



APA Northern News

AMERICAN PLANNING ASSOCIATION, CALIFORNIA CHAPTER, NORTHERN SECTION

Dear reader:

This is our second issue of the modified format we have developed to make the newsletter easier for you to read now that it is only published on the web.

All longer articles are in the right column. Any article longer than one page continues directly onto the next page. No more scrolling ahead to find the “continued to” page. Calling card ads, very short articles, some images, and sidebars run in the left column.

The editors want to continue to expand the usefulness and reader-friendly qualities of Northern News. Your comments and suggestions are always welcome. —Ed.

DECEMBER 2007/JANUARY 2008

Links to articles inside this issue:

In memoriam, L. Livingston, Jr.	4
Director’s Note	5
Onward and upward	5
Up to our necks	5
Calling cards	6–13
Sustainable (again)	7
Diversity Task Force gears up	8
Where in the world?	9
AICP CM update	10
The “Care and Feeding” of Planning Commissioners	11
New Tentative Order on storm water ...	13
Jobs	14–16
US Climate Change report	14
McKinsey report: Reducing US GHG ..	15
From <i>The New York Times</i>	16
Letters	17
Going green—Stop unwanted mail	17
What others are saying	18
National conference comes west	18
2007 holiday party photos	19
Calendar	20

Lodi leads with LEED-ND

By Peter Pirnejad, Planning Manager, City of Lodi

It was in January 2007 that I first heard of the United States Green Building Council (USGBC) pilot rating program for neighborhood development, called Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design-Neighborhood Development (LEED-ND). This experimental rating system was USGBC’s first look beyond the building and towards the entire neighborhood.

This program works similarly to other LEED-certified building rating systems. The program has four categories, each with a series of prerequisites that needs to be met in order to qualify, and credits that must be accumulated to determine a final rating. There are 106 possible points in this pre-certification stage: 40 points certifies a project, 50 points is a silver rating, 60 points is gold, and 80 points is platinum.

Four categories in rating system

The first of the four categories is “Smart Location and Linkages,” which looks at proximity to municipal services such as schools, transportation, water, and wastewater, and determines how well a project avoids or conserves features such as steep slopes, wetlands, farmland, and wildlife habitats. The second category is “Neighborhood Pattern and Design,” which evaluates the overall design of the project. It considers compact design, diversity and affordability of housing types, walkability, proximity to destination points, and local food production.

“Green Construction and Technology” is the third category, and examines the infrastructure and built environment on the

(continued on next page)

BOARD MEMBER DIRECTORY

Director			
Juan Borrelli, AICP	(408) 535-7709	juan.borrelli@sanjoseca.gov	
Director Elect			
Darcy Kremin, AICP	(925) 988-1278	dkremin@entrixx.com	
Immediate Past Director			
Hing Wong, AICP	(510) 464-7966	hingw@abag.ca.gov	
Administrative Director			
Michael Olin	(415) 229-2811	molin@sf.wrtedesign.com	
Treasurer			
Jeff Baker	(925) 833-6610	jeff.baker@ci.dublin.ca.us	
Advertising Director			
Hannah Young	(510) 540-7331	hannah.young@lsa-assoc.com	
AICP Director			
Don Bradley, AICP	(650) 592-0915	dr.donbradley@comcast.net	
Awards Program Directors			
Andrea Ouse, AICP	(650) 985-2590	andrea.ouse@lsa-assoc.com	
Eileen Whitty, AICP	(510) 287-1109	ewhitty@ebmud.com	
Communications Director			
Charity Wagner	(415) 331-8282	clwagner@rrmdesign.com	
Ethics Review Director			
Hanson Hom, AICP	(510) 730-7450	hhom@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us	
International Director			
Rob Eastwood, AICP	(408) 299-5792	rob.eastwood@pln.co.santa-clara.ca.us	
Legislative Director			
Gulsum Rustemoglu	(415) 261-6695	Gulsum.Rustemoglu@amec.com	
Membership Director			
Lucy Armentrout, AICP	(510) 220-6445	lucylikesorange@yahoo.com	
Newsletter Editors			
Naphtali Knox, FAICP	(415) 699-7333	knoxnaph@gmail.com	
Lynnie Melena	(650) 493-2135	lynniemelena@gmail.com	
Planning Commissioner			
Lynn Osborn	(925) 969-1566	losborn@511contracosta.org	
Planning Diversity Director			
Michele Rodriguez, AICP	(415) 269-6399	michele@boggis.com	
Professional Development Director			
Iris Starr, AICP	(510) 684-8387	irisstarr@earthlink.net	
Student Representatives			
Emy Mendoza	(510) 326-1919	emymendoza@earthlink.net	
Laura Cacho	(510) 295-5976	lcacho@berkeley.edu	
University Liaison			
Connie Galambos	(510) 839-9505	connie@urbanhabitat.org	
Webmaster			
Pierce Macdonald	(510) 459-6092	piercemac@hotmail.com	

Regional Advisory Committees (RACs)

East Bay			
Joanna Jansen, AICP	(510) 848-3815	joanna@dceplanning.com	
David Ralston	(510) 238-2970	dralston@oaklandnet.com	
Monterey Bay			
Michael Bethke, AICP	(831) 425-5425	michael@slattcon.com	
North Bay			
Ladd Miyasaki	(707) 523-1010	laddmiyasaki@w-and-k.com	
Peninsula			
Surinder Sikand	(650) 224-9426	sikan@comcast.net	
Redwood Coast			
George Williamson, AICP	(707) 825-8260	georgew@planwestpartners.com	
San Francisco			
Kenya Wheeler, AICP	(510) 287-4782	fwheele@bart.gov	
South Bay			
vacant			

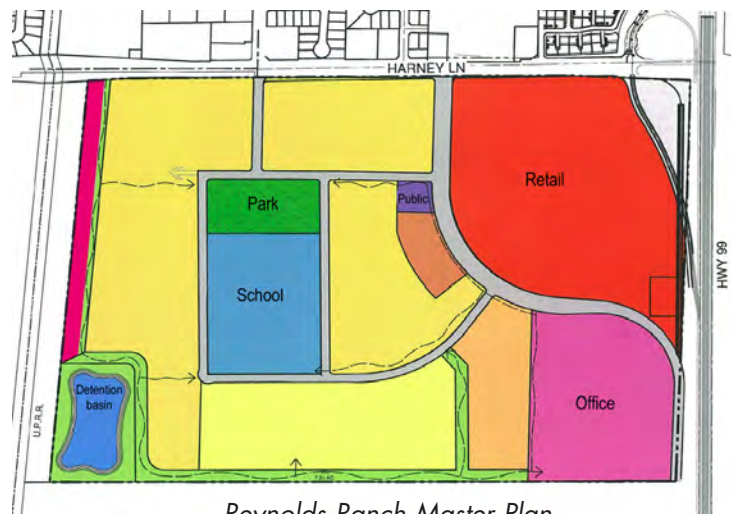
Lodi leads with LEED-ND *(continued from previous page)*

site, such as innovative storm drainage systems, solar orientation, onsite energy sources and efficiencies, light pollution and waste management. The final category is “Innovation and Design Process,” which essentially looks at creative ways a project either exceeds the expectation of a previous credit to the next logical level, or invents an entirely new and noteworthy way of achieving a goal of LEED.

Good timing for Lodi project

The timing for the City of Lodi’s participation in this program could not have been better. The city had just finished entitling a new “greenfield development.” The Reynolds Ranch project is a 220-acre mixed-use Master Plan that includes a 160,000 square-foot office building, 350,000 square feet of retail space, 1,084 units of residential housing of varying densities, a park, a school, some storage units, a drainage basin, and a fire station.

Our goal, while working with the applicant, San Joaquin Valley Land Company, was to design a pedestrian-oriented community that was socially equitable, environmentally responsible, and economically feasible. We worked with the Congress for the New Urbanism, Build It Green, and the best interests of the city to develop the master plan. We even included language that required a minimum Build It Green rating and incorporation of the 13 elements of neighborhood design published by the Congress for the New Urbanism.



Developer agrees to apply for certification

The Master Plan was very responsible, not only in its design, but also in the way it dealt with the balance of jobs

(continued on next page)

BOARD MEMBER DIRECTORY

(continued from previous page)

Student Representatives

Laura Cacho (510) 295-5976 lcacho@berkeley.edu
Taryn Hanano (510) 402-8021 taryn.hanano@gmail.com

University Liaisons

Emy Mendoza (510) 326-1919 lemendoza@earthlink.net
Al Kostalas (925) 988-1289 akostalas@entrix.com

Newsletter Designer

Nancy Roberts (408) 723-3200 tproberts@sbcglobal.net

The deadline for submitting materials for inclusion in the *Northern News* is the 15th day of the month prior to publication.

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

Editorial

Naphtali H. Knox, FAICP
Tel: (415) 699-7333
knoxnaph@gmail.com

Lynnie Melena
Tel: (650) 493-2135
lynniemelena@gmail.com

Advertising/Jobs

Hannah Young
Tel: (510) 540-7331
hannah.young@lsa-assoc.com

ADDRESS CHANGES

Membership Department
APA National Headquarters
122 South Michigan Ave, Suite 1600
Chicago, IL 60603-6107
(312) 431-9100
www.planning.org

Northern News is published 10 times each year by the Northern Section, California Chapter, American Planning Association. It is a medium for the exchange of ideas and information among planners from Monterey County to Del Norte County, including the San Francisco Bay Area and San Benito County.

Permission to reprint granted. Please credit "Northern News," APA, California Chapter.

Lodi leads with LEED-ND (continued from previous page)

and housing, agricultural offsets, habitat conservation, air quality protection, noise attenuation, and historic resource preservation. So when I heard of the USGBC's LEED-ND Pilot Program last January, I quickly approached the developer about the benefits of participating. He agreed to subject the project to this process under one condition: it would not cost him any more money. The commitment took some convincing with its \$20,000 application fee, but the developer eventually agreed.

We filed the application, and as soon as we got word from USGBC, we quickly mobilized a group of creative experts to meet on a regular basis. We began by understanding the program, then discussed various design options. Currently, we are allocating responsibilities and accountability.

At first, the idea of subjecting the project to a rating system that could potentially cost additional time, money and hassle was not met with uniform enthusiasm. However, interest quickly grew from staff members and consultants, including Rob Lechner, Customer Program Manager of our Electric Utility Department; Wally Sandelin, Deputy Public Works Director; Chris Boyer, Engineering Associate; Tiffani Fink, Transportation Manager of our Public Works Department; and consultants associated with the project—landscape architects, project managers, planners, architects, engineers, and even an intern.

The more we put our collective minds together, the more it made sense to pursue the certification. We saw an opportunity to follow the model embodied in AB 32, the California Global Warming Solutions Act which commits to reducing global warming emissions to 2000 levels by 2010, to 1990 levels by 2020, and 80 percent below 1990 levels by 2050. There was no question that responsible and sustainable design has become an expectation.

Surprise cost savings

As we began working with alternative civil engineering solutions, we realized there were huge cost savings and opportunities. For example, the required public park could be placed on top of the underground storm collection system which replaced the traditional drainage basin, thereby freeing more land for other uses. We also discovered that other residential developers were realizing greater market demand for neighborhoods that incorporated these efficiencies. An example of this is Carsten

(continued on next page)

In memoriam

Lawrence Livingston, Jr., AICP, 1918–2007

Larry Livingston, Jr., a Northern California planning icon most active in the 1950s, 60s, and 70s, died December 5th in Tiburon. He was 89.

Mr. Livingston, a fourth generation San Franciscan, was a consultant to the city and county of San Francisco from 1953–1959. In 1959, Livingston & Blayney, City and Regional Planners, set up offices on New Montgomery Street (and later on Gold Street) in San Francisco. Beginning a statewide practice in 1960, the firm prepared general plans for dozens of cities including Eureka, Chico, Healdsburg, Petaluma, and Carpinteria to name only a few.

Mr. Livingston was a colleague of landscape architect Lawrence Halprin, and they worked together on many plans, including a master plan for the California State Capitol (1962). Other Livingston plans included the Navajo Nation master development plan, Window Rock, Arizona (1960), “core area plans” for Davis and San José (1961), an “Overall Program Design” for the Lake Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (1970), and an open space plan for the San Diego region (1972).

A few years ago, to help celebrate APA’s 25th anniversary, the editors of *Planning* magazine chose 25 outstanding articles published in the 25 years from 1979–2003. “Some of these articles were ahead of their time in identifying an important trend. Others encouraged nationwide discussion. And still others pushed the planning profession in a new direction.” Mr. Livingston’s “Confessions of a Planner” was selected as the outstanding article for 1980. It can be read at <http://www.planning.org/25anniversary/planning/1980mar.htm>

Mr. Livingston received APA’s Distinguished Leadership Award in 1987.

The *San Francisco Chronicle* published a photo of Mr. Livingston and an obituary by John King, the paper’s urban design writer and winner of the 2007 California Chapter APA Individual Journalist Award (Dec. 14, 2007, page B-14): <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/object/article?f=/c/a/2007/12/14/BACJTTP70.DTL&o=0>

Lodi leads with LEED-ND *(continued from previous page)*

Crossings, a Grupe project in Rocklin, that claims to out-perform its competitors by three-to-one for being “green.”

The greening of subdivisions is not a new idea. It has been around at least since 1975 when Judith A. and Michael Corbett designed Village Homes in Davis. Their sustainable neighborhood design used creeks to handle, filter, and percolate storm and other drainage (today referred to as bio-swales), solar-oriented homes to maximize the benefits of the sun, fruit and vegetable gardens planted throughout common areas that are maintained by residents, and street cross-sections that are so narrow one would think they’re driveways. Mrs. Corbett had said the process of getting the subdivision approved was very challenging. However, today Village Homes is celebrated as one of the most desirable places to live in Davis, and it boasts the highest resale values in the city.

Other sustainable neighborhoods

Some other newly planned sustainable designs are Meriam Park in Chico, a New Urban Builders project; the master plan for Treasure Island which will revitalize some of San Francisco’s most underutilized real estate, and the Village at Galisteo Basin Preserve in Santa Fe, N.M., a Commonwealth Conservancy Project which is one of the largest LEED-ND Pilot Programs. This greenfield development project takes a whole new look at minimizing its carbon footprint.

There are 249 registered projects in the LEED-ND Pilot Program. Each one has subjected itself to a very high level of scrutiny and evaluation. Although there is no certainty that this program will lead to more sustainably-built communities, it keeps planners, landscape and building architects, and engineers at the design table during the entire process.

The greatest challenges lie in contending with established design standards and fee schedules as they relate to newer methods of designing infrastructure. Many emerging technologies, such as pervious street systems, underground storm drainage solutions, roof rain collection systems, and bio-swales have not been around long enough to be standardized and accepted by most cities. Cities cannot yet reduce the size or capacity of the utilities systems that they build to serve these developments, or to provide developers with development fee offsets or incentives that make these newer systems affordable. With enough time and pressure, these systems will emerge and become standard practice. Until that time comes, LEED-ND continues to push the envelope in design and hold planners and designers alike to a higher standard. ■

Onward and upward

Greg Larson, who had been director of the City of Santa Cruz community development department since July 2006, is now the town manager of Los Gatos. Larson earned a bachelor's degree in political science from Stanford, then served in various positions with the City of San José, including director of environmental services and deputy city manager, from 1985–1994. He was city manager of Milpitas, 1997–2000, and California's chief deputy controller, 2003–2006. ■

Up to our necks

Last month, we published Hartmut Gerdes' review of *Smart Growth in a Changing World* (Edited by **Jonathan Barnett, FAICP**, 148 pages, APA Planners Press, 2007). For its Tenth Anniversary issue, *Harvard Design Magazine* invited several people who had previously written for the quarterly to "explore whatever was of concern to them now." We think you'll be interested in an article by Kristina Hill and Jonathan Barnett, "Design for Rising Sea Levels," *Harvard Design Magazine*, Fall 2007/Winter 2008, Number 27:

"Sea levels have been rising for thousands of years, but so slowly that natural systems have adjusted. We now know that ... temperature increases that have already occurred have committed us to a faster rate of sea-level rise no matter what we do at this point. But how much more should we expect in fifty years, or 100, or 150? Could sea level change drastically within our lifetimes? The blunt answer is Yes." Full article at <http://www.gsd.harvard.edu/research/publications/hdm/current/>

Happy New Year! The votes have been counted in the Northern Section's first ever official electronic election. **Jeff Baker** was reelected to a second term as Board Treasurer. We also appointed several new Board members at our last meeting: **Alexandra (Al) Kostalas** and **Emy Mendoza** as University Liaisons, and **Taryn Hanano** as one of the new Student Representatives. Please join me in welcoming them to the Board. We would also like to thank **Connie Galambos Malloy**, who has stepped down from the Board as University Liaison. While serving in this position over the past two years, Connie was proactive in many Northern Section activities. She has also done excellent outreach to build and strengthen the Board's professional relationship with the various planning programs at universities throughout the Northern Section.

With over 130 planners in attendance, this year's rousing Holiday Party at the E&O Trading Company in San Francisco was a huge success. Many thanks are in order to the entire Holiday Party Committee: **Jeff Baker, Al Kostalas, Darcy Kremin, AICP, Emy Mendoza, Mika Miyasato, AICP, Andrea Ouse, AICP, Kenya Wheeler, AICP, Eileen Whitty, AICP, and Hing Wong, AICP**. They each worked very diligently on different components of the event to make sure we all had a really great time while celebrating in style. Check out some of the fun photos on page 19 of this issue. Also, many thanks to each of the organizations and planning firms listed below, who very generously donated the deluxe prizes for the Holiday Party drawing: **Arup, Careertunnel.com, Design, Community & Environment, Dyett & Bhatia, Eisen/Letunic, ENTRIX, Inc., HNTB, LSA Associates, Moore Iacofano Goltsman, Inc., RBF Consulting, WRT, and the 2007 CCAPA Conference Committee**. Their donations have significantly helped to raise funds for **California Planning Foundation** student planning scholarships. Lastly, many thanks to the planner and student volunteers who assisted during the event: **Steve Avis, Duane Dewitt, Riad Elbdour, Gary Hsueh, and Tina Kim**.

Are you interested in getting more involved in APA and giving back to your profession? The South Bay Regional

(continued on next page)

The display of calling cards from firms offering professional services appears in every issue of *Northern News*. Fees paid by the firms for this service help defray the costs of this newsletter.

planning design
communications management
technology



800 790 8444
www.migcom.com

BERKELEY | DAVIS | FULLERTON | PASADENA | EUGENE | PORTLAND | RALEIGH

real vision
**Inspiring
reality**

The better way... the next step to innovation... the small improvement that makes the big difference.

Visualize the future with PBS&J.

Offices throughout the CA
pbsj.com • 916.325.4800



DIRECTOR'S NOTE *(continued from previous page)*

Advisory Committee (RAC) Board position is currently vacant and needs a motivated South Bay planner to fill this role. Please contact me at juan.borrelli@sanjoseca.gov if you are interested and would like more information about this appointed position.

The Board's annual retreat, which is open to any current member, will be held on Saturday, January 26 in Santa Clara (see the Calendar Section on the last page of this issue for more details). At the retreat, we will be reviewing our 2007 Board accomplishments, setting our 2008 Board goals, and adopting our 2008 budget. Please contact Director Elect Darcy Kremin, AICP at dkremin@entrix.com or me if you would like to attend and/or if you have any ideas you would like to propose for future section events and activities. I look forward to seeing you at upcoming Section events in 2008. ■

"Lights ... Planning ... Action!"

While your CCAPA Conference 'buzz' is still strong, mark your calendar to save **September 21–24, 2008**, the date for next year's **CCAPA Conference in Hollywood**. The 'Call for Presentations' for this conference is posted on the CCAPA Website at <http://www.calapa.org/>.

Don't be caught off guard—submittal deadline of **January 25, 2008**, is right around the corner. I urge you to begin organizing your proposed presentation submittals for what is sure to be an excellent state planning conference in 2008.





COMPREHENSIVE
MUNICIPAL
SERVICES

PMC

OUR WORLD REVOLVES AROUND YOURS

www.pmcworld.com
(866) 828-6PMC



Denise Duffy & Associates, Inc.
Land Use Planning and Environmental Consulting

Environmental Assessment ~ CEQA/NEPA
Regulatory & Permit Assistance ~ GIS/Mapping
Community Planning ~ Water Resource Management
Natural Resource Planning ~ Habitat Restoration

Monterey
831-373-4341

Truckee
530-582-8297

San Jose
408-451-8438



SOLOMON ★ E.T.C.

City + Regional Planning
Urban Design
Landscape Architecture
Architecture

San Francisco
1328 Mission Street, 4th Fl.
San Francisco, CA 94103
415.575.4722
www.wrtdesign.com

Sustainable salmon—good for the heart, soul, and the environment?

By Naphtali H. Knox, FAICP; Editor, Northern News

I wrote (in “Live sustainable or die,” Northern News, July 2006), that “sustainable” seemed to be the overused word of the day. I noted that a fine Santa Cruz restaurant offered “Certified sustainable Scottish farmed salmon.” “Why is the fish sustainable?” I had asked. “It’s the process,” the waiter responded. “The fish are raised in a chain of four Scottish lochs, and only one loch is used while the others regenerate and recover from the feed and wastes put into the lochs for and from the salmon.”

So I took special note of an article, “Chefs back a farm-raised salmon,” by Carolyn Jung, *San José Mercury News*, October 31, 2007,

http://www.mercurynews.com/lifestyle/ci_7327947:

“Loch Duart, an independently owned Scottish farm established in 1999, received the ‘Vision in Business for the Environment for Scotland award’ in 2005... Loch Duart’s farmed salmon, a species indigenous to Scotland, are fed fish meal custom-made from sustainable seafood: 1.1 pounds of fish meal grow 1 pound of salmon — a significant improvement from the industry standard...’ Environmentalists acknowledge that ‘Some salmon farms are better than others,’ but would prefer that governments around the world better manage their natural watersheds so that wild salmon populations become healthier and more abundant.”

I found the Scottish salmon excellent. The article quotes the executive chef at Four Seasons Silicon Valley as saying farm-raised salmon is “a good alternative to the wild Copper River salmon that’s available only a few weeks each summer. It cooks well, stays moist and it’s got a really clean flavor. I like the way they are raising the fish. It’s one of those things you can feel good about.”

Still, one wonders what Mother Nature thinks of all this. In November, a mass of jellyfish up to 35 feet deep and covering 10 square miles destroyed more than \$2 million worth of farmed salmon along the Irish coast. The jellyfish engulfed the salmon cages, suffocating 100,000 fish. The farm’s managing director said the appearance of the jellyfish,

(continued on next page)



Jones & Stokes
Your Project Means The World To Us

- General & Specific Plans
- CEQA/NEPA Compliance
- Public Involvement
- Environmental Planning & Studies

San Francisco Oakland San Jose
415.296.0524 510.433.8962 408.434.2244
www.jonesandstokes.com



- CEQA/NEPA Planning
- Mitigation Planning & Monitoring
- Biological Resource Management
- Hazmat Assessment & Remediation
- Construction Management
- Resource Agency Permitting
- Water Supply Assessment
- Cultural Resources Evaluation
- Environmental Engineering
- Sustainable Building Design

EUREKA SAN FRANCISCO SANTA ROSA PLEASANTON
SAN DIEGO PORTLAND ANAHEIM SACRAMENTO
www.w-and-k.com

LAMPHIER • GREGORY



URBAN PLANNING &
ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

WWW.LAMPHIER-GREGORY.COM | 510.535.6690

Sustainable salmon—good for the heart, soul, and the environment? *(continued from previous page)*

normally found in the Mediterranean, was apparently “due to unusual environmental factors including higher-than-normal water temperatures.” See “Jellyfish attack wipes out N. Ireland salmon farm,” *Science News*, November 22, 2007.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/scienceNews/idUSL2241858320071122> ■

Diversity Task Force gears up

By Michele Rodriguez and Jeanette Dinwiddie-Moore

The national APA Diversity Task Force met on November 9, 2007, to discuss the projects it will focus on during 2008. The Task Force is composed of representatives from chapters with diversity committees and representatives from the Population Divisions in APA.

National Diversity Summit in Las Vegas. The third Diversity Summit is scheduled to be held at the National APA Conference in Las Vegas (April 27 – May 1, 2008) on Tuesday, April 29 from 3 – 4:30 p.m. Dr. Carla Corroto, 2007 California Diversity Summit keynote speaker, is being asked to keynote this event. There will also be roundtable discussions on specific strategies planners can use to address diversity in the profession.

National Diversity Award. The Task Force is considering creating a National Award for a planner of color or an organization or person that has advanced ethnic and racial diversity in planning. Once the award category is developed, it will be submitted to the APA Award Committee for consideration. The Task Force will need to address how this award will be different from existing APA National Awards categories such as the Paul Davidoff National Award for Social Change and Diversity. If you have thoughts and or comments on this that you would like to have considered, please contact Michele Rodriguez. All the existing CCAPA and APA award categories and their criteria can be viewed on either the CCAPA or APA website.

Ambassador Program. A Pilot Ambassador Program will be launched in North Carolina in January 2008. The purpose of the program is to increase the number of people of color in the profession and to better serve communities of color as professional planners.

(continued on next page)

CBRE Consulting, Inc./Sedway Group

**Project Feasibility
Fiscal Impact**

505 Montgomery Street
Suite 600
San Francisco, CA 94111
415.781.8900

www.cbre.com/consulting
www.sedway.com

**Economic Development
Implementation Plans**

355 South Grand Avenue
Suite 1200
Los Angeles, CA 90071
213.613.3750



Diversity Task Force gears up *(continued from previous page)*

Membership Recruitment. Under the 2004 APA Growth Strategy, “minorities” is one of five groups APA has targeted for growth. To help support recruitment of young people of color to the planning profession, APA has prepared a new brochure specifically aimed at marketing to this target group. APA is also investigating avenues such as Facebook or MySpace content which might be interesting to youth and could be used to expose them to the planning profession. Additionally, the Diversity Task Force will have a joint conference call with the Membership Committee in December to discuss programs and methods APA can use to increase ethnic diversity in our membership.

Diversity of Planning Directors. APA is conducting a survey of the planning directors in the top 100 cities about their ethnicity, gender, whether they are active in APA, and why.

Curriculum Review. At a future meeting, we will discuss planning curricula and whether current Planning Accreditation Board criteria adequately consider the changing demographics of communities, the social challenges and needs of diverse communities, and other related topics.

Michele Rodriguez would like to hear from you on these or other issues of Diversity. Contact her at Michele@boggis.com ■

PLANNING URBAN DESIGN ARCHITECTURE
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE INTERIOR DESIGN



www.sasaki.com

San Francisco, CA

Watertown, MA



**DONALDSON
ASSOCIATES**

Douglas Donaldson, JD, AICP
Planning and Environmental Services

627 Spokane Avenue • Albany, CA 94706 • (510) 528-3684

Where in the world? *by Naphtali H. Knox, FAICP*



Answer on page 15 — photo submittals are welcome.



Bay Area Economics
the economics of place™
bayareaeconomics.com

HEADQUARTERS
1285 66th Street
Emeryville, CA 94608
510.547.9380
fax: 510.547.9388

NEW YORK 212.812.2145
SACRAMENTO 530.750.2195
WASHINGTON DC 301.589.6660



HIGGINS ASSOCIATES
CIVIL & TRAFFIC ENGINEERS

- * Traffic Impact Studies
- * Traffic Calming
- * Roadway Design
- * Parking Studies
- * Travel Forecasting
- * Circulation Plans

www.kbhiggins.com (408) 848-3122



BMS
DESIGN GROUP

URBAN DESIGN
CAMPUS PLANNING
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
LAND PLANNING

414 Jackson Street, Suite 404
San Francisco, CA 94111
T. (415) 249-0130
F. (415) 249-0132
www.bmsdesigngroup.com

DESIGN, COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT



1625 SHATTUCK AVENUE, SUITE 300
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA 94709

TEL: 510 848 3815
FAX: 510 848 4315
www.dceplanning.com

comprehensive planning urban design environmental review
landscape architecture public participation smart growth GIS

AICP Certification Maintenance update

By Naphtali H. Knox, FAICP; Editor, Northern News

In the November issue, we ran an article about the AICP certification maintenance (CM) program for Certified Planners. With only a very few exceptions, Certified Planners must receive 32 credits of continuing education every two years.

As promised by APA in September, AICP members received an email update on October 25 with instructions for logging CM credits with APA. I went to the website and quickly and easily found the California Chapter APA conference and — except for mobile workshops, which still are not listed — found and logged all the sessions I attended.

I've gone back to the site several times to see if the mobile workshops had been added. They have not. But in the process, I found I no longer could locate the lists of sessions that I unearthed so easily on October 26, no matter which of the APA-suggested search methods I used. So I emailed APA that since Oct. 26, I (and others) have been unable to access the lists of approved activities, other than those sponsored by national APA.

Cathryn E. Johnson, APA's Certification Maintenance Program Associate, responded. I followed her directions successfully, and it seemed useful to pass them on to you:

"The search function on the online log is a bit difficult to use. When searching for activities in the online CM log (by clicking on "Report New CM Credits"), leave the Keyword field blank; leave 4/14/2007 in the "Events Since" field; and most importantly, enter the city, state abbreviation of the location where the activity was held (example: San Jose, CA) into the Location field."

I did that. The State Conference link came up immediately, and clicking on the link produced an alphabetical list of all of the approved sessions (see reproduction of part of web page on next page).

Ms. Johnson also advises:

"The issue of the sessions from an activity not linking directly from the list of approved providers will be resolved in the near future. It has always been envisioned that this functionality would exist; however, it was not programmed in time for the October 25, 2007 launch of the logging system."

(continued on next page)



- Certified WBE, founded in 1983
- Planning
 - Permitting
 - CEQA/NEPA Compliance
 - Biological Resources Assessment
 - GIS/Cartographic Design

For more information, contact Dain Anderson, Director of Planning
 4 West Fourth Avenue, Suite 303 • San Mateo, California 94402
 voice (650) 373-1200 • fax (650) 373-1211 • www.mha-inc.com



Los Angeles
 Oakland
 Petaluma
 Portland
 Sacramento
 San Diego
 San Francisco
 Seattle
 Tampa
www.esassoc.com

Where solutions and service meet



PHOTOMONTAGES • WALK-THROUGHS • VIDEO

HARTMUT GERDES, AICP, PRINCIPAL TEL 415 398 7044
WWW.SQUAREONEPRODUCTIONS.COM

METROPOLITAN PLANNING GROUP

T. 408 730 4106
www.MplanningGROUP.com

AICP Certification Maintenance update

(continued from previous page)

Example of online CM log:

Report New CM Credits

Search for events for which you have earned CM credits

Keyword (Provider, Event Name or Presenter):

Events Since (mm/dd/yyyy): Location (example: Chicago, IL):

April 2007 to April 2008

September 2007

APA California Chapter Conference
 Sunday, 09/30/2007 to 10/03/2007

"Ground-Truthing" Smart Growth and New Urbanist Developments | Monday, Oct 1 2007 1:15PM

"Hot" Planning Topics in the California Legislature | Monday, Oct 1 2007 1:15PM

2007 CEQA Update: Some Things Always Change | Wednesday, Oct 3 2007 9:00AM

Baby Boomers and the Urban Experience: The Next Phase of a Unique Generation | Wednesday, Oct 3 2007 9:00AM

Beyond the Community Workshop | Tuesday, Oct 2 2007 1:30PM

Beyond the Visioning Process: State-wide Perspectives on Regional Growth | Tuesday, Oct 2 2007 9:00AM

Breaking a Planning Taboo: CEQA review without Automobile LOS Analysis | Tuesday, Oct 2 2007 9:00AM

Building Smarter Together: How Planning and Public Health Can Work Collaboratively | Tuesday, Oct 2 2007 10:30AM

I also suggested that APA put a direct link on the home page to the CM log, as it isn't obvious how to get there. Ms. Johnson said that sounded like a good idea and she would share my suggestion.

If you have questions or comments about CM, you can contact Cathryn Johnson at AICPCM@planning.org ■

The "Care and Feeding" of Planning Commissioners

By Lynn Osborn, NSCCAPA Planning Commission Liaison

At this year's CCAPA Annual Conference in San José, I was delighted to be on a panel called "The Care and Feeding of Commissioners." As I prepared my comments, I came to realize that there are many elements which encourage and nurture volunteerism. There are certainly many motivators. Sometimes it is out of a NIMBY concern about a potential development or a desire to improve some aspect of the community. For others, it might be the desire to develop professional expertise or as a stepping stone to a Council position. If one is very lucky, you continue volunteering because of the satisfaction and enjoyment of working with colleagues whom you respect and enjoy.

(continued on next page)

LSA

LSA ASSOCIATES INC.

www.lsa-assoc.com

PLANNING | ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES | DESIGN

RBF
CONSULTING

Providing planning, design and construction of the built environment

JOIN THE RBF TEAM!

www.RBF.COM
Monterey 831.883.8187 San Jose 408.993.9224
Sacramento 916.928.1113 Walnut Creek 925.906.1460

DYETT & BHATIA
Urban and Regional Planners

www.dyettandbhatia.com
755 Sansome St. Suite 400
San Francisco, CA 94111
415.956.4300

General Plans
Urban Design
Specific Plans
Zoning
Environmental Planning

Lorraine Weiss

DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT REVIEW



1800 WASHINGTON ST. No. 218 SAN FRANCISCO CA 94109
415 921-5344



EMC PLANNING GROUP INC.
A LAND USE PLANNING & DESIGN FIRM

Monterey, CA 831.649.1799 www.emcplanning.com

The “Care and Feeding” of Planning Commissioners

(continued from previous page)

That has certainly been my motivation. As I look back on my 17 years as a volunteer Planning Commissioner for the Town of Danville, it is interesting to see the evolution of my own continued interest in volunteering. The sustained level of commitment has included countless hours reviewing documents, making site visits on weekends and attending two evening meetings every month.

Originally the motivation was to learn more about the new community into which I had recently moved. This interest evolved into a desire to develop skills which complemented my transportation profession, which eventually led to an interest in sharing my expertise as a mentor to new Commissioners. Ultimately, I not only really personally admired and enjoyed my fellow Commission colleagues, but I received much satisfaction in having contributed noticeably to the look and character of my community.

This was not done without much “care and feeding” from many others, including the Town Council who chose me, fellow commissioners, the public, professional planners, experts in a variety of related fields, and especially the Town staff who did much of the weekly “care and feeding.”

Commissioners appreciate positive feedback

The “care” and appreciation of Commissioners can come in many forms. It may be some positive comment made by a Council member or colleague about one’s thoughtful evaluation of a project or how a meeting was chaired. It could be an acknowledgement by staff that a Commissioner’s change or addition to a Condition of Approval improved the overall project.

In our town, the Council holds an annual Council/Commission workshop each spring where thoughts and concerns are aired and shared, which helps everyone feel a part of the bigger town leadership. The really fun times include the annual Community Volunteer Awards night and the holiday party where everyone relaxes and is acknowledged. This kind of “care” given to Commissioners provides sustained commitment and interest.

Finally, the “feeding” is even more important in many ways than the “care” of a Commissioner. This involves providing the necessary tools and information for a Commissioner to do

(continued on next page)

CDG
CANNON
DESIGN
GROUP

PLANNING URBAN DESIGN
ARCHITECTURE

180 Harbor Drive Suite 219
Sausalito, CA 94965
415.331.3795
email: cdgplan@pacbell.net

DAVID GOLICK

(925) 798-6276

4241 Dubhe Ct., Concord, CA 94521

- City and Environmental Planning
- Project Management
- Office Administration
- Contract Planner



CirclePoint™
The whole view.

135 Main Street, Suite 1600
San Francisco, CA 94105
P 415.227.1100
F 415.227.1110
www.circlepoint.com

- Environmental Management
- Communications Management
- Training & eLearning Programs

Calling card advertisements support the *Northern News*. For more information on placing a calling card announcement and to receive format specifications, contact:

Hannah Young, Advertising Director,
(510) 540-7331,
hannah.young@lsa-assoc.com.

The "Care and Feeding" of Planning Commissioners

(continued from previous page)

the job well. It includes training, information dissemination, and education on a wide variety of planning subjects and ethics.

It is vital that Commissioners understand that their role is important and that decisions are to be taken seriously, with thoughtful preparedness, open public hearing, and a clear understanding that there are legal implications of those decisions. In return, reliable attendance, preparedness and fair-mindedness, along with an unbiased and respectful approach in the planning process are expected. The "care and feeding" helps inspire continued enthusiasm and commitment of volunteerism which, in turn, provides knowledgeable, experienced and respected Commissioners. ■

New Tentative Order on storm water runoff released for public review

By Laura Prickett, AICP

On December 4, the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board released for public review a Municipal Regional Permit (MRP) Tentative Order that will apply to about 80 municipalities and flood control agencies in the San Francisco Bay Region. Municipalities subject to the order are generally in the more urbanized areas. They are all currently subject to countywide, individual or shared Phase I National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits, which allow them to discharge storm water from municipal storm drains into local waterways. (The permit does not apply to the City and County of San Francisco, or any other jurisdiction where storm water and wastewater are mingled in a combined sewer system).

The MRP proposes to be somewhat more stringent than the existing requirements. Storm water runoff from urbanized areas is the largest source of water pollution in California. Reissuing municipal storm water permits allows the Water Board to introduce new provisions in order to solve this problem. Current Bay Area Phase I NPDES permits require long-term, onsite water quality treatment of storm water for projects that create and/or replace 10,000 square feet or more of impervious surface (with some opportunity for offsite

(continued on next page)

JOBS

ASIAN NEIGHBORHOOD DESIGN

Community Planning Director

Asian Neighborhood Design (AND, www.andnet.org) seeks a talented and community-minded individual to become our Community Planning Director (CPD). AND has been providing planning technical assistance to community organizations and advocates in San Francisco neighborhoods for several years, and has conducted significant policy and research work related to planning, housing, and land use issues.

The CPD will be responsible for direction of all community planning projects within AND, managing program staff including coordination with architecture principals on utilization of staff skills in design and geographic information systems (GIS); and being the primary communicator and liaison for AND to community organizations, advocates, city agencies and policymakers on planning and policy issues. The CPD will work with community organizations and staff to identify program needs and sources of funds.

We are looking for candidates with experience in the field of planning and/or architecture, program management, and a commitment to social justice and to underserved communities. He/she will have excellent communications, organizational, and analytical skills, understanding of the applied use of GIS, and knowledge of community benefits, San Francisco policy issues, and the ability to work with diverse populations.

For a full job description, e-mail Lilia Arellano, HR Manager: larellano@andnet.org or call (415) 575-0423 x204.

DESIGN, COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT

Digital Services Manager

Design, Community & Environment (DC&E) is hiring an associate- or senior associate-level employee to oversee and manage all digital planning work within the firm, with particular emphasis on the areas of Geographic Information Systems (GIS); digital participation tools such as PLACE3S, Index and CommunityViz; and visual simulations and fly-throughs.

(continued on next page)

New Tentative Order on storm water runoff released for public review *(continued from previous page)*

solutions where onsite treatment is impracticable). Among the provisions in the Tentative Order is a future reduction, in 2010, of the threshold for storm water treatment from 10,000 square feet to 5,000 square feet for auto service facilities, retail gasoline outlets, restaurants, and parking lots. The Tentative Order may be viewed at

www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay/mrp.htm

Written comments are due to the Regional Water Board by February 1, and there will be a public hearing to take comments on February 13. A subsequent hearing will be scheduled to adopt the MRP.

Laura Prickett, AICP, is a Senior Planner with the consulting firm EOA, Inc., where she assists municipalities and countywide storm water programs in complying with municipal storm water permit requirements. ■

US Climate Change Science Program report *By Scott Sjulín*

The U.S. Climate Change Science Program (<http://www.climatescience.gov/>) is a federally sponsored think tank that conducts research on global warming, carbon emissions, and climate change. The program has published some very powerful reports on the current state of our environment, including the recent “North American Carbon Budget and Implications for the Global Carbon Cycle” (report released November 13, 2007).

The Carbon Budget analyzes North American carbon emissions in “balance sheet” form: “Sources” of carbon (electricity generation, auto emissions, etc.) are on the positive ledger while “sinks” of carbon (vegetation, etc.) are on the negative ledger. The idea is that “sinks” will outpace “sources” and total net carbon emissions will be reduced. However, the report shows this is clearly not the case, as net carbon emissions contributed by North America *alone* have skyrocketed at an alarming rate, especially in the past three years.

The report contains very pertinent and useful information, but has been largely ignored outside of academic and intellectual circles. The main report page is <http://www.climatescience.gov/Library/sap/sap2-2/final-report/default.htm>

(continued on next page)

DESIGN, COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT
Digital Services Manager (Continued)

The Digital Services Manager's responsibilities will fall into five general categories:

- (1) Oversight of design and production of GIS products and maps, gaming exercises, visual simulations and fly-throughs.
- (2) Training and mentoring of DC&E staff in GIS, digital participation techniques and software.
- (3) Oversight in resolving problems and conflicts in GIS and related digital software and procedures.
- (4) Data management: locating, evaluating and documenting additions to DC&E's GIS basemap data library and visual simulation toolkit, and ensuring proper metadata documentation of all data layers and digital components.
- (5) Marketing of DC&E's digital service capabilities to prospective.

DC&E is a fast-paced planning and design firm with a staff of 45, whose work includes the preparation of general plans, specific plans and Environmental Impact Reports in addition to significant public participation projects and detailed urban design studies. The selected candidate will assist with the digital aspects of projects in each of the firm's five professional disciplines: comprehensive planning, urban design, environmental review, transportation planning, and, to a lesser extent, landscape architecture.

Over time, we hope that digital services will become a stand-alone service area with its own client base. Applicants with experience or interest in developing digital services and products as stand-alone areas of work are therefore especially encouraged to apply.

Applicants for this position should have extensive experience in the management of computer hardware, ESRI GIS software and vector and raster-based data layers, digital participation tools and visual simulations. The ideal candidate will be conversant in both digital services and urban planning, and will work well with colleagues possessing varying degrees of expertise in GIS and other digital services.

(continued on next page)

US Climate Change Science Program report

(continued from previous page)

Readers can view the summary version of the report, and then, if interested, read the full report (or sections of interest). Link to the summary is: <http://www.climatechange.gov/Library/sap/sap2-2/final-report/sap2-2-final-es.pdf>

I attended a forum on the report, sponsored jointly by the Cornell University Entrepreneur Network and NASA, Mountain View. If you would like to learn more about that forum, please contact me at scott.sjulin@gmail.com. ■

**McKinsey report: Reducing US GHG—
How much at what cost?**

<http://www.mckinsey.com/client-service/ccsi/greenhousegas.asp>
November 29, 2007.

In 2007, McKinsey & Company worked with leading companies, industry experts, academics, and environmental NGOs to estimate the costs and potentials of different options to reduce or prevent Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions in the US through 2030. The research team examined where and how emissions reductions can best be achieved, at what costs, and over what period. More than 250 options were analyzed, encompassing efficiency gains, shifts to lower-carbon energy sources, and expanded carbon sinks.

The central conclusion was that the US could reduce GHG emissions by one-third to one-half by 2030 using tested approaches and high-potential emerging technologies. Marginal costs would be less than \$50 per ton, but achieving GHG reductions at the lowest cost to the economy will require early, strong, coordinated, economy-wide action.

Read the executive summary (PDF - 460 KB)
http://www.mckinsey.com/client-service/ccsi/pdf/Greenhouse_Gas_Emissions_Executive_Summary.pdf

Read the full report (PDF - 4.11 MB)
http://www.mckinsey.com/client-service/ccsi/pdf/US_ghg_final_report.pdf ■

Answer to "Where in the world?" (page 9)

Prague, Czech Republic: Old Town Square and Tyn Church

DESIGN, COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT

Digital Services Manager (Continued)

DC&E offers an excellent package of benefits and competitive salaries. Salary for this position will be commensurate with the selected candidate's qualifications, in the range of \$65,000 to \$95,000 per year. DC&E is an equal opportunity employer and encourages candidates with diverse backgrounds.

Qualified candidates are encouraged to contact us by phone, or to e-mail a résumé and cover letter to

steve@dceplanning.com

or fax to (510) 848-4315

RBF CONSULTING

Since 1944, RBF Consulting's reputation and success have been founded on a commitment to quality, professionalism and continuing innovation. Our 1,000+ member firm provides planning and civil engineering services in 15 offices throughout California, Arizona, and Nevada and fosters an enthusiastic, active and collaborative environment and nurturing culture. As part of the RBF team, you will be involved in a variety of innovative and high profile projects in redevelopment/infill; base reuse; downtown revitalization; urban design; landscape architecture; brown/gray/green field development; and green/sustainable practices.

We are currently seeking qualified candidates for:

- **Senior Environmental Project Managers/Planners**
- **Environmental Planners/Analysts**
- **Environmental Planning Managers**
- **Landscape Architects**
- **Land Planners**

RBF provides a vibrant, family-oriented environment and a team-based culture in which we are each other's greatest resource. RBF offers excellent compensation and benefits packages, including 401(k), profit sharing and bonus plans, relocation assistance and ownership opportunity. We invite you to join our team, build your career with us, and make a difference!

Please visit our website at www.rbf.com and send your resume to:

Fax: (949) 855-7060

Email: hmail@rbf.com ■

From *The New York Times*

How green is my alley

"Chicago is the alley capital of America." Its alleys are "the paved equivalent of five midsize airports." *The New York Times* reports the city "has decided to retrofit its alleys with environmentally sustainable road-building materials [in a] most ambitious public street makeover plan ..."

"In a green alley, water is allowed to penetrate the soil through the pavement, which consists of ... permeable concrete or porous asphalt [and] recharges the underground water table instead of ending up as polluted runoff in rivers and streams... The new pavements are designed to reflect heat from the sun, helping the city stay cool on hot days. They also stay warmer on cold days." The alleys are made with recycled materials, and their "lighting conserves energy and reduces glare."

"The city says the cost of construction is offset by what it would have paid for maintenance and sewer improvements for the old [alleys]... In the past several years, Chicago also has built 90 miles of landscaped medians and refurbished more than 100 miles of streetscapes."

Susan Saulny, "In Miles of Alleys, Chicago Finds Its Next Environmental Frontier," *The New York Times*, November 26, 2007. Full article at

<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/11/26/us/26chicago.html?em&ex=1196226000&en=870df72e8b744c4c&ei=5087%0A>

Save our planet, Save our ship

A ship launched in 1969 under the name *Lindblad Explorer* — the first ship built specifically to ferry tourists to Antarctica — smashed into submerged sea ice November 23rd and sank in 3,300 feet of water in Bransfield Strait, Antarctica. The 154 passengers, expedition staff, and crew were saved after drifting five hours in lifeboats in choppy seas. *The New York Times* reports "The rescue may have been a success, [but] the consequences for the Antarctic's fragile environment of having a submerged ship estimated to be holding 48,000 gallons of marine diesel fuel sitting off its coast are unclear. The frontier nature of Antarctica ... also means ... there are no obvious answers about who is responsible for dealing with any environmental damage the *Explorer* may cause or how methods can be created to prevent future sinkings."

Ian Austen, "Sinking Reinforces Misgivings on Antarctic Tourism," *The New York Times*, November 26, 2007.

Full article at

<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/11/26/world/americas/26ship.html?ref=world>

(continued on next page)

LETTERS

Regarding “Leave no plan behind: updating the General Plan Guidelines” (*Northern News*, November 2007, pages 8–10). Planners don’t decide general plans, decision makers do, and we are inheriting the countless planning decisions that met the current law and thus created the massive land use and transportation problems across the state. I suggest an updated statute to establish the State’s interest in having local governments plan compact, livable communities. The law should be based on the values in the smart growth and Ahwanhee principles, which should be legislated to create consistency and some certainty in planning and in the guidelines. Perhaps the guidelines can be revised to springboard interest in updating the state planning law to reflect the guidelines.

Jim Lopes, AICP
San Luis Obispo County

Thank you for the coverage (City of Ontario General Plan website format, *Northern News*, November 2007, pages 11–12). I look forward to being able to send you a live link on the plan when it’s complete. Great newsletter by the way!

Brian Judd
The Planning Center, Costa Mesa

That was ONE HELLUVA *Northern News* edition (November 2007)! I love the format and readability, and the content was great — I read the whole thing right away. I particularly liked Hartmut Gerdes’ piece — it made me pull out my copy of *Smart Growth in a Changing World* and determine to read it again ASAP. Your summary of the panel on General Plan law and guidelines was also most interesting.

Gene Arner, AICP
Boise, Idaho

Good work on the newsletter. It looks crisp and sharp!

Thomas A. (“Thom”) McCue, AICP
LAFCO of Monterey County, Salinas

The Newsletter reads very well and looks great. Now I only need to get accustomed to reading it on-screen.

Hartmut H. Gerdes, AICP
Square One Productions, San Francisco

From *The New York Times* (continued from previous page)

All the news that’s fit to print

One of the more remarkable of the recent spate of internet multimedia slide shows is Nicolai Ouroussoff’s tour and critique of the new *New York Times* building in which he works — a tour de force by architect Renzo Piano. Perhaps the building is more architecture than urban design, or more urban design than planning, but the scale and sense of flow through the public spaces — and the quality of the images — is extraordinary.

“As an employee, I’m enchanted with our new building on Eighth Avenue. The grand old 18-story neo-Gothic structure on 43rd Street, home to *The New York Times* for nearly a century, had its sentimental charms. But it was a depressing place to work.”

Nicolai Ouroussoff, “Pride and Nostalgia Mix in The Times’s New Home,” *The New York Times*, November 20, 2007.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2007/11/20/arts/design/20time.html>

Don’t miss the narrated slide show and interactive

panoramas: http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2007/11/20/arts/20071120_TIMES_GRAPHIC.html ■

Going green: Stopping unwanted mail

According to an article on *GreenDimes* in the *Palo Alto Weekly*, November 28, 2007, 100 million trees and 28 billion gallons of water are used to create junk mail each year.

Now there’s a way to opt out of receiving unwanted catalogs via US mail. *Catalog Choice*, <http://www.catalogchoice.org/>, is a free service that lets you register online with your name (or multiple names) and your primary mailing address. Using the website’s search facilities, you find and decline specific catalogs you’ve been getting but don’t want to receive. *Catalog Choice* then contacts the catalog providers on your behalf, and requests that your name be removed from their mailing lists.

Catalog Choice is a sponsored project of the Ecology Center (Berkeley) <http://www.ecologycenter.org/>, and is endorsed by the National Wildlife Federation and the Natural Resources Defense Council.

If you want to pay a small fee and have someone else take your name off dozens of direct marketers’ mailing lists (including catalogs), a startup company in Palo Alto called *GreenDimes* will do it for you for a basic fee of \$15. This gives you anti-junk mail service plus 10 trees planted in the subscriber’s name. *GreenDimes* has helped fund environmental education in Third World countries, as well as the United Nations Foundation’s Nothing but Nets campaign, which supplies mosquito nets to fight malaria. See <http://www.greendimes.com> ■



National conference comes west

The 2008 APA national conference is coming west again, this time to Las Vegas. What a wonderful opportunity for Northern Section planners and planning students to attend a national conference! Though most of us know Las Vegas as the ultimate tourism destination, the city faces the same planning challenges as other western US cities—transportation, housing affordability, downtown revitalization, sprawl, densification, sustainability, and scarce water and other resources, to name just a few.

**The conference promises
70-plus workshops,
great program sessions,
and fun events.**

Remember April 27 – May 1

**You won't want to miss it,
so start planning now!**

What others are saying

About housing and climate change

"Affordable housing is truly an environmental issue; when people can't afford to live close to their jobs, they end up driving long distances and pumping more carbon dioxide into the air. If we're actually going to reduce our emissions, we've got to reduce the amount we drive. To do that, we need to build more homes near jobs, and make sure people can afford those homes. Half of all development that will be around in 2030 hasn't been built yet. There's still time."

Tom Steinbach and Mike Howe, "Technology alone won't tame climate change juggernaut,"

San Francisco Chronicle, October 21, 2007

<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article/article?f=/c/a/2007/10/21/INMQSQD8A.DTL>

About our "water footprint"

"We will talk about our 'water footprint' just as we now talk about our carbon footprint. Any conversations about the one will in short order expand to include the other. It isn't just the matter of growing corn for ethanol, which is already straining water supplies. The less water in our rivers, the less hydro-power our dams produce. It is a perverse side effect of global warming that we may have to emit large volumes of carbon dioxide to obtain the clean water that is becoming scarcer because of the carbon dioxide we've already put into the atmosphere."

Joe Gertner, "The future is drying up," *The New York Times Magazine*, October 21, 2007.

<http://query.nytimes.com/gst/fullpage.html?res=9C0CEFDA103CF932A15753C1A9619C8B63>

About trees and Katrina

Researchers led by Jeffrey Chambers, assistant professor of ecology and evolutionary biology at Tulane University, estimate that 320 million large trees were killed or severely damaged by Hurricane Katrina in August 2005. The loss of the trees, combined with carbon dioxide released from decomposition of the dead wood, is resulting in a large carbon dioxide release into the environment. The carbon that will be released as these trees decompose is enough to cancel out an entire year's worth of net gain (new tree biomass) by all U.S. forests.

Arthur Nead, *NewWave*,

Tulane University, November 16, 2007.

http://tulane.edu/news/newwave/111607_warming.cfm

Also— <http://www.sciencemag.org/cgi/content/abstract/318/5853/1107> ■

Northern Section's Holiday Party

E&O Trading Company, San Francisco, November 1, 2007

All Photos by Rebekah Ross, City of San José

(All listings are Left to Right)



Jillian Rich and Amanda Benschel,
UC Berkeley.



Daniel Marks, AICP, City of Berkeley;
Vivian Kahn, FAICP, Dyett & Bhatia;
and Patricia Curtin, Morgan Miller Blair.



Riad Elbdour, City of Fremont; and
Board Member Taryn Hanano,
San José State University.



Immediate Past Director Hing Wong,
AICP, ABAG; and Director
Juan Borrelli, AICP, City of San José.



Board Member Alexandra Kostalas, ENTRIX;
Mika Miyasato, AICP, HNTB; and
Director Elect Darcy Kremin, AICP, ENTRIX.



Newsletter Editor Naphtali Knox, FAICP;
and Alia Anderson, UC Berkeley.



Brian Mulry, Gagen McCoy; and
Bryan Wenter, AICP, Morgan Miller Blair.



Morgan Galli, San José State University; Board
Member Michael Olin, WRT; and Steve Adams,
San José State.



Board Member Pierce Macdonald,
City of Belvedere; and Immediate Past
Director Hing Wong, AICP, ABAG.

NORTHERN SECTION CALENDAR

JANUARY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

JANUARY

- 1/7** **2008 NSCCAPA Awards Applications Available**
Go to: www.norcalapa.org. Applications due in March (date to be determined).
- 1/19** **AICP Test Preparation**
First session, 10 AM – 3 PM, San José State University King Library, Room 525 - Cultural Heritage Center. Library is at 4th and San Fernando. Course is free. Materials charge is \$50 – 75. Each meeting has expert guest speakers covering the six domains of the national test. Candidates and those interested should call or email Don Bradley, AICP Director, at 650-592-0915 or dr.donbradley@comcast.net with your name, email, phones and any questions. Other sessions are on February 9, March 1, March 22, April 12 and May 3.
- 1/24** **Housing Element Q&A and Affordable Housing Preservation Briefing**
11 AM – 3:30 PM, Silicon Valley Community Foundation, 1700 El Camino Real, Suite 100, San Mateo. Sponsored by San Mateo County Department of Housing and San Mateo County Planners Association. Barbara Kautz of Goldfarb & Lipman (and former Community Development Director of the City of San Mateo) will lead a morning session on Housing Element Update Requirements. Elyse Perry and Matt Schwartz of California Housing Partnership Corporation will lead an afternoon briefing session on affordable housing preservation, which is a mandatory component of the Housing Element. **Please register by January 15.** Qualifies for one AICP Certification Maintenance credit. For more information or to request a registration form, contact Dorcas Cheng-Tozun at 650.802.5040 or dtozun@smchousing.org
- 1/25** **Spring Speaker Series, SJSU Urban Planning Coalition**
Noon to 1 PM, San José State University, Clark Hall, Fishbowl Room 100H. Speaker and topic TBA. This is the first program in a monthly series of speakers on “Perspectives in Planning.” Other sessions are on February 22, March 21 and April 25. For more information or to express an interest in speaking, contact Taryn Hanano, taryn.hanano@gmail.com
- 1/26** **NSCCAPA Board Retreat**
10 AM – 3 PM. City of Santa Clara Central Park Library, 2635 Homestead Road, Santa Clara.

(continued on next page)

FEBRUARY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	

FEBRUARY

- 2/1** **Comments due on new Municipal Regional Permit Tentative Order**
See article on page 13. Written comments must be submitted to the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Board by 5:00 PM. Comments may be submitted electronically to mrp@waterboards.ca.gov

- 2/9** **AICP Test Preparation**

- 2/13** **Public hearing on new Municipal Regional Permit Tentative Order**
9:00 AM (approximate start time), Elihu M. Harris State Building, First Floor Auditorium, 1515 Clay Street, Oakland.

- 2/22** **Spring Speaker Series, SJSU Urban Planning Coalition**

MARCH

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

MARCH

- 3/1** **AICP Test Preparation**

- 3/6** **NSCCAPA Board Meeting**
6:30 – 8:30 PM. Location to be determined.

- 3/5-7** **Third National Summit on Equitable Development, Social Justice, & Smart Growth**
New Orleans, Louisiana. Hosted by PolicyLink, Regional Equity '08 will offer participants a venue for in-depth exploration of the groundbreaking achievements, innovative strategies, and lasting policies that connect low-income/low-wealth communities to resources and opportunity. Take advantage of early-bird registration at www.regionalequity08.org, or email dsm@policylink.org for more information.

- 3/21** **Spring Speaker Series, SJSU Urban Planning Coalition**

- 3/22** **AICP Test Preparation**

- 3/25-28** **Changing Climates, 2008 NAEP/AEP Joint Conference**
Omni Hotel, 675 L Street, San Diego. Registration now available on-line at www.naep.org