



American Planning Association
Pennsylvania Chapter
Lehigh Valley-Berks Section

Monthly Newsletter

 **October 2025**

Welcome to Fall!

Hello planners:

Although summer has officially come to pass, the fall season returns once more, bringing its wonderful activities and holidays along with it. Make sure to visit the dozens of amazing fall harvests, farm tours, and celebrations across our three-county region to celebrate our great agricultural planning.

Our regional partners at LVPC and BCPC are also busy with several of their initiatives, including the [2025 Annual Awards Gala](#) and the [Imagine Berks Comprehensive Plan](#). Please visit their websites for more information on the exciting work happening at the county and regional level!

October also means that the APA Pennsylvania Annual Conference is around the corner! The conference runs October 12th to 14th at the Hilton Harrisburg. [Registration and hotel reservations are open now](#); act fast before time runs out! October 3rd is the last day to register.

Nominations for Section Council elections are due today! If you haven't already, [please click here to submit any last minute nominations](#), either for yourself or another worthy individual. Nominated individuals will be notified to accept by October 15th, after which ballots will be send out for 30 days.

If you have any questions, concerns, or anything you'd like to discuss, please feel free to reach out to me at craigbeavers24@gmail.com. Otherwise, I'll see you in our next newsletter!

Craig Beavers, AICP Candidate

Section Chair



 **News and Announcements**

2025 APA PA Conference in Harrisburg

The 2025 Conference is only a few days away! With dozens of excellent CM credit opportunities, mobile workshops, and networking events, this will be a great event you don't want to miss! The deadline for last-minute registration is October 3rd, so make sure you are signed up!

LVB will be putting together a raffle basket for the annual Scholarship Raffle, showcasing local items from the Lehigh Valley and Berks County. If you would like to donate an item, [please fill out this form](#).

We will also gather to take a LVB Section photo on Monday evening at 5pm with all those in attendance. We will meet near the registration table within the convention center.

Section Council Officer Meeting

The Section Council officers will be meeting on [Wednesday, October 22nd at 9pm, hosted virtually on Microsoft Teams.](#)

Unlike traditional Full Section Meetings, this will be geared towards discussing section business and work sessions, without any open updates from our planning partners. The meeting is open to anyone interested in attending.

To add this meeting to your calendar, please download the calendar link here: [Calendar Invite](#)

Section Council Elections

Nominations for Section Council election are due by the end of today! Please consider volunteering to serve our local section in planning for events, education, and the betterment of planning on our community!

Anyone can submit a nomination for any of the positions up for election, either for yourself or for another. Additional information about each position is available on the nomination form.

- **Section Chair**
- **Section Vice Chair**
- **Section Secretary**
- **Section Treasurer**
- **Section Council (Professional Planner) (Up to 3)**
- **Section Council (Planning Commissioner/Official) (Up to 2)**

Once all nominations are received, an official ballot will be released for 30 days between October 15th and November 15th. Winners will be announced shortly after.

To fill out a nomination, please click the link below:

[Nomination Form](#)

2026 APA PA Conference in Bethlehem

We are thrilled to share that we will be hosting the 2026 APA Pennsylvania State Conference right here in our Section! It will be held from Sunday, October 18th through Tuesday, October 20th at Wind Creek Bethlehem. Professional planners and planning volunteers from all over the commonwealth will be flocking to our region, and we hope you will be one of them!

To help plan this major event, we will be forming a Conference Planning Committee. This committee will help organize the selection of the theme, review keynote speakers, and help frame the overall coordination of the conference. Commitment involves a few meetings over the next year, and help in various

subgroups like awards planning, social events planning, speaker selection, etc. Participants are also eligible for discounted registration rates to the conference. [Here is a document providing a more detailed outline of the responsibilities and timeline.](#)

Anyone can volunteer, whether you are an active section member, someone who just reads the minutes or newsletters, or even if you aren't a member or a planner! It takes a team to organize our conference and promote planning in the Lehigh Valley and Berks County, so we are looking for any and all help!

If you are interested or would like more information, please click the link below:

[Click Here to Volunteer](#)

Upcoming Events

Our Section provides a calendar of CM events, local initiatives, and major planning meetings. Here are a few upcoming events of note:

- October 1 - Section Council Nominations Close
- [October 3 - Hot Topic: Reimagining Heat Hazard Mitigation Through Art and Technology \(1.5 CM, 1 SR\)](#)
- October 12 - 2025 APA PA Conference
- October 22 - Section Council Officers Meeting

To view more events and CM webinars, click the button below.

[View More Events](#)

Employment Opportunities

Our Section highlights a variety of planning and planning related jobs in our area. Here are a few open positions:

- [Zoning Officer - South Whitehall Township](#)
- [Zoning Administrator - City of Reading](#)
- [Senior Community & Regional Planner - Lehigh Valley Planning Commission](#)
- [Senior Transportation Planner - Lehigh Valley Planning Commission](#)
- [Community & Regional Planner - Lehigh Valley Planning Commission](#)

To view more job opportunities, click the button below.

[View More Jobs](#)

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**Lehigh Valley/Berks Section,
APA PA**

Allentown, PA

United States of America



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