

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AMERICAN PLANNING ASSOCIATION

Commissioner Amanda M. Burden has been inducted into the elite membership of the American Institute of Certified Planners College of Fellows.

AREA PLANNER RECOGNIZED AMONG TOP IN FIELD



Washington, D.C. – The American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) inducted Amanda M. Burden, FAICP of New York City into the elite membership of AICP's College of Fellows at a black-tie ceremony on April 27 in conjunction with the American Planning Association's (APA) National Planning Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada.

"The AICP College of Fellows recognizes individuals who've made exceptional contributions to the planning profession," said AICP President Graham Billingsley, AICP. "The Fellows have devoted their careers to excellence in planning and they set the highest standards for professional planners today," he added.

Election to the Fellowship may be granted to planners who have been longtime members of AICP and have demonstrated excellence in professional practice, teaching and mentoring, research, community service, leadership, and communication. Altogether, 49 planners from 22 states were inducted into the AICP College of Fellows at the ceremony, which will be held at Bally's in Las Vegas.

All planners who have been certified by AICP use the letters "AICP" after their names. Fellows, however, are designated with the letters "FAICP." Currently, more than 15,500 practicing urban and rural planners in North America and elsewhere have AICP certification. Of those, approximately 400 have attained the status of Fellow.

Burden is being named a Fellow of AICP for individual achievement in the planning profession. During her 32 year career, Burden has brought to the planning process "a humanist design sensibility that greatly enhances new planning initiatives for the public realm," said Daniel L. Doctoroff, former deputy mayor for economic development and rebuilding for New York City.

Responsible for plans that led to the redevelopment of New York's Battery Park, Burden's work has gained national and international repute. "Under her robust leadership, Amanda led a team of architects and planners to craft a pragmatic and elegant solution that integrated the site into the fabric of lower Manhattan," said Richard Kahan, founder and CEO of The Urban Assembly.

Currently, Burden chairs the New York City Planning Commission. "Under Amanda's direction, the Department of City Planning is in the midst of its most active, innovative, and responsive period since the mid-twentieth century," said Ethel Sheffer, ACIP, president of APA's NY Metro Chapter. "Her high standards for extensive outreach and community engagement, her insistence on design excellence, and her attention to the details that shape the conditions for a better built environment for New Yorkers will leave a lasting impact on this city."

AICP is the professional institute of the American Planning Association. For more than 80 years, AICP has promoted professional excellence in the field of planning by setting high standards for competence, education, experience, and ethical conduct, and by articulating the future of the planning profession.

The 2008 National Planning Conference, which is being held April 27 through May 1 at Bally's Las Vegas, is the 100th annual conference of its kind in the U.S. The first planning conference took place in Washington, D.C., in May 1909.

The American Planning Association and its professional institute, the American Institute of Certified Planners, are dedicated to advancing the art, science and profession of good planning -- physical, economic and social -- so as to create communities that offer better choices for where and how people work and live. Members of APA help create communities of lasting value and encourage civic leaders, business interests and citizens to play a meaningful role in creating communities that enrich people's lives. APA has offices in Washington, D.C., Chicago, Ill., and Shanghai, China. For more information, visit its website at: www.planning.org