Do you know of a city, town or community group that is in immediate need of planning assistance but cannot afford to hire professional planners? If so, refer them to APA California. The Chapter has just launched a program to provide pro bono planning services to help such communities address a pressing planning issue.

Known as CPAT (Community Planning Assistance Team), the program pairs expert planning professionals from throughout the State with residents and other stakeholders from communities with limited resources to solve a specific local planning problem. It is an intensive one to three day effort. The volunteers receive no compensation, but the community is expected to cover direct costs for transportation, meals and overnight accommodations (if required).

Check out the Chapter website: [www.apacalifornia.org](http://www.apacalifornia.org) (click professional development, CPAT). There you can learn more about the program and download an application form. The application is pretty simple, but you may want to help the community to complete it.

**PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD!**

APA California is anxious to empower communities with limited resources to solve pressing planning problems and to gain the confidence necessary to develop and achieve a positive vision for their future.

If you have questions or require additional information, please contact:

Robert Paternoster, FAICP
robertpaternoster@yahoo.com
(562) 400-3825

If you want to volunteer for a Community Planning Assistance Team, you will also find the volunteer form on the website. Here is your chance to give back!