

Call for Session Proposals

2025 New Jersey Planning and Redevelopment Conference

Convening virtually on June 11-12 and in-person on June 13 at the Hyatt Regency in New Brunswick

Submissions will be accepted through February 7, 2025.

You can access the online portal by [clicking here](#).

The 2025 New Jersey Planning and Redevelopment Conference brings together bold ideas, innovative solutions, proven concepts, and best practices for creating stronger, more inclusive, and equitable places where people live, work, and play.

[New Jersey Future](#) and the [New Jersey Chapter of the American Planning Association](#) are proud to present a three-day conference, which will be held virtually on June 11-12 and in-person at the Hyatt Regency in New Brunswick on June 13.

[Submit a session proposal](#) after reviewing the guidelines below.



OVERVIEW

The 2025 New Jersey Planning and Redevelopment Conference (NJPRC25) will feature timely session offerings as we reimagine land use in a rapidly changing environment.

The conference is once again presented on Pheedloop, the NJPRC event platform, with Zoom integration for this year's virtual sessions occurring on June 11-12 and will coordinate, with session contacts, a recording time in advance of the conference. **Speakers who are participating in pre-recorded sessions must also be available during the Conference, on the day and time their pre-recorded session will live-stream, for question and answer in a virtual chat box with conference attendees.**

All session moderators and speakers are responsible for their speaker profiles, including uploading a picture and biography to the online portal as soon as the Conference Committee requests this information. Additional features are available to highlight speakers, including organization logo, contact information, and links to social media accounts—all of which are customizable and at the discretion of the individual.

The conference format will feature a mix of concurrent sessions that are pre-recorded, live-streamed, and in-person. A sample schedule is provided below.

VIRTUAL DAYS: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11 & THURSDAY, JUNE 12, 2025

Times	Virtual/Online
9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.	4 Concurrent Pre-recorded Sessions*
10:15 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.	4 Concurrent Pre-recorded Sessions*
11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.	1 Live Plenary*

* All virtual-day sessions will be available for attendees through the Video On-Demand Library.

IN-PERSON DAY: FRIDAY, JUNE 13, 2025

Times	In-Person
8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.	Registration, Networking, and Breakfast
9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.	Keynote/Plenary
10:45 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	8 Concurrent Sessions
12:15 p.m. to 2:15 p.m.	Lunch and Keynote/Plenary
2:30 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.	8 Concurrent Sessions
3:45 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.	Networking Reception

Evaluation Criteria

Session proposals will be selected based on how well they meet the following criteria. The Conference Committee reserves the right to come back to session contacts with recommended changes to panelist composition and/or scope of session key points.

- **Diverse Composition:** The Conference Committee believes the issues of systemic racism, segregation, and our legacy of inequality in land use and redevelopment must be tackled directly and proactively. All sessions must have panels that are racially and gender inclusive. Any session submission not meeting this requirement will be immediately rejected. For example, sessions with all white panelists or all male panelists will not be accepted.
- **Relevant:** The topic is related to land use, community planning, and public policy.
- **Timely:** The topic is in the news and/or currently being discussed, debated, and implemented. The speakers are prominent, experienced, and up-to-date on the current topic.
- **New/Innovative:** The topic is a new or innovative approach to a problem, especially with implications for a post-pandemic era. The speakers have a reputation or track record in cutting-edge work.
- **Diverse Perspectives:** Different viewpoints on the same topic are illuminated. For example, a panel may have a local official, a planner, an attorney, and a community member. Another example could be four planners from different states talking about a single issue from different points of view.
- **Availability in the Conference Program:** Availability of preferred session type (pre-recorded for virtual days or live for the in-person day).

TIMELINE

February 7: Session Proposal Deadline

February 24-28: Notifications to Session Proposers

March 14: Speaker Profiles Completed (headshot, bio, etc.)

April 15: Session Planning Meeting Completed with Moderator/Speakers

May 12-30: Pre-recorded Session Recordings (if applicable)

June 11-13: Conference

SESSION PROPOSAL GUIDELINES

All session proposals must be fully completed and submitted by February 7, 2025, and include the following:

- 1. Session Title:** Make it catchy! (15-word maximum)
- 2. Session Contact/Moderator:** This individual is the primary contact for all communications between the Conference Committee and their session presenters and is responsible for sharing all logistical information with the presenters.
- 3. Session Description:** A high-level description of the session for inclusion in the preliminary and final programs in paragraph form, no bullet points. (100-word maximum)
- 4. Learning Objectives:** Provide three learning objectives that are clear, measurable, and achievable. Begin each with an action verb.
- 5. Session Topic:** Select the topic(s) most related to your session submission. You may select up to three.
 - Community Engagement
 - Commercial Land Use
 - Demographics
 - Economic Development
 - Equity and Inclusion
 - Environment
 - Health
 - Historic Preservation
 - Housing
 - Infrastructure
 - Legal, Technical, and Financial
 - Planning and Zoning
 - Public Policy
 - Residential Land Use
 - Transportation and Mobility
 - Sustainability and Resilience
- 6. Session Date and Type Preference:** If your session is selected, your preference will be taken into consideration but not guaranteed.
- 7. Confirmed Presenters:** Provide the name, contact information, title, and affiliation of all proposed presenters. If the session is selected, all speakers will be expected to upload their pictures and biographical information into the virtual conference portal.

Submission Agreement

In order to submit your proposal, you will need to read and agree to the following five statements:

1. I understand that as the session contact, it is my responsibility to communicate information to other session panelists and ensure all deadlines are met.
2. I understand that presenters that are part of pre-recorded virtual sessions must be present online during their session time to engage with their session attendees on virtual chat and participate in Q&A.
3. I understand that my session cannot be used as a platform to promote products or services.
4. I understand that any session recordings are the property of the Conference Committee.
5. I understand that presenters do not receive complimentary registrations, honoraria, or paid expenses to speak at the conference.

CONTACT US

For questions regarding sessions and registration, please contact Sheena Collum, at scollum@njplanning.org or call 848-932-2817.

To learn more about sponsorship opportunities and exhibiting, please contact Susan O'Connor at soconnor@njfuture.org or call 609-393-0008 ext. 1018.

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE HOSTS

New Jersey Future: Founded in 1987, [New Jersey Future](#) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that promotes sensible and equitable growth, redevelopment, and infrastructure investments to foster healthy, strong, resilient communities; protect natural lands and waterways; increase transportation choices beyond cars; provide access to safe, affordable, and aging-friendly neighborhoods; and fuel a strong economy for everyone. New Jersey Future does this through original research, innovative policy development, coalition-building, advocacy, and hands-on strategic assistance. Embracing differences and advancing fairness is central to New Jersey Future's mission and operations. New Jersey Future is firmly committed to pursuing greater justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion through its programs, internal operations, and external communications.

APA New Jersey: The [New Jersey Chapter of the American Planning Association](#) is an independent, not-for-profit organization that provides leadership in the development of vital communities by advocating excellence in community planning, promoting citizen empowerment, and providing the tools and support necessary to meet the challenges of growth and change. Through its educational and advocacy initiatives, the Chapter advances the art and science of good planning — physical, economic, and social — to create communities that offer better and more equitable choices for how people work and live.