

Jiangsu Mayors Training Evaluation Summary

Oct. 4th-24th, 2004

Out of 27 members, 26 questionnaires were returned. Here are the questions and their answers.

1. Overall Impression of this Training?

“Very Good” (14 votes)

“Good” (12 votes)

“Detail preparation, very systematic, right to the points”

“Comprehensive”

“Sometimes too much lectures”

“Lectures all with practical experience, very good”

“The combination of lectures and site visits reinforced each other, very good”

“Brings a lot new ideas”

2. What was your expectation for this Training and how did it turn out?

“What is the mayors strategic role in planning, basically understand the points”

“Some American Planning ideas is useful for Chinese planning”

“To understand American Planning, basically fulfilled the expectation”

“To open our eyes and strengthen vision, meet expectation”

“Ask questions and learn the tools to solve planning problems”

“Understand American Planning System and Principles of Planning, good lectures”

“Good to meet American Planners and consultants and understand the market”

“Understand Success and Failures of American Cities, meet expectations”

“To learn what is planning’s role in American city development”

“To broaden the vision of Chinese leaders and hence guide actual city development, that expectation was met”

“Learn patterns of American city development, and how that can be useful to Chinese cities, expectation met”

“Learn American planning process, transportation, environmental protection, historic preservation, new town development, sustainable development, land use, etc. meet my expectation”

3. What is your major lesson learned in terms of planning?

“Strategic planning and principles of planning”

“Planning management system and public participation”

“Some planning theories worked in American cities”

“Planning should be leading city development, mayors should choose among several options of planning”

“People should be the center of planning”

“Mayors should not micro-manage city”

“Use public participation to create city identity”
“Avoid Chinese cities to follow some failures of American cities”
“Establish a planning system, ecological and historic preservation”
“Mayors should care more for planning to guide city development”
“Sustainable development and focus on people’s needs. Decision making should be scientific and follow laws”
“Government should have clear goals, public participation is very important, and cities should have their own identities”
“Comprehensive planning, focus on basic needs of people”
“Planning can never satisfy all people, it is an art with inevitable regrets”
“Learned some practical, detail tools for actually city management and administration”
“Planning is long-term efforts, mayors should look at bigger pictures, planning must be updated in constantly changing times with core value of ‘people’ ”

4. What was not a good arrangement and how to improve?

“Some case studies are repetitive, choose the ones with most representation”
“Too much work, too stressful”
“More succinct points”
“Would like to visit small towns, rural areas”
“Would like to hear city management and administration”
“Would like to learn more from the perspective of city governments and mayors”
“Need more summaries of case studies, need to use case study to reflect some underlying points. Need succinct summaries.”
“More visits, less class”