



American Planning Association
Virginia Chapter

Making Great Communities Happen

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Botetourt County's Jonathan McCoy Wins Statewide Planning Award
for Professionalism and Excellence**



The Virginia Chapter of the American Planning Association (APA Virginia) is pleased to announce **Jonathan McCoy** of [Botetourt County's Department of Community Development](#) as a winner of the **Foxhound Award for Distinguished New Professionals.**

Jonathan currently serves as Planner II for Botetourt County, where he serves the community with a wide portfolio of responsibilities. He handles long-range planning projects, integrating community engagement and outreach into these projects. In addition, Jonathan serves as a staff contact on land use cases that go before the County's Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors. He is also a member of the Roanoke Valley Alleghany Regional Commission's Transportation Technical Committee, manages contracts, pursues grant funding opportunities, and serves on the County's Budget Task Force.

Julie Chop, AICP, CZA, Vice President of External Affairs for APA Virginia, noted that "*Jonathan's contributions to his colleagues are considerable and outsized when compared to most planners at this stage of their careers. His accomplishments demonstrate that he has the full confidence of his department's leadership, demonstrating dedication, poise, and excellence in his service to the community's planning needs.*"

Examples of Jonathan's key accomplishments include:

- Organizing and working as the primary staff liaison to the Comprehensive Plan update's citizen advisory committee;
- Utilizing the County's GIS consultant team to create storymaps and other visual tools to augment the community involvement for the Comprehensive Plan update and Gateway Crossing Overlay District zoning study; and,

- Participating in APA Virginia's 2023 Conference and Awards Committees.

Jonathan is a product of Virginia education, earning his B.S. in Public Administration from George Mason University and two masters degrees - Urban & Regional Planning, *and* Public Administration - from Virginia Tech. He is a candidate to join the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP), and is a Certified Zoning Official (CZO) through the Virginia Association of Zoning Officials.

Although early in his career, Jonathan has brought extensive experience to his work in Botetourt, previously serving as an AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer, consultant, and public sector planner. He has made further contributions to the planning profession outside of his day job, serving on the Town of Vinton's Planning Commission and organizing social events with other early-career planners.

APA Virginia will present **Jonathan McCoy** with the **Foxhound Award for Distinguished New Professionals** during an award ceremony at 12:00pm on **Tuesday, July 18th** at the **Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center (110 Shenandoah Ave NE | Roanoke, VA 24016)**.

About the [**American Planning Association, Virginia Chapter**](#)

Our mission is to make great communities happen in Virginia by offering continuing professional development and other valuable services to planners that will enable them to excel in their practice. We are committed to raising awareness about the many benefits that planning offers as a foundation for effectively addressing the physical, economic, and social changes that take place in Virginia, and to providing effective leadership in planning advocacy reflective of a diverse geography and population.