NORTHERN NEWS



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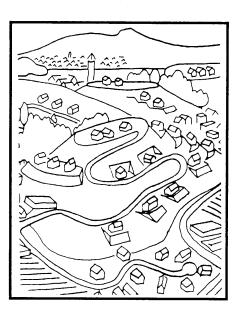
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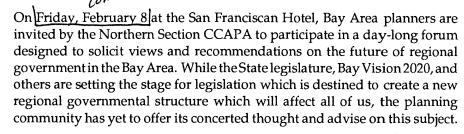
REGIONALISM

Are you a professional planner

living or working in the San Francisco Bay

Area?



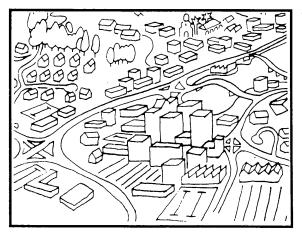


The California Chapter of APA is now forming a policy position on this topic. You can take part in this important process! This forum is a unique opportunity to become informed about a fast moving issue which will pass you by if you don't pay attention.

The first half of the day is designed to give you a comprehensive update on the recent activities in support of a stronger form of regional governance and the issues surrounding this controversial topic. A panel of well-known planners, politicians, and policy analysts will discuss housing, transportation, economic, and land use issues. The second half of the day has been designed to solicit your opinions and thoughts and to consolidate them into a position statement from the Bay Area Planning Community to CCAPA

and your local and state legislators. The second half of the day will be facilitated by a professional firm specializing in this field.

The cost of this full-day event is \$75. Register in advance or phone in and register at the door. The San Franciscan Hotel is located at 1231 Market, above the Civic Center BART Station. Don't miss this opportunity for being a voice in directing the future of regionalism in the Bay Area.



For information on the forum, contact David Miller, Northern Section Chairman for Professional Development at (415) 365-8995.

It's not too late to attend. We've made this opportunity for you—take it!

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CEQA: STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS

An ABAG Presentation

The arrival of the Wilson Administration signals a time for considering revisions to the State Guidelines for the landmark California Environmental Quality Act. To get in on the public debate on this issue, register for ABAG's February 20th half-day workshop entitled "CEQA: Strategies for Success." The workshop's focus is on specific strengths and weaknesses of the process. Practicing experts, representing divergent viewpoints, will engage in spirited round table discussions. Attendants will also benefit from the facilitation skills of Daniel Iacofano, Moore Iacofano Goltsman, and from an incisive synthesis delivered by William Fulton, Editor, California Planning and Development Report.

ABAG is surveying Bay Area Planning Directors, city and county attorneys, and practicing planners regarding their overall satisfaction with the CEQA process, CEQA documentation and litigation experience and opinions on possible reforms. Survey results will serve as an introduction to the workshop. Workshop results will potentially form the basis for recommendations to the State legislature. Call 415/464-7919 for additional information.

Date: Wednesday, Feb. 20th Time: 8:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Cost: \$45 for ABAG non-members; \$35 for non-members Location: Metrocenter Auditorium at 101 8th St. in Oakland

(opposite Lake Merritt BART)

NORTHERN NEWSMAKERS

Val Alexeef, former Clayton City Manager, has moved on to the Contra Costa County Growth Management and Economic Development Agency, where he is the new Director. Congratulations to **Lori Salamack**, Piedmont City Planner, who had a baby girl on January 22!

Introductory Workshops Scheduled on 1990 Census Data

The Association of Bay Area Governments and the US Bureau of the Census are cosponsoring a series of workshops of the 1990 Census. The workshops will provide a description of the data to be released this spring, the methods of release, the pertinent geographic concepts, and the differences between 1980 and 1990 Census data. Block unit data on population, housing units, and racial composition will be highlighted. Thirteen workshops are scheduled in locations throughout the Bay Area between February 20 and March 28. Contact Sally Germain at 415/464-4937 to find the meeting place closest to you.

SPRING SEMINAR AND JOBS FAIR AT U.C. BERKELEY

Mark Your Calendars

The Department of City and Regional Planning, in coordination with the Departments of Architecture and Landscape Architecture, will host a full day of seminars and job interviews on Saturday, March 16 at the UC Berkeley campus. The event will bring together planners and students of planning and urban design from a circle of schools stretching from Sonoma State to San Jose, and Davis to Santa Cruz.

The series of morning seminars will begin with a keynote address by Edward Blakely, Chair of the Department of City and Regional Planning, and continue with discussions of professional practice and academic training in a variety of planning fields. Planners and urban design professionals will lead discussions concerning current challenges of work in areas such as regional and urban development, housing, planning in minority communities, environmental planning, and international planning.

Following lunch, job interviews will be scheduled with interested firms and students (both graduate and undergraduate). Informal career discussions and afternoon tea will also be scheduled to give students and professionals opportunities to meet and exchange views.

The Spring Forum will take place in Wurster Hall, UCB. We encourage participants to arrive by public transportation; however, parking will be available in campus lots. Full details about the day's events, including transportation information, will be available in early March. If you are interested in presenting a seminar or scheduling interviews with planning students, please contact Kaye Bock or Nancy Kieta at 415/643-9440 (or 642-1641 to leave a recorded message).

AICP Exam Workshops

Workshops to prepare for the AICP exam will be held in February, March, and April. Contact Don Bradley (415) 592-0915 to find out the location of the February meeting. Look in Northern News for more information on the March and April meetings.

Jobs in Planning

Associate Planner—Hodges & Shutt. Consulting firm offering planning and engin.services to airports in western U.S., including env. processing, airport land use plans, and airport master plans, seeks indiv. with strong analytical and writing skills, knowl. of CEQA and env. topics, and 3 yrs. prof. planning exp. Competitive salary. Exc. working environment. Send resume to: Hodges & Shutt, Attn: David Dietz, 5010 Aviation Blvd., Santa Rosa, CA 95403. FAX: (707) 526-9721.

Environmental Planner—Brady and Associates. Prepare and manage EIRs. Req's grad. degree in planning, landscape arch., or env. sciences, 4-6 yrs. exp. in proj. mgmt, and ability to assume major responsibilities for the firm's env. assessment activities. Salary negot. Resume to Lyn Hogan, Brady and Associates, 1828 Fourth St., Berkeley, 94710.

Housing and Community Development Planner—Contra Costa County (\$3,329 - \$4,046/mo.) Responsible for prof. planning research and implementation duties for activities that create and expand housing opps. for lower inc. families, inc. CDBG. Req's degree in planning, business adm., pub. finance, econ., or rel. field, 4 yrs. exp. in planning w/at least 1 yr. in housing or comm. dev. Apply by 3/10/91. For application, contact: Contra Costa County Personnel, 651 Pine St., Martinez, CA 94553, (415) 646-4047.

Principal Planner—Contra Costa County (Journey Level, \$3,861 - \$4,705/mo. OR Advanced Level, \$4,822 - \$5,323/mo.). Serve as redev. proj. mgr. Resp. to the Redev. Director in the mgmt. of 5 redev. proj. areas. Develop/implement redev. plans, progs., and projects inc. res., comm., and ind. land uses, infra. financing, econ. dev., and pub/priv. partnerships. Req's. BA in planning or rel. field, 4 yrs. exp. at the Journey Level, 5 yrs. exp. at the Advanced Level, incl. 2 yrs. as major proj mgr. Apply by 3/10/91. See above for application address.

Director of Planning—Town of Moraga (\$52,300 - \$63,600/yr. DOQ). Town Mgr. seeks qual. applicants. Send resume to Robert Coop Associates, 1285 Avenida Sevilla #1B, Walnut Creek, CA 94595. Confidentiality Assured. EOE.

(Continued on page 5)

Visual Media Symposium and VideoFest

Yes! Reserve a place for me on May 4. Please check one!

SMIMRIM.

Symposium	and	VideoFest
9am-5pm		

- \$25 advance registration (\$35 at door)
- □ \$15 Students (\$20 at door)

Symposium only

9am-12:30 p.m.

- □ \$20 advance registration (\$25 at door)
- \$12.50 Students (\$15 at the door)

VidoeFest only

2 pm-5pm

- \$10 advance registration (\$15 at door)
- \$5 Students (\$7.50 at the door)

Enclosed is my check for \$_____, payable to Northern Section, CCAPA.

Mial to: Hartmut Gerdes, AICP, Square One Film+Video, 725 Filbert St., San Francisco, CA 94133. Attention: Symposium and Video Fest.

Name(pr	int):		
Daytime	phone:(_)	

PLANNING AND THE VISUAL MEDIA

A PLANNER'S PERSPECTIVE

by Robert Odland, AICP

I expect that most planners have had limited direct professional experience with video and television. I'm convinced that graphic images are becoming more and more important in our society because people have grown up with TV and many people resist reading planning documents, including summaries. From my perspective, the subject can be divided into the areas of 1) how to relate to and use the existing television broadcast and cable services, and 2) how to use custom-made independent video productions to further planning objectives.

Like most people, I'm basically a passive consumer of network, public, and cable television. Although I have been interviewed on TV, I don't have a good idea of how to use it or even if and when I should consider using it. What planning issues are newsworthy? Can complex subjects really be explained on TV? What type of station or facility is most likely to be interested in my issue(s)? Whom do I call? How can I convince the city council or board of supervisors that this is a good idea? Do I need a media consultant in dealing with television stations? Am I likely to lose control over what gets disseminated to the public?

The issues with custom-made independent video productions are just as numerous. I have used video as a public education device on a large, complex planning project and found it very useful. Although I feel more comfortable with initiating a video production than dealing with a TV station, I need answers to some basic questions. How much does a video production cost? How long should it be? Do I need professional help in making one? Can video productions be used for staff training and explaining complex topics to management or the governing body? Can video be used for public consensus building as well as education? How does community access TV fit into the process?

You can see I have lots of questions. They are the types of questions I expect to be addressed at the May 4th, APA Media Symposium. I want planners, including myself, to become better communicators. That is the goal of the symposium. See you there!

A VIDEO PRODUCER'S PERSPECTIVE

by Hartmut H. Gerdes, AICP

Just last week, Milton Feldstein of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District was quoted in the San Francisco Chronicle in an article on the Bay Area's traffic woes. "We've got to get people out of their cars," he said, "What makes this so difficult is it's a change in the way we live." It is dramatic lifestyle changes we are being asked to make, implying a change of values and a great deal of new knowledge. Growth management rather than crisis management?

Take, for instance, the lucky homeowner in this burgeoning region of five million people. Does he or she comprehend the close relationship between one's home and view, and the need for multi-family housing and preservation of open space? Does the driver of a single occupant car understand how his or her long and aggravating bumper-to-bumper commute relates to Bay Area land use planning and to transit? Do they believe in the powerful myth that the single family home and the automobile are the legitimate American dream, when in fact they are becoming a Bay Area nightmare? Do they perhaps believe that high density is inherently bad and that mainly poor folks need transit?

How can planners and designers inform and enlighten citizens and advance regional solutions and regional challenges? Planners are often heard saying that they have no power, that the politicians do. However, they are apt to say that they must listen to their constituents. If this is so, what will the region's John and Jane Doe's, the cities' and counties' voters, or the many "Nimby's" tell them? For planners, designers, and politicians, this appears to suggest engaging extraordinary means of communication, that is, information and education on a regional scale. Can video and television be of help?

Television has become Americans' prime source of news and, through the sheer force of good and bad images, if we like it or not, of consciousness-raising and consensus building. If eight out of ten Americans now call themselves "environmentalists," we can in large measure credit television. Can it conceivably turn enough Bay Area residents into "regionalists" to eventually give regional planning, design, and governance the teeth to be effective?

On May 4, prominent planners and designers and recognized media representatives will explore and demonstrate the structural, topical, and geographical characteristics and potentials of network TV, cable TV, public TV, community access TV, and independent video production.

They will discuss Bay Area communication of the future, which is here today. They will search for ways to engage the visual media in advancing a bold spirit and vision of a 21st Century Bay Region that can maintain and enhance its much touted socio-economic diversity and strength, beauty, and livability. In the process, good planning and design will garner renewed influence and respect.

...More Jobs...

Senior Project Manager—GCA Group. Seeking mature, experienced, self-motivated project mgr. to direct consultant team for large rural land planning proj. Exp. in phys. sciences pref'd. Superior knowl. of CEQA and local plng. process req'd. Job req's. respons. for managing team of prof., incl. plng. consultants, engineers, etc. Must be confident, decisive, exc. written/verbal comm. skills. Contact Monica Stevens, GCA Group, 909 Montgomery Street, Third Floor, San Francisco, CA 94133, (415) 391-0800.

Town Planner—Los Altos Hills (\$3,784 - \$4,600, plus benefits and PERS). Under direction of City mgr., works w/ Council and Plan. Comm. on all current planning issues. Serves as zoning admin., implements innovative zoning/ site dev. ordinance encouraging creative dev. and pres. of town character. Supervise in-house and contract prof. staff. Open until filled. Send resume to: City Mgr., Town of Los Altos Hills, 26379 Fremont Rd., Los Altos Hills, CA 94022. (415) 941-7222. EOE.

Planning Manager—Alameda County Waste Mgmt. Authority (\$61,344 - \$80,964/yr.) Reports directly to Exec. Dir. and has full resp. for the Authority's planning program. Req's. bachelor's degree and signif. planning exp., incl. mgmt. exp. in a complex political environment. Open until filled. Submit resume, current salary, and 3 references to: Shannon Associates, 1400 K St. Suite 311, Sacramento, CA 95814. (916) 447-8022.

Senior Planner—Alameda County Waste Mgmt. Authority (\$47,676 - \$62,940/yr.) Assume signif. proj. mgmt. resp., perform complex and sensitive work. Req's. bachelor's degree and signif. solid waste plng. exp. See above for appl. info.

Assistant/Associate Planner—Alameda County Waste Mgmt. Authority (\$36,120 - \$52,440/yr.) Two positions avail. at either level, DOQ. Full range of prof. plng. work req'd. to implement the Authority's program. See above for info.

(One last job ad is at the bottom of page 6.)

Planlines

by Chuck Myer

Christo's Back

In the mid-seventies, as the apocryphal story (that I made up) goes, a Marin County environmental planner referred a call from a man asking for a fence permit to the building division. When his intercom buzzed again, the planner approached the front counter, where a tall, wiry, bespectacled figure awaited him with a smile. "You'll have to go downstairs if you want a fence permit," said the planner. "You're in the environmental review division by mistake." "No mistake," said the man in a thick European accent. "Fence is 24 miles long." The man, of course, was Christo, who became the first person ever to be required to submit an environmental impact report for a work of art. Since then, the artist and his larger-than-life works have been fuel for intense debates around the world.

Christo's artworks are of such scale that they appeal to planners the way sculptures appeal to architects, or paintings to interior designers. But Christo goes one step further by incorporating the paperwork of planners and other bureaucrats into the greater vision of his art. As a refugee from Bulgaria, Christo began his career with "wrapped" objects and packages, stacked oil barrels and store fronts. His first American project was the "Valley Curtain" near Rifle, Colorado in 1972. After "Running Fence," Christo wrapped a bridge in Paris with burlap and some islands in Florida with pink plastic. He continues to battle the immense New York bureaucracy over a plan for yellow "Gates" throughout Central Park, and he's involved in political disputes over projects in Abu Dhabi and Berlin.

His projects have always been big, but Christo's latest plan covers two continents. His new project calls for 3100 umbrellas, 19.5 feet high and 28.5 feet in diameter. Yellow ones will meander along 16 miles of I-5, 60 miles north of L.A., between Wheeler Ridge and Gorman in the Tehachapi mountain range. Matching blue umbrellas will unfurl in Japan, 120 kilometers north of Tokyo. Tilting at various angles, the octagonal umbrellas will be in lines or random clusters in rural and suburban areas.

As with his other large works of art, Christo will pay for "The Umbrellas" through the sale or display of his drawings, collages, scale models and early works. His detractors complain that traffic will be snarled and the natural environment will be trampled by those who come to gawk. Negotiations with 29 American governmental agencies and 15 Japanese agencies are now complete.

Along the way, Christo has employed and involved (and even converted) many public and private planners. Jim Ellis, Environmental Planner for the County of Kern, is project review planner for "The Umbrellas." The local environmental firm ESA has handled many of his projects and EIRs, and the list of big Christo fans includes Michael Rice of ESA, and Don Dickenson, now Planning and Building Director for the City of Mill Valley who was the "apocryphal" project review planner for "Running Fence" in 1976. Jo Julin, a 14-year employee of ESA, now a private consultant in San Rafael and a San Anselmo Planning Commissioner, was a project captain on "Surrounded Islands" and is a coordinator for "The Umbrellas," assisting Tom Golden, USA Project Director.

Christo plans for "The Umbrellas" to be unfurled for three weeks in October to correspond with the rice harvest in Japan. It will be visible either by car or on foot along "a promenade route under the luminous shadows cast by the umbrellas." Prototype umbrellas have been built and tested with wind machines, and crews of engineers and paid workers are being assembled, primarily for the set-up and take-down periods before and after.

Want to help? I do. Let me know if you want more info or an application. Great idea for a working vacation! Write me at P.O. Box 2296, Gilroy, CA 95021-2296, or call (408) 842-2137.

...and one last Job in Planning...

Planner II—City of Campbell (\$3,139 - \$3,815/mo.) Performs prof. planning work in adv. and curr. planning progs. Conduct studies, prep. rept's. for board/commissions. Req's. BA in planning or rel. field, plus 2 yrs. pln'g exp. Master's degree may substitute for 1 yr. exp. File city appl. by 2/11/91. Apply at: Personnel Dept., City of Campbell, 70 N. First St., Campbell, CA 95008, (408) 866-2122.

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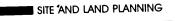
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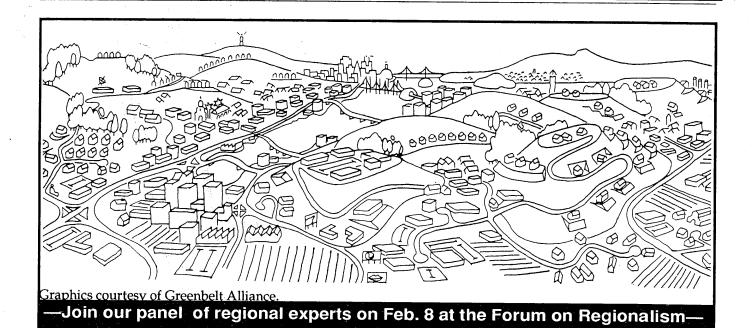
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Winter Calendar of Events		
February 8	Forum on Regionalism. The San Franciscan Hotel., S.F. Call Dave Miller (415) 365-8995 for information or see front page for more details.	
February 20	CEQA: Strategies for Success. An ABAG presentation. Call (415) 464-7955 for details or see page 2.	
February 22 to February 24	4th Annual California Women in Environment Design Conference. St. Francis Hotel, S.F. Call (415) 548-6209 for information	
March 16	Seminar and Jobs Fair at UC Berkeley. See page 3 for details.	
March 20 to March 22	Planning Commisssioners' Institute—Monterey.	
March 22 to March 27	National APA Conference. Now Orleans	

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