

TO: APA Texas Board of Directors
Chelsea Irby AICP, Executive Administrator

FROM: Karen Walz FAICP, Principal
Strategic Community Solutions LLC

DATE: July 7, 2023

RE: Results of Online Survey



Overview

The Texas Chapter of the American Planning Association (APATX or APA Texas) surveys its members biannually to understand their perspectives on issues affecting the profession, APA Texas Vision and Goals, and the organization's current and potential programs and services. This report summarizes the survey process and the input received through this virtual involvement. The appendices contain additional detail on the process as well as all the comments received, with no editing.

Survey Logistics

An online survey was designed using the SurveyMonkey tool. Many of the questions remain the same as in past surveys, allowing a comparison of membership priorities and perspectives over time. Multiple choice questions were used to obtain perspectives about the organization's vision, goals, accomplishments, programs and activities. Open-ended questions provided the opportunity for respondents to share broader visions, concerns and comments on these and other aspects of the organization. Appendix 1 provides the text of the survey.

APA Texas emailed all current members with a link to the survey. Since the survey asked about many topics, the emailed invitation emphasized that participants could choose to respond to only the topics of interest to them. This invitation is found in Appendix 2. Reminder emails were also sent to encourage people to complete the survey.

Survey Respondents

This online survey was opened on May 19, 2023 and was closed on June 28, 2023. There were 176 respondents during that time. This results in a response rate of 7.3% among Chapter members. This is lower than the response rate from the 2021 survey, which was 11.7%.

Geographic Representation

Exhibit 1 shows the percentage of current Chapter members in each Section. It then shows the percentage of respondents in each Section and the share of each Section's membership that responded. For comparison, it also presents this share of responses from the 2021 survey.

For the most part, the geographic distribution of survey respondents was generally similar to that of Chapter members. The North Central Texas Section reports a higher participation than the statewide

average, while the Midwest Section reports a lower rate¹. Sections with the most responses were Central (50 respondents), North Central (41) and Houston (29). These are also the three largest Sections. The Section with the highest percentage of members to respond to the survey was East. Since this Section has few members, even a small survey response results in a larger share of members participating than in a Section with many members.

Exhibit 1: Section Participation

Which APA Texas Section are you in?	2023			2021
	Membership	Respondents	% of Section Responding	% of Section Responding
Central (Austin and surroundings)	27.2%	28.6%	7.8%	10.2%
East	2.1%	2.9%	10.0%	10.0%
Houston (Houston and surroundings)	18.3%	16.6%	6.7%	14.0%
Midwest (Fort Worth and surroundings)	16.5%	10.3%	4.6%	7.3%
North Central (Dallas and surroundings)	19.9%	23.4%	8.7%	13.5%
Northwest	1.9%	1.7%	6.5%	22.7%
Southmost (Rio Grande Valley and surroundings)	3.2%	2.9%	6.6%	11.4%
Southwest (San Antonio and surroundings)	8.8%	9.1%	7.7%	11.9%
West (El Paso and surroundings)	1.9%	1.1%	4.3%	6.1%
I'm not sure	N/A	3.4%	N/A	N/A
Total, Chapterwide	100.0%	100.0%	7.4%	11.7%

¹ It is possible that the difference between these two neighboring Sections is due to members who live in one Section's geography but work in the other. They may have responded to the survey question with a different response than the address that is listed for them in the membership database.

Respondent Characteristics

Exhibit 2 shows that most survey respondents were professional planners in the public sector (68.9%). Private sector planners were the second-highest group of respondents (23.4%). Citizen planners and plan commissioners were only 1.2% of respondents; an additional 6.6% of respondents said they were involved in more than one of these roles. A small percentage are on either the Chapter Board (2.9%) or on a Section Board (9.4%).

There is also a good degree of diversity among respondents in terms of their length of involvement with planning and their involvement with APA Texas., as shown on Exhibits 3 and 4 below.

Exhibit 2: Planning Role

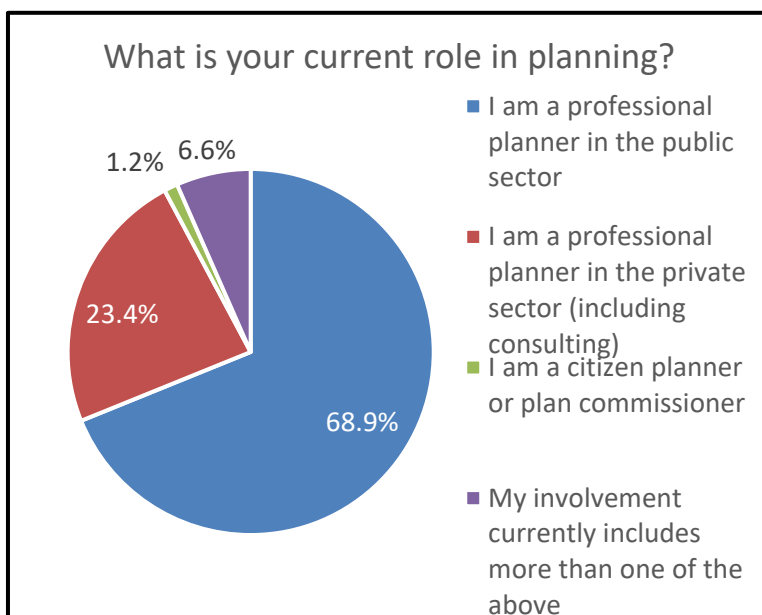


Exhibit 4: Planning Involvement

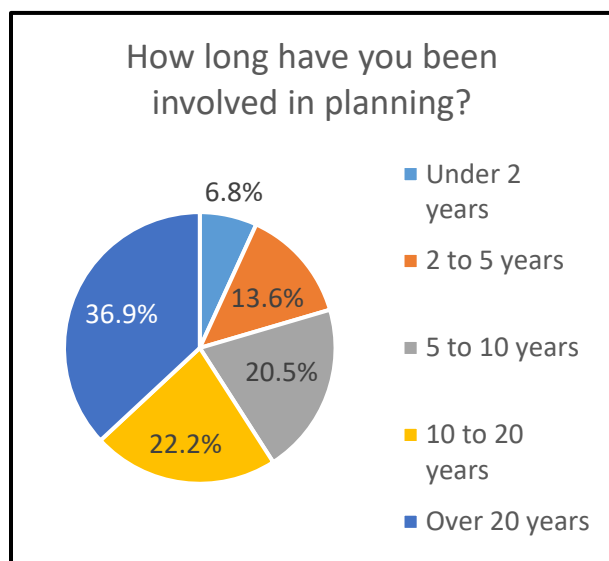
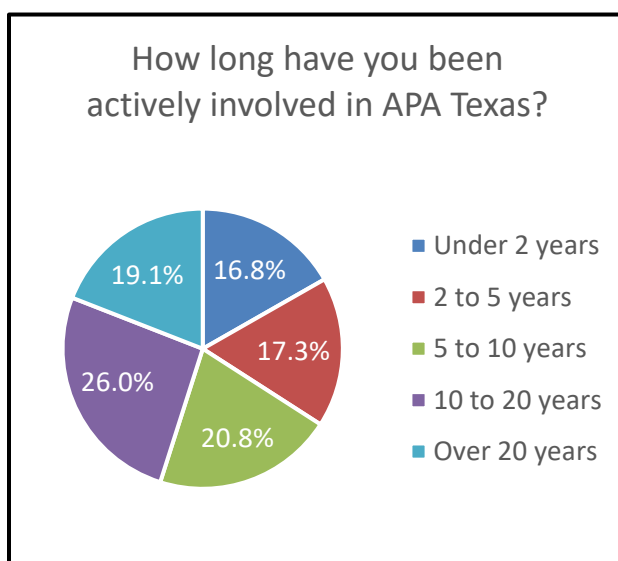


Exhibit 3: APA Texas Involvement



Half of the survey respondents are female; slightly less than half (47.1%) are male; the remaining respondents (2.9%) preferred not to indicate a gender.

As shown in Exhibit 5, the highest share of respondents are Millennials, with Gen X the second highest, Baby Boomers third. The comparison with 2021 respondents shows a continued increase in participation by younger generations and a decline in Baby Boomer and Silent Generation participation. These respondent demographics reflect the change in the Chapter's membership as older generations retire and younger ones take a larger role.

Exhibit 5: Survey Respondents' Age Group

When were you born?	Responses (2023)	Responses (2021)
1997 or later (Gen Z)	3.5%	0.7%
1981 to 1996 (Millennial or Gen Y)	46.0%	43.1%
1965 to 1980 (Gen X)	33.3%	29.7%
1946 to 1964 (Baby Boomer)	13.8%	23.3%
1945 or earlier (Silent)	1.7%	3.2%

Most respondents are White, at almost the same share as in 2021 (77.6%). About one-fifth of respondents (20.2%) indicate they are of Hispanic origin, an increase from 2021. Exhibits 6 and 7 provide more detail on these demographic characteristics for all members who responded to the survey. All demographic results are found in the Appendix.

Exhibit 7: Race

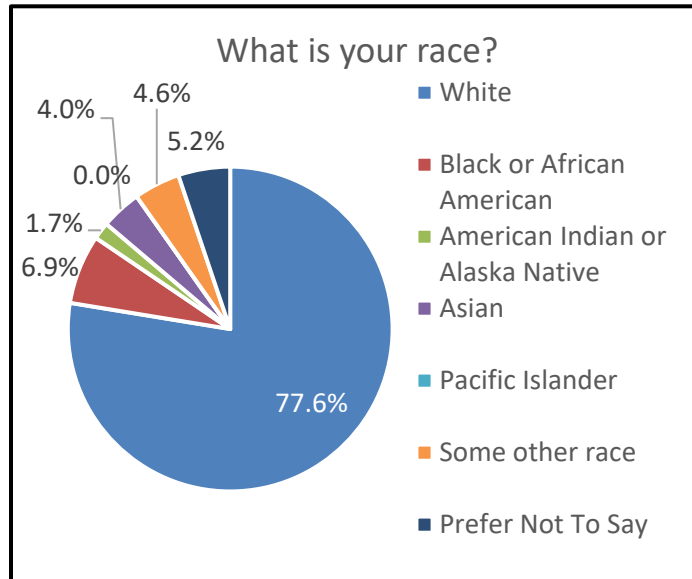
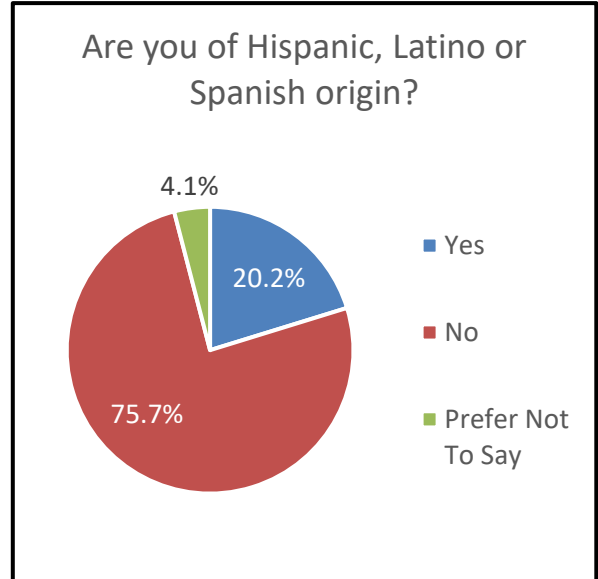


Exhibit 6: Ethnic Origin



Survey Topical Areas

Each of the survey's pages focused on a particular issue of interest to APA Texas. Respondents were asked if they wanted to comment on a particular issue; if they said 'no', the page related to that issue was skipped. As a result, the responses reflect the share of respondents who chose to comment on those issues. On each issue page, all questions were optional so respondents could also choose to skip individual questions. Therefore, the analysis below reflects the input of participants who responded to particular question being discussed. Exhibit 8 shows the share of participants who chose to review each of the survey topical sections.

Exhibit 8: Issues Reviewed by Participants

Would you like to review and comment/ share your views on ...?	Yes	No, I'd like to skip this
APA Texas' vision, goals and progress in the past two years?	57.4%	42.6%
APA National's strategic goals?	52.1%	48.0%
Trends affecting planning and planners?	50.7%	49.3%
APA Texas' advocacy efforts during the current Texas Legislative session?	44.2%	55.8%
Particular APA Texas programs and initiatives?	35.9%	64.1%
Action priorities for APA Texas during the next two years?	34.7%	65.3%
Being involved during the next two years?	32.8%	67.2%

Feedback on APA Texas Vision, Goals and Progress

The APA Texas Vision Statement is aspirational, describing the organization as it desires and strives to be: “APA Texas is a respected leader and partner whose members make great communities happen by providing expertise, innovation and education to shape livable, sustainable and equitable Texas communities.”

In general, a large majority of respondents (79.5%) believe that the APA Texas Vision Statement is consistent with their own ideas about what APA Texas should be and do. A much smaller share (10.9%) say this Vision Statement is inconsistent with their views; only 5.5% say they are not sure.

Members feel less positive about how effective APA Texas has been in actually achieving this desired Vision Statement during the past two years. Only about one-third of members (32.9%) felt it has been ‘very effective’ or ‘somewhat effective’ in achieving this vision.

Exhibit 10, on the next page, presents the feedback about how effective APA Texas has been in achieving this Vision Statement and the six APA Texas Goals. Members felt APA Texas had been most effective in achieving Goal 6 (Serve), with 38.3% saying it had been either ‘very effective’ or ‘somewhat effective’. One-third or more of the members felt APA Texas had been effective in achieving Goals 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6. The Chapter was seen as least effective in achieving Goal 3 (Partner), with only 19.7% rating this as effective.

Appendix 3 includes individual comments made by members related to the Chapter’s effectiveness in achieving its Vision over the past two years. These comments illustrate the wide range of views held by members. For example, one person commented about the Vision Statement that “Planning in Texas and

Exhibit 9: Agreement with APA Texas Vision

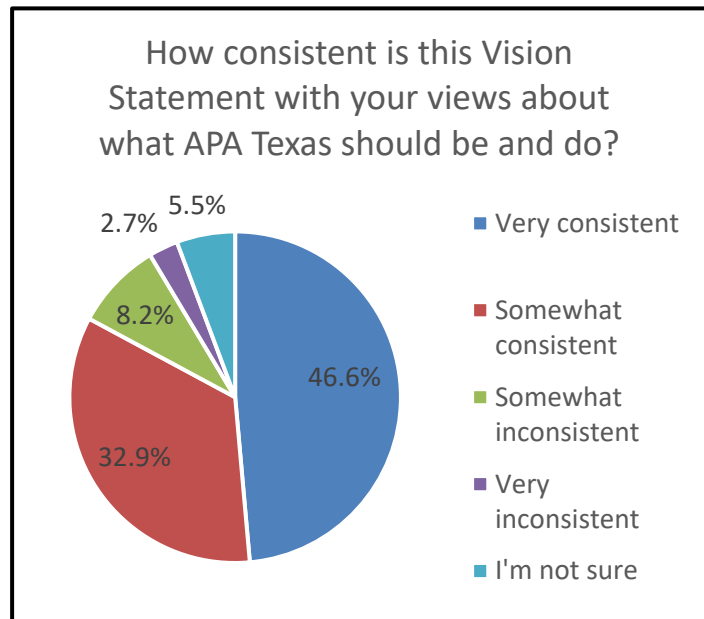


Exhibit 10: APA Texas Effectiveness, 2021 - 2023

How effective has APA Texas been in achieving its Vision or this goal during the past two years?							
Code: E (Effective, either 'very' or 'somewhat'); VE (Very Effective); SE (Somewhat Effective); A (Average); SI (Somewhat Ineffective); VI (Very Ineffective); NS (I'm not sure)	E	VE	SE	A	SI	VI	NS
Vision Statement: APA Texas is a respected leader and partner whose members make great communities happen by providing expertise, innovation and education to shape livable, sustainable and equitable Texas communities.	32.9%	8.2%	24.7%	21.9%	11.0%	6.9%	27.4%
Goal 1 in the 5-year Development Plan states: APA Texas will LEAD the planning movement in this state.	36.1%	11.5%	24.6%	18.0%	9.8%	11.5%	24.6%
Goal 2 in the 5-year Development Plan states: APA Texas will COMMUNICATE AND ENGAGE to foster quality leadership and participation and to provide the best planning information to its members and to Texas residents, property owners and elected leaders.	35.5%	11.3%	24.2%	24.2%	17.7%	9.7%	12.9%
Goal 3 in the 5-year Development Plan states: APA Texas will PARTNER with other Texas professional organizations and non-profits to leverage resources and build coalitions.	19.7%	4.9%	14.8%	14.8%	16.4%	13.1%	36.1%
Goal 4 in the 5-year Development Plan states: APA Texas will ADVOCATE for inclusive planning, planning leaders and government in our unique Texas setting.	32.8%	4.9%	27.9%	21.3%	9.8%	13.1%	21.3%
Goal 5 in the 5-year Development Plan states: APA Texas will INSPIRE building great communities that meet the needs of diverse Texans, benefit from our state's character, climate and other assets, and are resilient and adaptable in response to change.	36.1%	8.2%	27.9%	21.3%	9.8%	13.1%	19.7%
Goal 6 in the 5-year Development Plan states: APA Texas will use Chapter and Section resources to SERVE its professional, appointed/elected, academic and student members in a way that furthers equity, diversity and inclusion.	38.3%	18.3%	20.0%	15.0%	13.3%	10.0%	23.3%

APA leadership continues to exclude African American planners”. Another person commented about the Vision that “I would like to see “equity” replace[d] with a reference to ‘equality of opportunity’. We should not be placing our finger on the scale to advantage one group over another, even if we believe one group “deserves it more” because of past mistakes in the treatment of that group.” A third person wrote that “Planners know it, but it would be great if non-planners knew it and knew what it meant.” A fourth person wrote that “this is a good vision. No issues with it.”

Appendix 3 includes the individual comments about how effective the Chapter has been in achieving each of the six goals. In general, the comments tend to offer suggestions for improvement, such as areas where communication could be improved, interest in activities and Chapter visibility in addition to the annual conference, and recognition of the challenges facing the Chapter and planning in general because of the conservative character of Texas the State Legislature.

Accomplishments and Challenges

The main accomplishments noted most often by survey participants during the 2021 – 2023 period were:

- Transitioning to a new Executive Administrator
- Expanding advocacy efforts
- Conducting a successful conference in El Paso post-COVID

Some of these accomplishments are also noted as major challenges during this time:

- The Executive Administrator transition
- Dealing with the Texas legislature
- Re-engaging and rebuilding activities and communications after COVID
- Continued loss of local control
- Focusing on core planning practice

Looking Ahead

The participants who responded to the question “how do you expect the next two years to be different from the last two” sounded one common theme – there is likely to be more, faster and less predictable change for Texas planners and communities. Among these comments:

- I think the next two years will be highly political in the run-up to the next Presidential election. I think there will be a constant streaming of polarizing information which will impact public opinion and planning priorities and processes.
- Prepare planners for more rapid change and a willingness to embrace that change, even if it has negative impact.
- If planning continues to focus on social issues while infrastructure and the built environment continue to erode, planning will become less relevant.
- Biggest challenge at the moment is finding planners for the workforce.
- We need to be able to advocate and create great places through incentives and performance standards now that even more power is being stripped from local controls.

A second question in this part of the survey asked what one or two things APA Texas could do in the next two years that would be most useful to the respondent. One respondent said: “Keep up the great work in communications, CE opportunities, and networking.” Several comments pointed to opportunities to increase communication, partnerships with other organizations and virtual trainings/webinars, ways to increase the diversity and practicality of training and conference sessions. One such suggestion was: “Help identify resources for planners to navigate politically difficult conversations and continue to improve the legislative advocacy program.”

Many of these themes were echoed in the responses to the question asking how Sections could increase their value to members. Comments demonstrated interest in more activities, both in-person and virtual, more professional training and more communication from the Sections.

Efforts to increase equity, diversity and inclusion in the planning profession were generally supported by survey respondents. Some comments support a continuation of current efforts, while others identify additional actions, such as provision of planning scholarships. Some responses express the view that this is “not the role of APA Texas”.

Planning Advocacy

APA Texas has worked to expand its advocacy initiatives over the past several years. Feedback on these activities is generally positive. Exhibit 11 shows that over three-fourths of the survey respondents have used APA Texas updates to stay informed about the legislative session. About 40% of respondents have shared updates with city leaders and/or contacted elected officials. All of these responses have increased since the 2021 survey. Exhibit 11 shows this comparison.

Exhibit 11: Involvement in Advocacy

How have you been involved in APA Texas Advocacy efforts in 2022 and 2023?		
Check all that apply.		
Activity	In 2023	In 2021
I used the APA Texas updates to stay informed	78.2%	65.7%
I've shared updates and alerts with my city leaders	41.8%	38.8%
I've contacted my elected officials on planning issues and bills	40.0%	34.3%
I've served on the Advocacy Committee or one of its topical subcommittees	16.4%	9.0%
I wasn't involved	16.4%	22.4%

Individual comments reflect support for the increased efforts, frustration that we aren’t having a greater impact, and recognition of the difficulties faced with a “conservative legislature that promotes their exclusive agenda”.

Potential Action Items

The Strategic Plan for 2021 – 2023 included 67 action items designed to implement the six goals. Survey respondents were asked to weigh in on the importance of these past action items to the Chapter’s activities in 2023 – 2025. Exhibit 12 lists all the past action items considered to be “still very important” by a majority of respondents. While the Chapter Board should review all the Action Items that were in

place for the past two years, these 39 items should receive particular focus as the Board establishes an agenda and priorities for the next two years.

Exhibit 12: Action Item Importance

Action Items from 2021-23 That Are "Still Very Important" to a Majority of Respondents			
Goal 1: APA Texas will LEAD the planning movement in this state.	%	Goal 2: APA Texas will COMMUNICATE AND ENGAGE to foster quality leadership and participation and to provide the best planning information to its members and to Texas residents, property owners and elected leaders.	%
1J. Mentor future members of the planning movement.	67.6%	2G. Engage appointed and elected officials in APA Texas.	66.7%
1H. Offer experiential learning opportunities.	65.8%	2B. Promote diversity and inclusion.	60.6%
1B. Ensure a successful transition of APA Texas leadership.	64.9%	2H. Increase communication between the APA Texas Executive Committee and members.	57.6%
1I. Partner with universities to recruit new members to the planning movement.	58.8%	2D. Develop outreach materials that tell the stories about the planners who are creating Great Places.	56.3%
1N. Conduct special outreach to 'Early Professionals'.	57.9%	2A. Implement a communications plan.	56.3%
1K. Promote APA membership to Planning Commissioners, Elected Officials and Legislators.	51.4%	2C. Leverage all forms of media.	54.6%
		2E. Enhance connections to get media attention for APA Texas awards and other initiatives.	50.0%
Goal 3: APA Texas will PARTNER with other Texas professional organizations and non-profits to leverage resources and build coalitions.	%	Goal 4: APA Texas will ADVOCATE for inclusive planning, planning leaders and government in our unique Texas setting.	%
3D. Expand partnerships with universities, student planning organizations and school districts.	65.5%	4K. Put in place a mechanism to get information about planning and planning issues to cities' legislative staffs and to key individuals in other partner organizations.	81.5%
3G. Identify potential new partnerships.	63.3%	4H. Maintain a Legislative Program.	70.4%

Action Items from 2021-23 That Are "Still Very Important" to a Majority of Respondents			
Goal 3: APA Texas will PARTNER with other Texas professional organizations and non-profits to leverage resources and build coalitions. (continued)	%	Goal 4: APA Texas will ADVOCATE for inclusive planning, planning leaders and government in our unique Texas setting. (continued)	%
3C. Encourage reciprocal partnership relationships.	60.0%	4E. Continue making advocacy training available to individual APA Texas members.	70.4%
3A. Emphasize APA as a 'big tent' organization that connects with many others.	58.6%	4G. Strengthen and implement a staffing plan during the Legislative session.	66.7%
3F. Build on partnerships for public health.	53.3%	4B. Include members from all Sections in the Advocacy Committee/subcommittees and explore how best to advocate on regional or local issues.	63.0%
3E. Leverage emerging relationships with surrounding State Chapters.	50.0%	4I. Maintain a Texas planning information base.	63.0%
		4L. Cultivate advocacy at the local level to reach Council members, County Commissioners, City managers, City secretaries and other representatives of local jurisdictions.	59.3%
		4D. Implement guidelines and policies for advocacy.	59.3%
		4F. Maintain funding for paid assistance with advocacy and the Legislature.	59.3%
		4A. Refine the APA Texas Advocacy Initiative structure based on recent experience.	51.9%

Action Items from 2021-23 That Are "Still Very Important" to a Majority of Respondents			
Goal 5: APA Texas will INSPIRE building great communities that meet the needs of diverse Texans, benefit from our state's character, climate and other assets, and are resilient and adaptable in response to change.	%	Goal 6: APA Texas will use Chapter and Section resources to SERVE its professional, appointed/elected, academic and student members in a way that furthers equity, diversity and inclusion.	%
5C. Create a structure for newer planners to benefit from the experience and contributions of more experienced planners.	72.4%	6H. Ensure that the annual state conferences continue to be events that participants value.	92.9%
5F. Scholarships for Sections.	62.1%	6D. Maintain the transparency of APA Texas.	81.5%
5D. Refine and perfect the Chapter's mentorship program.	58.6%	6A. Survey all APA Texas members about what they need and want from the organization.	74.1%
5B. Reinvigorate the Emerging Planning Leaders (EPL) initiative to become a succession planning initiative.	57.1%	6O. Assist AICP Candidates and Early Planners in achieving AICP certification.	67.9%
		6M. Effectively use resources and services available from National, and disseminate these to APA Texas members.	66.7%
		6C. Review and implement the recommendations of the Diversity and Inclusion Study.	57.1%

APA National Goals

APA National has established a set of four Strategic Goals that it uses to structure and prioritize its programs and initiatives. These goals are listed in Exhibit 13. The survey asked APA Texas members the question “What should APA Texas do to achieve these goals?” Most responses involved constructive suggestions and reflections on the goals objectives. Some responses shared the perspective that this is not an appropriate or high priority issue for APA. All individual comments are found in Appendix 4.

Exhibit 13: APA Strategic Goals

Strategic Goal 1: PRIORITIZE EQUITY. APA's inclusive and diverse membership, elected leadership, volunteer and staff workforce lead the way to more equitable communities.
Strategic Goal 2: REFRAME THE VOICE OF PLANNING. The role of planners is understood, valued and sought after by decision makers and influencers.
Strategic Goal 3: UPSKILL PLANNERS. Planners have the knowledge, insight and skills to help communities effectively manage change.
Strategic Goal 4: PURSUE DIGITAL RELEVANCE. APA's digital business focus ensures it remains relevant to stakeholders.

Trends Affecting Planning

A list was provided of trends that could affect planning and planning education in the future. Respondents were asked how significant each trend was, or whether it was even viewed as the current trend. Exhibit 14 shows the results of this question. A majority of respondents felt that nine trends ‘will cause significant change’ to planning and planning education. At the top of this list, with almost 70% of respondents, is “loss of local control and authority”. The second highest response of ‘will cause significant change’ was for the trend of “increasing income inequality, poverty and homelessness”.

A notable share of respondents (29%) felt that the trend of “increasing numbers of 'non-traditional' and part-time students” ‘will cause no change’ in planning or planning education. More than one-quarter (27%) of respondents replied that they did not think there was a trend towards ‘less understanding of the planning profession’.

Exhibit 14: Trends Affecting Planning

Please share your perspective about the importance of these trends to planning education and practice in Texas.					
	I don't think this is the trend	Will cause no change	May cause some change	Will cause significant change	I'm not sure
Loss of local control and authority	1.6%	1.6%	20.6%	69.8%	6.4%
Increasing income inequality, poverty and homelessness	1.6%	4.8%	30.7%	61.3%	1.6%

Please share your perspective about the importance of these trends to planning education and practice in Texas.					
	I don't think this is the trend	Will cause no change	May cause some change	Will cause significant change	I'm not sure
People getting their news from separate media outlets with distinct views (rather than from shared outlets perceived to be neutral)	3.2%	6.4%	25.4%	60.3%	4.8%
Increasing cost to rehabilitate aging public facilities and infrastructure	0.0%	5.0%	35.0%	60.0%	0.0%
Housing affordability/workforce housing	0.0%	6.5%	30.7%	59.7%	3.2%
More severe storms, extreme weather patterns or other aspects of climate change	4.8%	6.4%	28.6%	57.1%	3.2%
Politicization of planning processes	6.5%	1.6%	32.3%	56.5%	3.2%
Increasing polarization within communities	1.6%	1.6%	35.9%	54.7%	6.3%
Increasing role of artificial intelligence	3.2%	4.8%	33.3%	52.4%	6.4%
A larger share of the population is elderly	3.2%	4.8%	42.9%	49.2%	0.0%
Growing ability of businesses and workers to locate anywhere in the world	0.0%	7.9%	46.0%	46.0%	0.0%
The 'Millennial' and later generations having different values and expectations from those of earlier generations	1.6%	6.6%	42.6%	45.9%	3.3%
Increasing expectation that results should occur quickly (in 1 to 3 years, rather than over a decade or more)	8.1%	8.1%	30.7%	45.2%	8.1%
Impact of online sales on 'bricks and mortar' retail	0.0%	3.2%	50.0%	43.6%	3.2%
Increased need for resilience in responding to unanticipated changes	4.9%	9.8%	41.0%	39.3%	4.9%
More interest in having mobility choices in addition to autos	3.2%	8.1%	48.4%	38.7%	1.6%
Declining public funding for planning practice and academic programs	3.2%	3.2%	30.7%	38.7%	24.2%
An increasingly diverse community population	3.2%	11.1%	49.2%	34.9%	1.6%
Continual changes in disruptive communications technologies	3.3%	6.7%	46.7%	33.3%	10.0%
Communication of increasingly complex ideas in simpler and shorter ways	6.6%	3.3%	50.8%	32.8%	6.6%
New ability to use 'big data' and 'crowdsourcing' in planning	3.2%	6.4%	54.0%	30.2%	6.4%
Planners playing an increasing role in community or organizational leadership	12.7%	7.9%	44.4%	30.2%	4.8%
Retaining institutional knowledge as 'Baby Boom Generation' planners retire	3.1%	12.5%	46.9%	29.7%	7.8%

Please share your perspective about the importance of these trends to planning education and practice in Texas.					
	I don't think this is the trend	Will cause no change	May cause some change	Will cause significant change	I'm not sure
Awareness of disparities and inequality	4.8%	8.1%	56.5%	29.0%	1.6%
Use of public-private partnerships to achieve planning goals	3.2%	12.7%	54.0%	28.6%	1.6%
Interest in online education	9.5%	11.1%	36.5%	28.6%	14.3%
The economic return on home ownership may be lower than in the past	7.8%	9.4%	45.3%	28.1%	9.4%
Less understanding of the planning profession	27.0%	6.4%	34.9%	27.0%	4.8%
Need for quick response to pandemics or other emergencies	3.3%	11.5%	45.9%	24.6%	14.8%
Changing demographics (age & ethnicity) of student populations	7.9%	11.1%	47.6%	23.8%	9.5%
Planners playing an increasing role as advocates for particular issues or groups	15.9%	7.9%	42.9%	23.8%	9.5%
Interest in faster application of new research to practice	4.8%	7.9%	50.8%	20.6%	15.9%
Developing stronger ties between academic and practicing planners	14.3%	15.9%	38.1%	17.5%	14.3%
Increasing numbers of 'non-traditional' and part-time students	4.8%	29.0%	33.9%	11.3%	21.0%
Threats to the tenure process for planning faculty members	14.5%	12.9%	29.0%	9.7%	33.9%
Pressure for hiring of inter-disciplinary faculty members	16.1%	9.7%	27.4%	9.7%	37.1%
Increase in the role of planning internationally (i.e., outside the U.S.)	18.0%	11.5%	37.7%	4.9%	27.9%

APA National uses a set of more generalized trends to organize its research work related to the future. Survey participants were asked how important each of these broad areas for research and action are to APA and its members. Exhibit 15 shows that two of these trends – related to housing and transportation – are “very important” to over 60% of APA Texas respondents. All but one of these trends were viewed as important (either ‘very important’ or ‘somewhat important’) by three-fourths or more of respondents. The trend of “Gender Expansiveness and Gender Mainstreaming” was the exception. It was seen as important by 42.6% of respondents; 18% of respondents felt that this should not be included in APA Texas member opportunities.

Exhibit 15: Feedback on APA Future Trends

APA National has identified seven groups of trends that planners should act on now. How important is it for APA Texas to provide its members with opportunities for discussing, learning about and acting on these trend groups?					
	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not Very Important	Don't Include	I'm Not Sure
The Housing Crisis, New Roommates, and Solutions	65.6%	26.2%	4.9%	0.0%	3.3%
Equitable, Environmentally Responsible Transportation	62.3%	29.5%	1.6%	6.6%	0.0%
Federal Funding and Local Priorities	55.7%	41.0%	1.6%	1.6%	0.0%
Policy Impacts on Health	52.5%	41.0%	4.9%	1.6%	0.0%
Climate Policies, Funding and Action	52.5%	34.4%	9.8%	3.3%	0.0%
The Digital Era	42.6%	42.6%	13.1%	0.0%	1.6%
Younger Generations and Social Challenges	32.8%	45.9%	13.1%	1.6%	6.6%
Social Media Use and Media Literacy	27.9%	47.5%	16.4%	8.2%	0.0%
Gender Expansiveness and Gender Mainstreaming	14.8%	27.9%	26.2%	18.0%	13.1%

Feedback on Topical Issues

The survey included questions about these and other topics that are relevant to the future activities of APA Texas. Exhibit 16 below shows the page in Appendix 3 or 4 where the detailed responses and open-ended comments for the questions related to each issue begin.

Exhibit 16: Location of Topics in Appendices

Issue	Page in PDF
Your Involvement with APA Texas	3-1
Action to Achieve APA National Strategic Goals	3-4
APA Texas Vision, Goals and Progress, 2021 – 2023	3-15
Planning Advocacy	3-26
APA Texas Programs and Initiatives	3-28
Your Contact Information and Other Comments	3-34
Trends Affecting the Future of Planning	4-1
Potential Action Items for 2023 - 2025	4-4

Appendices 3 and 4 contains the information received in response to online survey questions. The open-ended comments provided in the appendices were not edited. One question asked for contact information of those survey respondents who wanted to be more involved in APA Texas next year. That contact information has been provided to the Executive Administrator but is not included in this report.

Use of Survey Results

The results of this online survey will play a major role in the design of the APA Texas Board of Directors Action Plan Workshop, which will be held on July 15, 2023. The survey results are being provided to Board members in advance so they can review these comments before the workshop. Key results will also be presented at the workshop.

As the Board continues to shape the Action Plan for 2023 – 25, these responses will be used to refine the action items that will be the focus of the organization during the next two years.

Appendices

1. Online Survey Text
2. Invitation Email to Survey Participants
3. Responses to Survey Questions (portrait format)
4. Responses to Survey Questions (landscape format)