

DATE: January 10, 2019

TO: APA California Chapter Board

FROM: Hanson Hom, AICP, Vice-President Conferences

 John Hildebrand, Inland Empire Section Director

SUBJECT: 2020 Conference Host Committees Co-Chairs

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RECOMMENDATION

**Appoint Chris Gray and Aaron Pfannenstiel to be the Co-Chairs of the Inland Empire Conference Host Committee for the 2020 APA California Chapter Conference.**

DISCUSSION

At last year’s Chapter Board Retreat on February 2, 2018, the Board approved the recommendation of the Inland Empire Section Site Selection Committee to choose the City of Riverside as the site for the 2020 APA California Chapter Conference. The conference will be held on September 12-15 at the City of Riverside Convention Center. Along with Hanson Hom and John Hildebrand, the Site Selection Committee consisted of Chris Gray and Aaron Pfannenstiel. We are very pleased that both individuals have agreed to continue their involvement in planning the 2020 conference in the capacity of Conference Host Committee Co-Chairs. They are committed to ensuring a successful conference and we heartily recommend that the Board approve these two appointments. Chris and Aaron have also been past Directors for the Inland Empire Section, so that have been actively involved in APA activities over the years. Below are their bios for the Board’s consideration.

**Aaron Pfannenstiel:**

Aaron Pfannenstiel is an urban planner and geologist with PlaceWorks, where he primarily focuses on long range planning, hazard mitigation, and resiliency. With a background in geology, environmental studies, and urban planning, Mr. Pfannenstiel has helped public and private sector clients navigate the complexities of the planning profession.  Mr. Pfannenstiel has prepared local hazard mitigation plans, emergency operations plans, climate adaptation plans, general plans, and safety elements for communities throughout California. In addition to his professional work, Mr. Pfannenstiel has volunteered with numerous planning and hazards focused non-profit organizations (American Planning Association, California Planning Foundation, Care for Nepal) and trained hundreds of students, planners, and other professionals in these topics over the past decade.

**Chris Gray:**

Christopher Gray is the Director of Planning and Transportation for the Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG), a joint powers authority consisting of 18 cities, the County of Riverside, Indian Tribes, and several Water Districts.   His current responsibilities include oversight of the regional Transportation Uniform Mitigation Fee (TUMF) program, the Active Transportation Program (ATP), the WRCOG Fellowship Program, and the Clean Cities Initiative.  Prior to coming to WRCOG, Chris worked as a private sector transportation consultant for 20 years.  He has a Master’s Degree in Urban and Regional Planning from Florida State University.  He is a long-standing member of the American Planning Association and the American Institute of Certified Planners.  He has been a member of the Inland Empire Section for over six years, serving as the Director of Programs, the Director Elect, and the Section Director.