

NORTHERN NEWS

THE BART EXTENSION

The original Bay Area Rapid Transit District (BART) included Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco and San Mateo Counties. In the early 1960s, the counties of San Mateo and Marin decided to withdraw from the District. Consequently, the Daly City BART Station, located near the San Francisco/San Mateo County border, is the only station in San Mateo County. This year, officials from BART and San Mateo County reached an agreement to extend BART from Daly City south to the San Francisco International Airport.

Northern Section's October event focuses on "The BART Peninsula Extension—Land Use and Economic Impacts and Opportunities." Where and when are future BART stations planned? What are the potential economic benefits of a new BART station for your community? How have other communities coordinated transit development and land use? How is the BART extension being coordinated with other public transportation systems? What lessons have been learned about inter-agency coordination in planning for a new station and the surrounding area? These questions will be addressed in brief presentations by four speakers.

Chris Brittle of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission is Project Manager for the Alternatives Analysis for the BART Extension to the Airport and will provide an overview of the BART system's proposed extensions. Larry Stueck, Manager of Planning for SamTrans—the financing agency for the BART Peninsula Extension—will speak about specific locations and timing of the proposed Peninsula BART stations. John C. Martin, Deputy City Manager for Daly City, will discuss that city's experience with the Daly City BART Station and the proposed Colma BART Station to be located

on unincorporated land within Daly City's Sphere of Influence. And, providing an East Bay perspective, Jim Kennedy, Contra Costa County Redevelopment Director, will discuss his agency's experience in planning for the unincorporated area surrounding the Pleasant Hill BART Station.

The event will be held Wednesday, October 10, from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in Room 105 of the Foster City Recreation Center at 650 Shell Boulevard in Foster City. To reach the Center, take the Foster City Blvd. exit from Route 92 and go south, turn right (west) onto East Hillsdale Blvd., then turn left (south) on Shell Blvd. and park.

Wine, cheese and crackers, and non-alcoholic beverages will be served. The cost of the event is \$9.00 for APA members and \$11.00 for non-members. Please be sure to confirm your attendance ASAP (before September 28) by returning the attached form to: Heather McMillan, San Mateo County Planning and Building Division, 590 Hamilton Street, Redwood City, CA 94063. For further information, contact Heather McMillan at (415) 363-1854 or Bob Schubert at (415) 586-2266.



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THE BART EXTENSION

I'm interested in participating in the BART Extension Presentation at the Foster City Recreation Center Room 105 (650 Shell Boulevard in Foster City) on Wednesday, October 10, from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. Please reserve a place!

I have enclosed \$9.00 for each APA member and \$11.00 for each non-APA member.

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TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS

by Ann B. Millican

A Review of Affordable Housing — Myth or Reality?

Twenty planners gathered at El Cerrito Royale, the new 120-unit senior- assisted housing complex, to hear El Cerrito Economic Development Director Patrick O'Keeffe and Bob Cornwall (of Caine, Gressel, Midgley & Slater) talk about whether affordable housing for seniors is a myth or reality. Celeste Wixom organized the August event, which included a deli buffet in a homey but contemporary room which was carpeted, draped and upholstered in rose and blue florals (certainly not a rest home setting).

Using the development of El Cerrito Royale as a case study, the speakers described the development and financing process. In the future, they predict that there will be increasing constraints to developing assisted housing, including:

- ✓ limited availability of land
- ✓ smaller parcels of land
- ✓ financing sources which have complex requirements with different rules
- ✓ neighborhood concerns about land use compatibility
- ✓ site development constraints

The conclusion was that affordable housing can be a reality, but it is going to be harder in the future to make it work, and it will take:

- ✓ local agency leadership
- ✓ willingness of the public agency to take risks
- ✓ a consensus-building process among the players
- ✓ flexibility in approach, including negotiation of development standards
- ✓ a suitable developer with a track record
- ✓ a project with a realistic scope and size so that you can get experience and build working relationships
- ✓ using a financial consultant who is cutting deals on a wide range of projects to provide a reality check in negotiations

Presentations were followed by a tour of the complex conducted by El Cerrito Royale Manger Barbara Lipka, and cookies like your grandmother makes. Thanks to Celeste, Central Bay Liaison, who was assisted by Jennifer Coon of the City of Antioch, for a successful event.

Board Sets Retreat

Every fall the Northern Section Board spends a Saturday reflecting on the successes and events that could have been better during the past year as a prelude to planning programs for the upcoming year. With our new Board members installed, we have a new and expanded Board who will plan for 1990-91 programs. Director Pro-Tem Mark Caughey will lead the retreat, which is scheduled for Saturday, October 27 at the CH2MHill offices in Emeryville. Any APA member is invited to attend and see the Board in action. Contact Mark Caughey for information about the retreat agenda.

Letter to the Editor— *Test your Identity, AICP*

David Storer's cogently written critique of the AICP membership system (August issue of Northern News) was on the mark. No one now doubts that, aside from the AICP examination and the resulting initials, there is precious little difference between APA and AICP as they are now constituted and "consolidated". That momentous consolidation, caused mostly by financial distress of the American Institute of Planners, has led to a decade of confusion, complexity, and ambiguity. In that regard, I found it ironic that the most recent CalChapter APA Roster transposed all AICP to APA initials—non-AICP members were listed AICP, and actual AICP members were deleted as AICP members. Perhaps HAL, Jr., the APA CalChapter computer, was wryly conveying his perception of the duplication, redundancy and outright futility in much of the artificial distinction in joint activities of AICP and APA today.

No one, least of all me, is questioning the professional nature of our organization. But we all well know that some of our most accomplished professionals have decided, for whatever reasons, to forego the examination, cost, etc. of AICP membership. I would suggest that Mr. Storer's comments point to a new direction for a true merger, which eventually eliminates artificial distinctions and recognizes the common bonds which unite us all.

The first modest steps toward true merger are being made in a proposal put forth by two APA National Board members from California (myself being one) and a third from the east. Even this modest proposal, to review inefficient parallel activities and consolidate the National Boards of APA and AICP were shelved in favor of the status quo.

It's time we recognized that we are all planning professionals (or trying to become professionals), and we should expand professionalism to all of APA. Part of the original reason for separate organizations was to recognize planning officials. With the few planning commissioners who now belong to APA, a new division could easily be created to accommodate their unique needs.

Sincerely,
Paul Sedway



GIS CONFERENCE

In October 1990 the Local Government Commission (LGC) in cooperation with Teale Data Center will sponsor a state-wide series of one day workshops on the topic of Geographic Information Systems (GIS).

These workshops will bring together technical experts, planners, surveyors, geographers and other local government staff to address applications of this innovative technology. Entitled "GIS: A Tool for Local Government", the workshops will feature a variety of speakers including: Nancy Tosta from Teale Data Center, Dr. Jerry Davis, Director of the GIS Center at San Francisco State University, and Drs. David Lanter and Jeffrey Star from the University of California, Santa Barbara.

The workshops have been organized to provide an introductory overview of GIS technology, to expose participants to issues of implementation, to identify pitfalls to avoid, and to share experiences of other local government officials who are currently working with GIS. Local government programs that will be presented include Pacific Grove, Fresno County, Long Beach, San Bernardino County, and Santa Cruz County.

Workshops will be held on October 19 in Sacramento, on October 25 in San Diego, and on October 26 in the City of Bell (Los Angeles area). Co-sponsors for these events include: the Association of Bay Area Governments, California Assessor's Association, California Chapter of the American Planning Association, California Council of Civil Engineers and Land Surveyors, Urban Regional Information Systems Association, County Supervisor's Association of California and the California County Planning Director's Association. To receive a workshop brochure or for more information contact the Local Government Commission at (916) 448-1198.

Jobs in Planning

SENIOR PLANNER—City of Concord (\$3,548 to \$4,314/mo.) Mid-mgmt level position to undertake sophisticated plng. projects w/ min. supervision. May chair pub. hearings, supervise staff repts. for Plng. Comm. and Council. May admin. city env. plng. program and perform other plng. and admin. tasks. Reqs. degree in planning, 6 yrs. of prof. plng. exp. involving general plan, zoning or dev't services. Filing deadline: 5:00 p.m. October 5. Apply at: Personnel Department, City of Concord, 1950 Parkside Drive Concord, 94519. (415) 671-3308.

ASSOCIATE PLANNER—City of Half Moon Bay (\$2,382 to \$2,902/mo. + ben. and PERS) Seeking highly motivated indiv. to fill newly created position. Resp. for organizing, coordinating, and planning complex projects and specialized prof. plng. functions; research and analyze difficult and technical plng. issues; make recommendations and pres. to City Council and Plng. Comm.; supervise plng. staff. A bachelor's degree in urban plng. or rel. field req. Knowledge of zoning, subdivision and env. analysis also req. Exp. in arch. review, urban design, and hist. pres. is desirable. Apply by: 5:00 p.m., Sept. 28. More info: City of Half Moon Bay, General Services Department, P.O. Box 67, Half Moon Bay, 94019.

SENIOR PLANNER—City of Livermore (\$3,980 to \$4,975/mo. + ben. and PERS) Plans and supervises a section of the Plng. Dept. involving: the dev't, definition, interpretation, and appl. of land use pols. and/or regs. nec. to implement regulatory and policy programs; mgmt. of programs and supervision of personnel to accomplish city plng. program goals. Apply: Personnel Department, City of Livermore, 1053 S. Livermore Ave., Livermore, 94550 (415) 373-5100. App. must be on city forms.

CHIEF PLANNER—City of South San Francisco. Seeking indiv. to manage Plng. Div., one of four div. in the Dept. of Econ. and Comm. Development. Will include work on the dev't. of the So. Slope of San Bruno Mountain and redev. in the downtown and the industrial area east of Hwy 101. The Plng. Div. consists of five plnrs., including the Chief Planner, and two clerical staff. Div. services include land use policy docs.; proc. apps to assure compliance with ord. and assistance to the Plng. and Hist. Pres. Comm. and Design Review Board. Salary under review. File by September 28. For more info. and to request an appl. call (415) 877-8522.

NEW DEBATE IN NEW ORLEANS

by Nancy S. Willis, AICP
Director, Government Affairs

Controversial issues of significance to planners, nationally as well as at the state and local levels, are on the agenda for the Chapter Delegate Assembly which will be held in New Orleans, Louisiana, during APA's annual meeting, March 23-27, 1991. Among the issues that chapter delegates will debate and define are:

✓ What should APA's position be on comprehensive surface water management? This statement was written by APA Board member, Adrian P. Freund, AICP, Chief, Bureau of Water Management at the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection and Karen Kahn Dotson, AICP, Planner with Tucson Water in Arizona.

✓ What should APA's position be on the supply of public and subsidized housing? This statement was written by Cushing N. Dolbeare, housing and public policy consultant in Washington, D.C., and Scott W. Reilly, Executive Assistant, Office of the Director, Montgomery County (MD) Department of Housing and Community Development.

These questions and others are in the Policy Implementation Principles (PIPs) which will be debated and adopted by chapter delegates. After they are adopted by the Chapter Delegate Assembly and ratified by the APA Board of Directors, the PIPs will be used as the basis for APA's lobbying at the state and national levels.

Now is your chance to participate! Drafts of the PIPs have been distributed to all chapter presidents for review. If you are interested in participating in this review, or if you wish to be considered as a delegate from your chapter, contact your chapter president as soon as possible.

Global Cities Project

—KEEPING THE SPIRIT OF
EARTH DAY ALIVE

On April 22, 1990, more than 200 million people around the world commemorated the 20th anniversary of Earth Day. When the festivals, demonstrations, concerts and tree plantings were over, more than 100 cities took on the challenge of maintaining the spirit of the day by launching the Global Cities Project. The Project, endorsed by the National League of Cities, the League of California Cities, and the International City Management Association, was initiated to help local governments tackle environmental issues in their communities.

The Project's first step was to compile a comprehensive, nationwide listing of innovative environmental initiatives developed by local governments. This inventory, entitled "Building Sustainable Communities: An Environmental Guide for Local Government", is continuously updated to report on what cities and towns are doing to protect the environment. Together with a quarterly newsletter, workshops, and a referral service, the Global Cities Project is fast becoming a clearinghouse of the nation's environmental agendas.

Building Sustainable Communities was authored by experts both inside and outside of local government and covers such areas as solid waste, water conservation, energy efficiency, toxics, and transportation. Each chapter provides directories of pertinent publications, service organizations, and successful local government programs.

The Global Cities Project operates under the auspices of the Center for the Study of Law and Politics in San Francisco. It is a non-partisan, non-profit educational organization dedicated to helping local governments develop solutions to environmental challenges. For information how your city can become a member, call (415) 775-0791.

News from the Pacific Rim

by Stephen Wanat,
International Liaison

Recently I reestablished contact with colleagues in Australia, where I practiced planning and urban design in the 1970s. As a result, I received a copy of "Aust Plan", the national newspaper by the Royal Australia Planning Institute (RAPI). I thought a few of the articles would be of interest to planners in California.

The RAPI is currently considering incorporating the Local Government Planning Association within the Institute. This is similar to the merger in 1978, of the American Institute of Planning (AIP) and the American Society of Planning Officials (ASPO) to form the American Planning Association (APA). Perhaps we can give a few tips based on APA's experience.

An article on women in planning compared the Australian situation with that of women in New Zealand and the United Kingdom (U.K.). In Australia, women make up only 12% of the membership of the RAPI, while in the U.K. they are 20% of the membership of the Royal Town Planning Institute. However, it was concluded that many more women are actually in the planning profession. In New Zealand, for instance, 50% of students in planning school are women.

Another article compared Environmental Impact Assessments in Australia with that in the U.K. While much of the planning law in Australia derives from British practice, that is not true when it comes to environmental assessment. In Australia, environmental assessment became law in the 1970s. It was not until July 1988 that environmental assessment became mandatory in Britain for a selection of substantial projects.

In reading "Aust Plan", I found no reference to American practice in planning. Even the article on environmental assessment did not state that Australia followed American precedent in establishing its environmental laws. I am planning to write the editors of "Aust Plan" to give them an American perspective. Anyone who has information on some of the above issues, particularly on women in planning, please contact me so that I can pass along the information.



Careers in Planning Event

"Careers in Planning", a social event sponsored by Northern California Chapter APA will bring practicing planners and planning students together for an evening of stimulating conversation and fun.

The event will be held in the Department of Urban Planning Office Building on the San Jose State Campus (corner of East San Carlos and 5th). The event is scheduled from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 4. Wine and cheese will be served. The event will provide an opportunity for students to learn about opportunities for planners in both the public and private sectors. The evening will begin with several short presentations from planners in a variety of fields. Students will then have an opportunity to mingle with the practicing planners and have their specific questions answered. Practicing planners are encouraged to attend and share their experiences with the students. For more information contact Jaunell Waldo at (408) 299-2521.

More...Jobs in Planning

SENIOR PLANNER—City of Daly City (\$3,653 to \$4,441/mo.) Sr. position in the Plng. Div. of the Dept. of Econ. and Comm. Dev't. offers a challenging opp. which includes supervision and direction of Assistant and Assoc. Plnrs. Requires Bachelor's degree in Plng. or rel. field and 4 yrs. of progressively resp. urban plng. exp. A Master's degree in Plng. or rel. field may be substituted for up to one year of experience. Apply by September 21. to: Personnel Dept., City of Daly City, 240 92nd Street, Daly City 94015 (415) 991-8028. City appl. must accompany resume.

PLANNER—Bay Area Air Quality Management District (Approx. \$3,374/mo. + ben.) Resp. include reviewing and commenting on EIRs and coordinating CEQA Lead Agency activities. Knowledge of air quality management and trans. systems necessary. Degree in plng. or rel. field, and 2 years resp. exp. in urban or regional plng. req. Call (415) 771-6000.

SENIOR PLANNER—City of San Jose (\$3,275 to \$3,983/mo.) Work in either of Plng. Dept. divisions: Plng. Services or Plng. Implementation. Resp. for supervising a specialized plng. unit and/or plng. and conducting complex plng. projects. Req. training/exp. equiv. of 2 yrs. grad. work in plng. or rel. field and 2 yrs. prof. exp. in city or reg. plng., zoning, and zoning admin. Apply ASAP to City of San Jose, Rm. 207, 801 N. 1st St., San Jose 95110. For announcement and appl. (req.), call (408) 277-4205. Call for testing date.

PRINCIPAL PLANNER—City of Milpitas (\$3627-\$4692/mo.) Newly created position resp. for managing the major activities of curr. and fut. plng. Will function as div. head in the Dept. of Comm. Dev. Successful cand. will have a BA in Planning or rel. field, 5 yrs. of prof. exp. in urban and env. plng., and at least one yr. supervisory exp. Exc. benefits incl. vacation, med. life insurance. Apply by: 9/14/90. Call Barbara Taper at (408) 942-2327.

SENIOR PLANNER—Blayney Dyett Greenberg (San Francisco) MCP or equiv; min. 4-5 yrs. public exp. with general plans/growth mgmt./ implementation/project mgmt. Small firm, 80 % of clients are CA. cities. More info: Call (415) 979-5722.

ASSOCIATE PLANNER—Blayney Dyett Greenberg (San Francisco) MLA, MCP with design degree or equiv., min. 2-3 yrs. exp. More info: Call (415) 979-5722.

Planlines

by Chuck Myer

"Pedestrian Drama"

Once, during my city planning apprenticeship with a mid-sized Southern California city, I approached a mentor with a question that bothered me. Everywhere in that town, the emphasis was on the automobile. No pedestrian area or bus system existed, and I couldn't find any area downtown where people walked while doing errands or window-shopping.

"Where," I asked him, "are the pedestrians in this city?"

He scratched his head and reflected for a moment. "In the mall, between Sears and Macy's." While many of our mid-sized cities share this syndrome, pedestrianism is thriving in our major metropolitan areas. Automobiles aren't the best form of transportation in inner cities: mass transit and walking are. And in an urban setting, it's amazing to see the difference between humans interacting as pedestrians rather than as drivers.

"Pedestrian drama" might be an insult when hurled by a theater critic, but it's a good description of the scenarios painted daily on metropolitan city sidewalks. Street musicians, jugglers, panhandlers and petwalkers: a rich assortment of character types intermingle in the common act of walking. What a ripe stage for human drama.

And I was center stage in one of the largest of those dramas.

Ironically, the city with one of the highest concentrations of pedestrians also has some of the steepest sidewalks on earth: our own San Francisco. The ultimate pedestrian drama happened there in 1987, when traffic on the Golden Gate Bridge was shut down to commemorate its 50th anniversary. For one glorious morning, only pedestrians were allowed along the span.

That morning at dawn, I was one of the 800,000 huddled masses at the Golden Door yearning to breathe free. Sure, I knew it was going to be a zoo. In a way, that was the whole idea. That was the attraction. When my wife and I set off for the bridge, we never deluded ourselves into thinking we would be taking a leisurely stroll to Sausalito and back. Just getting near the bridge turned out to be quite an accomplishment. Busses were overflowing so we walked over six miles of hills just to get to the bridge approach. Like lemmings to the sea, we joined other rivulets of walkers snaking through Ghirardelli, Fort Mason, the Marina, Crissy Field, and uphill through the Presidio to the toll plaza.

By the time we arrived, it was long past the scheduled cutoff for pedestrian access. But the assembled authorities couldn't stop the homage to the bridge. They couldn't believe what they saw: a sea of humanity covering every square inch of asphalt in every direction.

We wormed our way up onto the bridge's pedestrian walkway to look at the sea of heads on the roadway below. It was a wall-to-wall carpet of hair: a canvas of short-hairs and long-hairs, crazy hats and a huge Gumby doll. At one point, a woman in the press of bodies squeezed by us, aiding an injured walker. It was Dianne Feinstein.

Stalemated, flustered officials began pleading with the giddy crowd to begin to clear the bridge for vehicular traffic. A female cop begged, "Mr. Gumby, will you please return to your bus and take your friends with you!"

Eventually we all did, but only after symbolically reclaiming the bridge as our own. To me, the chance to celebrate the bridge at a human scale overshadowed all the fireworks and firefalls that followed. The Golden Gate Bridge became a little more human that day; it swayed and even bent with the weight of the pedestrians, many of whom have returned to use its walkway in less crowded conditions.

One public opponent of the "brigewalk" was quoted as saying, "Closing traffic on the bridge for its anniversary is like celebrating the invention of electricity by turning out all the lights." Well, all analogies have their breaking point. For that one to ring true, it would have to include giving people a chance to become electrons, to crawl inside that magic wire and feel and see what the mystery of electricity is all about.

We appreciate electricity the most in the middle of a power failure. And I have never appreciated a bridge, and the simple act of walking, more than I did the day I joined those 800,000 human electrons.



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Fall Calendar of Events

- September 11 to September 14 APA State Conference. Glitz versus Glitches. Hosted by the Orange Section APA at the Newport Beach Marriott at Fashion Island. For more information call Julie Oberg, the Keith Companies, at (714) 641-0600.
- October 4 "Careers in Planning". Dept. of Urban Planning Office Building, San Jose State Campus. 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. Call Juanell Waldo (408) 299-2521 for more information. See page 5 for details.
- October 10 "The BART Peninsula Extension—Land Use and Economic Impacts and Opportunities." Room 105 Foster City Recreation Center, 650 Shell Boulevard, Foster City. Contact Heather McMillan (415) 363-1854 or Bob Schubert (415) 586-1854. See front page for details.
- October 19 "GIS: A Tool for Local Government" sponsored by Local Government Commission (LGC) in cooperation with Teale Data Center. Sacramento workshop. For more information contact LGC at (916) 448-1198. See page 3 for details.

Forum on Regionalism

BRAINSTORM WITH THE BOARD! THERE WILL BE AN OPEN BOARD MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 20 TO DISCUSS THE PROPOSED "FORUM ON REGIONALISM" THAT WILL MEET LATER THIS FALL. CONTACT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR, DAVID MILLER (415) 368-9802 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

NORTHERN NEWS

APA EDITORIAL OFFICE
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