Volume 11, Number 9 APA November 1993

NORTHERN NEWS

A Publication of the Northern Section, California Chapter, American Planning Association

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Attend the 1993 Legislative Update for All the Latest on Planning-Related Law

Co-sponsored by the California Chapter and Northern Section of the American Planning Association, and the Association of Bay Area Governments Training Center.

Presented by CCAPA's indomitable lobbyist, **Sande George**:

- Was there really CEQA reform?
- Did growth management pass?
- What's happening with HCD's proposed Housing Element reform?
- How to implement new laws: Fish and Game fees, billboards, tree ordinances, endangered and threatened species, redevelopment, development fees, general plans, and inclusionary zoning.
- What's coming up next year: "Taking" bills, local permit streamlining, and much more!
- What are the courts doing to affect planning?

Also: *Regionalization:* A panel representing several regional agencies will discuss how regionalization will affect their work and local governments.

Conference fee includes a copy of CCAPA's comprehensive report, ***Legislative Year in Review.***

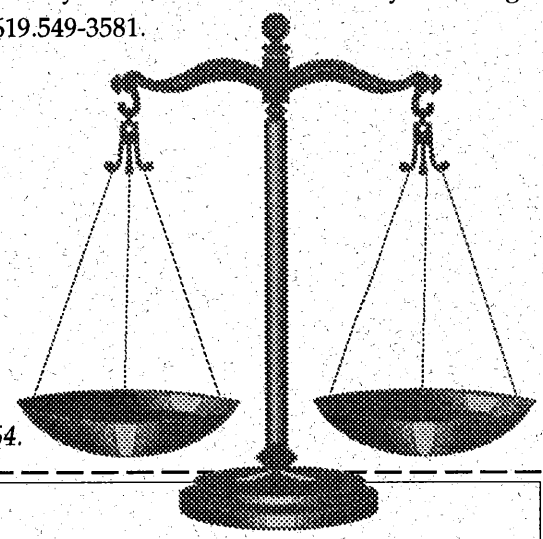
Date: Monday, December 6, 1993.

Time: Registration, 8:30 to 9 AM; finish at 4 PM. Refreshments will be served; lunch is on your own.

Cost: $55 pre-registered prior to Novermber 30; $75 at the door, or for non-APA Members.

Location: ABAG/MetroCenter, 101 Eighth Street, Oakland. Opposite the Lake Merrit BART Station

Info: Wendy Cosin, 415.738-7341; or Skye Fleming, 619.549-3581.



For information on other programs by the ABAG Training Center, call 510.464-7964.

Registration Form

Name(s) _____ Address _____

Title _____ City _____

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Day Phone (____) _____

_____ APA Member, registered before 11/30 ($55)
_____ Registration after 11/30, or non-member ($75)
_____ Student or Planning Commissioner ($40)
$_____ Total enclosed

Please mail check payable to "CCAPA" to:
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Please do not send credit card numbers or purchase orders. CCAPA will not bill for this workshop. Check must accompany this registration form.

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DIRECTOR'S CORNER

by Steve Noack

On October 23, the Northern Section Board held its annual retreat to plan for 1994. Most of the time was spent discussing ways to increase membership involvement in APA at the local level. We know that people like to attend events which are relatively local and low cost. We also know that our newsletter is the primary information source for Northern Section's activities and should provide more of a focus on planners and projects within the Northern Section boundaries (which extend along the coast from Monterey County to Del Norte County).

Knowing that our focus should be on local activities, the Board has agreed in concept to a restructuring resulting in the formation of five regional sub-groups, each with three people responsible for planning activities and feeding stories to the newsletter editor. Other changes in the board structure, such as the number and type of elected versus appointed positions, are also proposed.

The new structure will be presented to the Board at the next scheduled meeting, Thursday, December 2. At that time we will also begin the process of amending the by-laws to reflect the restructuring. Visitors are welcome to the meeting, which will be held at the offices of Woodward-Clyde Consultants, 500 12th Street, Suite 100, Oakland. The meeting will begin at 6 PM. Please call me at 510.874-3156 if you are planning to attend.

The Board has also agreed to update the format of the newsletter and explore options for expanding the content while maintaining the current costs. Watch for a new look in 1994!

For Those "In the Know"

The 1994 APA Conference Portfolio Committee needs you! Our committee is charged with the task of developing a visitor guide for the estimated 4,000 planners that will descend on San Francisco during the National Conference next April. We are seeking assistance from planners with a knack for offbeat restaurant reviews, night club guides, travel and transit tips, walking tours and Bay Area trivia. If you'd like to help, contact Barry Miller at 510.845-2404.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE DESIGN COMPETITION STILL OPEN!

A creative design competition is open to artists and designers for imprinted merchandise to be offered at the **1994 American Planning Association National Conference**. The conference, to be held in San Francisco in April 1994, will be hosted by the Northern Section of the California Chapter, APA. The ideal design will incorporate a regional theme into fun, lively artwork to print on apparel and other souvenir items. The selected designer will receive recognition in conference materials, as well as free merchandise imprinted with the design. The submission deadline is **November 19, 1993**. Please contact D. Paul Tuttle at Tuttle & Associates, 510.653-9597 for additional information.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Please send all information concerning changes of subscription address to:

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SUBMITTAL DEADLINE

Materials for the December/January issue must be received no later than December 1:

Steven Buckley
3871 Piedmont Avenue, Box 9
Oakland, CA 94611
Phone: 510.540-7331
Fax: 510.540-7344

Houston-Style Zoning, A Northern Section Event

Hear the inside scoop on why Houston wants zoning, how they fared all these years without it, what Houston-style zoning means, and how a national consulting team led by Michael Dyett, principal of Blayney-Dyett in San Francisco, worked with local officials and a broad-based Zoning Strategies Committee on an ordinance that the City Council unanimously adopted in September. An early November referendum on the ordinance will decide whether Houston will actually have zoning, so we will have an update for the meeting adding yet another chapter to the Houston story.

It was voted down!

Date: Thursday, November 18.

Time: 6:30 PM - 8 PM.

Cost: $5 at the door, wine and cheese.

Location: Orinda Community Center (Room 2), 26 Orinda Way. A short walk from the Orinda BART Station. Map mailed/faxed upon request.

Info: Brian Millar or Parke Patterson

City of Orinda, 510.254-8015. ***Please RSVP.***

Holiday Party to be Held at Treasure Island Museum

This year's APA Northern Section Holiday Party will be held at the Museum at the Treasure Island Naval Station in San Francisco Bay. The island is located at the geographic center of the Bay and features spectacular views of San Francisco, the Golden Gate, and the Marin Hills. The museum itself is an historical landmark and is one of the only remaining structures from the 1939 International Exposition.

The Naval Station is scheduled to close during the next few years and plans and proposals for its re-use have already begun to generate controversy. Will it become an "eco-politically correct" city linked by ferries to the mainland? A casino and berth for cruise ships? A center for science and technology? Come see for yourself the site that's been touted as the potential model for military base conversion. The APA has arranged to have the entire Treasure Island Museum to ourselves for an evening of fun, food, drink and music.

The party will take place on the evening of **Thursday, December 16, from 6 PM to 9 PM.** The party offers an opportunity to meet other planning professionals, chat with friends and colleagues after work, and enjoy good food and drink in an historic setting. Our caterers are promising a great spread of light hors d'oeuvres and snacks. Arrangements for music are also being made.

The cost for the party is **$10 in advance, $15 at the door.** Students and planners "between jobs" will be admitted for $7.50 if payment is received in advance. To make your reservations, clip the form below and mail it with your check to the address shown. You can also make reservations by leaving a message for Barry Miller at 510.854-2404. Please act quickly so that we can make appropriate catering arrangements.

To reach Treasure Island Museum, take the Bay Bridge from either end and take the "Treasure Island" exit at mid-span. Coming from either direction, the exit is in the left lane (if coming from the East Bay, bear right at the first fork). The Museum is just beyond the guard station at the bottom of the hill. Parking is available in front of the museum. To reach the island by transit, take the "T" AC Transit bus from the TransBay Terminal in San Francisco, or from 14th/Broadway in downtown Oakland.

RESERVATION FORM

YES! I would like to attend the APA Northern Section Holiday Party at Treasure Island, December 16, 6 PM to 9 PM.

Mail check to:
APA Holiday Party
3871 Piedmont Avenue, Box 205
Oakland, CA 94611.

_____ Persons, Advance Admission $10.00
_____ Persons, Student/Others $7.50

Enclosed is my check for $ _____

Events

Northern Section Events

These events are coordinated by members of the Northern Section and are provided as a resource for updates on local activities, topical interests, professional development opportunities, and networking. Please consider supporting those who have spent time organizing the events, and get to know more Northern Section planners by attending, getting involved with the Board, or hosting something you find interesting. Give the professional development coordinator or your local liaison a call (listed on page 2) for more information.

Houston-Style Zoning

This month's special event, hosted by Northern Section APA. See the front page for details.

Date: Thursday, November 18.

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Cost: $5 at the door, wine and cheese.

Location: Orinda Community Center (Room 2), 26 Orinda Way. A short walk from the Orinda BART Station. Map mailed/faxed upon request.

Info: Brian Millar or Parke Patterson City of Orinda, 510.254-8015.

Please RSVP.

Creating Communities for the 21st Century in Silicon Valley

Andres Duany and Michael Freedman, well known architects and planners, as well as noted planning directors J. Gary Lawrence, City of Seattle, and Gary Schoennauer, City of San Jose, will be featured speakers at an all day symposium coordinated by the Institute for Metropolitan Studies, in cooperation with the Housing Action Coalition and Joint Venture: Silicon Valley. Co-sponsors include Northern Section APA, and the Santa Clara Manufacturing Group. Other speakers will include Earl Blumenhauer, Portland, Oregon, City Commissioner; Richard Carlston, economist; and Gary Ryness, leading expert in residential marketing. Brad Inman, newspaper columnist, will moderate a panel of all speakers focusing on the promise and difficulties in creating a different type of community for the 21st century.

Date: Friday, December 3.

Time 8 AM - 5:15 PM.

Location: San Jose State University, Student Union.

RSVP/Info: Scott Lafaver, San Jose State Univ., 408.924-5853, or Santa Clara Manufacturing Group, 408.496-6801.

Upcoming International Planning Event

NSCCAPA is organizing an International Planning event to be held in January, co-sponsored by the San Francisco AIA. This time we will travel to Asmara in the newly formed nation of Eritrea, Africa. Don Bradley and Jacques de Brer spent the month of May in Asmara working on a land use plan and CBD and government complex plans for the city. Asmara was established in the days when Eritrea was part of Ethiopia and Ethiopia was an Italian colony. Don and Jacques will present a slide show of the city and discuss their work in Asmara. The tentative date for the event is **January 19th or 20th**, and we hope to meet in the AIA headquarters in San Francisco. Please refer to the December/January issue of *Northern News* for details.

From the Far North

by Lia Sullivan, AICP

The County of Humboldt and Cities of Eureka and Arcata hosted a one-day planning conference entitled Building Livable Communities, on Saturday, October 23 at the College of the Redwoods in Eureka. This was the first of the new Gregory K. Bish Planning Conference Series, commemorating the County Planning Commissioner who recently died in an "ultralite" plane crash. Greg was a well-liked and hard-working local contractor and developer who made many valuable contributions to planning liveable communities, bringing the development and design communities together.

It was also a follow-up seminar on regional planning, based on last year's conference that introduced participants to the importance and "do-ability" of making new development "liveable" in our sparsely populated (relatively speaking) but growing area. This year's conference explored specific factors such as planning designs, energy efficiency, realtors' perspectives on liveable multi-family development, financing, dealing with development pressures, and protecting rural character. Speakers included Tom Phillips of the Seattle design firm A. Nelessen Associates; Pacific Gas & Electric Company (also sponsoring the event); the Humboldt County Board of Realtors; Larry Pierce of Bank of America; Kathy Moxon of the Arcata Economic Development Corporation; and T. Keith Gurnee of RRM Design Group.

JOBS IN PLANNING

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Req. PhD (ABD may be considered), or prof. Masters Degree and considerable/varied prof. planning exper. Strongly prefer: At least one degree in urban, regional, or environmental planning; Evidence of effective teaching; and Public planning agency exper. Prefer expertise in planning law, urban design, land use and environmental planning, growth management, transportation, housing, site planning, computer applications, graphic communications. Review of applications between Dec. 15, 1993 and Jan. 15, 1994. Contact Dr. Steven C. Orlick, Search Committee Chair, Dept. of Envir. Studies and Planning, Sonoma State Univ., Rohnert Park, CA 94928. Phone 707.664-2306. An AA/EO Institution. Please refer to #020-94/95.

→ DOES THIS MEAN TONY NELESSEN HAS LEFT OTHERS?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

As stated in the commentary in this issue of the *Northern News*, planners are "on the front lines" in many arenas, often when we have private opinions that cannot directly affect the discussion or outcome of decisions.

The *News* can provide an outlet for just such opinion, as well as humor and personal experiences (see Planlines), critiques of projects and plans, book reviews, professional practice, etc.

Consider your contribution to the profession (and maybe gain some notoriety) by sending articles to:

Steven Buckley
Newsletter Editor
3871 Piedmont Avenue, Box 9
Oakland, CA 94611.

WANTED!

New AICP Members

The 1994 exam is coming up sooner than you may think.

Please note these **important dates:**
Application Deadline:
January 7, 1994.
Final Registration Date:
March 25, 1994.
Test Date: Saturday, May 14, 1994.

Applications are available from:
American Institute of Certified Planners
1776 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20036
(202) 872-0611

AICP Study Guides and the **CCAPA Supplement** can be ordered by mailing a check for $25 (payable to "CCAPA") to:

AICP Exam Study Guide
California Chapter APA
1333 36th Street
Sacramento, CA 95841

Teacher Should Become Student

Commentary by Steve Matarazzo

Perhaps Bill Fulton was only trying to invoke a little energy from a tired bunch of planners early in the morning at the recent State APA conference in Modesto, but maybe not. Maybe Bill was actually serious calling us a bunch of prostitutes that never stood up for our convictions, fearful of biting the hand at the public trough that feeds us. If so (and I think he was serious as I saw no tongue in cheek), our only response should be: "Bill, you shouldn't be teaching at UCSB, you should be one of the students!"

Please Bill, in your next text on urban planning, keep in mind the following truths:

1. Planners in local government are not elected.
2. The United States has established a representative form of government where elected officials, through popular vote, are supposed to represent the various factions of their constituency and vote on the issues accordingly.
3. The elected officials make policy, not the administrative planners. The planners posit professional advice, based in part on established policy of the governing body.

Bill should also attend more public hearings on contested issues at the local level, such as redevelopment, affordable housing, and roadway extensions which encroach upon existing neighborhoods, and then determine if we are not slightly more noble than he would admit. In the midst of a sea of nameless, faceless bureaucrats, it is more often than not the name and face of the urban planner that is plastered on page one of the local newspaper, trying to reach some kind of compromise from non-compromising sides of an important issue.

So Bill, if you are going to continue to teach at my alma mater, please be kinder and gentler to a profession that is really trying to help preserve the good qualities of the present and shape the ever-changing conditions of the future. Or, at least give us equal time.

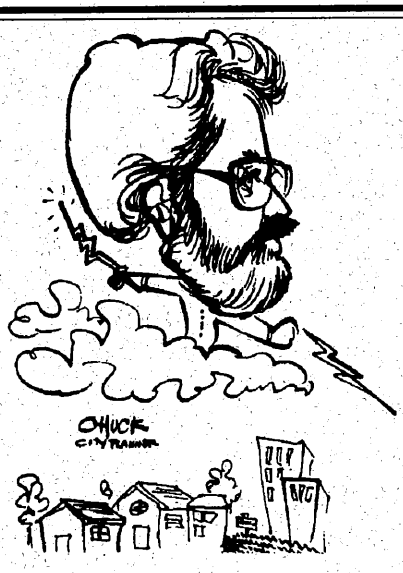
INTERNATIONAL NEWS

by Steve Wanat, NSCCAPA International Liaison

In September I made a return trip to Berlin to follow up on a previous trip I made as a student 30 years ago. The city is fascinating: The eastern side rebuilt under the communists along Corbusian planning and design principles, and the western side rebuilt by the capitalists to showcase the superiority of that economic system.

I also travelled to Prague, which was untouched by WWII and preserved during almost 40 years of communist administration. It is a must-see for lovers of old cities, but the large numbers of tourists (mostly from Germany) and the street vendors tend to detract from the overall feeling of the city.

Some of the most interesting places were the former East German cities of Dresden and Leipzig. Construction and rehabilitation of buildings is going on at a brisk pace. I would say planners and architects in Germany are not feeling the recession as we are here in California!



PLANLINES

by Chuck Myer, AICP

The Other Awards

As usual, they didn't have time for ALL of the planning awards at the recent State Conference, so I guess it's up to me to report on the rest.

LONGEVITY AWARD

Eric Carruthers recently retired from the Santa Clara County Planning Department after 35 years. Let's see, 1958: That was before Santa Clara was a saint. When Mountain View was Hill View. When Morgan Hill was Morgan Mound. What I thought was a hilarious dinner invitation, I am told, was not originally intended to be funny, but turned out otherwise: "Join a celebration to make our community a better place to live upon the retirement of Eric Carruthers." Whatever the case, Eric, congratulations, you did reach that goal.

WORST PR FROM THE TV ARCHIVES

With the popularity of the Harrison Ford film remake of "The Fugitive," NBC dredged out the record-breaking finale of the TV series for a rerun after 15 years. Although we all know the murderer was the one-armed man (no relation to our esteemed Novato colleague, Brian Mattson), the real villain of the two-part segment "The Judgement" was the spineless "city planning commissioner" who mutely witnessed Mrs. Kimble's murder, kept mum and covered up the whole affair. Why? For "fear of losing his great job at City Hall" which he had been given "as repayment for being a war hero." Wonderful.

WORST PR FROM THE NEWSRACKS

We're so glad the Sacramento area "planner" who owns a Jeep Cherokee is proud enough to have "OUR PLAN" on his license plate. He must have been even prouder to have the plate flashed on the front page recently. Unfortunately, the photo was detailing the fact that he had just hit a 13-year-old bicyclist during Bicycle Helmet Campaign Week.

BEST MEA CULPA

From Ray Vignola (Antioch Director of Planning, and author of a new book on street games): (Quoted while genuflecting?) "Bless Me, Oh Wise One, it has been ten years since my last General Plan."

MOST "MOVING" PUBLIC ART AWARD

In July, San Francisco street crews blew out a few dolly tires moving the 100-year-old Pioneer Monument from the Civic Center to make way for the new library. What's the matter, fellas, it only weighs 1,000 tons! But at least they didn't lose it: Officials for the City of Brea were red-faced when four of their public artworks disappeared this summer. News anchors statewide reported the "theft," only to learn a few days later that a vacationing official had had them sent in for cleaning.

STRANGE BEDFELLOWS AWARD

To the registration staff at the Red Lion Inn in Modesto. Upon arrival for the CCAPA conference, I was told that my roommate (Santa Cruz County Planner Steve Matarazzo) had already checked in. I went to the assigned room, saw the other suitcase, and took a shower, only to be greeted a few minutes later by an attractive young woman who wanted to know what I was doing in her room!

I came back with some bad Neil Simon dialogue like, "But I thought that was my roommate's suitcase!" She opened it up, saying, "Does he pack a curling iron?" The front desk obviously screwed up big time, but it was actually partially the woman's fault: the bachelorette party she and her friends held in the hotel the night before had set off the fire sprinklers, which flooded out the computers and messed up the room registrations.

Predictably, this story soon became the "urban legend" of the conference, and by the time it came back around to me a few days later it had picked up some juicier details. Ted Kreines even suggests that the hastily-prepared sign for our closing day continental breakfast was truncated in my honor. It read: "Breakfast Buff."

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NOVEMBER

10 Far North Brown Bag Lunch
@ Eureka

18 Houston-Style Zoning - a Northern Section Event
@ Orinda

19 National Conference - Design Competition Deadline

DECEMBER

1 *Northern News* Submittal Deadline

3 Silicon Valley Communities of the 21st Century
@ San Jose State University

6 1993 Legislative Update
@ ABAG Training Center

16 Northern Section Holiday Party
@ Treasure Island

JANUARY

7 AICP Applications Due in Washington, DC

NOVEMBER

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DECEMBER

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JANUARY

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