



American Planning Association  
**California Chapter**

*Making Great Communities Happen*

**CENTRAL**

**CENTRAL COAST**

**INLAND EMPIRE**

**LOS ANGELES**

**NORTHERN**

**ORANGE**

**SACRAMENTO  
VALLEY**

**SAN DIEGO**

**2018**  
**Annual Report**

[www.APACalifornia.org](http://www.APACalifornia.org)

The mission of the APA California is to provide vision and leadership that fosters planning for California.

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## President's Statement



Pete Parkinson, AICP

When I began my term as Chapter President in January 2017, I did not foresee how much the world would change over the next two years. Even though our job as planners is to plan for the future, no one was preparing to cope with issues like under-cutting the 2020 census, gutting federal agencies like HUD and the EPA, an assault on western public lands, and climate-change denial as official US government policy, just to name a few prominent national headlines. Our reality has shifted in so many ways.

Here in our home state, the two most destructive wildfires in California history occurred only thirteen months apart: here in my home town of Santa Rosa and last November with the near-complete destruction of the town of Paradise. These catastrophic events have struck at the heart of our communities in ways that are central to our work as planners. Housing, infrastructure, communication systems, the environment and economic development have all been dealt serious and long-term blows and those damages extend well beyond the communities that burned. And—no surprise—those impacts have hit our most disadvantaged residents the hardest. But—again, no surprise—some of the first calls I got after the fires started here in Sonoma County were from planning colleagues up and down the state, asking how they can help. It was inspiring and uplifting.

At the same time, it is also more apparent than ever that California is now a national and international leader for those who hope for a more enlightened and inclusive future. Whether you call it resistance or leadership, people are watching our state closely and that makes this a very exciting time to be a planner in California. Whether you are a planner working on climate change initiatives, planning to make your communities more resilient, building (or rebuilding!) more affordable housing, working toward a more inclusive planning process that gives voice to those who have too often been left out, or striving to improve environmental justice and equity outcomes in California's disadvantaged communities, California planners are leading the way and I hope you too are inspired for the tough work ahead.

With this meta-view in mind, here are a few APA California highlights from the past two years:

- Our highly successful state conferences enabled the Chapter to fund several initiatives that have gone wanting in the past. For example, we have now funded the digitizing and cataloging of the California Planning Archives housed at Cal State Northridge. The Chapter also provided matching funds for a new California Planning Foundation Scholarship in memory of Frank Wein, FAICP. We also purchased webinar software that has already provided several highly successful and well-attended webinars, with much more to come.
- APA California's well-established Policy and Legislation program continues to grow in influence in Sacramento. The legislature passed major housing legislation that will affect planners' work for many years to come and APA California's lobbying and grass-roots advocacy helped shape the housing bills in ways that will make them more practical and effective. This work is by no means done as legislators and a new governor continue to grapple with California's ongoing housing affordability crisis, and APA California remains on the front lines.
- APA California held highly successful planning conferences in Sacramento (2017) and San Diego (2018). Both conferences attracted around 1,500 attendees and filled our venues to capacity. The quality and value of the conference sessions was extraordinary and received high marks from attendees. In San Diego, the Chapter celebrated its 70th Anniversary with a fascinating presentation of California planning history put together by our Chapter Historians, Steve Preston, FAICP, and Larry Mintier, FAICP.

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*“Whether you call it resistance or leadership, people are watching our state closely and that makes this a very exciting time to be a planner in California.”*

## PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT

- We have increased Planning Commissioner involvement in APA activities, largely as a result of the work of Stephen Haase, AICP, the Board and Commissions representative on the APA California Board during 2017 and 2018. This effort included a very successful Planning Commissioner training day at both conferences.
- The Chapter Board of Directors added a new voting member in 2018, the Vice President for Equity and Diversity, and appointed Miroo Desai, AICP, to that position. This board position will focus on promoting diverse and inclusive perspectives within APA California and the planning profession, including recruitment of planners of color as members and leaders within our organization.
- We recognized Great Places in California at our conferences, including Downtown Santa Monica, Old Towne Plaza in the City of Orange, the City of Lafayette, Todos Santos Plaza in Concord and Mt. Uhmunum Regional Park in Santa Clara County. Two California places—Mill Creek Linear Park in the City of Bakersfield and Old Towne Plaza in Orange—have won coveted “Great Places in America” awards from APA National.
- At the 2018 National Planning Conference in New Orleans, seven California planners were inducted into the AICP College of Fellows, including former APA California Board members, Betsy McCullough, FAICP, and Linda Tatum, FAICP.

Of course, planners are inherently forward-thinking, right? I'm hopeful that the arc will bend in a more just and humane direction in 2019, not just here in California, but in our nation and the world. Planners already have their shoulders to the wheel in this effort, which is encouraging. Here's what I see on our horizon:

- APA California will continue to “up its game” on professional development, providing our members with high-quality professional education, delivered right to your desktop (in addition to our usual channels). Distance education will become a new and stronger focus.

- APA California's eight regional Sections will continue to strengthen their connection with members by providing educational, networking and downright fun opportunities for planners to connect and collaborate.
- Planning is well underway for our next conference, September 15-18 in Santa Barbara. I feel like our conferences get better and better every year and I know this will be no exception.
- California's very own Kurt Christiansen, FAICP, has taken over as President of the American Planning Association, our national parent organization. Kurt is a past president of APA California, and he has the vision and dedication to keep our profession moving forward, even if he is moving to Virginia.
- Speaking of APA national, our Association started new membership programs in 2017 that will make it easier (i.e., less-expensive) for students and new members to join APA. APA also has a new AICP Candidate Program to pave the way for recent planning graduates to become certified planners. This is important because these young professionals are, quite literally, our future, as a profession and as communities.
- Last but by no means least, I extend a warm welcome to APA California's new Chapter President, Julia Lave Johnston. Julia has the energy and vision to move our Chapter forward and I look forward to working with her!

And finally, let me close by thanking all of you who have chosen to be APA California members these past two years and especially those of you who have made the extra effort to become certified planners. We are a strong organization and a strong profession because of you. Thank You!

***“ I'm hopeful that the arc will bend in a more just and humane direction in 2019, not just here in California, but in our nation and the world.”***

# 2018 Board of Directors

## Chapter Officers

- **Pete Parkinson, AICP**  
President
- **Sung H. Kwon, AICP, MCRP**  
VP Administration, through 10/2018
- **Derek Wong, AICP**  
VP Administration, effective 12/2018
- **Hanson Hom, AICP**  
VP Conferences
- **Mary P. Wright, AICP, LEED AP ND**  
VP Marketing and Membership
- **John Terell, AICP**  
VP Policy and Legislation
- **Kimberly Anne Brosseau, AICP**  
VP Professional Development
- **Marc Yeber, ASLA**  
VP Public Information
- **Julie Lave Johnston**  
President Elect
- **Juan Borrelli, AICP**  
CPF President
- **Stephen M. Haase, AICP**  
Commission and Board Representative
- **John Holder**  
Student Representative

## Local Section Directors

- **Rob Terry, AICP**  
Central Section
- **Christopher Williamson, AICP**  
Central Coast Section
- **John E. Hildebrand**  
Inland Empire Section

- **Ashley Atkinson, AICP**  
Los Angeles Section
- **Sharon Grewal, AICP**  
Northern Section
- **Nicholas Chen, AICP**  
Orange Section
- **Robert G. Lagomarsino, AICP**  
Sacramento Valley Section
- **Rachel A. Hurst, AICP**  
San Diego Section

## Appointed Members

- **Asha Bleier, AICP**  
AICP Coordinator
- **J. Laurence Mintier, FAICP**  
Chapter Historian, Northern
- **Steven A. Preston, AICP**  
Chapter Historian, Southern
- **Kacey Lizon**  
Conference Program Coordinator
- **Gabriel Barreras**  
Digital Media Coordinator, Website
- **Melanie Emas**  
Digital Media Coordinator, Social Media
- **Greg Konar, AICP**  
Distance Education Director
- **AI Zelinka, AICP**  
FAICP Co-Coordinator
- **Kurt Christiansen, FAICP**  
FAICP Co-Coordinator
- **Miroo Desai, AICP**  
Membership Inclusion Coordinator  
Northern

- **Erica Gutierrez**  
Membership Inclusion Coordinator,  
Southern
- **Nicholas P. Maricich**  
National Policy and Legislative  
Representative
- **Pamela Wu, AICP**  
Statewide Program Coordinator
- **Chris Pahule**  
State Awards Coordinator, Northern
- **Andre Sahakian, AICP**  
State Awards Coordinator, Southern
- **Mirle Rabinowitz Bussell**  
University Liaison, Southern
- **Nina Idemudia**  
Young Planners Coordinator

## Non-Voting Members

- **Kristen Asp, AICP**  
APA Board Director, Region 6
- **Marissa Aho, AICP**  
AICP Commissioner, Region 6
- **Lance MacNiven**  
APA Student Representative,  
Region 6
- **Robert Paternoster, FAICP**  
Planner Emeritus Network, President
- **Coleen Clementson, AICP**  
California Planning Roundtable,  
President
- **Ellie Fiore, AICP**  
*CalPlanner* Assistant Editor

## Management Association and Contract Staff

- **Sande George**  
Executive Director and Lobbyist
- **Lauren de Valencia y Sanchez**  
Executive Assistant and Lobbyist
- **Francine Farrell**  
Association and Accounting Services  
*ATEGO Resources*
- **Laura Murphy**  
Association and Certification  
Maintenance Services  
*New Horizon Enterprise*
- **Dorina Blythe**  
Graphic Design Services  
*GranDesigns, Inc.*
- **Marco A. Martinez**  
APA California Attorney  
*Best, Best & Krieger, LLC*
- Professional Liability Insurance  
*Heffman Insurance Brokers*
- **Dick Lemon**  
Insurance Agent  
*McClatchy Insurance*
- **Christopher Jaime**  
Website Management  
*Digital Gear, Inc.*
- **Deene Alongi**  
Conference Management  
*Business Event Strategist*
- **Carol Malin**  
Proofreading and Editing Services  
*Wordsmith.biz*

# REGION VI REPRESENTATIVES REPORT

## National APA



*Kristen Asp, AICP  
APA Board of Directors  
Elected by Region VI*

Kristen Asp is a principal planner for the City of Glendale, California. Kristen has served as vice president of administration for APA's California Chapter, section director for the APA Los Angeles Section, vice chair of the APA Membership Committee, and vice chair of the APA Awards Task Force. She earned her bachelor's degree from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, and master's degree from Woodbury University.

***“Our goal is to promote more inclusive, just, and equitable communities through a planning profession as diverse and inclusive as the many communities we serve; and to equip planners to perform inclusive planning and work effectively across diverse communities.”***

### NATIONAL APA 2018 SUMMARY

It is an honor and privilege to serve on the National APA Board of Directors as the representative elected by the members of Region VI. The Board of Directors meets 3-4 times a year. Below is a summary of actions the Board took or embarked on in 2018.

**Equity, Diversity and Inclusion** – The APA Board adopted new diversity and inclusion statements and strategy into the APA Development Plan. Our goal is to promote more inclusive, just, and equitable communities through a planning profession as diverse and inclusive as the many communities we serve; and to equip planners to perform inclusive planning and work effectively across diverse communities. Aspects of the strategy include expanding representation in the profession, addressing barriers to recruitment and retention in leadership and in the profession, and building capacity for inclusive planning practices among planners, and through work with our partners.

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### JAPA

The Board approved a redesign of the Journal of the American Planning Association, which will include a modern, recognizable brand identity for JAPA. It will also consider JAPA's diverse audience, which includes scholars, practicing planners, students, and others interested in the profession. The journal's new look will include a community-friendly and people-focused tone that reflects the culture of the profession, and will apply best

practices and consistency in design, layout, readability and aesthetics. The new design will debut with the first issue of the 2019 calendar year.

Dr. Sandra Rosenbloom, professor of Community and Regional Planning at the University of Texas at Austin, completed her term as Editor of the Journal of the American Planning Association at the end of 2018. APA thanks Dr. Rosenbloom for her expertise and dedication to JAPA.

The APA Board of Directors approved the selection of Dr. Ann Forsyth as JAPA's new editor. She begins a five-year-term in January 2019. Dr. Forsyth is a Professor of Urban Planning and Director of the Master in Urban Planning degree program at Harvard Graduate School of Design. She also co-directs the Healthy Places Design Lab and has been both an associate editor of JAPA and a member of the editorial board. Dr. Forsyth also serves on the APA Board of Directors.

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## REGION VI REPRESENTATIVES REPORT

# National APA

**Policy and Advocacy** – The Board identified four legislative priorities: infrastructure, housing choice and affordability, federal data, and safe and healthy communities. Work is also underway on a new policy guide on social equity and inclusive growth, and updated guides on housing and surface transportation.

The Planners' Advocacy Network reached an all-time high in membership at 9,000!

The sold-out 2018 Policy and Advocacy Conference in September was the best-attended ever, with a deep program that included leadership training, mid-term election insights, and sessions on housing issues and Planning Home, equity, Autonomous Vehicles, and tax reform. The Daniel Burnham Forum on Big Ideas, presented in partnership with the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, began the conference with an expert panel discussion on land-value capture as a funding source for infrastructure. It's now a free course in APA Learn!

Planner's Day on Capitol Hill boasted a record number of participants and meetings with officials.

**Planning Home Initiative** – The Board approved a new set of housing affordability policy principles. Planning Home aims to reshape the way planners, developers, policy makers, and advocates use planning to address our housing affordability crisis based on six principles:

- Modernize State Planning Laws
- Reform Local Codes
- Promote Inclusionary Growth
- Remove Barriers to Multi-family Housing
- Turn NIMBY into YIMBY
- Rethink Finance

The initiative will address systemic housing issues through the collaboration of legislators, planners, developers, and residents; it will include training and tools for APA members, as well as direct outreach to various stakeholders.

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### APA FOUNDATION

The reinvigorated APA Foundation took big steps toward fulfilling its mission to advance planning by supporting three priority initiatives: scholarships, community assistance, and research.

Contributions to the Foundation in 2018—from generous members, APA chapters and divisions, and others—to-

taled almost \$88,000. The Foundation awarded academic scholarships to eight student members. Support for this program also was provided in part by a grant from the Pisces Foundation, which seeks ways to accelerate to a world where people and nature thrive together.

Behind the scenes, the Foundation made great progress on its first signature

endeavor—FutureShape—a collaborative effort to produce a wide-ranging, far-reaching agenda for the planning profession. The need for such a framework is critical when smart technologies, climate change, and other fast-moving trends are transforming the earth's natural and built environments.

## REGION VI REPRESENTATIVES REPORT

# National APA

**Professional Education** – APA Learn was launched in late 2018 providing a new online educational platform that offers hundreds of hours of professional education on subjects that are important to APA members including session recording from the 2018 National APA Conference in New Orleans. It's a convenient way to continue planning education and earn CM credits, including those credits in law and ethics. APA Learn will add fresh and relevant educational opportunities in response to members' needs and advances in planning. Experience feature highlights include custom learning portfolios, seamless CM logging, and bookmarking.

**Membership** – Total APA membership increased by almost 13 percent during the 2018 fiscal year. On September 30—the last day of FY 2018—APA had 42,906 members, including 16,733 AICP members (40 percent of total membership). The

big gain in APA membership was largely due to the free student membership program initiated in 2017. Offering a new "New Member" category with reduced dues for two years also contributed to growth.

The student programs offer of free membership in up to five APA divisions had a major impact on membership in all 21 divisions. Total division membership grew from 22,507 at the end of FY 2017 to 42,617 a year later — an 89 percent gain.

***“APA Learn will add fresh and relevant educational opportunities in response to members’ needs and advances in planning.”***

[www.planning.org](http://www.planning.org)

### FELLOWS CLASS OF 2018

At NPC18 in New Orleans, 64 AICP members were inducted into the College of Fellows, the Institute's highest honor. Each Fellow has achieved excellence in professional practice, teaching and mentoring, research, or community service and leadership. They continue to serve APA and the planning profession as teachers, leaders, mentors, and volunteers.

#### ***Congratulations to the seven inductees from California!***

- Susan Harden, FAICP – Orange Section
- Laurie A. Johnson, FAICP – Northern Section
- Betsy McCullough, FAICP – San Diego Section

- Kathrin Moore, FAICP – Northern Section
- Carl Morehouse, FAICP – Central Coast Section
- Linda Tatum, FAICP – Los Angeles Section
- Heidi Tschudin, FAICP – Sacramento Valley Section

**National Leadership:** Several others in the Chapter serve in National Leadership positions. Those serving in APA Leadership roles are the following:

- President Elect – Kurt Christiansen, FAICP from Azusa, CA
- Student Representative Council, Region VI Representative – Alexander Yee from Los Angeles, CA (USC)

- Foundation Board of Directors – Linda Tatum, FAICP from Long Beach, CA and Kurt Christiansen, FAICP from Azusa, CA
- Divisions Council, Chair – David Fields, AICP from San Francisco, CA
- Chapter Residents Council, Past Chair – Shane Burkhardt, AICP from Huntington Beach, CA
- Economic Development Division, Chair – Lance Harris, AICP from San Diego, CA
- Planning in the Black Community Division, Chair – Derek Hull from Los Angeles, CA
- Transportation Division, Chair – Gabriela Juarez, AICP from Los Angeles, CA

## REGION VI REPRESENTATIVES REPORT

# National APA

### **NATIONAL APA COMMITTEES**

I would also like to acknowledge and recognize California Chapter members who serve on National Committees and Task Forces:

#### **Leadership Development Task Force**

- Miguel A. Vazquez, AICP – Riverside, CA

#### **APA National Planning Conference Committee**

- Betsy McCullough, FAICP – San Diego, CA (Past Education Chair)
- Hing Wong, AICP – San Ramon, CA (NPC19 Local Host Chair)

#### **Planning Officials Committee**

- Janet Palma, AICP – San Leandro, CA

#### **Membership Committee**

- Shane Burkhardt, AICP – Huntington Beach, CA
- Elizabeth Tyler, FAICP – Albany, CA

#### **APA National Awards Jury**

- Alexander Yee – Los Angeles, CA

#### **Diversity Task Force of Membership**

- Elizabeth Tyler, FAICP – Albany, CA
- Miguel A. Vazquez, AICP – Riverside, CA
- Miroo Desai, AICP – Oakland, CA

#### **Social Equity**

- Jonathan P. Bell – Los Angeles, CA
- Victor Rubin – Oakland, CA

#### **Design and Policy**

- Daniel Parolek – Berkeley, CA

#### **Infrastructure**

- Catherine Duffy – San Francisco, CA
- David Fields, AICP – San Francisco, CA

#### **International Division**

- William Anderson, FAICP – San Diego, CA

#### **Amicus Curiae Committee**

- Deborah M. Rosenthal, AICP – Irvine, CA

#### **AICP Exam**

- Karen Alschuler, FAICP – San Francisco, CA

#### **AICP National Membership Standards**

- Francisco J. Contreras, AICP – West Hollywood, CA

#### **AICP Community Assistance Program (CAP)**

- Robert Paternoster, FAICP – Long Beach, CA
- Robyn Eason, AICP – West Hollywood, CA



## VICE PRESIDENT PORTFOLIO & PROGRAMS

### Administration



Derek Wong, AICP

The Vice President for Administration is responsible for a number of important activities for the Chapter. One is providing financial services oversight and maintenance of the Chapter’s general fund accounts and financial policies. This is accomplished through a team comprised of APA California administrative staff and contractors, including Stefan/George Associates, Simply Bookkeeping, ATEGO Resources, New Horizon and

other support contract staff. A second responsibility for the Vice President for Administration is serving as Chairperson of the Chapter’s awards program, working alongside awards co-coordinators, APACA administrative staff, and a panel of jurors to solicit and select projects, programs, and individuals that demonstrate excellence in planning. A third responsibility is managing the content and development of this annual report!

I thank the Chapter board members, Section Directors, and Affiliate Organizations for contributing to this report and extend my appreciation to Dorina Blythe and Carol Malin for helping to make this annual report possible.

***“A Strategic Plan in 2019 is in development that prioritizes programs and other activities that reinvest the revenue proceeds to enhance member benefits for the foreseeable future.”***

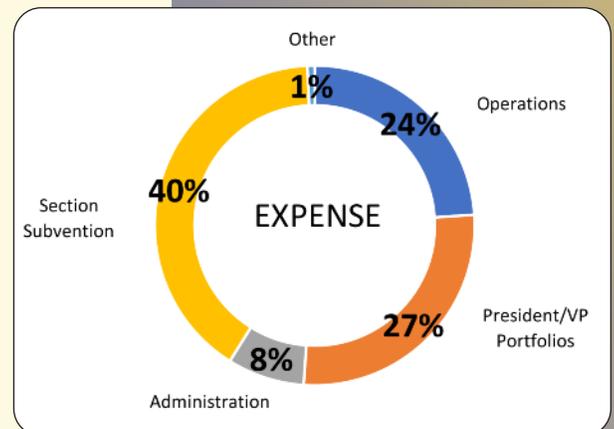
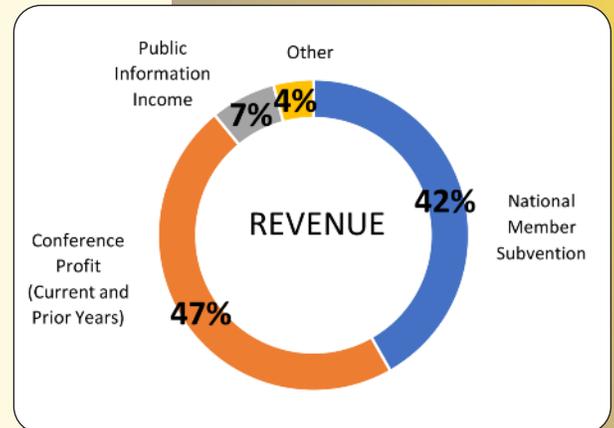
The Board of Directors adopted a draft budget at its meeting held during the 2017 APA California Chapter Conference in Sacramento, with amendments approved in January 2018 during the Board’s annual retreat. A budget of \$661,000 was adopted to cover operating expenses associated with Executive Board portfolio programs, Section subventions, and general Chapter operations. Income was projected from the three primary sources including funds received from National APA for California Chapter membership dues, 2017 Conference profits, and advertisement from web ads.

Actual revenues and costs tracked during the year were such that the year-end income statement remained positive! For revenues, the three main sources all generated greater than budgeted amounts. National member dues returned almost 20% more than budgeted, conference profits were almost double the estimates, and advertisement grew nearly 30% above budgeted. These increases are testament to our Chapter membership growth, success of the annual State Conference, and continued financial support from the planning community.

Chapter operating expenses increased about 10% above budgeted for the year, with program area costs exceeding budgets. These overages were offset by savings in operations and administration costs, as well as from accounting report updates. A large expense reflected in the Chapter account is the subvention provided to the eight local sections that receive a proportion of member dues and conference profits. With significant growth in both National member subventions and conference profit, we are pleased to have shared a larger amount of funds with the local Sections that in turn provide membership with additional customized programs and member services.

A Strategic Plan in 2019 is in development that prioritizes programs and other activities that reinvest the revenue proceeds to enhance member benefits for the foreseeable future.

Illustrations of the year’s finances and breakdown of revenues and costs are provided in the pie charts.



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# VICE PRESIDENT PORTFOLIO & PROGRAMS

## Administration

### STATE CHAPTER AWARDS

Congratulations to the 2018 State Chapter Award winners presented at the Chapter Conference in October in San Diego. The list of winners and categories is shown below.”

APA California 2018 Awards	
AWARD RESULTS	
<b>Opportunity and Empowerment Award</b>	Result
CHW Arizona Street Development & North Park Seniors	AWARD OF EXCELLENCE
Disadvantaged Communities Infrastructure and Planning Policy Study	AWARD OF MERIT
<b>Comprehensive Plan (Large)</b>	Result
The South Los Angeles & Southeast Los Angeles Community Plans	AWARD OF EXCELLENCE
Propel Vallejo General Plan 2040	AWARD OF MERIT
<b>Comprehensive Plans (Small)</b>	Result
Belmont Village General Plan, Specific Plan, and Climate Action Plan	AWARD OF EXCELLENCE
Temple City Mid-Century General Plan and Crossroads Specific Plan	AWARD OF MERIT
<b>Implementation (Large)</b>	Result
Willow Springs Wetlands, City of Long Beach	AWARD OF EXCELLENCE
<b>Innovation In Green Community</b>	Result
Butte County Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation (SALC) Strategy	AWARD OF EXCELLENCE
Rancho Cucamonga Sustainable Community Action Plan	AWARD OF MERIT
<b>Economic Planning and Development</b>	Result
The City of Sacramento’s Central City Specific Plan	AWARD OF EXCELLENCE
Go Little Tokyo, Neighborhood Marketing Campaign	AWARD OF MERIT
<b>Transportation Planning</b>	Result
West Contra Costa High-Capacity Transit Study	AWARD OF EXCELLENCE
Culver City Transit Oriented Design (TOD) Visioning Study and Recommendations	AWARD OF MERIT
<b>Best Practices Award</b>	Result
Metro Transfers Design Guide	AWARD OF EXCELLENCE
SB 1000 Implementation Toolkit	AWARD OF MERIT



*Chris Pahule  
Co-Awards Coordinator  
Northern California*



*Andre Sahakian, AICP  
Co-Awards Coordinator  
Southern California*

<b>Grassroots Initiative</b>	Result
Pop-Up Care Village	AWARD OF EXCELLENCE
<b>Public Outreach Award</b>	Result
SCAG Go Human Tactical Urbanism Demonstration Projects	AWARD OF EXCELLENCE
Uptown Open Space Vision Plan, City of Long Beach	AWARD OF MERIT
<b>Urban Design</b>	Result
West Los Angeles VA Campus Master Plan Framework	AWARD OF EXCELLENCE
Healdsburg Citywide Design Guideline	AWARD OF MERIT
<b>Planning Advocate</b>	Result
David Salazar	AWARD OF EXCELLENCE
<b>Planning Agency Award</b>	Result
Los Angeles Department of City Planning	AWARD OF EXCELLENCE
<b>Emerging Planning and Design Firm</b>	Result
SITELAB urban studio	AWARD OF EXCELLENCE
<b>Advancing Diversity and Social Change</b>	Result
Cannabis Social Equity Program	AWARD OF EXCELLENCE
<b>Academic Award</b>	Result
Old Town Urban Design Concept Plan	AWARD OF EXCELLENCE
SMART Parks: A Toolkit	AWARD OF MERIT
<b>Communication Initiative</b>	Result
The View from Here: Place and Privilege	AWARD OF EXCELLENCE
<b>Hard-Won Victories</b>	Result
Palo Alto Comprehensive Plan Update	AWARD OF EXCELLENCE



## VICE PRESIDENT PORTFOLIO & PROGRAMS

# Policy and Legislation



John C. Terrell, AICP

2018 was the final year of the 2017-18 Legislative Session. Many two-year planning bills continued to be considered and modified as they went through the committee process. A number of new, gutted and revised bills generated substantial interest and discussion.

The Legislative Review Committee conducted a single Statewide bill review meeting. On-site meetings were held in Sacramento and Los Angeles with most participants—north and south—calling in to participate. This process produced a single, unified set of committee recommendations with widespread com-

A sampling of priority planning related measures with active APA California engagement and their final status at the end of the Session are listed below. Many of the unsuccessful bills are expected to be reintroduced. Housing and wildfire safety are anticipated to be major issues in the upcoming Session.

- **AB 686 Increased Fair Housing Enforcement Standards**  
APA California Position: Support as amended.  
*Status: Signed by the Governor*
- **AB 1771 (Bloom) RHNA Allocation Reform**  
APA California Position: Neutral as amended.  
*Status: Signed by the Governor*
- **AB 879 Increased Housing Element Mandates**  
APA California Position: Oppose unless amended.  
*Status: Signed by the Governor*
- **AB 1804 (Berman) CEQA Infill Exemption for Counties**  
APA California Position: Support.  
*Status: Signed by the Governor*
- **AB 2341 (Mathis) Eliminates Consideration of Aesthetic Effects of Some Projects in CEQA**  
APA California Position: Support as Amended.  
*Status: Signed by the Governor*
- **AB 2372 (Gloria) Authorizes a Floor Area Ratio Bonus in Lieu of Unit Density Bonus**  
APA California Position: Support as amended.  
*Status: Signed by the Governor*

mittee participation. These recommendations, coupled with the Chapter's Board-adopted legislative platform, informed APA California's lobbying efforts on priority bills as they continued their way through committees and floor votes. Bills not resolved by the end of the year were two-year bills for further consideration in the second year of the Session.

As in past years, the legislative year in review at the State conference in Sacramento filled one of the largest rooms available. At the request of the State President Elect, a second conference session on legislative advocacy was developed and presented with good participation.

Following up from the Board Retreat at the start of the year, a new Statewide council of Legislative Representatives was formed. The council consists of legislative representatives from each Section, the National Policy Representative and VP for Policy & Legislation. The council met several times by conference call. Its first work product was a totally revamped Legislative Platform (Plan California) for the 2019-20 Legislative Session, which was approved by the Board towards the end of the year.

APA California continued to expand its presence and influence in the State Capitol by serving as a resource to legislators who sought our input and expertise on planning related legislation. APA was asked to review and comment on preliminary drafts of legislation to address issues before bills were made public and to participate in a myriad of planning issue working groups, and our support was requested by other organizations

- **AB 2447 (Reyes) New Notice and Hearing Requirements for Disadvantaged Communities**  
APA California Position: Neutral as amended.  
*Status: Vetoed by the Governor*
- **AB 2753 (Friedman) New Notification of Density Bonus Status When Deemed Complete**  
APA California Position: Support as Amended.  
*Status: Signed by the Governor*
- **AB 2797 (Bloom) Requires Density Bonus, Waivers and Concessions Consistent With Coastal Act**  
APA California Position: Neutral as Amended.  
*Status: Signed by the Governor*
- **AB 2890 (Ting) Major Accessory Dwelling Unit Requirements (With SB 831 & SB 1469)**  
APA California Position: Oppose.  
*Status: Died in Committee*
- **AB 2913 (Wood) Extend Building Permit Life for Housing Projects Statewide**  
APA California Position: Neutral as Amended.  
*Status: Signed by the Governor*
- **AB 3037 (Chiu) Reinstate Redevelopment Process for Housing and Infrastructure**  
APA California Position: Support in Concept.  
*Status: Died in Committee*

Continued on page 11

## VICE PRESIDENT PORTFOLIO & PROGRAMS

# Policy and Legislation

on legislation they proposed. The level of engagement by APA produced tangible results, with bill revisions to address APA's comments prior to passing the Legislature. APA opposed bills were modified prior to approval or died in committee. APA support or neutral bills incorporated modifications forwarded by our comments.

For the complete list of priority bills and detailed information on all bill, please visit the Legislation page on the APA California website at: [www.apacalifornia.org/legislation/](http://www.apacalifornia.org/legislation/)

### CLOSING STATEMENT

In my fourth and final year of my tenure as the Vice President of Policy and Legislation, I would like to express my gratitude to all of those who have contributed to the success of APA California's legislative program over the past year, including all of those who participate in the legislative review teams, a supportive Board of Directors, and the amazing Stefan George staff without which our success in Sacramento would not be possible.



***“APA California continued to expand its presence and influence in the State Capitol by serving as a resource to legislators who sought our input and expertise on planning related legislation.”***

[www.apacalifornia.org/legislation/](http://www.apacalifornia.org/legislation/)

- **AB 3147 (Caballero) Freeze Mitigation & Impact Fees for Complete Housing Projects**  
APA California Position: Support if Amended.  
*Status: Died in Committee*
- **AB 3194 (Daly) Rezoning Exemption for Projects not Inconsistent With General Plan**  
APA California Position: Neutral as Amended.  
*Status: Signed by the Governor*
- **SB 765 (Wiener) Modifications to SB35 Approval Process**  
APA California Position: Neutral as Amended.  
*Status: Signed by the Governor*
- **SB 827 (Wiener) Override Local Zoning Authority Near Transit**  
APA California Position: Oppose.  
*Status: Died in Committee*
- **SB 828 (Wiener) RHNA Allocation Reform and Performance Expectations**  
APA California Position: Oppose unless Amended.  
*Status: Signed by the Governor*
- **SB 901 (Dodd) Changes Utility Planning, Resiliency and Safety Maintenance Procedures**  
APA California Position: Neutral as Amended.  
*Status: Signed by the Governor*
- **SB 1035 (Jackson) Clarifies Flood, Fire and Climate Adaptation Requirements in Safety Element**  
APA California Position: Support as Amended.  
*Status: Signed by the Governor*
- **SB 1260 (Jackson) Supports Fire Prevention and Planning for Prescribed Burns**  
APA California Position: Support as Amended.  
*Status: Signed by the Governor*
- **SB 1333 (Wieckowski) Applies Specified State Planning & Zoning Requirements to Charter Cities**  
APA California Position: Neutral. *Status: Signed by the Governor*

## VICE PRESIDENT PORTFOLIO & PROGRAMS

# Professional Development



Kimberly Anne Brosseau, AICP

The Professional Development team works to assist Chapter members in their pursuit of professional development opportunities and information. The 2018 team consisted of Chapter representatives: Vice President Kimberly Brosseau; AICP Coordinator Asha Bleier; Co-FAICP Coordinators Kurt Christensen and Al Zelinka; Programs Coordinator Pamela Wu; Region VI AICP Commissioner Marissa Aho; and the Section PDOs: Roberto Brady – Central; Lilly Rudolph – Central Coast; Christina Bustamante – Inland Empire; Karolina Gorska and Karl Fielding – Los Angeles; Afshan Hamid and Don Bradley – Northern; Starla Barker – Orange; Blake Roberts – Sacramento Valley; Matthew Gelbman, Joan Issacson and Lorena Cordova – San Diego. A key factor in the success of the team was APA California staff member Laura Murphy who worked closely with the Vice President on matters related to AICP, FAICP, the state conference, the Chapter website, web postings, member assistance, research, general professional development, and creative solutions. Contributions to the Professional Development team were made on an ongoing basis by staff members Francine Farrell and Dorina Blythe.

The Professional Development team assisted Chapter members in many ways including: disseminating information regarding local and national certification maintenance (CM) credit sessions; producing local CM credit sessions; providing AICP exam training and scholarship opportunities; and coaching and supporting potential FAICP members.

### SOME 2018 HIGHLIGHTS

- **Six Chapter members**, after being mentored by Chapter FAICP members and with assistance from the Co-FAICP Coordinators, Chapter President, and Vice President of Professional Development, were inducted into the 2018 Class of Fellows of FAICP.
- **87 Chapter members passed the AICP exam in 2018.** Congratulations to the individuals who became AICP members following the May and November 2018 exams. See our new AICP members at: <http://www.apacalifornia.org/professional-development/aicp/aicp-recipient-archives/>.

- **Sections offered prep sessions for the May and November 2018 AICP exams.**
- **570 CM credits at 200 live and On Demand Education events**, including the Chapter Conference pre-conference and regular sessions and mobile workshops that offered CM credits (for a total of 246 CM credits within the conference program), were offered by the Sections and the Chapter to our members.
- **Major Initiatives** – A number of major efforts or dialogues were undertaken by the Professional Development team in 2018:
- **Successful AICP Exam Prep Session** Presented at the Annual Conference: Asha Bleier, assisted by an able panel including Lorena Cordova, Stan Donn, Rob Terry, Darin Neufeld, and Kimberly Brosseau, conducted a well-attended AICP exam introductory session at the Chapter conference in San Diego, invigorating many members to think about becoming AICP members.
- **Pre-Conference Session Offerings:** four successful pre-conference sessions were held at the Chapter conference in San Diego, entitled *Real Estate Financial Pro Forms and Fiscal Impact, Design and Placemaking Tools and Tips for In-fill Development, Leadership Workshop 2018, and Geodesign Tools and Technology for Planners: Incorporating Next Technology into Comprehensive Planning Workflow*. Pre-conference sessions are opportunities for Chapter members, whether attending the conference or not, to attend an in-depth training session, conducted by experts, on a particular topic for CM credit at a reasonable price.
- **On Demand Education Sessions** originally presented at the Chapter Conferences: The Chapter recorded key sessions presented at the most recent annual conference (San Diego 2018) to make them available at a later date for those unable to attend the conferences. Several law and ethics sessions were selected, recorded, and registered as On Demand Education opportunities available at a very reasonable cost to APA California members.
- **The Chapter continued to assist those preparing to take the exam by providing information on the 2018 AICP Certification Exam** updates to the exam as well as providing up-

*Continued on page 13*

***“The Professional Development team assisted Chapter members in many ways including: disseminating information regarding local and national certification maintenance (CM) credit sessions...”***

## VICE PRESIDENT PORTFOLIO & PROGRAMS

### Professional Development

dated study materials and prep sessions for the new exam.

- **Continued Chapter assistance with the APA National roll-out of the AICP Pilot Program.** The program provides students and new planners an opportunity to begin the path to certification sooner, demonstrating their commitment to the field and knowledge of the profession as they begin their planning careers. APA launched the AICP Pilot Program in November 2017.
- **Core Professional Skills Training:** the California Planning Roundtable (CPR) and the Chapter continue to provide core professional skills training for planners, particularly those newer to the profession. CPR has been coordinating with the Section boards and PDOs to sponsor and organize workshops at various locations throughout the state that are eligible for CM credits.
- **Ongoing Efforts:** The Professional Development team has done the following:
  - Sections have been providing AICP exam training sessions

and reference materials to exam candidates.

- Section PDO calls were regularly conducted during the year to share information and have discussions on topics of interest to PDOs for use in their Sections; distribution of detailed agendas for all including those unable to join the call.
- Summary of all CM events offered by the Chapter and Sections was again prepared.
- AICP exam scholarships from the Chapter and from the Sections continue to be awarded for each exam period after advertising availability of scholarships to AICP applicants and evaluation of those requests by Chapter committee.
- Successful AICP candidates continue to be recognized in *Cal Planner* articles while Section PDOs acknowledged their successes locally.
- The Vice President of Professional Development continues to be an ex officio member of the California Planning Foundation.

***“The Chapter continued to assist those preparing to take the exam by providing information on the 2018 AICP Certification Exam.”***

[www.apacalifornia.org](http://www.apacalifornia.org)

CM events by Sections, the Chapter, or co-sponsored by a Section or the Chapter.		
CM Provider or Co-Sponsor	Total CM Credits Offered	Total CM Events Offered
Central	16.5	5
Central Coast	41.75 (3.25L)	31
Inland Empire	27.5	11
Los Angeles	45.75	20
Northern	113	77
Orange	30.0 (5.25L & 1.5E)	7
Sacramento Valley	35	18
San Diego	14.5	8
Chapter	246.0 (25.5L & 9.0E)	23
<b>Total</b>	<b>570</b>	<b>200</b>

# VICE PRESIDENT PORTFOLIO & PROGRAMS

## Conferences



Hanson Hom, AICP

### LOOKING BACK

#### 2018 San Diego Conference – October 7-10

The 2018 APA California conference at the Sheraton San Diego Hotel & Marina was a resounding success thanks to the incredible work of the San Diego Conference Host Committee (CHC). Led by Conference Co-Chairs Carey Fernandes, Brooke Peterson and Betsy McCullough, the CHC spent countless hours and over two years to plan the conference. Of course, our conferences would not be possible without the contribution of planners and others from throughout the state that presented informative sessions. Greatly appreciated also was the generous support of our conference sponsors.



Total conference registration was 1,665, which is the second highest ever for an APA California conference. This considerably exceeded projections and doubled the attendance of the last conference held in San Diego in 2010. Approximately 88% of attendees registered for the full conference and the remaining 12% registered for one day. A large number of students attended the conference compared to prior years.



Opening Reception on the USS Midway.

The conference offered over 100 sessions, 4 pre-conference workshops, Opening and Closing Keynotes, the annual Diversity Summit, and 13 mobile workshops totaling over 200 AICP CM credits. The Opening Reception was held on the historic USS Midway which was reserved entirely for APA California. Planners and guests enjoyed the top deck of the aircraft carrier with its panoramic view of the city skyline, while the lower deck offered more food and beverages, entertainment and guided tours. This premier event received rave reviews from attendees.

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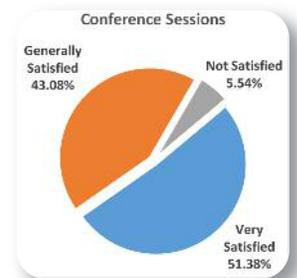
**“Thank you all for attending the San Diego Conference and making it a tremendous success!”**

The Opening Keynote was a welcome address by Assembly Member Todd Gloria of the 78<sup>th</sup> State Assembly District and former Councilmember for the City of San Diego. The topic for the Diversity Summit was “Moving Toward Transportation Justice.” The annual APA Chapter Awards Ceremony and CPF Auction were also well-attended events. The conference ended with a Closing Keynote by Dr. Mary Walshok, Associate Vice Chancellor for Public Programs and Dean of Extension at the University of California San Diego.



A packed house at the CPF Live Auction. Source: Lucky Luckey

In our continuing effort to improve our conferences and meet the expectations of planners, a survey was sent out after the conference. Over 325 responses were received (20% response rate). Many insightful observations and suggestions were offered for future conference planning. Regarding the quality and breadth of conference sessions, 94% expressed satisfaction with the topics offered, and a similar percentage felt the sessions were applicable to their current job or practice. Particularly helpful were suggestions for future topics and feedback for improving sessions. Re-occurring suggestions encouraged expanding the diversity of topics, session formats and speakers.



### LOOKING FORWARD

- First, please be aware of several important changes in 2019:
- **We are going paperless.** We heard you! In an effort to become more sustainable, the 2019 conference will eliminate a printed program. We have implemented sustainable practices in recent years, but this next step, similar to many conferences including the APA national conference, will reduce our use of paper. With this change, we will expand the conference mobile app, which many conference goers already rely on, to provide program and other timely information before and during the conference.
  - **The conference website is getting a reboot.** We heard you again! We are redesigning the conference website for the 2019 conference. In addition to a fresh look, we are hoping users will find the website more intuitive. We will load more information about the conference for attendees, sponsors, speakers, students, and volunteers. Look for the new website with the launch of early registration in May 2019.
  - **We will have a new online conference program.** When you register for the 2019 conference, you will see a new look because we will be using a new vendor. We are looking into improving the registration process by exploring new technology, implementing sustainable best practices, and reducing long queues at on-site registration. Please give us your feedback.

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## VICE PRESIDENT PORTFOLIO & PROGRAMS

# Conferences

### 2019 Santa Barbara Conference – September 15-18

Plans are coming together quickly for next year’s conference to be held at the Hilton Santa Barbara Beachfront Resort (formerly Fess Parker Resort). Hosted by the Central Coast Section, the CHC Co-Chairs-Tess Harris, Bret McNulty and Jeffrey Wilson, and the CHC are actively working to plan a memorable conference. The CHC is meeting at least monthly, and productive collaboration is ongoing with the VP of Conferences and conference contractors.



The conference theme is “A Resilient Future” and one of several conference tracks will focus on sustainability topics. The CHC enthusiastically kicked off the publicity for the conference at the San Diego conference last October. In December 2018, the Call for Session Proposals was released. Over 200 session submittals were received and the Program Committee will be selecting close to 100 sessions for the conference. The Mobile Workshops Committee is also planning to offer over a dozen mobile workshops to explore the Central Coast region, including an overnight camping trip to the Channel Islands.

**“Local restaurants are being lined up to offer a Taste of Santa Barbara...”**



Santa Barbara Courthouse. Source: Jay Sinclari

The sponsorship brochure was also released in December 2018 and sponsorship information is available on the [conference website](#). Categories are similar to past conferences and include major sponsors for the hotel key, lanyards, opening reception, plenaries, and even a beach mat to enjoy the beachfront location. Over 1,400 attendees are expected and limited sponsor tables are available on a first-come, first served basis.



Old Mission Santa Barbara. Source: Mark Weber

We are pleased to announce that the Opening Reception will be held on the beautiful spacious grounds of the Santa Barbara County Courthouse. Small group tours of the iconic courthouse, a National Register Historic Landmark, will be available. Local restaurants are being lined up to offer a “Taste of Santa Barbara” for a festive evening of food, music, and networking.

Check the [conference website](#) for the latest information as well as the Cal Planner. Early registration and hotel reservations will be available in May 2019.

[www.apacalifornia-conference.org](http://www.apacalifornia-conference.org)

### 2020 Riverside Conference September 12-15

It is not too early to mark your calendar for the 2020 conference. The City of Riverside will be the location for the 2020 APA California Conference, hosted by the Inland Empire Section. The Riverside Convention Center will be the conference site. Rooms have been reserved at three downtown hotels within easy walking distance to the Convention Center: Mission Inn, Marriott Riverside, and Hyatt Place.

Led by Conference Co-Chairs Chris Gray and Aaron Pfannenstiel, the Section is organizing its CHC, including creating its subcommittees. Please contact the Co-



Riverside Convention Center

Chairs to get involved in planning the conference. They will be kicking off the CHC planning in early 2019. The City and Inland Empire Section are looking forward

to having planners experience the exciting transformation of downtown Riverside and discover the diverse planning issues in the Inland Empire region.

## VICE PRESIDENT PORTFOLIO & PROGRAMS

### Marketing and Membership



Mary P. Wright, AICP

The Vice President for Marketing and Membership is responsible for the development of programs to improve membership retention and expand membership, the development of marketing programs, the identification of new member benefits and services, and coordinating with APA on membership initiatives and other policy changes that affect membership. The VP for Marketing and Membership also coordinates the activities of the Membership Inclusion Director, University Liaisons, Young Planners Group Coordinator and the Great Places California Coordinator.

In 2018, the overall membership of APA CA increased from 5,493 to 6,705, a 22% increase. A primary factor in the increase was the free and reduced membership rates for students and new professionals introduced by APA National the prior year. APA CA is committed to serving these and all members by ensuring our programs, policies, seminars and events have relevance to today's planning profession.

#### 2018 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- **Strategic Plan** – Reviewing and updating the APA CA was a major effort for the VP of Marketing and Membership, and the Board of Directors as a whole in 2018. Marketing and Mem-

bership took the lead in convening extensive conversations among key board members regarding increasing diversity and inclusion within the organization as well as sustaining and expanding membership at all levels of the organization. These conversations were coalesced with others into the revised APA CA Strategic Plan that outlines specific actions to be undertaken over the next year.

- **University Liaisons** – As the former APA CA University Liaisons moved onto other positions on the board, there was a need to identify two individuals that could take over these roles and continue and expand the organizations efforts to strengthen it's ties between academia and the planning profession. Fortunately, two very qualified academicians were identified. Dr. Mirle Rabinowitz-Bussell from UCSD and Rick Kos from San Jose State University enthusiastically took over this role as outlined below.
- **Membership Inclusion** - Diversity and membership inclusion have been a core value of APA CA for many years. As such, we began looking at whether our State Executive Board reflected this core value and determined that more emphasis was needed to reflect this priority. Working collaboratively, the Chapter President, Membership Inclusion Director and VP of Marketing and Membership proposed that the Membership Inclusion position be converted into a single elected Vice President of Diversity & Equity position. This will enable the board member to participate fully as a member of the board and ensure that issues of diversity and inclusion are always on the forefront of our activities. The position was unanimously approved by the Board in the Fall of 2018.
- **Great Places in California** – 2018 marked the fourth year of the Great Places in California Program which honors places that exemplify excellence in character, quality and planning. Three Great Places were awarded including the Todos Santo Plaza in Concord, Mt. Umunhum in the Bay Area and the Azusa Civic Center, as outlined below.

*Additional information on these and other accomplishments are highlighted on the following pages.*

### Marketing and Membership UNIVERSITY LIAISONS

The University Liaisons act as liaisons between the Chapter Board and the planning schools and programs within the State and support the Chapter Student Representative. In 2018, APA California was pleased to appoint two new individuals to the University Liaison positions.

- **Mirle Rabinowitz-Bussell, Ph.D.**  
**University Liaison - South**

Dr. Bussell is the Academic Director of Real Estate and Development in the Urban Studies and Planning Program at UC San Diego where she is dedicated to undergraduate planning education. Here research interests include private foundations' involvement in community devel-



opment, quality of life indicators, planning in disenfranchised urban neighborhood, affordable housing and more.

- **Rick Kos, AICP - University Liaison - North**  
Rick Kos has been teaching, urban planning, geographic information systems and community engagement at San Jose State University since 2008. He considers working with students to be very fulfilling and values their energy and drive to earn valuable degrees and make a positive difference in the world. In 2018, the University Liaisons worked to strengthen the bonds between APA and the academic community by coordinating activities to encourage membership and involvement among students and faculty. Future goals include conducting a member survey and working on an Academic issue of *CalPlanner* which will highlight the great work being conducted by students and faculty in our State's planning schools.



## Marketing and Membership

### MEMBERSHIP INCLUSION



Miroo Desai, AICP

APA California considers a diverse membership vital to the strength of the organization and works to support the inclusion of all who work in, or desire to work in, the field of planning. In 2018, the Chapter's Inclusion Director held monthly conference calls with Section Inclusion Directors to coordinate activities and plan for key events, as outlined below.

#### 2018 HIGHLIGHTS

- **2018 Diversity Summit:** The 13th Annual Diversity Summit started off the APA CA San Diego Conference held on September October 7, 2018. This year's theme was "Moving Towards Transportation Justice: What can Planners do to Meet the Needs of Disadvantaged Communities?" The panel consisted of four young speakers who work on transportation justice issues in their capacities as an anthropologist, community organizer, a public sector planner and a private sector planner. The discussion included defining what transportation justice is and why it matters, and what the planning community can do to positively impact transportation policy and planning outcomes. The distinguished panel included Monique Lopez, a social justice planner and founder of Pueblo Consulting firm based in Los Angeles; Dr. Adonia Lugo, Urban Anthropologist



and Mobility Justice Strategist also based in Los Angeles, Randy Van Vleck a San Diego based transportation planner working for City Heights Community Development Corporation, and Marcus Bush, a policy advisor to San Diego City Council member who moderated the panel. The organization of the Summit was spearheaded by Howard Lee, San Diego Section Diversity Director in 2018.

- **Planners for Color Mixer and Networking Event** was held October 9th at the Sheraton San Diego Hotel and Marina which was the conference hotel. We had a very successful turnout with approximately 50-60 people in attendance. Everyone enjoyed themselves and had many opportunities to network with fellow planners including have an opportunity to have one on one conversations with the Diversity Summit panelists most of who were in attendance.
- **APA Section Inclusion Directors nominate a person of color for the State Planning Advocate Award.** This year they nominated David Salazar which he won after winning the Los Angeles Section award for the same category.
- **Section Support for Diversity Initiatives:** Throughout the year APA Section Inclusion Directors worked tirelessly to promote diversity in California planning.

*“...we began looking at whether our State Executive Board reflected this core value and determined that more emphasis was needed to reflect this priority.”*

[www.apacalifornia.org](http://www.apacalifornia.org)

## Marketing and Membership

### YOUNG PLANNERS GROUP

The Young Planners Group Coordinator position was vacated in mid-2018 when our dynamic Coordinator, Nina Idemudia, relocated to the Midwest for a planning position in the City of Chicago. Nonetheless, a number of important efforts geared toward young planners were undertaken during 2018 and the posi-

tion will be filled again in 2019. All of the eight California APA Sections have a Young Planners Group or closely aligned position and coordinate regularly on efforts to engage and attract young planners. In addition, a number of important events were held around the state focused on young planners including education sessions, mixers, field trips, mentorship programs and other events. In addition, the 2018 APA CA conference held several sessions and events specifically tailored to young planners.

*Continued on page 18*

## Marketing and Membership

### GREAT PLACES IN CALIFORNIA



*John Hildebrand  
Coordinator*

The California Chapter of the American Planning Association was pleased to announce the three winners of the Great Places in California program for 2018. A Great Place in California is one that exemplifies character, quality, and excellent planning. It can be anywhere from the beach to the mountains, from a large city square to a small neighborhood gathering place. It can be a vibrant downtown, a suburban gathering place, a historic small town, a public park, or preserved open space. Above all, it must be a place where people want to be!

### Todos Santo Plaza “150 Years as the Heart of Concord”



Don Salvio Pacheco dedicated Todos Santos Plaza in 1868 as the town square for the 20-block town, later named Concord. Since its founding, Todos Santos Plaza has served as the vibrant center of the city. The city was designed with a grid pattern, consistent with the founding of Hispano-American cities, which facilitated controlled expansion. Todos Santos Plaza was placed at the center of the grid and has served as a community gathering place for many years. Todos Santos Plaza is conveniently located to allow a variety of mobility options to access the “jewel” of Concord’s town. From 2012-2018, the city worked with Bay Area Rapid Transit (“BART”), a regional rail system, to renovate the Concord BART Station plaza located three blocks south of Todos Santos Plaza. During the last 20 years, the city has increased the programming of Todos Santos Plaza, expanding the existing Farmer’s Market to two days per week, expanding the length of the Music and Market series which hosts bands on Thursday evenings from May through September at the Plaza’s band stand. The City of Concord celebrated its 150th anniversary.

*Continued on page 19*



## Marketing and Membership

### GREAT PLACES IN CALIFORNIA

#### Azusa Civic Center

The Azusa Civic Center is a gathering place for the entire family. It contributes to the quality of life through its open spaces by providing opportunities for active



recreation and outdoor community events. The Azusa Civic Center is unique and is a reflection of our local culture and history. The Civic Center is a symbolic focal point of Azusa. Existing monuments honor those who have served and are currently serving their country and their community. Our Veterans Tribute Monument located on historic Route 66 and highly transited highway, honors WWII Veterans, Vietnam Veterans and Korean Veterans with special memorial plaque tributes. The Civic Center is conveniently located within a mile radius of a regional multi-modal transit center that includes a Metro Gold Line light rail station, Foothill Transit bus station and a 250-space parking structure. Enhanced pedestrian connections to the Metro Azusa Downtown Station and Foothill Transit bus station make the Civic Center accessible to all.

#### Mount Umunhum



Mount Umunhum, located within the 18,000-acre Sierra Azul Open Space Preserve in Santa Clara County, is one of the highest peaks in the Santa Cruz mountain range at 3,486 feet. One of the tallest, most prominent peaks in the San Francisco Bay Area, Mount Umunhum is recognizable throughout the region by the concrete tower on its summit. From its spectacular summit, visitors can experience 360-degree views from the Pacific to the Sierra Nevada. The Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (Midpen) purchased the mountaintop from the federal government in 1986, and restored and opened Mount Umunhum, inviting the public to visit this prominent mountain for the first time in centuries with a historic grand opening in September 2017.



# VICE PRESIDENT PORTFOLIO & PROGRAMS

## Public Information



Marc Yeber, ASLA

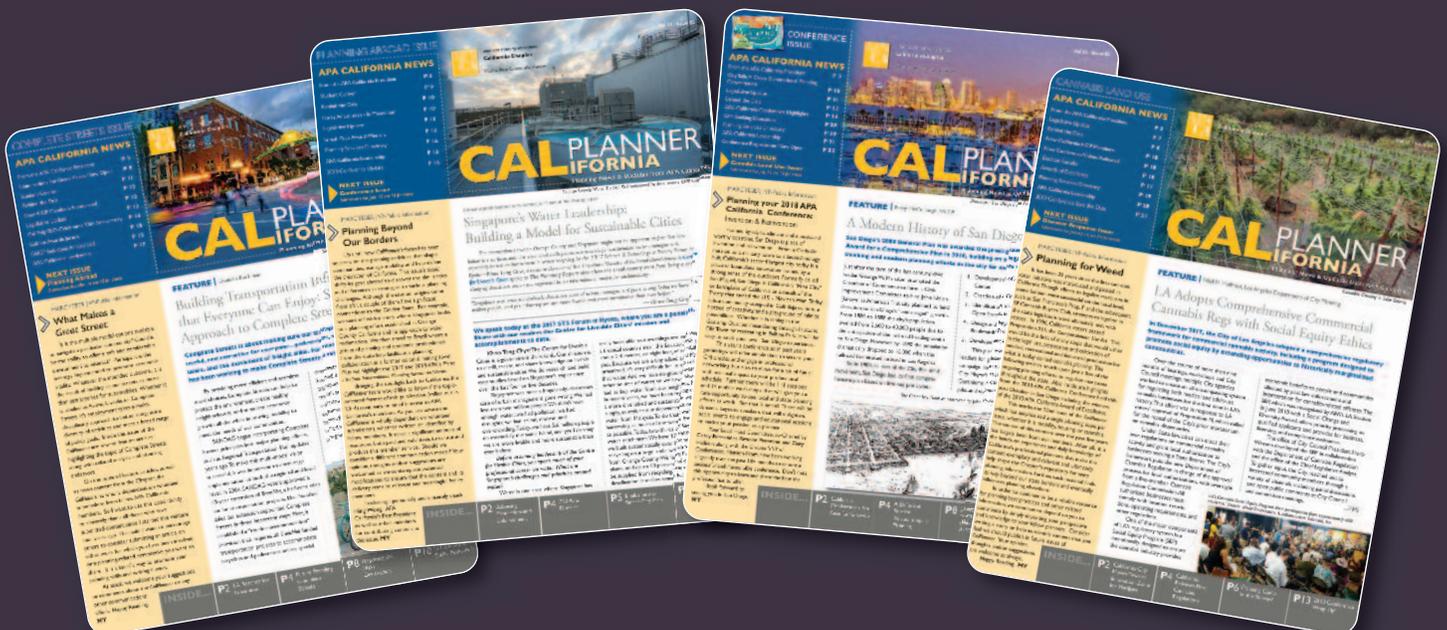
The Vice President for Public Information is responsible for the Chapter's communications by delivering information via the different digital and traditional platforms to keep APA California members updated and informed on the latest Chapter news, programs, and activities as well as planning efforts statewide. From the APA California website and our bi-monthly member-only newsletter, *CalPlanner*, to our email alerts and various digital media platforms, a broad range of topics were offered with the goal of assisting our members to stay engaged and up-to-date on a regular basis. Assisting in these efforts during the past year were APA California members, Ellie Fiore, *CalPlanner* Assistant Editor and Gabriel Barreras, Co- Technology Coordinator. Also APA California staff members, Dorina Blythe, *CalPlanner* Managing Editor, and Francine Farrell, Web Manager, help to make our communications efforts possible.

With the communications landscape ever changing, APA California is continually seeking strategies to leverage today's digi-

tal sphere. In the past year, we continued to produce the *CalPlanner*, the Chapter's topic specific newsletter. From Complete Streets to Cannabis Planning, readers got a opportunity to peer into some the planning efforts being made throughout the state. Thank you to all the contributors in 2018. On the social media front, we ramped up our communication efforts in order to use every opportunity to inform APA California members. The update of the Chapter website continued to be underway throughout the past year as we developed a strategy to both be a part of the APA National Chapter and Division Portal while identifying a website contractor who can implement and host the Chapter's digital home. It was during this time that we determined the members would be better served if we were able to incorporate functionality and content for a more robust user experience. The migration and update should commence in mid-2019.

As we look ahead and in addition to the APA California website, we are engaged in drafting a comprehensive communications strategy to recalibrate our communication efforts to meet the ever changing needs of our members now and into the future. Of course this will require feedback from our members and as such, a communications survey will help us determine Chapter program priorities, which social media are preferred, and how the Chapter can better utilize these platforms. So we hope you look forward to these proposed changes in the year ahead so that APA California continues to be your first stop when it comes to getting planning information and staying engaged in the profession.

**“APA California is continually seeking strategies to leverage today’s digital sphere.”**



# Commission and Board Representative



Stephen Michael Haase, AICP

This past year we continued the focus on commissioners and board representatives at the annual state conference. Begun in 2017 in Sacramento, the conference created a track for appointed officials which included a breakfast featuring a local elected official and three educational sessions, all scheduled on Sunday. This approach acknowledged the fact our planning officials would benefit from a single day registration and attendance at every session with many of their peers. Sessions from previ-

ous conferences covered a range of topics to assist commissioners in managing public meetings, communicating with the public and staff, and improving the decision-making process. Past sessions included:

“Behind the Dais” in *CalPlanner* provides a regular opportunity to speak to commissioners and board representatives and provides decision-maker perspective to planners charged with supporting these bodies. Not only does it provide the marketing opportunity to public officials for the state conference, it allows your representative to provide a professional and personal perspective on a topic du jour, which included Ethics and Law and The Public Realm. The following are thoughts from my last contribution to Behind the Dais for the 2018 San Diego conference.

For those that have the opportunity to work with appointed and elected officials, I offer my thoughts:

- Do your best to walk in the shoes of your decision-makers. Be courageous to ask thoughtful questions to understand the perspective of others.
- The intersection of planning and politics may at times be messy, accept the outcome and continue to work to further good planning principles.

ous conferences covered a range of topics to assist commissioners in managing public meetings, communicating with the public and staff, and improving the decision-making process. Past sessions included:

- You Said WHAT? You Hear the Darndest Things at Public Hearing
- What are They Thinking? How to Communicate Effectively to Your Boards and Commissions
- How to Run an Effective Public Meeting

These sessions have provided an excellent opportunity to bring diverse perspectives from throughout the state to share and interact with planners from all walks of life. Both the Sacramento and San Diego conferences experienced greater registration and participation using this approach – kudos to the conference committee for creating this opportunity!

At the section level, outreach requires creativity and new strategies. While it is encouraging to see the increase in public sector planners appointed to commissions and boards, many of officials are private sector professionals and not typically a member of the American Planning Association. Infusing planning principles and the dynamics of planning policy provides APA the vehicle to educate and influence decision-makers at all levels of the critical importance of planning. The unique experience of each section provides the feedback necessary to sustain and increase the participation of these representatives.

- Be understanding of the challenge for the decision-maker to know everything about your project. Anticipate the issues and use the time for further understanding and knowledge.

Let's never forget planning is in it for the long haul!

There is a great foundation at the Chapter and sections to continue the important work and partnership with decision-makers in the planning arena. My thanks to my predecessor Scott Lefaver, AICP, for setting a great example for my 2017-18 term. With continuing support from the organization, your new Commission and Board Representative, Jay Higgins, AICP, can contribute his vision for the role of these representatives in planning. Lastly, my greatest appreciation and gratitude to Pete Parkinson (past President) and Sande George (Executive Director) for their support and counsel.

***“ Infusing planning principles and the dynamics of planning policy provides APA the vehicle to educate and influence decision-makers at all levels of the critical importance of planning. ”***

***<https://www.apacalifornia.org/membership/planning-commissioners/>***



# Appointed Directors and Affiliate Organizations

## CHAPTER HISTORIANS

**Annual Awards.** The Chapter Historians are responsible for conducting the annual review of nominations for California Planning Landmark and Planning Pioneer Awards, and preparation of nominations for those which are advanced to consideration for National Planning Landmarks and National Planning Pioneers. In 2018 no Landmark or Pioneer awards were approved by the History Awards Review Committee.

**Section-Level Programs.** Section Historians are now working in four of the eight Sections, including Inland Empire Section, Northern Section, Orange Section and Los Angeles Section. In addition, the Chapter Historians provide support to other local planning history initiatives, including:

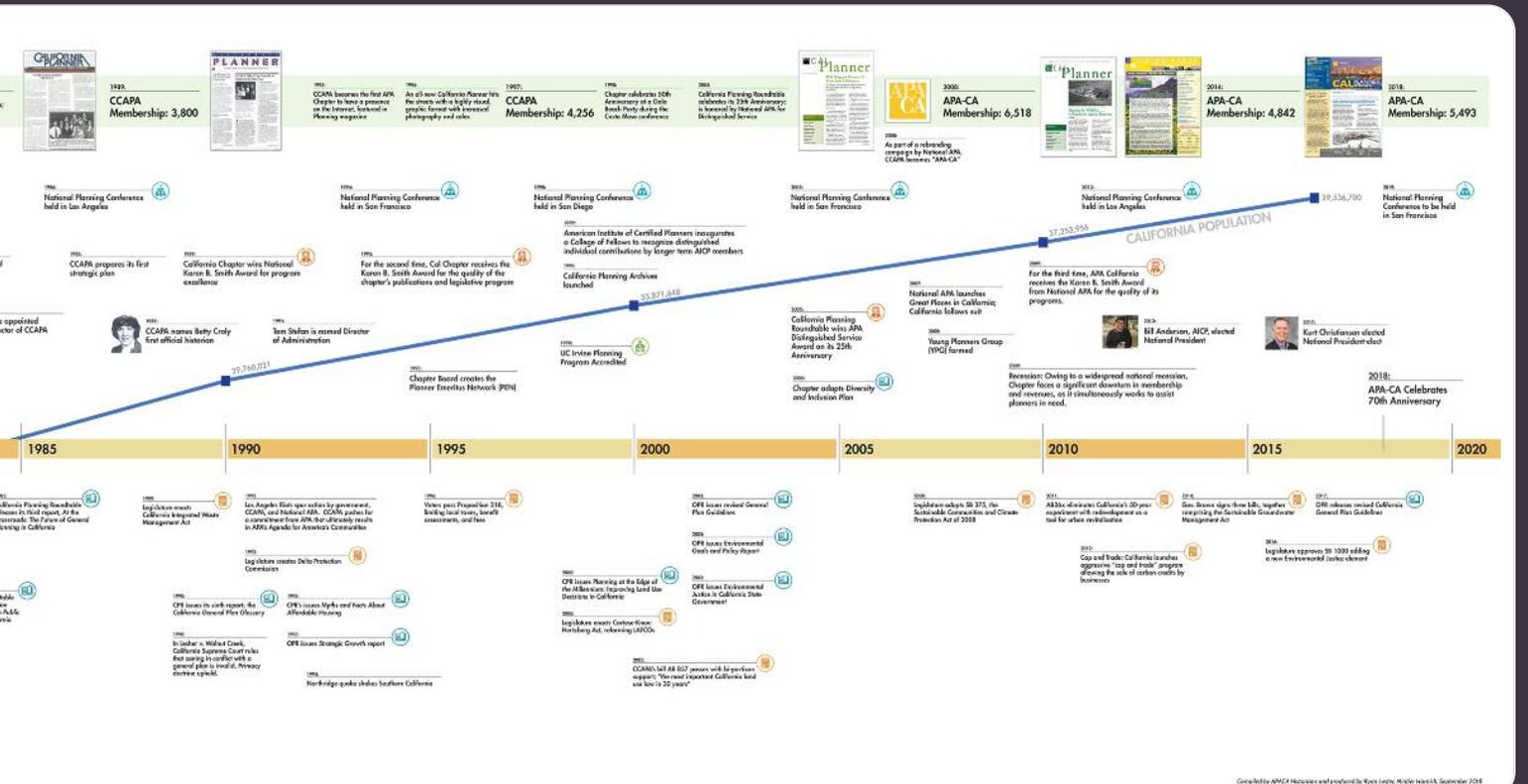
- Annual Historical Symposiums conducted in the Inland Empire and Orange Sections;
- Activities of the Los Angeles Region Planning History Group, based at the Huntington Library. These include participating in a regular series of colloquia on the history of planning in the Los Angeles region.
- Working with local sections to coordinate the delivery of materials to the Chapter archives.
- Research on behalf of the sections; the most recent project, completed in January, 2019, included researching the identi-

ties of the Section Directors that had served in Los Angeles Section and its predecessor, the Southern Section, since 1947.

**Research and Development.** Northern Section Historian Larry Mintier has been developing research concerning early California planner Sid Williams, based on recent information made available by Mr. Williams' family. We are hoping to use this material to develop an article or presentation concerning his unique career, and the little known history of those early planners whose lives and careers were affected by Sen. Joseph McCarthy and the House Un-American Activities Committee in the 1950s.

### UPCOMING PROGRAMS

- The Chapter Board has authorized the historians to begin preparation of a Planning Landmark Award nomination for the 1970 Los Angeles Centers Concept, a landmark planning effort which defined the first multi-nucleic general plan for Los Angeles. The Centers Concept will also be the focus of a March 16, 2019 colloquium at the Huntington Library, sponsored by the Los Angeles Region Planning History Group.
- First phase processing of the archives collections will get underway, under direct supervision of CSUN Oviatt Library archives staff.



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# APPOINTED DIRECTORS AND AFFILIATE ORGANIZATIONS

## California Planning Foundation



*Juan Borrelli, AICP, CPF President*

Since 1970, the California Planning Foundation (CPF) has been a nonprofit, charitable corporation established to further the professional practice of planning in California. CPF achieves this goal primarily by providing scholarships to California university students. All members of APA California are members of CPF and there are no separate dues to belong to CPF. This report highlights the CPF scholarship program, annual fundraising activities, and its board.

### CPF SCHOLARSHIPS

CPF's major and named scholarships are awarded each year to students in accredited and non-accredited schools based on an application and selection process by the CPF board. These scholarships are designed for California planning students entering their final year of an undergraduate or master's degree program. Scholarship criteria include academic performance, financial need, increasing diversity in the profession of planning, and a commitment to serve the planning profession in California. Section-funded scholarships are also awarded to students with the same selection criteria and process by the CPF board. See all of CPF's 2018 Scholarship recipients at: <https://californiaplanningfoundation.org/2018-2019-scholarship-recipients/>.

In 2018, thirty-nine CPF Scholarships totaling \$58,000 were awarded to thirty-six deserving students at the CPF Scholarship Awards and Professional Networking Luncheon at the 2018 conference. The luncheon remained named in honor of Richard H. Weaver, a long time California planner and past president of CPF. In 2015 and 2016, CPF received generous endowment donations from Richard's estate to establish an annual \$2,000 CPF Scholarship in his honor.

Of special note and for the second year, CPF's Los Angeles Section Liaison Cheryl Croshere hosted a free CPF Scholarship

webinar that was available to all California students. Cheryl led the webinar on April 3, 2018, and discussed scholarship opportunities offered by the CPF to help students prepare their applications, reviewed application requirements, offered strategies for writing competitive essays, and answered questions.

### CPF FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

From October 7-10, 2018, APA California Conference attendees in San Diego had many opportunities to see the CPF board in action, including during the CPF Scholarship Awards and Professional Networking Luncheon (which included the interactive "CityTalk: A Cross-Generational Planning Conversation" professional networking exercise co-led by Planner Emeritus Network (PEN) and CPF board members), at the Virginia Viado and Ted Holzem CPF Live and Silent Auctions, and selling CPF Drawing tickets. Support from conference attendees, members, and "Friends of CPF" was strong during the 2018 conference. A very big thank you goes out to the entire San Diego Conference Host Committee, the APA California board, and its staff, for their support in venue logistics, volunteers, and inclusion of CPF in conference materials.

Live and Silent CPF Auctions and a separate CPF Drawing takes place each year at the APA California Conference. Annually, they serve as the main fundraisers for the CPF. California planners were very generous during the CPF fundraisers held during the 2018 APA California Conference. As a direct result, CPF raised just over \$20,000 for our student scholarship program. Almost half (49%) of the funds (\$9,846) were raised during the live auction. Drawing ticket sales (\$3,877) accounted for 19% of the funds raised, and silent auction funds (\$3,208) and direct donations received at the conference (\$3,160) accounted for 15% of the total funds raised. Many thanks to our Live Auction fundraiser auctioneers, Julia Lave Johnston and Mark Teague, AICP, who brought enthusiastic support and fun to the auction. They deserve a huge thank you for their efforts and support.

*Continued on page 25*

***"CPF raised just over \$20,000 for our student scholarship program."***

[www.californiaplanningfoundation.org](http://www.californiaplanningfoundation.org)

## Appointed Directors and Affiliate Organizations

### CALIFORNIA PLANNING FOUNDATION

In 2018, CPF kicked-off a new endowment fundraising effort to create a second Diversity Scholarship to enhance our ongoing efforts to foster diversity and inclusion in the profession and to be responsive to the increasing needs of California's planning students. The new scholarship is in keeping with APA's Diversity and Inclusion Vision, Mission and Strategy and the AICP's Code of Ethics, and includes the following qualification criteria: minority race, minority ethnicity, sexual orientation, disability, gender, age, tribal affiliation, first in family to attend college, and like all CPF Scholarships, financial need and academic excellence. We raised \$1,800 toward this new CPF scholarship at the 2018 conference, and over \$3,000 by year end.

We also completed our \$20,000 endowment fundraising goal for the APA California Scholarship in honor of Frank Wein, FAICP in 2018. Throughout his planning career, Frank volunteered his time in service to AIP, APA, AICP, and CPF. In addition to serving on the California Chapter Board from 1980-1989, including four years as president, Frank was president of CPF for eight years. He raised money for scholarships, and served as an AICP tutor and exam counselor. He also managed a consulting office in Los Angeles, and taught at the University of Southern California and California State Polytechnic University, Pomona. He was in-

ducted into FAICP in 1999 and was a member of PEN. Frank's commitment to APA, AICP, and CPF is a measuring stick for all who serve in the organization.

In 2018, CPF awarded its first Planners4Health Initiative of APA California Scholarship (five \$1,000 scholarships are to be awarded over the next five years) to University of California, Berkeley planning student Justine Marcus. Justine focused her scholarship application essays on health issues and has expressed an interest and focus in public health/healthy communities. Overall, we could not have had the success of our 2018 CPF Scholarship program and fundraising efforts without the assistance and tremendous generosity of the APA California board, its staff, the San Diego Conference Host Committee, and all of our CPF donors.

***“We also completed our \$20,000 endowment fundraising goal for the APA California Scholarship in honor of Frank Wein, FAICP in 2018.”***

#### CPF BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND MEETING SCHEDULE

CPF is governed by a small but nimble all-volunteer board of directors. Members of the APA California elect CPF board members to four-year terms. The APA California Vice President for Professional Development and the APA California University Liaisons also serve on the CPF board in ex-officio capacities. The President of CPF also serves as a member of APA California's Board of Directors. The CPF board establishes its annual budget, develops annual fundraising events and professional development programs, and annually selects CPF scholarship recipients from across the state.

#### 2018 CPF Board of Directors

- Juan Borrelli, AICP, President
- Tammy Seale, Vice President and Scholarship Committee Member
- Laurie Gartrell, Treasurer

- Hilary Nixon, Ph.D., Secretary and Scholarship Committee Member
- Kelly Main, Ph.D., Scholarship Committee Member
- Hing Wong, AICP, Scholarship Committee Member
- Alison Spindler, AICP, Auction Co-Chair and Webmaster
- Aaron Pfannenstiel, AICP, Auction Co-Chair – Southern
- Bob Zimmerer, AICP, Auction Co-Chair – Northern
- Alexander Yee, Student Representative

#### 2018 APA California Ex-Officio Board Members

- Kim Brosseau, AICP, Vice President for Professional Development
- Mirle Rabinowitz Bussell, Ph.D., University Liaison – Southern.
- Rick Kos, University Liaison – Northern.

#### 2018 CPF Section Liaisons

- Ralph Kachadourian, Central Valley Section
- Dave Ward, AICP, Central Coast Section
- Aaron Pfannenstiel, AICP, Inland Empire Section
- Cheryl Croshere, Los Angeles Section
- Terry Blount, AICP, Northern Section
- Dana Privitt, AICP, Orange Section
- Dave Schlegel, Sacramento Valley Section
- Mirle Rabinowitz Bussell, Ph.D., San Diego Section

The CPF board met six times in 2018. Most meetings were held via conference call as a cost savings measure to ensure our administrative costs are kept to less than 10% of funds raised and to continue to ensure that the majority of the CPF donations received go directly to student scholarships.

# APPOINTED DIRECTORS AND AFFILIATE ORGANIZATIONS

## California Planning Roundtable



The California Planning Roundtable prepared its 2019 Work Program during its annual retreat in November 2018. The information below was drafted at the end of December 2018.



Bill Anderson

Formed in 1980, the California Planning Roundtable (CPR) is an organization of experienced planning professionals who are members of the American Planning Association (APA). CPR acts as a policy research and development resource for the California planning profession to enhance the sustainability and livability of California's communities. CPR addresses emerging policy issues with solutions that can be widely applied in planning practice.

### ROUNDTABLE PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS

The Roundtable regularly takes on projects and provides programs to assist in meeting the organization's vision and mission, with over 20 reports and annual workshops having been produced over the past two decades. Recent program focus has been on leadership, providing feedback to California agencies on program guidelines, and convening panel discussions on challenges facing California planners.

- **Implementation of State Housing Legislation**  
Worked with staff of the California Department of Housing and



Community Development to ensure that State Implementation Guidelines for 2017 housing legislation would reflect important planning principles and realistic expectations.

- **Overcoming Obstacles to Infill Development**  
Prepared a series of papers to educate and encourage local officials and planners to plan for infill housing development and financing tools in a post-redevelopment world.
- **Reinventing the General Plan**  
Researched innovations for preparing general plans and making them more effective, identified emerging trends, and documented the results, providing insight to jurisdictions preparing plans and the California State Office of Planning Research as it updated the General Plan Guidelines.
- **Planners4Health**  
An initiative to foster collaboration and develop opportunities for planning professionals to play leading roles in the "healthy communities" movement.

[www.apacalifornia.org/apa-organizations/california-planning-roundtable](http://www.apacalifornia.org/apa-organizations/california-planning-roundtable)

### VISION

The California Planning Roundtable advances planning practice and influences policy through innovation and leadership to create healthy, prosperous, and equitable communities.

### MISSION

The California Planning Roundtable is a resource for policy exploration, innovation, and development for California planning to enhance the sustainability, equity, and livability of California communities. CPR focuses on emerging policy issues with cutting-edge solutions.

### ROUNDTABLE MEMBERSHIP

The California Planning Roundtable has 34 positions for permanent members, with 28 evenly divided between Northern and Southern California, and the public and private sectors. Four of the remaining positions are reserved for members from academic institutions, and two are for members from agencies of the State or federal governments.

## Appointed Directors and Affiliate Organizations

### CALIFORNIA PLANNING ROUNDTABLE

- **Social Determinants of Health**

A paper prepared to increase dialogue and collaboration between planning and public health professionals during community planning processes.

- **Essential Professional Skills for Practicing Planners**

CPR conducts interactive leadership sessions and workshops at planning conferences to develop skills based on “lessons learned” from seasoned practitioners.

#### REDEVELOPMENT 2.0 AND PROPOSED HOUSING PRINCIPLES



Multimodal Infrastructure, Chicago. Public finance tools can pay for infrastructure, such as pedestrian and bicycle facilities near transit. (Photo credit: Centralina Council of Governments)

The State has taken steps to create post-redevelopment financing replacements to augment local tools for economic development. Senate Bill 628 was passed in 2014 and amended by AB 313 in 2015 as the “Enhanced Infrastructure Financing District (EIFD),” and Assembly Bill No. 2 was passed in 2015 authorizing local governments to create “Community Revitalization and Investment Authorities (CRIAs).” Currently, the State legislature is considering other bills to improve post-redevelopment infrastructure financing.

While it is essential that all communities, particularly disadvantaged communities, have equal access to funding for infill development for economic, housing, public infrastructure, amenities, and other community benefits, the current EIFD and CRIA legislation is inadequate in meeting the post-redevelopment and revitalization needs of our communities in California.

For example, the California Planning Roundtable (CPR), in our policy paper Financing Infill Development in a Post-Redevelopment World, March 10, 2017, found that in the four major regional metro areas in California—SCAG, ABAG, SACOG, and SANDAG—the estimated average city share of the basic 1% property tax levy was 11%, compared with 16% for counties and an estimated 10% for special districts.

Out of 332 cities in these four metro areas, 47% are estimated to have less than a 10% share of the basic 1% property tax levy; 76% have less than a 15% share.

While other jurisdictions may choose to participate, and some do, most do not. Without other jurisdictions or agencies willing to participate and allocate their share of tax increment for

bond financing, the property tax allocation under current law that largely relies on local jurisdictions’ share of property taxes is generally inadequate to be an effective tool for redevelopment and revitalization. Even with the use of the property tax in-lieu for vehicle license fees (VLF) under an EIFD—which traditionally has been an important revenue source for local services—the funding capacity is still very limited. For local governments, the use of tax increment and VLF carries an opportunity cost of using the funds for other General Fund services.

#### BY RIGHT, BY RIGHT

##### Principles for Crafting Successful By-Right Housing Rules

By-right zoning and regulatory review processes can help address California’s housing crisis by streamlining development process, creating greater certainty for housing developers, and reducing transaction costs. The context for each development project matters given California’s diverse urban, suburban, and rural communities. A by-right approach developed through thoughtful planning creates value and can sustain public support. Cities and towns will be much more likely to accept by-right regulations when given the opportunity to create and tailor them. If proscribed levels of density are required near transit without consideration of context, public support for both infill development and transit in their neighborhoods may diminish.

##### Start with a Plan

Give jurisdictions a period of time to adopt neighborhood or area plans that allow by-right residential development within specified areas. This will provide the opportunity for jurisdictions to consider the local context, receive public input, and allow housing by right in areas where:

- Transit service or frequent bus service is or will be available within a reasonable distance
- Infrastructure is already available or a financing mechanism will be in place to fund new infrastructure
- Surrounding uses—such as heavy industrial businesses—do not pose health risks

If a local plan is not adopted by the allowed timeframe, state regulations would apply (similar to the legislative approach for Accessory Dwelling Units).

# APPOINTED DIRECTORS AND AFFILIATE ORGANIZATIONS

## Planner Emeritus Network



*Robert Paternoster, FAICP  
President*

The following report highlights the ongoing activities and accomplishments of the Planner Emeritus Network (PEN) for 2018. In summary, we had a very active year sponsoring two PEN panels at the Statewide APA Cal Chapter Conference in San Diego, honoring seven accomplished planners from the California Chapter, sponsoring three cross-generational planning exchanges, and completing two Community Planning Assistance Team (CPAT) projects for the Cities of Hughson and Oxnard.

- **PEN Board Members:** The current officers that were approved at our October 8, 2018, Board meeting are: Robert Paternoster, FAICP, President; Larry Tong, Vice-President North; Linda Tatum, AICP, Vice-President South; Gina Natoli, AICP, Secretary/Treasurer; and, Stan Hoffman, FAICP, Past-President. The non-executive board members are: Dr. Don Bradley, PhD, AICP; Brian Mooney, FAICP; Bruce Baracco, AICP; Hanson Hom, AICP; Margaret Sohagi; and Matthew Winegar, AICP. Additionally, two non-voting board members are APACA Chapter Historians Steve Preston, FAICP (south), and Larry Mintier, FAICP (north).
- **Annual PEN Honorees:** One of PEN's very important responsibilities is to annually honor distinguished planners in APA Cal Chapter that have made significant contributions to the betterment of our communities in California and to the planning profession. In 2018, we honored the following seven planners at the annual statewide conference: Dan Marks, AICP (Northern Section); Tom Jacobson, JD, FAICP (Northern Section); Elaine Carbrey, AICP, AIA (Los Angeles Section); Nelson Miller (Inland Empire Section); Al Herson, JD, FAICP (Sacramento Valley Section); Charles Stevenson, AICP (Central Coast Section); and Susan Baldwin, AICP (San Diego Section).

- **Annual PEN Panel:** The Statewide Cal Chapter panel topic at the 2018 San Diego conference was Award Winning General Plans, led by Brian Mooney, FAICP. PEN also presented a second panel at the conference, CPAT Comes to Hughson, led by Robert Paternoster, FAICP.
- **Community Planning Assistance Team (CPAT) Program:** In 2016, the California Chapter Board accepted the recommendation of PEN to create a CPAT program to provide volunteer pro bono professional planning assistance to financially constrained municipalities and community groups throughout California and Baja California, and authorized PEN to administer the program for the Chapter. In April 2017, the first CPAT project was undertaken in the City of Kingsburg. Two additional CPAT projects were completed in 2018.

The first was for the City of Hughson. A five-member team of volunteers held a two-day workshop with community leaders and City staff on July 12 and 13, 2018, to undertake the Hughson Downtown Revitalization Project. The team consisted of Bruce Baracco, AICP, and George Osner, AICP, Team Leaders, together with Maria Langbaur, Sean Conway, and Steve Castellanos. The focus of the study and the team's recommendations was the seven-block Hughson Avenue, which serves as the city's "main street."

The second CPAT project in 2018 was for the City of Oxnard, where a four-member team assisted the City's new Downtown Revitalization Manager and related City staff and business leaders in setting priorities for strengthening a struggling downtown. The team was led by Stan Hoffman, FAICP; and consisted of Robert Paternoster, FAICP; Ken Gutierrez, AICP, and Matt Winegar, AICP. The single-day effort on April 9, 2018, resulted in a report recommending nine action priorities and nine supportive actions.

Early in the year Burbank Housing, a non-profit housing development corporation located in Santa Rosa, filed an application for CPAT assistance in preparing a site plan for development of affordable housing on a mobile home park site which was destroyed by the devastating wildfires. Alex Hinds agreed to lead the CPAT team, and he worked to develop a work plan and to assemble a six-member volunteer team of

*Continued on page 29*

***“ . . . we had a very active year . . . ”***

## Appointed Directors and Affiliate Organizations

### PLANNERS EMERITUS NETWORK

planners. Unfortunately, Burbank struggled to obtain State and Federal approvals for recycling the mobile home park and decided in December to not move forward with the CPAT process.

A link has been set up on the California Chapter website for planners to volunteer to serve on a CPAT team and for municipalities or community organizations to request CPAT assistance at <https://www.apacalifornia.org/professional-development/apa-california-cpat-program/>. Further information about the CPAT program of California Chapter can be obtained by contacting Robert Paternoster, FAICP, at [robertpaternoster@yahoo.com](mailto:robertpaternoster@yahoo.com) or (562) 400-3825.



- **California Planning History Committee Report:** California Chapter's co-historians, Steve Preston, FAICP (South), and Larry Mintier, FAICP (North), are non-voting members of the PEN Board, and kept the Board informed of their key activities over the past year. They successfully nominated the late Margarita McCoy for a National Planning Pioneer Award. Working with the California Planning Foundation, they dramatically increased funding for maintenance of the APA California archives at California State University Northridge, including a \$10,000 grant from the Chapter's proceeds of the Sacramento Conference. They marked the 70th anniversary of the founding of the California Chapter with a celebration at the annual conference in San Diego, including a well-received large timeline chart tracing the history of the Chapter from its founding to date.

- **PEN Cross-Generational Planning Exchanges:** Two years ago, in cooperation with the Sections, PEN initiated a new program of Cross-Generational Planning Exchanges, wherein past PEN honorees share their perspectives with young planners new to the profession about how the practice of planning has changed over the years, and what they see as the challenges ahead.

Three Cross-Generational Planning Exchanges were held in 2018. Brian Mooney, FAICP, organized an Exchange for the San Diego Section at San Diego State University School of Architecture. A second Exchange in Fresno was led by Larry Mintier, FAICP, for the Central Valley Section. Hanson Hom, AICP, facilitated an Exchange for the Northern Section at San Jose State, and wrote an article for *CalPlanner* summarizing the event.

- **Frank Wein Scholarship:** PEN participated in a successful drive to raise funds for a new student scholarship to honor the late Frank Wein. The Chapter offered a \$10,000 matching grant, which, together with over \$17,000 raised in donations, endowed the scholarship and permitted the first award at the annual conference in San Diego.

*“A link has been set up on the California Chapter website for planners to volunteer to serve on a CPAT team and for municipalities or community organizations to request CPAT assistance at <https://www.apacalifornia.org/professional-development/apa-california-cpat-program/>.”*

## LOCAL SECTIONS

# Central



*Rob Terry, AICP  
Director*

The Central Section covers 11 counties in the central interior of California and serves over 200 planning professionals and students in a wide variety of backgrounds and settings, including urban, suburban, small town and rural. Some call this area the “final frontier” for growth in California. To keep up with member needs, the Central Section has expanded its program, offering more services and events as well as reaching out to students to build a relationship and member base in the area’s universities. This is particularly critical given the return of a bachelor’s degree in planning once again being offered within the Central Valley, as Fresno State relaunched its City and Regional Planning Degree (Bachelor of Science).

### SECTION BOARD

Several changes have taken place over the last year within the Section. First, a new website was introduced ([cencalapa.org](http://cencalapa.org)) which highlights the vast diversity and geography found within the Section. In addition, several new faces were introduced onto the Board including:

- Jennifer Clark, AICP, Section Director-Elect
- Eric VonBerg, MRP, Director for Administration and Finance
- Carolina Ilic, AICP, Director for Professional Development
- Ricky Caperton, Director for Membership and Public Information
- Nicole Hoke, Student Programs Manager

The inclusion of these new faces onto the Board has not only reinvigorated many long-standing activities and traditions within the Section, but has also led to several new and progressive ideas that have improved outreach, professional development and networking amongst APA members and fellow planning professionals.



*Sierra Retreat*

The Sierra Retreat continues to be a beloved tradition within the Section. With this event being such a treasure for members of the Section for so many years (celebrating its 26th this year), “why aren’t we sharing this with other Sections throughout the State?” the question was asked. As such, the Board elected to reach out to the other Sections, inviting a Board member from each Section to participate free of charge. Several Sections took us up on the offer and now consider themselves “regular attendees” with the rest of us!

*Continued on page 31*



*Sierra Retreat*

***“To keep up with member needs, the Central Section has expanded its program, offering more services and events as well as reaching out to students to build a relationship and member base in the area’s universities.”***

## Local Sections CENTRAL

Looking to improve Section support for membership, a new distance education partnership was established with the San Diego Section, allowing members to further their reach and professional development opportunities. Much thanks to Lorena Cordova, AICP, with the San Diego Section, and Greg Konar, AICP, CalAPA's Distance Education coordinator, for making this possible.

### SECTION ACTIVITIES

- City and Regional Planning Program at California State University, Fresno: Building upon last year's efforts to support the newly placed degree in Planning, the Section has been active in helping the University continue to place and support interns and beyond. The Section has also helped with the success of the newly established bachelor's degree in City and Regional Planning, including providing guest lecturers and presentations at the campus Geography Club.
- In partnership with the university, the Central Section sponsored an Affordable Housing Summit in Fresno that was well attended by a diverse group of housing interests.
- Sierra Retreat: The much beloved and long-standing Central Section Sierra Retreat was held at scenic Sequoia Lake near King's Canyon National Park in August. Attendees were treated to training on outreach and other relevant topics. Nature and recreation were abundant, including the lake water sports, hiking, relaxing as well as the long-standing traditions of campfires and the extraordinarily competitive bingo game (many dance moves included). There were new attendees and long-time friends.



Christmas Tree Lane

- San Joaquin Valley (SJV) Regional Policy Conference: The SJV Regional Policy Conference put on by the Valley's Regional Governments was again held. APA continues to be involved in the planning and sponsoring of this event—particularly with sponsorships supporting the SJV Blueprint Awards.
- Events/Mixers: The Section put on two holiday parties in December this year. The first was a gathering at former Board member Barbara Steck's home who conveniently lives adjacent to the street where the annual Fresno Christmas Tree Lane Celebration is held each year. Attendees were able to enjoy the company of fellow members and take some time to stroll the amazing holiday displays along the pedestrian-only route. A week later, the Section also joined Association of Environmental Professionals (AEP) for a Holiday Mixer at Piazza del Panne Italian Café in North Fresno for an evening of socializing, food and drinks. These holiday events continue to be a beloved tradition for the members who attend, with a growing partnership for such events continuing with our professional colleagues at AEP. Much thanks to the Central Chapter for this great partnership.

Continued on page 32



Sierra Retreat



Sierra Retreat

**“...a new distance education partnership was established with the San Diego Section, allowing members to further their reach and professional development opportunities”**

## Local Sections CENTRAL

### SECTION AWARDS

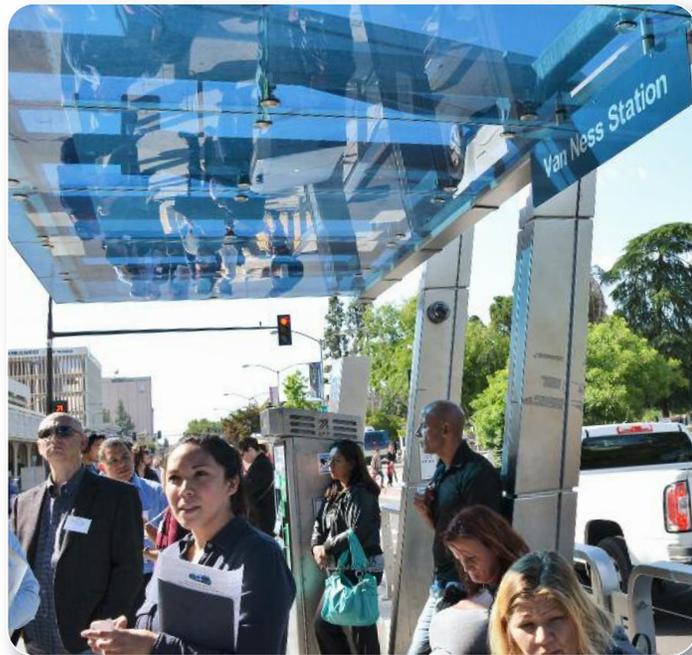
For 2018, seven public agencies and their consultation partners, have been recognized for outstanding achievement in land use planning and best practices. The California Chapter Central Section of the American Planning Association presented the following awards:

- Outstanding Planning Award – Public Outreach: To the City of Coalinga for the “Coalinga Active Transportation Plan”
- Outstanding Planning Award – Transportation Planning: To the City of Avenal for the “Avenal Active Transportation and Safe Routes to School Plan”
- Outstanding Planning Award – Best Practices: To Mariposa County for the “Mariposa County General Plan Strategic Implementation Work Plan”



Section Field Trip – Fresno’s BRT Presentations

- Outstanding Planning Award – Planning Project (Section Only): To the City of Clovis for the “Old Town Cottage Home Program”
- Outstanding Planning Award – Opportunity and Empowerment: To the Tulare County Resource Management Agency for the “Sustainable Growth Council Summary and Conclusions Report”
- Outstanding Planning Award – Urban Design: To Skidmore, Owings and Merrill LLP for the “UC Merced 2020 Campus Development Plan”
- Planning Award of Merit – Transportation Planning: To Fresno State for the “Fresno State Active Transportation Plan”



Section Field Trip – Fresno’s Bus Rapid Transit ride-along

***“First, a new website was introduced ([cencalapa.org](http://cencalapa.org)) which highlights the vast diversity and geography found within the Section.”***

[www.apacalifornia.org/local-sections/central](http://www.apacalifornia.org/local-sections/central)

## LOCAL SECTIONS

# Central Coast



*Christopher Williamson, AICP  
Director*



*Rachel Raynor  
Director Elect*

Last year for this report, I quoted Charles Dickens, “It was the best of times, it was the worst of times...” This year I could use the same quote. We started 2018 with a large amount of rainfall, resulting in the Montecito mudslide in Santa Barbara County that closed the 101 Freeway for over a week. Two wild and windy fires in Ventura County closed the 101 again. Once again, we managed.

Many Central Coast members attended the State APA Conference in San Diego in October 2018 and participated in conference panels. The Section also held two in-person Board meetings.

- **APA State Conference 2019 - Santa Barbara:** Tess Harris and Bret McNulty, Co-Chairs for the 2019 State APA Conference to be held in Santa Barbara, were joined by Jeff Wilson as a third Co-Chair. They and about 25 other volunteers kicked off committees and subcommittees following the State’s confer-

ence play-book. They have a very busy 2019 ahead of them. As 2019 has begun, conference planning efforts have started moving in full force.

The Conference Host Committee (CHC) has been in touch with their



*Central Coast Section Board*

2018 counterparts to get advice and understand lessons learned. Recently approving the Conference budget at the State Board meeting in Sacramento, the Conference planning committee is ironing out the details for the Keynote Speakers, Opening Reception, Sponsorships, and Mobile Workshops. Additionally, the Call for Proposals deadline is January 31, so our Programs Committee will be busy reviewing the conference proposals and making selections! We are excited to host the conference on the Central Coast this year and hope to see you there!

- **Sponsorships:** The annual sponsorship income totaled \$4,750, which was \$2,250 below our 2018 budget estimate reflecting the loss of a few sponsors. On a more positive note, the Santa Barbara Planning Academy proved very popular and the Section realized about a \$2,700 net gain, making up for the sponsorship shortfall. Overall, the Section budget expenditures were about \$2,500 greater than revenues. This in part reflected a significant unexpected investment into the Section website, to allow for online payments. However, the Section had adequate cash reserves and did not need to access funds in the brokerage account. The Board contributed \$2,000 to the California Planning Foundation (CPF).

[www.apacalifornia.org/local-sections/central-coast](http://www.apacalifornia.org/local-sections/central-coast)

- **Subsections:** Each county hosted a series of local social and professional events during the year. The San Luis Obispo (SLO) Subsection had a very good year! We hosted several events, including several mixers, hosted at esteemed and fun new locations in the SLO area, including: Spikes Pub and Luis Wine Bar, as well as outdoor events, such as a hike in Los Osos, Coastal Cleanup participation in September, Trivia Night with other planners and environmental professionals. The Santa Barbara Subsection was very pleased with the turnout for the Planning Academy and we look forward to continuing to offer planning academies in each subsection frequently. In addition, the Santa Barbara Subsection held mixers for local planning professionals in July and November 2018. Over the course of the year, the Ventura County Subsection continued its tradition of hosting joint mixers with colleagues from the Association of Environmental Professionals (AEP), hosting events in February, August, and December 2018. In September, the Ventura Subsection hosted a Resiliency Speaker Panel that invited four guest speakers from local agencies and firms to share their experiences with APA members interested in learning more about resiliency. All Subsections are looking forward to hosting more mixers and pro-

fessional development events, as well as assisting in the planning efforts for the 2019 conference in Santa Barbara.

- **Section Elections:** The Section welcomed a new Director-Elect, Rachel Raynor, and a new Professional Development Officer: John Novi, AICP. The Board has shuffled a couple positions, with Spencer Johnson, CNU-A, appointed as the SLO SubSection Director Role and Tanner Shelton, AICP, being nominated as the new Membership Inclusion Officer. Hollee King, AICP, was elected again as the Board’s Awards and Events Officer. The Board welcomed back Steve Welton, AICP, as Finance Officer and Clay Downing as Public Information Officer. We are very excited about these new and veteran Board members.
- The Board thanks Planetizen, Jacobson & Wack, Suzanne Elledge Planning and Permitting Services, Rincon Consultants, Urban Planning Concepts, Rick Engineering, Jensen Survey and Design, Lisa Wise Consulting, City of Ventura, Stantec, RRM Design Group, and RECON, as well as Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck for their many contributions.

## LOCAL SECTIONS

# Inland Empire



*John E. Hildebrand  
Director*

2018 was another great year for the Inland Empire Section. We continued with implementing our goal to establish strategic partnerships and collaborations, bringing dynamic workshops and events to our membership throughout the year. This included our continued partnerships with the Western Riverside Council of Governments (“WRCOG”) and the AEP, as well as several cities within our region.

- **YPG:** Our Young Planners Group (YPG) is continuing to gain momentum. We hosted several meet-and-greets for the Young Planners in our Section to discuss planning topics, APA, and development within the Inland Empire. We are proposing a number of additional YPG events over the following year and hope to tackle more substantive topics, as well as potentially develop a new mentor program. With our new Vice Chair of

YPG and several YPG Coordinator Board members, we hope to continue building on this program by partnering with our Section’s young and emerging planners.

- **Who are we?:** Our Section Board is comprised of approximately 25 elected and appointed

members, representing a diverse background including the public, private, and education sectors. The Inland Empire Section Board has a strong commitment to bring meaningful workshops and events to our members and provide relevant information, such as new employment opportunities and other online resources. We hope to continue this level of service into the future.

This Section develops a yearly strategic plan, to bring workshops, events, and resources that hopefully results in the betterment of our membership. Our Board continues to be creative in their approach to running the Section and bring great ideas to our members. As the Section Director for Inland Empire, thank you to all our Board members in your commitment to volunteer in this organization and embody the spirit of the American Planning Association.



*Historical Symposium*

[www.apacalifornia.org/local-sections/inland-empire](http://www.apacalifornia.org/local-sections/inland-empire)

- **Events:** Each year, this Section strives to bring a variety of topical and relevant workshops to our members, as well as fun events and mixers. The following represents some of our major events we either directly created or collaborated on:

- YPG Mixer in Lake Elsinore – Mar 9
- Grow Riverside Conference – Apr 4-7
- Hike to Plan || Plan to Hike (Andreas Canyon) – Apr 14
- WRCOG / IES-APA Affordable Housing – May 10
- Awards Program – May 24
- Healthy Communities Conference – Jun 6
- Historical Symposium (City of Ontario) – Oct 23

In our continuing partnership with AEP, the following represents our desert workshop series of events:

- Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan – Mar 9
- North Lake Vision for the Salton Sea – Aug 14
- Coachella Valley Multiple Species Habitat Plan – Oct 25



*Awards program.*

- **Endowment:** This Section’s focus over the past couple of years has been to place a greater emphasis on connecting with our young and emerging planners. To accomplish this, we’ve continued to build on and promote our YPG program. In addition, this Section partnered with the California Planning Foundation (“CPF”) to establish a permanent IES-APA student scholarship endowment. We wanted to provide an opportunity to support students who live or attend college in our Section, through an annual scholarship program. This Section has committed to continue building on the endowment and over time, we hope to increase the annual scholarship amounts.

- **2020 APA California Conference:** The Inland Empire Section is delighted to be the host for the 2020 Chapter conference. Downtown Riverside has been selected as the location for the conference and will be the first time for this conference at this location. We are in process of selecting our conference theme and logo, and hope to have the unveiling sometime around our next awards program.



*Awards program.*

## LOCAL SECTIONS

# Los Angeles



Ashley Atkinson, AICP  
Director

In 2018, the focus for APA Los Angeles was on taking a big-picture look at our organization and setting its course for the coming years. Last year, we hit a record number of 1,700 members, due in part to the new free membership structure for students and the many planning and related programs located in Los Angeles County. At the same time, the profile for planning in Los Angeles continues to grow as citizens and elected officials expand their engagement in critical planning-related issues like housing affordability, mobility, and resilience in the face of wildfire and drought. So, it's more important than ever for APA Los Angeles to be strategic in the ways that we support LA's planners and help them create better communities.

To that end, in 2018 we undertook development of our first-ever strategic plan to guide our activities over the next three years, from 2019 to 2021. We retained a consultant specializing in non-profits who worked with us to survey our membership, conduct retreats with our Board, interview employers and mid-



career professionals, and apply the consultants' expertise to develop a series of goals, strategies, milestones and metrics. Our Board approved this plan in January 2019 and will release the final version to our membership in March. We look forward to working toward our goal of being "a visionary champion for planning and a hub for urban policy discussions across Los Angeles County, [that will] inclusively engage planning professionals from different backgrounds and career stages."

A key shaper of our Strategic Plan was the data collected from our Membership Survey conducted in spring 2018. Administered every two years, the survey gives us an opportunity to check in with our members, learn about their needs, and evaluate our organization to ensure that we are serving both members and the greater planning community. The survey was open to members and non-members for three weeks, and 128 responses were received—some highlighted results are following.

[www.apacalifornia.org/local-sections/los-angeles](http://www.apacalifornia.org/local-sections/los-angeles)

- **Demographics:** Of our more than 1,700 members, nearly 700 are students. 75% of those students are pursuing a graduate degree. Of our working members, almost 60% are employed in the public sector by one of the 88 cities in Los Angeles County, or in other public agencies. Twenty% are working in the private sector, while members in academia and non-profits make up just 6%. The expertise of our members is concentrated in these top five fields: land use & current planning, long range planning, community & economic development, policy & planning, transportation & mobility, and long range planning. We have close parity between male and female members, with 52% male and 47% female. With regard to ethnicity, our respondents were 8% Black or African-American, 16% Asian or Asian-American, 25% Hispanic or Latino, and 43% White or Caucasian.
- **Education and Diversity:** Three-quarters of our members have obtained a master's degree. We are proud to support education in all its forms in order to build a stronger planning community, and in 2018 we expanded our university outreach program to include non-planning programs and non-accredited schools.

*Continued on page 36*

*“So, it’s more important than ever for APA Los Angeles to be strategic in the ways that we support LA’s planners and help them create better communities.”*

## Local Sections

### LOS ANGELES

- **Dues:** A bright note—employers pay for attendance at the APA California Conference for 56% of our members. For 41%, employers are also willing to pay APA dues. A smaller proportion receive support for national conferences (28%) and AICP exams (16%). However, most of our members pay out-of-pocket for dues or share costs with their employers. Recognizing this, we're committed to providing value for membership at the local level. This includes offering free and low-cost opportunities for professional development, skills training, CM credits, and networking in Los Angeles.
- **AICP Certification:** The large majority of respondents are either AICP certified, or considering AICP certification, but for 40% it's not supported by employers in any way. Recognizing the obstacle this presents to obtaining and maintaining certification, we'll begin working more closely with employers to communicate the value of AICP employees, and to develop stronger employer support programs.
- **Collaboration and Partnership:** We know our members' time and budgets are limited, and we appreciate that many are also members of allied organizations. The most popular are the Urban Land Institute (ULI), Women in Transportation (WTS), the Association of Environmental Planners (AEP), and Young Professionals in Transportation (YPT). We'll continue to partner with these organizations and others to offer programs and initiatives that maximize value and meet cross-sectoral needs.

Overall, our members are happy with our efforts and would recommend that others join APA Los Angeles. Members love our social and networking opportunity events. That said, as with any organization, there is always room for improvement. The Los Angeles Section's primary challenge continues to be addressing the diversity that planning in our region encompasses. With members spread over 4,751 square miles, we must continue to work on finding a happy medium in event locations and times. We must also work to ensure that our leadership reflects our membership, and that our membership better reflects the communities we serve. To that end, we instituted a more inclusive recruitment process, including an open house event, and will soon set ongoing goals for diversity of Board members, awards jurors, and event participants.

Finally, we heard loud and clear from our members that professional development is the primary reason they maintain membership, and that practical and technical training would be valuable to them and their organizations. Going forward, we will turn our programming focus to skills training & workshops, speakers & panel events, and guided tours & site visits. These insights were invaluable as we developed our Strategic Plan, and we will continue to welcome member feedback in 2019 and beyond.

***“The Los Angeles Section’s primary challenge continues to be addressing the diversity that planning in our region encompasses.”***

[www.apacalifornia.org/local-sections/los-angeles](http://www.apacalifornia.org/local-sections/los-angeles)

## LOCAL SECTIONS

# Northern



*James A. Castañeda, AICP  
Director*

The Northern Section represents the Counties of Alameda, Contra Costa, Del Norte, Humboldt, Lake, Marin, Mendocino, Monterey, Napa, San Benito, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Solano, and Sonoma. In 2018, we continued to build on the successes and excitement from the prior year by serving over 1,900 members in the section by continuing to revamp and expand existing programming while launching new initiatives.

- **Mentorship Program:** The Northern Section continues to engage a record number of participants in what is one of the largest one-on-one mentorship programs in the country. With the 2018 program, approximately 275 individuals have joined the mentorship program with some mentors taking on a pair of mentoree due to the popularity.
- **Awards Gala:** The Northern Section's Awards Gala is entering it's second year of being revamped as one of our major



networking and gathering event of the year. The Gala allows planners to meet and greet award recipients and other attendees before the program begins. The application for the 2018 program also was streamlined to allow for online submittals. The program now features three new special recognition awards selected by the Section Director, Director-Elect, and Immediate Past Section Director: Emerging Planner, Mid-Career Planner, and Accomplished Planner.

- **New Initiatives and Coordinators:** The Northern Section created three new coordinator positions to represent initiatives the section is expanding into. The new coordinators included our Planning4Health Coordinator, Mid-Career Planner Coordinator, and Distance Education Coordinator. Each of these areas helps the section expand additional programming in areas and topics valuable to the members in the Northern Section, as well as offering webinars and videos of our existing programming.

[www.apacalifornia.org/local-sections/northern](http://www.apacalifornia.org/local-sections/northern)

- **International Planning Program:** The Northern Section continues to provide opportunities for Northern Section planners to exchange ideas with counterpart planners, architects, uni-



versity professors, and municipal officials from around the world. In 2018, the International Planning Program Co-Directors continued with their collaboration activities in Ouro Preto and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, and presented their findings at the Fulbright Association meeting in November. The International Planning Program is also gearing up to plan for the next international planning tour in 2020.

- **Planning Diversity Committee:** The Diversity Co-Directors tackled a busy year in continuing to host their regular "Planning of Color" networking events. Two new events included "Sharing the Hiking Trails with the Homeless" walking tour

*Continued on page 38*

***"The northern section serves over 1,900 members."***

## Local Sections NORTHERN

and “Women in Planning and Design: Balancing the Process” facilitated by James Rojas who has collaborated with the Northern Section’s Diversity Committee in the past. The committee also continued to do local school ambassador events in Oakland and Pittsburg.

- **New Website:** After a year in development, the Northern Section launched a new website with a clean and intuitive design that provides a fresh look at our event calendar and a host of other resources. The new website also has streamlined the



event posting process that makes it easier for individuals to submit events to promote. The new website also allows the Northern Section expandability for future use, such as the forthcoming all-digital Northern News format.

- **Northern News:** Our monthly newsletter, *Northern News*, continues to be our flagship product that is universally valued for its informative content, for its quality, and for bringing us locally based and locally authored articles and stories. Throughout 2018, our newsletter editor Naphtali Knox, FAICP, lead several discussions with various other members of the board to start developing and testing what will be the evolution of *Northern News*. As a result of their work, the Northern Section is excited to be moving toward a fully digital product in 2019 that retains a monthly publication schedule but in an all-web, device responsive interface that will be popular with many who consume *Northern News* on the go.



[www.apacalifornia.org/local-sections/northern](http://www.apacalifornia.org/local-sections/northern)

*“After a year in development, the Northern Section launched a new website with a clean and intuitive design that provides a fresh look at our event calendar and a host of other resources.”*

## LOCAL SECTIONS

# Orange



*Nicholas Chen, AICP  
Director*

2018 was an exciting year for the Orange Section of APA! The following are highlights of events and accomplishments throughout the year. In 2018, we:

- Held our wonderfully attended and successful Annual OCAPA Awards Event that saw many deserving public agencies, consulting firms, non-profits, and others gain recognition for their work.
- Raised money for student scholarships through the Bob Goldin & Bob Storchheim Annual Memorial Golf Tournament, auctions, and contributions to the California Planning Foundation (CPF).



- Held numerous monthly lunch programs, many in collaboration with other local agencies.
- Enjoyed another successful year for our PEEL mentorship program with over 60 participants. The program even included a guided walking tour of Anaheim to learn about the growing craft brewery culture!
- Learned about the history of Irvine during our Historical Symposium.
- Ended the year on a high note with our joint APA/AEP Holiday Mixer.

[www.apacalifornia.org/local-sections/orange](http://www.apacalifornia.org/local-sections/orange)

Additionally, our members and associated organizations contributed greatly to recognizing and furthering planning in Orange as well. This year:

- Our Young Planners Group (OCYPG) held their annual Planner Showcase as well as numerous educational events, community service events, and happy hours.
- The Orange Circle (The Plaza) was recognized nationally as one of the



2018 Great Places in America by the American Planning Association.

As our board continues to grow in size, so do our ambitions. We look forward to seeing what the New Year will bring and are already hard at work planning to see how we can improve the benefit and experience for our members.

*“Our members and associated organizations contributed greatly to recognizing and furthering planning in Orange . . .”*



## LOCAL SECTIONS

# Sacramento Valley



*Robert G. Lagomarsino, AICP  
Director*

The Sacramento Valley Section (SVS) recovered from hosting the 2017 APACA Conference to have another rewarding year of activities and services benefitting our section membership of almost 600. Our Section, which covers the 21 northeastern-most counties in the state, is divided into four divisions: Cascade, North Valley, Sierra, and Sacramento. Together, these counties include over 40,000 square miles, which represents over a quarter of the land area in California. Approximately 62.3 percent of the Section's population of 4.1 million lives in cities, with 37.7 percent living in unincorporated areas. Our diverse geography extends from the Sacramento Region to Tahoe, and from the Stockton area to the California-Oregon border. But our diversity transcends geography to include economic, cultural, and political dimensions, particularly as they relate to natural resources. We have very strong rural, agricultural economy that is tied to the productive capacity of the land, and increasingly to water. We have the Sierra Nevada region, where the rich natural resources and beauty underpin a thriving, yet delicate economy. And, of course, we have the State Capital, which is becoming increasingly recognized as an urban (and urbane) place, and not just California's version of "inside the beltway." Each of these sub-economies has distinct cultural and political idiosyncrasies that planners must adapt to and work with to get their jobs done. And the SVS is up to challenge. Here's what we did in 2018 to serve our membership:

***"We have the Sierra Nevada region, where the rich natural resources and beauty underpin a thriving, yet delicate economy."***

- **Speaker Series:** 2018 marked the start of the second of SVS' signature educational program. Our theme was *"Staying Ahead of the Curve: Reimagining Our Communities."* The 2018 Speaker Series was co-sponsored by Caltrans and was hosted in partnership with Urban Land Institute (ULI), American Institute of Architects (AIA), Caltrans, Office of Planning and Research (OPR), Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG), with contributions from outstanding speakers representing a range of subject matter expertise. The six-session series covered the following subjects:



- *Planning in an Era of Increasing Uncertainty and Disruption (June 29th):* This kick-off session featured APACA President Pete Parkinson, APACA President-elect Julia Lave Johnston, and SVS Director Bob Lagomarsino. They focused on technological, environmental, and social change and the uncertainty and disruption associated with that change. Following presentations by each panelist, the session concluded with a vigorous discussion of the challenges that planners and APA are facing, including managing data inundation, addressing change within the current statutory and legal framework, adapting institutions to better deal with changing circumstances, and ensuring that the social consequences of change are addressed. The session sussed-up many of the subjects that the balance of the Speaker Series addressed in more depth.
- *Transportation to What Ends? The Need for a Transition from LOS to VMT, and Methods for Implementation (July 27th):* Chris Ganson of the Governor's Office of Planning and Research provided an update on the implementation of Senate Bill 743. In his presentation, Chris compared the problems associated with relying on automobile delay-based analysis of transportation system performance with the benefits of focusing on vehicle miles travel (VMT) to evaluate the effects of land use and transportation decisions. He also provided guidance on how to perform VMT-based analysis, as well as a thorough primer on induced travel demand and its relationship to increases in roadway capacity. Finally, Chris left the audience with directions how to access a variety of resources related to SB 743 . . . as well as some helpful advice from Jane Jacobs.

*Continued on page 41*

[www.apacalifornia.org/local-sections/sacramento-valley](http://www.apacalifornia.org/local-sections/sacramento-valley)

## Local Sections

### SACRAMENTO VALLEY

- *Housing in the Evolving Suburb: The Sacramento Story (August 24th)*: For this ULI-hosted session, the panel gave a unique perspective that focused on analyzing the statistics in the area for past, present, and future trends of suburban development. Although the economy is doing well, the Sacramento housing market is not doing as great as advertised because of a lack of new housing, which primarily stems from rising costs. The market trend of new suburbs is changing and new buyers are looking for small vibrant communities with a close proximity to amenities. This is contrast to past trends of buyers looking for quiet suburban homes so be on the lookout for dynamic Sacramento area suburbs.



- *Reimagining our Existing Building Infrastructure to Reimagine Communities (September 28th)*: This AIA-hosted session featured a discussion of how we can reimagine our building infrastructure into new uses in order to reinvigorate our communities, including a profile two projects that combine innovative uses for existing structures in areas of Sacramento that are presently underutilized.
- *Civic Lab: Innovation, Risk and How that Translates into Creative Problem Solving (October 26th)*: The Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) hosted a session that focused on Civic Lab, SACOG's new (as of 2018) program to address issues of regional importance through action at the local level. The emphasis of the inaugural year was smart mobility, a subject that is central to the Speaker Series 2018 theme. The panelists described their experiences working with Civic Lab to investigate opportunities to deploy autonomous vehicles and to better manage transportation access to Apple Hill during its peak season.
- *Future of Mobility: Planning for Transportation Amidst Rapidly Changing Technology (November 20th)*: The final session of 2018 focused on the Future of Mobility Study, which was prepared in partnership between Caltrans and UC Berkeley's Transportation Sustainability Research Center. The panel discussed the research findings, new technologies and markets, including bikesharing, carsharing, transportation network companies (TNCs), zero emission vehicles, and autonomous vehicles.

- **Membership Events:** While much of our energy was spent on the State Conference, we were able to host many events, both social and educational, for our members:
  - *2017 Awards Ceremony (January 25th)*: Around 80 people attended the 2018 SVS APA Awards Ceremony at AECOM. Local Vision Award winners included Wide Open Walls, Sacramento Valley Bike Share, and Mutual Housing California. Planning Awards of Excellence winners included The Railyards in the category of Comprehensive Planning, Large Jurisdiction; Placer County Tahoe Basin Area Plan in the category of Comprehensive Planning, Small Jurisdiction; the El Dorado County Mixed Use Design Manual in the Category of Urban Design; and the Live Oak Downtown Reinvestment Plan Manual in the category of Economic Planning and Development. Planning Awards of Merit winners included the City of West Sacramento General Plan 2030 in the category of Comprehensive Planning, Small Jurisdiction; Soda Springs Area Plan in the category of Comprehensive Planning, Small Jurisdiction; and McKinley Village in the category of Urban Design. Other notable honorees included Tony Lashbrook, who was in-

ducted into the Planner's Emeritus Network (PEN) this past year, and Imaez Wahid, Shani Alford, and Ryan Sharpe who are the recipients of the 2017 California Planning Foundation Scholarship. The Awards Night culminated with Larry Mintier presenting the 2017 Legacy Award to Jim Harnish, JD, Principal and Owner, Mintier Harnish. Ceremony attendees also enjoyed appetizers from Ambrosia, wine, beer, and raffle prizes throughout the night.

- *CalRecycle Brown Bag Lunch (February 28th)*: Marshall Graham, from CalRecycle's Local Assistance and Market Development Branch, discussed how SB 1383 is changing the future organic waste materials, including food waste, and land use planning. Organic materials comprise two-thirds of the waste stream, but SB 1383 aims to change that by enacting regulations that achieve specified targets for reducing organic waste in landfills. This interactive session covered an overview of the components of SB 1383 related to organics materials management and what impacts forthcoming regulations have on the future land use planning.

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## Local Sections

### SACRAMENTO VALLEY

- *AICP Exam Prep Sessions:* Blake Robertson, SVS PDO, kept up the good work, hosting a series of six sessions that prepared a dozen SVS members for induction into AICP. Thanks to Blake and his predecessors for establishing SVS as the leader among APACA sections in AICP membership (as a percentage of total members).
- *Keeping Up with the Courts - Recent Case Law (September 19th):* Dan Cucchi, JD, AICP, hosted the second annual event, with a review of select cases from 2017 & 2018 and a discussion of their relevance.
- *Summer Social/Membership Appreciation (August 22nd):* SVS had a marvelous Student Scholarship Fundraiser in Julia Lave Johnston's backyard, raising approximately \$4,600 for student scholarships! Many thanks to Jim Harnish as our Legacy Award recipient for 2018 and provider of excellent food for the event. Since we exceeded our fundraising goal, the SVS Board approved a contribution of 20 percent of the proceeds to go to Scot Mende Memorial Fund to support programs and scholarships for emerging planners.



- *Cascade Division Meetup (September 6th):* The Cascade Division Member's Meetup was a success! Great conversation led to a more formal brainstorming session on how we can work to carry out the Sacramento Valley Section mission statement in our area. Things are in the works. We were encouraged to see three non-members who are interested in joining APA accept an invitation and learn about resources and programs available for them as members of the SVS.
- *APA/AEP Summer Mixer (September):* Drinks, food and mingling with fellow planning professionals was the name of the game and turnout at Hot Italian did not disappoint. Upwards of 70+ were in attendance and a good time was had by all.
- *Cascade Division Seminar/Mixer (November 29th):* Jason Roberts with Build a Better Block gave a funny and compelling talk on tactical urbanism and community engagement. The talk challenges some of the regulatory barriers to citizen-based improvements and showed that a lot can get done with very little budget. Members of the Cascade Division along with fellow area Planners who are not (yet) members met up to talk about their roles in improving our communities, advocating for sound planning and community development principles and raising awareness and involvement in community issues and the planning process. It was a great time with plenty of ideas being shared.
- *Holiday Membership Appreciation Mixer (December 4th):* APA Members joined with colleagues from AEP to raise a glass in celebration of the holiday season and a successful year of programs, professional development, and networking events. The event also was an opportunity to give back to the community by bringing a donation of non-perishable, non-expired food or personal care items for the River City Food Bank.

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[www.apacalifornia.org/local-sections/sacramento-valley](http://www.apacalifornia.org/local-sections/sacramento-valley)

***“Since we exceeded our fundraising goal, the SVS Board approved a contribution of 20% of the proceeds to go to Scot Mende Memorial Fund to support programs and scholarships for emerging planners.”***

## Local Sections

### SACRAMENTO VALLEY

- **Young Planners Group**

**(YPG):** YPG had an active 9th year, with increased participation on our Subcommittee (14 members), event attendance, and social media presence (with almost 500 'likes' on our Facebook page, a 20% increase from 2017). The group hosted 20 events in 2018:



- Two Happy Hour events were offered over the course of the year. February at LowBrau, May at Biergarten:
- Six Planner's Pint Nights (a record!): Prop 64 and Regulating Cannabis (March 2018), CEQA Update (April 2018), 2017 Legislative Housing Package (July 2018), Vision Zero Update (August 2018), Creative Edge (October 2018), Public Safety and Sustainability through Design (November 2018)
- Four Inter-Association Events: ZEV Panel with YPT/YPE (January 2018), Happy Hour with YPT/YPE (May 2018), Inter-Association Summer Scavenger Soiree (June 2018), Big ASSociation Party (September 2018)
- Three Student Events: Indigo Architects Office Tour (April 2018), Planners Pizza Night at UC Davis (October 2018), Chico Housing Bike Tour (November 2018)



- Two AICP Info Nights: Standalone event at Kupros (May 2018), after Pint Night at Kupros (November 2018)
- Three Other Cool Events: Old Sugar Mill Wine Tasting and Tour (April 2018), Bike Tour of Sacramento (June 2018), Subcommittee bonding activity – Sac Brew Bike (July 2018)

As it enters its 10th year, SVS YPG continues to provide a forum for students, and young and emerging planners to engage peers and more experienced professionals on the issues that are shaping the future of planning. YPG cultivates young professionals through career building programs, social events, and mentoring opportunities on today's issues and trends while developing leadership on the issues of tomorrow.

***“The YPG group hosted 20 events in 2018.”***

- **PLAN Mentoring Program:** Another signature SVS program, PLAN (Planning + Leadership + Advancement + Networking) continued to fulfill its mission of providing the next generation of professional planners a dynamic and challenging one-on-one and group mentoring forum for personal and professional growth and development. In 2018, PLAN finished its seventh year and started its eighth year, with a class of 11 mentormentee pairs supported by an active Steering Committee consisting of program graduates (both mentees and mentors). In addition to the direct mentorship activities, the participants met for monthly educational sessions, networking and team-building events, and a community service project. In 2018, the 2017-18 class culminated with a “Catapult Party” in June and the 2018-19 class launched its year with a Kick-Off meeting in October.



- **Section Board Activities:** The SVS Board provides a monthly e-newsletter, AICP exam preparation sessions, membership surveys, and sponsorship fundraising. We had tremendous sponsorship support this year with our dedicated 16 sponsors. The Board held its annual retreat in January and met every month to coordinate Section activities and to stay up-to-speed on Chapter initiatives. SVS sponsored or co-sponsored 26 AICP Certificate Maintenance credits for 2018. We also updated our website to provide a fresh, new look and shifted to a platform that allows for simpler access by our Board members.



## LOCAL SECTIONS

# San Diego



*Rachel Hurst, AICP  
Director*

### • Administration

- In 2018, the San Diego APA (SDAPA) Board welcomed six new members and two student representatives:
- Kiran Karr will take over as Planning Journal Editor, Jerry Rivera will take over as Inclusionary Membership, and Russ Cunningham will take over Awards Chair in January 2019
- Hosted California APA Planning Conference in October 2018

### • Program Highlights

The San Diego section presented 8 programs in 2018 for a total of 14.5 CM credits, as listed below:

- 1-24-18. “Tony-The Movie.”. A Film about Homelessness in San Diego
- 5-9-18. What You Need to Know About Recent State Policy and Legislation in California, with a Local Focus
- 5-17-18. Rediscovering the Crown Jewel: APA San Diego Awards Coronado Walking Tour
- 5-30-18. SDAPA Movie and Discussion Night - Citizen Jane: Battle for the City
- 7-21-18. Plan to Bike: Birding and Biking Ecotour with Ocean Connectors
- 8-18-18. Plan to Hike: Urban Poetry – Irving Gill & Bankers Hill Tour
- 10-23-18. What’s New in Transportation in San Diego? Hear the latest news from Caltrans, SANDAG and Oceanside
- 12/1/18. The Death of Retail



[www.apacalifornia.org/local-sections/san-diego](http://www.apacalifornia.org/local-sections/san-diego)

### • Membership and Marketing

- San Diego Section Membership increased by approximately 27% on the year (568 1/31/2018 to 724 12/31/2018)
- Hosted three Planner's Night Out (PNO) for members this year:
- Hosted the holiday party with AEP and donated 755 pounds of canned and non-perishable items to the food bank.

### • AICP Highlights

- 2-10-18, 2-24-18, 3-10-18, & 3-24-18. Hosted the annual Spring AICP Training Sessions with approximately 20 attendees
- 5-31-18. Hosted a Summer AICP Application Roundtable with approximately 30 attendees
- 9-20-18. Hosted the annual Fall AICP Exam Roundtable with approximately 10 attendees

### • Inclusion

- Presented three membership inclusion/diversity related events from 2018.
  - 5-15-18. Conducted interactive workshop at Mesa College on the City of La Mesa’s Climate Action Plan.
  - 6-1-18. Presented to fifth grade students at El Toyon Elementary School in National City about planning public spaces.
  - 10-7-18. Conducted the Diversity Summit speaker panel at the State APA Conference on the topic of Transportation Justice- “Moving Towards Transportation Justice: What can Planners do to Meet the Needs of Disadvantaged Communities?”

### • Awards and Scholarships

- The Section Awards Jury gave 16 awards – including excellence awards, achievement awards, and 5 Honorable Mentions – to projects and individuals who make contributions to planning in San Diego.

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## Local Sections

### SAN DIEGO

#### • **Planning Journal**

- Our goal is to provide original content contributed by our members that highlight local projects, local planners, SDAPA Board members, local programs hosted by the SDAPA, and local achievements
- On average, the section posted about five articles per month, accompanied with pictures and captions

#### • **Communications**

- Sent out about 68 emails advertising local, state, and national events for the APA, as well as other organizations promoting events that benefit our membership, and each email was opened by 26% of recipients

#### • **Young Planners Group**

- The YPG subcommittees hosted 13 organized events
- Hosted 8th Annual Mentorship Program for over 50 participants
- The Mentorship & Education Subcommittee organized two Lunch and Learn programs

- The Community Service Subcommittee encouraged participation in Park(ing) Day
- The newly formed Networking Subcommittee hosted trivia nights, a bonfire, and happy hours to encourage students and young planners to network with their peers and expand their professional network
- Established a YPG specific Facebook account

#### • **University Connection**

- Continued to build relationships with UC San Diego, San Diego State University, the New School, and Woodbury University
- Established a strong relationship between SDAPA and UC San Diego's new PSO (planning student organization), the Young Planners Society
- Helped to plan and run the annual California Planning Foundation auction/raffle fundraiser at State APA conference in San Diego
- Collaborated with the Young Planners Group on a graduate school information session at UC San Diego





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