Seven Decades of APA California

In 1948, the San Francisco “Trafficways” Plan was published, the Redevelopment Agency was created in Los Angeles, and tract house construction throughout California was well underway. This was also the time when two planning organizations merged to become what is known today as APA California Chapter. In this issue, we focus on the Chapter’s history and its role in California planning.

Our custodians for that history and lead contributors for the information before you are Steve Preston, FAICP, and Larry Mintier, FAICP. Since 2011, they have been Co-Chapter Historians and the devoted stewards of not only the Chapter’s activities, but also the record keepers of the history for planning in the state. From providing institutional knowledge and tracking our activities to soliciting records and cataloging the state planning archives, Steve and Larry have been Chapter stalwarts. So, a hearty thank you for all their efforts.

Along with celebrating 70 years, we are also celebrating the 20th anniversary of its founding on January 1, 1948. It was also an opportunity to look back as APA California celebrated the 70th anniversary of its founding on January 1, 1948. But perhaps the most visible demonstration of our history was the unveiling of a nearly 15-foot long, four-foot high timeline in the grand hall, telling our story over seven decades using images, photos and graphic tools to describe the evolution of both our organization and California planning in general.

Now, thanks to editors of CalPlanner, we have been asked to share with you some of that content, so that those of you who may not have been at the conference can see and enjoy the progression of the California planning profession over time.

In five years we’ll be celebrating our 75th anniversary, and each of you are helping write that story. California Chapter is unique among APA Chapters for its archival program, based at California State University, Northridge. If you are doing research California planning history, please contact us at steve.preston@charter.net or steve.preston@charter.net. SP+ JLM

What’s Past is Prologue: 70 Years of California Planning

For 1,665 APA California members who enjoyed our fall conference in San Diego it was more than just an annual gathering of friends and colleagues to collaborate, commune and celebrate the latest developments in our profession. It was also an opportunity to look back as APA California celebrated the 70th anniversary of its founding on January 1, 1948.

It’s also the 70th anniversary of California Planner and its predecessors, starting with the publication Perspective (1948-49), then the CalChapter AIP News (and some variations of that title throughout the 1950s and 1960s) and finally, today’s CalPlanner, which took root in the 1970s. These publications are perhaps the single most consistent source we have for documenting our history.

Our modest celebration of this milestone included special events at the conference, a panel discussion concerning the 1915 Panama-California Exposition, an online feature detailing 70 years of APA California conferences, and the publication of a commemorative booklet summarizing the past 70 years in California planning as viewed by APA California and its predecessors. The commemorative booklet also documents the pioneering history of planners of color and women in the advancement of California planning.

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Humble origins: California Planners Institute

What was it like to be a California planner back in 1947? Most of our information comes from eight 1946-1947 issues of Perspective, a bi-monthly mimeographed newsletter “conceived, nurtured and matured” in 1946 by Si Eisner. There was no other chapter publication available until the 1950s. In the 1946-47 issues there were 102 planners listed, but it is not known if they were all members of CPI. Only five were women. A 1951 AIP roster of California members included 63 full members, 63 associates, 19 affiliates, 75 provisional and one honorary for a total of 221 compared to 6,500 today.

Dinner for $2.50! Seventy years ago, all day meetings were the order; meals were less expensive. In April 1947, a CPI meeting was held at the Wolf Hotel in Stockton where luncheon was $1.75 and dinner was $2.50, including “a dip in the punchbowl.” Howard Bissell led a tour through the Stockton Port recently released by the Army, and a talk was given by a State Division of Highways engineer concerning its relations with city and county planners.

Si Eisner reported on the merger negotiations with National AIP, arguing that the proposed $3 rebate per member would not support their work. The CPI treasury in 1946 had $863.66, and expenses were $482.49 (today, California Chapter APA’s budget exceeds $560,000.)

But California planning was distinct from planning as it was being practiced in other parts of the country. The late Fran Violich, a founding faculty member of the planning program at UC Berkeley, wrote in 2001 that the evolution of a separate institution on the West Coast was in fact a reflection of the fact that California planning was not an extension of planning practiced in the east, but a separately evolving, parallel movement that placed greater emphasis on design and the environment.

Even before the development of the “sections” that California chapter members know today, CPI meetings were held around the state, addressing a variety of important issues. In 1947 the San Francisco Bay Area Council called a meeting of Planning Directors of nine Bay Area counties and Oakland to prepare an action program.

At one of these meetings, a second San Francisco Bay crossing was proposed to ease congestion. It was noted that the Bay Bridge would be free of tolls by 1953. And Ladislas Segoe, consultant to the Tennessee Valley Authority, was hired to revise the 1921 San Francisco Zoning code, a law “as outmoded as an automobile of that vintage.” Jack Kent became the Director of Planning in San Francisco following the resignation of I. Deming Tilton.

In August 1947, CPI met in Los Angeles to view the model and drawings for a new downtown Los Angeles prepared by students of USC’s Arthur Gallion and Si Eisner. Burnett C. Turner, Civic Center Authority architect, presented the new 600-acre civic center plan, bordered by freeways on all sides.

Were your dues ever this low? For the 1947 annual meeting at Yosemite, rooms at the Ahwahnee with three meals were $14 single and $12 double. CPI dues were $12.50 for members, $7.50 for associate members and $5.00 for junior members. Salaries were also on a different scale: the position of Planning Engineer in Glendale was open for $6,000 a year.

At the conference, Glenn Hall, Director of Planning, Sacramento, discussed the new Conservation and Planning Act (passed to supersede the Planning Act). CPI President James M. Campbell sent a letter to Gov. Earl Warren expressing CPI’s interest in the new agency for “Planning and Economic Research,” seeking appointments to the Physical Planning Council of staff “who have had some active part in planning, and a broad and sympathetic understanding of physical planning problems.”

These important developments framed the planning infrastructure that, modified, guides California to this day. But the real issue of the day was whether California should join forces with the emerging national organization, the American Institute of Planners, by merging with them. And that process, which took more than a year to negotiate and conclude, changed the course of California planning.
Happy Birthday APA California!

I have been involved with APA California for almost 20 years. And to be honest, the way that we run APA California has not changed all the much. Not surprisingly, the world around us has changed. The next generation of planners are planning for increasingly diverse communities and facing new complex challenges in balancing economic, environmental and human health.

**Strategic Plan 2019-2020**

There are two kinds of change that come to my mind: Change that happens to you and proactive change that you initiate. At our January Board Retreat, we updated our strategic plan to focus on how APA California can act now to be sustainable and adaptable as an organization so we can support the needs of our members and our communities today and tomorrow.

As a Board, we agreed strongly that APA California should:

- Support the next generation of planners
- Advocate for good planning at the state and local level
- Provide quality professional development and membership services to all of our members
- Build strong partnerships with organizations that share our mission and goals
- Increase the diversity in APA leadership and membership
- Examine the structure of APA California to make sure it supports our goals

I would love to tell you ALL about the plan in great detail, I am planner after all. Go to our website and review it. The Plan should offer some insight into the Chapter Board’s priorities over the next couple of years.

**Providing Value for Membership**

APA California is the largest Chapter in the APA organization with more than 6,500 members (2018) or 17 percent of the total National APA membership. The Chapter expenses for last year were more than $600,000. So, we spent nearly $100 on each member. Of this amount, we receive about $58 dollars per member from the dues you send to National APA. What does this mean? It means that APA California works pretty hard to deliver member services on a shoestring. Do we do a good job? Yes, but we want to do better. We are working to expand our distance learning program to reach all of our members whether you live in a rural, suburban or urban community. In addition, we are focusing on you through the full arc of your career by supporting mentorship opportunities, continuing education, and leadership development for our young planners, our mid career planners and our well seasoned, experienced planners. I am especially interested in finding a way to hire program staff to support all our sections in providing engaging, cutting edge professional development and networking activities. I think you deserve it!

**Celebrating California’s Diversity**

Another focus area, which our Past President Pete Parkinson started in his term, is to expand the diversity of our board and membership. He was instrumental in highlighting this issue and creating the new board position of Vice President for Diversity and Equity. APA California will be working to develop tools to help our eight Sections with diversity and inclusion. National APA is also working on this issue. Read about their efforts. Our Board meeting included a short Implicit Bias Training. It is a first step in our effort to welcome diversity onto our board and into the organization. I hope that we can share these trainings with our membership as well. We all have bias, but it is our responsibility as planners to understand what our biases are and how to manage them so we can best serve the diverse communities of California.

**The Next 70 Years!**

I know all of this sounds like a heavy load for overworked volunteers. Luckily for all of us, the state and section leadership is a dedicated group. I am grateful and humbled by the time and effort they give to this organization. As for the rest of you, thank you for doing the hard work of planning for our shared future and for supporting APA California. We will be reaching out to members over the next year to hear what you value about your membership and what you think we could do better. I would love to meet everyone of you over the next two years of my presidency. Send me at note at juliajohnston.apa@gmail.com.

Let’s celebrate our history and all we have accomplished. Then, let’s look to the future knowing that we can make a positive difference. JLJ
Planners of Color Emerge as Leaders

Despite its economic and social ideals, planning was slow to become as diverse as its communities. Our research found no references to planners of color in CCAIP publications until the early 1960s, and then rarely. And even later resources fail to provide much detail about the role of planners and communities of color.

Yet we know there were pioneers of color in California from the earliest era. For example, renowned African American architect Paul Revere Williams—famous for his period revival homes serving Hollywood “royalty”—served briefly on the Los Angeles Planning Commission around 1920. Samuel J. Cullers, an MIT-trained planner who fought housing discrimination in Hartford, Connecticut in the 1950s, later practiced in California, becoming one of the first African American planners leading what is now the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research.

Los Angeles County planner Frank Navarette’s 1964 travels to Chile to help form local planning commissions were a rare reference to diversity featured in the CCAIP newsletter. Meanwhile, the newsletter that year announced the hire of a young planner of color in Santa Rosa who later became a prominent newsletter reference to diversity featured in the CCAIP newsletter. Meanwhile, the newsletter that year announced the hire of a young planner of color in Santa Rosa who later became a prominent planning and management professional, Clifford Graves.

Following 1965’s devastating civil unrest in Watts, communities of color formed organizations—the Watts Community Labor Action Committee, United Neighborhoods Organization, TELACU, Spanish-Speaking Unity of Watts, communities of color. Over the decades, other pioneers emerged both in planning practice and their communities. Over the decades, other planners increasingly turned to questions of equity, although those early efforts often lacked the depth of understanding required to address racism and economic injustice. Only after the 1992 civil unrest in Los Angeles did a chapter initiative lead National APA to launch its Agenda for America’s Communities, and a tradition of diversity summits continuing today.

Following APA California’s 60th anniversary in 2008, and finding an absence of available information on the subject, a small team of planners headed by Steve Preston, Jeannette Dinwiddie-Moore and David Salazar began research to trace the history of color in the California profession. That work led to a separate initiative by the Los Angeles Regional Planning History Group, which sponsored a 2017 colloquium featuring the history of planners and communities of color; video recordings from this event may be viewed at https://larphg.org/.

We are continuing our research into the identities of those planners of color who played integral roles in the evolution of California planning. If you know of individuals whose stories are waiting to be told, contact the Chapter Historians: Steve Preston steve.preston@charter.net, and Larry Mintier, mintierassociates@gmail.com. SP+ JLM
As director of Marin County’s planning department in the late 1940s and early 1950s, Mary Robinson Gilkey was the first female to serve as an officer of CCAIP (1948). But it took 30 years for members to elect their first female president, Gloria S. McGregor (1977-78). Here are a few of the many other female pioneers who helped shape what is now APA California:

Minnie Ruth established the Chapter’s first regular office. She was elected to the board in 1961, the first woman to hold office since 1948. Minnie was a planning consultant with degrees in planning and governmental administration.

Marilyn M. Pray was elected to the APA California board in 1968, only the third female officer of CCAIP in its first 20 years.

Betty Croly came here in the 1940s, rising to Assistant Director of Planning for Alameda County. She served on the National APA Board, California Chapter Board, and later established the APA California archives at California State University Northridge as the Chapter’s first appointed Historian.

These early leaders set the stage for women to take charge. Since then, APA California has elected six women as president: Gloria McGregor, Janet Ruggiero, Reba Wright-Quastler, Collette Morse, Jeri Ram, and Brooke Peterson. Each of these individuals grew the organization by building the legislative, communications, and membership programs that have set APA California apart.

California’s women planners, relatively few in the 1940s and 1950s, had to fight harder to get their due.

Catherine Baurer (Wurster)

Today’s debates about public housing have a familiar ring to those who know the work of Catherine Baurer (1905-1964), who described many of the problems in her 1934 book, Modern Housing. Baurer’s views had a strong influence on the housing legislation of the New Deal, but in the 1950s she became an equally articulate advocate for long-range planning to guide metropolitan growth. In a 1951 essay titled “Social Questions in Housing and Community Planning,” she laid the foundation for what would later be called social planning. Designated a National Planning Pioneer in 1988.

Save San Francisco Bay

Sylvia McLaughlin, Esther Gulick, and Catherine Kerr founded the San Francisco Save the Bay Association in 1961 with the goal of halting a City of Berkeley plan to fill more than 2,000 acres of the Bay. By 1969 the association had 17,000 members. These early efforts led to the establishment of the San Francisco Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) in 1965 and adoption of the Bay Plan in 1965. BCDC has not only halted the shrinking of San Francisco Bay but has presided over enlargement of the Bay through restoration of formerly diked bay lands to functioning tidal marsh habitat.

Margaret Piel McCory, FAICP

An early advocate for planning, Margaret Piel McCory (1923-2016) brought a strong female voice to the profession at a time when men dominated the field. She became the first woman appointed to a full professorship of urban planning at a major university, and the first woman to chair a planning department in the US. Even after her teaching career ended, McCoy remained involved in the planning profession, working in private practice advising communities on comprehensive plans and advocating for changes in the planning process so that citizens and community groups had greater input. Designated a National Planning Pioneer in 2018.

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The Merger Committee worked throughout 1947, chaired by Si Eisner with Frank Skillman, Glen Rick, Charles Eliot and Richard Whitehead. AIP’s president wrote a month before the merger started: “As a result of persistent negotiations and numerous conferences, the (chances for) a merger of CIP and AIP are now brighter than at any time in the past.” CPI’s final President was James Campbell of Hahn and Campbell, Burlingame. Harry Bergh, Land Planner for Orange County, was Vice President; Mary Robinson Gilkey, Marin County Planning Director, was Secretary.

A star is born. After months of preparation, the AIP Board of Directors, approved the merger; ordering it to become effective January 1, 1948. California was only the third chapter established—11 months after the first, Washington, D.C., and seven months after the second, Chicago. Planning historian Eugenie L. Birch wrote, in a 1980 article for the Journal of the American Planning Association:

Although differences in entrance requirements had prevented an earlier union, these problems were resolved by offering the westerners a grandfather clause. Nearly 150 Californians came into the AIP. With this merger the Institute became a truly national organization for the first time.

The new organization became California Chapter, American Institute of Planners (CCAIP). Its first officer was John G. Marr; Planning Director of Oakland. The resolution establishing CCAIP as part of a national organization authorized AIP to explore holding its spring meeting in California.

CCAIP’s membership expanded to 400, in three distinct sections–Northern, Central, and Southern—that ultimately evolved into the eight regional sections we know today. Jack Kent left San Francisco to establish a post-graduate program at UC Berkeley in 1948. That emergent program was the source of Telesis, which APA has lauded as the “first volunteer-based group to bring multiple fields together successfully in a comprehensive approach to environmental development in a regional context.”

In 1953, CCAIP issued its first Planning Commissioner’s Handbook, ancestor of the popular guides that have been published more recently by the League of California Cities.

1960s

CCAIP’s membership topped 600, but in the early 1960s, a single AIP CalChapter News carried typed dispatches from all three regions in a single issue. By 1960 the San Diego Section was formed, formalizing the efforts of planners who had been meeting informally since at least 1957. Yet in a profession that was still predominantly male and white, the first signs of a more diverse presence would emerge over the decade.

Noted author and urbanist Lewis Mumford guest lectured at UC Berkeley. Berkeley and USC became the first recognized planning schools in the State (today there are seven, with others expected to follow). At the practice level, the Chapter’s 1960 conference focused on a new trend: the use of electronic data processing to support city planning. More critically, a range of urban issues including urban renewal, economic dislocation, racial and economic disparity slowly became part of the profession’s discussions, with efforts in both the Bay Area and Los Angeles to address concerns that resulted in the 1965 Watts unrest.

The national organization took note of California, bringing its national planning conference to Los Angeles in 1962. The AIP Cal Chapter Newsletter, predecessor of today’s California Planner, produced a special issue for the occasion.

As the state’s growth created new challenges, the Chapter formed new responses to deal with them. One of those was its first policy conference, held in Monterey in 1966. By 1967 the Chapter started its first legislative program; and in the wake of national civil unrest and urban decay, issued policy papers on both the “role of the planner in addressing social concerns” and regionalism.

Planning Pioneers

Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr.
Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr. (1822–1903), landscape architect, designed many well-known urban parks, notably Central Park in New York City. He produced plans for comprehensive planning of parks and parkways that connected cities to green spaces, such as the park system he designed for Buffalo, New York. Designated a National Planning Pioneer in 1990.

Mel Scott

William E. Spangle
In 1938, William E. Spangle received the first degree in city planning awarded by the University of California at Berkeley. He was a founding member of Telesis, the group responsible for initiating regional comprehensive planning in the San Francisco Bay Area. Designated a National Planning Pioneer in 1992.

Gordon Whitnall
The city and county of Los Angeles owe their planning commissions to Gordon Whitnall (1888–1977). Whitnall helped organize a regional planning conference in Los Angeles County. As a result the Los Angeles County Regional Planning Commission was established—the first county planning commission in the nation. Designated a National Planning Pioneer in 1994.

Charles H. Cheney
Charles H. Cheney (1884–1943) was a founding member of the American City Planning Institute in 1917. Credited with helping win passage of the state’s first planning law in 1915 and with developing such regulatory instruments as protective covenants, architectural controls, and homeowner associations. Designated a National Planning Pioneer in 1993.
In the Beginning

1970s

California’s rapid growth through the 1960s led to a fundamental re-examination in the 1970s, a blossoming of planning legislation from a newly empowered, “professionalized” legislature, and a series of voter enactments including the landmark 1970 Coastal Act. This is the decade that brought an expanded general plan law, the California Environmental Quality Act, and court cases supporting planning as diverse as the Petaluma Decision (upholding staged growth management) and the Mammoth Decision (extending CEQA to all forms of development.)

As profound legislative activity recast the state’s planning laws, CCAIP was actively engaged. By 1979 the demand for quick responses drove the chapter to hire its first professional lobbyist. CCAIP moved its offices to Sacramento, where APA California remains today.

Women take the lead. With the merger of the American Society of Planning Officials (ASPO) and the American Institute of Planners (AIP) in 1978, CAl Chapter became part of an even larger, more diverse organization, the new American Planning Association. Californians quickly made themselves heard, demanding stronger roles for women in the profession and helping elect the first APA president from California, Dorothy Walker. In 1977-78, California Chapter members also elected their first female president, Gloria S. McGregor.

Women increasingly assumed positions of power—from Berkeley, where Marjorie Macris served as planning director, to Claremont, where Sharon Hightower is credited as the first woman planning director in Southern California. In academia, Marjorie P. McCoy, later a president of AICP, became the first woman to receive a full professorship in planning in the U.S., and became the first woman to chair a university planning program (at Cal Poly Pomona). McCoy went on to serve with distinction on the AICP Commission, where she was selected Chair. Other academic leaders of the period playing important roles included Jacqueline Leavitt of UCLA, whose research opened new doors; and Sylvia White of Cal Poly Pomona, another founder of the Planning and Women Division.

Much as the Chapter stepped out in front in the 1970s by creating a separate foundation to advance the charitable interests of the planning community, the Chapter advanced its interests in policy development when, under the leadership of President David Booher, the California Planning Roundtable was created to serve as the chapter’s think tank concerning statewide planning and policy issues.

1980s

Under the leadership of President Frank Wein, the Chapter transformed its operations in 1984 by establishing professional contract staff to handle both administrative and legislative operations. Sande George came to be the face of the organization, representing CCAAPA with equal facilities in both the Legislature and the boardroom. A brief flirtation with magazine publishing even gave the chapter a new shape and form, but the product called Westplan only lasted briefly.

The last of California’s eight sections, Inland Empire, was created in 1981 to meet the rapid growth of San Bernardino and Riverside Counties. New initiatives by
In the Beginning

President Janet Ruggiero established the chapter’s first multi-year communications program; that program led to a greatly enhanced, color newsletter, op-eds in major newspapers, and a host of other programs. The Chapter’s Legislative Review Teams created the Action Agenda for the ‘90s to carry its vision to the Legislature.

Under Vonnie Madigan, the first professional technical editor hired by California Chapter APA (CCAPA), the newsletter and public relations became more polished and professional, featuring in-depth stories and interviews. Meanwhile, California’s conferences became popular not only with its own members, but individuals from other chapters who sought a coveted invitation to the Cal Chapter annual conference.

1990s

CCAPA had become a respected source of information in the Legislature. Enhanced marketing, planning commissioner training, insurance, and other programs were added. And for the first time, a sitting California Governor addressed the state conference in 1991, just as a devastating fire scarred the Oakland hills. By 1999, the Chapter’s State Plan Task Force had produced reports to influence discussions concerning smart growth in California.

The Chapter began honoring long-time officers and renowned, retired professionals, forming the Planners Emeritus Network. It was the first such venture by any chapter in the country to provide ongoing, sustained recognition of the efforts of longtime planners on behalf of the profession and chapter.

In addition, the Chapter acquired pro-bono legal counsel and became a key player in framing the national organization’s planning policies, through the efforts of Californians such as Vivian Kahn.

The California Planning Foundation saw increased annual growth in the number and size of scholarships, with annual auction revenues growing to fund them.

Meanwhile, more diverse leadership began to emerge, as leaders in the Chapter including Jeannette Dinwiddie-Moore, Dr. David Salazar, Bill Anderson, James Rojas, Miguel Vasquez, Linda Tatum and many others worked to create a more diverse, just organization inclusive of its communities of color, women, and LGBTQ members.

Record-breaking national (San Francisco) and state conferences marked the decade. When the Chapter’s 50th Anniversary arrived in 1998, the Chapter and Orange County conference committee hosted a celebration on the beach, topped with a huge cake. In an impromptu fundraiser that evening, the Chapter raised $2,600 in pledges which, matched with a contribution from the CCAPA board, created the funding to open the California Chapter APA Archives at California State University, Northridge.

2000s

In 2000, with President Jeff Lambert at the helm, the Chapter launched initiatives to promote smart growth, taking positions on nearly 300 bills. Among these was its own successful measure, AB 857, which required State agencies to plan around broad principles of sustainability and equity. In 2005, the Board adopted a Diversity and Inclusion Plan to recognize and support planners of color, minorities, and underrepresented communities. Lambert was APA California’s first openly gay president; in the years since his election, four other LGBTQ planners have served as APA California president, and Chapter members have played critical roles in the formation of a National APA division to address their concerns.

National APA programs impacted California. Creation of FAICP—Fellows of the American Institute of Certified Planners—honored many Californians for attaining the highest standards of professional excellence. And in 2008, APA launched a Certification Maintenance (CM) program—hastily debated since 2001—that ensures that planning professionals continue lifelong learning. Sacramento Valley Section’s Young Planners Group, a local initiative launched to better meet the needs of young professionals, expanded throughout the state and across the country.

The California Planning Roundtable became a respected contributor to the discussion of planning issues in California, having produced major projects including Planning at the Edge of the Millennium, The Sierra at Risk, Tribal Gaming: A Primer for Local Government, Myths and Facts of Affordable Housing, and others. The Roundtable’s California General Plan Glossary has become a standard resource for planning agencies throughout the State. In 2005 on its 25th anniversary, the Roundtable received National APA’s Distinguished Service Award.

The California Planning Foundation continued its remarkable growth generating more than $30,000 per year for student scholarships through its popular auctions and programs.

The Great Recession impacted employment and membership alike. Faced by profound budget shortages, the Legislature eliminated redevelopment statewide, undercutting local economic development and housing programs. Significant increases in the volume and complexity of land use legislation—including California’s pioneering climate change laws, and the need for housing—continued to challenge the Chapter. And in 2012, APA California welcomed the nation’s planners to Los Angeles for the first time in 26 years. In a major step forward for advancing diversity within the organization and profession, in 2015 the Chapter adopted a Diversity and Inclusion Plan.

The Chapter also adopted a new strategic plan, recovering from the devastating 1990s recession that saw membership and revenues plunge. As it grew, APA California professionalized its conferences, hiring professional conference organizers to assist its volunteer conference committees.

Today, APA California stands proud as its membership hovers near 7,000, and its annual budget exceeds $720,000.00. The Chapter can make many claims: Its conferences are larger and better; it has an enviable record of state and national awards; and its array of membership services are unmatched by other organizations.
The California Chapter of the American Planning Association is pleased to announce the 5th annual Great Places in California Awards. The nomination period is now open and close on Friday, April 19, 2019. Nominations may be submitted online. A “Great Place” in California is one that exemplifies character, design, usability, and has a sense of place. This can range from coastal communities to the mountains and can be within a large urbanized area or a rural setting. Three locations will be recognized with a Great Places in California award. For more information regarding the nomination criteria and to submit an application online, please visit the Great Places in California section of the American Planning Association–California Chapter website. Nominations that did not previously get recognized with an award, are eligible to apply again.

For questions related to the Great Places in California awards program, please contact the program coordinator, John Hildebrand at jhildebr@rivco.org (951) 955-1888.
APA California Legislative Update
March 2019

2019 Session Begins

The 2019 legislative session began on January 7 and bills introduced for the session are now in print. It is no surprise that once again there are a large number of planning related bills. In fact, APA California’s current list of bills to track is over 350 bills as of March 1! Of those, there are a number that are spot bills that will be amended in the next few months, so the priority hot bill list will undoubtedly grow even longer soon. APA California lobbying staff and the Vice President for Policy and Legislation will review and prioritize the top bills to be reviewed at the upcoming Legislative Review Team meeting. That meeting will be held in person with locations in Sacramento and LA and on March 8. After that meeting, positions on all hot bills will be updated and can be viewed on the APA California website. 2019 will again be another busy year for APA California, especially related to housing. Housing will also be a big priority in Governor Newsom’s first budget proposal.

APA California Legislative Review Team Agenda and Hot Bill List

The Legislative Review Team meets in person (and on the phone) every March to review all planning related hot bills introduced by the February deadline. This year’s meeting agenda can be found here. There are currently 88 bills on this list, which includes the biggest priority bills identified so far. After feedback has been received and positions have been designated for these bills, APA California will then set positions for the bills, start reaching out to the authors and begin lobbying the bills.

How You Can Get Involved in Shaping APA California’s Legislative Positions

We encourage you to participate on APA California’s Legislative Review Team, whose members advise APA California on legislative positions, potential amendments and key planning policies. Information on the Review Team and sign up information are located on the APA California website legislation page. To find APA’s positions on all of the major planning-related bills, and to review APA’s letters on those bills, please go to the legislative tab on APA’s website at www.apacalifornia.com. All position letters are posted on the APA California website “Legislation” page, which can be found here: https://www.apacalifornia.org/legislation/legislative-review-teams/position-letters/.

2019-2020 Budget

Governor Newsom introduced his 2019-20 “California for All” budget proposal to the Legislature on January 10. Over 86 percent of the new spending contained in the Budget is one-time and proposes new spending on housing of $2.3 billion. As stated in the Governor’s budget:

• $1.3 billion for cities and counties in financial incentives to permit and plan for new homes and support local homeless housing efforts.
• Remaining $1 billion split between loans for developers who build homes for moderate-income families and tax credits to subsidize low- and moderate-income housing construction.

Housing Specific: Two RHNA’S

• The Budget includes $750 million General Fund one-time to partner with and incentivize local governments to jump-start housing production through technical assistance and general purpose funding.
• Housing and Community Development (HCD) will establish higher short-term statewide goals for new housing production across all income levels and will allocate these goals to local jurisdictions.
• HCD will review local progress and certify that certain milestones have been reached.
• Local governments will receive grants ($250 million of the $750 million) to support technical assistance and staffing to develop plans to reach these higher goals.
• This includes, but is not limited to: rezoning for greater density, completing environmental clearance, permitting units, and revamping local processes to speed up production.

Long-term housing production targets will be more ambitious than the short-term housing goals mentioned above.

As HCD develops these targets, local jurisdictions will have lead time to begin reformulating their housing plans, using the grants above to leverage other sources of funding, such as their general funds and private dollars, to meet their targets.

Going forward, the state will strongly encourage jurisdictions to contribute to their fair share of the state’s housing supply by linking housing production to certain transportation funds (SB 1) and other applicable sources, if any.

(Unfortunately, this proposal continues to hold cities and counties accountable for building rather than entitling housing projects, and the amount of money for affordable housing falls well short of the need, making these goals as outlined virtually impossible for jurisdictions to ever meet.)

Housing Element Enforcement

• Under AB 72 and AB 686 from 2017, HCD will now oversee and enforce regional housing goals and production.
• HCD will determine a methodology for allocating housing needs to regions and local jurisdictions.

(The Governor has already begun asking the Attorney General to take action against)
**Lands Conservation Programs Now Available**

Environmental reviews for sports stadiums.

- Agricultural land at risk of conversion to non-agricultural uses. This component of the program incentivizes local and regional governments to work closely with local stakeholders to develop local and regional land use policies and implementation activities that integrate agricultural land conservation in a way that reduces or avoids greenhouse gas emissions, supports job creation, and benefits AB 1550 populations.

**Housing Specific: Demonstration Projects**

- The Budget proposes soliciting affordable housing developers to build demonstration projects that use creative and streamlined approaches to building affordable and mixed-income housing (for example, using modular construction).
- Affordable housing developers selected through a competitive process will receive low-cost, long-term ground leases of excess state property.
- The state will confer with local governments in certain cases to discuss a land exchange when such an exchange could lead to more housing being built within the jurisdiction.

**Homelessness/CEQA Streamlining**

- Jurisdictions that establish joint regional plans to address homelessness will be eligible for funding. The Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency will distribute funds through federally designated areas ($200 million) and the eleven most populous cities in the state ($100 million).
- Jurisdictions that show progress toward developing housing and shelters, including permitting new supportive housing units or constructing emergency shelters and navigation centers, will be eligible to receive additional funds for general purposes.
- The Administration will propose legislation to accelerate the construction of homeless shelters, navigation centers and new supportive housing units by allowing for a streamlined California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process with accelerated judicial review of challenges to an Environmental Impact Report.

**Grants for Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Programs Now Available**

Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Planning grants provide funds to develop and implement plans for the protection of agricultural land at risk of conversion to non-agricultural uses. This component of the program incentivizes local and regional governments to work closely with local stakeholders to develop local and regional land use policies and implementation activities that integrate agricultural land conservation in a way that reduces or avoids greenhouse gas emissions, supports job creation, and benefits AB 1550 populations.

**Costs that May Be Reimbursed and Match Funding**

Planning grants will reimburse grantees and participating stakeholders for all direct costs, including fully-burdened staff costs, incurred during the grant performance period and related to the project. All eligible costs must be supported by appropriate documentation. Costs incurred outside of the performance period, indirect/overhead costs, travel, food or beverages, and costs for CEQA document preparation are not eligible for reimbursement. The application must include a minimum of ten percent (10%) match funding. At least five percent (5%) of the requested grant amount must be a cash match; the balance may be in-kind. Match funds may be provided directly by the applicant or from other funding sources (e.g., other grant funds, local government contributions, or donations).

**Projects**

Planning grants are intended to assist communities in developing consensus-based plans that support policies and projects that maintain the economic viability of the community’s agricultural industry, protect the agricultural land base, and avoids greenhouse gas emissions. Applicants may propose innovative projects that establish a comprehensive set of goals, policies, and objectives to support the long-term viability and protection of agricultural land; identify and designate a priority land for conservation; and/or identify and designate a set of feasible implementation measures designed to promote those goals, policies and objectives.

For more information, please visit: [https://www.conservation.ca.gov/drip/grant-programs/SALCP/Pages/Application%20Information.aspx](https://www.conservation.ca.gov/drip/grant-programs/SALCP/Pages/Application%20Information.aspx)

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**Join the APA California Board**

Have you ever thought about stepping up to a leadership position with APA California? This year our members will vote to fill five leadership positions on the Chapter's Board of Directors. These positions are described briefly below, but you should visit the [APA California website](https://california.规划.org) for full information and how to submit nominations and candidacy forms. **The deadline for submitting nomination materials is April 16, 2019.**

This is an exciting time for APA California, the largest APA chapter in the country. Our membership is growing, especially student and new professional members, and our financial position is solid. This puts the Chapter in a great position to increase and improve member services, like distance and online education, certification maintenance and legislative advocacy. As the voice of professional planning in California, our Chapter and its members are regarded as the go-to experts on planning issues ranging from housing to CEQA to environmental justice. But, as the saying goes, “it takes a village” to run a 6,000-member organization, and that’s where our members and leadership team come in.

Taking on a leadership position involves hard work, but you’ll be rewarded with experience that will pay dividends throughout your career. You will learn new skills and have great opportunities for collaboration and networking. You will form new relationships that you’ll treasure throughout your career.

Here are the five board positions that are up for election in 2019. Each position will serve a two-year term starting in January 2020 (except the President-elect):

**President-Elect.** The APA California President is the public face of our Chapter and the leader of our Board of Directors. The Chapter President is also a member of the Chapter President’s Council at APA National. The President-elect serves a one-year term before taking over as Chapter President for two years, followed by one more year on the Board as past-President.

**VP for Administration.** The VP Administration works with the Chapter’s paid staff to oversee the financial and business aspects of our organization. This position also oversees the Chapter’s annual awards program.

**VP for Public Information.** The VP Public Information is responsible for production of our newsletter, CalPlanner, as well as our other communications channels including the Chapter website and social media.

**VP for Marketing and Membership.** The primary role of this position is to develop and oversee programs to improve membership retention and expand Chapter membership.

**VP for Diversity and Equity.** This is a new board position created in 2018 (and filled by a board appointment) to promote understanding of diverse and inclusive perspectives within the organization and the planning profession and to promote the recruitment, support and retention of planners of color in the planning profession and in APA California.

If you are interested in any of these positions, start by visiting the Chapter website here. If you have questions, please contact APA California past-President, Pete Parkinson, AICP, at [pete.parkinson54@gmail.com](mailto:pete.parkinson54@gmail.com).
Meet Your New Student Representative

Kristian Castro is currently serving as the Student Representative with the APA California Chapter Board. He is completing a dual-degree Master of Planning and Master of Public Administration at the Sol Price School of Public Policy at the University of Southern California. He will be graduating in May of 2019 with a concentration in Economic Development and a Certificate in Public Financial Management. Kristian holds a BA in Communication from UC San Diego.

As a first-generation college graduate, Kristian’s career aspirations are grounded in his experiences growing up in a low-income community. He believes that planners should serve as facilitators of urban justice and thus, they must center residents in the redevelopment efforts of historically disenfranchised neighborhoods in order to manage equitable growth that is inclusive of vulnerable populations. His penchant for community-based revitalization sparked during his AmeriCorps experience where he supported workforce development efforts at the Jacobs Center for Neighborhood Innovation, a philanthropic foundation focused in Southeast San Diego.

Prior to entering grad school, Kristian also worked for a myriad of organizations where he developed his skills in nonprofit program management, housing and financial services, digital media, volunteer management, research, and writing. Some of the organizations he has worked with include LeSar Development Consultants, Regional Task Force on the Homeless, Junior Achievement, Fusion Media Group, and the Urban League of San Diego County.

Kristian currently interns in the Budget and Grants Department at the Southern California Association of Governments, where he assists with budgetary oversight and financial reporting. In addition, he is working with the Southern California Association of Nonprofit Housing as a Research Fellow where he is working on various research projects on affordable housing development. Lastly, Kristian actively contributes to his grad school experience by serving as the co-chair of the Associated Students of Planning and Development, his program’s planning student organization.

In his role as the Student Representative, Kristian hopes to accomplish a myriad of goals that represents the interests of students across the different planning schools in the state. He aims to work with planning student organizations to not only conduct a needs assessment, but to also facilitate regular meetings to provide ongoing support and highlight specific achievements in each region. Through this network, he hopes to bolster enrollment in the AICP Candidate Pilot Program and free APA student membership. Kristian is also assisting the steering committee in coordinating the student programming for this year’s APA CA Conference in Santa Barbara.

As an emerging planner, Kristian is fueled by his passions in driving meaningful change for underserved communities. He is interested in exploring innovative models for economic resiliency and the ways in which urban planning can build on the existing assets of a community.

For more information about award nominations and jury, send your emails:
Shane Burkhardt, AICP, Awards Co-Coordinator (South) Shane.Burkhardt@mbakerintl.com
Chris Pahule, Awards Co-Coordinator (North) pahulec@saccounty.net

For more information about Landmark or Pioneer Awards, send your emails:
Larry Mintier, FAICP, Chapter Historian, (North) mintierassociates@gmail.com
Steve Preston, FAICP, Chapter Historian, (South) steve.preston@charter.net

As an emerging planner, Kristian is fueled by his passions in driving meaningful change for underserved communities. He is interested in exploring innovative models for economic resiliency and the ways in which urban planning can build on the existing assets of a community.
Expanding California’s Leadership in Diversifying the Planning Profession

For the past two years or so, the topic of diversity has taken center stage nationally at levels not seen since the civil rights movement. Its meaning and impacts on economic, political, and social structures seem to be debated on a daily basis. Fueling such debate is our nation’s tumultuous history bound by centuries of demographic shifts, territorial expansion, advances in technology, cultural diffusion, and policymaking.

It is not uncommon today to find tech giants like Apple and Google as well as everyday corporate brands like Starbucks, Target, and Johnson & Johnson dedicating time and resources to foster cultures of diversity and inclusion within the workplace and out into their service areas.

Similarly, for the first time in its history, the American Planning Association (APA) recently adopted a Diversity and Inclusion Strategy (http://bit.ly/2N5zgP5) which includes a detailed definition of what diversity means to APA:

“Diversity is an inclusive concept which encompasses, but is not limited to, race, ethnicity, class, gender, age, sexuality, ability, educational attainment, spiritual beliefs, creed, culture, tribal affiliation, nationality, immigration status, political beliefs, and veteran status. With greater diversity, we can be more creative, effective, and just, and bring more varied perspectives, experiences, backgrounds, talents, and interests to the practice of planning and to the communities we serve. We recognize that achieving diversity and inclusion is an evolutionary process that requires an ongoing renewal of our commitment.”

Reaching this milestone did not happen by accident. This achievement builds upon the advocacy of trail blazing planners from every corner of the nation, who for decades have expressed the need for our profession to focus on the issues affecting those feeling—and living—marginalized. While this article does not address every diversity trait suggested in the APA’s definition, gender and race data provide a window into understanding diversity trends.

This article briefly explores some issues associated with diversity in the profession—including findings from Dr. Linda Dalton’s research on the subject—with a particular focus on the role of California planners and their professional organizations (APA California, the California Planning Roundtable, and the California Planning Foundation) in moving forward the profession’s efforts to address diversity, inclusion, and equity.

APA Diversity Snapshot

First, we need to acknowledge that nationally, APA has made significant progress in advancing women, but has lagged in expanding participation by African American, Asian American, Latinos, and other minority groups, as shown in the figure below.

Some of the patterns in the 40-year survey period can be explained by age and experience. In 2016 less than 30 percent of APA planners with 20 or more years of experience were women, and 7 percent were minorities. Planners entering the field recently are more diverse at 45 percent women and 15 percent minority.

However, when we look at the academic pipeline into the profession, there is a critical gap between the diversity of students in planning schools vs. their participation in APA. About 30 percent of recent planning students are racial minorities whereas (as noted above) 15 percent of planners with less than 5 years of experience are racial or ethnic minorities (student data from the Planning Accreditation Board).

The patterns vary significantly across the U.S. In four states (Alaska, Hawaii, Idaho, and Montana) half or more of the planners were women in 2016; whereas in nine states less than one-third were women (Kansas, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, Nevada, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming).

A Note Regarding Data

The American Planning Association is committed to providing opportunities for all to achieve excellence in planning by fostering diversity and inclusion in the organization and the planning profession. The American Planning Association is committed to being responsive to changes in communities and the challenges being faced in achieving just, equitable and inclusive communities where the rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness are achievable by all.
Expanding California’s Leadership in Diversifying the Planning Profession

Island, South Dakota, Utah, and West Virginia). Generally, the southern and western regions employ more planners of color in comparison with New England, mid-Atlantic, and north central regions of the country.

We also know from Dr. Dalton’s research that women and minority planners were more likely to see their work as nontraditional than men/white planners. And planners who considered their work to be nontraditional were less likely to find APA relevant to their careers.

Further, the nature of professional practice for women and planners of color differs distinctly from white men even among those who belong to APA. For example, white planners were more likely to be involved in land use without community development, while the reverse was true for planners of color. White planners also engaged in environmental planning more often than planners of color.

In sum, we can’t just expect the planning profession to become more diverse by aging out mature planners as they retire. What accounts for the success of women in planning—and is any of it applicable to planners of color? We need to know what happens to planning students of color after they leave the university—where they work, what their career paths are like, what professional organizations support them, and where they succeed (and where they do not). We need to consider how planning is portrayed and perceived outside the immediate profession, especially by professionals and leaders of historically under-represented groups/communities.

California

At 45.6 percent, the involvement of women in planning in California is greater than the national average for APA members in 2016. Ten other states employ higher proportions of women, but the sheer number of women in planning in California exceeded their combined total in 2016.

California leads the nation in the ethnic diversity of the profession: APA California members represent 13 percent of all APA members, but 27 percent of racial and ethnic minority planners nationwide. While Hawaii employs a higher percentage of planners of color (at 34 percent), California has many more planners. The following figure shows the share of planners of color in states with “majority minority” populations.

Demographics certainly help explain this relative success, yet California out-performs other majority minority states except Hawaii. And Proposition 209 (1996) prohibits California’s public institutions from affirmative action.

Leadership on Diversity from California Planners

Aside from the demographic trends, the diversity transformation in the planning profession at the state and national levels has been fueled by the active engagement of various California planners. In many respects, such evolving engagement can be traced back to the devastating civil unrest in Watts in 1965. According to APA California Historian Steve Preston, communities of color formed organizations—the Watts Community Labor Action Committee, United Neighborhoods Organization, TELACU, Spanish-Speaking Unity Council, community design centers, and L.A.’s Barrio Planners to name a few—to represent their communities. Pioneers include Dr. Ed Blakely, Alvin James, Yukio Kawaratan, Dr. Leo Estrada, Frank Villalobos, and others.

Planners increasingly turned to questions of equity, although those early efforts often lacked the depth of understanding required to address racism and economic injustice. Only after the 1992 civil unrest in Los Angeles did a California chapter initiative lead National APA to launch its Agenda for America’s Communities, and a tradition of diversity summits continuing today.

In terms of gender diversity, early planning pioneers from the 1940s and 1950s including Mary Robinson Gilkey, Gloria S. McGregor, Minnie Ruth, Marilyn M. Pray, and Betty Croly, FAICP; were instrumental in shaping APA California. APA California has elected seven women as president; Gloria McGregor, Janet Ruggiero, FAICP, Reba Wright-Quastler, AICP, Collette Morse, AICP, Jeri Ram, AICP, Brooke Peterson, AICP, and current President Julia Lave Johnston. The work of Carol Barrett, FAICP, regarding planning ethics and women in planning, has also supported diversity in the profession. And APA in 2018 posthumously recognized Margarita McCoy, FAICP, as a Planning Pioneer, in part for her role as an instrumental mentor for many California planners.

APA Diversity Vision Statement

APA, the Planning Accreditation Board (PAB), and other planning organizations could do a more thorough job of collecting data and following planning careers. To date, data is only available for traditional definitions of gender and for racial/ethnic background (often grouped as white or non-white), and not for other dimensions of diversity included in APA’s broad definition.

Comparative data for trend analysis is very problematic. U.S. Census definitions continue to evolve; with the addition of multiple race options and with an increase in the number of respondents to surveys who decline to answer questions about race or ethnic heritage. Further, APA and PAB have handled counting Latinos differently, so their data are not directly comparable.

The discrepancies are sufficiently large to call for action while concurrently working toward more systematic and comparable data.
More contemporary members who have carried the torch and have combined gender and racial equity as the propeller for diversity and inclusion at APA include planners such as Jeannette Dinwiddie-Moore, FAICP; David Salazar, AICP (co-authors of APA’s California Membership Inclusion Plan); Linda Tatum, FAICP; Hing Wong, AICP (first Asian-American elected as APA California President); James Rojas (Latino Urbanism Pioneer); Bill Anderson, FAICP (APA Past-President who among other things appointed California Planners to serve on the national APA Diversity Task Force); and Connie Malloy; Anna Vidal; and Miroo Desai, AICP (who were instrumental in organizing the eight Chapter sections to form a Diversity and Inclusion Committee and in coordinating the annual Diversity Summit at the state conference). More recently, under the leadership of planner Miguel A. Vazquez, AICP, APA adopted its first diversity and inclusion strategy. The list of California planning leaders advancing an agenda of a more just and equitable planning practice continues to grow.

In short, our preliminary findings suggest that individual leadership, role models, mentors, and diversity sessions at state and section conferences and meetings have contributed to creating a more supportive culture for planners of color and women in California. Over several decades, their numbers have grown and sustained a movement that has landed in APA’s court to examine and to take a stand and sometimes easy to forget. Bringing these issues to the forefront is essential, as they are in many respects the root causes of many planning dilemmas. Diversity in the planning profession is a portal into the conversation.

What more should California do?
Within California, there is significant variation by region (i.e., Core Based Statistical Area, or CBSA) for both women and planners of color. In 2016 more than half of the APA planners in the Bay Area (San Francisco and San Jose CBSAs) were women, while the percentage was lower inland and in Southern California. The disparity for planners of color is greater, ranging from about 16 percent in the Sacramento CBSA to nearly 42 percent in Riverside-San Bernardino in 2016. Our preliminary study suggests that the success factors we listed above have been ad hoc or fragmented rather than systematic or institutionalized. Therefore, we recommend the following:

• Regular, visible coverage of all aspects of diversity in section newsletters and CalPlanner magazine, including profiles of prominent planners from all backgrounds;

• Regular sessions regarding diversity in planning during prime time at state conferences—with assured CM credit for attending and participating in such sessions;

• Encouragement of a diverse range of planners to assume leadership at the section and state levels;

• Recognition of leadership contributions to diversity in section and state awards programs, including scholarships for planning students;

• Formal mentoring for planners of color and planners from other minority groups, involving and connecting experienced planners with planning students and young professionals; and

• Tracking planning students from California’s many planning programs and reporting their career progression.

The United States of America is a diverse nation unlike any other in the world. Geographers would explain that, as a result of cultural diffusion, advancements in technology, and a European race for hegemony. Today, the ripple effects of that experience manifest in our daily work.

Facing inequities—unjust and unfair practices—is by far the most challenging aspect of the planning profession. Sometimes it is hard to talk about it, and sometimes easy to forget. Bringing these issues to the forefront is essential, as they are in many respects the root causes of many planning dilemmas. Diversity in the planning profession is a portal into the conversation.


Linda C. Dalton, PhD, FAICP, is professor emerita of City and Regional Planning at California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, where she also served as chief planning officer. She is an emeritus member of the California Planning Roundtable and former board member of the California Planning Foundation. Her work has earned awards from the American Planning Association, Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning, and Planning Accreditation Board.

Miguel A. Vazquez, AICP, currently serves as the American Planning Association’s Diversity Committee Chair and as Healthy Communities Planner for the Riverside University Healthy System—Public Health. He is an active member of the California Planning Roundtable and received the 2018 APA President’s Award to honor his work to advance diversity and inclusion initiatives.

APA's big event is packed with 13 special-interest tracks that cover a broad spectrum of practice in more than 230 expert-led sessions. NPC19 offers everything planners expect from the premier planning conference of the year: a great location, fresh ideas to take home, and new skills and connections to advance their careers. You'll have the chance to explore San Francisco and the Bay Area where you'll find a wide range of planning practices and trends. Over 60 mobile workshops will take you around the Bay Area to see planning in action. Registration for NPC19 includes all sessions, the popular Welcome Reception, an invitation to the Awards Luncheon, keynotes by violinist Vijay Gupta and documentarian Brett Culp, and more.

Get all the details and sign up now at planning.org/npc. Use #NPC19 to share the news!
From September 15-18, 2019, the Central Coast Section and California APA welcome all interested planning professionals to the California APA Conference in Santa Barbara, which will be held at the Hilton Santa Barbara Beachfront Resort. We look forward to welcoming private and public sector planners, management, various elected officials, decision makers, and interested members of the public at the conference in Santa Barbara, and we hope you enjoy exploring Santa Barbara’s beachfront and other attractions while you are here. With the theme of “A Resilient Future,” the conference aims to tackle pressing and relevant local and statewide issues, including climate change, housing, energy, transportation, diversity, sea level rise, sustainability, economy, and disaster and recovery.

Resiliency comes with many different definitions, all aimed at maintaining and improving what exists in our communities. In particular, the 2019 Conference Host Committee found the following definitions of resiliency to speak to planning and the theme of the 2019 conference:

• The ability to absorb disturbance and still retain basic function and structure, or “identity.” — Six Foundations
• The capacity of individuals, communities, institutions, businesses, and systems within a city to survive, adapt, and grow no matter what kinds of chronic stresses and acute shocks they experience. — 100 Resilient Cities
• The capacity of a system, be it an individual, a forest, a city or an economy, to deal with change and continue to develop. It is about how humans and nature can use shocks and disturbances, like a financial crisis or climate change, to spur renewal and innovative thinking. — Stockholm Resilience Centre
• The ability to prepare and plan for, absorb, recover from, and more successfully adapt to adverse events. — National Academy of Sciences.

We look forward to welcoming you at the conference and sparking conversation, debate, and discussion for A Resilient Future in your community and across California. For more information on the 2019 APA conference, please visit www.apacalifornia-conference.org.

Apply Now for CPF Scholarships

The California Planning Foundation (CPF) is pleased to announce its 2019 scholarship program for outstanding planning students enrolled at eligible professional planning degree programs in the state of California. These scholarships are designed for continuing students entering their final year of an eligible undergraduate or graduate degree program. Criteria for the scholarships include academic performance, financial need, increasing diversity in the planning profession, and a commitment to serve the planning profession in California after graduation. More than $60,000 in scholarships are available. The deadline to apply is April 30, 2019. More information is available on the CPF website.
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