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Plan for Our Future:

Community Driven Planning:



Community Planning Assistance Program

Housing and Community Development Network Annual Meeting  
October 20, 2015  
East Windsor, NJ

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# Program Goal

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To assist communities to understand how planning can help them reach their goals.

To support community-driven planning by providing volunteer professional planning support to communities addressing specific issues.

To take on projects that can be completed in a relatively short time.

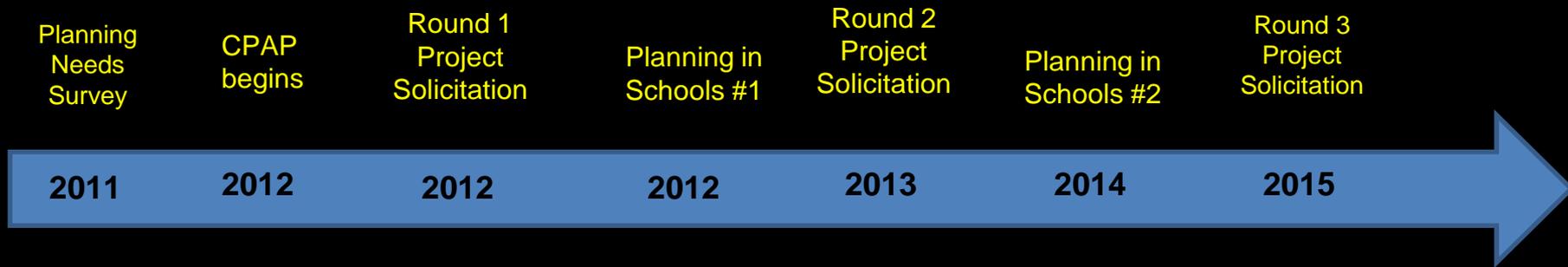
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# Program Highlights

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- Volunteer Planning Projects
  - Planning in Schools
  - Community Planning Workshops
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# Volunteer Program History



# Volunteer Program – The Numbers To-Date

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- 7 municipalities
  - 10 community groups
  - 2 schools in Newark
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- Volunteers – over 70 people have volunteered for projects
  - APA Members and non- members

# Client and Volunteer Recruitment

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- Communities – Partner with the HCDNNJ to solicit for proposals community-based groups.
  - Municipalities – contact all NJ municipalities with solicitation
  - Volunteers – Recruit volunteers professional from the NJ Chapter membership list as well as others who have offered to volunteer.
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# Municipalities

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- Bayonne
  - Bradley Beach
  - Maurice River Township
  - Seaside Heights
  - Boonton
  - Passaic
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# Community Groups

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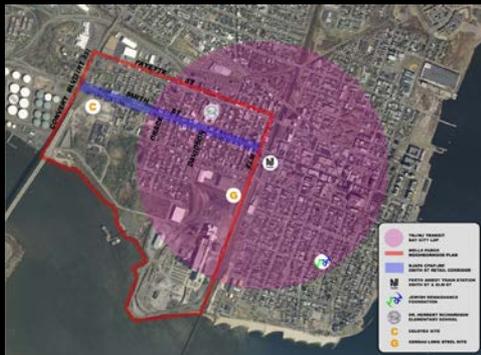
- Tri-City People's Corporation, Newark
  - New Community, Newark
  - Women Rising/Bergen Communities United, Jersey City
  - Jewish Renaissance Corporation, Perth Amboy
  - Coalition to Preserve the Palisades, North Bergen
  - Urban League OF Essex County, Newark
  - Ironbound Community Corporation, Newark
  - South Ward Children's Alliance, Newark
  - St. Josephs Carpenter, Gloucester City
  - New Brunswick Tomorrow, New Brunswick
  - Paulus Hook Neighborhood Associations, Jersey City
  - Redstone Neighborhood Association, Jersey City
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# Examples of Municipal Projects

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# Smith Street in Perth Amboy



# Main Street in Bradley Beach



What is this Place?



# Maurice River Township Economic Strategies



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# Examples of Community Group Projects

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# West Side Park Neighborhood Newark



# Bergen Communities United in Jersey City



American Planning Association  
**New Jersey Chapter**

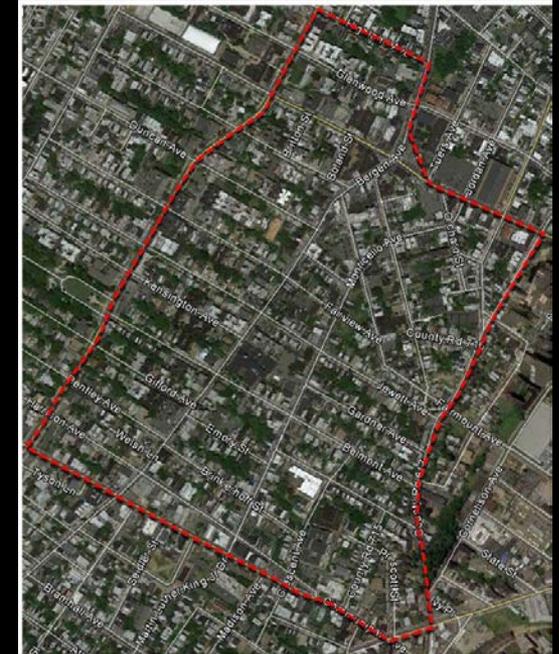
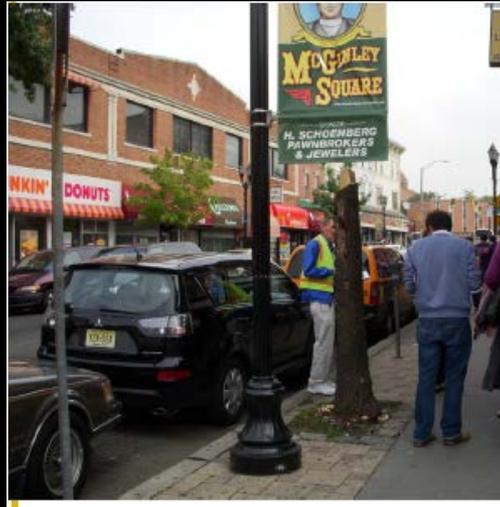
*Making Great Communities Happen*



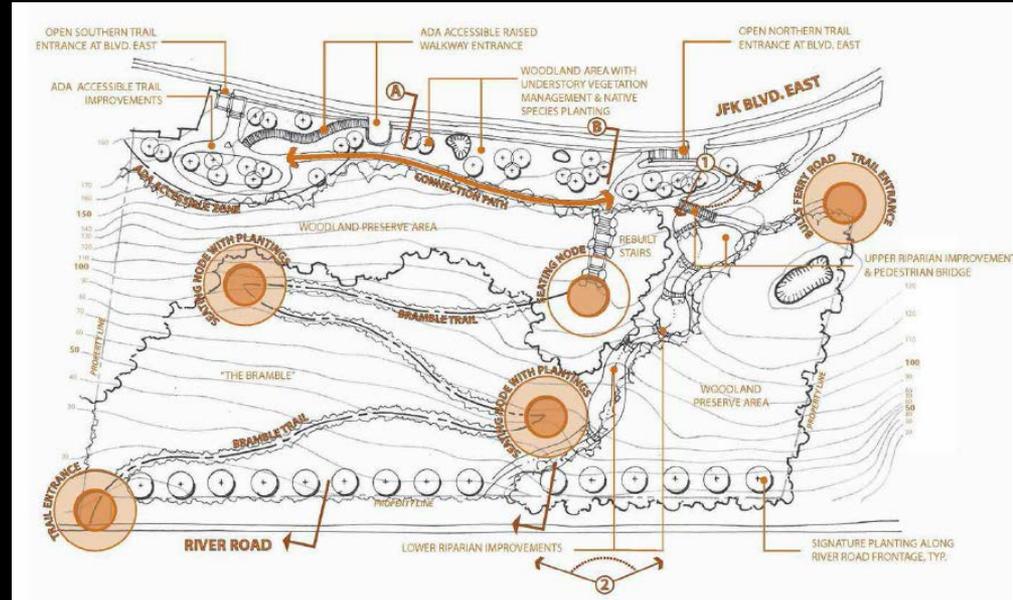
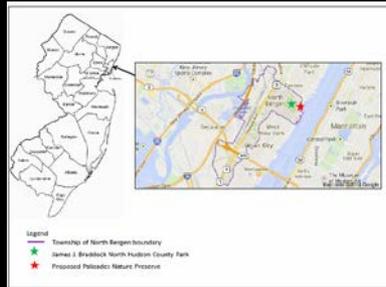
Invites you to at:

**VISIONING SESSION**

For the BCU Neighborhood Plan Update



# North Hudson Park in North Bergen



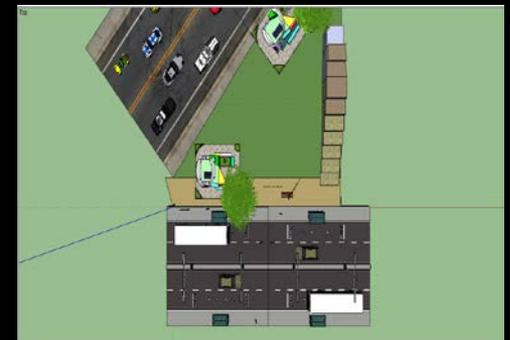
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# Examples of Planning in Schools

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# Planning in Schools

- Louise A. Spencer School – 50 8<sup>th</sup> graders in an after school program
- Abington Avenue School – 150 8<sup>th</sup> graders – integrated into curriculum
- Developing a City Planning Curriculum for grades 4 through 8



# Program History – Community Planning Workshops



American Planning Association  
**New Jersey Chapter**  
*Making Great Communities Happen*



## COMMUNITY PLANNING:

*An Introduction on How to Make Your Community Stronger Through Planning*

**Thursday, March 6, 8:30am – 3:00pm**

North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority  
1 Newark Center, 17th Floor, Newark, NJ

\$35 includes breakfast, lunch, and materials

REGISTER ONLINE: [www.NJPlanning.org](http://www.NJPlanning.org)

### HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE

- ★ An introduction to community planning from local experts
- ★ Key steps to start the planning process in your community
- ★ Strategies for involving the community in the planning process
- ★ Insight for partnering with local officials
- ★ Participation in real community planning case studies
- ★ Sources for funding for community planning

**Join us for an Information-Packed Workshop**

The workshop will "bridge the gap" between planners and communities by introducing them to available resources for community planning projects and activities. The workshop will provide an explanation of community planning, and an understanding of how it can help communities achieve their goals. The program will include hands on activities that will engage participants in strategically planning for communities. Participants will leave the workshop with a better understanding of how to initiate the development of a plan and how to get resources and experts to help them.

**Who Should Attend?**

This workshop is designed for all stakeholders in a community – community groups, community based organizations, municipal planners, and community planning consultants.



RUTGERS  
Edward J. Bloustein School  
of Planning and Public Policy



RUTGERS  
NORTH  
JERSEY



Housing and  
Community Development  
Network of New Jersey



Center for Community Planning



LISC  
Greater Newark



RUTGERS  
Joseph C. Gehring Center  
for Metropolitan Studies

CPAP has sponsored two community planning workshops to discuss how planners and communities can work together more effectively. These were co-sponsored by HCDNNJ, Rutgers, LISC, Together North Jersey, and the Center for Community Planning.

# Results/Lessons Learned

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- **Discovered a strong need in communities for planning support. Municipalities and community organizations need help.**
  - **Levels of knowledge about planning ranges from very low to very high.**
  - **Some communities need to crawl before they can walk.**
  - **Ability at the community level to follow up is mixed.**
  - **Projects have to be finished quickly to maintain interest of the volunteers.**
  - **There is a need for more resources to support community-level planning that we are doing.**
  - **APA- NJ and the HCDNNJ are partnering to strengthen the program.**
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