



2020 APA California Planning Awards Excellence Awards Recipients and Descriptions

Yolo County Cache Creek Parkway Plan, Open Space Inventory and Baseline Improvements 2020 Implementation Excellence Award (Small Jurisdiction)

Yolo County Natural Resources Division
Heidi Tschudin, Tschudin Consulting Group
Callander Associates
Bay Area Economics

Yolo County's Cache Creek Parkway Plan - Open Space Inventory and Baseline Improvements document brings to life the public land dedications related to the original Cache Creek Parkway Plan. The document outlines the process for each of the properties and infrastructure improvements that will become part of the envisioned public open space system.

The County had the foresight in 1996 to create this innovative plan to manage gravel extraction resources through trading vested rights, negotiating for dedication of future reclaimed land, and collaboration with the mining industry for voluntary cost sharing for program implementation. The document provides existing and future resource managers one place for strategies for solidifying public support, decision-making and management. The document uses clean and easy-to-understand graphics to show how the resulting open space will be assembled, and what will be achieved at the end of the process.

To date, over 500 acres have been restored and dedicated to the county. Over 400 more acres are expected to be dedicated over the next 5 years. This success serves as a testament to the planning, work and dedication of Yolo County and its partners.

APA California is proud to present the 2020 Implementation Award – Small Jurisdiction for the Yolo County Cache Creek Parkway Plan, Open Space Inventory and Baseline Improvements.

Sherry Ryan, PhD 2020 Planning Advocate Excellence Award

Sherry Ryan, PhD

Dr. Sherry Ryan is effective in formulating and implementing ideas in support of good planning. Through her work, she has achieved a high level of influence and effectiveness within a variety of different segments of the community, including: San Diego State University Administration, students, faculty, the American Planning Association San Diego Section, and the community.

When she was appointed Director of the School of Public Affairs at San Diego State University, one of Dr. Ryan's first initiatives was to prepare the required self-study report and submit it to the Planning Accreditation Board for accreditation of the Master of City Planning degree program. Dr. Ryan's strong leadership led to the Master's program obtaining accreditation in 2020 - the first accredited planning school in the San Diego region.

Dr. Ryan advanced the experience of students and forged new relationships between the students and the professional planning community with new courses and experiences. Shortly after she was



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appointed Director, Dr. Ryan traveled with 16 students to New Orleans to attend the National Planning Conference, a rare learning opportunity. Attendance at the conference and travel expenses for all the students was paid by a grant that Dr. Ryan secured. She has since been a strong supporter or student involvement in conferences at the section, state and national level.

Dr. Ryan further influenced planning by volunteering in the community as a Board member of Groundwork San Diego and as a member of the Public Health Working Group and the Active Transportation Working Group at SANDAG. Dr. Ryan's leadership has continued to forge a strong bond between academia, the community and the profession.

APA California is proud to award the Planning Advocate Award of Excellence to Dr. Sherry Ryan.

**SFMTA Bayview Community Based Transportation Plan
2020 Opportunity and Empowerment Excellence Award**

San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency
D&A Communications
BAYCAT
BMAGIC
Hunters Point Family
Community Youth Center
El Centro Bayview
BAYCAT

The Bayview Community Based Transportation Plan represents a new commitment to the long-underserved Bayview-Hunters Point community in the southeast corner of San Francisco. With a process deeply rooted in community partnership, the plan sought to center the voice of the community and build a promise to the public of accountability, trust & transparency, preserving community voice, and real results.

Engagement for the plan was built around paid partnerships with five community-based organizations: BMAGIC, Hunters Point Family, CYC, El Centro Bayview, and BAYCAT. These partners were sought out for their ability to access hard-to-reach populations and to lend the project legitimacy. Every aspect of the public outreach plan was developed jointly with these partners.

The team utilized an Equity Index that analyzed concentrations of transportation-vulnerable residents in the Bayview. This tool was developed by the project team to complement direct input received during public outreach; The team worked with the community to continually re-calibrate the index based upon the community's definition of "equity".

The \$3.6 million of funding for priority projects in the Bayview CBTP is made up entirely of projects that have been identified and prioritized by the community, including \$600,000 in quick build initiatives. APA California is proud to award the Opportunity and Empowerment Excellence Award for the SFMTA Bayview Community Based Transportation Plan.

**City of San Diego Climate Action Plan Consistency Checklist
2020 Implementation Excellence Award (Large Jurisdiction)**

City of San Diego Planning Department



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In 2015, the City of San Diego adopted a Climate Action Plan that outlined five main strategies to achieve its share of greenhouse gas reductions. The City then developed the CAP Consistency Checklist, to provide a streamlined review process for development. The Checklist contains measures that must be implemented on a project-by-project basis to ensure that climate targets are achieved.

The checklist provides a straightforward compliance method for future development projects to demonstrate consistency with the climate action plan. It is innovative in that it is used to better illustrate actions that new development could take towards strategies for energy and water efficient buildings, clean and renewable energy, and strengthening the nexus between bicycling, walking, public transit and new development.

The measures in the Checklist were primarily based on the California Green Building Standards Code. By basing much of the checklist on the CALGreen Code, City Staff were able to easily update the checklist as the code evolved.

Since the adoption of the Checklist in July 2016, it has been used to demonstrate compliance with the City's climate action plan for hundreds of development projects. The City has also used the checklist as a tool to streamline new and affordable housing development.

APA California is proud to present the 2020 Implementation (Large-Jurisdiction) Award of Excellence to the City of San Diego Climate Action Plan Consistency Checklist.

Santa Clara LAFCO Communications and Outreach Plan 2020 Communications Initiative Excellence Award

Santa Clara LAFCO
New Agency
Acre Policy
Covive LLC

The Communications & Outreach Plan is a comprehensive & proactive strategy for outreach & communications to help Santa Clara LAFCO better fulfill its role & address the common unfamiliarity with & misperception of LAFCO's purpose. To address this gap in public perception, the Commission, in October 2018 adopted the Communications & Outreach Plan, the first ever to be adopted by any LAFCO in the state.

Prepared through an in-depth yearlong process & with insights from commissioners, staff, & diverse stakeholders, the Plan presents strategies & tools to expand understanding of LAFCO's role & responsibility in promoting sustainable growth & good governance in Santa Clara County.

Communications tools were created including:

- "What is LAFCO?" Brochure
- The Santa Clara County and Cities Boundary Map which includes information on demographics and geographic size. This wall map features an insert highlighting the interrelation between development and conservation in the county.
- Public display pop-ups depicting the LAFCO's work
- A redesigned LAFCO website at SantaClaraLAFCO.org featuring a bold new look telling the story and serving as a portal for information for the community.

By educating local elected officials, local agencies, and the public about the importance of focusing development in existing communities while protecting farmlands and open space, The Santa Clara



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LAFCO hopes to build local support for smart growth policies. Over time, we hope to bring together local agencies and help foster a culture of trust and a shared vision for the future of Santa Clara County.

APA California is proud to present the Communication Initiative Excellence Award to the Santa Clara LAFCO Communications and Outreach Plan.

Centralizing Active Transportation Data Collection Tools with the SCAG Active Transportation Database 2020 Best Practices Excellence Award

Southern California Association of Governments

While many modes of transportation have extensive data collected and analyzed, and new technologies enable the collection of granular automobile and micro-mobility data, active transportation has to date suffered from a lack of usage data that could help better understand trends and needed investments.

The Southern California Association of Governments Active Transportation Database is an innovative tool developed to collect and store bicycle, pedestrian, wheelchair, and scooter/skateboard volume counts from infrastructure and planning projects across Southern California.

The database streamlines bicycle and pedestrian counting efforts and provides a valuable resource for researchers and planners. SCAG is encouraging local agencies to use the database as they conduct counts, and ultimately the database will serve as a one-stop shop for researchers interested in analyzing active transportation trends.

Currently the database has nearly 70 registered agencies and more than 700 locations with available count data. Data collected in the ATDB is publicly available, allowing planners, researchers, and any interested stakeholders to have access to what has the potential to become the largest source of active transportation count data in the country. SCAG is working with Caltrans to expand the ATDB statewide, helping to standardize the count data required by state active transportation grants while making the tool accessible to all Californians.

APA California is proud to present the Best Practices Excellence Award to the Centralizing Active Transportation Data Collection Tools with the SCAG Active Transportation Database.

City of Long Beach General Plan Update - Land Use Element 2020 Comprehensive Plan Excellence Award (Large Jurisdiction)

City of Long Beach Planning Bureau

The City of Long Beach Land Use Element and its companion Urban Design Element is the comprehensive plan that planners have been waiting for. It incorporated the amazing transformation in urban planning that occurred over the past decade. In the element's Bold Vision of a City That Thrives, the element expresses the intent to bring the benefits of comprehensive planning and long-range vision to the Coastal City's population of half-a-million. The element uses its highly technical accomplishment to be courageous: It moves the entire City away from Euclidean zoning, that for nearly a century has separated uses, buildings, social classes, and race/ethnic groups.

In challenging the conventional wisdom, it offers "PlaceTypes." Each "PlaceType" is crafted from the ground-up recognizing that its neighborhoods, new, old and yet established, are its fundamental assets. Thousands of Long Beach residents were engaged in the development and adoption process, with over 170 community engagement events held throughout the City. Target engagement included young people,



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renters, the LGBTQ community, college students, affordable housing advocates and the homeless services community. Translation in Spanish, Khmer, Tagalog and interpretation in American Sign Language were provided at large events and for outreach materials.

The element's intent is to create more complete communities with housing, jobs and retail to shorten trips and allow people to take advantage of the City's significant investments in multi-modal transportation. CEQA clearance also facilitates this transformation through streamlined zoning code updates and development projects

APA California is proud to award the 2020 Comprehensive Plan (Large Jurisdiction) Excellence Award to the City of Long Beach General Plan – Land Use Element.

**UC San Diego Designathon 1.0 & 2.0: Civic Engagement for the Improvement of University Public Spaces
2020 Academic Excellence Award**

Young Planners' Society of UC San Diego
Department of Urban Studies & Planning, UC San Diego
Design Lab, UC San Diego
Campus Planning, UC San Diego
SANDAG
Transportation Services, UC San Diego

University of California San Diego is in the midst of a \$5 billion dollar, decades-long physical expansion in order to accommodate growth in student enrollments. While this growth is exciting, many current students have felt disconnected from the planning process and the changes they are observing on their campus. In 2019-2020, The Young Planners' Society, UC San Diego's Undergraduate Planning Student Organization, successfully founded, co-organized, and facilitated two charrettes on campus, branded as "designathons."

The first, Designathon 1.0 Pepper Canyon Mobility Hub Designathon, held in April 2019, brought together nearly 300 participants to co-create solutions for the design of a mobility hub at the new campus trolley station that will open in 2021.

Following the success of the first designathon, Designathon 2.0 Tactical Urbanism for Street Safety was held in January 2020. It convened over 100 participants to work with Transportation Services to plan and implement tactical urbanism interventions that promote safety for pedestrians and micro-mobility users on campus roadways.

Identified projects in each designathon are being considered for possible addition to or refinement of the 2018 UC San Diego Long Range Development Plan.

APA California is proud to award the Academic Excellence Award to UC San Diego Designathon 1.0 & 2.0: Civic Engagement for the Improvement of University Public Spaces.

**Morongo Basin Active Transportation Plan
2020 Transportation Planning Excellence Award**

San Bernardino County Department of Public Works
KOA Corporation
San Bernardino County Department of Public Works
San Bernardino County 3rd District Supervisor
Town of Yucca Valley
City of Twentynine Palms
Southern California Association of Governments
Caltrans
Leslie Scott Consulting
Elwood & Associates



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Arts Connection

Completed in 2019, the Morongo Basin Active Transportation Plan initiated a vision for safer and better-connected communities throughout the entire Morongo Basin, an area that included the city of Twenty-Nine Palms, the Town of Yucca valley, eight unincorporated communities and the major gateways to Joshua Tree National Park.

As a plan for an entire sub-region, that encompasses 43-square miles, the document develops not only a regional active transportation network, that connects all neighboring communities, but it details improvements for local areas within every Morongo Basin community. The entire plan kept two major goals in mind, creating a vibrant economy and enhancing the local environment. Specific objectives and performance measures were crafted to help realize these goals.

Engagement was multi-faceted and included a focus within the local communities and the regional basin. Pop-up bicycle lanes, public arts outreach, a promotional video, a regional Park 2 Park bicycle ride, and leveraged partnerships between key agencies including the National Park Service, Caltrans, the US Marine Corps, public art groups, the Morongo Basin Community Health District, and the Morongo Unified School District.

The proposed programs and infrastructure emphasize placemaking, increasing opportunities for physical activity, and improving safety for bicycles and pedestrians. Public art was also included in the plan's outreach and proposed improvements.

APA California is proud to present the 2020 Transportation Planning Excellence Award to the Morongo Basin Active Transportation Plan.

**Contra Costa County Northern Waterfront Economic Development Initiative Strategic Action Plan
2020 Economic Planning and Development Excellence Award**

Contra Costa County Department of Conservation and Development
Craft Consulting Group

Contra Costa County's Northern Waterfront is an important economic asset to the local economy. The Contra Costa County Northern Waterfront Economic Development Initiative Strategic Action Plan provides a framework for residents, community organizations, local governments, educational institutions, workforce training providers, special districts, and private industry to engage in meaningful dialogue, about the issues, and actions, that would best serve economic development objectives for the region. In 2013 the County Board of Supervisors launched the initiative in cooperation with local municipalities. By working together, local policy makers seek to position the Northern Waterfront as a competitive 21st century asset. The waterfront is envisioned to attract innovative companies creating jobs for local residents in emerging growth industries.

The Plan addresses specific opportunities and challenges and builds upon the region's assets and competitive advantages, to create long-term prosperity. It is written in a manner to be flexible and less prescriptive, providing choices and options both in the short and long-term and at a range of budgets. While the Northern Waterfront has attracted new business investment, transitioning from an economy based on heavy industry, to a sustainable economy, based on advanced manufacturing, remains a work in progress.

APA California is proud to award the Economic Planning and Development Award of Excellence to the Contra Costa County Northern Waterfront Economic Development Initiative Strategic Action Plan.

**Kounkuey Design Initiative
2020 Emerging Planning and Design Firm Excellence Award**

Kounkuey Design Initiative



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KDI is a pioneering nonprofit planning, design, and community development organization that partners with under-resourced communities to advance racial, environmental, economic, and physical equity in neighborhoods and cities. Our culturally diverse team of planners, landscape architects, and community organizers have designed permanent parks; transformed dozens of residential streets and vacant lots into temporary playgrounds and gathering spaces; established women's food collectives and other economic programs that complement our built work; and developed plans that have unlocked more than \$24 million in funding for open space and mobility improvements.

Over the past couple of years, multiple APA awards have celebrated KDI's outreach and transportation planning work in Mecca and other underserved communities. Awards include the Los Angeles Award of Excellence for Emerging Planning and Design Firm recognizing its awards for Transportation Planning at both APA National and the California Chapter.

The firm is distinguished for imbuing their work that catalyzes the community's capacity to mobilize for social change and further social equity. They advocate, they share, and they foster change.

APA California is proud to present the 2020 Emerging Planning and Design Firm Excellence Award to KDI.

Collect & Connect – Resilient South City 2020 Innovation in Green Community Planning Excellence Award

Hassell+
Deltares
Goudappel
Lotus Water
Civic Edge
Idyllist
Hatch
Page & Turnbull
Brown and Caldwell
San Bruno Mountain Watch
South San Francisco Historical Society
San Mateo Youth Leadership Institute

Collect & Connect – Resilient South City is a planning proposal to create more public green space and continuous public access along South San Francisco's Colma Creek.

The year-long program – part of the Resilient by Design Bay Area Challenge – combined the creativity, knowledge and experience of residents, public officials and local, national and international experts to develop inventive, community-based solutions to sea-level rise, severe storms, flooding and earthquakes. The plan aims to connect a continuous public corridor to reduce the impacts of flooding, mitigate against sea-level rise vulnerability, restore native flora and fauna, and create more amenity and healthy lifestyle opportunities.

The 'Collect & Connect' design strategy proposed a responsive network where creeks and streets are redesigned as green linear corridors for water management and community gathering. Central to the Resilient South City concept, the project aims to align with local schools to collect, treat and reuse water; create safe routes for walking and biking to school; open-up schoolyards for more community recreation; and to become better equipped as community shelter points in times of disaster creating a local network of resilience for South City and surrounding neighborhoods.

APA California is proud to award the 2020 Innovation in Green Community Excellence Award to the Collect & Connect - Resilient South City.

City of Salinas, Community Development Department 2020 Planning Agency Excellence Award



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City of Salinas, Community Development Department

In a span of just five years, the City of Salinas and the Community Development Department completed twelve major planning efforts and implemented systemic changes to remove barriers to engagement in a majority-minority city of 155,000. The charge was to do this while avoiding “Planning Fatigue” and ensuring true public engagement.

In 2016, the Department formed the innovative “Visión Salinas” to deepen public engagement and develop “Guiding Principles” to inform the preparation of the concurrent plans. Through Visión Salinas, Community Development funded engagement facilitation training and invited staff from other departments, partner organizations, as well as community members. Visión Salinas also led the creation of a set of design guidelines, graphic templates, plan logos, and a website, visionsalinas.org, to help the community stay informed, and understand that each effort was unique, but all under the same umbrella. Each Visión planning effort was also bilingual in Spanish and English.

The core staff of 13 planners, analysts, and managers lead the way reaching the diverse community and supported projects of partner organizations. Now other departments at the City of Salinas are using principles developed by Visión Salinas and the City is aligning its resources to implement community-identified priorities and projects.

APA California is proud to award the Planning Agency Award of Excellence to the City of Salinas Community Development Department.

SWA Laguna Beach 2020 Planning Firm Excellence Award

SWA Laguna Beach

SWA has long been recognized as a leader in planning, landscape architecture and urban design. First founded in 1957 in Sausalito, the Laguna Beach Design Studio has helped municipalities and communities throughout California to improve the quality of life of their built and natural environments through exemplary planning and design.

With 30 full-time professionals, the Laguna Beach office works on diverse projects representing all three of the firm’s disciplines in settings throughout California and internationally. Although the SWA Laguna Beach’s project experience spans throughout China, the Middle East and other international locations, working with the local entities in Orange County and Southern California are among their most rewarding endeavors.

Collaboration with these many entities has helped provide sustainable, community-driven frameworks for orderly growth. Notable recent and ongoing projects with California municipalities and communities include: City of Mission Viejo, Cities of Santa Ana & Garden Grove, City of Laguna Beach, City of Lake Forest, Rancho Mission Viejo, the Irvine Company, City of San Marcos, City of Whittier, City of Tracy, South Morro Hills and North River Farms within the City of Oceanside.

APA California is proud to award the Planning Firm Award of Excellence to SWA Laguna Beach.

San José Downtown Design Guidelines and Standards 2020 Urban Design Excellence Award

City of San José, Planning, Building and Code Enforcement Department
Skidmore, Owings & Merrill

The San José Downtown Design Guidelines and Standards is helping transform San José’s Downtown into an extraordinary, world class city center, of design excellence, sustainable urbanism, and a sense of place for all.



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The Guidelines outline what projects must demonstrate to be successfully entitled and link guidance to adopted City policies. Framework Plans provide site-specific design guidance for projects on prominent sites and key pedestrian corridors.

Approved in April 2019, the Guidelines provide a consistent, predictable framework and a common understanding for design. The guidelines feature consistent graphics, unambiguous vocabulary to ensure clear expectations, and utilize hyperlinks and easy navigation.

The guidelines emphasize health, inclusiveness and sustainability and integrate public health concepts such as active design, social justice, sustainability and inclusiveness on every page.

Since the approval, the Guidelines have raised the quality of design by promoting best practices and providing consistency and predictability for applicants. The Guidelines have increased design awareness among City staff and the dialogue between the community and the City, intergovernmental agencies, and nonprofits. It has raised architects' understanding of the City's goals, as demonstrated by designers' inclusion in project proposals of analysis of their own projects based on the Guidelines.

APA California is proud to award the Urban Design Award of Excellence for the San Jose Downtown Design Guidelines and Standards.

Climate Adaptation Communication Strategies 2020 Public Outreach Excellence Award

Southern California Association of Governments
Here.LA
Cambridge Systematics

The Southern California Association of Governments conducted a series of community outreach events, called "Climate Talks". These events were part of Southern California's Regional Climate Adaptation Framework.

The Climate Talks Pop-up Box is an immersive pop-up experience, crafted with sustainable materials, with the mission of educating the public about climate change and climate adaptation strategies. During these events, the public was invited to walk through the Pop-up Box which depicted different communication strategies to help residents understand the impact and potential real-life consequences of climate change.

The goal of these outreach events was to test four different messaging strategies about climate change to understand what resonates with people who live in Southern California. These messaging strategies included how climate change causes personal, monetary and health-related harm, how trusted leaders are speaking about climate change, how climate change is affecting California's natural resources, and how climate change will affect the region surrounding the pop-up event.

The Climate Talks Pop-Up Box is an innovative way to make abstract scientific information more relatable to residents, and engage community members, who are less likely to attend working group meetings and webinars.

The visitors and participants of the Climate Talks events offered valuable insight into the level of climate change awareness and education in local communities that is seldom captured in traditional meetings.

This insight is being used to inform SCAG's Outreach Toolkit being created to accompany the Regional Climate Adaptation Framework.

APA California is proud to present the Public Outreach Excellence Award for the Climate Adaptation Communication Strategies.

Tamika L. Butler, Esq 2020 Advancing Diversity and Social Change in Honor of Paul Davidoff Excellence Award

Tamika L. Butler, Esq



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From redlining to urban renewal to Jim Crow, communities across America have been excluded from the decision-making process that shaped their built environment. That built environment has in turn cut these groups off from access to opportunity. Tamika L. Butler, Esq. is Principal of Tamika L. Butler Consulting, LLC and one of California's leading lights in environmental justice and urban planning. Tamika Butler is known for her successful leadership and pioneering advocacy work at the Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition and Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust.

Transportation planners and engineers would point to Tamika Butler's keynote "Planning While Black" at the NACTO's Designing Cities conference in Seattle in 2016 as the seminal moment in their profession. In that keynote, Tamika conveyed personal history and explicit and implicit biases to help shine light on planning processes that exclude many communities.

Since that keynote, Oakland, San Francisco, Portland, Seattle, and Los Angeles reoriented their transportation agency's strategic plans around intersectional equity, reframing investment, planning, implementation, and service delivery through this lens.

As head of the LA County Bike Coalition, Tamika's efforts marked a turning point for active transportation planning. Tamika's work for LA's Vision Zero initiative applied intersectional outreach to low income communities, pushed for investment and not enforcement to reduce deaths, and secured prioritization of disadvantaged communities through extra weighting in evaluations.

APA California is proud to award the 2020 Advancing Diversity and Social Change in Honor of Paul Davidoff Excellence Award to Tamika L. Butler, Esq

East Whisman Precise Plan 2020 Comprehensive Plan Excellence Award (Small Jurisdiction)

City of Mountain View
Raimi + Associates
Community Design + Architecture
Strategic Economics
Fehr & Peers
Siefel Consulting
David J Powers & Associates
Schaaf + Wheeler
VTA

Since adopting the 2010 General Plan, the City of Mountain View has sought the transformation of East Whisman into a vibrant transit-oriented center with a mix of high-intensity office and housing, improved multimodal transportation, and expanded services. The City prepared a Precise Plan for this critical development area. Central to this process was engagement with neighbors, business owners, and key stakeholders. Consistent developer participation was critical in an area dominated by large non-residential ownership.

Building off interactive exercises conducted online and in workshops, the team developed a conceptual framework that divided the district into a series of "Character Areas" with targets for retail, office, parks, and housing. These targets facilitate blending of various uses to create a complete community.

The Plan employs a pioneering and innovative policy approach. A "Bonus FAR" program exchanges additional development capacity for community benefits, such as affordable housing, public open space, sustainable building improvements, and – uniquely – support for local public schools. The Plan features a "jobs-housing linkage" program that requires office developments to facilitate residential development through strategies including land dedication or construction of units.

To break up large blocks and enable walkability, the Plan sets out circulation standards and required street, pedestrian, and bicycle improvements. Designing high-quality urban frontages, ensuring safe light



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rail station access, and activating public spaces are all critical to creating a true mixed-use activity center that promotes sufficient transit-oriented densities.

APA California is proud to present the Comprehensive Plan (Small Jurisdiction) Excellence Award to the East Whisman Precise Plan.

**Rock the Boulevard
2020 Grassroots Initiative Excellence Award**

The Eagle Rock Association
Office of LA City Council District 14
The Eagle Rock Neighborhood Council
The Eagle Rock Chamber of Commerce
Occidental College
Deborah Murphy Design + Planning
SALT Landscape Architects

“Rock the Boulevard” is a neighborhood improvement project initiated by The Eagle Rock Association, or TERA, that will bring community-driven design changes to Northeast LA’s Eagle Rock Boulevard, a vital neighborhood street, identified by the city as dangerous for drivers, cyclists and pedestrians. TERA is a non-profit organization of volunteers who have come together to sustain quality of life in Eagle Rock since 1986.

TERA began to organize a planning process for engagement, ideas and action. Initial seed money was provided by Terra, the local Councilmember’s office, Occidental College, the Eagle Rock Neighborhood Council and the Eagle Rock Chamber of Commerce. Although modest in funding, was enough to fund the grassroots planning effort. Open meetings involved the community in the visioning stage, and strategies were developed to ensure adequate funding to execute the plan, once completed.

In the first part of 2018, a vision was developed that included improvements to Eagle Rock Boulevard provide a safe environment for all ages and abilities, use various modes of transportation, and foster relationships among businesses, residents and visitors. Rock the Boulevard incorporated many community-supported elements into a coherent vision and an executable plan.

In September 2019, with the support of their local Councilmember, LA Metro’s Board of Directors approved \$16.3 million in funding for Rock the Boulevard, proving that well-done locally initiated plan can galvanize support and affect change.

APA California is proud to present the 2020 Grassroots Initiative Excellence Award to Rock the Boulevard.

**Michael Woo
2020 Planning Pioneer Excellence Award**

Michael Woo

Michael Woo is a living pioneer for both Asian-Americans and urban planners, and has for four decades, championed planning as tool to improve our environment.

Earlier in his career as an assistant to the Senate Majority Leader, Michael had a direct hand in planning-related legislation, such as the affordable housing and public access provisions of the California Coastal Act, and landmark legislation to clarify the legal rights of group homes for the disabled.

As the first trained urban planner, and the first Asian-American to be elected to the Los Angeles City Council, Michael was a role model for many young people. In fact, the Hollywood that we know today – the Hollywood Farmers Market, uniquely-designed subway stations, and the preserved El Capitan Theater – is the outcome of a series of plans he initiated, advocated, and implemented in the 1980s to reverse the fortunes of the failing district.



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In 2009, he became the first urban planner and the first Asian-American to become dean of the Cal Poly Pomona College of Environmental Design.

More recently, Michael has become a vocal advocate for diversifying the outdoors, especially in California's state parks. Michael arranged for Cal Poly Pomona architecture students to produce innovative designs for cabins that would attract urbanites, and minorities, to camp in California's state parks.

Most recently Michael has become a member of the Board of Save the Redwoods League and serves on the national advisory council for REI Co-op, Inc. to help them create a more diverse interest in the outdoors at the national level.

APA California is proud to present Michael Woo with the Planning Pioneer Award.

UCLA Department of Urban Planning 2020 Planning Landmark Excellence Award

UCLA Department of Urban Planning

The Department of Urban Planning at the UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs is one of the leading academic institutions in the world devoted to urban planning research and education. The program was founded and maintains its ideals as a program with a social conscience that encouraged activism, equity, and social justice and continues to be a hub of thought-provoking and ground-breaking scholarship.

In 1961, the President of the University of California issued call for facilities at Los Angeles in the field of city and regional planning. The LA area was considered an environment for much needed research. The School of Architecture and Urban Planning at the University of California, Los Angeles opened for instruction in 1966.

Faculty and students of the department contribute widely to the profession. The Journal of American Planning Association thrives on the department's regular research. The late professor Jacqueline Leavitt's activism founded the American Planning Association's Planning and Women Division. Donald Shoup received the National Planning Pioneer Award in 2015 for his contributions, including authorship of "The High Cost of Free Parking."

Graduates of the program ensure that the Department's legacy persists through an academic program that has grown to develop understanding of urban planning at all levels from its original Master's program to undergraduate majors, a Ph.D program, concurrent degree programs and various specialty certificates. APA California is proud to present the Planning Landmark Award to the Department of Urban Planning at the UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs.