

David Rouse, FAICP, ASLA

David Rouse is a planner and landscape architect with over 40 years of experience, focused on creating healthy, resilient, and sustainable communities. He is committed to connecting professional practice and research to develop practical solutions for 21st century planning and design issues. Areas of expertise include comprehensive planning; parks and open space planning; green infrastructure; and planning for emerging technologies.

Website: DavidRouseFAICP.com



Certifications and Licenses

Fellow of the American Institute of Certified Planners

Professional Landscape Architect, licensed in Massachusetts and Rhode Island

Professional Planner, New Jersey

Professional Memberships

American Planning Association

American Public Health Association

American Society of Landscape Architects

Education

Master of Landscape Architecture, University of Massachusetts-Amherst 1980

Bachelor of Arts, Harvard University 1974

Major: History. Minor: Botany. Graduated Phi Beta Kappa

Professional Experience

David Rouse, FAICP, ASLA, Narberth, PA

2019-present

Urban + Regional Planning Consultant

Provides strategic advisory services to public agencies, nonprofits, and firms seeking to develop and implement sustainable community planning and design solutions. Notable projects include *Our Future Lancaster* (a comprehensive plan for the City of Lancaster, PA), *Managing Disruption* (a briefing book for decision-makers in North Carolina, prepared for the UNC School of Government), and *Financing Green Infrastructure* (a guide for communities in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed, prepared for the International City-County Management Association).

Professional Experience (cont.)

American Planning Association (APA), Washington, DC

2013-2019

Managing Director of Research and Advisory Services

APA is the world's largest professional organization of city and regional planners. APA's Research and Advisory Services Department conducts applied, policy-relevant research that builds knowledge and advance solutions for planners and the communities they serve.

- Managed department, supervised staff, and set strategic direction for research programs and initiatives
- Oversaw sponsored research through the Green Communities, Hazards Planning, and Planning and Community Health programs; funders included the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Federal Highway Administration, U.S. Forest Service, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Pew Charitable Trusts, and other federal agencies and foundations
- Led special initiatives such as the Sustaining Places Comprehensive Plan Standards, Planning for Autonomous Vehicles, and Water and Planning
- Engaged in a wide variety of partnership and outreach activities to advance planning practice and its visibility among allied professionals; worked with organizations such as the American Society of Landscape Architects, American Public Health Association, National Recreation and Park Association, Urban Land Institute, and U.S. Green Building Council

Wallace Roberts & Todd, LLC (WRT), Philadelphia, PA

1988-2013

Planner and Landscape Architect

Founded in 1963, WRT is a leading national planning and design practice. In 2011 it received APA's first National Planning Excellence Award for a Planning Firm in recognition of its sustained record of leadership in the profession.

- Hired as a project planner and subsequently promoted to Associate, Senior Associate, and a Principal of the firm
- Practice leader in city and regional planning. Projects included comprehensive plans; parks, open space, and green infrastructure plans; transportation, economic development, and urban design plans; and zoning and development ordinances and standards
- Instrumental in developing WRT's values-driven approach to comprehensive planning, which has been widely emulated throughout the profession, in the 1990s
- Many projects received awards for excellence from APA and other professional organizations (see list below)
- Served as a volunteer member of APA's Sustaining Places Task Force, Comprehensive Plan Standards Working Group, Legislative and Policy Committee, and the APA PA Chapter Southeast Section Board

Professional Experience (cont.)

Schofield Brothers, Inc, Orleans, MA

1985-1988

Project Manager

- Prepared site, landscape, and engineering plans and environmental documentation for projects in the ecologically sensitive Cape Cod region
- Served as a board member of the Association for the Preservation of Cape Cod, a nonprofit environmental advocacy organization

Town of Barnstable, MA

1980-1985

Conservation Agent

- Supervised the Conservation Commission office for the largest and fastest growing town on Cape Cod
- Administered the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act and the Town of Barnstable Wetlands Protection Bylaw
- Played a key role in major planning initiatives, including the Town of Barnstable Open Space Plan (lead author), which was implemented through a \$20 million land acquisition program
- Helped found the Barnstable Land Trust, the town's first private nonprofit land conservation organization, which subsequently preserved over 1,000 acres of land

Teaching Experience

Adjunct Faculty Member, M.S. in Sustainable Design Program, Thomas Jefferson University, 2020-present

Adjunct Faculty Member, Urban Studies and Planning Program, University of Maryland, 2020-present

Adjunct Faculty Member, Graduate Department of City and Regional Planning, University of Pennsylvania, 2004-2010

Publications

Hitchings, Benjamin and David Rouse. *Managing Disruption in a Rapidly Changing World: A Briefing Book for Decision-Makers in North Carolina*. University of North Carolina School of Government, 2024.

Hitchings, Benjamin and David Rouse. *Triangle Trends Report: Tracking Disruption*. Triangle J (now Central Pines) Council of Governments, 2022.

Rouse, David and Econsult Solutions, Inc. *Financing Green Infrastructure: Lessons from the Chesapeake Bay Watershed*. International City-County Management Association (ICMA), 2022.

"The Future of the Comprehensive Plan," *Journal of Comparative Urban Law and Policy*, Georgia State University of Law, Volume 5, Issue 1, 2022.

Publications (cont.)

- Rouse, David and Rocky Piro. *The Comprehensive Plan: Sustainable, Resilient, and Equitable Communities for the 21st Century*. London and New York: Routledge, 2022.
- Hurtado, Petra, Benjamin Hitchings, and David Rouse. *Smart Cities: Integrating Technology, Community, and Nature* (PAS Report 599). Chicago: American Planning Association, 2021.
- Turner, Scott and David Rouse. "Green infrastructure and climate change: a One Water approach." *New England Water Environment Association Journal*, Volume 54, No. 4, Winter 2020.
- "Green Infrastructure and Resilience." Published in *A Handbook of Urban Resilience*, Michael Burayidi, ed. New York: Routledge, 2020.
- "Commentary: The Implications of Autonomous Vehicles for Urban Design Practice." *Journal of Urban Design*, Routledge. Published online 26 November 2019.
- Rouse, David and Ignacio Bunster-Ossa. "Landscape Planning, Design, and Green Infrastructure; Green Infrastructure: A Landscape Approach." Published in *Planning for Climate Change: A Reader in Green Infrastructure and Sustainable Design for Resilient Cities*, Hamlin, Elisabeth, Yaser Abunnasr, Robert L. Ryan, eds., pp. 273-281. New York: Routledge, 2018.
- "Social Equity, Parks, and Gentrification." *Parks & Recreation Magazine*, National Recreation and Park Association, July 2018.
- "How to Plan for Autonomous Vehicles; Future Research Needs." Published in *Preparing Communities for Autonomous Vehicles*, Jennifer Henaghan, ed., pp. 18-35. American Planning Association, 2018.
- Reiner, Mark and David Rouse. "Dependency model: reliable infrastructure and the resilient, sustainable, and livable city." *Journal of Sustainable and Resilient Infrastructure*, Volume 3, Issue 3, pp. 103-108, December 2017.
- "Green Infrastructure and Park System Planning." *Great Urban Parks Campaign Briefing Paper 3*, American Planning Association, 2017.
- Wang, Na et. al. "Ten questions concerning future buildings beyond zero energy and carbon neutrality." *Building and Environment*, Volume 119, pp. 169-182, July 2017 (contributing author).
- Rouse, David and Shannon McElvaney. "Comprehensive Planning and Geodesign." *PAS Memo*, American Planning Association, March/April 2016.
- McElvaney, Shannon and David Rouse. "Geodesign and the Future of Planning." *PAS Memo*, American Planning Association, March/April 2015.
- Godschalk, David R. and David C. Rouse. *Sustaining Places: Best Practices for Comprehensive Plans* (PAS Report 578). Chicago: American Planning Association, 2015.
- "Green Infrastructure and Post-Disaster Recovery." *Planning for Post-Disaster Recovery Briefing Paper 10*, American Planning Association, 2014.

Publications (cont.)

Rouse, David C. and Ignacio Bunster-Ossa. *Green Infrastructure: A Landscape Approach* (PAS Report 571). Chicago: American Planning Association, 2013.

Templeton, Nancy and David Rouse. "The Role of Tree Preservation Ordinances in Green Infrastructure." *Zoning Practice*, Volume 29, No. 9. American Planning Association, September 2012.

Godschalk, David R. and William R. Anderson. *Sustaining Places: The Role of the Comprehensive Plan* (PAS Report 567). Chicago: American Planning Association, 2012 (contributing author).

Hara, Mami and David Rouse. "Regulating Green: Is Your Municipality Promoting Green Infrastructure?" *Zoning Practice*, Volume 27, No. 9. American Planning Association, September 2010.

Rouse, David and Nancy Zobl. "Form-Based Development Codes." *Zoning Practice*, Volume 21, No. 5. American Planning Association, May 2004.

Rouse, David, Todd Michael Chandler, and Jon Arason. "The 21st Century Comprehensive Plan." Paper presented at the American Planning Association National Planning Conference, Seattle, April 1999.

"A Values-Driven Approach to Comprehensive Planning." Paper presented at the American Planning Association National Planning Conference, Boston, April 1998.

Presentations

David Rouse is an accomplished speaker who has made dozens of presentations at APA national and state chapter conferences, conferences hosted by allied professional organizations, in webinars, and at other events on topics such as comprehensive planning, green infrastructure, resilience, and planning and public health. Presentations since 2020 include:

"The Future of the Comprehensive Plan," APA Maryland Chapter and Maryland Planning Commissioners Association Conference, Ellicott City, MD, October 2024

"Intergenerational Community Planning," Intergenerational Community Planning and Placemaking Symposium, Lancaster, PA, July 2024

"The 21st Century Comprehensive Plan," APA Federal Planning Division Training Workshop, Washington, DC, May 2024

"Age-Friendly Housing Options: Missing Middle Housing and Accessory Dwelling Units," Age-Friendly Summit, Lancaster, PA, October 2023

"The Intergenerational Comprehensive Plan," Generation United's Global Intergenerational Conference, Washington, DC, July 2023

"The Only Concept is Change: Planning for an Unstable Future," Urbanism Next Conference, Portland, OR, April 2023

"Taming Disruption: A Case Study in Regional Disruption," National Planning Conference, Philadelphia, April 2023

Presentations (cont.)

- "The 21st Century Comprehensive Plan," National Planning Conference, San Diego, May 2022
- "Green Infrastructure and Resilience," APA ENRE Division webinar (Responding to Climate Change), March 2022
- "Tracking Disruption: Taking Action to Prepare for the Future," Triangle J Council of Governments, October 2021
- "The Comprehensive Plan: Sustainable, Resilient, and Equitable Communities for the 21st Century," APA Colorado Chapter Conference, October 2021
- "Towards Comprehensive Planning: Global Cities in Conversation," webinar hosted by the Municipal Art Society of New York, May 2021
- "Exercising Foresight: How Will Drivers of Change Affect Parks and Recreation?," Maryland Recreation and Park Association Annual Conference, April 2021
- "ProAct Now: Planning Effectively in a Changing World," APA Cross-Chapter Conference, October 2020; APA Pennsylvania Chapter Conference, October 2020; APA Virginia Chapter Annual Conference, September 2020
- "Green Infrastructure for Smart Cities," Smart Cities 2020, Gulf Coast Energy Network Virtual Conference, August 2020
- "Rethinking Smart Cities Holistically," NPC@Home (online National Planning Conference), May 2020
- "ProAct Now: Planning Effectively in a Changing World," webinar with Ben Hitchings, FAICP, sponsored by Maryland Department of Planning and Smart Growth Network, March 2020

Professional Awards

- Sustainable Plan Award*, Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan, APA Sustainable Communities Division, 2014
- Leadership in Sustainability Award*, awarded to WRT by APA's Sustainable Communities Division, 2014
- Comprehensive Planning Award*, Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan, American Planning Association, Texas Chapter, 2012
- Planning Excellence Award for Comprehensive Planning*, Chautauqua County Comprehensive Plan, American Planning Association, Upstate NY Chapter, 2011
- Outstanding Planning Award for Comprehensive Planning*, Chautauqua County Comprehensive Plan, American Planning Association, Western New York Section, 2011
- National Planning Excellence Award for a Planning Firm*, awarded to WRT by the American Planning Association, 2011

Professional Awards (cont.)

Daniel Burnham Award for a Comprehensive Plan, Union County Comprehensive Plan, American Planning Association, Pennsylvania Chapter, 2010

Overall Excellence in Smart Growth Award, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Envision Lancaster County, 2009

Outstanding Planning Award for a Plan, American Planning Association, Pennsylvania Chapter, Lancaster County Growth Management Plan, 2006

Community Comprehensive Plan Award, American Planning Association, Virginia Chapter, Portsmouth Comprehensive Plan, 2006

Outstanding Planning Award, Comprehensive Planning, American Planning Association, North Carolina Chapter, Greensboro Comprehensive Plan, 2003

Outstanding Planning Award for Comprehensive Planning, Town of Amherst Bicentennial Comprehensive Plan, American Planning Association, Western New York Section, 2003

Daniel H. Burnham Award for Excellence in Planning, Chicago Metropolitan Planning Council, Will County Land Resources Management Plan, 2002

Outstanding Planning Award for a Plan, American Planning Association, FOCUS Kansas City Comprehensive Plan, 1999

Outstanding Municipal Comprehensive Planning Award, American Planning Association, Maryland Chapter, Annapolis Comprehensive Plan, 1998

Comprehensive Planning Award, American Planning Association, Texas Chapter, Irving Comprehensive Plan, 1997

Honor Award, American Planning Association, Kentucky Chapter, Ohio River Corridor Master Plan, Louisville/Jefferson County, KY, 1996

Award for Excellence, Maryland Economic Growth, Resource Protection, and Planning Commission, Canal Place Management Plan, Cumberland, MD, 1996