

**FOR
REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSIONS' STAFFS
IN MISSOURI**

The purpose of the Code of Ethics for the regional planning commissions and councils of governments in Missouri is to provide for professional staffing to councils of government, minimize conflicts of interest, and establish ethical principles for the Executive Directors and staffs of the regional planning commissions and councils of governments. The following ethical principles shall be applicable to, and govern the conduct of, every staff member of each regional planning commission or council of governments in Missouri.

The terms "regional planning commissions," "councils of governments," "economic development districts," "regional associations of local governments" shall be construed to mean the same thing with regards to this code of ethics.

1. Staffs of regional planning commissions in Missouri shall refrain from seeking public office of any type during their tenure as staff of a regional planning commission.
 2. Staffs of regional planning commissions shall refrain from participation in all partisan political activities during their tenure as staff of regional planning commissions.
 3. Staffs of regional planning commissions shall seek no personal favor, nor profit through information secured by confidential information accrued to them, as a part of their duties with a regional planning commission.
 4. Regional planning commissions' staffs shall recognize that the elected or appointed county and municipal officials and other entities represented on the Boards of Directors or memberships of the regional planning commissions are charged with the responsibility of setting policy for the regional planning commissions.
 5. Executive Directors and others charged with the hiring of staff for regional planning commissions shall do so based upon pertinent qualifications appropriate to the particular position being filled.
 6. Staffs of regional planning commissions shall act in the best interest of their member counties and municipalities and other entities that are members of the particular regional planning commission for which they are employed.
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7. Executive Directors of regional planning commissions shall continue to strive to improve their staffs' professional abilities and competence and work with

the staffs in provision of training opportunities and shall provide guidance to ensure their professional advancement.

8. Regional planning commission executive directors and staffs shall refrain from accepting appointments to local advisory boards when it is apparent that a conflict of interest may arise due to their responsibilities with their employing agency. If it is deemed appropriate for a regional planning commission staff member to be appointed as a voting member of any local entity which may have conflict of interest with the work of the regional planning commission, then such shall be approved by membership action of the particular regional council involved. Staff members or executive directors appointed to such committees shall not vote on issues which may appear to have conflict of interest or taint the reputation of the regional planning commission.
9. Staffs of regional planning commissions shall not cultivate outside employment that competes with services offered by their employers while serving as a member on a regional planning commission's staff.

The above Code of Ethics has been officially adopted by the _____

(council of governments/regional planning commission name)

on this _____ day of _____, 19____ by the membership of the aforementioned council/commission as official policy of this council of governments/regional planning commission.

Chairman

Date

Attest:

Secretary

Executive Director

Date

Date