

**Full Name**

Amanda Kannard

**Position Statement**

I would greatly appreciate the opportunity to be considered for the Denver Metro Representative position on the APA Colorado Board. As a certified planner, active member of APA Colorado and APA National, former member of the APA Colorado Emerging Planning Professionals' Board, and resident of the City of Denver, I believe I could serve as a strong representative for APA Colorado members located in the Denver Metro area. As a Denver Metro Area Representative, I would focus on:

- Cultivating inclusive, meaningful opportunities for APA Colorado members in the Denver Metro to engage with each other and members of our communities
- Coordinating collaboration and communication of priorities between chapter members and the APA Colorado executive board
- Providing APA Colorado members with learning opportunities to further our collective professional development

Given how much the world can change seemingly overnight, I believe it is important for APA Colorado to be flexible and accommodating to keep members engaged, even through unprecedented circumstances. Now more than ever, collaboration and communication between and among planners and community members is essential, particularly in a regional context. To effectively achieve APA Colorado's mission of providing leadership in the development of resilient, inclusive, sustainable and equitable communities, we will need to be innovative and adaptable as our reality continues to shift. Over the last two+ years, the COVID pandemic has shed light on many inequities within our current social systems, and we as planners have a responsibility to ascertain how to get more voices to the table to address these challenges.

As a Denver Metro area rep, I will work closely with the executive board to ensure APA Colorado members across all nine Denver Metro counties have access to information and opportunities to engage. Now more than ever it is essential that members of the APA Colorado board offer our fellow planners an opportunity to learn, collaborate, and innovate to ensure that we are being the best champions for our communities that we can be. I believe APA Colorado does a great job of offering context-sensitive, informative, and fun opportunities to engage with members and communities across Colorado. As a Denver Metro Area representative, I will work to continue this legacy, and help the organization to continue cultivating interesting, interactive ways to engage with members as we begin to figure out what's next following an unprecedented couple of years.