SCAPA Executive Committee proposes changes to bylaws

By John Danford
SCAPA Secretary/Treasurer

An amendment to the SCAPA bylaws requires the consent of the majority of membership and may be proposed by the Executive Committee or by a petition signed by five percent of the Chapter membership.

At the annual retreat of the SCAPA Executive Committee in December 2013, there was discussion regarding the term succession clause (in bold below) that keeps the Secretary/Treasurer and members-at-large from serving consecutive terms. The argument was made that continuity in these positions, allowing for consecutive terms, would serve the membership better in that if re-elected, those holding these positions would “hit the ground running” in their second term. Additionally, there have been instances in the past where members of the Executive Committee desired a second term but were unable to serve because of the clause. The basic question is, if someone is willing to serve, why would we deprive them of that opportunity if they are duly elected by the membership?

Section 3.11 (Officers) of the South Carolina Chapter of the American Planning Association states: The terms of office shall be two years, excluding the President-Elect, who will serve two years as President-Elect and then two years as President. Terms of office of all

Continued on page 9
I am starting this column with an apology. This is the longest message I have written to date, and I hope it doesn’t become a trend. There is just so much information to share, and I wanted to keep you up to date on what your Executive Committee has been doing.

As noted in the winter issue, the Chapter’s 2013-14 Strategic Plan (available at www.scapa.org) outlines several new initiatives and BIG IDEAS. We have started the year with a bang by making significant progress on the following:

• **Establish need-based conference scholarships for Chapter members.** We awarded our first travel scholarship at the $750 level to Kelly Mezzapelle to help her attend the national APA conference in Atlanta. We will offer a total of five $150 scholarships to attend the summer and fall conferences.

• **Provide financial assistance to SC planning students to attend SCAPA conferences.** We offered two student scholarships and discount registration for students at the winter conference in Charleston resulting in more than 20 students in attendance. Four more student scholarships are available for upcoming conferences.

• **Outreach for College of Charleston planning students.** We held the winter conference at C of C and worked closely with Professor Kevin Keenan to make opportunities available for students to attend and participate. This was an amazing first step and promises to be a long-term relationship.

• **Funding operation for Clemson student chapter.** We disbursed our annual commitment of $2,000 to support the student chapter. This stable source of funding allows the students to attend planning conferences at the state and national levels. In exchange, website maintenance duties and participation at SCAPA conferences are provided by the students.

• **Extend invitation to the Prince’s Foundation for Building Community to participate at the 2014 fall conference.** We have had a favorable response from our invitation and plans are underway to include the community engagement concepts from the Prince’s Foundation as part of our annual conference.

• **Record conference sessions for use as satellite symposia.** We recorded the winter conference sessions and plan to make them available for members to use as a source of content for state credit continuing education (CM is not an option at this point). This will likely be easier to manage and distribute after the website upgrades are in place.

• **Conduct annual financial audit/ review for previous fiscal year.** Our financial review was completed by accounting firm Burkett Burkett & Bukett CPA, PA, and no adverse conditions were noted. We finished 2013 in the black and have a positive outlook for 2014.

Priority projects for the second quarter include:

• **Co-host reception at APA National Conference for Chapter members.** We have partnered again with the Mid-Atlantic Chapters and Schools to provide a social/networking reception on Monday, April 28, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at Der Biergarten, 300 Marietta Street, Atlanta.

• **Sponsor high school contest to promote the planning profession to students in SC.** We need a small team (4-5) to get this idea off the ground before the new school year starts in August. Please e-mail me at rmoody@catawbacog.org if you are interested in participating.

• **Maintain and expand Chapter website.** Website upgrades are needed to refresh the look of the site and provide opportunities for members-only content. We have budgeted $5,475 for this effort and are looking for a small team to lead this effort. Please e-mail our new Communications Officer, Andrea Harris-Long, at Aharris-long@charlestoncounty.org if you are interested in participating.

• **Amend Chapter By-laws term limit language.** This amendment provides the option for existing members of the Executive Committee to seek re-election for a second term. This provision does not

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NATIONAL NEWS

APA to have new Chief Executive Officer

By Rodger Lentz
APA Board of Directors, Region 2

The national planning conference is quickly approaching, and I am really looking forward to being in Atlanta at the end of April. I hear that the local host committee is ready to show us what Atlanta is all about! Thank you for your hard work. If you haven't registered, I hope you will make plans to attend. Whether you want to learn about brownfields, transit, economic development, neighborhood revitalization, the Atlanta Beltline, or other planning best practices, the Atlanta conference has a lot to offer. If you want to spend even more time in Georgia, consider registering for the post conference trip to Savannah, one of my favorite places to visit.

As was announced late last year, longtime APA CEO Paul Farmer, FAICP, is retiring. The APA Board has been hard at work developing a selection process and attracting top candidates for this opportunity. We have reached out to chapter, division, and student leaders and the AICP Commission to help us learn what qualities we should look for in our next CEO. The Board has also met with APA staff to learn where they think the organization can go over the next decade. Between now and this summer, applicants will be vetted and interviews held. We hope to announce Paul's successor early this summer.

Several task forces have been established by APA President, Bill Anderson, FAICP and endorsed by the Board of Directors. Many will be holding sessions at the Atlanta conference to share their work. They include:

The Emerging Issues Task Force continues after its initial creation by Mitch Silver, AICP and will identify emerging planning issues in the spans of 5, 20, and 50 years into the future.

The Consumers of Planning/Engaged Citizens Task Force is charged to develop a strategy for APA to meaningfully engage citizens who are not professional planners through programs and electronic communications.

The People and Places Task Force will develop an AP strategy for addressing changing demographics and how communities can best accommodate these trends.

The Legislative and Policy Committee along with academics, practitioners and citizens will develop a policy paper on Aging Population and Hazard Mitigation.

The City Planning and Management Division will lead an effort titled “The Planning Agency of the Future” and will develop models that will include information on technology impacts; services required; differentiations for large and small communities; firms of all sizes; and fiscal implications.

A report on Smart Cities and Sustainability will be developed jointly by the Sustainable Communities, Transportation, and Technology Divisions that will highlight the use of information technology to further more sustainable and resilient cities and regions.

A white paper on Planning for Economic Development, which outlines the history and tradition of planning for economic development, will be prepared jointly by the Economic Development and Housing and Community Development Divisions.

A Retired Member Task Force is working on development of a strategy for retaining retired planners as members so that they can provide value to the organization through volunteerism, mentoring, and teaching.

A Water Task Force will prepare a report with

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LEGISLATIVE NEWS

Local Government Fund again a top priority

By Andrea Pietras, SCAPA Director-At-Large

It’s that time again...the 2\textsuperscript{nd} regular session of the 120\textsuperscript{th} General Assembly of South Carolina began on January 14, 2014, and there are plenty of planning related bills to watch. The Solid Waste Flow Control bill (H. 3290 and S. 203), which affects a County’s authority to address their responsibilities regarding the disposal of solid waste, and the state budget will most likely be the top priorities of the legislature this session. The SCAPA Legislative Committee will continue to track these and other planning related legislation and provide updates to the membership. This article gives a recap of the 2013 session, followed by a description of the legislative priorities of both the Municipal Association of South Carolina (MASC) and the South Carolina Association of Counties (SCAC) that includes legislative status updates as of March 13, 2014.

Recap of the 2013 Legislative Session

The Municipal Association of South Carolina tracked more than 380 bills during the 2013 legislative session. More than 20 of those bills passed the House and Senate. For a complete list of passed bills which impact local jurisdictions, visit www.masc.sc (keyword: legislative tracking). Listed below are some of the planning related bills:

- **Suspension of certain governmental approval processes (H. 3774, R123):** Suspends certain government permits, to include local building permits, affecting the development of real property within the state from January 1, 2013, to December 31, 2017. The conference report removed language that affects SCDHEC – Ocean and Coastal Resource Management permits.
- **Video gaming illegal (S3, R7, A5):** Clarifies that video poker is illegal. Passed early in the session to end the debate over Internet sweepstakes, this bill clarifies that special events and activities currently allowed under South Carolina law are not an exception to the prohibition against the illegal types of machines and devices.
- **Definitions in the State General Obligation Economic Development Bond Act (S. 610, R87, A73):** Clarifies that the definition of an economic development project includes a facility allowing specific events which is adjacent to a national and international convention and trade show center owned by a public entity.

MASC Planning Related Legislative Priorities

The Municipal Association of South Carolina provided the SCAPA Legislative Committee with a list of their 2014 legislative priorities, which include:

- **Freedom of Information Act changes (H. 3163):** Changes the time period to answer a Freedom of Information Act request, the cost to answer the request, and increases fines for violation of the law. The bill made it out of the House Judiciary

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Summer internships sought

By Cliff Ellis, Ph.D., MCRP Program Director

Accreditation

A Site Visit Team selected by the Planning Accreditation Board reviewed the Clemson MCRP Program on February 8-11. The Site Visit Team had already reviewed the program’s Self-Study Report thoroughly during the preceding months.

During the site visit, they met with program faculty, university administrators, students, alumni, SCAPA representatives, and employers. Clemson’s MCRP Program would like to thank SCAPA for its strong support of the program, which is an essential criterion for accreditation.

We would also like to thank the alumni, employers, and other professionals who participated in the site visit. Positive connections with the professional planning community are critical for the MCRP Program, and we will continue to foster those connections in the coming years.

A draft of the Site Visit Report is being reviewed by the MCRP faculty. The final Site Visit Report will be issued within the next few weeks. The final PAB decision about accreditation will not occur until November of this year.

Summer Internships

A summer internship is a required part of the MCRP curriculum for those students who do not already have professional experience. If any agencies or firms have summer internship opportunities, please contact Cliff Ellis.

Public Service Assistantships (PSA)

We have a small first-year class this year due to a large number of deferred admissions and will not be able to provide students to fill as many PSA positions in 2014-15 as we usually do, which is in the 11-15 range. However, we will need those PSAs for 2015-16 when we expect to have a full complement of students once again. The PSAs are the critical form of financial aid for our second-year students, providing both a tuition reduction and a stipend. In this situation, we urge agencies and firms to maintain their funding for Public Service Assistantships across the 2014-15 academic year so that it is still available for the 2015-16 academic year. The lower number of students should be viewed as a temporary situation, and we want to be ready to provide as many PSAs as we can for the second-year students in August of 2015.

If you have any questions about this, please contact Cliff Ellis.

Change of Leadership for Student Chapter

With respect to our entering class for Fall 2014, we have commitments from entering students with the possibility of adding several more. We look forward to reporting the actual entering group in the next newsletter.

The student chapter has elected new leadership: Grant Sparks is President; Peter Wearstler is Vice President; Blakely Jarrett is Treasurer; Mengji Han is Media Chair; and David Webb is Social Chair.

I would like to offer special thanks to this year’s student chapter leadership as they head out into the world of professional practice: Chris Clauson, Jacoby Elrod, Courtney O’Neill, Heather Peterson, Sam Rubin, and Julia Zweifel. They did an excellent job of coordinating events over the past year including the Southeastern Student Planning Conference in conjunction with the Fall 2013 SCAPA conference at the Downtown Marriott in Spartanburg.
Two SCAPA members to become FAICP

Nocks and Rhea selected for prestigious program

Two members of SCAPA were recently selected to become Fellows of the American Institute of Certified Planners (FAICP). They will be induced during a special program at the National Conference in Atlanta.

Barry Nocks

SCAPA nominated Barry Nocks for the program, and is honored that he was selected. He is professor emeritus in the Graduate Program in City & Regional Planning at Clemson University, having previously served as professor, Director of the MCRP program, Associate Dean for Research & Outreach of the College of Architecture, Arts and Humanities and director of the Center for Community Growth and Change during his 35 years at Clemson.

He currently serves on the Planning Accreditation Board, the organization that accredits professional planning programs in the US as well as the Board of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning. In Greenville, he has served on the City Planning Commission, is currently chair of the City’s Design Review Board and has been active in regional efforts in the Upstate since 2006, currently serving on the TATT Board of Directors. He has also been engaged as a consultant and volunteer with a variety of public and private organizations in the Carolinas and throughout the country including: the National Rural Development Partnership, SCAPA, SC Planning Academy and the SC ULI Leaders Institute.

Carol Rhea

Carol Rhea now lives in Alabama and was nominated for this honor by her home chapter. She lived in South Carolina for much of her professional career and has been an active SCAPA member for many years.

Carol has more than 25 years of experience in a variety of public and private sector planning positions. She is a founding partner of the Orion Planning Group (OPG), a firm that serves clients from coast to coast. Prior to founding OPG, she created and staffed Rhea Consulting and served as the Assistant Director of Planning and Development Services for York County, SC, the Director of Planning and Development for Monroe, NC, a community development planner for the NC Division of Community Assistance, and as a regional planner for the Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council. Carol is past president of the NC chapter of APA. She served two terms as the Region II Director on the APA Board of Directors from 2004-12.
From Eco Districts to Voluntary “Ag” Ordinances, Charleston area has a lot going on

By Ernie Boughman
SCAPA President-Elect

On Friday, February 21st, more than 130 planners, landscape architects, architects, local government board and commission members, and students attended the South Carolina Chapter of the American Planning Association (SCAPA) Winter 2014 Conference at the College of Charleston. It was an informative day of presentations, questions and answers, and networking with colleagues.

The morning began with the session “Eco Districts – A New Planning Tool.” Tim Kean, Director of Planning, Preservation, and Sustainability for the City of Charleston presented an overview of Eco Districts and its application in the Upper Peninsula of Charleston. The second session of the day, “Innovative Public Engagement” was a favorite among attendees. Christiane Farrell, Kelly Cousino, and Chris Haynes, all from the Town of Mount Pleasant's Department of Planning and Development, outlined a variety of innovative ways to engage the public. One attendee summarized the benefit of this session in saying, “It was a practical how-to guide and that is what sessions should be. How do I apply this to my jurisdiction?”

Following a “your choice” lunch of either outdoor grill favorites or Lowcountry specialties, attendees settled back in for “Historic Preservation in South Carolina.” This panel discussion was moderated by Charleston County’s Andrea Harris-Long and included Brad Sauls and Elizabeth Johnson with SC Department of Archives and History, Adam Emrick with Horry County, Madelyn Robinson from the Town of Summerville, and Dan Pennick of Charleston County. The combined contributions of each provided a well-rounded and informative cross section of historic preservation efforts and programs in South Carolina. The final session, “Charleston County Preservation and Sustainability Projects: Housing Needs Assessment and Voluntary Agricultural and Forestal Areas Ordinance” was presented by Andrea Pietras and Andrea Harris-Long and moderated by Dan Pennick, all members of Charleston County's Zoning and Planning Department.

A number of attendees enjoyed some time in Charleston following the conference and gathered for

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## NEW SCAPA MEMBERS

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Deidre Carr</td>
<td>Student</td>
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<td>Jessica Kesten</td>
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<td>Todd Steadman</td>
<td>City of Clemson</td>
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<td>Jenny Horne</td>
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<td>Chris Bailey</td>
<td>Student</td>
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<td>Kevin Mitchell</td>
<td>Town of Mt. Pleasant</td>
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<td>Benjamin Brown</td>
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<td>Carla Delaney</td>
<td>City of Aiken</td>
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<td>Brandon White</td>
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<td>Colleen Barrett</td>
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<td>Jennie Gordon</td>
<td>American Planning Association</td>
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<td>Erin Sutherland</td>
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<td>Jason Vance</td>
<td>Catawba Regional COG</td>
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<td>Crystal Ocean</td>
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<td>Regina Pencile</td>
<td>Lower Savannah COG</td>
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<td>Erin Schumacher</td>
<td>Town of Bluffton</td>
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<td>Lubov Radtke</td>
<td>Student</td>
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<td>Eric Johnson</td>
<td>Greenville County</td>
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<td>Pamela Yee</td>
<td>American Planning Association</td>
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<td>Steven Eames</td>
<td>Caerus Associates</td>
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<td>Eric Larson</td>
<td>Beaufort County</td>
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<td>Synithia Williams</td>
<td>Lexington County</td>
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<td>Jerry Dudley</td>
<td>City of Florence</td>
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<td>Jennifer McAlister</td>
<td>Trehel corporation</td>
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<td>Zachary Burt</td>
<td>Student</td>
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## NEW AICP RECIPIENTS FROM NOVEMBER 2013

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<tr>
<td>Marshall Brown</td>
<td>Pickens County</td>
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<td>Joel Monsma</td>
<td>Carter Goble Lee</td>
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<td>Daniel Newquist</td>
<td>Waccamaw Reg. COG</td>
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<td>Alison Rowland Simmons</td>
<td>Dorchester County</td>
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## NEW FAICP MEMBERS

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<tr>
<td>Dr. Barry Nocks</td>
<td>Clemson University</td>
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<td>Carol Rhea</td>
<td>Orion Group</td>
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### INTERESTED IN JOINING SCAPA’S YOUNG PROFESSIONALS GROUP?

Contact John Danford at danfordj@horrycounty.org

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### Winter Conference

**Continued from last page**

the Networking Social at the King Street Grill. During the conference attendees were challenged to take photos and post them to the conference smartphone app. The best photo/photographer would be awarded with a free registration to the SCAPA 2014 Summer Conference. Congratulations to Jenny Werking of Charleston County for winning the competition. Her winning photo is showcased on the previous page; others are below and on the cover.

Many thanks to the College of Charleston for hosting the SCAPA 2014 Winter Conference and to the organizational efforts of the Local Host Committee: Kevin Keenan (Co-Chair), Andrea Pietras (Co-Chair), Christian Farrell, Andrea Harris-Long, and Amy Southerland. Plan now to attend the SCAPA 2014 Summer Conference in Rock Hill on Wednesday, July 16th. You will not want to miss it!

Historic Charleston. Photo courtesy Jenny Werking.
Bylaws

Continued from page 1

officers shall begin at the Fall Chapter Meeting in even numbered calendar years or on December 15, whichever is sooner. Officers shall hold office until their successors have been elected and installed. The President, President-Elect, Secretary/Treasurer, and three members-at-large of the Executive Committee shall be elected for a two-year term and may not succeed themselves in the same office without the passage of an intervening term.

The Executive Committee attracts individuals committed to furthering our shared objectives, and sometimes these individuals are willing to serve more than two years. The time and energy invested in learning operational intricacies is substantial during the first year of service. An amendment to Section 3.11 would increase efficiency in that those returning have an intimate knowledge of their role in the organization. This equates to a higher level of service to the membership. Additionally, those who desire to serve can continue to do so when duly elected by the membership.

The Executive Committee proposes the following change to Section 3.11:

The President and President-Elect, Secretary/Treasurer, and three members-at-large of the Executive Committee shall be elected for a two-year term and may not succeed themselves in the same office without the passage of an intervening term. The Secretary/Treasurer and three members-at-large shall not serve more than two consecutive terms in office without the passage of an intervening term.

Electronic ballots for the bylaw amendment will be sent to membership on or about May 1, 2014, in an attempt to get the amendment passed before the election cycle begins this summer so that individuals currently serving, if they so choose, can run for a second term. Questions regarding this amendment should be directed to Robby Moody rmood@catawbacog.org. If any member would like a copy of the current bylaws, they are available at http://www.scapa.org/aboutSCAPA.htm#Bylaws.

I want to take this opportunity to thank two tireless members of the Executive Committee who are transitioning out of their roles. Wayne Shuler has served as Professional Development Officer since 2011, and Leah Youngblood has served as Communications Officer since 2012. I will personally miss their diligence and dedication to the Chapter as well as their positive, can-do attitudes.

As a Chapter of the American Planning Association, SCAPA is very active and responsive to our members. In fact, our programs and conferences rival much larger Chapters with more resources. I am proud to serve as your President and look forward to an exciting year.

Robby Moody, AICP

President’s Message

Continued from page 2

apply to President or President-Elect. In accordance with our By-laws, the membership will be asked to vote on this matter via electronic ballot. (See related story on page 1.)

• Conduct biannual elections. This is election year in South Carolina and the nominating committee led by Ernie Boughman will soon be soliciting candidates for President-Elect, Secretary-Treasurer and three Directors-at-Large. In order to best represent the membership, we need a variety of candidates (e.g. age, gender, public/private sector). Please seriously consider serving in a leadership role and reach out to a current member of the Executive Committee if you have questions about what goes on behind the scenes (contact information on the final page).
National news

Continued from page 3

recommendations regarding water and planning, both for the U.S. and globally.

The AICP Commission will lead a broad-based initiative to identify the “core competencies” of planners with engagement of members of the Academy and others. A forum is planned at the Atlanta conference to hear member ideas.

Several of these efforts will report their findings at the Atlanta conference. Look for sessions in the conference program. Others will continue their work through 2015. Hopefully you will find the work of these task forces beneficial to you whether you are a member of a planning commission, an elected official, a practicing planner, or a planning student.

We have had quite the winter across Region 2! Spring in Atlanta brings great weather and this year a chance to learn from planning practitioners from across the country. I hope you will join us. I look forward to seeing you there.

I’ll be tweeting about the conference and other planning topics, you can follow me @lentztweet.

Legislative session

Continued from page 4

committee but was recommitted to the committee for further study.

- Dilapidated buildings:
  Challenge: Dilapidated buildings are unsafe and create a dangerous environment that thwarts economic development opportunities for surrounding areas. These properties diminish surrounding property values and create a financial and economic drain on community resources. Cities have few options available to them to remove dilapidated buildings. When private property owners refuse to take responsibility for their property, it becomes a town’s burden to remove a dilapidated building by using scarce taxpayer money. Often, cities are unable to afford to remove dilapidated buildings, prolonging the suffering and decline of surrounding properties.
  Solution: The Dilapidated Buildings Act provides an opportunity for private and nonprofit businesses to invest in the local economy and create jobs by returning derelict properties to productive use. The Dilapidated Buildings Act protects property rights and saves taxpayer money because the marketplace gets a chance to work in areas of cities that have been neglected.

- Dependable revenue sources:
  Challenge: Residents and business owners in cities and towns expect services and infrastructure that support a healthy local economy, provide safe neighborhoods and business districts, and offer a positive quality of life. To meet these expectations, local leaders need dependable revenue sources to invest in police and fire protection, utility infrastructure, downtown and neighborhood revitalization, public spaces and recreation.
  Solution: Ensure all revenue collected by the state on behalf of local governments is returned to local governments through the statutorily funded Local Government Fund. Local governments depend on the Local Government Fund as a stable revenue source to provide services, infrastructure, and programs that residents and business owners demand.

- Quality Transportation and Infrastructure Maintenance:
  Challenge: Residents and business owners expect cities and towns to provide transportation systems that meet the demands of the community and ensure roads are safe and well maintained.
  Solution: Bring together local and state leaders and experts to develop long-term and stable funding sources for roads, bridges and infrastructure maintenance, improvements and expansion.

SC Association of Counties’ Planning Related Legislative Priorities

The South Carolina Association of Counties (SCAC) also provided the SCAPA Legislative Committee with a list of their 2014 legislative priorities, which include:

- Local Government Fund: Support the existing statutory formula for funding of the Local Government Fund and the full funding of that formula.

- Freedom of Information Act (H. 3163): Support

Continued on next page
disclosure of local government actions through citizen access to public records. SCAC believes the FOI Act adequately provides such access. Support efforts to maintain the current statutes regarding the FOI Act. The bill made it out of the House Judiciary committee but was recommitted to the committee for further study.

- **Ethics Reform (S. 338, H. 3772, H. 3945):** Continue to monitor for any amendments to the bills that would adversely affect counties. H. 3945 was read for the third time and returned to the House with amendments on Feb. 27, 2014.

- **Gambling and Lotteries (S. 779):** Support legislation to amend Chapter 19 of Title 16 of the SC Code of Laws relating to gambling and lotteries to make these games of chance legal if conducted in a social setting such as a private residence or as part of a club or some other social organization. The bill was referred to subcommittee on Feb. 11, 2014.

- **Public Body Lobbying (H. 3152):** SCAC provides a valuable service to the counties through its lobbying efforts as county officials are often unable to educate and inform the General Assembly in real time on the effects of proposed legislation on the counties. Oppose legislation that would prohibit individual counties and/or SCAC from lobbying the state legislature on behalf of the counties. The bill was referred to the Committee on Judiciary on Jan. 8, 2013.

- **Municipal Annexation and Adhesion Contracts (S. 723, H. 4265, H. 4125, H. 4131, H. 4124):** Support legislation that would require all municipal annexation, including enclave annexation, by referendum as follows:
  - Municipality must pass a Resolution of Consideration, identifying the area under consideration for annexation. The total area cannot exceed 25 acres.
  - A year after the Resolution of Consideration is adopted, the municipality must adopt a Resolution of Intent, describing the boundaries for the area to be annexed. It must also hold a public hearing and prepare a report outlining the plan for providing services to the annexed property.
  - Property owners in the area to be annexed vote in a referendum on the question of annexation. All costs for conducting a referendum are to be paid by the municipality.
  - If the referendum is in favor of annexation, municipality must then pass an annexation ordinance. If the referendum fails, municipality must wait three years before making another attempt to annex the property.
  - Property owners may file a writ of mandamus if the municipality fails to provide services as outlined in their annexation report.
  - If county determines municipality has not provided services as agreed, the municipality may not count the population addition from annexation for purposes of receiving state, federal, or county dollars distributed based on population until all the services are provided.
  - Upon annexation, county revenue from business licenses, franchise fees, and local option sales tax shall be held harmless in the same manner as local hospitality and local accommodation taxes.
  - When a municipality annexes property in a county that has a land use or zoning policy and the municipality density allowance or regulations allow for a greater density than the county allows, then the density requirements and land use plan of the county must remain in place for specified period of time after annexation occurs.

Note: S. 723 was referred to subcommittee on Jan. 31, 2014; H. 4265 was referred to the Committee on Judiciary on May 30, 2013; H. 4125 was referred to the Committee on Judiciary on May 15, 2013; H. 4131 was referred to the Committee on Labor, Commerce and Industry on May 15, 2013; and H. 4124 was referred to the Committee on Medical, Military, Public and Municipal Affairs on May 15, 2013.

- **Eminent Domain and Land Use Regulation (S. 656 and H. 3894):** Oppose legislation that restricts local government’s eminent domain powers; restricts the use or transfer of public land acquired through condemnation; or requires counties to pay compensation when lawful land use regulations affect land values. H. 656 and H. 3894 were referred to the Committee on Judiciary on Apr. 25, 2013 and May 7, 2013, respectively.

Continued on next page
Legislative session

Continued from last page

- **Form-Based Zoning (no legislation was introduced in 2013):** Support legislation specifically authorizing form-based zoning within the Local Government Comprehensive Planning Enabling Act.

- **Public Nuisance Property (H. 3288):** Support legislation to authorize county governments to more timely collect funds and place liens on private property for cleanup or repair of public nuisances in the same manner currently authorized for municipalities. The bill was referred to the Committee on Medical, Military, Public and Municipal Affairs on Jan. 10, 2013.

- ** Receiverships (no legislation was introduced in 2013):** Support legislation authorizing court-ordered receiverships of hazardous properties, provided that the priority of ad valorem tax collection is not compromised by any new receivership property disposition rules.

- **Solid Waste Flow Control (S. 203 and H. 3290):** Oppose legislative efforts to undermine counties’ authority to address their responsibilities regarding the disposal of solid waste. S. 203 and H. 3290 were referred to the Committee on Medical Affairs on Jan. 9, 2013 and Jan. 31, 2013, respectively.

- **Coastal Zone Management Act/Stormwater Drainage (no legislation was introduced in 2013):** Support measures to clarify the SC Coastal Management Act or DHEC regulations relating to "maintenance and repair" of drainage and sewer facilities or structures so that local governments can address flooding and stagnant water problems that pose unnecessary costs and serious public health concerns like West Nile Virus.

- **Local Option Motor Fuel Fee/Road Maintenance (S. 149):** Support legislation authorizing a local option motor fuel user fee that would provide counties with a local option funding mechanism for road maintenance that would operate similar to the capital project sales tax mechanism. The bill was referred to the Committee on Finance on Jan. 8, 2013.

- **Road Funding:** Support legislation to provide for permanent solutions to the problem of the failing statewide road system, and support increasing funding and flexibility for SCDOT and counties to address maintenance needs for existing roads and the construction of new roads. However, SCAC would oppose any proposal that jeopardizes existing revenue streams and mechanisms.

**In Conclusion…**

As you can see, there is a lot of legislation to watch this session. Both the South Carolina Association of Counties and the Municipal Association of South Carolina provide a number of tools to involve the public in the legislative process.

The **South Carolina Association of Counties** prepares the *Friday Report* each Friday during the legislative session to provide detailed information on legislation that affects county governments along with a forum for discussion of legislation. *Friday Reports* can be accessed on-line at [http://www.sccounties.org/legislation/friday-reports/default.aspx](http://www.sccounties.org/legislation/friday-reports/default.aspx). The South Carolina Association of Counties also utilizes its Legislative Alerts to provide notifications of impending actions on bills and Technical Bulletins that address the impacts of laws and Supreme Court decisions.

The **Municipal Association of South Carolina** provides a legislative tracking system that allows for detailed searching and tracking of daily legislative activities and prepares a weekly legislative report called *From the Dome to Your Home*. The legislative tracking system can be found on-line at [http://www.ciclt.net/sn/leg/l_main.aspx?ClientCode=masc&L_Session=&L_Prior=&L_State=sc&StateName=South%20Carolina](http://www.ciclt.net/sn/leg/l_main.aspx?ClientCode=masc&L_Session=&L_Prior=&L_State=sc&StateName=South%20Carolina) and *From the Dome to Your Home* can be accessed on-line at [http://www.masc.sc/legislative/dome/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.masc.sc/legislative/dome/Pages/default.aspx).

The American Planning Association provides information on federal legislation on their blog ([blogs.planning.org/policy](http://blogs.planning.org/policy)) and on Twitter (@APA_Planning). The SCAPA Executive Committee will continue to monitor and provide updates on planning related legislation. In addition, we encourage our members to utilize the tools provided by the South Carolina Association of Counties, the Municipal Association of South Carolina, and the American Planning Association.

Information provided by the Municipal Association of South Carolina and the South Carolina Association of Counties.
The theme for the 2014 Forest Resource Institute is Green Infrastructure: Building Great Communities. Designed for planners and landscape architects who work for city and county governments, the Institute seeks participants responsible for writing and enforcing tree and landscape ordinances and developing comprehensive plans. The Institute is open to civil engineers and participants that have urban tree management responsibility.

‘Green infrastructure includes all the interconnected natural systems in a landscape, such as intact forests, woodlands, wetlands, parks and rivers, or agricultural soils that provide clean water, air quality, wildlife habitat and food. These resources also support our economy. By considering these natural systems as ‘infrastructure’, we can begin to assign appropriate values to them and include them in planning decisions about how, when and where to grow.’ Karen Firehock, Director of the Green Infrastructure Center, will show how these resources can be connected from the region, to the county, city, town, or site scale and why it’s important to think at multiple scales when making decisions about natural resource management.

Stephen Luoni will discuss ‘Using Low Impact Development to Create Great Public Spaces’ and lead a hands-on design exercise. Luoni is Director of the University of Arkansas Community Design Center (UACDC) where he directed production of UACDC’s award-winning book: Low Impact Development: a design manual for urban areas. The manual presents a graphic argument, illustrating the application of ecologically-based stormwater treatment technologies in urban contexts.

Other presentations include Integrating Conservation into Suburban Growth Management; Rivers, Streams and Wetlands; The Benefits of Sustainable Forestry; Greening an Urban Campus: USC tour; Shandon Stormwater Project: Green Infrastructure for City Streets; Low Impact Development: Benefits for Sites and Clients; and Planting in Stormwater Facilities.

Meals and hotel stay are included in the $115 registration fee. For more information, visit www.trees.sc.gov/fri.htm or contact Frances Waite at 843-209-7436.
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Additionally, when you sponsor a SCAPA conference, you will meet others from the private sector, with whom you might be able to partner on projects in the future. Twenty percent of SCAPA’s members—90 people—work in the private sector.

Planning professionals from all regions of South Carolina, as well as from North Carolina, Georgia, and beyond come together at SCAPA’s three annual conferences. For conference sponsorship information, contact Andrea Harris-Long (contact information below).

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Did you know that you can advertise in the Palmetto Planner and on the SCAPA Web site for one low amount? The newsletter and Web site both provide information about current planning topics, chapter conferences and activities, and job opportunities.

Advertisement space in the Palmetto Planner (four issues) and the SCAPA Web site, www.scapa.org, is available for $200 per year.

Andrea Harris-Long: 843-202-7203 or aharris-long@charlestoncounty.org

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