

APA CALIFORNIA NEWS

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Housing Perspective

Submissions due Nov 25, see P3 for details

CAL PLANNER
IFORNIA

Planning News & Updates from APA California

2017 Tubbs Fire in Santa Monica, CA. Source: J. Sullivan, Getty Images

MARCYEBER | VP-Public Information

Out of the Ashes

As this issue was being assembled, California communities up and down the state are once again under seige from wildfires, a seasonal event that has grown in length, frequency and intensity. This coupled with other disasters that Californians are confronted by the state is virtually in a perpetual recovery mode. As soon as we tackle the disaster in our sights ahead, our gaze turns to another emerging from behind. Recovery and the rebuilding process are extensive. It is crucial to get people back into their communities. The planning profession, of course, is on the frontlines in this effort. The stories in this issue will offer some insight into how planning is balancing the needs for reconstruction with the goals to mitigate future displacement. From the perspective of a fire victim—who also happens to be a community planner—to resilience planners who are tasked with anticipating the "next one," this issue will share perspectives from different vantage points.

You will also find in this issue a tribute to Stan Hoffman, a seasoned planning professional, staunch advocate of the profession and a longtime supporter of APA California. Admittedly, I did not know Stan beyond the cursory interactions associated with my APA California Board activities and had only started working with him this year consulting on a specific plan. Yet the loss felt among his peers is where I started to understand the influence Stan had on many in APA, both professionally and personally. Woody Tescher's tribute celebrates his life and highlights a long and revered association and friendship.

Rounding off the issue are highlights from the 2019 APA California Conference held in Santa Barbara along with the winners of the 2019 APA California Awards of Excellence in Planning. As usual, your opinion, thoughts and/or suggestions are always welcome.

Happy Reading. **MY**

FEATURE | Pete Parkinson, AICP

Too Close to Home

On a hot, windy night nearly two years ago, multiple wildfires burned through several North Bay counties, destroying my home and nearly 6,000 others, and taking the lives of over 40 people.

Just 13 months later, the Camp Fire destroyed nearly 15,000 homes and killed 86 people, becoming the most destructive wildfire in California history. The affected communities were dealt a staggering blow by these catastrophes and planners have been at the front lines helping households, neighborhoods and entire towns get back on their feet. This essential recovery work has been both inspired and inspiring and will continue for however many years it takes to make these cities and neighborhoods whole again. But what about the future for these communities and so many like them here in the Golden State? How can we planners help make our communities more resilient and safer in the face of increasing, climate-change-driven wildfire hazards? Let's open up the planners' toolbox and have a look.

Earlier this year, APA released a new Planners Advisory Service report titled "Planning the Wildland-Urban Interface" ([PAS Report 594](#)). The report is authored by an impressive team including planners with experience in wildfire adaptation and disaster response, researchers, and fire behavior

specialists. It presents a comprehensive look at the environmental factors at work in the wildland-urban interface (WUI), how development interacts with these factors to create and exacerbate hazards and shows how planners can help make their communities

Pete at his home site. Source: Pete Parkinson, AICP



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Aftermath of 2018 Paradise Fire. Source: LJ Locher, AP

FEATURE | Aaron Pfannenstiel, AICP

Changing Perspectives Towards Recovery

So here we are again watching the news, glued to our phones and TVs, waiting to get the latest information about what is happening in the Bahamas as Category 5 Hurricane Dorian wreaks havoc on a low-lying set of barrier reef islands.

While we watch this event unfold, we are hoping that meteorologists are using the most advanced technology we have ever had to identify where this storm will move to next, how much rain will inundate these areas and what communities will need to evacuate. We live in a dangerous world that periodically snaps us back to reality with a gut-wrenching blow usually at the hands of a natural disaster.

As humans, it seems like we have this undeniable spirit that constantly reminds us bad things won't befall us, hence we don't need to worry about catastrophic events impacting us. As Californians our "never going to happen

episodes struck Ridgecrest? Sadly no.

Why didn't I take action? Me. A resilience professional. What is wrong with me?

I am here to say, nothing is wrong with me, because I am human just like all of you. Over these past few weeks, I have analyzed my mental state surrounding hazards and risks, and one thing is certain. It's not about being prepared with supplies. Don't get me wrong, having supplies is important. I have supplies. But that is not what is going to create true resilience for us as individuals, let alone our communities. Our

“Our communities need to change their perspectives regarding disasters and hazards, especially as it pertains to Disaster Recovery?”

event” is the big one along the San Andreas Fault that is long overdue, but we think that it probably won't occur in our lifetime. Then an earthquake happens, and we have that panic-stricken moment, telling ourselves “I'm not prepared!” But do we change our behavior, act, do anything? Most likely not. I work in the hazards world helping communities do more with less and address their risks. Did I get more supplies after the last two big shaking

communities need to change their perspectives regarding disasters and hazards, especially as it pertains to Disaster Recovery. I recently attended the 2019 California Chapter APA Conference in Santa Barbara and sat in on sessions that discussed how communities are recovering after massive wildfires and catastrophic mudslides. The stories were heart breaking, but I still left feeling like we are setting

ourselves up for future failure. Nothing that I heard indicated we are learning from these lessons and changing the paradigm surrounding recovery.

Having worked with a variety of jurisdictions throughout California and the United States, there is one thing that is clear. Our communities have not figured how to effectively recover from disasters. When it comes to disaster recovery I believe we overlook some of the most fundamental issues that impact our communities. Here is an easy way to understand what I am talking about. Our communities aren't static entities. They grow, evolve, and have ever changing needs. On a daily basis, a city has a variety of activities that, during a disaster, either freeze in time or instantly change. Psychologically this abrupt change can be traumatic, but that trauma (the emotions attached to the event) may often go unnoticed. Most of the work after a disaster focuses on repairing the damage and rebuilding the physical pieces of a community. As planners we understand that community is not just a physical thing. Community has a specific feeling attached to it. After a fire or flood, the physical nature of a community changes. Even if you can make the physical part of the community look like it did before the event, the trauma of the event can last for a long time.

Recovery shouldn't just speak to the physical parts of the community. It should help the residents and business owners process the trauma of the event. As planners, we often recognize that we need to engage experts in our efforts to ensure we are planning for our communities' needs. Mental health professionals are often overlooked in the planning process when it comes to recovery. How often have you heard in a post-disaster interview someone say, “We are going to rebuild?” How many times have you imagined that rebuilding occurring in their heads and hearts? That is where the real damage occurs. No amount of cutting-edge urban planning can match the catharsis when you deal with the tumultuous feelings swirling around your head after a traumatic loss.

Alright so we have now shared a lovely Dr. Phil moment about some of the missteps associated with disaster recovery. So, what do we do about this? Well, I am happy to share some of my advice, but remember I am not a mental health professional. Here are some thoughts:

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PRINCIPAL EDITOR

MARC YEGER, ASLA | VP-Public Information
myplanning@live.com

ASSISTANT EDITOR

ELLIE FIORE, AICP
ellief@migcom.com

MANAGING EDITOR

DORINA BLYTHE | Art Director
dorina@grandesigns.us

COPY EDITOR

CAROL MALIN
camalin@live.com

ADVERTISING

LAURA MURPHY | Display, Job Advertisements
nhe2011@live.com

DISTRIBUTION

FRANCINE FARRELL | Web Manager, Subscriptions,
Website ategoresources@live.com

2019-20 PRODUCTION SCHEDULE

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19 04	Housing Perspective	Nov 25	Dec 18

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The production schedule is subject to change. For article and photo specifications, please see guidelines at www.apacalifornia.org.

CalPlanner ARTICLE SPECS

19|04 THEME: Housing Perspective

LENGTH: 700 (min) to 1,200 (max) words

DOC FORMAT: Working (or open) MS WORD file (.doc or .docx). No PDF's please.

IMAGES: Include captions and sources for all photos, renderings, drawings, maps, diagrams, etc. submitted.

IMAGE FORMAT: 3 X 5 min at 300 dpi (but no larger than 1MB file size) to be emailed as separate attachment(s). In other words, do not embed images in the WORD document.

REMARKS: Article can be written either as a Feature (analysis of the topic), Op-Ed (critique), or First-Person (personal experience with the topic).

[FOR QUESTIONS AND SUBMISSIONS,]
Please contact Marc Yeber at myplanning@live.com

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PLANNING SERVICES DIRECTORY

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JULIA LAVE JOHNSTON | President

APA California is Hiring Program Staff to Help Get Our Message Out



It was great to see so many of you at our conference in Santa Barbara. What a lovely town right on that big beautiful ocean! Did any of you have the same apprehension that I did

being so close to the ocean? I kept thinking about sea level rise, tsunamis, and other extreme weather events. I read somewhere that once you start working on forest management issues, you no longer see the beauty of the trees; you see fuel. Working on climate issues, resilience, and sustainability can do the same. As this issue of the CALPlanner attests, we are already feeling the impacts of climate change both in our professional activities and our personal lives.

replaced by other professions that are mandated to do planning but don't understand it is planning?

Think about it: By Right housing that bypasses planners and general plans, computer programs that can review and approve applications, increasing mandates that force us to be regulators rather than planners.

There are some big challenges facing the communities we serve: fires, floods, extreme weather and other climate impacts. And if you believe Dr. Lucy Jones, we are waiting for the "big one" because its not if, but when. The housing crisis it is could easily become a infrastructure or economic crisis depending on how we attempt to solve it.

As planners, we know that we are uniquely positioned to comprehensively address these challenges with equitable and sustainable solutions that benefit the long

“As planners, we know that we are uniquely positioned to comprehensively address these challenges with equitable and sustainable solutions that benefit the long term health and welfare of our communities and our environment.”

While the crisis du jour—fires, floods and housing Oh My—sucks up most of attention, resources and time, we need to be adamant about carving out time to plan for the future. At our conference, the new APA National CEO, Joel Albizo, spoke about his exciting agenda for our organization. Along with inclusion and diversity, and promoting the profession, he talked about AI (Artificial Intelligence). AS IF planners could be replaced by AI!

A few weeks later, I was at the Sac Valley Section Speakers Series. The presentation was about Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) and the presenters were city administrator and architects. They flat out asked the planners in the audience how we felt about our changing profession. How are you going to adapt they asked us. How are you going to stay relevant when you are being replaced by software? Will you be

term health and welfare of our communities and our environment. Does anyone else know this? We need to make sure they do. How?

APA California will continue to work with the state to advocate for good planning policy and laws.

We are hiring program staff that will help us communicate, not only with our members, but help us share all the great things that our members are accomplishing in the state.

We are updating our website and developing a communication plan.

We are building stronger relationships with organizations that share our goals and values so we can share the importance of good planning with more of our community residents.

Interested in planning for the future of planning? Email me at apacapresident@gmail.com. **JLJ**

PI Too Close to Home

safer in the face of those hazards. The report recognizes that wildfire hazards cannot be eliminated but shows that smart planning can reduce hazards at any scale, including community-wide, neighborhoods and subdivisions and even at the individual lot and building scale. For example, hazard reduction at the community scale may focus on the appropriate location and density of new development, ensuring that neighborhoods have adequate access to get fire fighting equipment in and residents out safely in an emergency and managing defensible space on public or common area lands. At the individual lot scale, hazard reduction relies on hardening structures with combustion-resistant materials and creating effective defensible space around buildings. These building-focused measures take constant awareness and maintenance to ensure that new potential ignition points are avoided, like the pile of scrap-wood that every homeowner likes to keep under their deck or that woody shrub that has grown too close to the house. I can testify from personal experience as to the importance of these seemingly little things.

The new PAS Report is also helpful in grounding its findings and recommendations in the latest fire science. Planners need not become fire behavior specialists but



Journey's End Mobile Home Park in Santa Rosa, where my mother-in-law lived. Source: Pete Parkinson, AICP

understanding the key factors that influence fire behavior and the basics of ignition, combustion and fire propagation are valuable tools that will help planners effectively convey information about the location and nature of wildfire hazards and community vulnerabilities. A basic understanding of fire behavior and hazards also helps planners work with community stakeholders to craft effective responses.

As you'd expect in a report from the APA, the PAS Report also highlights the role of the general plan in managing community hazards, including identifying the location of WUI areas, local fire history and ideas for policies to improve public safety and community resilience. The report also emphasizes the importance of connecting and integrating the

compiles the various statutory requirements in a handy reference.

All of these long-range planning efforts point to a very important question: With nearly one-third of California's population already living in WUI areas and more people wanting to move into these scenic and serene landscapes, how do we plan for future development in a way that avoids making things worse? Nor should we forget important equity questions as well; many WUI communities provide housing that is more affordable than high-amenity urban areas, and our state's affordable housing crisis only increases development pressure in these less-expensive outlying areas. This means that WUI residents are often vulnerable to economic disruption as well as natural hazards and they may not be in a position to afford measures like home-hardening and defensible space maintenance.

The California legislature has turned its attention to these questions in its current session and the pending legislative proposals provide a deeper look into the planners WUI planning toolbox, whether the current crop of bills becomes law or not. The most notable bill is SB 182, authored by Senator Jackson. The bill is too complex to summarize here but several aspects are noteworthy. First, the bill includes a reference compendium of the various safety codes and standards that should be considered for any new development in the WUI area, including the state's fire code and model codes from the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). As envisioned in SB 182, these codes and standards would form the baseline for new development in the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones (as mapped by CalFire), with requirements ratcheting up for larger developments. Second, the bill includes new requirements for addressing wildfire

“The report recognizes that wildfire hazards cannot be eliminated but shows that smart planning can reduce hazards at any scale, including community-wide, neighborhoods and subdivisions and even at the individual lot and building scale.”

The view out our bedroom window on the night of the fire. Source: Pete Parkinson, AICP



general plan with other comprehensive planning efforts like the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan and Community Wildfire Protection Plans. Planners working on this topic may also want to review OPR's "Fire Hazard Planning" document that is part of that office's General Plan Technical Guidance Series. This California-specific document includes checklists for Safety Elements and



Our home the day after the fire came through. Source: Pete Parkinson, AICP

➤ P4 Too Close to Home

hazards in the Safety Element that are roughly modeled on the adequate progress approach that was applied to the Central Valley's flood hazard areas about 10 years ago. The concept is that cities and counties would develop plans to improve the safety in their most hazardous WUI areas and implement a program to achieve adequate progress in addressing those hazards. The bill would also subject these aspects of the Safety Element to review by the

national policy of fire suppression and prevention has, in many ways, made our wildfire hazards more severe by allowing the buildup of wildland fuels that would otherwise have been kept in check by more-frequent, smaller fires. We are shifting from a mode of constantly fighting wildfires to one of learning to live with fire as a natural part of our landscape. Planners have an important role in this shift and tools like the new PAS report and approaches taken

“The concept is that cities and counties would develop plans to improve the safety in their most hazardous WUI areas and implement a program to achieve adequate progress in addressing those hazards.”

state Board of Forestry for their concurrence with the policies and findings adopted at the local level. Of course, the prospect of state agency review usually makes local government planners recoil in horror, but we've seen the flipside of what happens when local land use decisions (many made decades ago) don't adequately account for the hazards we face today. A little accountability is not a bad thing. In addition, the Board of Forestry is the locus of wildfire fire behavior and hazard reduction knowledge within state government, creating promising possibilities for technical assistance to local governments.

In recent years we have learned that our

in new state legislation help show us ways to move forward.

Pete Parkinson, AICP, is the Past-president of APA California and the former planning director for Sonoma County. He is rebuilding his home near Santa Rosa.

View from Highway 12 in Santa Rosa. Source: Pete Parkinson, AICP



Encore! APA California

Want to learn more about disaster recovery?

Watch Disaster Recovery on the Planning Side: Innovations for the Future

In this unique video, recorded at the 2018 Chapter Conference in San Diego, planners from around the state share their experience with disaster preparation; communication tools, plans, and constraints; and planning recovery innovations. Each speaker offers lessons learned and considers the politics, resources, and realities that could lead to or prevent implementation. The result is a thoughtful review of the roles played by planning agencies during and following recent disasters in California including a series of major fires in San Diego County; the Thomas fire in Ventura County; and flooding and earthquakes in the City of Napa.



City of Ventura Community Development Director, Jeffery Lambert, AICP, speaks on the disaster recovery lessons learned following the Thomas Fire in Ventura County.

CM | 1.5

- Cost: \$15 (includes unlimited on-demand viewing). \$10 per person for groups of two or more! (\$15 for 1st person).
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Tubbs Fountaingrove area. Source: N. Berger, SF Chronicle

Q & A | David Abel

February 20, 2018 - From the February, 2018 issue of *The Planning Report*

Lessons Learned From 2017 Disasters in Mexico City, Houston & California

In 2017—a year punctuated by natural disasters at home and abroad—it became clear that the preventative field of resilience still has a lot to learn from disaster recovery. At VerdeXchange 2018, Public Works Manager **Sidney Bomer** from Houston Water and Chief Resilience Officer Dr. **Arnoldo Matus Kramer** from Mexico City shared where developers and building owners fit into long-term economic and rebuilding recovery efforts. Moderated by Los Angeles Chief Resilience Officer **Marissa Aho**, this **TPR** excerpt also features an update on San Francisco efforts by City Administrator **Naomi Kelly**.

“With San Francisco’s Neighborhood Empowerment Network . . . we wanted to create a system where people were looking out for each other.” - Naomi Kelly, San Francisco City Administrator

Marissa Aho: This past year, the increasing risk of natural disasters around the world has helped to highlight why building resilience is incredibly important. From hurricanes to floods to catastrophic fires, it seemed like there was a weekly disaster in 2017. Our hope is to examine lessons learned from both Mexico City and Houston, and then to apply what is currently going on in California and San Francisco to give additional context that developers and community builders can be doing to increase resilience.

We know that it is not a matter of if, but only a matter of when our community in Southern California will be hit with a disaster. Now, let’s start with Sidney and the story of Houston to hear how the city reacted pre, during, and post-disaster.

Sidney Bomer: The news depictions you saw of Houston during Hurricane Harvey on your television and phone screens here in California were accurate. The hurricane was devastating on our city. We still have 300,000 homes recovering, and our infrastructure is still in the rebuilding process.

The majority of the city flooded. No area was spared.

“Our hope is to examine lessons learned from both Mexico City and Houston, and then to apply what is currently going on in California and San Francisco to give additional context that developers and community builders can be doing to increase resilience.”

Houston is used to tropical storms and weather events, so we had precautions and standard operating procedures. Houston has 39 wastewater treatment plants, 382 lift stations, and over 6,200 miles of sewer.

Before the storm, we made attempts to reduce the solids inventories and made sure we had plenty of generators. We ended up having

51.6 inches of rain during Harvey. Ultimately, 104 lives were lost because of the storm.

Of course, our biggest asset was our people. Of our 39 water treatment plants, only seven flooded. Five of those seven were able to get back online within four days. All other plants were mostly functional, other than high wet wells and an occasional power outage.

We had a number of service contracts that allowed us to bring in experts and blowers, pumps, switchgears, and other equipment to expediently get these systems back online. The two most damaged water treatment plants proved to be a challenge because the Army Corps of Engineers were undergoing controlled releases of water from two overflowing reservoirs. The Corps needed to do the controlled releases to make sure the reservoirs did not collapse or overflow, causing even more catastrophic damage to the entire city and our water supply.

Doing the controlled release flooded the neighborhoods surrounding these two plants for multiple weeks. I was actually only able to get an assessment of the facilities because I was brought in by airboat.

Now, getting to the lessons learned. First, establishing better communication with the energy utility. In Houston, we work with CenterPoint Energy. Our operations needed to take priority in getting back online. Sometimes, the communication was not as clear as it needed to be. When we are bringing a plant back online, CenterPoint needed to be there.

Second, we learned that we need more resilient fueling locations. With so many areas flooded, we did not have enough locations to refuel and get vehicles to proper locations.

Third, even though Interstate-10 was closed, we needed to get the treatment chemicals to our facilities. This led to needing

police escorts to bring the chemicals through crowded neighborhoods, which we want to avoid going forward. The coordination of that effort was successful on a national, state, and local level, but we do not want to block off any neighborhoods. The Mayor’s support was critical.



Shelter for wildfire evacuees. Source: R. Vogel, AP

➤ P2 Recovery > Changing Perspectives Towards Recovery

1. Our Communities Need to Deal with Past Trauma

How? There are a lot of ways. I think one of the best ways to focus these efforts is to listen to all of the complaints from residents and business owners. If you have a vocal group talking about a specific issue, then engage on that issue. This shouldn't fall on just planners. Elected officials, community groups, and interested citizens can take this on. Where is this trauma coming from? Is it something that you can control or have an impact on? I hate traffic on the freeway but have very little control over it. Maybe someone just needs to vent and feel like they have been heard. When I have done this at public meetings, I have often been thanked for listening, and participants seem to feel a little bit better.

2. Our Communities Need to Focus on Recovery as Part of their Future Vision

How often have you personally created a strategy to deal with a future issue? Are you saving for retirement or college for your kids? How often do communities engage in a visioning process? Why not include recovery as a component of your future vision? So many communities do not identify recovery planning as an advanced planning priority. By not doing this, we stand to pile on even more trauma to our communities.

Decisions made thirty years ago may turn out to be bad ideas now. If we don't actively identify them now and have a plan to fix them as part of a recovery process, what is the likelihood they will be priority projects right after a disaster event? The best time to plan for recovery is when it isn't needed. Our General Plans are great guides to envision what our community should look like in the future, why can't that future also address how best to recover from disaster?

“Essentially, Americans still expect the Federal government to fix things after a disaster. Unfortunately, until we break this cycle, our communities won't truly recognize and realize a resilient future.”

3. Ask the Most Important Question Regarding Recovery

Why do we want to recover? The houses and businesses destroyed during a disaster were built for a reason. Does that reason still apply today? Our communities are not the same as they were thirty years ago. We should be asking these key questions as part of any recovery process:

- Is our community using current resources wisely to rebuild in these areas?
- Do we have better/safer areas to

invest into our communities?

- Do we see this negative event as a chance to create positive change in our communities?

4. Remove the Politics from Recovery

A large disaster event occurs. Entire neighborhoods are wiped off the map. Sure enough, politicians get on the news and say “We are going to rebuild.” Unfortunately, that sentiment doesn't always translate into positive change within a community. Think about it from this standpoint: thirty years ago, a supervisor or councilmember made a decision that led us to this point in time. That decision may have looked great on paper back then, but in this changing world it may not be the best idea anymore. Unfortunately, if the jurisdiction hasn't focused on how we recover from future events, then they give the standard response that we will rebuild. If the jurisdiction has a recovery plan in place, then the response changes to: “We have focused on recovery as part of our everyday lives and look to making this community safer from future events like these.”

Recovery can't be about repairing only the areas that were damaged. This is a band-aid approach. Former FEMA Administrator Brock Long recently stated, “FEMA faces unrealistic expectations by Congress and the American public, and the standards in which

we declare major disaster declarations need to be increased.” Essentially, Americans still expect the Federal government to fix things after a disaster. Unfortunately, until we break this cycle, our communities won't truly recognize and realize a resilient future. Doesn't that sound like a great opportunity to take a leadership position in defining how our communities look and feel in the future in response to a disaster? We have the tools already (General Plan and Local Hazard Mitigation Plans), now let's develop a plan for recovery that reinforces our community's vision and gives us an opportunity to redefine what true recovery looks like.

▶P6 Lessons Learned From 2017 Disasters in Mexico City, Houston & California

Additionally, Houston is going to move towards consolidating plants. Out of our 39 plants, we are hoping to take 12 facilities offline and consolidate them. We are putting our capital improvement projects process on hold for any facility that is not close to being completed. Our goal is to take these 12 facilities offline within seven years.

In this effort, we are going to start a Water Innovation Hub in partnership with the non-profit Accelerate H2O. The Hub is already issued a call for skid-mounted, independent water treatment units, and will be seeking new technologies that can treat and produce water immediately after a flood. Our partners in this effort are Rice University, University of Houston, Texas Water Institute, NASA, and our advisory technology team includes the Water

across the city. If we have an earthquake coming from the Pacific Ocean, we have about one minute to evacuate buildings and get to safer places. Because we practice evacuations multiple times a year, people are used to quickly moving to safety.

However, this recent earthquake did not come from the Pacific. The early warning system did not have an impact. We were already shaking by the time the alarms went off.

“...today Mexico City has a ministry for civil protection and all of the boroughs have civil protection units. We have a control room for emergency services.”

Environment Research Foundation and their Leaders Innovation Forum for Technology program. The plan is to do 5-7 projects annually, and share our lessons on how to rebuild a major city's water infrastructure.

Dr. Arnoldo Matus Kramer: In 1985, Mexico City suffered its largest natural disaster. A magnitude 8.0 earthquake hit the city and an estimated 10,000 people died and more than 250,000 were left homeless.

In September 2017, a 7.1 magnitude earthquake resulted in 280 deaths. Still too many, but in comparison to 1985, this past earthquake was minor in its devastation. How did we make so much progress and avoid catastrophe?

First, today Mexico City has a ministry for civil protection and all of the boroughs have civil protection units. We have a control room for emergency services.

Our updated building codes greatly reduced damage and death. We were prepared and most of our city was back to functioning within one week. Certain neighborhoods are dealing with building collapses and damage, but for the most part we are fully operational.

Mexico City now has a robust early warning system, which is linked to loudspeakers

The day before the earthquake, the Mexico City Mayor and I were in New York City to announce the creation of the Mexico City Resiliency Agency. Suffice it to say, we went from theory to practice pretty quickly.

We had released our resiliency strategy in September 2016. Now, we are entering the reconstruction, recovery, and transformation process to a more resilient city.

There are tensions between the recovery process and what it means to transform the city to a more resilient city. On one side, you have people who suffered from building collapse. They are now displaced and there is a high demand for an expedited rebuilding process. The pressure on civil servants to approve projects is high. However, we want to integrate this rebuilding into a long-term planning and thinking process.

As Mexico City rebuilds, we hope to address the traffic congestion that cripples the region. We are making progress on investing in transportation and mobility regulations, such as EcoBici (bicycle and active transportation

“There are tensions between the recovery process and what it means to transform the city to a more resilient city. On one side, you have people who suffered from building collapse.”



2017 floods from Tropical Storm Harvey. Source: TB Shea, AP

program), to move towards development-oriented transit.

Within the formal city, we are implementing a new law that any rebuilding structure can increase density by 35% to finance the recovery effort.

However, we need for the density to be close to the mass transport system, otherwise we have not built a more sustainable system. We hope to focus on vulnerable populations to natural disasters. Improving our care to the elderly, to people with disabilities, and to the poor is critical.

Large populations in Mexico City are living in informal conditions or dwellings. As with many large cities in developing countries, more than 40% of the construction in Mexico City is self-construction, done without any building codes or standards.

As I sit in meetings and announce strategies in a place like Mexico City, I also know that we have to do more engagement to help these informal structures and dwellings become more resilient to protect all people, regardless of income.

On water, the city is already very water stressed. As we increase density, we hope to create a long-term system to increase water efficiency and reuse. The infrastructure system is getting upgraded, but it also needs to incorporate technological advancements to ensure a reliable water supply regardless of the size of the earthquake.

▶P9

►P8 Lessons Learned From 2017 Disasters in Mexico City, Houston & California

Marissa Aho: Given the massive scope and scale of these disasters, how did you prioritize your response efforts?

Sidney Bomer: We looked at the problem from a flood control district perspective. Working with the federal, state, and county partners, it was a matter of deploying our resources to the facilities that needed to get back online.

Dr. Arnoldo Matus Kramer: In addition to the federal government, we brought academic, NGOs, philanthropies, and private sector leaders together after the earthquake to prioritize our efforts for the next year. Our vision was to plan resilience to 2040. Each disaster adjusts our agenda. This year, we will devote most of our energy to the reconstruction process. But this will work in tandem with other resiliency goals.

Marissa Aho: LA's partner to the north is a strong collaborator on the 100 Resilient Cities initiative and sharing best practices. Naomi, can you summarize some of the most innovative strategies San Francisco is deploying?

Naomi Kelly: When the late Mayor Ed Lee was City Administrator, Hurricane Katrina hit New Orleans. He went down to the Broadmoor neighborhoods and met with

community leader and now Mayor LaToya Cantrell. LaToya was undergoing the rebuilding process from the ground up, providing us with a model of how to engage our residents and engrain resilient practices.

Mayor Lee started our 10-year capital plan for looking at the safety and viability of all public assets—addressing everything from police stations to sewer systems.

The capital plan is looking to seismically retrofit all of our public assets, and addressing our private assets in a way not seen after the 1989 Loma Prieta Earthquake. We have a mandatory soft-story retrofit process which we are actively going through right now.

“ Mayor Lee started our 10-year capital plan for looking at the safety and viability of all public assets—addressing everything from police stations to sewer systems. ”

He also started the lifeline system, where we set up regular meetings between private utilities and regulatory agencies to ensure closer communication and coordination.

You cannot have a city begin to communicate after the disaster hits—it's too late. Instilling active communication between the operational managers of the most critical infrastructure leads to better problem solving and results.

So in San Francisco, we have Pacific Gas & Electric, AT&T, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, and many others sitting around thinking about how to prepare for flooding, terrorist attacks, and cyber attacks.

We are wrapping up our interdependency study and the next step is to update our restoration timeline for how fast we can get certain assets back online. We also started the Neighborhood Empowerment Network. We've continuously seen in Hurricanes Sandy, Katrina, and now Harvey and Irma—government may not be able to get to you first.

So how do you create these resilient neighborhoods where you are interconnected? In big cities, you might not know your neighbors. We wanted to create a system where people were looking out for each other.

After Hurricane Katrina, San Francisco realized we needed to be more than just “self-insured.” We should take out a little more insurance cover some of our vulnerable assets.

After Sandy, we focused on improving strategies regarding housing security. Beyond our wealthy residents, how will we address our most vulnerable populations? We are looking at a plan to keep our residents in their home, their neighborhood, and the region.

We want to exhaust all options before we relocate residents. As this panel has conveyed, comprehensive resilience is more than just about structures—it's about community and people.

Going forward, we are partnering with the private sector to examine innovative strategies like floating assets. We may be able to put in more automatic shut off valves for gas lines if an earthquake hits a certain amount. For updating insurance practices, we are looking at whether a deductible can be taken from installing a preventative measure like an automatic shut off valve.

Our Mayor's Office of Civic Innovation is working with tech industry leaders and digital media experts to improve the immediacy of communication.

David Abel is the editor-in-chief and publisher of *The Planning Report*, which focuses on land use issues in Southern California. He also serves on the LA County Economic Development Corporation, as well as the Urban Land Institute-Los Angeles.

2017 quake near Mexico City. Source: E. Garrido, Reuters





ERIC PHILLIPS | VP Policy & Legislation

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LAUREN DEVALENCIA Y SANCHEZ | Lobbyist

October 2019

Session Adjourns and Governor's Actions on Planning Bills Take Center Stage

The Legislature adjourned for the year on September 13 and will return in January 2020. Since that date, the Governor has signed and vetoed a number of high-profile bills of major interest to planners. October 13 was his deadline to act on all of the bills that reached his desk. By the end of session, some of APA's hot bills were made two-year bills before the Legislature adjourned—those bills still have the opportunity to move forward next year. A list of key bills and their final status is located below.

Overall the 2019 Legislative Session was another busy one for APA California. APA, the Legislative Review Team members, and the housing and environmental special committees spent hours working on amendments to bills that had goals consistent with APA's policies, but with provisions that were not practical or feasible as written. APA was successful in amending many measures, which removed our opposition to the bills, many of which were eventually signed into law.

Housing continued to be a major hot topic in the Legislature, and major bills regarding Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs), the Housing Accountability Act, and the Permit Streamlining Act focused on increasing residential production were signed into law. 2020 will likely continue to be focused heavily on housing and impact fees. Several very high-profile measures addressing those issues were tabled this year, including SB 50 (Wiener)

mandating higher housing density around transit and jobs, and AB 1484 (Grayson) which will be the vehicle for changes in impact fees based on the Housing and Community Development (HCD)/Turner Fee Study. Hearings and stakeholder meetings are being planned this fall on those two measures. (The HCD/Turner impact fee study can be found [here: http://turnercenter.berkeley.edu/uploads/Residential_Impact_Fees_in_California_August_2019.pdf](http://turnercenter.berkeley.edu/uploads/Residential_Impact_Fees_in_California_August_2019.pdf).)

Unfortunately, one measure strongly supported by APA, SB 5 by Senator Beall, was vetoed by the Governor. SB 5 would have given the state a major on-going stake in funding housing and infrastructure. It would have established a new program that would have eventually shifted up to \$2 billion annually from local ERAFs to pay for projects approved by the state for affordable housing, transit-oriented development, infill development, and housing-related infrastructure. The state would have matched any reductions in Educational Revenue Augmentation Funds (ERAF) that would otherwise be used to support schools to backfill those losses. In vetoing the bill, the Governor said:

"California is in a housing crisis, and I have consistently maintained we need to use all the tools in our toolbox to address it. However, this bill would increase costs by \$2 billion annually once fully implemented. Legislation with such a significant fiscal impact needs to be part of budget deliberations so that it can be considered in light of other priorities. I will continue to work collaboratively with the Legislature next year to continue to support

increased housing production at all income levels across our state."

APA hopes that the Governor and Legislature will work next year along with stakeholders to fund a similar program. Without such a commitment from the state, there isn't enough funding available to build all of the affordable-income or even moderate-income housing, to match the number of units needed in California.

Major Rent Stabilization Measure Signed into Law

AB 1482, authored by Assembly Housing Committee Chair David Chiu, was signed by the Governor. It establishes a statewide rent stabilization and eviction limitation program in California. Local ordinances are permissible, so long as they do not provide less protection than AB 1482.

Supported by APA, AB 1482 will be effective January 1, 2020 and sunset in 2030. It will apply to most multi-family dwellings in California, with exemptions for units constructed in the last 15 years, condominiums and single-family homes (unless they are owned by a corporation or real estate investment trust), duplexes where the owner lives in one of the units, and affordable housing that is subject to a recorded regulatory agreement.

The rent stabilization provisions of AB 1482 limit annual increases to 5 percent, plus inflation, or 10 percent, whichever is lower, for tenants who have occupied the unit for 12 months or more. Eviction limitations state that a landlord may only evict a tenant from a covered unit for "just cause," as defined by the statute. A "no fault" eviction (for example, for an owner move-in or a condo conversion) requires the landlord pay the tenant relocation assistance.

Legislative Update at the APA California Conference

The PowerPoint from the 2019 Legislative Session from APA California's conference in Santa Barbara has been posted on the APA California website. Thank you to those of you who attended. There is never enough time to get through all the activity in the Legislature, but we hope the session and the PowerPoint are helpful!

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

We encourage you to participate in APA California's Legislative Review Team, whose members advise APA California on legislative positions, potential amendments and key planning policies. Information on the Review Team and sign up information are located on the APA California website legislation page. To find APA's positions on all of the major planning-related bills, and to review APA's letters

▶ P10 Legislative Update

on those bills, please go to the legislative tab on APA's website at www.apacalifornia.com. All position letters are posted on the APA California website "Legislation" page, which can be found here:

<https://www.apacalifornia.org/legislation/legislative-review-teams/position-letters/>.

High Priority Bills with Positions

Below are some of the main high priority bills APA California worked on in 2019. Position letters for these bills are located on the APA California website. To view the full list of hot planning bills, copies of the measures, up-to-the minute status and APA California letters and positions, please continue to visit the legislative page on APA California's website at www.apacalifornia.org.

Housing and Infrastructure Bills

AB 11 (Chiu)

Redevelopment 2.0 for infrastructure to support housing

Position: Support

Status: Two-Year Bill

AB 36 (Bloom)

Rent Control

Position: Watch

Status: Two-Year Bill

AB 68 (Ting)

Major changes to accessory dwelling unit law

Position: Neutral as Amended

Status: Signed by the Governor

AB 139 (Quirk-Silva)

Emergency and transitional housing

Position: Support

Status: Signed by the Governor

AB 670 (Friedman)

Accessory dwelling units in common interest developments

Position: Support

Status: Signed by the Governor

AB 725 (Wicks)

Restrictions on above moderate housing on single-family sites

Position: Oppose Unless Amended

Status: Two-Year Bill

AB 891 (Burke)

Safe Parking Programs

Position: Support if Amended

Status: Vetoed by the Governor

AB 1250 (Gloria)

New limitations on subdivisions

Position: Oppose Unless Amended

Status: Two-Year Bill

AB 1279 (Bloom)

By right approval of housing development projects in high-resource areas

Position: Support if Amended

Status: Two-Year Bill

AB 1399 (Bloom)

Rent Control: Withdrawal of Accommodations

Position: Support

Status: Signed by the Governor

AB 1482 (Chiu)

Tenant Protection, Rent Caps, Eviction Restrictions

Position: Support

Status: Signed by the Governor

AB 1483 (Grayson)

Requirements for web posting of fees imposed on housing developments and additional annual housing report requirements

Position: Oppose Unless Amended

Status: Signed by the Governor

AB 1484 (Grayson)

Vehicle for Fee Recommendations from HCD Fee Study and Posting Requirements for Fees Applicable to Housing Developments

Position: Support existing fee language if amended

Status: Two-Year Bill

AB 1485 (McCarty)

Prohibition on applying for state grants if jurisdiction found in violation of state housing law

Position: Watch

Status: Two-Year Bill

AB 1717 (Friedman)

Transit-Oriented Affordable Housing Funding Program Act

Position: Support

Status: Two-Year Bill

AB 1763 (Chiu)

100% Density Bonus and Other Incentives for 100% Affordable Housing

Position: Support

Status: Signed by the Governor

ACA 1 (Aguiar-Curry)

Local government financing for affordable housing and infrastructure

Position: Support

Status: Two-Year Bill

SB 4 (McGuire)

By right approval for transit-oriented development and small multifamily developments

Position: Watch

Status: Two-Year Bill (was merged with SB 50)

SB 5 (Beall)

Affordable Housing and Community Development Investment Program: State Approved Alternative Redevelopment Process

Position: Support

Status: Vetoed by the Governor

SB 6 (Beall)

Available land database

Position: Support

Status: Signed by the Governor

SB 13 (Wieckowski)

Major changes to accessory dwelling unit law

Position: Neutral as Amended

Status: Signed by the Governor

SB 18 (Skinner)

Tenant Assistance: Keep Californians Housed Act

Position: Support

Status: Signed by the Governor

SB 48 (Wiener)

Interim low-barrier shelter housing developments

Position: Support if Amended

Status: Two-Year Bill (Included in Housing Budget Trailer Bills)

SB 50 (Wiener)

Housing development incentives and requirements

Position: Oppose Unless Amended

Status: Two-Year Bill

SB 330 (Skinner)

Housing Crisis Act of 2019

Position: Neutral as Amended

Status: Signed by the Governor

SB 592 (Wiener)

Housing Accountability Act

Position: Oppose Unless Amended

Status: Two-Year Bill

Wildfire Planning/Safety Element Changes

AB 747 (Levine)

Evacuation routes capacity

Position: Support as Amended

Status: Signed by the Governor

SB 99 (Nielsen)

Evaluation of existing evacuation routes

Position: Support

Status: Signed by the Governor

SB 182 (Jackson)

Wildfire planning in wildland urban interface areas

Position: Support

Status: Two-Year Bill

CEQA

AB 490 (Salas)

Affordable housing streamlining

Position: Support

Status: Two-Year Bill

AB 782 (Berman)

Land trust transfers

Position: Support

Status: Signed by the Governor

Thank You Santa Barbara



A RESILIENT
FUTURE
2019

APA CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE

Over 1,500 planners arrived in Santa Barbara for the 2019 APA California Conference, which by all accounts was



Conference Co-Chairs, Clay Downing, Tess Harris and Bret McNulty. (not pictured, Rachel Raynor)

an immense success with numerous Conference Host Committee members reporting high praise from fellow attendees for a variety of aspects of the conference. Whether it was for the engaging and thought-provoking Opening and Closing Speakers, a fun and beautiful setting for the Opening Reception, or well executed sessions and mobile workshops—the early results look like the Central Coast Section pulled off a memorable conference this year.

Special thanks to the Conference Host Committee, and particularly the conference's co-chairs Tess Harris, Rachel Raynor, Bret McNulty, and Jeff Wilson. The 2020 conference in Riverside will have a lot to live up to. Highlights from a few of the conference's attendees are below, check out what people had to say about this year's APA California Conference!

Student Day Session



Eight panelists (some of whom are on the APA Central Coast Board!) led discussions with small groups of students help them better understand all of the opportunities available to

them in the planning industry. It was exciting to see so many interested students attend this early-morning event! ~Spencer Johnson

The Central Coast Section looks forward to continually providing this session as a resource to other emerging planning professionals at future APA conferences. If you have any questions about student resources and opportunities, please reach out to Spencer Johnson (spencer@lisawiseconsulting.com).

Diversity Summit



Led by moderator Denice Thomas, a group of guests panelists gave insights on the theme "Representation Matters" which focused on providing insights into their experiences working with planning professions. Panelists observations included experiences from within private organizations, public sector, and nonprofit groups. To have a chance to listen to candid and uncomfortable insights into our own profession was certainly eye-opening. It gave me plenty to think about with respect to the type of environment that we as planners find ourselves working in, and how I as an individual can find ways to make that workplace more inclusive and welcoming to all the planners who find themselves in it. ~ Clay Downing

Opening Reception Santa Barbara Courthouse's Sunken Gardens

We had over 1,100 guests at the opening reception - the biggest reception we've ever had in Santa Barbara. We had five-star and popular Santa Barbara restaurants at our event; Finch and Fork, The Lark, Laquita, Blue Water Grill, The



Outpost, Les Marchands, Catering Con-nection and Helena Avenue Bakery. We had Ventura County's favorite DJ, Bruce Barrios entertaining the guests. ~ Hollee King

Planners from all over California filled the Sunken Gardens on the evening before the conference. For a pre-conference activity, there certainly was a great crowd enjoying local food, beer, and wine. I heard people raving over the views from the clocktower during sunset. Who can blame them, it was amazing! I live on the Central Coast and hadn't seen the view before either; it was a fantastic spot to show off Santa Barbara as a host city; highlighting a unique building located in the heart of Santa Barbara, with great views for anyone willing to make the climb up the stairs (or take the elevator). Two thumbs up for the opening reception.

~ Clay Downing

PI3



Opening Plenary Speaker

State Senator Scott Wiener



Senator Scott Wiener of San Francisco kicked off the professional conference sessions with a call for the APA to act guide our communities to a more effective balance of land uses and social fairness. The invitation to Senator Wiener to speak at the conference itself served as a call from the APA for him to collaborate with planners in writing legislation to effectively address the persistent issues of housing and homelessness: two key indicators of community health and resilience. ~ Bret McNulty

Senator Wiener passionately spoke about a variety of issues facing California and how planners should think about the spaces we live in, with an emphasis on housing. He discussed the reality that most communities in California have over 80% of residential land zoned only for single-family housing, and urged planners in the audience to think about revising this zoning norm to allow for more multi-family housing. He reminded us that we should consider denser urban centers that allow for people to live and work close by rather than being forced to make long commutes and live far away from work, which ultimately impacts quality of life. Senator Wiener also emphasized some of the Senate Bills that he has introduced, and throughout his keynote speech reminded us that we need to do better when it comes to providing new affordable and middle income units in our communities. ~ Tess Harris

Networking Luncheon

The 2019 APA California Conference Networking Luncheon was a huge success! With hundreds of planning professionals in attendance, individuals were given the opportunity to meet, share stories, and enjoy some incredible food in front of the beautiful Santa Barbara waterfront. Thanks to everyone who attended and helped make this a meaningful event! ~ Spencer Johnson

Mobile Workshops

Twelve diverse mobile workshops provided an up-close and personal view of the area's natural (Dangermond Preserve) and manmade (Lotusland) wonders, highlighted the best of the Santa Ynez Valley (Industrial Tourism and From Grapes to Glass), and demonstrated unique and innovative projects (Ellwood-Devereaux Open Space, Santa Barbara Desalination Plant, and Innovative High-Density Housing). Over 200 attendees hiked, biked, strolled, and sipped throughout Santa Barbara and the surrounding area, while soaking in the sunshine and even obtaining AICP CMs in the process!

~ Lilly Rudolph



Planners at the Ellwood-Devereaux Open Space Mobile Workshop



Conference attendees at the Grapes to Glass Mobile Workshop

Session Highlight

The Many Ways to Skin a Cat:
CEQA Streamlining in Practice

This session viewed CEQA in a whole new light, identifying innovative and creative ways of reviewing a project against CEQA and looking at ways that the process could be made more efficient. The panel had representation from consulting firms, law firms, and local government talking about projects that have benefited from streamlining CEQA review by using the "general rule" or common sense exemption, the infill checklist, and clarifying the class 32 infill exemption. The panel also gave useful tips and tricks such as removing the word "all" from the requirements for infill, and adopting standard mitigation measures in the General Plan that go on all applicable projects, negating the need for an Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND). The session changed my view of CEQA from a necessary burden, to useful tool when evaluating projects. ~ John Novi, AICP

Session Highlight

Surviving Disasters,
CEA Resiliency Planning Game

Held on Tuesday of the conference, this was not the only session to discuss



resiliency in the context of disaster preparation, nor was it the only session that used creative games as a way of encouraging dialogue and conversation. But I really enjoyed the chance to dive into a game, and then talk with other planners about what the game's outcomes made me think about as a planner. It demonstrated a great example of how creative ideas can spark thoughtful conversation, and made me think of how this could be integrated into community engagement dialogue in Ventura County. Facilitated by Della Acosta from Rincon Consultants, Inc, this session was one of a handful of interactive sessions that looked at games as an opportunity for dialogue, communication, and better understanding of the concepts that communities may (or may not) choose to use in determining their own strategies for overcoming disasters. Given my own reliance on post-it notes and dots in community engagement, it really made me think of some new approaches for my work.

~ Clay Downing

Closing Plenary Speaker

Kate Meis

Kate Meis spoke as the closing plenary speaker and struck a tone that was high energy and touched on the many places where important work is being done throughout California. She has served as the Executive Director of the Local Government Commission (LGC) since 2013, coordinating an organization that gives support to a variety of sectors and agencies. I have even been working with the organization's CivicSpark Fellows for the last 2 years, and it was great to see the leader of an organization that is diverse and technically sound provide details on the breadth of interesting work going on throughout the state. She definitely hit the right tone to close down the conference on a high note that left me to jump back into my work following the conference. ~ Clay Downing





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Paul Wack, AICP

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2019 California Planning Foundation Scholarship Recipients

Please see attached for the list of 2019-2020 CPF Scholarship recipients that we awarded and celebrated at the 2019 APA California Conference in Santa Barbara. In total, 36 students received 37 scholarships totaling \$62,000!

CPF Major and Named Scholarship Awards

Outstanding Student Scholarship (\$5,000)*

- Marta Polovin, University of California Berkeley

Outstanding Student Scholarship, Runner-Up (\$3,000 each)*

- Ashley Wagner, University of California, Berkeley
- Elena Eimert, University of California, Berkeley
- Amy Young, University of California, Los Angeles

Diversity in Planning Scholarship (\$3,000)*

- Amiel Leano Atanacio, University of California, Berkeley

Merit Scholarship (\$3,000 each)

- Cassie Halls, University of California, Los Angeles
- Shannon McCarthy, University of California, Berkeley
- Lily MacIver, University of California, Berkeley

Richard H. Weaver Scholarship (\$2,000)

- Eduardo Galdamez, University of California, Irvine

California Planning Roundtable (CPR) Memorial Scholarships (\$1,000 each)

- Amy Zhou, University of California, Los Angeles (in honor of Stanley R. Hoffman, FAICP)
- Isabel Qi, University of Southern California

- Kareem El-Sisi, University of Southern California

APA California Scholarship in honor of Frank Wein, FAICP (\$1,000)

- Kavina Yashang Patel, University of Southern California

David Wilcox Scholarship (\$1,000)

- Jorge Canez, University of California, Los Angeles

Ken Milam Scholarship (\$1,000)

- Erik Mumm, University of California, San Diego

Paul Wack Cal Poly SLO Scholarship (\$1,000)

- Jayeong Kim, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo

Paul Wack Sustainability Scholarship (\$1,000)

- Lauren Dickinson, San José State University

Planners4Health Scholarship (\$1,000)

- Ashley Wagner, University of California, Berkeley

Ted Holzem Memorial Scholarship (\$1,000)

- Max Heninger, University of California, Berkeley, College of Environmental Design

Virginia Viado Memorial Scholarship (\$1,000)

- Victoria Urenia, University of Southern California, Sol Price School of Public Policy

*Included a full conference registration to the 2019 APA California Planning Conference held in Santa Barbara, California.

Section Scholarship Awards

Russell Fey / Central Section (\$1,000)

- Viridiana Santoyo, University of California, Berkeley

Central Coast Section (\$1,000)

- Brian McGinnis, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo

Inland Empire Section (\$3,000)

- Stephanie Camacho Arriola, California Polytechnic State University, Pomona

Los Angeles Section (\$1,000 each)

- Lemesis Quintero, California Polytechnic State University, Pomona
- Anna Geannopoulos-Solorzano, University of California Los Angeles
- Dongyang Lin, University of Southern California

Northern Section (\$1,000 each)

- Isa Gaillard, University of California, Berkeley
- Beatriz Guerrero Auna, University of California, Berkeley
- Diego Rentería, University of California, Berkeley
- Mariela Herrick, University of California, Berkeley
- Andrea Carranza, University of California, Berkeley

Orange Section (\$1,000 each)

- Vanessa Gonzalez, University of California, Irvine
- Prathna Maharaj, University of California, Irvine

Sacramento Valley Section (\$3,000 each)

- Evangelina Chavez, Sacramento State University
- Brianna Banks-McLean, University of California, Davis

San Diego Section (\$1,000 each)

- Rhiannon Koh, University of California, San Diego
- Maya Kulkarni, University of California, San Diego



By Woodie Tescher

A Celebration of Stan Hoffman's Life

While we mourn the loss of our friend, husband, father, brother, and colleague, let's celebrate the exceptional life and contributions of Stan Hoffman. For me, Stan was a fellow-graduate of UCLA, professional colleague, and, most importantly, a dear friend.

I met Stan when he was a student of the then School of Architecture and Urban Planning at UCLA and quickly recognized someone who was bright and genuinely interested in transferring what he was learning to the real world work of the planning profession. Over the years, he never lost that connectivity between education and practice by continuing to engage as a Senior Fellow and Mentor with UCLA, its faculty, and students.

When Stan opened his office in LA, we retained the firm for economic analyses and guidance, initially for a comparatively small program and over time expanding to a diversity of larger, important urban planning and design projects. His work was not only technically competent, but Stan consistently thought out of the box, raising questions and offering options to traditional approaches that ultimately led to real implementation, not just another study.

Beyond his practice, Stan was committed and demonstrated a real passion for the planning profession and the mentoring future generations of planners. A Fellow of the Institute of Certified Planners, Stan was one of the original members of the California Planning Roundtable, founded as a professional think-tank addressing critical planning issues impacting California. Upon joining, he immediately engaged in its first and seminal project addressing an issue which we continue to be faced with, the financing of infrastructure. When I joined, we worked together on projects addressing such issues as housing, protection of the Sierras, equity, and other initiatives.

Stan also served as the President and



treasurer of the California Planning Foundation providing scholarships to students in planning schools in universities throughout California. He was instrumental in attracting donations for existing and establishing new scholarships in honor of colleagues who had passed. I am confident there will be discussion among us in the profession to see how we can similarly honor Stan's memory. It has already begun.

Among Stan's other roles was the President of the Planners Emeritus Network and recent engagement as a member of the Los Angeles Regional Planning History Group, where I understand he immediately contributed to its work.

While our worlds heavily intersected due to our shared profession, we were also good friends. I did not have a brother, and Stan could have been that brother. We shared interests in the outdoors, hiking, biking, and sports. Though, I have been a dyed-in-the-wool Cardinal and Gold Trojan when it comes to sports, over time, Stan subtly and pervasively taunted me to think more in the terms of blue and gold. When recovering from a surgical procedure,

his contributions to a gift basket from CPR included a small Joe Bruin bear, a coffee mug and water bottle with the UCLA logo, and the John Wooden on Leadership book.

On learning from his daughter Lauren of Stan's passage, I forwarded the news to colleagues and friends within our professional organizations. Numerous messages were exchanged and words like intellect, dedication, enthusiasm that was contagious, willingness to contribute, generosity, humor, and good friend resonate throughout these.

Of these, I would like to read excerpts from Carol Barrett as they are particularly illustrative of who Stan was:

"The news of Stan's passing arrived...I immediately thought of all the work Stan did to support the California Planning Foundation and student scholarships. On one of my recent visits to Los Angeles, I met Stan for breakfast...and he was so filled with enthusiasm for upcoming projects and activities that it was contagious. Stan never talked a lot about all the good works he did. I know for many years he helped Sandi Wein after the death of (our colleague) Frank offered financial counseling...organized visits and phone calls from Frank's planning friends...and helped with medical issues, plus a lot I know nothing about. As a professional, he was always generous with his time. When working for a small and not very well-resourced planning department in SoCal, I would call Stan to test ideas or brainstorm options. I would always explain that it wasn't likely to mushroom into a consulting gig. But that never seemed to matter. He was always ready to share his knowledge and expertise. I feel fortunate to have had the opportunity to know Stan. The world feels a little bit smaller now without him."

Stan we love you, we miss you, and we are better because you were here.

FAICP inductions, New Orleans.

Stan and wife Linda.

Stan and daughter Lauren.

Frank Wein and Stan.





MEMBERSHIP PROGRAMS MANAGER POSITION

APA CALIFORNIA

The California Chapter of the American Planning Association, a 501(c)(6) membership organization serving professional private sector, public agency planners, planning academics and students in California, is seeking a consultant to manage specific member programming and communications on a part-time basis.

APA California is a dynamic and growing organization at the forefront of the planning

profession, with more than 7,000 members, a professional Board of Directors, and several contracted support staff. This position will also be an independent contract position to APA California and will support the Board through activities including, but not limited to, expanding the distance learning program, supporting membership engagement, and seeking fundraising opportunities. [Please click on this link for full details of the position.](#)



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APACalifornia-Conference.org



PETE PARKINSON, AICP | Past President

Congratulations to the Newly Elected Board Members

Thank you to everyone who voted in this year's board election. We had an improved participation rate of 10 percent. I also want to thank everyone who ran for office. I appreciate your commitment to our organization and the profession.

I am pleased to announce that this is the first election that our new board position of Vice President for Diversity and Equity was on the ballot. The board created this position to show its commitment to increase the diversity of our profession and our organization, and to better support the diverse communities we work with.

Terms of office begin in January 2020 and run through December 2022.

APA California Chapter Election Results

President Elect

Ashley Atkinson (LA Section)

Vice President for Administration

Derek Wong (Sacramento Section)

Vice President for Public Information

Ellie Fiore (LA Section)

Vice President for Marketing and Membership

Marc Yeber (LA Section)

Vice President for Diversity and Equity

Miroo Desai (Northern Section)

Interested in being and APA leader? Please join us at our Leadership Reception at the Santa Barbara Conference this September to learn more.

2018 APA California Annual Report Now Available

The 2018 APA California Annual Report is available for viewing! The report encapsulates planning activities, events, and member services from the past year that traverses significant topics including National APA updates to State Chapter events such as the annual conference, and further to member activities held by each

local Section. Each Chapter board member, Section Director, and affiliated organizations contributed their respective insightful information to the report that aims to elevate the planning profession. The report is immediately available on the *Chapter's website*.



Congratulations to the APA California Award Winners

Awards of Excellence

Public Outreach Award of Excellence

Y-Plan (Youth – Plan, Learn, Act, Now)
UC Berkeley Center for Cities and Schools

The APA Jury Panel loved how Y-PLAN shows students how planning can help solve some of our most challenging problems, and sought to develop a constituency for planning as a practice and profession at an early age.



Planning Agency Award of Excellence

City of Santa Rosa, Planning and Economic Development Department,
Planning Division
City of Santa Rosa

The APA Jury Panel believed that Santa Rosa planners stood out in this category for their ingenuity and ability to be nimble to address the needs of their community. They were also able to streamline processes and programs, and deliver high quality services despite the 2017 wildfires that destroyed a significant portion of their community.



Innovative In Green Community Award of Excellence

Santa Clara Valley Agricultural Plan
County of Santa Clara

The APA Jury Panel felt the Ag Plan was deserving of recognition for how it integrates agriculture planning with exurban development policies and becomes an anti-sprawl, growth management, climate action plan. The Panel was impressed with the organization of the Ag Plan and how the document pulls together many planning topics under one umbrella.



Transportation Planning Award of Excellence

SANDAG and ITC Regional Mobility Hub Strategy
SANDAG

The APA Jury Panel appreciated the wide and deep range of mobility options provided for various regional transit hubs, and believed the Strategy was a tool kit for lay people as well as other regions and cities. The Panel also commented on the quality of their website, and felt that it helped people understand and use the Strategy.



Comprehensive Planning Award of Excellence (Large Jurisdiction)

Envision Stockton 2040
General Plan
City of Stockton

The APA Jury Panel appreciated that the Envision Stockton 2040 plan was nontraditional, readable, and organized around the needs of the community rather than the required elements.

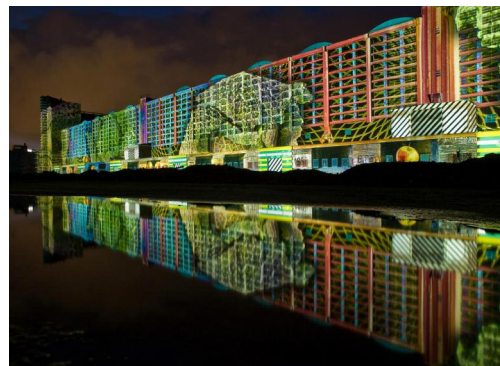
They also believed it was best practice to meaningfully work with community members, including university students to develop the plan and use it to develop community capacity and pride.



Academic Award of Excellence

Oroville Alley Revitalization Project: Vision Plan and Preliminary Feasibility Study
California State University, Chico - Department of Geography and Planning

The APA Jury Panel was impressed with the efforts of the students, and believed the report to be clear and the case studies to be well analyzed. The Panel also commended the work of the students and the city for adopting the plan and using it to implement some of the recommendations.



Comprehensive Plan Award of Excellence (Small Jurisdiction)

City of San Jacinto Trails Master Plan
City of San Jacinto

The awards jury felt the plan was clearly presented and easily understandable to non-planners and focused heavily on implementation and funding identification.



➤P18 Congratulations to the APA California Award Winners

Economic Planning and Development Award of Excellence

Long Beach Everyone in Economic Inclusion Initiative

City of Long Beach

The awards jury was impressed by the level of outreach during the process and unique approaches like the crowdsourced funding and overall central focus on economic inclusiveness.



Best Practices Award of Excellence

San Mateo County Second Unit Center
San Mateo County

The awards jury noted other jurisdictions are utilizing the resources showing its strong transferability as an easily accessible, inviting and understandable set of tools.



Urban Design Award of Excellence

Pier 70 Project

The awards jury noted the plan identified quick wins to build momentum, an emphasis on community context, and standards were clear, detailed and easily readable.



Advancing Diversity and Social Change Award of Excellence

Derek R. Hull

The jury felt that Derek has demonstrated hands-on, integrated and positive leadership at the local and national level.



Communications Initiative Award of Excellence

Visions to Victory: A People's History of the SR-15 Freeway

The awards jury felt it was a fascinating story, many like these often forgot, that must continue to be told.



Hard-Won Victory Award of Excellence

Power Struggle: How Oxnard Turned the Tide of California

The awards jury felt, as part of the outcome was that the utility looked at alternative sources of energy, this was a true dispute over protecting the community's environment.



Awards of Merit

Comprehensive Planning Merit Award (Large Jurisdiction)

El Cajon Transit District Specific Plan
City of El Cajon

Innovation in Green Community Merit Award

Regional Climate Action Planning Framework (ReCAP)
SANDAG

Transportation Planning Merit Award

Neighborhood Mobility Plan for Thermal and Oasis
Kounkuey Design Initiative (KDI)

Grassroots Initiative Merit Award

Project Bike Love Local Delivery
Sagecrest Planning + Environmental

Urban Design Merit Award

San Pedro Squared Project
San Jose Downtown Association

Academic Merit Award

UC San Diego's Alleys in Action!
UC San Diego Urban Studies and Planning Program

Opportunity and Empowerment Merit Award

Housing Initiatives, Permit Sonoma, County of Sonoma
County of Sonoma

Comprehensive Plan Merit Award (Small Jurisdiction)

Vallco Town Center Specific Plan
City of Cupertino

Economic Planning and Development Merit Award

Caltrans/Shasta Regional Transportation Agency
Redding to Anderson Six-Lane Trade Corridor Enhancement Program
Caltrans District 2

Best Practices Merit Award

Orange Eichler Design Standards
City of Orange

Public Outreach Merit Award

City of Santa Cruz Housing Voices Outreach Process
City of Santa Cruz

Advancing Diversity and Social Change Merit Award

L. Robert Ulibarri, AICP

Communication Initiative Merit Award

2018 Progress Report California's Sustainable Communities and Climate Protection Act
California Air Resources Board

FEATURE | By Robert A. Leiter, FAICP; Cary Lowe, Ph.D., AICP;
Pete Parkinson, AICP; Cara Lacey, AICP

Connecting Regional Water Planning and Climate Resilience in the San Diego Region

Recent studies have shown the potentially dire consequences of climate change on the San Diego region's water resources. The time for planners to act is now!

The state's 2018 Fourth *Climate Change Assessment* provides a comprehensive statewide assessment of short- and long-term risks resulting from climate change. In conjunction with this report, the State also published the *San Diego Region Report*, a first-of-its kind detailed assessment of the risks that threaten our own region.

These reports paint a grim picture of our future in the coming decades. For the San Diego region, the authors observe that "Climate change in San Diego is projected to increase flooding (both coastal and riverine) as well as increase fire risk due to an extended fire season." These increased hazards will result in public health impacts, transportation and energy disruptions and damage to the region's ecosystems. The report notes that these

"... planners in the San Diego region have a unique opportunity and a responsibility to communicate the results of these recent reports to a broader audience, and to ensure that this information is given proper consideration in the region's planning processes."

hazards will also lead to impacts on water resources: "the loss of habitat may impact water quality due to erosion, and the filter capacity of the landscape may be altered. Flooding impacts are primarily immediate and include road closures, electricity disruptions, and sedimentation and water quality issues, as well as impacts to wastewater systems which can cause public health concerns, particularly in the cross-border regions."

The consequences of climate change on the natural and built environment, and on public health and safety, are now being seen in regions across the US. The American Planning Association's Regional and Intergovernmental Planning Division has recently published a research report / policy handbook, *Regional Water Planning for Climate Resilience*, that explores the connections between regional water planning and climate resilience. The

report can be downloaded at no charge.

This report includes case studies of six regions, including San Diego County. Each case study reviews existing regional water planning programs, describes current efforts to integrate those programs, and discusses opportunities to address climate resilience issues through integrated regional water planning.

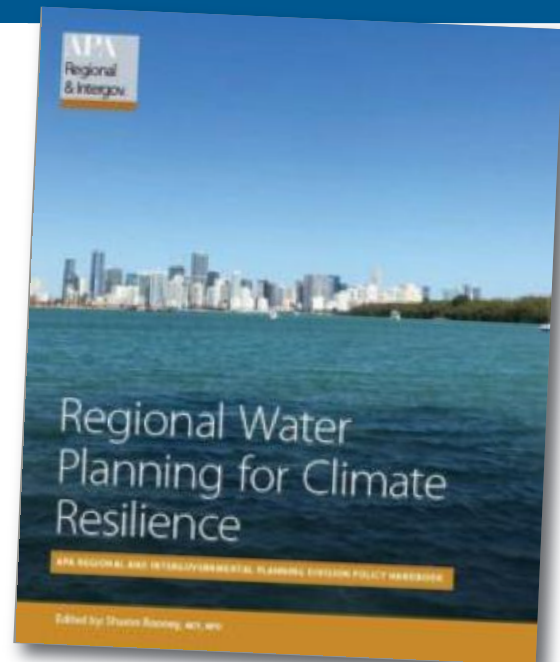
The San Diego County Case Study demonstrates the effects of climate change on regional water planning and recommends a set of next steps. Among those next steps, planners in the San Diego region have a unique opportunity and a responsibility to communicate the results of these recent reports to a broader audience, and to ensure that this information is given proper

consideration in the region's planning processes.

Regional Water Planning

Over the past several years, the San Diego region has been a leader in integrated regional water management planning, with the Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Planning Program focused primarily on climate change mitigation rather than climate resilience and adaptation.

However, the *San Diego Region Report* lays out the



consequences of climate change on the region's water resources in especially stark terms. Phase 2 of the 2019 IRWM Plan update now underway offers the best near-term opportunity to incorporate the key findings of the *San Diego Region Report* into the IRWM planning process including findings and recommendations related to climate change adaptation. This will ensure that the IRWM Plan is based on the latest available scientific findings and recommendations and is coordinated with other regional water resource planning efforts.

Regional and Local Hazard Mitigation Planning

The case study also recommends that the key findings of the *San Diego Region Report* be presented to public agency staff who are involved with the *San Diego County Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan*, as well as staff working on updates to General Plan Safety Elements in all 18 cities and the County.

P21

*Escondido Creek, a protected habitat conservation area.
Source: San Diego Habitat Conservancy*





Source: San Diego Tribune.

➤P20 Connecting Regional Water Planning and Climate Resilience in the San Diego Region

Planners, engineers, and emergency management professionals must find opportunities to collaborate with one another on the updated Safety Elements. OPR's *General Plan Guidelines* contains recommendations for addressing climate change adaptation and resilience under SB 379 and other applicable laws and regulations. The Guidelines also include more specific direction regarding how to address flood hazards and wildfire hazards in Safety Element updates. By working together on technical analyses, community engagement, and policy development, local government staff can gain valuable insights, improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the planning process, and achieve actionable and measurable outcomes. Organizations such as the San Diego Regional Climate Collaborative and other stakeholders could also play a valuable role in this effort.

Regional Greenprint Planning

The case study also suggests a longer-term strategy built around a Regional Greenprint planning approach. A Regional Greenprint is a strategic conservation planning tool that reveals the economic, social, and environmental benefits that parks, open space, and working lands provide to communities.

Such benefits include recreational opportunities, habitat protection and connectivity, clean water, agricultural land preservation, and increased resilience

“By working together on technical analyses, community engagement, and policy development, local government staff can gain valuable insights, improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the planning process, and achieve actionable and measurable outcomes.”

to climate change. The APA report provides examples of Regional Greenprint planning approaches, including the San Francisco Bay Area.

Summary

The San Diego Case Study underscores a heightened sense of urgency for addressing the effects of climate change on natural systems such as water resources, as well as the public safety and health issues associated with natural hazards such as flooding and wildfires. Urban planners in the San Diego Region must play a

critical role in addressing these challenging issues, using both our communications skills and technical skills in plan-making, policy development, and implementation. There is no time to waste!

Robert A. Leiter, FAICP, Former Director of Planning, San Diego Association of Governments; Cary Lowe, Ph.D., AICP, Land Use Attorney and Mediator; Pete Parkinson, AICP; Cara Lacey, AICP, Associate Program Director, The Nature Conservancy California | June 7th, 2019 | San Diego Planning Journal.

➤P19 Congratulations to the APA California Award Winners



Landmark Award



PEN Award



Great Places - El Pueblo de Los Angeles



Great Places - Lake Merritt Park



President's Award

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John Hildebrand, Clay Downing, Tess Harris, Spencer Johnson, Bret McNulty, Lilly Rudolph, Selena Evilszior and Kiana Baghaie.



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maleititzke@gruenassociates.com
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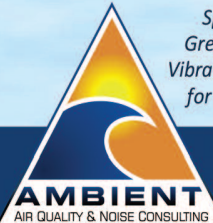
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Now that the new editorial format for the *CalPlanner* has been established, we are seeking suggestions from APA California's partners and sponsors on ways to better reach the Chapter membership. This means rethinking the traditional calling card ads for example, as well as all ad placement and associated links. So we need to hear from you on innovative ideas that would complement the new design and format while offering a more effective way to generate awareness for your business or service. We hope you will continue to support the *CalPlanner* and encourage your comments and ideas by contacting Marc Yeber at myplanning@live.com



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CHAPTER OFFICERS

Julia Lave Johnston
President | julialavejohnston@gmail.com

Pete Parkinson, AICP | **Past President**
pete.parkinson54@gmail.com

Derek Wong, AICP
VP Administration | dwong@mbakerintl.com

Hanson Hom, AICP
VP Conferences | hansonapa@gmail.com

Mary P. Wright, AICP
VP Marketing & Membership
mpw54321@gmail.com

Eric Phillips
VP Policy & Legislation
esphillips.apa@gmail.com

Sharon Grewal, AICP
VP Professional Development
sharon.grewal.aicp@gmail.com

Marc Yeber, ASLA | **VP Public Information**
myplanning@live.com

Miroo Desai, AICP | **VP Diversity & Equity**
mdesai@emeryville.org

Juan Borrelli, AICP | **CPF President**
juan.borrelli@sanjoseca.gov

Jay Higgins, AICP
Commission and Board Representative | jay@higginsland.com

Elizabeth Owen | **Student Representative**
eaowen@ucsd.edu

LOCAL SECTION DIRECTORS

Rob Terry, AICP | **Central Section**
rob.terry@reedley.ca.gov

Rachel C. Raynor | **Central Coast Section**
rcraynor@rrmdesign.com

John E. Hildebrand | **Inland Empire Section**
jhildebr@rivco.org

Ashley Atkinson, AICP | **Los Angeles Section**
director@apalosangeles.org

James A. Castañeda, AICP
Northern Section | jac@mm.st

Nicholas Chen, AICP | **Orange County Section**
nick.chen@kimley-horn.com

Robert G. Lagomarsino, AICP
Sacramento Valley Section
bob@lagopm.com

Nancy Graham, AICP
San Diego Section | nhgraham@sandiego.gov

APPOINTED MEMBERS

Asha Bleier, AICP
AICP EXAM Coordinator | asha.bleier@gmail.com

J. Laurence Mintier, FAICP
Chapter Historian, Northern
mintierassociates@gmail.com

Steven A. Preston, FAICP
Chapter Historian, Southern
steve.preston@charter.net

Kacey Lizon
Conference Program Coordinator
klizon@sacog.org

Gabriel Barreras
Digital Media Coordinator, Website
gabriel.barreras@gmail.com

Daniel Bezinovich
Digital Media Coordinator, Social Media
dbezinovich@gmail.com

Greg Konar, AICP
Distance Education Director
gregok@cox.net

Vacant | **FAICP Co-Coordinator**

Nicholas P. Marich
National Policy & Legislative Representative
nicholas.marich@lacity.org

Pamela Wu, AICP | **Statewide Program Coordinator**
pamela.wu@pln.sccgov.org

Chris Pahule
State Awards Coordinator, Northern
pahulec@saccounty.net

Shane Burkhardt, AICP
State Awards Coordinator, Southern
shane.burkhardt@mbakerintl.com

Daniel Bezinovich
Technology Coordinator - Social Media
dbezinovich@gmail.com

Richard M. Kos, AICP | **University Liaison, Northern**
Richard.kos@sjsu.edu

Mirle Rabinowitz Bussell | **University Liaison, Southern**
mbussell@ucsd.edu

Molly Wagner | **Young Planners Coordinator**
mwagner@walksacramento.org

Ellie Fiore, AICP | **CalPlanner Assistant Editor**
ellief@migcom.com

NON- VOTING MEMBERS

Kristen Asp, AICP
APA Board Director, Region 6 | kasp@glendaleca.gov

Marissa Aho, AICP
AICP Commissioner, Region 6 | marissaaho@gmail.com

Alexander Yee
APA Student Representative Council Region VI
Alexander.ka.yee@gmail.com

Robert Paternoster, FAICP
Planner Emeritus Network, President
robertpaternoster@yahoo.com

William Anderson, FAICP
California Planning Roundtable President
william.anderson@arup.com

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