



Columbus Consolidated Government
News Release



[SUSTAINING PLACES]

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For Immediate Release:

October is National Community Planning Month
Celebrate How Planning Benefits Columbus

Columbus, Georgia - How do you get to work or school? Where do you live? Where do you shop? Many citizens do not realize that planning impacts all these decisions.

Each October, the American Planning Association (APA) celebrates National Community Planning Month as a way to highlight the role of planners and planning in our community. This year's theme "Sustaining Places" celebrates how places can be sustained and how places themselves sustain life and civilizations.

This month-long celebration is an opportunity to recognize how planning shapes Columbus and the work of planners and the planning profession in creating communities of lasting value. It is also an opportunity to recognize others who are not planners by trade, but also make significant contributions to building great communities such as ours.

Residents of Columbus are invited to celebrate National Community Planning Month by participating in various events that could be found at the Planning Department's website (www.columbusga.org/planning.) Events will be announced as they become available. Other communities across the nation are also celebrating this important event, to find additional events or to learn more about this celebration, visit: www.planning.org/ncpm.

Planning is the process of envisioning, mapping or otherwise conceiving how a community will look, grow, and define itself—its characteristics, attributes, and identity. As our communities continue to change and grow, planners play an important role in ensuring that new developments are designed and built in harmony with existing surroundings. Planners must carefully balance the needs and desires of residents against the challenges presented by growth and change not just in the physical realm, but also economically and socially.

Planning also strives to give residents choices. From the type of home an individual lives in, such as a condominium, apartment, town home or single family, to how an individual gets around, whether taking mass transit, walking, bicycling or driving, planning helps ensure communities address the needs of everyone.

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