Summit County Community Planning Lab: Fall 2023

WHEN: September 11– November 20, 2023; 6:00 to 8:30 pm (no class on October 9)

   December 4: Final Presentations; 6:00 - 8:00 pm

WHERE: In person or on Zoom (see below for details)

CONTACT:

   Maddy McDonough: mmcdonough@summitcounty.org

   Webpage: www.summitcounty.org/cplclassroom

The Community Planning Lab is a course designed for Summit County residents, community leaders, business owners, and other community stakeholders who want to be more engaged in and better understand processes that drive local planning and land use policy decisions. The course aims to empower community members to be more involved in shaping the future of Summit County.

The course will begin by reviewing planning history, including the impacts of planning policy in and around Summit County. We will then cover a core curriculum including zoning, public processes and how to make an impact, urban design principles, transportation, affordable housing, sustainable development, and finance.

By the end of the course, participants will better understand civic processes, feel more confident in getting involved in those processes, and be prepared to help to shape the future of their own communities and Summit County as a whole.

Required activities for the course include: (1) in-class presentations by experts from the planning field; (2) in-class activities & pre- class readings; (3) virtual or in person attendance at Snyderville Basin PC, Eastern Summit County PC and County Council meeting; (4) a final project.

The syllabus is subject to change. The most up to date version of the syllabus will be available online at https://www.summitcounty.org/2329/Community-Planning-Lab-Classroom.

Class Schedule

<mark>**READ** before September 11 class:</mark>

- Chapter 1 *Planning Made Easy*
- History of Urban Development
- **Review**: Planning Terms glossary

Week 1- September 11: Welcome & Introduction to Planning

Location: Ledges Event Center (202 Park Road, Coalville)

<u>**Learning Objectives:**</u> Participants will be able to…

- Understand how people's use of land and buildings affects the built and natural environment.
- Create their own definition of planning.
- Understand the numerous forces that shape cities and communities, in part by identifying local Summit County planning structures.
- Articulate the importance of planning.

Assignments for September 18:

- **READ**:
  - *Ground Rules* Chapters 1 & 2
  - Chapter 2 *Planning Made Easy*
  - "How should Utah grow - when many don't want to?"
- **Optional:** Find a planning issue in the local or regional news. Bring the article to class and be ready to share about it.

Week 2- September 18: Planning and Zoning

Location: Ledges Event Center (202 Park Road, Coalville)

<u>**Learning Objectives:**</u> Participants will be able to…

- Articulate the basic impacts of land use and zoning decisions
- Identify the difference between planning and zoning
- Identify various types of plans and state what plans have been implemented locally, regionally, etc.
- Identify different types of decision-making processes and how best to participate in different processes.

Assignments for September 25:

- **WATCH**: [Great footage of Bad Public Meetings](#)
  - 3-2-1 Reflection (see page 8 for example)

- ○ **READ:**
  - ■ Chapter 3: *Ground Rules*
  - ■ Summit County Community Engagement Handbook
- ○ **DO:**
  - ■ Use the "Agenda Center" on the Summit County website to identify when each of the following meet:
    - Snyderville Basin Planning Commission
    - Eastern Summit County Planning Commission
    - County Council
    - One Special Service or Special Recreation District of your choice

Week 3- September 25: How to Make an Impact: Public Hearings and Meaningful Engagement

Location: Richins Building Auditorium (1885 W Ute Blvd, Park City)

<u>Learning Objectives:</u> Participants will be able to…

- Participate and meaningfully engage in public hearings, public meetings, and other engagement opportunities.
- Understand the policies of public noticing in Summit County and Utah.
- Articulate what happens at different public meetings (ex. Planning commission vs City/County Council).
- Identify the distinctions between administrative, legislative, and quasi-judicial processes.
- Identify the legal structures behind decision making.

Assignments for October 2:
- **READ:**
  - ■ Housing Affordability: What Are Best Practices and Why Are They Important?
  - ■ Blog: Reflections on Affordability in Utah's Housing Market
- ○ **REVIEW**:
  - ■ Summit County Moderate Income Housing Plan slides
  - ■ [Summit County AMI Income Limits](#)

Week 4- October 2: Housing Affordability & Growth:

Location: Council Chambers, Coalville Courthouse (60 N Main Street, Coalville)

<u>Learning Objectives:</u> Participants will be able to…

- Define housing terms (affordable, attainable, moderate income, etc).
- Understand the basics of Utah's Moderate Income Housing requirement.
- Identify examples of affordable housing in Summit County.
- Analyze how other communities are coping with similar housing issues and accommodating growth through diverse housing types.
- Identify meaningful ways to get involved in planning for housing options.

Assignments for October 16:

- **DO:** Complete the Placecheck survey (<u>Parts A and B at minimum</u>).
- **READ:**
  - Urban Design Goals
  - Tactical Urbanism in Rural Utah
  - **Optional***: Essential Smart Growth Fixes for Rural Planning, Zoning, and Development Codes*
- **WATCH**: The Ghastly Tragedy of the Suburbs Ted Talk
- **PROJECT WORK:** Use the off week to research final project ideas using the outline on page 7. Send your final project idea to Maddy by Monday, October 16 at 9:00am.

Week 5- October 16: Urban Design

Location: Richins Building Auditorium (1885 W Ute Blvd, Park City)

<u>Learning Objectives:</u> Participants will be able to…

- Define Urban Design.
- Understand how our built environments impact our lives.
- Describe design elements that contribute to community cohesion.
- Identify areas within Summit County that may benefit from Urban Design thinking.

Assignments for October 23:

- **REVIEW:**
  - Utah's Unified Transportation Plan
  - Summit County's Long Range Transportation Plan
  - Utah's Transportation Vision
  - **Optional***, but highly recommended:*
    - A Citizen's Guide to Better Streets
    - A Resident's Guide for Creating Safer Communities for Walking and Biking

Week 6- October 23: Transportation Planning

Location: Ledges Event Center (202 Park Road, Coalville)

<u>**Learning Objectives:**</u> Participants will be able to…

- Define transportation planning.
- Explain the connection between transportation and land use.
- Articulate the importance of each mode of transportation and how they work together for an effective system.
- Describe the relationship between Summit County and various transportation stakeholders.
- Know how to participate in shaping the future of transportation in Summit County.

Assignments for October 30:

- ○ **READ:**
  - ■ "Urban Sprawl, Smart Growth, and Deliberative Democracy" by David B. Resnik
  - ■ "Sustainability from an Indigenous Perspective" by Jenna Grey-Eagle
  - ■ Chapter 1: *Growing Cooler*
  - ■ *"*Planning and Land Use*"*
  - ■ **Optional:** "Planners are Unique Stewards of the Climate"

Week 7- October 30: Sustainable Development

Location: Richins Building Auditorium (1885 W Ute Blvd, Park City)

<u>**Learning Objectives:**</u> Participants will be able to…

- Define sustainability and sustainable development.
- Articulate the interconnections between sustainable development and public health.
- Analyze the impact of land use decisions and planning processes on sustainability.
- Understand risks Summit County faces in relation to climate change and how those risks are influenced by land use decisions.
- Practice applying tools to integrate a sustainability lens into decision making.

Assignments for November 6:
- ○ **REVIEW:**
  - ■ [Summit County Sustainable Tourism Plan 2022](#)
  - ■ [Rail Trail Corridor Plan](#)
  - ■ [GNAR Report Highlights](#)
  - ■ [Rural Gentrification and the Spillover Effect](#)

Week 8 - November 6: Gateway and Natural Amenity Regions

Location: Ledges Event Center (202 Park Road, Coalville) **OR** Zoom (dependent on speaker availability)

Learning Objectives: Participants will be able to…
- Identify the elements of a Gateway and Natural Resource Area
- Describe the purpose of "guard rails" in regard to tourism economies.

Assignments for November 13:

- **REVIEW: (videos from ULCT)**
  - What is Property Tax?
  - What is Sales Tax?
  - What is an impact fee?
- **READ:**
  - Background to Budgets slide deck from the ULCT
  - The State of Utah's Travel & Tourism Industry 2022 Report from Gardner Institute

Week 9- November 13: Financing Community Strategies

Location: Ledges Event Center (202 Park Road, Coalville)

Learning Objectives: Participants will be able to…
- Identify elements of the tourism economy and its impact on local communities.
- Explore the impact of planning on regional economics.
- Identify various revenue streams for financing community projects.
- Explain how financial decisions are made at the state, county, and local community level.
- Understand the basic structure of state and county level taxes.

Assignments for November 20:

- **BRING TO CLASS:** Completed "Meeting Observations" (page 8)
- **JOT DOWN:** Questions to ask the panel members! Panelists will include a representative from the County Council, Planning Commissions, Planning Department, Engineering Department, Stormwater Department, County Manager's Office, and more!
- Optional READ:
  - Chapter 9: *Growing Cooler*
  - "As the Great Salt Lake Dries Up, Utah Faces an 'Environmental Nuclear Bomb'"

Week 10- November 20: Wrap Up and Panel Discussion

Location: Zoom

https://summitcountyut.zoom.us/j/94630476804?pwd=NnlYUDF6TTFuK21GWWp1bUNyOE9lQT09

        Meeting ID: 946 3047 6804

        Passcode: 122880

        Learning Objectives: Participants will be able to…

- Analyze how planning processes are interconnected.
- Identify opportunities for engaging in the current and future planning of Summit County.

FINAL PRESENTATIONS - December 4

Location: Kamas Valley Library (110 N Main St, Kamas)

Final Projects:

What planning related improvements would you like to see made in your community? The purpose of the final project is to learn more about a planning related topic of your choice and about how to influence the future of your community.

Here are the basic steps:

- Identify an area of interest or concern
- Gather information about that subject
- Discover where decisions about that subject are made, who is responsible, and how decisions are made
- Develop effective methods to communicate your idea to the community and decision-makers
- Facilitate a connection between yourself and the decision-maker(s)

Examples of final projects can be seen in classes 6 and 7 of the Wasatch Transportation Academy: https://www.youtube.com/@wasatchtransportationacade1325/videos.

Further details can be found here: https://www.summitcounty.org/2329/Community-Planning-Lab-Classroom

Meeting Observations:

Prior to class on Monday, November 20, please attend a meeting of each of the following for at least the beginning and one agenda item. It may be useful to attend both in person and virtual meetings so that you can identify the difference, benefits, and challenges.

- County Council
- Eastern Summit County Planning Commission
- Snyderville Basin Planning Commission
- A Special Service or Special Recreation District of your choice

Complete the following for each meeting:

1. Name of commission, council, or district
2. Date of meeting
3. Start time of meeting and time you joined the meeting
4. Agenda item(s) you watched
5. Did you read the staff report for this agenda item beforehand?
6. Complete a 3-2-1 reflection
   a. 3 things you noticed
   b. 2 things that surprised you
   c. 1 question you still have

After attending all four meetings, complete the following reflection questions:

1. Which meeting was the easiest for you to understand and, if so inclined, participate in? Why?
2. From what you observed, what are two effective ways to get involved in public processes and decision making?
3. What could be improved about public meetings in Summit County? Please be specific and, when possible, cite examples of what you observed.