



# Maine Association of Planners

## Maine Association of Planners 2024 Spring Conference

May 10, 2024, at The Pub at Baxter Brewing

120 Mill Street, Lewiston, Maine

We often hear the term “resilience” used when discussing climate change and adapting to more intense weather, but it could also mean bouncing back after an economic downturn, a pandemic, or some other challenge that forces communities to take stock of where they are and how they can move forward. At the 2024 Spring Conference, we will consider what it means to be resilient and how planners can help their communities be responsive to external forces outside of our control.

### Call for Sessions

The Maine Association of Planners (MAP) is pleased to host its 2024 Spring Conference on **May 10, 2024** at **The Pub at Baxter Brewing**. We are planning this one day conference to provide opportunities for engagement, collaboration, and (re)establishing partnerships with your colleagues, new and old, throughout Maine.

As we begin planning for the Spring 2024 conference, the Conference Committee is seeking your ideas for presentations that will provide our conference attendees with a program that is **interactive, informative, and inspirational!** Our theme for the conference is **how Maine planners are helping their communities be more resilient to change and to learn and grow from difficult situations**. We invite you to come share your stories about local issues you may be dealing with resilient communities;

- What does it really mean to be a resilient community from a social, economic, and sustainable point of view?
- How can planners be proactive rather than always in a reactive position?
- What can planners do both in the short-term and for long-term planning efforts? What have been your best practices?
- If you have a session proposal that is unrelated to the theme, we welcome your idea as well.

### Session Formats

We look forward to offering conference attendees a highly engaging conference experience. We strongly encourage session proposals and formats that: share and prioritize lessons learned; inspire attendees with a new way of thinking about or doing the work of planning; are solutions-based and offer meaningful take-aways; and engage attendees in brainstorming and problem-solving. The Committee is seeking a diverse mix of session types and lengths for our program. Sessions may be in any of the following formats:

- Presentation with Q&A (engage the audience)
- Panel Discussion
- Rapid, Multi-part presentation (i.e. pecha kucha, “shorts”)
- Peer-to-peer Discussion
- Another new or innovative format

### Submit your Ideas

Send your ideas to the Conference Committee by **March 29, 2024**, at this link: [Call For Sessions](#). The Conference Committee will review the ideas and develop a program that provides a variety of options for attendees and incorporates feedback from previous conference surveys. Questions may be directed to Erin Zwirko, MAP Professional Development Officer, at [mappdo@nnecapa.org](mailto:mappdo@nnecapa.org).