



# NORTHERN NEWS



American Planning Association  
California Chapter  
Northern  
Making Great Communities Happen

A Publication of the Northern Section of the California Chapter of APA

## NOVEMBER 2008

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*Geof Syphers, PE, LEED AP*

## Going beyond LEED— North America's first "One Planet community"

ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE, PROVIDING  
JOBS, AND MAKING A FAIR PROFIT

*By Geof Syphers*

[Ed. Note: I visited the development in July with the California Planning Roundtable. Afterward, I asked our host to write an article for Northern News.]

In Rohnert Park, three miles east of downtown Cotati, a half-dozen outdated factory buildings on a 175-acre site are being converted to uses that will support a "five-minute lifestyle." Dubbed [Sonoma Mountain Village](#), the mixed-use community targets "LEED Platinum for Neighborhood Development." It also follows a detailed plan for how every resident can live within a "one-planet" ecological footprint, using only one's own fair share of resources.

Sonoma Mountain Village expects to reduce greenhouse gasses by 82 percent, vehicle miles traveled by 54 percent, and carbon content of fuel used by 12 percent—all by 2020.

The former factory buildings—totaling 700,000 square feet—are being given a more modern architectural expression aimed at improving the pedestrian experience. With some additions, the buildings will be home to 182,500 square feet of retail and over 100 other businesses; and 1,900 homes will be built to house 5,000 residents. After three years of planning, a development agreement is in place, and an EIR has been prepared. New construction is expected to begin early in 2009, with buildout by 2020.

**History.** Until very recently, the site was the Agilent (formerly H-P) campus in Rohnert Park. About two years ago, Greg Searle, the Executive Director of BioRegional North America, asked [Coddling Enterprises](#), the site's new owner and developer, "How

*(continued on next page)*

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## Going beyond LEED— (continued from previous page)

much will your LEED community contribute to greenhouse gas emissions?" Two months of research concluded it would emit 17,000 tons of greenhouse gases annually.

BioRegional North America helped Sonoma Mountain Village go beyond LEED with a comprehensive sustainability plan based on the [10 principles of one-planet living](#) as originally created by WWF International. The principles are zero carbon; zero waste; sustainable water; local and sustainable materials; local and sustainable food; sustainable transportation; equity and fair trade; culture and heritage; and health and happiness. Codding and BioRegional will monitor the project for progress against ambitious sustainability targets each year until 2020.



At the heart of Sonoma Mountain Village is a planned urban square framed by 3- to 7-story buildings with street level stores, restaurants, and services

Here are some of the key areas and their metrics:

**Transportation and land use.** Sonoma Mountain Village will provide neighborhood amenities, such as groceries, restaurants, offices, and daycare that residents can walk to in five minutes. Overall housing density will be 17 units per acre—higher at the core, with density decreasing outward.

The careful integration of land uses and density should significantly reduce automobile use. The plan calls for a “jobs to employed residents” ratio slightly greater than 1.0—providing opportunities for residents to work in the community and for workers to be able to live there.

**Food.** Sonoma Mountain Village promotes local and sustainable food production. Grocery stores that have been invited to the community have committed to offering a specific percentage of locally grown food. A farmers market will operate seven days a week. Residents will be able to grow some of their own food at onsite garden plots.

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

## NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

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*Northern News* is published 10 times each year by the American Planning Association, California Chapter, Northern Section. 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.

*Northern News* welcomes your comments. Letters to the editor require the author's first and last name, home or work street address and phone number (neither of which will be published), and professional affiliation or title (which will be published only with the author's permission). Letters over 250 words are not considered. All letters are subject to editing.

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## Going beyond LEED— (continued from previous page)

**Construction materials.** Coddling has remodeled an existing 50,000 square foot facility to manufacture structural steel framing for all residential and commercial construction at Sonoma Mountain Village. The onsite plant uses renewable energy and recycles local materials. For example, it takes the equivalent of six SUVs from a local junkyard to frame a 2,000 square foot home. The use of solar energy saves approximately 50 trees compared to conventional manufacturing methods.

**Energy.** All homes will be carbon neutral and will exceed the state's minimum energy performance by 50 percent and obtain all their energy needs from solar and wind by 2020.

**Sustainable business.** In 2007, Coddling formed the first business incubator in the North Bay—the nonprofit [Sonoma Mountain Business Cluster](#)—targeted to stimulating good-paying careers for the region. The nonprofit provides coaching, mentoring, networking, and access to capital for sustainable resource and socially relevant technology start-ups. The incubator already has 24 tenants and is 60 percent occupied.

Through continued research, collaboration with elected officials to remove barriers, sharing of information, soliciting opinions and feedback, and documenting of the process, Coddling is moving toward its ultimate goal of creating a deeply sustainable mixed-use community built with human needs and emerging technologies in mind.

**The bottom line.** Development is about supporting life. Life is not about no growth. We should ask ourselves, "What do we want to grow?" Sonoma Mountain Village is one replicable model for sustainable development, and it will make a fair profit.

*Geof Syphers, PE, LEED AP, is Chief Sustainability Officer, Coddling Enterprises. ■*



*Geof Syphers with steel coils that will be made into framing members. Photo: H. Pike Oliver.*



## Onward and upward

**Christopher Corbett, AICP**, is senior master planner for Consult-Maunsell Limited, Dubai-United Arab Emirates. Previously, he worked for FEMA on disaster recovery projects in Louisiana following hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Chris makes his permanent home in San Francisco and is a member of APA California Northern. He holds a bachelor's degree in geography and a master's in urban planning, both from the University of Washington (Seattle).

**Michele Rodriguez, AICP**, who has been serving on national APA's Diversity Committee since September 2007, has been reappointed by APA President Paul Farmer, FAICP, for an additional year.

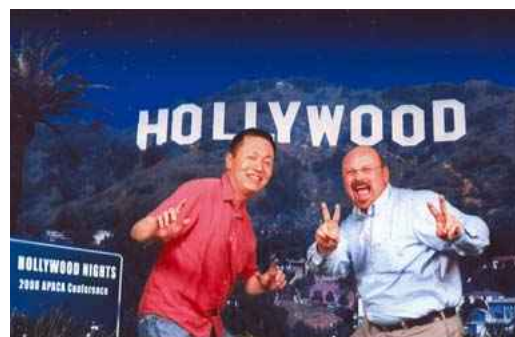
**Iris Starr, AICP**, APA Northern Section's Professional Development Director, has re-joined the City of Oakland as their Senior Transportation Policy Planner. Iris brings almost 20 years of city planning and project management experience in both the public and private sectors. This includes over eight years of city planning with Oakland, three-and-a-half years as redevelopment manager for the City of Berkeley, and eight years working for private firms or as a consultant. She will be leading regional, state, and local transportation planning efforts, reviewing large development projects, and working to create environmentally, socially equitable, and sustainable transportation policies and practices. ■



## DIRECTOR'S NOTE

*By Juan Borrelli, AICP, SNI Senior Planner, City of San José*

**H**ooray for Hollywood! Last month's **2008 APA California Conference** in Hollywood was a rousing success with an all-time record attendance of over 2,000 planners! The "Hollywood Nights" opening reception at the glamorous Highlands Nightclub featured a red carpet entrance event, casino room, and live impersonation performances by the Rat Pack, the Village People, the Pussycat Dolls, and Madonna. Also new at this conference was the first ever APA California Film Festival with three full-length, independent planning-related movies and several short films on planning-related themes by California students. The **California Planning Foundation (CPF)** also broke a record at this conference by raising over \$24,000 at its annual auction and from many generous donations.



*Immediate Past Director Hing Wong, AICP, and Director Juan Borrelli, AICP, celebrate at the 2008 APA California Conference's Hollywood Nights Opening Reception*

**Mark your calendars** for the 2009 APA California Conference, September 13–16, 2009 at The Resort at Squaw Creek, Lake Tahoe. I hope to see you there.

The annual **Northern Section Holiday Party** will be held on Friday, **December 5, 2008**, in the Terrace Room of Oakland's historic Lake Merritt Hotel. Celebrate the end of the year with great food, drinks, conversation, and stunning views of Lake Merritt, amid the beautiful Mediterranean Art Deco features of the hotel. All the party details, including registration and online payment information, are included on [page 15](#) of this issue and on the [Northern Section website](#). I know you won't want to miss this party. Space is limited—don't delay in signing up by the December 1st deadline. If you have questions or need more information, please contact [Al Kostalas](#).

**November APA Elections.** Don't miss the candidacy statements ([pages 6–9 of this issue](#)) from **Hanson Hom, AICP**,

*(continued on next page)*

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

and **Allen Tai, AICP**, who are running for the Northern Section's elected board positions of Director Elect and Administrative Director, respectively. After reading each candidate's statement, please vote by email at [votensccapa@gmail.com](mailto:votensccapa@gmail.com). Emailed ballots must be received by 11:59 PM PST on December 1, 2008. If you experience any voting problems or need any assistance, please contact Director Elect **Darcy Kremin, AICP**.

**Many thanks.** The Northern Section's **Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) Chairs** and I would like to thank the planning firms and organizations that generously supported and sponsored the many RAC events hosted in 2008. Special acknowledgement goes to the **Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG)**, **City of Monterey**, **City of Oakland**, **Design Community & Environment (DC&E)**, **RBF Consulting**, **Pacific Municipal Consultants (PMC)**, **Urban Habitat**, and **Winzler & Kelly**. We look forward to hosting many more RAC events next year! On behalf of the entire Northern Section Board, I would also like to thank the planning firms and organizations that hosted our board meetings and retreat in 2008. They include the **City of Santa Clara**, **Parsons Transportation Group, Inc.**, **ENTRIX, Inc.**, **LSA Associates, Inc.**, **PMC**, and **PBS&J**.

*Graeme P. Brown*





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## Vote for Administrative Director and Director Elect

**N**orthern Section has received one nomination each for Administrative Director and Direct Elect positions for whom all Northern Section members may vote. All ballots must be time-stamped by 11:59 PM PST on December 1.

Candidate statements from Allen Tai, AICP, (running for Administrative Director) and Hanson Hom, AICP, (running for Director Elect) are presented below. Write-ins are welcome.

The term of the Administrative Director is two years, commencing January 1, 2009. The term of the Director Elect is two years, commencing January 1, 2009. On January 1, 2011, the Director Elect will become the Northern Section Director for a two-year term.

Candidates for Administrative Director should be available to attend all board meetings (held once every two months) to receive and be held responsible for all records of the Section; conduct the correspondence of the Section under the direction of the Section Director and the Section Board; take and distribute the records of actions resulting from Section Board meetings; and perform such other duties as are customary to the office of Administrative Director consistent with the Section Bylaws.

The successful candidate for Director Elect will preside at all meetings and represent the Section in the absence of the Section Director; act as Section Director for the duration of any extended absence or disability of the Section Director, as authorized by the Section Board; organize an annual Board Retreat, as deemed necessary by the Section Director or the Section Board; and be responsible for keeping the Bylaws in order, appointing the Nomination Committee and organizing elections, and other duties as assigned by the Section Director. Candidates running for Director Elect shall have served on the Section Board for at least one year in the past.

To Vote, send an e-mail to [votensccapa@gmail.com](mailto:votensccapa@gmail.com) with your votes for Administrative Director and Director Elect. Your e-mail should include "Northern Section Ballot" in the subject line, and the names of your choices for the two positions in the body of the e-mail. Write-in candidates are welcome. Be sure to include your full name as registered with APA in the body of the e-mail. You will receive an automatic reply confirming your ballot has been received.

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## Vote for Administrative Director and Director Elect

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If you cannot send an e-mail, you may send a written ballot to

**Darcy Kremin, AICP, NSCCAPA Director Elect**  
c/o ENTRIX

2300 Clayton Road, Ste 200, Concord, CA 94520

The ballot must be postmarked by November 30.

## Candidate statement for Allen Tai, AICP

It is a privilege to submit this statement as indication of my candidacy for Administrative Director for the APA California Northern Section Board. During my career in professional planning, I am blessed with being teamed with excellent mentors. These mentors are enduring examples, instilling in me a sense of civic responsibility and dedication to our profession. In making the decision to continue serving as Administrative Director, I wish to fulfill the obligation we all share to contribute in the ongoing development of the planning profession.



My decision to pursue a career in urban planning was initially due to a fascination with the idea that planners are able to influence physical changes in the built environment. What I learned is that much of what planners do involves a lot of communication and managing different dynamics. A significant amount of our time is also devoted to understanding the way we all live, work, and play, and learning about how we can improve our quality of life. In coming to this realization, I continually seek greater insights and to share my experience the way my mentors shared their valuable wisdom. I see this opportunity to serve on the Board as a wonderful way to give back to the Northern Section community.

Since achieving AICP certification in 2006, I have been volunteering as a guest speaker for the AICP Exam Preparation trainings led by Dr. Don Bradley, AICP. I also served on the 2007 CCAPA Conference Host Committee as a webmaster for the conference webpage. After being appointed to fill the Administrative Director vacancy in May, one of my first responsibilities was to help plan this year's Holiday Party. With the help of several dedicated individuals, I anticipate this year's event to be very successful. If I can continue my service on the Board, I look forward to expand the role of the Administrative Director and to make our involvement on the Board more

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## Vote for Administrative Director and Director Elect

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transparent to the membership via tools on our new Northern Section website. I am excited at the opportunity to serve the planning profession and be a part of the leadership to promote and inspire the APA membership.

**Professional experience.** My professional career in the public sector has been a rewarding experience. In four years with Alameda's planning department, I had the opportunity to work on preserving many of Alameda's historic resources, implementing main street revitalization projects, and facilitating small business development. My quest for greater exposure led me to join the City of San José. I have since gained a wealth of experience from implementing economic development policies and working on TOD projects related to the future BART extension. My work in San José also involves a great deal of community outreach, and for nearly two years I led a 15-member taskforce through a comprehensive study on the reuse of a former hospital site. Currently, I am the project manager of the General Plan Housing Element update.

## Candidate statement for Hanson Hom, AICP

With approximately 1,900 members, the Northern Section of the American Planning Association, California Chapter, represents a large segment of California planners. The section covers a diverse coastal area from the Redwood Empire to Monterey Bay.

While the Section is geographically diverse, its membership is also ethnically and culturally diverse. These characteristics present a dynamic planning environment, and offer both challenges and opportunities for furthering the ideals of the profession. The Section plays a leadership role in addressing the expanding professional needs of planners and in facilitating a dialogue on emerging planning issues.

I look forward to the opportunity of serving as the Director-Elect to further the goals of the Northern Section, to strengthen its existing programs, and to explore new initiatives to better serve its members. Areas of interest include:

- **Public stewardship:** Ensure that the Section supports forums for an informed discussion of emerging planning issues; assume a leadership role in advocating and promoting public education and awareness of important planning issues.

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## Vote for Administrative Director and Director Elect

(continued from previous page)

- **Diversity in planning:** Assist the California Chapter in exploring and implementing programs to promote a more diverse and culturally aware planning profession; expand initiatives to create a more diverse membership profile.
- **Professional training:** Address the training needs of all planners, from planning students to seasoned planners; continue the Board's commitment to sponsor convenient, reasonably priced and quality planning workshops to satisfy the AICP Certification Maintenance requirement.
- **Communication:** Further the initiatives of the Board to improve communication to its members; continue to enhance the quality, content and format of the newsletter and website; explore other techniques for outreaching to planners and soliciting input.
- **Membership:** Strengthen the membership base by publicizing and offering tangible benefits to reinforce the value of membership; promote the involvement of members in the activities of the Section by expanding volunteer opportunities.
- **Fiscal responsibility:** Through sound budgeting and accounting practices, maintain the financial health of the Section and pursue strategies to expand the fiscal capabilities of the Section.
- **Keep it fun!** Organize events to promote networking opportunities, to allow planners to celebrate their successes, and to just allow planners to commiserate and provide mutual support and stress relief.

Hanson Hom is currently the Director of Community Development for the City of Sunnyvale. He has served on the Northern Section Board for approximately four years as the Ethics Review Director where he has organized workshops and training on the AICP Code of Ethics. He is also an appointed member on the AICP Membership Committee and was recently appointed to the Board of Directors of Urban Ecology. He served as the Program Chair for the 2007 CCAPA Conference in San José. He has an undergraduate degree in Landscape Architecture from U.C. Berkeley and holds masters degrees in Urban and Regional Planning from San José State and Public Administration from Cal State East Bay. He splits his residence between Alameda and Sunnyvale and is married, with two grown children. ■



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## Looking for information about the planning profession? Not sure where to start?

If you prefer to search online web resources, the National AICP Professional Practice Center is a reference tool that demonstrates the professionalism of planning and how AICP certification can add value to the practice of professional planning. Visit the National APA website at:

<http://www.planning.org/aicp/> for in-depth information.

Locally, an AICP Director and a Professional Development Director (members of the Board of the American Planning Association, California Northern) facilitate the AICP examination process and support you in Certification Maintenance activities. They can offer guidance as you prepare for the AICP exam, make professional contacts, and look for information on upcoming training opportunities.

### Certification as a planner

To become a certified planner and use the AICP designation, you must be a current member of the American Planning Association, submit an online application, meet specified education and experience requirements, and pass an examination. For information, contact **Dr. Don Bradley, AICP**, the AICP Director for APA California Northern, [Dr.DonBradley@comcast.net](mailto:Dr.DonBradley@comcast.net).

You can obtain the Chapter Presidents Council AICP Exam Preparation Study Manual from **Kimberly Christensen, AICP**, (310) 524-2340 or [kchristensen@elsegundo.org](mailto:kchristensen@elsegundo.org). The National APA website has additional detail about what you need to prepare for the examination:

<http://www.planning.org/certification/>.

### Continuing professional development (Certificate Maintenance)

A minimum of 32 hours of Certificate Maintenance (CM) credit, obtained over a two-year period (or less) is the principal

*(continued on next page)*

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**Hannah Young, Advertising Director,**  
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## Looking for information about ... (continued from previous page)

requirement for maintaining AICP certification.

Professional development is defined as any course work that covers technical, and personal, growth, and development activities that are related to the practice of planning. See <http://www.planning.org/cm/>. For assistance, contact **Iris Starr**, AICP, the Professional Development Officer for APA California Northern: [Irisstarr@earthlink.net](mailto:Irisstarr@earthlink.net), or (510) 684-8387.

### Courses already certified for credit

The National APA/AICP office has the sole authority to review and approve credit activities. For a list of all courses that have been certified for credit, see <http://www.planning.org/cm/search/>. For events throughout California, type "California" in the search box. For Northern California events, type "Northern Section" in the search box. For upcoming local events for credit, go to <http://norcalapa.org>, Upcoming Events.

### Proposing activities for CM credit

APA California Northern is aggressively fostering local, low cost events for credit. If you are interested in proposing courses, events, training, travel, a speaker series, or some other activity for Certificate Maintenance credit, please contact **Iris Starr**, AICP, at [Irisstarr@earthlink.net](mailto:Irisstarr@earthlink.net), or (510) 684-8387. ■



## Report available on jobs-housing balance

A 16-page illustrated report that summarizes both the objectives to be achieved and the strengths and shortcomings of various methods of calculating and assessing jobs-housing balance is available from the California Planning Roundtable. Aimed at the practitioner, *Deconstructing Jobs-Housing Balance* (September 2008) focuses on balancing jobs and housing in California communities and regions in which new residential or employment-generating development is proposed. "Working toward jobs-housing balance may be a desirable element of a strategy to reduce peak period congestion, but it is only one of a number of transportation and land use policies and strategies that must be pursued," say the authors. The report can be downloaded as a 3.1MB PDF from the California Planning Roundtable website ([click here](#)). ■

## What others are saying

**"For most cities, recession has arrived."** ...[M]easured at the local level, the slowdowns are well under way. According to an analysis by Moody's Economy.com, about two-thirds of the country's 381 metropolitan areas were in recession..." based on "...employment and industrial production data for the six months ending in August..."

—Bill Marsh in *The New York Times, Week in Review, Oct. 5, 2008*

([click here](#)). A graphic accompanying the article shows that most of the US cities already in or at risk for recession are east of the Mississippi (although 18 are in California from Los Angeles north through the Central Valley, Sacramento, and including half-a-dozen Bay Area cities). At the same time, the economies of 58 metropolitan areas were still expanding in August. Those included San José and 18 cities in Texas. ([Click here](#) to view the graphic.)

**2008 big city sustainability rankings.** Oakland and San Francisco remain among the country's top 10 sustainable cities out of 50 ranked annually by SustainLane.com. San José moved up to 21st, from 23rd in 2006. San Francisco led all cities in its handling of energy and climate change and waste management, was second in planning and land use, but 50th (last) in housing affordability. California cities generally ranked high in percentage of clean energy. Oakland gets 17 percent of its power from renewable energy, including wind generating facilities at Altamont Pass; San Francisco and San José each get 12 percent from clean sources. About a third of the greenhouse gases produced in the United States come from electricity production, with renewable electricity sources producing no greenhouse gas emissions. For the 2008 rankings and details, [click here](#).

### **BART extension to Santa Clara County may be closer.**

Carl Guardino, President and CEO, [Silicon Valley Leadership Group](#), called our attention to the California Transportation Commission's approval last month of a payment plan for the South Bay BART extension. The payment plan will deliver \$240 million over six years, completing the State's commitment of \$760 million toward the BART extension from Fremont to Milpitas, San José, and Santa Clara. With BART connecting to Caltrain in downtown San José at the HP Arena and in Santa Clara, rapid rail will circle the Bay south of the Bay Bridge.

*(continued on next page)*

## Bringing equity into climate change conversations

PolicyLink—a national research and action institute advancing economic and social equity and headquartered in Oakland—has commissioned and published a 40-page report, “Understanding Climate Change: An Equitable Framework,” by Serena W. Lin. The paper hopes to “contribute to a deeper understanding of the issues surrounding climate change within the social equity movement” and “inspire leaders to learn not only about climate change but to also bring their knowledge, experience, and alliances to the climate change debates and to help develop equitable solutions.”

The report has five chapters:

- The scale of the challenge;
- Why equity advocates should care;
- The relationship between climate change and air pollution;
- Energy production, climate justice, and the climate policy debate; and
- Opportunities and challenges to address climate change and promote equity.

For a 1.2MB PDF of the report, [click here](#). ■

## What others are saying *(continued from previous page)*

Both BART and Caltrain will connect with all three passenger terminals at San José International Airport via the Santa Clara station.

Local dollars to build the BART extension were approved by Santa Clara County voters in 2000. While State funds are now secured, the federal government wants to make sure the extension can be operated and maintained before committing to the 20 percent still needed to construct the line. If approved, Measure B—the BART initiative on this month’s Santa Clara County ballot—will provide the needed operating and maintenance funds. Measure B’s 1/8 of one percent sales tax will not start until and unless the federal funds are secured.

For more information, read “Big money set aside for BART extension to South Bay,” by Gary Richards, *San José Mercury News*, September 25, 2008; and “City Council divided on BART extension,” by Arden Pennell, *Palo Alto Weekly*, October 7, 2008; or go to [www.BARTtoSiliconValley.com](http://www.BARTtoSiliconValley.com)

**Overheard at a downtown Starbucks.** “When I can find on-street parking, I make a quick mental note of where I’m parked. Last week I parked in front of the bank. When I returned, the bank was gone.” ■

## Where in the world? *Photo by Richard C. Paddock*



Answer on [page 16](#)

## Corrections

In the October issue of *Northern News* ("Northern Californians win 2008 State APA awards," page 16), Alex Hinds was mistakenly identified as a Fellow of AICP.



Alex Hinds, NOT FAICP

We regret the error. Mr. Hinds is a member in good standing of APA California Northern. He has managed county land use and resource agencies in California for the past 24 years and has directed the Marin County Community Development Agency since 1999. He told *Northern News*: "I am not AICP, nor have I ever claimed to be! Although, I really should have done it a long time ago. Maybe someday I'll take the test..." ■

## Planning layoffs turn tragic

Petaluma's chief building official, Cliff Kendall, was found dead September 23rd, an apparent suicide. He was among 12 of 23 members of the city's planning department whose positions were cut to help close a multimillion-dollar budget shortfall.

The community development department positions eliminated by the Petaluma City Council September 15 were the chief building official, two building inspectors, two senior planners, two assistant/associate planners, two permit technicians, two office assistants, and a GIS mapping analyst.

As home sales fell over the past year, City revenue from building permits and other development-related fees dropped 60 percent below expectations. The city had not adopted a budget and had been operating with a \$20 million emergency appropriation since July 1. The layoffs saved the city about \$1.1 million. More layoffs in other departments could be coming in the next few months, according to the city manager.

The Council apparently was considering a "golden handshake" and early retirement for employees with at least five years of service when Mr. Kendall took his life—a week after learning he was to be laid off. Mr. Kendall, 55, had worked eight years for the city. The local newspaper reported he was upset about losing his job and worried he would also lose his house.

The Cliff Kendall Memorial Fund has been established at Redwood Credit Union to help Patricia Kendall, wife of the deceased, with expenses in the wake of her husband's death. The city's development department announced it would reduce counter hours and phone access for the public, take longer to complete building inspections, and curtail work on an updated development code, a green building program, and a public art program.

For more information, see the following source articles by Corey Young, *Petaluma Argus-Courier*: "City layoffs 'the tip of the iceberg'," September 18, 2008 ([click here](#)), and "City Hall mourns one of its own," September 25, 2008 ([click here](#)). ■



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**Sponsorship opportunities available—contact Al Kostalas.**

### **Travel to Terrace Room:**

*On-street parking is limited—we encourage you to use public transit or carpool to the Holiday Party.*

### **Travel by BART:**

Exit to Broadway from Oakland's 19th Street BART station. Follow Broadway southwest to 17th Street. Turn left on 17th Street (toward Lake Merritt). Follow 17th Street for 6 blocks to Madison Street. Take a left on Madison Street. The Lake Merritt Hotel is at 1800 Madison Street, on the corner of Lakeside and Madison.

## Got credits? *By Naphtali H. Knox, FAICP, Editor*

Did you attend the California APA conference in San José in October 2007?

If you did, **here's some good news:** AICP members can now log Certification Maintenance (CM) credits for any of the 11 mobile workshops they attended October 1 through October 3, 2007. Go to <http://www.planning.org/cm/> and log in. Click on "Track my credits"; click on "Add Credits." At "Provider Name," enter "APA California Chapter Conference." Both the 2007 and 2008 conferences will come up as a list.

Click on "2007 APA California Chapter Conference." A popup frame shows the first 10 sessions, below which you'll see a selector for pages 1 through 5. The mobile workshops are listed on pages 6 and 7. Clicking on fast forward (>>) will take you to pages 6 through 10. Click on the workshop attended (e.g., MW #1 – Livermore Downtown Revitalization), and the field on the right offers details and 5.50 CM credits for that particular full-day workshop. Click on "Add to My Log," complete the required fields, "Submit," and you are credited!

You can also add credits for stand-alone sessions (like "Climate change impact analysis in CEQA documents," Thursday, 05/24/07, San Francisco) and for multipart sessions (like "Urban planning tour of China," 05/25/07 to 06/09/07). At "Provider Name," enter "APA California Chapter." Sort by "Date" or "Best Match."

Don't forget that you can **get quick and easy credits from the comfort of your computer** without adding to greenhouse gas emissions. Get one CM credit each for viewing one of the 2008 Great Cities Speakers Series that you may have missed. Go to <http://www.1stact.org/speakers.jsp> and look for the four one-hour videos now online: June 5—City planet (Stewart Brand); June 8—When cities tango (Bill Morrish); July 14—Great ideas for building livable communities (Dan Burden); and September 15—The distinctive city (Dr. Ann Markusen).

Happy logging! ■

## Health impact assessment—free online course for CM credit

AICP is offering “Planning for healthy places with health impact assessments” as the first in a series of CM-eligible online courses from APA. Through examples and activities, this how-to guide explains the value of health impact assessments and outlines the steps involved. APA developed the course in partnership with the National Association of County and City Health Officials. It is offered free of charge through a grant from the Centers for Disease Control. AICP members can earn six Certification Maintenance (CM) credits. After finishing the course, AICP members must complete a course evaluation and report the credits in their CM log.

[Click here](#) for the online course. ■

### Answer to “Where in the world?”

Inle Lake, Myanmar, located high in the Shan Mountains. About 70,000 people (mostly Intha) live in four cities bordering the lake, in numerous small villages along the lake shores, and on the lake itself. Most are self-sufficient farmers who live in simple houses of wood and woven bamboo on stilts. Most transportation on the lake is by small boat. Local fishermen use a distinctive rowing style which involves standing at the stern on one leg and wrapping the other leg around the oar. Photo: Richard C. Paddock

## LETTERS

The newsletter is looking great. It is a particularly nice format considering most people will read it online. Very easy to read and navigate—I love the separate colors for the articles. Great palette too. Also, the ads have good presence without overwhelming the articles.

**Audrey Feely, Firebox Media—San Francisco**

*The writer organizes and hosts the APA California Northern website, [www.norcalapa.org](http://www.norcalapa.org)*

What a fantastic job you are doing with the Section Newsletter. Such variety and quality. Keep up the great work—much appreciated.

**Gordon Jacoby, AICP—Oakland**

You and your associate are doing a great job with the Newsletter. It is packed full of good information, articles, news, calendar items, and great photos! Keep up the great work. My question is why you can't allow the monthly Newsletter to be accessed directly from the Section's eNews announcement email? We say it is reachable by “clicking here,” but only as a PDF. It should come up as a web page. Printing options and font sizes should be up to the recipient. The key ingredient ought to be making the Section Newsletter as accessible and user-friendly as possible.

**Tom Conrad—Walnut Creek**

Re “On an August day,” October 2008: So glad I've become a tea drinker. I knew how good tea anti-oxidants are for me, but I did not realize how GREEN I am as a result. Thank you!

**Anne Cronin Moore, AICP—San Rafael**

Re Calendar and AICP/CM: Thanks to the newsletter, I learned of the Coyote Creek Parkway County Park Integrated Master Plan Program sponsored by the San José State Student Urban Planning Coalition. I was impressed with the planning and learned about all the county parks in Santa Clara County. Sadly, there were only eight people—three San José State University grad students, four presenters, and me. I received three AICP/CM credits (total cost: \$6 for parking). Also for AICP/CM, the Great Cities videos are really easy to access, and the sound and picture quality are excellent.

**Joe Hall, AICP—Santa Cruz**

[Ed. Note: To watch videos of four of the earliest sessions in the Great Cities Speakers Series, [click here](#). AICP members can log on later to claim one credit for each course.] ■

## NORTHERN SECTION CALENDAR

### NOVEMBER

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

### NOVEMBER

**11/2**

**AICP Test Preparation.** 10 AM – 3 PM, San José State University, Martin Luther King, Jr. Library, Room 525, 150 East San Fernando Street at 4th, San José. Materials charge is \$50–\$75. Free parking (in garage across the street) on Saturdays and Sundays. This is the last session of the year; national AICP exams are November 3–17. Call Don Bradley, AICP Director, (650) 592-0915 or email [dr.donbradley@comcast.net](mailto:dr.donbradley@comcast.net) with your name, email, phone numbers, and any questions.

**11/3**

**2008 Great Cities Speaker Series presents: The Power of Zero—The Mayan Key to Vibrant Communitiest,** by **Luis Valdez**, playwright, film maker, and educator. 6–7 PM, San José Repertory Theatre, 101 Paseo de San Antonio, San José. An artist, activist, and community organizer, Mr. Valdez offers a Mayan perspective—integrating “The Power of Zero” into the performances of daily life—unleashing the creative faculties of children, adults, and the community at large. The Mayan design of cities as ceremonial centers allowed for the vibrancy of their humanity. Regarded as the “Father of Chicano theater and film,” Mr. Valdez was one of the founding professors of the California State University at Monterey Bay, where he launched the Institute for Teledramatic Arts and Technology. **Approved for 1.0 AICP/CM credits.** RSVP by visiting [www.commonwealthclub.org](http://www.commonwealthclub.org)

**11/6**

**Northern Section Board Meeting,** 6:30–8:30 PM (light dinner and networking from 6:00–6:30 PM). Location: PBS&J, 353 Sacramento Street, Suite 1000, San Francisco. RSVP to Director Elect Darcy Kremin, AICP, [DKremin@entrinx.com](mailto:DKremin@entrinx.com)

**11/12**

**East Bay RAC, Southern Alameda County—Presentations of special planning projects,** 5:30–8 PM, Hayward City Hall, 777 B Street, Room 2A, Hayward (one block east of the Hayward BART Station). A special event showcasing planning in the southern portions of the East Bay. Planners from the cities of Hayward, Fremont, Union City, San Leandro and the County of Alameda will be on hand to present some of their exciting, recently completed and ongoing projects. Presenting for Hayward will be the planning manager, Richard Patenaude. Come mingle, share ideas, and explore the cutting-edge planning in the East Bay and the challenges planners faced. Food and refreshments provided. For more information please contact Joanna Jansen, [joanna@dceplanning.com](mailto:joanna@dceplanning.com) or David Ralston, [dralston@oaklandnet.com](mailto:dralston@oaklandnet.com).

*(continued on next page)*



## DECEMBER

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

## DECEMBER

12/1

**2008 Great Cities Speaker Series presents:**  
**The Reframing of the Everyday—Artists and Public Space**, by **Anne Pasternak**, president and creative director of *Creative Time*. 6–7 PM, San José Repertory Theatre, 101 Paseo de San Antonio, San José. Anne Pasternak's projects include *Tribute in Light* (two beacons of light in Lower Manhattan following 9/11) and *59th Minute*, a collaboration with Panasonic for the presentation of video work in Times Square. Ms. Pasternak is committed to initiating projects that give artists innovative opportunities to reflect on contemporary society and everyday urban life. She will speak about the benefit to artists in reframing people's everyday experiences of their surroundings and enriching public space. **Approved for 1.0 AICP/CM credits.** RSVP by visiting [www.commonwealthclub.org](http://www.commonwealthclub.org)

12/5

**APA California Northern Section Annual Holiday Party**, 7 PM, Terrace Room, Lake Merritt Hotel, a historic building with sustainable green features. 1800 Madison Street, Oakland. Walking distance from 19th Street BART. For information, see [page 15](#), or contact Al Kostalas at [akostalas@entrix.com](mailto:akostalas@entrix.com) or (925) 988-1289.

12/18

**Monterey Bay RAC and AEP Monterey Chapter Joint Happy Hour**, 5:30 PM, Ol' Factory, 1725 Contra Costa Street, Sand City. Let's celebrate the holidays, network, and exchange ideas for future RAC events. For more information, contact Elizabeth Caraker at [ECaraker@rbf.com](mailto:ECaraker@rbf.com) or (831) 884-2430.

## JANUARY

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

## JANUARY

1/10 or 1/24

**APA California, Northern Section Board Retreat**, time and place to be determined. ■