of Technology*

*Jennifer Folz, MCRP, Clemson University / Planner, City of Clemson*

*Moderator – Susan Britt, AICP, Planning Director, City of Tega Cay, SC*

This session will examine several issues facing transportation planning today, with particular emphasis on public transportation. A replicable methodology for the examination of pedestrian fatalities and various aspects of transit stops will be reviewed, and a quantitative analysis of the rapid transit system in the Massachusetts Bay area will be presented. Communities which have, or desire to have, public transit systems will discover insights to assist in moving those systems forward and individuals interested in mass transit will find the session informative.



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COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING

11:45 am – 12:45 pm **Lunch and Networking (Azalea Ballroom)**

12:45 pm – 2:00 pm

Economic/Community  
Development

**Healthy Comprehensive Planning – From Objective to Outcome in South Carolina**  
(Heritage D) (1.25 CM\*)

*Lauren Mobley Neely, MPH, CHES, Community Coordinator, Eat Smart, Move More South Carolina  
Lori Phillips, MPH, MCHES, Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity and Obesity Preventions, SC DHEC  
Bradley Davis, Senior Planner, Alta Planning + Design*

The Healthy Comprehensive Planning South Carolina project, led by Eat Smart, Move More South Carolina and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, analyzed the current state of health policy in comprehensive plans in South Carolina and developed a toolkit to help planners and public health officials incorporate public health policy into future comprehensive plans. The process and toolkit will be presented in this session.

Recreation/Heritage Tourism

**The Value of History: Recognizing, Preserving, and Promoting Your Historic Assets**  
(Heritage A) (1.25 CM\*)

*Elizabeth Johnson, Director of Historical Services, South Carolina Department of Archives and History*

It is a fact that preserving historic assets has a positive impact on local tourism because visitors seek out great places with special character. Information will be shared on how to recognize and preserve significant historic assets and how to quantify the monetary value of preserving them. Topics will also include the importance of having a building or site listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the state of the National Historic Preservation Act, conducting a survey of historic properties, the programs of the State Historic Preservation Office, federal and state historic tax incentive legislation, and grant programs.

Planning Potpourri

**What is a Planner to do with Significant Recent Shifts in Demographic Trends?**  
(Heritage B) (1.25 CM\*)

*Carol Rhea, AICP, Prinipal, Orion Planning Group  
Cheryl Matheny, FAICP, Principal, Matheny-Burns Group*

The session will hit the highlights of changing demographic trends and discuss the real changes seen recently in development patterns, cross generational communication, and approaches to educating clients, elected and appointed officials, and the public. This session will focus on the professionally relevant topic of how planners should evaluate and respond to changing demographics and the associated current and projected impacts on land use and design within their communities.

Southeastern Planning  
Students Conference

**Social Equity Challenges in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century** (Heritage C) (1.25 CM\*)

*Tharunya Balan, MCRP Candidate, Georgia Institute of Technology  
John Lattimore, PhD Candidate, Clemson University  
Marion Phillips, MCRP Candidate, Georgia Institute of Technology  
Moderator – Bruce Stiftel, FAICP, Chair, City and Regional Planning, Georgia Institute of Technology*

Issues of social equity and challenges facing low-income communities today come in a variety of categories. This session examines three distinct, yet related issues. First, social justice in the context of access to quality education by underprivileged children in India will be examined. Next, research investigating the impact of a particular social organization in low-income neighborhoods in five US cities will be presented. Finally, the issue of access to quality foods in low-income neighborhoods will be explored.

2:00 pm – 2:15 pm **Break**

2:15 pm – 3:30 pm

Economic/Community  
Development

**Historic Tax Incentives for Redevelopment (Heritage D) (1.25 CM\*)**

*Will Johnson, Esq., Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd Law Firm*

In the current economy, any assistance in meeting the bottom line can help make or break the projects that build our communities. An attorney who specializes in economic development incentives will share information about federal and state tax incentive legislation and how planners can access them to help bring redevelopment projects to reality. Fee in Lieu of Tax, Special Source Revenue Credits, Historic Tax Credits (federal and state), the Bailey Bill, Textile Revitalization Credits, Abandoned Building Credits and other incentives that can make redevelopment projects viable will be discussed.

Recreation/Heritage Tourism

**Past, Present, and Future of the Palmetto Trail: Evolution of a Statewide Trail (Heritage A) (1.25 CM\*)**

*Bradley Davis, Senior Planner, Alta Planning + Design*

*Natalie Cappuccio Britt, Executive Director, Palmetto Conservation Foundation*

The Palmetto Trail is both a vision and reality for South Carolina. The vision is to create a trail connecting the mountains to the, with two-thirds of the trail already complete. The Palmetto Conservation Foundation has been the steward of the trail and is working toward completing the trail with an ambitious master plan. The session will cover how the trail came to be, how it is managed today, and how it will be completed in the coming years.

Planning Potpourri

**Atlanta to Charlotte High Speed Rail (Heritage B) (1.25 CM\*)**

*Kirsten Berry, AICP, Senior Transportation Planner, HNTB Corporation*

*Harry Boxler, AICP, Rail Planner, Georgia Department of Transportation*

*Jim D'Amato, PhD, Transportation Planning Manager, SPATS MPO*

A high speed rail system connecting the Southeast to the Mid-Atlantic and Northeastern regions of the United States has been advocated as a transportation need over the past decade. Under the guidance of the Georgia Department of Transportation, feasibility of one leg of this project is being examined – the connection between Atlanta, GA and Charlotte, NC through the state of South Carolina. This session will provide details of the ongoing study and the possibility of a future high speed rail system in the Southeast.

Southeastern Planning  
Students Conference

**Preserving, Revitalizing, and Modernizing (Heritage C) (1.25 CM\*)**

*Julia Zweifel, MCRP Candidate, Clemson University*

*David Payne, PhD, Clemson University*

*Moderator – Cliff Ellis, PhD, Program Director, City and Regional Planning, Clemson University*

Both theoretical and practical methods of historic preservation and neighborhood revitalization will be explored in this session. A revitalization plan for an underperforming downtown district in Richmond, VA will be presented and multi-disciplinary concepts for increasing the district's role as an identifiable destination will be considered. Additionally, through an examination of case studies in Charleston, SC, the challenges planners face when attempting to reconcile modern architecture with existing, traditional perceptions of historic preservation will be considered.

3:30 pm – 3:45 pm Break



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# FALL 2013

C O N F E R E N C E



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### Community Planning

- Comprehensive planning
- Sustainable development planning including low impact design
- Special area planning (e.g. corridors, neighborhoods, downtown, infill)
- Open space preservation
- Rural planning
- Historic preservation planning
- Safe routes to school
- Wildfire mitigation plans and related regulations

### Urban Design

- Design guidelines
- Site plan analysis and review
- Multi-modal transportation planning
- Complete Streets

### Master Planning

- New town planning
- Transit-oriented development

### Land Use Management

- Land use planning
- Site plan analysis and review
- Permitting and customer service audits
- Plan implementation tools including code writing and internal policies

### Training

- Board training
- Staff training
- Customer service training

### Expert Witness

- Expert reports
- Testimony



3:45 pm – 5:00 pm

Economic/Community Development

**Community Development: Shaping Our Communities (Heritage D) (1.25 CM\*)**

*Reginal B. Barner, Sr., President/CEO, Barner Group, LLC*  
*Wayne Leftwich, AICP, Community Planner, City of Greenville, SC*  
*Joe Smith, Operations Manager, Greenville County Redevelopment Authority*  
*Willie Day, Director of Neighborhood and Transit Services, City of Anderson, SC*

Vibrant, stable communities are vital for building strong local economies. Community Development agencies are shaping and revitalizing communities with Community Development Block Grant funds and other programs by providing housing and community facilities, establishing partnerships, and crafting opportunities for creative financing of needed community assets. Community Development professionals will share knowledge gained from successful developments like Brutontown in Greenville County, an affordable community of 80 new bungalow and craftsman style homes complete with a bustling community center. Also, multiple financing tools, including CDBG funds, were used to rehabilitate the 1912 Oakland Mills in Newberry, SC which is now used for residential space for Newberry College students and non-student apartments. The City of Greenville will share successful strategies used by the City to engage residents in the planning process and to utilize its CDBG funding to carry out their vision to create healthy and vibrant neighborhoods.

Recreation/Heritage Tourism

**A Tourism Action Plan and Its Implementation – Growing an Economic Sector in Spartanburg County (Heritage A) (1.25 CM\*)**

*Elaine Harris, Mayor, Town of Pacolet, SC*  
*Chris Jennings, Director, Spartanburg Convention and Visitors Bureau*

Learn how Spartanburg County breathed life into a countywide Tourism Action Plan and set the County on a course to celebrate its history and heritage while raising the level of local awareness that their historic and natural resources must be protected if they are to be the centerpiece of tourism. Presenters will share the process of embracing stakeholders, identifying what has heart and meaning, building a stable and enduring organizational support structure, developing partnerships for implementation, and increasing the number of visitors and the duration of their stay.

Planning Potpourri

**You Can't Go Home Again: New Paradigms in Housing (Heritage B) (1.25 CM\*)**

*Chad Meadows, AICP, Senior Associate, Clarion*  
*Courtney Tanner, AICP, Senior Planner, Town of Morrisville, NC*

This session will focus on the myriad of new housing styles and formats being undertaken by communities across the county in response to the aging of the population, demographic shifts, changes in income, and evolving consumer preferences. Attendees will learn about these new housing styles and the regulatory obstacles that must first be overcome to accommodate them.

Southeastern Planning Students Conference

**Urban Art – The City as Canvas (Heritage C) (1.25 CM\*)**

*Kristen Wyche, MCRP, Clemson University*  
*Cate Ryba, Executive Director, HUB-BUB*  
*Moderator – John Danford, AICP, Senior Planner, Horry County, SC*

Featuring both student and professional presentations, this session will examine art as a tool for redevelopment and revitalization in urban areas. Through a review of fourteen public art master plans and a discussion of best practices in plan implementation, development of a public art master plan for Greenville, SC will be presented. Methods for transferring the master plan framework to other communities will be highlighted. Showcasing strategies for implementation, the success of a partnership born out of a desire to see downtown Spartanburg, SC transformed will be shared, including the role art is having in these efforts.

6:00 pm – 7:30 pm **President's Reception – Hosted by the City of Spartanburg (Offsite at Indigo Hall)**

7:30 pm **Dinner on Your Own**

7:30 pm **YPG Night Out – Network with the Next Generation**

It's dinner on your own with a twist. Join the Young Planners Group for food, fellowship, and networking as they start the night at Wild Ace Pizza & Pub and then transition to Delaney's Music Pub & Eatery.

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2013**

**7:30 am – 8:30 am** Registration (Lobby) and Breakfast (Buffet at Sparks)

**8:00 am – 8:30 am** SCAPA Annual Business Meeting (Heritage D)

SCAPA

*Robert Moody, AICP, President, SCAPA*

Annual session to discuss relevant business of the Chapter.

Southeastern Planning Students Conference

**Student Downtown Walking Tour (Lobby)**

*Cate Ryba, Executive Director, HUB-BUB*

This informative walking tour will be led by Cate Ryba, Executive Director of HUB-BUB, and will discuss the revitalization efforts taking place in downtown Spartanburg with a concentration of the influence the arts have made. Students are encouraged to attend this to see the mission of HUB-BUB “to build community through dynamic arts and ideas in downtown Spartanburg, SC” carried out.

**8:30 am – 10:00 am** Law Plenary – Planning and Land Use Law Update 2013 (Heritage D) (1.50 CM\*)

*Tyson Smith, Esq., AICP, Principal, White & Smith, LLC*

*Leah Youngblood, Esq., AICP, Senior Planner, City of Rock Hill, SC*

An overview of key land use cases decided in the past year will be presented and discussed.

**10:00 am – 10:15 am** Break

**10:15 am – 11:45 am** Ethics Plenary – Planning Ethics: Navigating the Grey Areas of Everyday Decisions (Heritage D) (1.50 CM\*)

*Carol Rhea, AICP, Prinipal, Orion Planning Group*

*Cheryl Matheny, FAICP, Principal, Matheny-Burns Group*

With the AICP Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct as the basis for discussion, this session will explore every day ethics issues using interesting and applicable scenarios and interactive group discussion.

**11:45 – 12:00 pm** Closing Remarks (Heritage D)

**1:30 pm – 5:30 pm** Post-Conference Training Workshop – Complete Streets: What? Why? How?

(Heritage D) (4.00 CM\*) (separate registration and fee required)

*Carol Kachadoorian, Senior Planner, Toole Design Group*

This exciting training workshop will be led by a National Complete Streets Coalition trained instructor and will showcase the best of Complete Streets. Following an introduction to the basics, participants will walk along the streets of Spartanburg to identify positive improvements and determine solutions to issues affecting all communities. An interactive “round robin” planning and design session will allow participants an opportunity to put new knowledge to use.

**5:30 pm – 8:00 pm** Jazz on the Square (Morgan Square, Downtown Spartanburg)

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## Where's the Location of the Next SCAPA Conference? You Decide!

SCAPA is seeking locations for our 2014 Winter, Summer, and Fall Conferences. If you would like to host one of these events, please contact Ernie Boughman. This is a great opportunity to showcase your community and be actively involved in the organization. Thanks!



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#### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2013

**8:00 am – 11:00 am** **Post-Conference Mobile Workshop – Rolling on the Rivers: Blueway/Paddling Trail Development**  
(See registration desk for map to offsite location) (2.00 CM\*) (separate registration and fee required)

*George Fields, Director of the Military Heritage Program, Palmetto Conservation Foundation*

*Julian Hankinson, President, Tyger River Foundation*

*Alissa Duncan, Wofford College's "Thinking Like a River" Community Fellow*

Rivers abound in South Carolina and Spartanburg County is blessed with scenic urban waters that have been largely undisturbed by development. At the beautiful Glendale Shoals, representatives of the Tyger River Foundation, the Palmetto Conservation Foundation, and Wofford College will share with planners their successes and pitfalls in making blueways/paddling trails on the Tyger River, the Pacolet River, and the Lawson's Fork Creek a reality. This presentation will include: the partnerships that make it work, gaining river access, branding, signage, how to locate put in/take outs and portage paths and obtaining proper easements, and river safety. Each presenter will include points of interest on the Rivers such as the 1780 Anderson Mill (obtained by the Tyger River Foundation), the Glendale Outdoor Leadership School (founded by the Palmetto Conservation Foundation) that enhance the experience. These blueways bring eco-tourists to the County and provide recreation opportunities for County residents. Following the presentation, participants will gain a greater understanding for the subject matter by paddling the Lawson's Fork. A light breakfast will be provided.

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- SILVER**

**Alta Planning + Design**

Alta Planning + Design is North America's leading multimodal transportation firm that specializes in the planning, design, and implementation of bicycle, pedestrian, greenway, park, and trail corridors and systems. Founded in 1996, Alta has over 100 staff in numerous offices across North America and an international workload. On any given day, most staff walk, bike, or take transit to work. We are committed to transforming communities, one trip at a time, one step at a time, and one street, intersection, and park at a time.
- GOLD**

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Benchmark CMR, Inc. is a leader and innovator in the practice of land use planning. For over thirty years, our firm has provided high quality professional planning services for a variety of city, county and regional government organizations across North and South Carolina. Over the last several years, we have expanded our practice nationally, with recent projects completed or underway in Missouri, Iowa, New Mexico, Virginia and West Virginia. With the expanded national practice, our firm has added significant staff capacity in the areas of military planning, urban design, downtown development, 3D modeling and photo simulation. Our professional planning staff includes six members of the American Institute of Certified Planners, all of whom have served as directors and senior level staff members for a variety of local government planning organizations. In addition to land use planning services, our firm provides contracted planning and zoning administration services, code enforcement, digital mapping and grant administration for municipal and county government clients.
- GOLD**

**The Brick Industry Association, Southeast**

The Brick Industry Association, Southeast is a trade association representing 17 clay brick manufacturers that proudly serve a nine-state territory consisting of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee. Our mission is to promote brick as the preferred building material for home and commercial construction. The 17 member companies of the BIA-Southeastern Region produce more than half of the brick supply in the United States and represent both the largest and smallest brick manufacturers in the world. Toward that end, we offer a wide array of educational and technical services for homebuyers, builders, masons and architects, as well as a comprehensive educational program to advance the benefits of building with brick.
- GOLD**

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**Lawrence Group**

**GOLD**

Lawrence Group is an urban planning, building design, development and project delivery firm with offices in the Carolinas, Austin, New York, Philadelphia, and St. Louis. Founded in 1983, our mission – to help our clients realize their dreams – has remained consistent since our founding and remains the focus of everything we do. We are dedicated to the needs of public, private and non-profit clients that seek to strengthen their communities through sustainable planning. Our broad range of experience includes downtown master planning, historic renovation/preservation, remodeling and adaptive reuse, urban single-family, multi-family, mixed-use, form-based codes, streetscape and urban design, recreation and civic facilities.

**The Matheny-Burns Group**

**SILVER**

The Matheny-Burns Group is an award-winning planning and resource development firm serving local governments, regional and state agencies, nonprofits, K-12 and higher education, and service providers throughout the Southeast. Now in its 15<sup>th</sup> year, MBG offers experienced and knowledgeable assistance in the areas of comprehensive planning, targeted research and analysis, ordinance development and updates, housing and community development, special studies, grant writing, program evaluation, and facilitation. MBG has produced more than \$50 million in successfully funded grant proposals to federal, state, corporate and private sources. The Matheny-Burns Group is a female-owned and operated consulting firm with offices in Lexington, South Carolina and St. Simons Island, Georgia.

**Orion Planning Group**

**GOLD**

The Orion Planning Group consists of leading planners from across the country. Each of our partners has led a distinguished planning career for many years, including a strong component of local government experience. The firm was formed to bring together planners who know each other well, and have a common philosophy of planning and the business of consulting. The firm has a deep and abiding respect for the role of local government and the daily challenges faced by dedicated local staff and elected officials. We have interviewed, hired, and managed the work of consultants on behalf of the agencies we represented as local government planners, and now we are responsible for the production of high quality work as consultants.

**Toole Design Group**

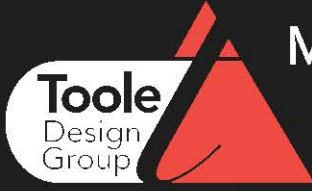
**GOLD**

Toole Design Group is the nation's leading engineering, planning, and landscape architecture firm specializing in multi-modal transportation. With offices throughout the United States, including South Carolina, we have a reputation for developing cost-effective, practical solutions that move people efficiently, while improving the health and quality of life of communities. We create environments that meet the needs of all users, regardless of whether they ride a bike, walk, use a wheelchair, drive a car, or board a transit vehicle. This is more than something we do for a living – we live this philosophy on a daily basis. Over 80% of Toole Design Group staff bicycle, walk, and use transit to get to work each day.

**Turning Technologies**

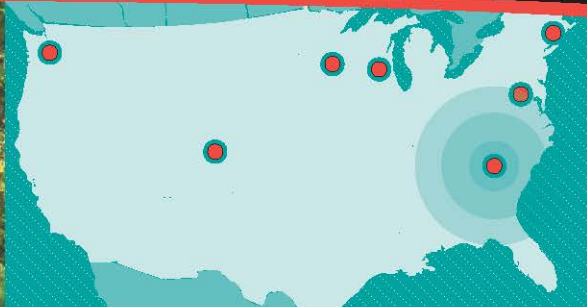
**SILVER**

Turning Technologies develops industry-leading response technology to create engaging, interactive environments. Polling software allows speakers to ask questions within presentations and receive immediate feedback. Participants respond with handheld keypads or web-enabled devices. Results display on screen and in detailed reports. Involve residents in planning or budgeting, prioritize issues, gather demographic data, reduce paper, conduct electronic voting and much more. Visit [TurningTechnologies.com](http://TurningTechnologies.com).



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Toole Design Group is pleased to announce that Ernie Boughman, AICP has joined the firm as our Southeast Regional Director. Ernie has over 18 years of experience in transportation and land use consulting, holding leadership roles in companies ranging in size from 10 to 56,000 employees. "Ernie is among the best project managers I've worked with," said Jennifer Toole, the firm's principal. "His focus on client service, along with his strong relationships throughout the region makes him a natural choice to lead our efforts in the Southeastern U.S. We're thrilled to have him on board!" Ernie will assist with Toole Design Group's growing body of work in the Southeast.

planning  
works!