

Director Elect Candidate: **Andrea Ouse, AICP**

I am pleased to submit this candidate statement for consideration as Director-Elect of APA-California, Northern Section. The Northern Section represents the largest and most diverse membership in the California Chapter, and I have been honored to participate on the Section Board for over 15 years. Initially, I served as the first Chair of the San Francisco/Peninsula Regional Advisory Council (RAC) for over eight years, and have served as the Awards Co-Director for the past six years. This year, I also served as Co-Coordinator of the APA-California Chapter Awards.

As Awards Co-Director, my principal focus was to promote and expand the Awards Program to provide our members with access to a wider array of innovative plans and projects, and the distinguished leaders that inspire our profession. The recognition of excellence at the Section level has not remained at a local level, as many Northern Section Awards recipients have been recognized by the California Chapter and APA National.

I look forward to the opportunity of serving as 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. Some future priorities include:

- **Benefits of Membership:** Work with the Board on initiatives to strengthen and promote the benefits of APA membership, by increasing member involvement in Section activities and by continuing improved outreach efforts about future professional development opportunities throughout the entire Section.
- **Professional Development:** Continue increasing the wide range of planning-related subject matter available for members at all levels of the profession through Board sponsorship and promotion of low or no-cost training programs, workshops, presentations and lending library materials in order to broaden professional development efforts and options for AICP Certification Maintenance.
- **Diversity:** Stimulate and implement programs and opportunities that promote more diverse and culturally-aware planning membership, topics and discourse.
- **Communication:** Continue to support existing initiatives to improve communication to members; continue to improve, expand, and renew content on the Section website; explore innovative techniques for soliciting input from members.
- **Fiscal Responsibility:** Work with the Section Board to maintain the financial health of the Section and pursue strategies to expand the Section's fiscal capabilities; work at the Chapter level to ensure the Section's interests are heard and protected.
- **Chapter Conference:** Assist the Conference Chair and Local Host Committee in the preliminary efforts to plan and promote a successful APA-California Chapter Conference, to be held in the Northern Section in 2015.

Since joining the Board, I've learned a great deal about the practices, operations and administration of our local Section and about APA in general. It has been my privilege to work with a group of exceptionally talented, professional and committed volunteers on the Section Board. I am committed to

the continued success of the Northern Section, and look forward to the many exciting challenges and opportunities for us in the coming years.

Experience: Andrea Ouse, AICP, has over 21 years of public and private sector planning experience. Her experience as a generalist planner has included extensive experience in both current and advance planning, in addition to environmental document review and preparation. From 2002 through 2009, she served the Town of Colma as Deputy City Planner (2002-2005) and as City Planner (2005-2009) under contract with LSA Associates. Prior to joining LSA, Ms. Ouse served as staff planner in the Cities of Belmont, Daly City, Pacifica, Turlock and in Yuma, Arizona. Ms. Ouse continues to provide planning services and project management to both public and private sectors in Northern California. She received a Bachelors of Science in City and Regional Planning from California Polytechnic State University and a Masters of Public Administration from California State University, East Bay. She is an active member of the American Institute of Certified Planners, and has volunteered as a guest speaker for the AICP Exam Preparation trainings led by Dr. Don Bradley, AICP and as a participant in the Section-sponsored Ethics Training workshops held in 2011.

Administrative Director Candidate:

Justin Meek, AICP

I have been honored to serve on the APA California-Northern Section Board for the past few years and humbly resubmit this statement of candidacy for the Administrative Director position. In making this decision, I wish to continue to support the Board and contribute substantially to the ongoing development of the planning profession.

In the past few years, I have actively involved myself in a number of APA events. In addition to being responsible for all records of the Section and working with Board members to publicize section professional development activities, I have helped organize or participated in a number of events, such as a walking tour of Santa Cruz's riverfront and a workshop on using census data. If elected to the Board, I look forward to continuing to be active and will work diligently as the Administrative Director. I am excited at the opportunity to serve the planning profession and be a part of APA California-Northern Section's efforts to promote and inspire APA members.

Experience. Justin Meek, AICP, is a senior planner with 10 years of planning and CEQA experience for public and private sector clients. He presently works for the City of Marina and provides consulting services for the City of Pacific Grove. Previously, he managed the preparation of numerous environmental documents throughout California and authored geology and soils, recreation, visual resources, transportation and traffic, land use and planning, public services, and utilities and service systems sections for a variety of environmental documents. He also teaches at San Jose State University (SJSU) in the Urban and Regional Planning Department (URBP). Mr. Meek has a Bachelor of Science in Earth Sciences and Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies from the University of California at Santa Cruz and a Master of Urban Planning from SJSU, where he was the recipient of the AICP Outstanding Graduating Student Award. He has been active in the American Planning Association since 2008, and is

currently the Administrative Director for the APA California-Northern Section. He also serves on the SJSU URBP Alumni Committee.