

May/June 2007

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# CALIFORNIA CHAPTER American Planning Association **AICP** Certification Maintenance CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIRED FOR CERTIFIED PLANNERS

n Friday, April 13, in Philadelphia, the AICP Commission approved a plan for Certification Maintenance (CM). As a service to Northern Section professionals, Northern News has condensed the essentials of the plan from an April 27 posting by APA Interact. The program has many details, some of which remain to be determined in the weeks ahead.

Initiating the program requires two changes to Section 2 of the AICP bylaws regarding Certification Maintenance. The AICP Commission is soliciting comments on the proposed changes during a 30-day review period ending May 26. (Read a more complete description of the plan and the proposed bylaws changes at http://www.planning.org/certification/maintenance.htm.) If the changes are approved, they will take effect immediately. Send your comments to AICPbylaws@planning.org. Questions about CM may be sent to AICP@planning.org.

## The basics

To maintain an AICP or FAICP credential, a planner must earn a total of 32 qualifying credits every two years. One CM credit is equivalent to one contact hour of training.

Credits will be reported by each qualifying AICP member in a CM online logging system to be launched in January 2008. Eligible credits gained under the current Continuing Professional Development (CPD) system on or after April 14, 2007, will be carried over into the CM logging system.

## Course providers

Educational providers will be required to register with APA/AICP. The providers and all their eligible educational offerings will be reviewed and, upon approval, entered into an online directory of approved credits. The courses will also be entered into the APA/AICP online educational calendar.

News

## Why Certification Maintenance?

The AICP Commission is introducing CM standards to ensure the integrity of the AICP credential and advance the standards of practice of the planning profession.

Communities and the planning profession are changing. New planning tools and techniques are available to guide community change. The purpose of the Certification Maintenance plan is to provide planning professionals with updated knowledge and the skills they need to remain current. The certification standards are similar to those of other professional organizations.

APA's Articles of Incorporation give the AICP Commission the authority to set standards for certification. After several years of discussion the Commission posted two draft proposals for member comment. A one-month comment period began December 6, 2006, and a second began February 21, 2007. AICP Commissioners met on the issue in July and November 2006, and January and April 2007, and held several conference calls.

(continued on page 6)

#### MORE PRINT ISSUE—SEE PAGE ONLY 1

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#### DIRECTOR'S NOTE

he 2007 CCAPA Conference in San José, from September 30 to October 3—just a few months away—is expected to draw over 1,200 planners from all over the western United States. The conference theme, "Transforming the Urban Fabric," its associated patchwork quilt logo, and two dynamic keynote speakers, Carl Guardino and Norman Mineta, were selected to represent the vast array of diverse issues and specialties within the realm of planning.

The conference theme has allowed the steering committee to organize more than 100 conference sessions and 11 mobile workshops into a series of 10 individual and fun planning-relevant "threads." Many great opportunities to sponsor key components of this conference are still available for those who wish to enhance the visibility of their organization and showcase their involvement and expertise in the planning realm. Please visit http://www.calapa.org for the most up to date conference-related information, for a peak at the overall "Conference-at-a-Glance" and the distinguished keynote speaker bios, and for online registration to attend. Details on how students can enter a Student Poster Competition by May 31, 2007, to win a free conference registration are also available at this website. For information on sponsorship and exhibitor opportunities, *see page 4*.)

Did you know that May is Preservation Month? The National Trust for Historic Preservation is commemorating its third annual preservation month celebration with the theme of "Making Preservation Work." The concept is to celebrate the diverse and irreplaceable heritage in our cities and states, and to enable all Americans-planners and citizens alike-to become involved in historic preservation efforts. Celebrating the past will keep history alive so we can all live it, learn from it, and be inspired by it. The event also serves as an excellent opportunity to remind each of us to celebrate the successes of historic preservation efforts in the communities in which we live and work. I encourage you, throughout May-and during the rest of the year-to take stock of how historic preservation is working to improve the livability of your community, protecting the places that people care about, building community pride, and bringing reinvestment, new jobs, and economic vitality to your community. Check out the National Trust's website at www.nationaltrust.org/preservationmonth for more information concerning this event and for a calendar of community celebrations across the nation.

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

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# Profile: Dawn Meader McCausland wins CPF award

By Lisa Peterson, NSCCAPA Student Representative, UC Berkeley

awn Meader McCausland, winner of the 2006-2007 California Planning Foundation Northern Section Award, is the kind of student who is not afraid to face the most challenging questions in the field of city planning. A second year Masters of City Planning Student at UC Berkeley, Dawn received her undergraduate degree in Ethnic Studies from Mills College in Oakland. Her undergraduate thesis explored the history of

# Onward and upward

Scott A. Shepard, NSCCAPA's Legislative Director, has joined Catellus Development Group in San Francisco as senior planner, Mission Bay Redevelopment Project. Scott is the former entitlements coordinator with RHL Design Group, Petaluma. He has a BA in Geography from the University of Vermont and a Master of City Planning from San Diego State University magna cum laude. At Catellus, Scott will manage multiple aspects of the Mission Bay development, including the design of public infrastructure and parks, mapping, entitlements, and the tracking of third party developer obligations.

the East Bay during World War II, focusing on Japanese-American internment and African-American migration from the South.

After attending Mills, Dawn worked for four years in the field of affordable housing, initially doing outreach. "My first job was to recruit landlords for Section 8 at the end of the dot-com boom when only 50 percent of our clients could find housing."

She later became a management analyst working on policy development and regulatory compliance. "I learned the importance of implementation planning. Doing audits and managing how policies were carried out changed the way I approach planning."

Dawn's interest in urban planning is somewhat of a contradiction to her personal background. Her parents—in an effort to live beyond the reaches of modern society—spent nearly 20 years in wilderness isolation in Alaska before Dawn was born. Her sister followed the tradition, spending the year living in the family's arctic cabin over 200 miles from the nearest road.

Although Dawn shares her family's interest in wilderness living, she focused her studies on urban issues. She wanted to use the experience of graduate school to explore planning, including land use, urban design, and economic development. She was attracted to Berkeley's program because of its breadth and has enjoyed the opportunity to take courses outside the planning department in fields including business and agriculture. "I like to study the interrelationships between decisions, how decisions in one area create impacts in other areas," she said.

Dawn's capstone Professional Report project focuses on industrial land supply in Oakland. Utilizing growth forecasts for industrial and distribution sectors and trends in market demand, she is assessing policy options for Bay Area cities grappling with the question of rezoning or preserving industrial lands and integrating industrial uses in new ways.

Given her background in affordable housing, the issue of industrial land supply is particularly interesting to Dawn. Rather than seeing a conflict between affordable housing and industrial land preservation, Dawn sees similarities in the land market impacts, worker and renter demographics, and public attitudes toward the two sectors.

After spending two semesters studying the impacts of Hurricane Katrina, Dawn recently spent her spring break in New Orleans with a group of students from UC Berkeley. "Even with everything I'd learned, I couldn't conceptualize the scope of the destruction until I saw it," she said of her experience in New Orleans. "Parts of the City have such a sense of vibrancy and resilience and parts are still so desolate with crumpled houses, empty lots, and a deep sense of loss and abandon. It's important for us to remember that Katrina may be out of the news, but the injustice is continuing."



House, Lower Ninth Ward, New Orleans, March 2007

# County Supervisor responds on climate change

By Liz Kniss, Supervisor, District 5, Santa Clara County

applaud the efforts of the APA Northern Section for tackling the timely issue of Global Climate Change (*Northern News*, March 2007). I also want to respond to the question, "What can Cities and Counties do about climate change?" and discuss some of the ways Santa Clara County is handling this tough issue.

Before the current focus on climate change, the 2001 California energy crisis set the stage for energy resource conservation in Santa Clara County. While economics were the driving force behind accelerated conservation efforts following the crisis, the conditions were ripe for innovative and practical solutions to address climate change challenges.

In response to the growing energy crisis in 2001, we established the Santa Clara County Energy Commission to investigate ways County facilities could be tuned to use less energy. The Commission identified and implemented more than 500 energy conservation projects including the installation of room lighting motion sensors, new lighting controls systems, HVAC air intake economizers to take advantage of cool outside air, HVAC system time clocks and programmable thermostats, and installation of 23 cool roof coating systems.

By investing in energy conservation technology we reduced County electrical consumption by 20 percent, achieved nearly \$1 million per year in energy savings, and saved hundreds of thousands of pounds of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

In 2005 we realized we needed to do more to address resource conservation and climate change at the County. As a result, we created the Santa Clara County Green Building Policy. Our goal was environmental sustainability, as well as cost savings to County taxpayers through reduced facility life cycle costs and the provision of a healthy work environment for staff and visitors. The green building policy requires all new County facilities to incorporate energy efficiency measures, water stewardship, use of "sustainable" building materials derived from renewable resources, reduction of waste through recycling, and smart growth and sustainable development practices. As a result of this policy, the new Santa Clara County Crime Laboratory is being constructed with a LEED Silver Rating, the first County facility of its kind.

Ultimately our County facilities represent a small portion of the overall climate change picture. However, I hope that our actions will serve as a model for other jurisdictions, just as others have been models for us. Fortunately most of the jurisdictions within the region have themselves established similar programs to address resource conservation and climate change and I applaud their actions.

I truly believe that planning professionals can provide the solutions to appropriately address climate change. You are the people who decipher and plan for growth patterns, plan the transportation networks, and draft the development standards, all of which greatly influence the way humans interact with the environment. I encourage you to utilize your keen understanding of the urban environment to incorporate positive climate change programs into your daily planning routine. Through your actions and understanding our community will be a stronger healthier place.

Liz Kniss is the District 5 Supervisor for Santa Clara County. She sits on the Board of Directors for the Bay Area Air Quality Management District and Valley Transportation Authority. She can be contacted at 408-299-5050 or liz.kniss@ bos.sccgov.org.

# BE A SPONSOR! Support the 2007 CCAPA Conference

**T**ake advantage of a unique opportunity to obtain broad name recognition for your firm or agency by sponsoring the California Chapter of the American Planning Association (CCAPA) 2007 Conference. The September 30 – October 3 conference is expected to draw over 1,200 planning professionals to the Fairmont Hotel in downtown San José to discuss planning issues that affect California and the San Francisco Bay region. Sponsorships are available for the following events (at the Fairmont Hotel unless noted):

- Opening Reception at the Tech Museum
- Opening Plenary Session with Keynote Speaker Carl Guardino, President and CEO of the Silicon Valley Leadership Group
- CCAPA Awards Luncheon
- Closing Plenary Session with Norman Mineta, Former US Secretary of Transportation
- Morning breakfasts and afternoon breaks; and Mobile workshops taking place throughout the San Francisco Bay region.

Sponsorship packages range from \$3,000 to \$1,000, with a new \$500 option for

government agencies and nonprofits. Benefits include conference program ad space and recognition, and display space at the sponsored event (does not include registration). **Submittals are due by May 31.** 

Registration forms and information on sponsorship opportunities and benefits are available on CCAPA's website at:

http://www.calapa.org/attachments/ contentmanagers/1352/ SponsorshipOpportunities.pdf

Questions? Contact Rob Eastwood (rob.eastwood@pln.co.santa-clara.ca.us), Ladd Miyasaki (laddmiyasaki@w-andk.com), or Mimi Rayl (luiai@aol.com).

# Climate strategies for cities

*By Eleanor Mayer, MCP 2007, UC Berkeley* 

find the *Northern News*' attention to climate change (March 2007) exciting and inspiring. As a student at UC Berkeley, these themes have also been on my mind as I just completed my masters project on the topic, "Creating a favorable climate: Strategies for cities to address climate change," in April 2007.

My research found that ways to reduce the global warming trend chiefly include reducing carbon emissions caused by human activities. While the world debates what individual countries and federations can and must do, cities can immediately implement strategies for correcting or reversing climate change. Cities are in a unique position to implement change through land use regulations, the city services they offer, and by "greening" their own internal operations.

For example, here—from the "local solutions matrix" on pages 45-50 of my paper—is a sampling of comments on replicable actions already taken in US cities:

- There is consumer demand for wind power, and it nets significant carbon savings. (Boulder, CO)
- Cities with rich wind resources can incentivize wind power with energy rebates. (Fort Collins, CO)
- Reflective paint and green roofs on municipal buildings net significant carbon savings. (Philadelphia, PA, Tucson, AZ and Chicago, IL)
- Consumer "green choice" utility programs are popular and effective in reducing emissions, and they raise awareness and get consumers involved in carbon savings. (Austin, TX)
- A climate action plan, focused on increasing transit ridership and bicycling, can be very effective in reducing emissions long-term, but may not be appropriate or realistic in smaller communities. (Portland, OR)
- Centralizing a green building program in one department is good both for visibility and project management. (Portland, OR)
- Methane can be captured from municipal landfills to fuel energy generators. (San Diego, CA)

• Conducting an emissions survey and establishing a baseline is essential to measuring success and monitoring and adjusting programs. (Boise, ID)

A PDF of the 57-page project (including a guide to online climate change resources) can be obtained by sending an email to the Editor or to eleanor\_mayer@berkeley.edu.

#### LETTERS

"Based on the two issues you have forwarded to me, you have a fantastic Northern Section newsletter." Paul Crawford, FAICP, CNU San Luis Obispo

"Looks great! Interesting articles too!" Hannah Young, Berkeley

"Your APA newsletter rocks." Simone Bosco, County of Maui, Hawaii

"How splendid of you to take the time to vastly improve the APA Northern News. Please keep at it."

Dean L. Macris, FAICP San Francisco

"Thanks for the APA newsletter. It looks fabulous in color. Keep up the good work!" *Chandler Lee, London, England* 

# Subscribe now for MAIL DELIVERY of Northern News

Do you want to keep getting paper issues of Northern News mailed to you after it goes electronic in August?

**Delivery by US Mail is available only to members who pay an annual subscription fee of \$49.** The fee is based on cost recovery for printing and mailing.

After more than a year of discussion, the Northern Section Board decided in March to go primarily electronic, as other APA chapters and sections have done. Cost savings are significant—\$17,000 per year—not to mention a modest contribution to conserving resources.

If you want to continue receiving paper copies, please complete the order form and mail it to Charity Wagner, NSCCAPA Communications Director (see form for address). Checks should be made out to NSCCAPA.

For everyone else, the primary delivery mode for the *Northern News* will be the chapter's web site **http://www.norcalapa.org**. All members will be notified by e-mail each time a new issue is posted.

Please make sure your correct e-mail address is on file at http://www.planning.org/myapa or at http://www.calapa.org if you are a California Chapter-only member.

Here is my one-year Subscription	on Order for <i>Nort</i>	hern News
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Enclose a check for \$49 payable to NS Charity Wagner c/o LSA Associates, Inc. 2215 Fifth Street Berkeley, CA 94710	CCAPA and mail to:	

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# AICP Certification Maintenance (continued from page 1)

A third draft of the CM proposal made these major changes:

- APA/AICP will set clear standards for CM.
- All providers of professional development will be held to the standards established for CM.
- A registration process will be designed to ensure that all professional development providers, including APA entities, meet the standards that are set.
- Registration fees may be required from providers to cover the costs of CM.
- Self-directed/unregistered provision of credits will be eliminated, as there can be no assurance that established standards can be met.
- Online and correspondence opportunities are acceptable as long as they meet the established standards.
- An appeal process will be established for providers of professional develop ment whose courses are not approved for CM.

## Program summary

The AICP Commission will soon vote on AICP Bylaws amendments needed to institute CM. Once approved, the bylaws will require Certified planners to abide by continuing education requirements as established by CM and to take professional development courses throughout their careers.

Within each two-year period beginning January 1, 2008, AICP certified planners will be required to earn at least 32 credits through eligible professional development activities. No minimum number of credits need be logged in any one year so long as 32 qualifying credits are earned during each two-year reporting period. A four-month grace period is provided if insufficient credits are earned during the two-year reporting cycle. A maximum of 16 excess credits can be carried over to the next two-year reporting cycle.

If CM requirements are not met within four years, an AICP member will lose certification and will need to seek recertification to retain the AICP credential.

The credits may be gained in the following ways:

All 32 credits may be earned from courses provided or sponsored by APA, graduate degree courses through programs approved by the Planning Accreditation Board (PAB), or registered providers. (Volunteer, unpaid planning instruction may in some circumstances qualify for credit. Qualifying credits that satisfy the continuing education needs of another professional association can be counted for both CM and the other association's continuing education requirements. Tenured or tenure-track faculty in an accredited university may in some circumstances qualify for CM credit for the publication of an article in an approved peer-reviewed journal.)

A minimum of 1.5 credits each will be required on the topics of ethics and current planning law.

## Exemptions and waivers

*Retired members* (those who have been an APA or AICP member continuously for 10 or more years, are 65 or older, and are fully retired) are exempt from CM requirements.

*Inactive membership status* may be granted for specific time periods:

- For up to six months to a parent on the birth or adoption of a child.
- To a member of the military or Guard who has been mobilized or deployed.
- For reasons of ill health.
- To a caregiver.
- For up to one year to members living outside of the US.
- For other reasons on a case-by-case basis.

AICP members will not be required to pay AICP dues during the time their membership is inactive. However, the AICP credential generally cannot be used during that period, and APA membership must be retained. A member inactive for more than four years and seeking reinstatement as AICP will be required to retake the AICP exam. *Less than fully employed*. Most CM requirements may be waived for unemployed members during a period of unemployment. However, AICP and APA memberships must be paid and active, although at a reduced unemployed rate. Planners practicing part time must meet all CM obligations.

Course offerings unavailable. Special consideration will be given to situations in which active members face extraordinary barriers to high-quality, accessible, affordable course offerings.

Working in overseas locations. Planners practicing entirely outside the US are exempt from taking registered CM courses but will still be required to maintain certification through an approved personal professional development plan.

# Eligible programs and courses

APA Programs are offered throughout the year. They focus on the professional development of practicing planners. They include, but are not limited to, APA chapter and section conferences and programs, APA division training programs, the APA National Planning Conference (sessions, workshops, symposia, mobile workshops), Planners Training Service (PTS) Workshops, AICP Symposia, APA and AICP audio conferences, and APA National Independent Study.

APA-sponsored programs are those to which APA or its components (AICP, APA chapters, or APA divisions) have significantly contributed by developing content or by providing significant financial or in-kind support.

PAB graduate degree courses have the same status as APA Programs and include those offered by PAB-accredited graduate programs (but not PAB undergraduate courses or those offered through extension programs or professional development centers).

## Appeals process

An appeal of denial of credit for any course submitted by an applicant may be made to APA's Executive Director.

# Legislative Corner By Scott A. Shepard, NSCCAPA Legislative Director

This is the first of what we hope will be a regular Northern News feature covering land use and environmental legislation affecting the Northern Section membership of CCAPA. Readers can look here to find up-to-date information regarding professional planning practice in the public, private, and nonprofit sectors on specific issues affecting their everyday professional practice. The column will offer a regular listing of "hot legislative bills," a political advocacy toolbox, and legislative/policy resources planners can use to contact their local legislators about current hot issues. Comments and feedback are encouraged. Contact Scott Shepard at scotthiker@gmail.com.

"Plan California"—the legislative platform of the California Chapter of the American Planning Association, — was adopted by the CCAPA Board of Directors on March 3, 2007. The platform contains nine key positions that CCAPA endorses and supports. They include:

- Envisioning the future of planning in California
- Smart growth and regional visioning
- Planning housing for all Californians
- The environment, neighborhoods, and healthy communities
- Sustainable building and design
- The California Environmental Quality Act
- Inclusion and social justice
- Public participation and the planning process, and
- Infrastructure.

"Plan California" can be accessed on the web at http://www.calapa.org.

Here is a quick review of a few of the **hot legislative bills** in the California Assembly and Senate, as provided by Stefan/George Associates, Sacramento:

#### AB 2252 (Environmental Impact Report), Strickland

This bill would exempt a development project from preparing and completing a second or an additional EIR if the project complies with applicable zoning and land use requirements, including the most recently adopted general plan of a city or county.

## AB 2503 (Affordable Housing), Mullin

Existing law requires that a redevelopment agency allocate 20 percent of taxincrement revenues for housing available at an affordable cost. This bill would authorize cities and counties to enter into a joint powers agreement to form an affordable housing pooling arrangement for the acquisition, construction, or development of housing that is affordable to lower income families within the jurisdiction of the joint powers agency created by the agreement. The bill would specify how public agencies may contribute funds to a housing trust fund of a joint powers agency and how the funds may be used. The bill would similarly authorize a local government to include in its housing element a program that establishes a housing trust fund for the same purposes and subject to similar conditions.

## SB 1024 (Public Works and Improvements bond measure), Perata

Existing law provides various funding sources for transportation purposes. This bill would enact the Safe Facilities, Improved Mobility, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2006, subject to voter approval, to authorize an unspecified amount of state general obligation bonds for specified purposes, including the state transportation improvement program, passenger rail improvements, levee improvements, flood control, restoration of Proposition 42 transportation funds, port infrastructure and security projects, trade corridors of significance, transit security projects, grade separation projects, local bridge seismic upgrade projects, state-local partnership transportation projects, emissions reduction projects, environmental enhancement projects, transit-oriented development, and housing, regional growth, and infill development purposes.

### SB 1509 (Zoning Regulations), Soto

This bill would require the Office of Planning and Research, by September 1, 2007, to prepare and circulate one or model ordinances for voluntary use by cities and counties, suitable for modification, that encourage mixed-use urban form and design that meet specified criteria, and to perform other duties related to the development and adoption of the ordinance(s). The bill has been passed and was re-referred to the Committee on Appropriations. It is anticipated that approval from appropriations will be secured by this summer, in anticipation of the September deadline.

## STARTING WITH THE AUGUST ISSUE, Northern News WILL BE AVAILABLE IN ELECTRONIC FORM ONLY. \*

Notice of the initial posting of each issue of the newsletter on the Section's website will be e-mailed to all members and subscribers. To ensure that you continue to receive *Northern News* notifications, please make sure your email address is current. To update your profile, go to: https://www.planning.org/myapa/

\* If you wish to continue receiving mail delivered printed issues, see page 5 to order an annual membership subscription.

# Transportation study results challenged

By Robert R. (Bob) Piper, Ph.D.

In their Walkability paper ("Transportation study wins outstanding award," *Northern News*, April 2007, p. 8), Schlossberg *et al* concluded, "Pedestrians walk considerably farther to access light rail stations than commonly assumed." The paper was based on surveys of passengers who walked from their homes to five different stations. Results from all stations were aggregated to yield the conclusion.

Disaggregating data by station produces different and more illuminating conclusions. (*Ed. Note: a PDF copy of the July 31, 2006, paper [4,907 words + 10 tables] may be requested by sending an email to the Editor.*)

Sample bias accounts for the long walking distance claimed. Results were skewed toward long distances because much close-in land had no residences from which respondents could walk. Their results do nothing to invalidate the old rule of thumb that passengers walk up to about half-amile (10 minutes) to a rail station.

Two stations yielded 60 percent of the responses. Nonresidential uses such as surface parking and commercial buildings occupy 40–45 percent of the land within a quartermile walk at one station and 75–80 percent at the other. The tracks of the latter run alongside a multi-lane, Interstate highway. The only residences within a quarter-mile lie on the opposite side of the highway. Passengers cross a pedestrian bridge to reach the station.

Data from a third station (27 percent of respondents) show the role that land use plays. Residential development surrounds this station right up to the street where the tracks lie. Self-reported walking distances are substantially less than at the other two stations. The 50<sup>th</sup> percentile, for example, is 0.28 mile rather than 0.50 mile. The contrasting results highlight the importance of how the land close to a station entrance is developed.

Studies performed over the decades show that more passengers walk short distances than long distances. The distribution falls away from the station to a long tail.

As you leave a station entrance, the area enclosed by equal increments of walking distance grows with the square of that distance. For example, the area between a quartermile and a half-mile is three times that within the first quarter-mile. Not merely do fewer passengers walk the greater distances, but they are spread over a larger area. The propensity to ride drops off even more dramatically than does the curve of the walking distance. The propensity to ride at any location near a station indicates the strength of its orientation to transit.

We have always understood that some passengers walk farther than the old half-mile rule of thumb. What planners do in each situation is set a limit somewhere along the tail of the distribution beyond which they consider the propensity to ride too low. Such limits guide both transit planning (*e.g.*, what constitutes adequate coverage?) and TOD design (*e.g.*, how far out does appreciable station influence extend?). Schlossberg *et al* could contribute to our planning knowledge by integrating land use with their walking distance data. Doing so would illustrate how rapidly orientation to transit declines with distance.

Bob Piper, currently semi-retired as a transportation consultant, was Director of Transportation for the City of Berkeley, 1976-1978.

# Where in the world? By Aliza Knox



Answer on page 10.

# CNU cites two Bay Area projects

he Congress for the New Urbanism administers an annual Charter Awards program to recognize the best work in design, planning, and development in "this new era of placemaking. Winners set the gold standard for urban design and development and serve as powerful examples for future development." This year, CNU gave Charter Awards to projects in two Bay Area cities— Napa and Redwood City.

This year's jury comprised Stefanos Polyzoides, Moule & Polyzoides Architects & Urbanists; Hillary Brown, New Civic Works; Rick Cole, City of San Buenaventura; Andres Duany, Duany Plater-Zyberk; Vince Graham, I'On Group; Kjell Forshed, Brunnberg & Forshed; and Susan Van Atta, Van Atta Associates.

## Redwood City: Courthouse Square, Theatre Way, and Broadway Streetscape

Several linked public projects in the Downtown work together to restore the urban pattern and reclaim urban open space: a 1910 Beaux-Arts County Courthouse (now functioning as a local history museum), the facing art deco-era Fox Theatre, and an adjoining block with a new mixed use cinema-retail-dining complex.

Design of the three public realm projects was conceived through a public workshop process:

- Courthouse Square, a half-acre providing a compelling downtown ceremonial and daily gathering space;
- The "Theatre Way" outdoor dining street — a row of restaurants at the base of the new cinema; and
- a two-block redesigned segment of Main Street that now features broad sidewalks, narrow travel lanes, and a continuous colonnade of date palms.

The project is one component of a comprehensive program for downtown revitalization that is being expressed through a Downtown Precise Plan and form-based code.

Project team designers were Freedman Tung & Bottomley. Photos, plans, and details can be found at http://cnu.org/node/873

## Napa: The Carneros Inn

The award winner is a new 27-acre inn and town center "designed to engage with the broader community while serving as base camp for visitors exploring the surrounding areas." The complex contains four neighborhoods or precincts:

- The Town Center a civic square that organizes a post office, a public market and a public restaurant and includes meeting and conference space for the inn.
- 2) *The inn*, the basic building block of which is the guest cottage with front porch.
- 3) 24 for-sale courtyard houses.
- 4) The Hilltop, which includes a restaurant, reception building, and spa complex. The entire project is geothermally heated and all of the stormwater is processed and either reused for on-site irrigation or stored for use by the neighboring vineyards.

Project team designers are William Rawn Associates, Architects, Inc. Photos, plans, and details can be found at http://cnu.org/node/846

# Oakland wins again

From SustainLane Government, April 2007

akland, Sacramento, San Francisco, and San José surpass all other large cities in the country in drawing some of their electric power from renewable energy sources. Oakland gets 17 percent of its power from renewable energy; Sacramento, San Francisco, and San José each get 12 percent from clean sources.

According to SustainLane Government, the four Northern California cities ranked highest in 2006-2007 among the 50 largest US cities in providing their citizens with power from renewables such as solar, wind, geothermal, and small-scale hydro energy. Oakland gets some of its energy from the wind generating facilities at Altamont Pass.

While a third of the greenhouse gases produced in the United States came from electricity production in 2004, the renewable sources produce electricity with no greenhouse gas emissions.

California cities rank high in percentage of clean energy in part because of the State's Renewable Portfolio Standard, which in 2002 set minimum requirements for utility purchases of renewable energy for the state's electric grid. That standard requires a 20 percent renewable energy total for the state's utilities by 2020.

The press release can be found at http://www.sustainlane.us/articles/ city\_renewable\_energy.jsp

# What others are saying

"Efforts to increase the forested areas in northern regions may be ineffective in combating warming and can be a distraction from the real answer, which is the need to reform mankind's system of energy production."—Ken Caldeira, a climate scientist with the Carnegie Institution at Stanford, as reported by Julie Sevrens Lyons, *San Jose Mercury News*, April 10, 2007, "Planting trees falls short at saving the world."

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### JOBS

#### M-GROUP

Metropolitan Planning Group, Inc. (M-Group) was created to bring innovative and effective planning solutions to a wide range of public and private clients in the Bay Area. The two principals, Whitney McNair, AICP and Geoff I. Bradley are accomplished City Planners with over 30 combined years of professional planning experience.

The principals and their planning team have experience working for a variety of consulting firms, city planning and redevelopment agencies and private developers. M-Group offers Urban Design, Policy Planning, Transit-Oriented Development, Development Review and Entitlement Services. Areas of special expertise include design review, downtown revitalization, project management, site planning and land use planning.

We are focused on teamwork, open communication, customer satisfaction and improving the communities where we live and work. We are looking for a creative, results-oriented city planner to join our team. Applicants should have at least 6 months experience working for a city planning department. Also, a positive attitude and sense of humor is highly desirable. The position can be either full-time or part-time with flexible hours.

e-mail cover letter and résumé to:

Lori Martinez, M-Group lori@mplanninggroup.com or fax to 408-730-5186

#### CITY OF MOUNTIN VIEW Zoning Administrator

The City of Mountain View, located on the San Francisco Bay northwest of San José, takes great pride in their public facilities, and the Community Development Department has a national reputation for award-winning planning. City staff works collaboratively to provide exceptional services to a diverse community.

The Zoning Administrator coordinates and manages the review of private and public development projects and implements the City's Zoning Ordinance and General Plan under the direction of the Planning Manager. This position has extensive involvement with the community, City Council, Planning Commission, and City staff, and requires exceptional communication skills. This critical and highly visible position will provide a wide range of exciting challenges to a proven and experienced planning professional.

The ideal candidate will have extensive experience in complex development projects, an interest and expertise in long-range planning policy, strong problem-solving skills, and outstanding writing and presentation skills gained while serving in senior-level planning positions. Proven leadership and management skills will be required to provide guidance, leadership, and expertise to the department, the Environmental Planning Commission, and the City Council. A Bachelor's degree in planning or a related field, plus five years of professional planning experience, with at least one year performing duties comparable to a Deputy Zoning Administrator, are required. A Master's degree in planning may be substituted for one year of the required experience. AICP certification is desirable.

The salary for the position is \$88,615 to \$110,768, with the ability to earn up to 20 percent more for exceptional performance. The final filing date is May 25, 2007. To be considered, please submit a completed City of Mountain View employment application along with a cover letter including current salary, a detailed résumé and three work-related references to:

City of Mountain View Employee Services Department 500 Castro Street Mountain View, California, 94041

Applications are available through the Employee Services Department at 650-903-6309 or can be downloaded from the City's web site at http://www.mountainview.gov.

Avery Associates of Los Gatos, California, will be assisting the City with outreach and the initial phone interview process. The top candidates identified by application screening and phone interviews will be invited to participate in a formal interview and assessment center process to be held in Mountain View.

A complete job announcement is available on the Avery Associates website at http://www.averyassoc.net/jobs. This directory of firms offering professional services appears in every issue of *Northern News*. Fees paid by the firms for this service help defray the cost of designing and publishing the newsletter.



Answer to "Where in the world": Gdansk, Poland (Long Street from Main Town Hall)



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.

### NORTHERN SECTION CALENDAR

#### MAY

- 11 Al Savay, "Applying smart growth principles—Row houses in Mountain View." Perspectives in Planning, Urban Planning Coalition Spring Speaker Series, San José State University, Noon – 1 PM, San José State/King Library, Room 255. Contact Brandi de Garmeaux, upcresponse@vahoo.com.
- 18 NSCCAPA Planning Awards Banquet, 6 9 PM, Marines' Memorial Club, Crystal Ballroom, 609 Sutter Street, San Francisco. Contact Eileen Whitty, ewhitty@ebmud.com
- **19 2007 CCAPA Conference Steering Committee CANCELLED.** No meeting in May. *See June calendar below.*
- 24 Climate change impact analysis in CEQA documents, AEP, cosponsored by NSCCPA. Free, 6:00 PM. Tetra Tech EMI, 135 Main St., San Francisco, Ste. 1800, two blocks south of Embarcadero BART Station. Contact Ed DeBellvue at ed.debell@gmail.com.
- 24 2007 BAMMA "GIS In Planning" Forum, cosponsored by NSCCAPA. 8:30 AM, MTC, 101 8th St, Oakland. Free to APA members. Contact Dennis Klein, dklein@boundarysolutions.com
- 25 Peter Calthorpe, "Designing with a focus on environmental sustainability and human scale." College of Marin, Olney Hall, 7 PM. Contact andres@andresedwards.com
- 26 DEADLINE FOR COMMENTS ON AICP BYLAWS CHANGES. See page 1.
- **31 2007 CCAPA Student Poster Competition DEADLINE.** To submit a proposal form or ask questions, contact Hilary Nixon, hnixon@sjsu.edu

#### JUNE

- 7 Residential Green Building Summit, 7:30 AM 2 PM, San José City Hall Rotunda, 200 East Santa Clara Street, San José. Sponsored by City of San José and Silicon Valley Energy Watch. \$100. Register by June 1 at www.sanjoseca.gov/esd/greenbuilding.html Contact GreenWorkshop@sanjoseca.gov or call 408-535-8550
- 16 2007 CCAPA Conference Steering Committee, 10 AM Noon, San José City Hall -Development Services Lobby (1st Floor of City Hall Tower), 200 East Santa Clara Street, San José. Contact Juan Borrelli, juan.borrelli@sanjoseca.gov or Hing Wong, hingw@abag.ca.gov
- **28 FOCUS on Bay Area housing**—an ABAG "best practices" workshop on overcoming obstacles to planning and building affordable housing around the Bay, 9 AM 12:30 PM, Gaia Building, 2116 Allston Way, Berkeley. \$30. Registration: Felila Toleafoa, lilat@abag.ca.gov or 510-464-7993.

JULY

21 2007 CCAPA Conference Steering Committee, 10 AM – Noon, San José City Hall - Development Services Lobby (1st Floor of City Hall Tower), 200 East Santa Clara Street, San José. Contact Juan Borrelli, juan.borrelli@sanjoseca.gov or Hing Wong, hingw@abag.ca.gov

2007 CCAPA Annual Conference, Sunday, September 30 – Wednesday, October 3, 2007, Fairmont Hotel, Downtown San José

See sponsorship opportunities and benefits at: http://www.calapa.org/attachments/contentmanagers/1352/SponsorshipOpportunities.pdf



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