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- How will our plans and planning tools be different?
- What are the latest nuts-and-bolts planning methods or strategies?
- What are the newest tips and tricks?
- And, from a bigger picture perspective, are we being well-served by the current framework of plans and implementation mechanisms?

As importantly, if not more so, we asked questions concerning the role of the planning profession in adapting to disruptions and advancing social change.

- How will planning and the role of planners be different?
- Are social and demographic change affecting how we approach planning with and for the communities we serve?
- How has the disruption we have experienced altered the planning profession?
- And, finally, are the institutions of planning up to the challenges we face in contemporary society?

These questions became the basis for our Call for Presentations, and our membership responded with dozens of outstanding session proposals.

The Conference Programs Committee, led by Betsy McCullough, Julia Lave Johnston, Tess Harris, and Hanson Hom, reviewed the session proposals carefully, consulted with the session proposers, and assembled an outstanding schedule of sessions (see page 7).

Over the course of the three-day event, you’ll have access to over 35 outstanding educational sessions, with over 80 diverse speakers representing 70 public, private, nonprofit, and academic organizations. The COVID-forced changes in the work environment have resulted in much introspection about the nature of work and balancing home life with our professional lives. This year’s conference will feature a variety of sessions addressing key questions and challenges related to how we work and how we progress through our professional lives. Whether you’re a student interested in better understanding the opportunities ahead of you or a young or emerging planner navigating the next steps in career advancement, the conference will address your needs. There will also be a focus on how APA and its members can ensure that the profession continues to become more diverse and inclusive.

In addition to addressing these and other important issues through its program content, the conference will include opportunities to connect and reconnect with your planning colleagues through networking activities. We will also recognize outstanding achievements and contributions during our Chapter Awards event, and we will celebrate the accomplishments of student members at the California Planning Foundation’s annual awards ceremony.

Please join us and read on for more information on this year’s event!
Reimagining Planning

APA California’s 2021 Planning Conference will take place a year and a half into an era of global change unprecedented in many of our lifetimes. Although we’d all love to have a “normal” conference—one that includes greeting old colleagues in the hallway between sessions and meeting new ones at receptions—hosting this one virtually puts your health and safety first, and APA California’s fiscal solvency at least risk. It also gives us an opportunity to distill the purpose of our conference to its essence. Each fall, I teach a graduate leadership course at Cal State Los Angeles. In that class, I encourage my public administration students to explore and express their “why”—why do they do what they do? Why do they show up every day? Similarly, in planning this conference, your APA leadership had to ask ourselves why we host it—what core needs should it meet, and what do our members value most?

In the absence of happy hours and mobile workshops, that answer was twofold: to share the latest and best tools of our trade, and to provide a safe space in which to discuss our biggest challenges.

The past year may have brought your why more clearly into focus as the pandemic continued to lay bare the public health, transportation, sustainability, and economic challenges faced by our California communities. One thing is clear—the rules have changed. As people across the state are both compelled and empowered to make different choices about their lives and lifestyles, planners have to make different choices about our practices and actions—whether we are responding to major demographic shifts (see Driving Change Through Latinx Communities at 3:45 pm on Tuesday, September 14) or grappling with major land use changes (see Zoning for Equity at 11:45 am on Monday, September 13). These evolving dynamics led us to select this year’s conference theme, Changing Plans, Changing Planning.

This year’s “Big Conversations” follow up on those started at last year’s conference, and continue to address the hard questions we have to answer as a profession: How can we provide both abundant, affordable housing and sustainable infrastructure? What is our role in adapting to a changing climate? How can planning compensate for its contributions to systemic racism? These topics are especially important to us as California planners, who in many ways lead the nation, even as we may feel that change is slow in our own communities.

You, your friends and family, your colleagues, and your employer have had to change your personal and professional plans umpteen times in the past year. APA California has had to change ours. At the same time, we recognize that our profession is rapidly and permanently changing, and our charge as planners will never be the same. In the years and decades to come, we have a once-in-a-generation opportunity to contribute to the redefinition of home, work, transportation, and equity in California.

I would venture to say that few professions other than ours are so comprehensively impacted by the changes the pandemic has wrought. Planning, at its core, regulates the rhythms of daily life—where we live, where we work, where we buy groceries, where our children go to school, and how we navigate it all. In planning for quotidian affairs, we also take on bigger issues like racial and socioeconomic equity, mitigation of climate change, and support of public health. The pandemic has brought the intersection of all those critical issues into clear focus, as well as highlighting the ways in which our past practices helped create today’s unhealthy, inequitable communities.
“Big Conversations” to Kick Off Each of the Three Days of Conference Activities

Big Conversation #1

Tackling the Homeless Crisis in California

California has the largest population of unsheltered individuals in the United States and 1 of every 4 homeless people in America lives in California. Before the onset of COVID-19, the estimated number of homeless Californians exceeded 160,000. Experts as well as casual observers agree that the pandemic has significantly contributed to housing insecurity and loss of shelter. Despite billions of dollars in investment and countless interventions, homelessness has only become more prevalent and visible.

While the causes of homelessness are complex, it is clear that a more aggressive and better coordinated strategy is needed between federal, state, and local policymakers. Governor Newsom has outlined a $12 billion multi-faceted approach to tackle the homeless and affordable housing crisis.

Big Conversation #1 will discuss whether the Governor’s proposal and other initiatives can address both the immediate human tragedy and the long-term causes of homelessness. We will explore the role of planners in a comprehensive, cross-sector solution.

The discussion will center on opportunities for regulatory reform that increase housing supply and diversity, remedy historically unjust housing practices, address the homelessness crisis, and help planners navigate housing-related planning mandates.

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Big Conversation #2

Climate Vulnerability and Adaptation in California

In the first eight months of 2021, we have experienced the second largest fire in our state’s history and one of its worst droughts. Historically low water levels in Lake Oroville have led to the shutdown of its hydroelectric plant. The United Nations has issued a “code red,” warning that many effects of climate change are now unavoidable. It is a near certainty that California will continue to experience increasing temperatures and heat waves, declining water supply, rising sea levels, and more frequent and extreme wildfires.

Planners have a unique and potentially powerful role in guiding adaptation to these changes.

Big Conversation #2 will focus on how planners can contribute to creating or recreating places that are more resilient to the consequences of climate change. Can and should we limit where development can occur and restrict housing in the urban-wildland interface? How can our streets, parks, and open spaces prevent flooding? How can the
How will planners contribute to creating or recreating places that are more resilient to the consequences of climate change?

Before the pandemic, collapsing bridges, failing power grids, overwhelmed water systems, and congested roadways showed us how vulnerable our infrastructure is. As these systems that make our communities function come under pressure from age, climate change, and an increasing privatization that challenges the concept of public good, it is not just our most vulnerable communities that struggle to maintain the necessary infrastructure to serve their residents. Planners are uniquely suited to help address the country’s infrastructure challenges, while understanding how investments in infrastructure will impact our communities.

Big Conversation #3 will focus on community infrastructure, going beyond roads and bridges to consider access to broadband, health care, and fresh food, among other essentials. How can we ensure that investments in infrastructure are equitable and sustainable? What will increased federal infrastructure funding mean at the state and local level? How can we efficiently and effectively implement solutions that will improve the safety and quality of life of our neighbors? Panelists and participants will tackle these questions and explore innovative approaches to infrastructure delivery.

Big Conversation #3
The Infrastructure Crisis

The COVID-19 pandemic exposed the fragility of the systems we have come to depend on to make our cities and country run—including transportation, broadband, education, childcare, goods movement, and healthcare. Before the pandemic, collapsing bridges, failing power grids, overwhelmed water systems, and congested roadways showed us how vulnerable our infrastructure is. As these systems that make our communities function come under pressure from age,
Register Now for September 13 -15!

Relevant Session Topics and Superb Speakers

The APA California Chapter is pleased to present our 2021 Annual Conference on September 13-15. Due to continuing uncertainties, the Chapter decided earlier this year to once again go virtual. While we are returning to normalcy, gathering 1,500 planners together in a conference space was not something we were able to accomplish this year. Instead, we will once again bring you a virtual conference with relevant topics and superb speakers while also offering fun networking activities.

Over three days, you will have access to over 35 outstanding sessions with over 80 speakers representing 70 public, private, non-profit, and academic organizations. We are pleased that many creative and knowledgeable professionals are participating in this year’s program, and you will hear new voices from APA and beyond.

At last year’s conference, many of our sessions embodied expressions of anger, uncertainty, pain, and introspection in response to events in 2020. We still recognize that the planning profession must continue to evolve, not only in thinking about who we are and what our role is in shaping communities, but in how we evolve from our traditional practices. Thus, our theme for the 2021 conference is two-fold:

**Changing Plans:** How will our plans and planning tools be different? What is the latest in nuts-and-bolts planning methods or strategies? What are the new tips-and-tricks or how-tos?

**Changing Planning:** How will planning and the role of planners be different? Are social and demographic change affecting how we approach planning with, and for, the communities we serve? How has the disruption we have experienced in society disrupted the planning profession, if at all?

Like last year, we will begin each day of the conference with a thought-provoking Big Conversation. The topics for this year’s Big Conversations are Tackling the Homeless Crisis in California, Climate Vulnerability and Adaptation in California, and The Infrastructure Crisis.

The Big Conversations will be followed by sessions that explore each topic in further depth. Climate adaptation will address natural hazards, imminent threats, and urban-wildland issues, with equity implications of adaptation strategies. Housing topics will include new legal mandates, increasing housing supply, anticipating population growth and its impacts, and zoning for equity. Infrastructure discussions will include the American Jobs Plan as well as present some successful examples of adaptation being implemented in California cities. We are also excited that there will be a series of Career Path and Staff Development sessions that will be of interest to all attendees, whether you are early in your career or a mid-level planner or a manager.

Once again, the Diversity Summit will tackle a challenging topic. This year it is Tokenism. Attend the Summit for an authentic discussion about recognizing tokenism and incorporating best practices to avoid it. Other sessions will address integrating diversity, equity, and inclusion into our planning profession and practices.

**Law & Ethics CM:** The program includes relevant Law CM sessions in addition to the always well-attended Legislative Update and CEQA Update. The Ethics CM session will be highly informative: in addition to exploring some of APA National’s Ethics Cases of the Year, attendees will hear about upcoming changes to the AICP Code of Ethics. APA officers will also discuss two new mandated CM categories, Equity and Sustainability & Resilience, that will join the mandated Law and Ethics CM in 2022.

APA California wants all its members to feel a part of APA at all levels. To that end, representatives of APA National will attend our conference to chat with you and share exciting new initiatives.

And of course, there will be time for celebrating: the California Planning Foundation will be acknowledging excellent student achievements and the Chapter will be honoring distinguished plans and individuals at the Annual Awards Event.

While educational sessions will share the best of planning, there will be opportunities to socialize; we will again have chat rooms, and fun mixers are in the works. We hope to see you again at this year’s conference!

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<tr>
<td>Big Conversation #1: Tackling the Homeless Crisis in California</td>
<td>8:00 am - 9:30 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Planning for Equity and Inclusion Across California Megaregions</td>
<td>9:45 am - 11:15 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Delicate Balancing Act: Local Communities’ Interests and Need for Clean Energy Sources</td>
<td>10:00 am - 10:45 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Embracing AB686: Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing</td>
<td>10:00 am - 10:45 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reflection Reset: Professional Effectiveness in a Post-Pandemic, Anti-Racist Era</td>
<td>11:15 am - 12:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zoning For Equity: Will Ending Exclusionary Zoning Solve the Housing Crisis?</td>
<td>11:45 am - 1:15 pm</td>
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<td>The Oakland Eco-Block: A Community Driven Model to Develop Advanced Energy Communities</td>
<td>12:30 pm - 1:15 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Start Early! How to Engage Young People to Increase DEI in Planning</td>
<td>12:30 pm - 1:15 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spatially Visualizing California’s General Plans</td>
<td>12:30 pm - 1:15 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regional Planning for Resource Protection and Disaster Planning</td>
<td>1:45 pm - 3:15 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adapting to Housing Reform: How to Prepare Today to Avoid Unintended Consequences Tomorrow</td>
<td>1:45 pm - 2:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Successful Local Models for Sheltering the Homeless</td>
<td>1:45 pm - 2:30 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Updating Single Dwelling Unit Zoning</td>
<td>3:00 pm - 3:45 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Planning for Management: Transitioning from Technical Expert to Leadership</td>
<td>3:00 pm - 3:45 pm</td>
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<td>2021 Diversity Summit: Redefining Tokenism</td>
<td>4:15 pm - 5:45 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>CPF Awards and Trivia Night</td>
<td>6:00 pm - 8:00 pm</td>
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**September 14, 2021**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Big Conversation #2: Climate Vulnerability and Adaptation in California</td>
<td>8:00 am - 9:30 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Opportunities and Potholes for Planners in Implementing New State Housing Laws</td>
<td>9:45 am - 11:15 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Demolishing Freeways, Restoring Communities: New Legacy of Equitable Infrastructure Investment</td>
<td>10:00 am - 10:45 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>A Fireside Chat on the Future of Health and Planning</td>
<td>10:00 am - 10:45 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Designing Resilient Communities with Trees: An Introduction to the ‘Green Neighborhood’ Program</td>
<td>11:15 am - 12:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Betty Croly Lecture: Transforming California’s Cities Through Inclusive Historic Preservation</td>
<td>11:15 am - 12:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>It’s Getting Hot: Planning for California’s Wildfire Future</td>
<td>11:45 am - 1:15 pm</td>
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<td>Public Private Partnerships &amp; the New Surplus Land Act: How to Comply &amp; Achieve Your Planning Goals</td>
<td>12:30 pm - 1:15 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>APA Perspective on the American Jobs Plan</td>
<td>1:45 pm - 2:30 pm</td>
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<td>2021 CEQA Update</td>
<td>1:45 pm - 2:30 pm</td>
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<td>Leadership Skills to Advocate for and Facilitate Social Equity</td>
<td>1:45 pm - 3:15 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>SCAG’s Climate Adaptation Framework for Underserved Communities</td>
<td>3:00 pm - 3:45 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>CEQA Tips-and-Tricks in a Post-COVID-19 World</td>
<td>3:00 pm - 3:45 pm</td>
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<td>Driving Change Through Latinx Communities</td>
<td>3:45 pm - 5:15 pm</td>
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<td>Collaborative Regional Planning for Climate Resilience—A New Approach</td>
<td>4:15 pm - 5:45 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beyond the Urban Water Management Plan: Good Planning and Good Engineering</td>
<td>4:15 pm - 5:45 pm</td>
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**September 15, 2021**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Big Conversation #3: The Infrastructure Crisis</td>
<td>8:30 am - 10:00 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Evolution to Revolution: Development Trends Post Pandemic and Their Impact on California Planning</td>
<td>10:30 am - 12:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>2021 Legislative Update</td>
<td>10:30 am - 12:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ethics Cases of the Year: 2021</td>
<td>12:30 pm - 2:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Looking Forward/Looking Back—Is Governance Broken to Achieve Effective Planning?</td>
<td>12:30 pm - 2:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>APA California Chapter Awards Ceremony</td>
<td>2:30 pm - 4:00 pm</td>
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Register for the Conference Here
Students and Emerging Planners Program

Join APA California for our 2021 annual conference! We have an excellent program of sessions suited to a wide variety of planning interests and career goals. Conference registration includes access to all sessions, networking events, and programming.

SECTIONS WITH AN EMPHASIS ON STUDENTS AND EMERGING PLANNERS

California Planning Foundation Scholarship Awards and Trivia Night

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Join our virtual celebration to recognize and honor the 2021-22 California Planning Foundation (CPF) student scholarship recipients! The CPF awards ceremony will also feature a fun social hour and trivia night to celebrate scholarship recipients—get ready for planning trivia!

Students and Emerging Planners Networking Session

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

Join us for an interactive networking session that offers emerging planners and job seekers the opportunity to connect with fellow planners from a variety of experience levels, backgrounds, and planning interests! Come for advice on how to find valuable mentorship, career guidance, resume tips, and more. Planners of all experience levels are invited to attend.

Conference Registration Rates

Current Students and 2021 Graduates . . . $25
Young and Emerging Planner . . . . . . . . $125
Must be out of school for no more than 6 years

Volunteer for FREE Registration

The conference offers opportunities for students to virtually assist with sessions, tech support, and social media. Current students and 2021 graduates will receive complimentary registration to the conference after they have signed up and completed the required virtual orientation and training in early September, before the conference. Total time commitment is approximately 10 hours, including training.

Volunteer applications are due by Wednesday, August 25, 11:59 pm.

Career Path Planning/Staff Development Conference Track Sessions

As California emerges from the disruption associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, employers, employees, and prospective employees are focusing on how the planning profession recovers and adapts to the future. This year’s conference will feature a variety of sessions addressing key questions and challenges related to career path planning and staff development.

Full conference program, registration and sign up for your AFA membership here.
Conference Highlights Waiting for You

APA California 2021 Chapter Awards

The session will recognize the best in California planning through honoring and celebrating the communities, consultants, practitioners, and public that make great communities happen for all! The purpose of the APA California Awards Program is to encourage quality in planning and increase the public’s awareness of the planning profession by recognizing outstanding achievement in the planning field. The fast-paced program will include speaker introductions and honor each award-winning project and individual through educational videos that describe why the project was award worthy and give participants inspiration and ideas to take back to their communities and clients.

The awards program will cover the gamut of categories including recognition of national award winners, winners in all California award categories ranging from Comprehensive Plan through Planning Pioneer; special chapter awards, and individuals honored by the Planners Emeritus Network (PEN). Each award story will be told through a multimedia video and audio production with the entire program being moderated by the Chapter Vice President of Administration and Chapter Awards Coordinators.

Zoom Webinars and Remo

We are using two online meeting platforms for the virtual conference: Zoom Webinar and Remo Conference. Panel presentation and discussion sessions will use Zoom which includes audience interactive tools such as live Q&A, polling, and chat. Networking sessions will use Remo for maximum participant engagement and small table discussions. A Remo “hallway” will also be available for open networking throughout the conference with expo space reserved for our sponsors.

Sponsor the 2021 Conference!

Choose from various sponsorship levels and packages to highlight your firm or organization. The conference offers both promotional and interactive experiences for attendees and sponsors. All packages include virtual booth time to connect directly with attendees. Become a Premier or Elite sponsor by choosing a Keynote or Elite session for greater visibility at the conference. Additionally, all sponsors are included on a resource page on the conference website. Download the description of sponsorship opportunities and an application here.

Thank you for your support of APA California!
Students Volunteer for a FREE Conference Registration

The annual conference offers 50+ volunteer opportunities for students and emerging planners. Students and recent graduates (who graduated in May/June 2021) will receive complimentary registration to the conference after they’ve signed up and completed the necessary training. Volunteer opportunities will be September 13-15, with some time beginning in early September for volunteer training or outreach support. The total time commitment is approximately ten hours.

Volunteer opportunities include:

• Session Hosts: A host will be assigned to help with technical support and logistics for each session and networking event.

• Communications & Social Media: Volunteers will be responsible for taking notes of session highlights, developing social media posts to share with quotes or other relevant information from the conference, and other tasks as necessary.

• Tech Support Team: Volunteers will be responsible for helping participants that are having difficulties with accessing or using the remote platforms. There will be a generic tech help email that tech volunteers will monitor as well as a help phone line that participants can call.

• Pre-Conference Outreach: Volunteers will work with one of the eight APA California Sections to help with local conference promotion efforts, sending outreach materials to local employers and universities.

Group Registration

One free registration is available after the first 9 conference registrations from a single public agency or private firm are completed and paid in full. The minimum 9 registrations exclude student registrations and complimentary registrations included in sponsorship packages. Each agency/company must register their first 9 members online, NOT including registrations included in sponsorships.
Commission and Board Members

Special Message for Planning Directors and Commissioners

We are extremely pleased that the APA California 2021 Conference will offer a program that will be relevant and beneficial for commissioners, whether they are just beginning their appointment or are well-versed in serving on an advisory board. APA California values the important work of citizen planners and seeks to ensure that the conference meets the needs and interests of both practitioners and decision-makers. Over three days, on September 13-15, more than 35 outstanding sessions will be offered with over 80 speakers representing 70 public, private, nonprofit, and academic organizations. We are pleased that many creative and knowledgeable professionals are participating in this year’s program.

A discounted conference registration rate ($200) is available for current commissioners. Registration allows full access to ALL sessions, events, and activities. Additionally, sessions will be recorded for viewing after the conference until December 31, 2021, at no extra cost to registered attendees.

The conference theme is Changing Plans, Changing Planning, reflecting a program that will offer sessions ranging from “nuts and bolts” how-to-do-it subjects to the latest thinking and research on current planning policies and issues. The program covers diverse planning issues with five conference tracks: 1) Housing/Homelessness; 2) Adaptation, Resilience, and Sustainability; 3) Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; 4) Infrastructure/Transportation; and 5) Career Path Planning/Career Development.

While all sessions are suitable for commissioners, those of particular interest and relevance are suggested below, including three “Big Conversation” topics and several sessions targeted for commissioners. The conference concludes with the APA California 2021 Awards Ceremony which will recognize exceptional plans and projects from across the state.

- Big Conversation #1: Tackling the Homeless Crisis in California
- Big Conversation #2: Climate Vulnerability and Adaptation in California
- Big Conversation #3: The Infrastructure Crisis
- Planning Commissioner Roundtable Breakfast (Commissioner session)
- Resources for Becoming a Better Planning Commissioner (Commissioner session)
- Planning for Equity and Inclusion Across California Megaregions
- Zoning for Equity: Will Ending Exclusionary Zoning Solve the Housing Crisis?
- Updating Single Dwelling Unit Zoning
- Leadership Skills to Advocate for and Facilitate Social Equity
- Evolution to Revolution: Development Trends Post Pandemic and Their Impact on California Planning
- Looking Forward/Looking Back – Is Governance Broken to Achieve Effective Planning?

We warmly welcome the participation of all commission and board members at our conference!
Mobile App

The APA California 2021 Conference mobile app and online website version include all the information you will need for this event along with access to all the conference events. The app can be downloaded to your laptop, tablet, or smartphone. Alternatively, you can view the conference via the online website version. All functions, such as My Schedule, are the same whether viewed on the mobile app web-based version.

Past users may recall the two-step Verification Code process to access the app. This year we have added the requirement to provide your cell phone number during registration so that the Verification Code can be sent to both your email address and cell phone to ensure the code is received.

Keep an eye on your inbox for instructions on how to download the mobile app and access the online website version. We recommend downloading the mobile app or logging into the online website version one week before the conference to ensure frictionless interactions and to get acquainted with the app functions.

APA California 2021 Legislative Update

As California continues to face a housing crisis, coupled with record-breaking wildfires and other challenges due to the impacts of climate change, the Legislature’s focus on planning related issues translates into hundreds of bills year over year that are introduced. Join APA California’s Vice President for Policy & Legislation and Chapter Lobbyist to get an in-depth recap of the most important bills that passed during the 2021 legislative session along with other recent legislative developments. This session will provide a summary of requirements from recent legislation focused on upzoning, parking requirements, CEQA, hazard mitigation, housing production, and how enacted bills relate to existing law.

Reimagining Planning

inequitable communities. There’s much work to be done—but also a great opportunity.

As president of APA California’s Board of Directors for 2021-2022, my primary goal is to lay the infrastructure that will allow California’s planners, and the communities they serve, to flourish in the years to come. That means infrastructure for our organization—putting resources where they can meet strategic goals and serve you best—as well as forging better connections with partners and policy makers who share our goals. To meet the challenge, we have to continue broadening the definition of planner—beyond those who have planning degrees or work in planning firms and agencies, to those who may not call themselves “planners” but care about the same issues and work in similar spaces.

As a non-traditional planner myself (I’m currently a Senior Analyst in the Los Angeles Housing Department), I use each year’s conference as an opportunity to reflect and expand—to step away from my day-to-day duties and deadlines and think about the why of my work. Why do I continue to show up, stand up, and speak up in and for the planning community? What tools, resources, inspirations, and connections can I take away from these few days that will help me achieve my why?

I hope you can find and feed your why through this year’s offerings too. Thank you for reading this special issue of CalPlanner, and enjoy the conference!
Awards of Excellence and Awards of Merit were selected by a jury of our peers representing different fields of planning and different locations throughout the state. Submittals for state awards were first evaluated by the local Sections for their respective awards, making them quite exceptional!

We invite you to join us for the state awards ceremony during the annual Chapter conference this September, where we will recognize and celebrate the best in California planning. The purpose of the APA California Awards Program is to encourage quality in planning and increase the public’s awareness of the planning profession by recognizing outstanding achievement in the planning field.

**Awards of Excellence**

- **Opportunity and Empowerment Award** – West Athens-Westmont 10-Minute Walk Campaign, Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation
- **Comprehensive Plan Award (Large)** – Ventura County 2040 General Plan, Ventura County Resource Management Agency, Planning Division, County of Ventura, Resource Management Agency, Planning Division
- **Comprehensive Plan Award (Small)** – Elevate Beaumont 2040 (Beaumont General Plan Update), City of Beaumont
- **Innovation in Green Community Planning Award** – City of San Luis Obispo Climate Action Plan for Community Recovery, City of San Luis Obispo
- **Economic Planning and Development Award** – Impacts of Border Delays at California-Baja California Land Ports of Entry Study, San Diego Association of Governments
- **Transportation Planning Award** – Richmond Ferry to Bridge to Greenway Complete Streets Plan, City of Richmond
- **Best Practices Award** – City of San Jacinto Art in Public Places, City of San Jacinto
- **Public Outreach Award** – Santa Paula Youth Needs Assessment, City of Santa Paula Parks & Recreation Department
- **Urban Design Award** – Pismo Pier Plaza Revitalization, RRM Design Group
- **Planning Advocate Award** – John Jones III President and Co-Founder of East Side Riders Bike Club, East Side Riders Bike Club
- **Planning Agency Award** – City of Sacramento Planning Division, City of Sacramento
- **Advancing Diversity and Social Change in Honor of Paul Davidoff Award** – Dr. Destiny Thomas, Thrivance Group, Thrivance Group
- **Academic Award** – Community Priorities for the Alum Rock Avenue Corridor, Department of Urban & Regional Planning, San Jose State University

**Awards of Merit**

- **Hard-Won Victories Award** – City of Long Beach - Southeast Area Specific Plan, City of Long Beach
- **Opportunity and Empowerment Award** – The Town of Mammoth Lakes 2021 Parcel Master Plan, Town of Mammoth Lakes Community and Economic Development Department
- **Comprehensive Plan Award (Large)** – Northside Specific Plan, Rick Engineering Company (RICK) Planning + Design Division
- **Comprehensive Plan Award (Small)** – Kerman General Plan Update and Program EIR, Mintier Harnish & Rincon Consultants, Inc.
- **Innovation in Green Community Planning Award** – Significant Ecological Areas Ordinance Update, Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning
- **Economic Planning and Development Award** – City Heights Inclusive Economic Recovery and Resilience Agenda, Pueblo Planning
- **Transportation Planning Award** – Brea Connecting the Core Active Transportation Plan, City of Brea
- **Best Practices Award** – Mariposa County Recreation and Resiliency Plan, Mariposa County Planning Department
- **Grassroots Initiative Award** – Rebuilding our Downtown, a Community Led Initiative to Rebuild Santa Clara Downtown, Reclaiming Our Downtown
- **Public Outreach Award** – La Honda Public Access Working Group - Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District, Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District
- **Urban Design Award** – The Balboa Reservoir Design Standards and Guidelines, Van Meter Williams Pollock Architecture | Urban Design
- **Planning Advocate Award** – City of San Diego Planning Department, City of San Diego Planning Department
- **Advancing Diversity and Social Change in Honor of Paul Davidoff Award** – City of Long Beach Racial Equity & Reconciliation Initiative, City of Long Beach
- **Academic Award** – Transit Blues in the Golden State: Analyzing Recent California Ridership Trends, UCLA Institute of Transportation Studies
- **Communications Initiative Award** – Transfers Magazine, Pacific Southwest Region University Transportation Center
- **Hard-Won Victories Award** – City of Half Moon Bay Local Coastal Land Use Plan Update, City of Half Moon Bay

**Planning Pioneer Awards**

- **Martin Wachs, UCLA Institute of Transportation Studies**
- **Jack and Laura Dangermond, Esri**
Record Number of Scholarships Awarded to California Planning Students

Since 1970, the California Planning Foundation (CPF) has been a nonprofit, charitable organization established to further the professional practice of planning in California. CPF achieves this goal primarily by providing scholarships to college and university planning students in our state. CPF is awarding 47 scholarships totaling $71,000 to planning students this year, breaking last year’s all-time records of 45 scholarships and $70,000.

These scholarships are designed to help California planning students entering their final year of an undergraduate or master’s degree program. Scholarship criteria include academic performance, financial need, increasing diversity in the profession of planning, and a commitment to serve the planning profession in California.

In the past, CPF’s primary fundraising activities were the in-person CPF auction and raffle events at the Chapter’s annual conferences. However, due to these conferences going virtual in 2020 and 2021, we are now focused on raising funds directly through online donations via our website. Our goal is to raise $30,000 in 2021.

Several years ago, CPF kicked off a new endowment fundraising effort to create a second Diversity Scholarship to enhance our ongoing efforts to foster diversity and inclusion in the profession and to be responsive to the increasing needs of California planning students. The new scholarship is in line with APA’s Diversity and Inclusion Vision, Mission and Strategy and the AICP’s Code of Ethics.

Several new scholarships were created in 2020 and 2021 through dedicated donations and endowments. The Stanley R. Hoffman Memorial Scholarship was established after his untimely passing in July 2019. Through the generous donation from Dr. Isaac Martin, CPF was able to establish and fully fund the Black Voices in Planning at UC San Diego Scholarship. A new regional sustainability scholarship was also established this year.

Please join us on Monday, September 13, the first evening of the APA California 2021 Conference, for the CPF Scholarship Awards at 6:00 pm via Zoom to honor this year’s scholarship recipients. During the second half of the program, we’ll have a fun and entertaining trivia night that will test your knowledge of planning and offer the opportunity to network with others. This will be a free event with the Zoom link available on the CPF website in early September.

All APA California members are also CPF members, so please support students to help defray their planning education costs by donating here. On that webpage, you can select which category you would like your funds to help. Your gift is tax-deductible as CPF is a 501(c)(3), but more importantly, you are helping the future of our profession. Thank you! HW
mitigation, broadband infrastructure, climate resiliency, and planning have all been included in the budget and subsequent budget trailer bills. While California’s fiscal year started on July 1 with a placeholder budget, the Governor and legislative leadership reached a final agreement on the budget on July 12.

The overall structure of the agreement has been signed along with some trailer bills that implement specific provisions of the budget. The Legislature also passed a series of early action budget bills, including an eviction moratorium extension and initial funding related to wildfire mitigation. This year’s budget process has been very different than past budget cycles. With such a large surplus and a number of important policy issues California must tackle, particularly in light of COVID-19, working through the details has taken additional time. The Legislature and the Governor continue to work through the specifics of the budget and will have until the end of session on September 10 to pass all remaining cleanup and trailer bills. For more information, please see the Governor’s press release on the budget deal.

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

All position letters and the full list of bills being tracked by APA California are always available online. If you have thoughts on these bills, please continue to share them at policy@apacalifornia.org or join APA California’s Legislative Review Team. We also encourage members to use our position letter template for your own jurisdiction/company to support the Chapter’s positions on bills, which is available on our new resources page.

Plan California – The Chapter’s Legislative Platform

The Chapter’s official legislative Platform, “Plan California,” was updated and adopted by the Board earlier this year. The Chapter adopts a new Platform prior to the start of each two-year legislative session,
Housing/Coordinated Planning

**AB 91 (Ting)**
Extends the moratorium on evictions for non-payment of rent due to COVID-19 financial hardship to June 30, 2021.
Position: Support
Status: Signed by the Governor

**AB 140 (Budget Trailer Bill)**
Provides for several statutory changes necessary to implement the housing and homelessness provisions of the Budget Act of 2021.
Position: Support
Status: On the Governor’s Desk

**AB 215 (Chiu)**
Requires jurisdictions with low progress towards meeting their RHNA to have a mid-cycle housing element consultation with HCD and adopt pro-housing policies.
Position: Concerns
Status: Senate Appropriations Committee

**AB 345 (Quirk-Silva)**
Requires jurisdictions to allow separate conveyance of ADUs owned by nonprofits.
Position: Support
Status: Senate Appropriations Committee

**AB 500 (Ward)**
Requires housing opportunities for persons of low and moderate income to be protected, encouraged, and, where feasible, provided by the California Coastal Act of 1976. Requires local governments within the coastal zone to adopt streamlining of permitting related to ADUs and supportive housing projects.
Position: Review Amendments
Status: Senate Governance and Finance Committee - will be heard after policy committee deadline

**AB 561 (Ting)**
Allows the State Treasurer to establish and administer the Help Homeowners Add New Housing Program to assist homeowners in qualifying for loans to construct ADUs and JADUs.
Position: Support
Status: Senate Appropriations Committee

**AB 721 (Bloom)**
Makes restrictive covenants that limit the number or size of units and the number of residents that may reside on a property unenforceable if a property owner is developing a 100% affordable housing development.
Position: Support
Status: Senate Appropriations Committee

**AB 787 (Gabriel)**
Authorizes cities and counties to receive credit towards their RHNA for the conversion of above moderate-income units to very low-, low-, and moderate-income units.
Position: Support
Status: Senate Appropriations Committee

**AB 803 (Boerner-Horvath)**
Creates the Starter Home Revitalization Act of 2021, which authorizes a development proponent to submit an application for the construction of a small home lot development, if certain conditions are met.
Position: Watch
Status: Senate Appropriations Committee

**AB 816 (Chiu)**
Creates the Office of the Housing and Homelessness Inspector General to create accountability for state and local actions to address homelessness, imposes new requirements on local governments to develop actionable plans, and creates a public right of action to compel compliance with those new plans.
Position: Watch
Status: Senate Appropriations Committee
Suspense File

Stay Connected on APA California Legislative Activities

The Chapter has recently updated the Legislation page of the APA California website. Members are encouraged to visit this page for up-to-date information related to Chapter legislative activities, which include:
- APA California position letters submitted to the Legislature
- APA California’s “hot bill” list with up-to-date information on all legislation on all legislation being tracked by APA California
- Tools and resources to get involved and support the Chapter’s advocacy efforts as well as at the Section level
- APA National’s legislative program tools and information
- Amicus Curiae Committee briefs

Don’t forget to join us online at the upcoming Chapter Conference on Wednesday, September 15, for a full recap of the 2021 Legislative Session.
### Legislative Update

#### AB 989 (Gabriel)
Creates the Housing Accountability Committee at HCD to receive appeals from developers when a housing development is denied by a local government, and to approve the development if the denial violates the provisions of the Housing Accountability Act.

**Position:** Neutral as Amended  
**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee

#### AB 1029 (Mullin)
Adds preservation of affordable housing units as a pro-housing policy.

**Position:** Support  
**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee

#### AB 1398 (Bloom)
Requires expedited rezoning for local jurisdictions that fail to adopt a legally compliant housing element within 120 days of the statutory deadline and makes expedited rezoning a pro-housing policy.

**Position:** Watch  
**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee

#### ACA 1 (Aguiar-Curry)
Proposes to amend the California Constitution, subject to approval by voters at a statewide election, to allow a city, county, or special district, with 55% voter approval, to incur bonded indebtedness or impose specified taxes to fund projects for affordable housing, permanent supportive housing, or public infrastructure.

**Position:** Support  
**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee

#### SB 8 (Skinner)
Extends the sunset on the Housing Crisis Act of 2019 by five years, to January 1, 2030, and makes various other changes.

**Position:** Watch  
**Status:** Assembly Appropriations Committee

#### SB 9 (Atkins)
Requires ministerial approval of a housing development of no more than two units in a single-family zone and the subdivision of a parcel zoned for residential use into two parcels, or both.

**Position:** Support  
**Status:** Assembly Appropriations Committee

#### SB 10 (Wiener)
Authorizes a city or county to pass an ordinance to zone any parcel for up to 10 units of residential density, at a height specified by the local government in the ordinance, if the parcel is located in a transit-rich area or an urban infill site.

**Position:** Support  
**Status:** Assembly Appropriations Committee

#### SB 290 (Skinner)
Makes several changes to Density Bonus Law to expand incentives for developing moderate-income housing, including providing an incentive or concession for specified student housing developments that include lower-income units.

**Position:** Support  
**Status:** Assembly Appropriations Committee

#### SB 297 (Wiener)
Extends the sunset on the Housing Crisis Act of 2019 by five years, to January 1, 2030, and makes various other changes.

**Position:** Watch  
**Status:** Assembly Appropriations Committee

#### SB 728 (Hertzberg)
Authorizes a qualified nonprofit housing organization to purchase a for-sale unit under Density Bonus Law.

**Position:** Support  
**Status:** On the Assembly Floor

#### SCA 2 (Allen)
Proposes to place an initiative on the ballot in 2022 to repeal Article 34 of the California Constitution, which requires a majority approval by the voters of a city or county for the development, construction, or acquisition of a publicly funded low-rent housing project.

**Position:** Support  
**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee

#### SB 477 (Wiener)
Prohibits a local government from imposing specified minimum floor-to-area ratio (FAR) standards on housing projects of 3-10 units.

**Position:** Support  
**Status:** Assembly Appropriations Committee

#### SB 478 (Wiener)
Requires OPR to facilitate the creation of regional climate networks and create standards for the development of a regional climate adaptation action plan to support the implementation of regional climate adaptation efforts.

**Position:** Support  
**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee

#### SB 479 (Wiener)
Requires OPR to facilitate the creation of regional climate networks and create standards for the development of a regional climate adaptation action plan to support the implementation of regional climate adaptation efforts.

**Position:** Support  
**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee

#### SB 585 (L. Rivas)
Establishes the Extreme Heat and Community Resilience Program within OPR to coordinate the state’s efforts to address extreme heat and to facilitate the implementation of regional and state climate change planning into effective programs.

**Position:** Support  
**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee

#### SB 897 (Mullin)
Requires OPR to facilitate the creation of regional climate networks and create standards for the development of a regional climate adaptation action plan to support the implementation of regional climate adaptation efforts.

**Position:** Support  
**Status:** Senate Appropriations Committee
Infrastructure, Services, and Fees

**AB 537 (Quirk)**
Makes changes to existing law that requires an application for a wireless telecommunications facility to be deemed approved.

*Position: Neutral as Amended*
*Status: Senate Appropriations Committee*

**AB 571 (Mayes)**
Prohibits a city or county from charging affordable housing impact fees on a housing development’s affordable units.

*Position: Support as Amended*
*Status: Senate Appropriations Committee*

**AB 602 (Grayson)**
Adds new requirements to impact fee nexus studies, including the adoption of a capital improvement plan for projects above a specified threshold, requires cities and counties to request certain information from development proponents, and requires HCD to develop a nexus study template.

*Position: Oppose Unless Amended*
*Status: Senate Appropriations Committee*

**SB 156 (Budget Trailer Bill)**
Provides the statutory framework to implement the broadband provisions contained in the 2021 Budget Package.

*Position: Support*
*Status: On the Governor’s Desk*

**SB 378 (Gonzalez)**
Requires local governments to allow fiber installers to use microtrenching as a method for installing fiber unless the local government makes a specified finding that permitting microtrenching would adversely impact public health and safety.

*Position: Support if Amended*
*Status: Assembly Appropriations Committee*

Hazards and Hazard Mitigation

**AB 642 (Friedman)**
Makes various changes to support cultural and prescribed fire, requires CAL FIRE to identify moderate and high fire hazard severity zones through updating maps, and expands fire safety building standards.

*Position: Support*
*Status: Senate Appropriations Committee*

**SB 63 (Stern)**
Makes various changes to enhance fire prevention efforts by CAL FIRE, including improved vegetation management and expanding the areas where enhanced fire safety building standards apply.

*Position: Support*
*Status: Assembly Appropriations Committee*

**SB 85 (Committee on Budget)**
Provides early action budget funding for wildfire mitigation.

*Position: Support*
*Status: Signed by the Governor*

**SB 356 (Dodd)**
Estabishes permitting requirements for the placement of small wireless facilities on streetlight and traffic signal poles owned by local governments, including specified timelines for approving and attaching infrastructure, limitations on fees for attachments, and restrictions on local governments’ ability to prohibit small wireless facility attachments.

*Position: Review Amendments*
*Status: Assembly Appropriations Committee*

**CEQA**

**AB 819 (Levine)**
Requires CEQA notices and environmental review documents to be filed electronically and posted online.

*Position: Support as Amended*
*Status: On the Governor’s Desk*

**SB 7 (Atkins)**
Reenacts and revises the expedited CEQA administrative and judicial review procedures established by the Jobs and Economic Improvement Through Environmental Leadership Act (AB 900, 2011) for environmental leadership development projects and expands AB 900 eligibility to include smaller housing projects.

*Position: Watch*
*Status: Signed by the Governor*

**SB 37 (Cortese)**
Updates statutes regarding a consolidated list of hazardous waste sites and hazardous substances sites (Cortese List) and prohibits use of the “common sense” exemption for any project on a Cortese List site.

*Position: Review*
*Status: Assembly Appropriations Committee*

**SB 44 (Allen)**
Estabishes expedited administrative and judicial review of environmental review and approvals granted for environmental leadership transit projects that meet specified requirements.

*Position: Watch*
*Status: Assembly Appropriations Committee*
The boards of APA California and the California Planning Foundation (CPF) have partnered with APA National to administer our 2021 elections. Running for position are:

President Elect
• Andrea J. Ouse, AICP

Vice-President for Administration
• Lisa Lind, AICP

Vice-President for Diversity and Equity
• Juan F. Borrelli, AICP
• Derek R. Hull
• Ali Mir

Vice-President for Marketing and Membership
• Krzysztof Sadlej, AICP
• Katie Witherspoon, AICP

Vice-President for Professional Development
• Jerome Keene

California Planning Foundation Board of Directors
• Kim L. Prillhart, AICP
• Chelsea Richer, AICP
• Christopher Williamson, AICP, PhD
• Questa Gleason

Go here to review the candidate position statements.

The following positions can be found on the national ballot which you can access when signed in to vote for the APA California Chapter board.

APA Director, Region 6
• Kristen Asp, AICP
• Jeremy Klop, AICP

AICP Commissioner, Region 6
• Miroo Desai, AICP
• Cynthia Albright, FAICP CUD, GISP

Voting is open through
August 20, 2021, 11:59 pm (PDT).

Cast your vote here!

You will be asked to log in using your APA/APA California six-digit member ID number and the unique password that was emailed to you on July 23, 2021, to access your personalized ballot. To have your login information emailed to you, enter your email address on file with APA in the box here.

Problems logging in to vote? Go here if you have any login issues.

Do not contact APA California support.

All newly elected officers will take office on January 1, 2022, and serve two-year terms through December 31, 2023.

AICP certification brings value to your career, the organization you work for, and the communities you serve. Do you want to demonstrate your expertise, show your commitment to professional ethics, distinguish yourself in the job market, and keep your planning skills in tip-top shape? Good news! Getting AICP-certified is simpler and more flexible than ever.

APA is rolling out a new, enhanced platform for the AICP certification process. To ensure a smooth experience for applicants, the winter application window will open January 5, 2022.

November 2021 AICP Certification Cycle Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Application Deadline</th>
<th>Final Application Deadline</th>
<th>October 4, 2021, 3:00 pm CT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exam Dates</td>
<td>Exam Registration Opens</td>
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<td>Exam Registration &amp; Transfer Deadline</td>
<td>October 29, 2021, 3:00 pm CT</td>
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November 2021 AICP Certification Cycle Fees*

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<tr>
<th>Fee Description</th>
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<td>Application Fee</td>
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<td>Planning Experience Essay Fee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Expedited Essay Review</td>
<td>$290</td>
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<td>AICP Exam Registration Fee</td>
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<tr>
<td>AICP Exam Transfer Fee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Planning Experience Essay Appeal Fee</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*All fees are non-refundable

Additional information here.
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, 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 Ellie Fiore at information@apacalifornia.org.
PLANNING SERVICES DIRECTORY

Calling card advertisements support the publication of CalPlanner. For more information on placing a calling card announcement and to receive format specifications, contact:
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Keep Updated

Keep up to date with all the Chapter news, activities, programming and professional education as well as the state conference by visiting their websites and the Chapter’s Facebook page and discussion group. Also, remember your local Section’s website and other media platforms are an additional resource.