

**Regional & Intergovernmental Planning Division**  
**Executive Committee Meeting**  
**January 20, 2026**

**Notes**

• **Intros**

- Paul Inghram, Division Chair, welcomed everyone and posed the following questions.
- *Where do you work, how did you end up in regional planning, and what do you like about your job?*
- *In attendance* - Attendees introduced themselves and gave some background.
- Paul Inghram (RIPD Chair; PSRC – Seattle); Nicole McCall (RIPD Vice Chair; Cambridge Systematics – Cleveland, OH); Bridget Callea (RIPD Communications Officer; Benchmark Planning – Charlotte, NC); Ben Bakkenta (RIPD Secretary/Treasurer; PSRC – Seattle); Sheila Lynch (DRCOG – Denver); Jason Wager (Centralina Regional Council – Charlotte, NC ); Ian McElwee (SCR COG – New Haven, CT); Michelle Larime (RTC Southern NV – Las Vegas); Travis Liska (North Central TX COG – Dallas); Elizabeth Scott (CMAP – Chicago); Ralph Willmer (RIPD Immediate Past Chair; APA Ethics Officer; MAPC – retired)

• **Overview of RIPD (Paul/Ralph)**

- Annual schedule.
  - Regional Futures Forum major division event timed for National Planning Conference (2026 – Detroit)
  - Fall Annual Meeting – November (webinar with interesting speaker)
- Bylaws
- Performance report. An annual report to APA on division activities is submitted annually in the fall.

- Budget/grants (see Secretary/Treasurer report below)
- **Role/Expectations for Regional Liaisons (Nicole)**
  - New role to get more active membership from around the country representing the different APA Divisions. Get new ideas, information. Seen as a 'low lift' in terms of expectations for work expected. Envisioned as a 2-year term, coinciding with election of division officers.
- **Forum** - any tasks we want to perform in advance of the Feb 17th meeting? Forum planning outline? Refresh contact with SEMCOG? (Paul)
  - See draft agenda below
- **Annual Performance Report (Paul/Ben)**
  - Submitted in December 2025
- **Treasurer Report (Ben)**
  - On Federal Fiscal Year schedule – 10/1-9/30. FY 2026 Budget and Work Plan: \$5,500 (inclusive of \$1K reserve) submitted to APA in September 2025.
  - 2025 EOY Balance Sheet: ~\$9,700
- **Communications Update, request for content (Bridget) (Not covered – ran out of time)**
  - (Not covered – ran out of time)
- **Other Business**
  - (Not covered – ran out of time)

### **Possible agenda for Regional Futures Forum in Detroit**

*This outline is intended to prompt discussion. It is generally based on prior years and is open to change. Is this a good starting point for the February 17<sup>th</sup> meeting?*

Lunch

Welcome and introductions

RIPD and SEMCOG

SEMCOG presentation on planning for Detroit metro

Table sharing

Possible agenda items

Collaboration guidance – Nicole, etc.

Other options?

Federal legislative report – Jason Jordan

Walking tour

Social gathering – May be combined with other divisions

*Note – Paul will be at the Divisions Council meeting for much of the event*