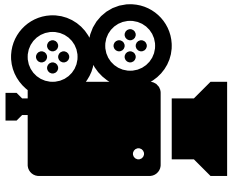


Planner Emeritus Network (PEN)

ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

Project Overview

What is the mission of the Oral History Project?



The mission of the Oral History Project (“Project”) is two-fold: 1) to profile, respect, and increase the awareness of planning pioneers; and 2) to inform, provoke thought, stimulate interest, and elicit action on important planning topics. To accomplish the Project mission, interviews or sessions will be recorded with prominent leaders and role models, which can be professional planners or non-planners, that have made significant contributions to California planning or the planning profession.

Additionally, the Project supports the following goals in PEN’s mission statement:

- Recognize and honor accomplished California planners and other individuals whose career achievements and contributions to the profession demonstrate excellence in planning and offer aspirational role models for planners; and
- Document and preserve California’s diverse planning history and resources to learn from the past and further the growth and evolution of the planning profession.

What are the Project objectives?

- Enrich and supplement the APA California Chapter Archives with recordings that will offer reflections on groundbreaking California plans, projects, legislation, or milestones pertaining to land use, transportation, economics, environment, and social issues.
- Enrich and supplement the APA California Chapter Archives with recordings that provide personal insights about the history of APA California Chapter and its affiliate organizations.
- Through storytelling, add a human dimension to California planning and the profession through recorded conversations with California planning leaders about their values, guiding principles, careers, and accomplishments.
- Coordinate with related programs and initiatives of APA California’s Chapter and Section Historians and affiliate organizations.

Who are potential interviewees or panelists?



- Prominent APA California Chapter or Section Presidents and Directors
- Accomplished leaders in California planning (state, regional, or local)
- Widely recognized subject matter experts
- Prominent planning advocates/activists/legislators (non-planners)
- Planners representing the diversity of the profession

What are possible themes and topics for the recordings?

Personal Focus:

- Profiles of inspiring accomplished individuals and role models that have impacted California planning and the planning profession.
- Reflections on professional accomplishments, careers choices and challenges, planning values and ethics, and/or the status and future of planning.
- Inspirational personal stories, such as confronting career-defining challenges

Subject Focus:

- Groundbreaking state, regional and local plans, projects, or programs that have transformed or advanced California planning.
- Major planning trends or milestone legislation that have defined and shaped California planning history, including reflecting on mistakes or lessons learned.
- Communities or populations that have been beneficially or adversely impacted by historic California planning actions and practices.
- Contrasting perspectives on the past, present, and future of planning.
- Human factors (human nature, societal aspects/impact)

Who is the intended audience?



- California planners (all levels)
- Planning students
- Allied professionals (e.g., architects, landscape architects, transportation planners)
- Subject matter specialists (e.g., economics, urban design, transportation, housing, environment, planning law)
- Educators and researchers
- State and local policy/decision-makers

Please contact Hanson Hom, FAICP, at hansonapa@gmail.com to suggest individuals to interview and session ideas. We also highly welcome volunteers.

Thank you!