

## President Elect



**Jason Benton Gilman**

### Position Statement

#### Biography:

Jason Gilman is the Director of Planning and Development for the City of La Crosse, Wisconsin. His 30 year career has centered on the improvement of the City, focused on the stewardship and revitalization of the urban core.

Jason's education includes a BS in Landscape Architecture from the University of Wisconsin, Madison and graduate studies in community planning at the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

#### Professional appointments include:

- The Executive Board of the Wisconsin Downtown Action Council, 2017
- The Executive Board of the Minnesota Chapter of the American Planning Association, 2014-2015
- The Executive Board of the Wisconsin Chapter of the American Planning Association, 2002-2004
- Adjunct Professorships at the University of Wisconsin, La Crosse and Winona State University, State and Local Politics, Environmental Policy
- Grant Reviewer for the State of Wisconsin, Department of Administration
- Minnesota High Speed Rail Technical Advisory Committee
- Minnesota Environmental Quality Board Silica Sand Technical Advisory Board, 2014
- Mississippi Valley Conservancy Board of Directors, 2004-2008
- City of La Crosse Food Forest Core Team, 2018

#### Credentials include:

- Wisconsin Registered Landscape Architect, #180
- American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP)
- Member of the Urban Land Institute (ULI), 1995-Present

Jason's career and personal life have included many volunteer hours on community improvement projects, assisting local neighborhoods and conservancy organizations, successful grant writing of over \$6 Million Dollars for several municipalities, including a \$1.2M highly competitive National Scenic Byways Grant. Jason also worked as the project landscape architect on the Frank Lloyd Wright Monona Terrace Convention Center in Madison, Wisconsin while employed with Schreiber Anderson Associates, a private multi-disciplinary planning and landscape architecture firm. Jason was also honored with an invitation by the Tribal Council of the Sisseton Wahpeton Sioux to present land use planning, among many other speaking engagements.

Jason is also a musician, artist, business owner, husband of 33 years, father of two sons, traveler and outdoorsman.

Position Statement:

Leadership in the field of planning is of historic importance in the United States. Our role as leaders, lifelong learners, stewards of the natural and built environment, educators of policymakers and the public, mentors of our youth and bearers of moral and ethical integrity will have great influence on the future. My commitment to the profession and our State chapter is to promote mutual empowerment within the profession through education and information sharing, increase educational opportunities for planners through outreach and new technology, be accessible and empathetic to our members and citizens, striving to assist in problem solving and support and expand partnerships with public, private, philanthropic, non-profit and people by advancing the Chapter's social capital.

As a president elect, I will encourage the chapter to address the State's most pressing issues, encouraging our membership to lead with good information and communications made possible in part by the interaction and vibrancy of the chapter. I will also look to contribute, foster dialogue and support the development of informative data about planning related policy in the State, both to build capacity and mitigate downside risk over the upcoming decade, especially in areas of tax policy, sustainable growth policies, addressing climate change, caring for our aged, welcoming diversity and inclusiveness and looking for innovative ways to address decay, housing affordability and economic and environmental security.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my candidacy for Wisconsin APA.