

# TO: APA California Chapter Board FROM: Derek Wong, VP Administration

**DATE: January 22, 2021**

**SUBJECT: Chapter Awards Jury**

## Recommended Action:

*Move to approve the draft language changes to the APA California Awards Program Policy regarding the composition of the awards jury. Replace existing language, “An APA California jury of eight members shall be appointed annually. One member from each APA California Section shall be appointed by the respective Section Director to judge the entries” with new language, “An APA California jury of five members shall be appointed annually by the Vice President for Administration and the State Awards Coordinator to judge the entries. An open solicitation of the Chapter membership shall be used”.*

## Background:

In January 2020, the approved a policy change upon recommendation by the VP Administration to increase the State Awards Jury from 5 to 8 members, with one member appointed by the respective Section Directors. The intent of the change was to assure representation from each Section, capture of new interested members, and geographic dispersion in the jury awards process. While most sections did nominate potential State jurors and the jury deliberation occurred successfully, the resultant jury included representation from only 5 of the 8 sections. Also, the jurors included two section awards coordinators.

With many demands placed on Sections, the current awards policy is yet another that requires the Sections to identify and nominate a State juror. By reverting to the prior process of the Chapter conducting a statewide open application process, it could enable any APA California member to be appointed. The existing overall policy to attain representation from different areas of expertise, geographic locations, and professional experiences in the private/public sector, will remain to balance the jury. The diversity in jurors will also be considered.

## Fiscal Impact:

No fiscal impact.