

# What is the Citizen Planner Academy?

The Orange County Citizen Planner Academy is a series of classes designed to educate the public regarding planning for a sustainable community, the land development process in Orange County and special topics within the planning field.

The goal of the academy is to empower citizens with the tools and knowledge to become active decision makers within their communities.

Core courses and a series of special topics will be offered every year. Instructors will present information and use interactive exercises to help participants apply the principles taught during that class.

## Our Mission

To promote citizen engagement through an understanding of the planning process as the means to make sustainable decisions, and to provide an introduction to various planning disciplines.



For more information please contact:

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**FOR A LIVABLE, HEALTHY AND  
PROSPEROUS ORANGE COUNTY**

## Program Guide





## 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 homeownership 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 a 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.

## Urban Design

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.

## Core Courses

### Planning Basics 101

Participants will get an overview of urban planning principles and will be educated on the land development process in Orange County.

### Sustainability 101

This workshop will cover the basic concepts of sustainability, with a special focus on efforts being made to preserve natural resources and address long-term water, waste management, and energy needs.



## Special Topics

### Emergency Management

This class will discuss 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.

### 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.

