



FOR A LIVABLE, HEALTHY AND PROSPEROUS ORANGE COUNTY

Citizen Planner Academy 2023

Do you want to become more actively involved in making Orange County a sustainable community?

You can help make our community a more prosperous, livable, and healthy place for all our citizens and guests both now and in the future. Citizen Planner Academy is a series of classes designed to promote and increase citizen engagement in sustainable decision making by developing knowledge of the planning process, and to introduce various planning disciplines.

Each year, the core courses: “Planning Basics” and “Sustainability” along with a series of special topics will be offered. The Academy is open to all Orange County citizens; however, registration is required. All classes are held at **Orange County Internal Operations Center 1 - 450 E. South Street, Orlando, FL 32801**, unless otherwise noted.

Those who attend Planning Basics, Sustainability and three Special Topics courses will be recognized as a graduate of the Citizen Planner Academy. The classes are being offered on the following dates (9:00am -11:00am):

Planning Basics

Saturday, January 28

Sustainability

Saturday, March 25

Planning Basics & Sustainability – (Make-Up Workshop)

Saturday, September 30

Special Topics

Urban Design – Baldwin Park Tour

Saturday, February 25

Economic Development/ Redevelopment

Saturday, April 29

Emergency Management

Saturday, May 27

Housing and Community Development

Saturday, June 24

Mobility

Saturday, August 26

To register for classes, visit:

www.ocfl.net/CitizenPlannerAcademy

For more information please contact:

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Orange County Government

**Neighborhood
Services
Division**

“Engaging and Strengthening Neighborhoods”

Citizen Planner Academy 2023 Descriptions

CORE COURSES

Planning Basics

Have you ever wondered why apartment complexes are built in certain areas? Why was a liquor store opened down the street, instead of a local supermarket? How are school and park locations determined? Participants will learn about the Orange County land development process, its importance and who is typically involved throughout the process.

Sustainability

What is a sustainable environment? How do we preserve Orange County's vast natural resources while accommodating for growth in the region? Sustainable and resilient communities are focused on public health, inclusion, natural resources, and innovation. Participants will learn about how they can help to ensure long term preservation of water, green space, food systems, waste diversion, and energy needs. Participants will also learn about homeowner, neighborhood, and business programs available to beautify neighborhoods and save on utility bills.

SPECIAL TOPICS

Urban Design – Baldwin Park Tour

Urban Design is the process of designing and shaping cities and towns. This class will help explain how the design of buildings, open spaces, and public amenities contribute towards creating a neighborhood that is functional, sustainable, and attractive. A walking tour of Baldwin Park will illustrate the practical application of many concepts discussed in class.

Economic Development/ Redevelopment

Economic growth attracts and improves businesses; creates job opportunities and an improved quality of life for a community. However, economic growth will differ based on the community you live in; as each community has its own priorities, opportunities and challenges. Participants will learn about the role of economic development on the community and how it affects them as citizens.

Emergency Management

This class will address how a community prepares for, stays safe during and thrives after a disaster strikes. Class will feature information about the four phases of the emergency planning process, and the National Incident Management System - a protocol used to coordinate and respond to events from the local to federal level.

Housing and Community Development

This class will address opportunities for affordable housing, economic development and revitalization within under-served communities. Participants will learn about stable, quality, affordable housing and home ownership opportunities and resources for low-income families, along with the benefits of developing viable communities by providing decent housing and suitable living environments - making a community a better place to live and work.

Mobility

Mobility has significant effect on the quality of life in cities. Most of us think of cars when we think of the transportation system, but buses, trains, trails, and sidewalks get us where we need to be as well. Ideally, our transportation system should allow for multiple choices for getting to and from where we live, work, and recreate. This class will explore the basic concepts of transportation planning.