

## September 2014 Board Reports

### **2015 California Planning Conference Local Host Committee: Erik Basley, Hanson Hom, Darcy Kremin**

#### August meeting

The LHC held a meeting on **Saturday August 9** from 10AM – Noon at URS, 1333 Broadway, Ste 800, Oakland. We discussed our preparations for our presence at the Anaheim Conference later this month.

#### Anaheim Conference

The Volunteers Committee has set up a web-based volunteer shift sign-up sheet (through SignUp Genius) so that planners can staff the 2015 Oakland conference table: [www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C0A4AA4A92EA3FE3-2015/18128104](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C0A4AA4A92EA3FE3-2015/18128104)

The Merchandise Committee has contacted vendors and worked with Dorina Blythe, the Chapter's graphic design contractor, to order fortune cookies, coasters, and enamel pins for the conference. The pins have been delivered and will also serve as the Northern Section pin at the pin exchange event.

The other items will be available at our conference booth will bring a little of Oakland's Do-It-Yourself (DIY) ethos to Anaheim. Attendees will be able to hand stamp our conference logo on the front of the save-the-date postcard and write any inspirational words about planning, California, or Oakland on it. The conference information will be on the back of the card and attendees will address their postcards. Each card can then be pinned onto a foam core board that will consist on the conference logo. We will send the cards at a later date – hopefully using custom made postage stamps with the conference logo.

In addition we will have a selfie wall so people can tag the conference on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and all the other social media platforms.

#### 2015 Conference Updates

##### *Fundraising*

Our sponsorship levels will be formally approved by the Chapter Board at the Anaheim conference. We plan to begin soliciting sponsors immediately after Anaheim. We aim to have each LHC member contact three firms to obtain funds.

##### *Opening Reception*

The Hospitality Committee presented three proposed sites for the Opening Reception to the LHC at the August 9, 2014 meeting to seek consensus on which site would be preferred. A fourth wild-card site was also presented. These sites included: the USS Hornet, an old WWII aircraft carrier in Alameda, the Oakland Museum of California, and an entertainment venue in Jack London Square. The wild-card venue would be a bay cruise that would depart from San Francisco.

The LHC preferred the Oakland Museum of California for the reception. The venue can accommodate a large crowd and we would have access to the History of California exhibit which would be of interest to all throughout the State. In addition, the museum has rooftop gardens that afford great views of the Oakland skyline and Lake Merritt.

### *Planner's Guide*

The Planner's Guide Committee has begun to draft neighborhood profiles for the guide. These will also be placed on the conference website as they are ready. The first two are likely to be for Old Oakland and Chinatown and placed on the website when it officially goes live in October (see below).

### *Publicity*

The Publicity committee will be working with Francine Farrell, another Chapter contractor, to start generating content for our conference. At first, conference information will be presented on a page on Chapter's website. After the Anaheim conference concludes, we will work towards setting up the new 2015 conference website in late October 2015. We have also set up Instagram and Twitter accounts to follow. Due to username length restrictions both are **apa2015ca**.

### *Sessions and Mobile Workshops*

Both the calls for sessions and mobile workshops will be ready for publication shortly. We expect to start to allow submittals for both in late-October and close submittals on February 6, 2015.

### **Next LHC Meetings (10 am to noon):**

10/11 – TBD

12/13 – TBD

If anyone wishes to help plan the conference, please contact Erik at [erik2015@norcalapa.org](mailto:erik2015@norcalapa.org). We can always use more volunteers!

### **CPF Liaison: Darcy Kremin**

We are in the last throws of organizing this year's CPF Auction to be held on Monday, September 15. We have received some great donations but we are always looking for others. We have four ways to participate in the auction: the raffle, the planner's treasures (books and do-dads), the silent auction and the live auction. We hope you can participate this year. In addition, if you are in Anaheim and can give us an hour of your time, we need help staffing the raffle table. You just need to take money and put the raffle tickets in the big red drum. Please sign up here: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c084eaeac2ba7fe3-cpfraffle>

We have another mission that I have been neglecting. We need to decide what non-accredited programs in our Section should be included in the bigger student scholarship considerations starting in 2015. If you know of a school or program that is graduating great planners, please let me know. We'd like to expand the number of scholarship recipients beyond the two accredited planning schools in our Section.

### **East Bay RAC: Dahlia Chazan and Florentina Cracium**

Completed walking tour of the path on the East span of the Bay Bridge with 15+ attendees and interest in future walking tours of the Bay Trail.

· Planning several upcoming events:

- Joint happy hour with YPG – September 24<sup>th</sup> in Berkeley
- Cosponsoring talk with AIA – September 17<sup>th</sup> in Oakland (Financial obstacles to infill development: What designers and planners should know?)
- October joint happy hour with AEP – date/location pending
- October/November educational event

### **Monterey Bay RAC: Justin Meek and Aaron Ackerman**

Held a joint APA and AEP summertime happy hour on August 20 at Alvarado Street Brewery & Grill in Downtown Monterey. We wished Aaron Ackerman good luck in going back to school at Cal Poly Pomona for a Master of Landscape Architecture. Roughly 15 planners from throughout the Monterey Bay region attended the event. Plans still in the works to organize a lunch-hour workshop on a local complete streets project.

### **University Liaison: Justin Meek**

Coordinating with SJSU and UC Berkeley Student Representatives in enrolling first-year planning students for a free APA membership.

### **Student Representatives: Melissa Ruhl and Carline Au**

#### SJSU Fall Symposium

The Urban Planning Coalition will be hosting its Fall Symposium on Saturday, October 18, 9am-3pm at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Library. The topic is “Boomers and Millennials: Planning for Changing Demographics in the Bay Area” with a keynote speech by San Francisco Planning Department Director John Rahaim. Panel topics include “Micro-units and Aging in Place,” “Life beyond Privately Owned Cars,” and “Designing Cities for the Sharing Economy.” We will be applying for CM credits and APA sponsorship. For more information, contact Melissa at [melissaruhl@gmail.com](mailto:melissaruhl@gmail.com).

Title: “Boomers and Millennials: Planning for Changing Demographics in the Bay Area”

Date: Saturday, October 18

Time: 9:00am – 3:00pm, catered breakfast and lunch included

Location: Martin Luther King, Jr. Library, One Washington Square, San Jose, CA

There will be no registration fee for this event.

#### UC Berkeley

All first year MCP students have been signed up for one year of free APA membership and will be making a presentation about APA on the first day of classes.

Met with Thalia Leng, Mentorship Coordinator, to plan a networking event at UC Berkeley and to recruit mentees (after it launches).

Carline will be attending the Cal APA conference.

### **AICP Director: Don Bradley, AICP**

The Fall 2014 AICP EXAM PREP work shop series will again be at San Jose State University on the 2nd floor, room 255 of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library on August 30, September 20, October 11, October 25, and November 8.

All of the May 2014 workshop candidates that attended the sessions and I have heard from passed the exam. Fall lecturers invited include Kimberly Brosseau, AICP; Russell Leavitt, AICP; Robert Pittman, Esq., Al Savay, AICP; Ronny Kraft, AICP; Avalon Schultz, AICP; Mark Rhodes, AICP; and Barry Miller, FAICP and several of the recent exam passers. In the Spring of 2015 I will consider moving the venue from SJSU where it has been for the past 5 or 6 years to another site more centrally located in the Bay Area.

I expect around 15 - 20 students this season. Also in the Spring I will try recruiting the non-AICP board members for the Northern section to apply to sit the exam. My goal when I started this 25 years ago was to have over 1/2 of APA become AICP.

One student for this class was given a scholarship by the section and another won the silent auction at the Frank Wein memorial fundraiser for the California Planning Foundation at last year's annual state planning conference in Visalia. I will do the same again this year and donate one or more if there is interest at the conference in September at Anaheim. Recently, Carline Au arranged for me to talk to graduate planning students at UC Berkeley about the AICP and the exam. Shannon Fiala of our board and the Young Planners Group director attended and I suggested that They might want to have a similar event about AICP. Further, Melissa Ruhl, the SJSU student rep on our board has been very helpful in securing location for our workshops at SJSU.

Further, as a member of the Board of the California Planner Emeritus Network (CAL PEN) I recently served along with Jeannette Dinwiddie-Moore, FAICP, and several other CAL PEN board member on the awards committee for this years conference.

### **Communications Director: James Castañeda**

In addition to the regular news bits and promoting our local events, we've been also assisting APA California Orange Section promote the upcoming conference in Anaheim. Also we've been assisting the California Planning Foundation get the word out on donations for the auction.

In the coming months, I'll start working closely with our own Local Host Committee to start featuring Oakland in the run up to the 2015 conference, and assisting where is needed from the section's communications.

As reminder/thoughts:

#### Event Postings

A big thanks to everyone who has been using the template/format for events when they're being submitted. It helps us out a lot getting them posted online, and we appreciate that. Having said that, I want to just quickly remind everyone of the protocol on who to send the requests to. When submitting an event, make sure its sent both to the Administrative Director (Shaveta) and myself. The Admin Director handles the posting for the website, and I keep track of what's happening to make sure they're

featured on our communication challenges. But I do also help out in posting in the Admin Director can't get to it, so please do keep me in the loop with that. Also, if there are CM credits for the events to be requested, don't forgot to add Tania (our Professional Development Director) to the email as well.

#### Event Titles

Just a reminder to try and keep your event titles short. I know we have a 10-word limit, but even pushing up against 10 words (especially if there's a lot of long words) makes for challenges in formatting the eNews. Please feel free to let me know if you have any question or need help in truncating crafty and catchy titles for your events.

#### Pictures at Events

Everyone loves pictures on Facebook and Twitter (I'm sure I don't need to tell you that). Every week I get a report on what people opened the most on Facebook and Twitter, and any time we feature a picture, our engagement numbers have quite a jump. I encourage you to take pictures at APA events you might be hosting, co-sponsor or that you attend. Feel free to send any of them over to me to post so we can show everyone the great events we help put on for our members. Also keep in mind we need them at the end of the year for the Holiday Party, so put your smart phone to use and get some shots!

#### eNews

Four eNews set out since July 2, 2014 (7/8/2014, 7/29/2014, 8/12/2014, and 8/26/2014)  
Two Northern News eblasts sent out since July 2, 2014  
NEXT eNews is on 9/9/2014)

#### LinkedIn

Up to 1,139 members as of August 28, 2014

#### Facebook

Up to 227 likes as of August 28, 2014

#### Twitter

Up to 179 followers as of August 28, 2014

### **Legislative Director: Alexandra Barnhill**

#### PROPOSED LEGISLATION

*General Legislative Update* – Following the summer recess from July 3<sup>rd</sup> to August 4<sup>th</sup>, the Legislature has been busy finalizing bills. August 22<sup>nd</sup> was the last day to amend bills on the floor. And August 31<sup>st</sup> is the last day for each house to pass bills. September 30<sup>th</sup> is the last day for the Governor to sign or veto bills passed by the Legislature. Non-urgency bills will take effect on January 1, 2015. Finally, the general statewide election is scheduled for November 4, 2014.

*SB 1262 (Correa) – Medical Marijuana Regulations* – This bill, sponsored by the California Police Chiefs Association and the League of California Cities, provides implementation measures for the Compassionate Use Act of 1996. It would require state regulatory licenses to operate dispensaries and cultivation sites and establishes testing and quality assurance standards for medical marijuana and safety standards for

operations. The bill imposes numerous standards and potential penalties for physicians who prescribe medical marijuana to patients.

The bill proponents have proposed extensive substantive amendments to address numerous concerns from marijuana industry entities and other opponents of the bill. However, the bill still protects local regulatory authority, because a prospective operator could not obtain a state license to operate a dispensary or other facility until and unless that operator can produce evidence of local permitting approval. It is now being held under submission before the Assembly Appropriations Committee. Note that neither of the statewide marijuana legalization initiatives (14-0002, 14-0008) qualified for the ballot.

*AB 1147 (Bonilla) – Massage Therapy Regulations* - This bill attempts to correct the effects of SB 731 (2008), a bill that created a voluntary certification for massage therapists and produced the unintended consequence of increasing establishments that offer illicit services or engage in human trafficking. The bill attempts to return local government's authority to regulate massage therapists and massage businesses by authorizing cities and counties to adopt or enforce zoning, business licensing and reasonable health and safety requirements.

The bill has been amended several times over the past few months. However, the bill still protects local regulatory authority, because it allows for the adoption or enforcement of local ordinances regulating licensed or certified "healing arts professionals," including massage therapists. The bill is set for a second reading before the Senate Appropriations Committee. The League of Cities supports the bill.

*SB 1439 (Leno) / AB 2405 (Ammiano) – Ellis Act Matters* - Both of these bills related to the Ellis Act, which allows a rental property owner to empty the property and evict tenants by removing it from the rental market. They were both drafted as a way to limit an owner's exercise of the Ellis Act under certain circumstances. Both bills have stalled in committee without action since June and May, respectively.

*AB 2280 (Alejo) – Community Revitalization and Investment Authorities* - This bill would establish a new local economic development tool, called a Community Revitalization Investment Authority (CRIA), for communities to address employment, crime, affordable housing and environmental conditions. It works by allowing consenting local agencies to invest property tax increment and other available funding in infrastructure and economic development projects and programs. This bill is supported by local agency industry groups because it empowers local agencies to collaborate on important infrastructure projects.

Recent amendments to this bill specify that a CRIA formation will not be effective until a successor agency has adopted a finding that no former RDA assets that are subject of litigation against the state have or will be used to benefit a CRIA unless the litigation has been resolved, including any appeals. The CRIA would also now be required to hold a third public hearing to conduct a protest proceeding to consider whether property owners and residents within a plan area wish to present oral or written protests against the creation of a CRIA. In the event of a majority protest, the CRIA must hold an election within 90 days. If a majority of voters reject the plan, no CRIA shall be formed. The bill passed out of the Senate Committee on Appropriations and has been ordered to the Assembly.

*AB 194 (Campos) - Open meetings: Public Criticism and Comment* - The Ralph M. Brown Act requires that all meetings of a legislative body of a local agency be open and public and that all persons be permitted to attend and participate. Under the Act, members of the public may directly address the legislative body on any item that is within their subject matter jurisdiction. However, this public comment is subject to the agency's adoption of reasonable regulations to ensure that agency business can be conducted, provided that the agency cannot prohibit public criticism of the policies, procedures, programs, or services of the agency, or of the acts or omissions of the legislative body. This bill would expand that prohibition against the limitation of public criticism to include criticism of the officers and employees of the legislative body, and specify other designated prohibited activities related to limiting public comment. This bill would, if a legislative body limits the time allocated for public testimony on a particular issue or for each individual speaker, prohibit a reduction in that allocated time by reason of the questioning or interruption of the speaker by the legislative body or its officers or employees, and the speaker's response to questioning. The bill is set for a third hearing before the Senate Committee on Governance and Finance.

### BALLOT MEASURES

The November statewide ballot measures are not directly related to land use planning matters. There are six measures on the ballot including measures related to water quality / infrastructure improvement, the state budget, healthcare insurance, drug and alcohol testing of doctors / medical negligence, criminal sentencing, and tribal-state gaming compact ratification.

### STATEWIDE REGULATIONS

*SWRCB Imposes Emergency Drought Regulations* – Governor Brown declared a statewide drought emergency on January 17, 2014. On July 15, in response to the continuing severity of the drought, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) approved new California Code of Regulations Title 23, Sections 863, 864 and 865, an emergency regulation to ensure urban water suppliers, their customers and state residents increase water conservation in urban settings or face possible fines or other enforcement. The Emergency Regulation became effective August 1, 2014, will be in effect for 270 days, unless extended. This Regulation is intended to reduce outdoor urban water use as well as outdoor irrigation and mandates minimum actions to conserve water supplies. Urban water suppliers must comply with this requirement within 30 days of the Emergency Regulation's effective date of August 1, 2014.

*OPR Drafts New CEQA Guidelines Traffic Congestion Standard* - In August the Governor's Office of Planning and Research issued a draft white paper ([http://www.opr.ca.gov/s\\_sb743.php](http://www.opr.ca.gov/s_sb743.php)) recommending amendments to the CEQA guidelines to replace the "level of service" traffic congestion standard with a "vehicle miles traveled" standard. If adopted, the analysis of traffic would shift from a narrow congestion and automobile delay focus, to a focus on broader factors, including fiscal, health, environmental, and other quality of life concerns. As a result of concern due to a sudden shift from one standard to the other, OPR is proposing a phase-in process, starting in 2016, which would apply first around transit stops; local agencies could apply the standard to other areas on an opt-in basis.

### JUDICIAL ACTIVITY

*Tuolumne Jobs & Small Business Alliance v. Superior Court of Tuolumne County* (Cal. Supreme Court Case No. S207173)

This case reversed the Court of Appeal and clarified that when a city opts to adopt a voter-sponsored initiative, rather than place it on the ballot, the action of the city is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). In so ruling, the court noted that conducting CEQA review was contrary to the statutory language and legislative history of voter initiatives. The Elections Code and CEQA law were found to be in conflict for two reasons. First, CEQA review cannot be conducted in the time frame provided for in the Elections Code for processing ballot measures. Second, the Election Code does not allow a city to modify a ballot measure. So even if CEQA review were conducted, a lead agency would not be able to modify the project to reduce its environmental impacts. This case raises some concern that project proponents may attempt to do an end-run around CEQA review by proposing ballot measures rather than seeking traditional land use approvals. The Court recognized this possibility, but pointed out that if a development measure is approved directly by a lead agency, voters can overturn that adoption by initiative.

*Desertrain v. City of Los Angeles* (9th Circuit)

Here, the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit held that a Los Angeles Municipal Code provision, which prohibits the use of a vehicle “as living quarters either overnight, day-by-day, or otherwise,” is unconstitutionally vague, as it provides inadequate notice of the unlawful conduct it proscribes, and opens the door to discriminatory enforcement against the homeless and the poor, in violation of the Due Process Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. As a result, a number of cities across California have been repealing their ordinances that prohibit living in cars.

### **Diversity Co-Directors: Miroo Desai and Cindy Ma**

- Diversity Summit for 2014 will occur on the Sunday 9/14 of the Conference in Anaheim so please come! The Summit this year is title: “Inclusive Vacations: Making and Retaining Tourism As A Job Center in Diverse Communities”
- Diversity Summit 2015 planning is still underway and we have some really great ideas for that coming about. Several committee members are going to reach out to local groups and organizations to participate. Right now talk with James Rojas is in the works for an event involving high school students for the conference
- Fall Diversity Committee event ideas include a Black Panther History walking tour and a event in the North Bay and a Fall Symposium.

### **Administrative Director: Shaveta Sharma**

- Prepared July 2, Board Meeting minutes
- Update website with past Board Minutes/Board Reports
- Prepared September 4, 2014 Board Report
- Will be attending and volunteering at Anaheim conference

## Webmaster: Ronny Kraft

### Norcalapa.com Statistics for June 2014

