



2008

TEXAS

EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

**A Guide
to Urban
Planning
in Texas
Communities**

Preface

The Texas APA Short Course for Planning Commissioners and Local Officials is one of the oldest continuing annual Chapter training programs. The idea for the Short Course was brought to Texas from California by Bob Cornish, a Texas A&M University planning professor. Cornish chaired the first task force assigned to implement the program, and William Telford, a San Antonio consultant, served as Coordinator. A faculty of nine was gathered and the first Short Course was held November 21, 1971. Seven general sessions were held, concluding with five concurrent sessions.

From 1971 to 1998 the Short Course was administered by the Education Foundation. Since 1998 the program has been supported by the Chapter's Board of Directors and implemented by the Chapter's Executive Administrator. The training program has grown over the years to include a basic track for newly appointed commission members and an advance track with more specialized topics. The program has been renamed "Planning 101". Regional training workshops have been held since 1998 in various locations throughout the State in partnership with the Texas Association of Regional Councils in addition to the Chapter's annual conference. These regional workshops provide commissioners and planners an opportunity to attend training sessions closer to home.

The Guidebook is an outgrowth of the Short Course and includes a series of articles written by professional planners in the Texas Chapter. The information provides an opportunity for the reader to become more aware of the issues that Commissioners and elected officials face in carrying out their official duties as their community develops, and a resource to study. The authors are identified so that information can be shared and questions answered.

Four Chapters have been revised or are new. The revised Chapters are Chapter 1: *Introduction To Planning and Development Regulations*;(David Gattis, AICP) and Chapter 3: *Ethics and the Planning Commissioner*.(Carol Barrett, FAICP). The new Chapters are Chapter 18: *Introduction to Economic Development* (Greg Last, AICP) and Chapter 19: *Consensus Building and Dispute Resolution* (Karen Walz, AICP).

EDITOR'S NOTES TO THE 2012 ELECTRONIC VERSION OF THE 2008 EDITION: This electronic copy of the 2008 Edition of the Guide to Urban Planning in Texas Communities has been slightly revised to accommodate the electronic format approved by the Board of Directors of the Texas Chapter of the American Planning Association in 2012. Readers may select chapters individually, so the chapters have not been consecutively paginated, and due to repagination, page content may have slightly shifted. Minor edits have also been made to reflect current statutory citations where laws have been codified as part of the Texas Legislature's codification process.

A GUIDE TO URBAN PLANNING IN TEXAS COMMUNITIES—2008 ED.
<http://txplanningguide.utexas.org>

2008 Edition Table of Contents

Preface/Editor's Notes to Electronic Version

Table of Contents

- Chapter 1: **Introduction To Planning and Development Regulations**
 David R. Gattis, AICP, CFM
- Chapter 2: **Role of Planning Commissioners and Elected Officials**
 James Bertram, FAICP and Bruce Kramer
- Chapter 3: **Ethics and the Planning Commissioner**
 Carol Barrett, FAICP
- Chapter 4: **Introduction to the Comprehensive Plan**
 Alan Efrussy, AICP
- Chapter 5: **Introduction to Zoning**
 Michele McCoy, ACIP
- Chapter 6: **Texas Zoning Enabling Act**
 Brenda McDonald and Karen Mitchell
- Chapter 7: **Duties and Role of Zoning Board of Adjustment**
 Tom Knickerbocker, ACIP and William Dahlstrom, AICP
- Chapter 8: **Introduction to Planned Development Zoning**
 Frank Turner, FAICP and Terry Morgan
- Chapter 9: **Introduction to Subdivision Controls**
 William Dahlstrom, AICP
- Chapter 10: **Annexation and Extraterritorial Jurisdiction**
 Ben Luckens, AICP
- Chapter 11: **Introduction to Capital Improvements Programming**
 Jerry Hiebert, AICP
- Chapter 12: **Impact Fees and Exactions**
 Jennifer Evans-Cowley, AICP
- Chapter 13: **Introduction to Transportation Planning**
 Michael McAnelly, FAICP
- Chapter 14: **Smart Growth**
 Fernando Costa, ACIP, David Crossley and Mark Brennan

- Chapter 15: **Neighborhood Planning**
Carol Barrett, FAICP
- Chapter 16: **Historic Preservation Planning**
W. Dwayne Jones, AICP
- Chapter 17: **Meeting Procedures and Liability Issues for Public Officials**
Bret Keast, AICP and Robert Brown
- Chapter 18: **Introduction to Economic Development**
Greg Last, AICP
- Chapter 19: **Consensus Building and Dispute Resolution**
Karen Walz, ACIP