



SEEKING PRESENTERS

We are now accepting proposals for presentations at the 2022 Western Planner and North Dakota Planning Association Conference with sessions to be held September 14-16, 2022 in Bismarck, North Dakota.

*Proposal Submittal Deadline: **February 28, 2022***

Since its inception, the Western Planner has attempted, as a founding principle, to raise the general quality of land use, urban, and community planning in the Mountain-Plains area, through the sharing of ideas, planning news, and practical planning methods. The Western Planner Conference is the annual gathering of Western Planner members from 13 western states (AL, AZ, CO, ID, MT, NV, NM, ND, OR, WA, SD, UT, WY) who are commonly professional planners in local government or consulting firms. This conference is traditionally attended by 150-200.

| SERVING AS A BRIDGE

The 2022 Western Planner Conference will be held in Bismarck, ND and is supported by both the North Dakota and South Dakota Planning Associations. The theme of the conference is being a “bridge” between important, but sometimes conflicting, values in our communities (e.g. urban and rural, government and private development, etc.). The metaphor also pays respect to the long-standing relationship between the Western Planner and the North Dakota Planning Association and references the historic rail bridge across the Missouri between Bismarck and Mandan.

In addition to the exciting regular sessions filled by talented presenters such as yourself, several mobile tours and special events will occur. These include keynote luncheons, downtown walking tour, tour of Fort Abraham Lincoln, tour of the Capital grounds, an agricultural economy tour, an awards ceremony, a bicycle tour, a pre-conference social, and softball/cornhole game.

The following provides additional information about presentation themes, topics, formats and proposal submittals.



Theme and Topics

The theme of the conference will be ***Serving as a Bridge***. How can planners and design professionals create bridges between important, but sometimes conflicting, values in our communities?

- Historic heritage and dynamic change
- Public good and private development
- Urban, rural and the development in-between
- The range of values and visions of citizens and stakeholders in our communities.

Any topics in the realm of land use, transportation, community design, environmental stewardship, equity, planning law, ethics, and economic development are welcomed. Tribal or Indigenous presentations that connect any of the suggested topics listed above are strongly desired.

Format Options

Traditional Session. 60-minute or 90-minute session on a single topic. We encourage using the "three I's":

1. *Innovative.* Show something new and exciting, even if you are in the process of learning and practicing it.
2. *Interactive.* Presenter and audience should be communicating with each other. Creative means for group interaction are welcomed.
3. *Informative.* Sessions should be eligible for CM credits. See APA website for guidelines.

Sessions may be conducted by an individual or team, with separate talks or with a moderator and panelists. Diverse teams from multiple states are encouraged. AV capabilities available.

Pecha Kucha. Series of independent talks of approximately 7-minutes in length and 20 visual slides. Concise and fast-paced, similar to a TED talk. Individuals may apply separately.

How to Submit a Proposal

Please provide the following information in an email to whutchings@bismarcknd.gov:

1. **Abstract.** Presentation title, chosen format, and a brief description (200 words or less) of the topic.
2. **Bio:** Name and a short description (150 words or less), including current employment, professional designations, educational background, etc. for all presenters, to be shown in the program as is.
3. **Contact Information.** So, we can contact you.

Whether you are a renowned expert on the topic or a practitioner sharing your discoveries and pitfalls along the way, your unique perspective is valuable!

Feel free to suggest ideas for assistance or guidance if you are not ready for a formal submission.