

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Ann Ruzow Holland, Ph.D., AICP, Elected to College of Fellows of the American Institute of Certified Planners

Willsboro, New York — Ann Ruzow Holland, Ph.D., AICP, has been elected to the College of Fellows of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP), one of the highest honors in the planning profession nationwide. In a letter dated February 16, 2026, the FAICP Selection Committee formally notified Dr. Holland of her election to the College of Fellows. Membership in the College of Fellows is the highest honor bestowed by AICP and recognizes planners who have made significant and sustained contributions to the profession and to society.

According to the Selection Committee, Dr. Holland's career reflects "sustained excellence, leadership, and impact consistent with the highest standards of the profession," and demonstrates "a clear legacy of advancing planning practice and supporting the next generation of planners." For nearly five decades, Dr. Ann Ruzow Holland, Ph.D., AICP, has embodied the highest ideals of the planning profession—advancing sustainable, equity-driven solutions in communities too often left behind. Her work integrates people, policy, and place, transforming rural landscapes through comprehensive planning, climate resilience, and housing justice. She has influenced state and federal policy, secured transformative funding, and built local capacity where few dared to invest. Her enduring legacy lies in restoring agency to communities—ensuring planning is not done to people, but with them. She reminds us that sustainability begins with listening, and change begins with trust.

Dr. Holland is the principal of a woman-owned planning and environmental consulting practice serving communities across New York State's North Country and the Adirondack region. Over a professional career spanning more than four decades, she has led comprehensive planning initiatives, environmental and land use analyses, community revitalization strategies, housing and workforce development planning, and nonprofit governance reforms. Her work has supported municipalities, regional organizations, nonprofit housing providers, and economic development entities in strengthening community resilience, regulatory compliance, and long-term sustainability.

"Being elected to the College of Fellows is both humbling and deeply meaningful," said Dr. Holland. "Planning has always been about service — to communities, to future generations, and to the profession itself. This recognition reflects the many communities, colleagues, and partners who have trusted me with their work over the years."

Election to the College of Fellows is limited to a small percentage of AICP members nationwide and honors planners who have demonstrated exceptional leadership, advanced the science and art of planning, and contributed meaningfully to the profession through scholarship, public service, innovation, and mentorship.

Dr. Holland continues to work actively on comprehensive plans, housing initiatives, workforce stabilization strategies, environmental policy development, and nonprofit governance reform across the region.

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