



American Planning Association  
**California Chapter**

*Creating Great Communities*

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

Making great communities happen through good planning.

- Provide vision and leadership that fosters better planning for California.
- Build public and political support for great planning.
- Develop tools and services that support our members in advancing the art and science of planning.



# **2019 Annual Report**

[www.APACalifornia.org](http://www.APACalifornia.org)

*This Annual Report reflects the American Planning Association's California Chapter, which is comprised of eight sections.*

Central  
Central Coast  
Inland Empire  
Los Angeles

Northern  
Orange  
Sacramento Valley  
San Diego

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## President's Statement



*Julia Lave Johnston*

In keeping with the famous planning motto, traditionally the APA California board makes no small plans. There is so much we want to accomplish to support our members and promote great planning throughout the state, but the reality is that the board is made up of busy professionals who juggle their commitment to the organization with jobs and other personal obligations. In 2019, APA California tried to be more realistic and strategic. We started by spending the beginning of the year updating our Strategic Plan. In the past, we have used the document as an annual work plan for the organization. This year we wrote the plan to include the vision and goals of our organization. The 2019 Strategic Plan will be in place until 2025. New strategic plan initiatives will be identified every two years when a new board president starts their term.

Our values and priorities are shaped by the world around us; a context that has changed dramatically since our last comprehensive strategic plan in 2013-2014. As disruptive as these changes may seem now, their impacts will be even greater in the future. While we cannot predict the exact impacts, we must be sensitive to these changes and consider their potential impact on the future of the profession. The Chapter's professional and organizational values in the strategic plan create the framework for the organization's goals and actions moving forward and will define a roadmap for how we sustain the profession into the future.

### **2019-2024 STRATEGIC PLAN GUIDING VALUES AND OBJECTIVES**

#### **Inclusion and Diversity**

We must work to increase the diversity of the planning profession, and the membership and leadership of our organization, to reflect the communities we serve. In our community engagement and planning efforts, we need to develop techniques to more effectively engage marginalized and underrepresented groups in the processes that impact their lives.

#### **Social and Environmental Justice**

Our activities as planners impact how communities develop, and the services and opportunities they offer their residents, ultimately affecting their quality of life. We must work to integrate equity into all we do and become advocates and educators both at the state and local level for policy makers and community residents.

#### **Great Communities Are Healthy Communities**

The relationship between environmental and personal health and planning is historic. Because of the increasing emphasis on social and environmental justice, the important interrelationship between health and planning is being rediscovered. Planners have embarked on a rapidly growing relationship with partners in the public health field to support the health of our communities and their residents.

#### **Constant Improvement of Our Planning Skills**

The APA through its certification program, AICP, is committed to maintaining the highest level of professionalism, ethical behavior and skill. With rapid innovation, especially in the technical sector, APA must dedicate itself to providing opportunities for our members to maintain and expand their skills and knowledge of planning issues, related fields, and tools.

### **2019-2024 STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS**

- Expand our effectiveness in “Creating Great Communities,” supporting good planning policy, and building support for the profession by working with allied affiliates, and educating and building relationships with policy makers and advocates who share our values and objectives at the local/section level, as well as the state level.
- Build our membership strategically by targeting groups that can increase our long-term sustainability and effectiveness as an organization, such as students, academics, young planners, and mid-career planners by provide meaningful membership services and engagement opportunities that give value to membership at all levels of our members' careers into retirement.
- Deepen the diversity of our membership and Chapter and Section leadership, and educate planners and decision makers about the embedded inequities that impact the lives of so many in our state.
- Develop strategies so that the Sections and Chapter better collaborate to serve our members, and implement the goals and objectives of this Strategic Plan.

*Continued on page 2*

**“In 2019, APA California tried to be more realistic and strategic.”**

## PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT

- Increase Chapter Influence with APA National.
- Promote organizational stability by diversifying revenue sources to invest in improving membership services and increasing value for membership.
- Analyze our current structure to see if it supports our values, our long and short term goals, our financial stability and our continued relevance and sustainability as an organization.

### 2019-2020 STRATEGIC PLAN INITIATIVES

APA California is the largest APA Chapter in the nation. Below are the four initiatives that the board identified as focus areas for our Chapter and eight Sections during 2019-2020.

#### 1. Finding our Voice: Speaking Up for Planning

- 1.1 Nurture the next generation of APA and Community Leaders.
- 1.2 Advocate statewide and nationally for diversity and inclusion in our organization and the planning process.
- 1.3 Support our members in local, regional, state advocacy.
- 1.4 Clearly articulate our values and the purpose and impact of planning on the quality of people's lives.
- 1.5 Continue to provide a strong voice for good planning policy at the state level.
- 1.6 Provide leadership at the National level by supporting other chapters in developing legislative programs.

#### 2. Building Strong Relationships to Make Great Communities Happen

- 2.1 Identify organizations that share our mission and values.
- 2.2 Identify strategic partnerships that strengthen our organization and help us reach our goals.
- 2.3 Build stronger relationships with the communities we serve. Examples: 2020 Census; Housing and Homelessness; Climate Change; Land Use and Water; SB 1000; Autonomous Vehicles; and Public Health.

#### 3. Planning for an Equitable Future

- 3.1 Increase the diversity of our membership and Chapter and Section leadership.

- 3.2 Build relationships with advocacy groups to develop understand of planning and SB1000. Provide guidance for our members.
- 3.3 Develop a community advocacy program that allows sections to build relationships with community advocacy groups.

#### 4. I HEART APA CA: Sustaining Our Organization

- 4.1 Examine the structure of our chapter to make sure that we are supporting our members at all stages of their careers and giving them value for their membership.
- 4.2 Develop an action plan to retain existing membership and expand membership in targeted areas including:
  - Academia Planning related professionals
  - Missing middle professionals
  - Diverse emerging professionals and practicing professionals in APA allied organizations
  - Planning Commissioners
- 4.3 Determine base level of service we should provide to members.
- 4.4 Identify the structural and financial changes we need to make to provide those services.
- 4.5 Improve Chapter and Section communications and coordination.
- 4.6 Clearly articulate membership value.
- 4.7 Develop programming that reflects our values.
- 4.8 Empower our Sections to develop the next generation of APA and community leaders by supporting mentorship programs and leadership development programs in all the Sections.

Planners are good at talking about plans. Sometimes we are not so good at talking about the values that drive our planning. The board hopes that the values, objectives and goals in this plan will help our members talk about what is important to us and work collectively to meet these important goals.

[www.planning.org](http://www.planning.org)

*“Planners are good at talking about plans. Sometimes we are not so good at talking about the values that drive our planning.”*

# 2019 Board of Directors

## Chapter Officers

- **Julia Lave Johnston**  
President
- **Derek Wong, AICP**  
VP Administration
- **Hanson Hom, AICP**  
VP Conferences
- **Miroo Desai, AICP**  
VP Diversity and Equity
- **Mary P. Wright, AICP, LEED AP ND**  
VP Marketing and Membership
- **Eric Phillips, AICP**  
VP Policy and Legislation
- **Sharon Grewal, AICP**  
VP Professional Development
- **Marc Yeber, ASLA**  
VP Public Information
- **Pete Parkinson AICP**  
Past President
- **Juan Borrelli, AICP**  
CPF President
- **Jay Higgins, AICP**  
Commission and Board Representative
- **Elizabeth Owen**  
Student Representative

## Local Section Directors

- **Rob Terry, AICP**  
Central Section
- **Rachel C. Raynor**  
Central Coast Section
- **John E. Hildebrand**  
Inland Empire Section

- **Ashley Atkinson, AICP**  
Los Angeles Section
- **James A. Castañeda, AICP**  
Northern Section
- **Nicholas Chen, AICP**  
Orange Section
- **Bob Lagomarsino, AICP**  
Sacramento Valley Section
- **Nancy Graham, AICP**  
San Diego Section

## Appointed Members

- **Asha Bleier, AICP**  
AICP Coordinator
- **Chris Pahule**  
State Awards Coordinator, Northern
- **Shane Burkhardt, AICP**  
State Awards Coordinator, Southern
- **J. Laurence Mintier, FAICP**  
Chapter Historian, Northern
- **Steven A. Preston, AICP**  
Chapter Historian, Southern
- **Kacey Lizon**  
Conference Program Coordinator
- **Daniel Bezinovich**  
Digital Media Coordinator, Social Media
- **Gabriel Barreras**  
Digital Media Coordinator, Website
- **Greg Konar, AICP**  
Distance Education Director
- **Julia Lave Johnston**  
FAICP Co-Coordinator

- **Nicholas P. Maricich**  
National Policy and Legislative Representative
- **Pamela Wu, AICP**  
Statewide Program Coordinator
- **Richard M. Kos, AICP**  
University Liaison, Northern
- **Mirle Rabinowitz Bussell**  
University Liaison, Southern
- **Molly Wagner**  
Young Planners Coordinator

## Non-Voting Members

- **Kristen Asp, AICP**  
APA Board Director, Region 6
- **Marissa Aho, AICP**  
AICP Commissioner, Region 6
- **Alexander Yee**  
APA Student Representative, Region 6
- **Robert Paternoster, FAICP**  
Planner Emeritus Network, President
- **William Anderson, FAICP**  
California Planning Roundtable, President
- **Ellie Fiore, AICP**  
*CalPlanner* Assistant Editor

## Management Association and Contract Staff

- **Sande George**  
Executive Director and Lobbyist
- **Lauren de Valencia y Sanchez**  
Executive Assistant and Lobbyist
- **Francine Farrell**  
Association and Conference Management Services *ATEGO Resources*
- **Laura Murphy**  
Association and Certification Maintenance Services  
*New Horizon Enterprise*
- **Dorina Blythe**  
Association and Conference Graphic Design Services, *GranDesigns, Inc.*
- **Laura Dee**  
Association and Conference Accounting Services, *Simply Bookkeeping Pro*
- **Marco A. Martinez**  
APA California Attorney  
*Best, Best & Krieger, LLC*
- Professional Liability Insurance  
*Heffman Insurance Brokers*
- **Dick Lemon**  
Insurance Agent  
*McClatchy Insurance*
- **Christopher Jaime**  
Website Management  
*Digital Gear, Inc.*
- **Deene Alongi**  
Conference Management  
*Business Event Strategist*
- **Carol Malin**  
Proofreading and Editing Services  
*Wordsmith.biz*

# REGION VI REPRESENTATIVES REPORT

## National APA



*Kristen Asp, AICP  
APA Board of Directors  
Elected by Region VI*

Kristen Asp is a principal planner for the City Glendale, California. Kristen has served as vice president of administration for APA's California Chapter, section director for the APA Los Angeles Section, vice chair of the APA Membership Committee, and vice chair of the APA Awards Task Force. She earned her bachelor's degree from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, and master's degree from Woodbury University.

### **NATIONAL APA 2019 SUMMARY**

It is an honor and privilege to serve on the National APA Board of Directors as the representative elected by the members of Region VI. The Board of Directors meets 3-4 times a year. Below is a summary of actions the Board took or embarked on in 2019.

- APA welcomed Joel Albizo, FASAE, CAE, as the new Chief Executive Officer.
- APA added 3,492 new members bringing the total FY2019 membership to over 46,000.
- The AICP Candidate Pilot program grew in its second year with 1,700 young professionals enrolled.
- AICP's CPAT program worked with three post-disaster communities in 2019—Wharton, Texas; Rockport, Texas; and St. Thomas, U.S., Virgin Islands. The program also worked with the Quinault Indian Nation in creating a permanent cultural campus for their tribe.

- In 2018, the APA Foundation announced the recipients of the first cohort of disaster recovery grants. Each of the six recipient communities—in Florida, Puerto Rico, and Texas—have used the grant to support post-disaster resiliency and infrastructure projects in 2019.
- The APA Foundation awarded six scholarships to diverse students from underrepresented communities.
- A record number of members attended Planners' Day on Capitol Hill in September to meet with elected officials and advocate for solutions to the housing crises and transportation.
- NPC19 in San Francisco attracted over 6,000 planners.
- Delegates at NPC19 ratified the first-ever Planning for Equity Policy Guide, emphasizing APA's commitment to an equitable, diverse, and inclusive culture.
- APA is taking an agile approach to navigate change for the future through research, innovation, and adaption.

### **National Leadership**

Several others in the Chapter serve in National Leadership positions. Those serving in APA Leadership roles are the following:

- Student Representative Council, Region VI Representative – Alexander Yee from Los Angeles, (USC)
- Foundation Board of Directors – Linda Tatum, FAICP from Long Beach
- Divisions Council, Chair – David Fields, AICP from San Francisco
- Planning and the Black Community Division, Chair – Derek Hull from Los Angeles
- Transportation Division, Chair – Gabriela Juarez, AICP from Los Angeles

*Continued on page 5*

***“A record number of members attended Planners' Day on Capitol Hill . . .”***

## REGION VI REPRESENTATIVES REPORT

# National APA

### NATIONAL APA COMMITTEES

I would also like to acknowledge and recognize California Chapter members who serve on National Committees and Task Forces:

#### **Amicus Curiae Committee**

- Deborah M. Rosenthal, AICP – Irvine

#### **APA National Awards Jury**

- Alysandra Smith, AICP Candidate – Los Angeles

#### **Design and Policy**

- Daniel Parolek – Berkeley

#### **Diversity Committee**

- Miguel A. Vazquez, AICP, Chair – Riverside
- Elizabeth Tyler, FAICP, Vice Chair – Albany

#### **Education Committee**

- Betsy McCullough, FAICP – San Diego

#### **Great Places in America**

- Andre Sahakian, AICP – Pasadena

#### **Leadership Development Committee**

- Jeremy Klop, AICP, Vice Chair – Riverside
- Manuel Munoz – Azusa

#### **Legislative and Policy Committee**

- Pete Parkinson, AICP – Santa Rosa

#### **Membership Committee**

- Shane Burkhardt, AICP – Huntington Beach
- Elizabeth Tyler, FAICP – Albany

#### **Planning Officials Committee**

- Jay Higgins, AICP – Santa Barbara

#### **Social Equity**

- Jonathan P. Bell – Pasadena
- Monica Guerra – Riverside
- Victor Rubin – Oakland



## VICE PRESIDENT PORTFOLIO & PROGRAMS

### Administration



Derek Wong, AICP

The Vice President for Administration is responsible for a number of important activities for the Chapter. One is providing financial services oversight and maintenance of the Chapter's

general fund accounts and financial policies. This is accomplished through a team comprised of APA California administrative staff and contractors, including Stefan/George Associates, Simply Bookkeeping, ATEGO Resources, New Horizon and other support contract staff. A second responsibility for the Vice President for Administration is serving as Chairperson of the APA California Chapter's Awards Program, working alongside the Northern and Southern Chapters' Awards Program co-coordinators (Chris Pahule and Shane Burkhardt, AICP), APA California administrative staff, and a panel of jurors to solicit and select projects, programs, and individuals that demonstrate excellence in planning. A third responsibility is managing the content and development of this annual report with support from APA California staff contractors including GranDesigns and Carol Ann Malin.

### CHAPTER FINANCES

#### 2019 Budget

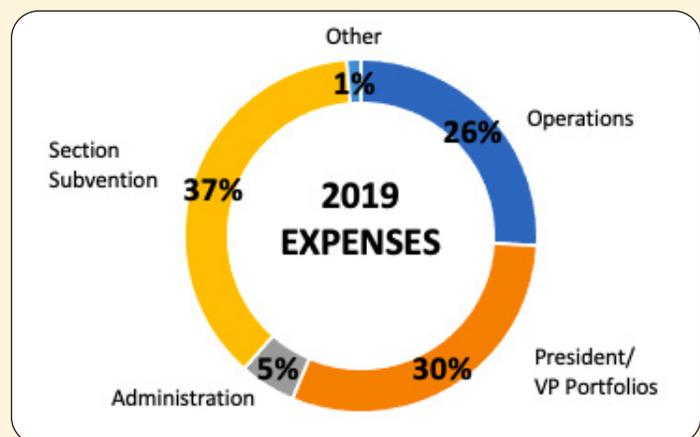
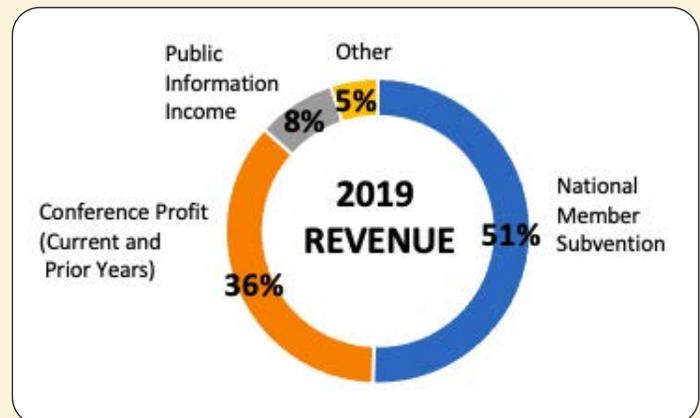
The Board of Directors adopted the Chapter budget during its meeting in December 2018 and provided updates at its annual retreat held in January 2019 in Sacramento. A budget of \$632,000 was adopted to cover operating expenses associated with Executive Board portfolio programs, Section subventions, and general Chapter operations. Income was projected from the three primary sources including funds received from National APA for California Chapter membership dues, 2018 Conference profits, webcasts, and advertisement from web ads.

Actual revenues and costs tracked during the year were such that the year-end income statement remained positive. For revenues, the three main sources generated funding that nearly matched or slightly exceeded budgeted amounts. These revenue streams are testament to our Chapter membership retention and growth, success of the annual State Conference, and continued financial support from the planning community.

Chapter operating expenses remained below budgeted for the year, as the Chapter President and Vice Presidents prudently managed their respective portfolios. Some planned expenditures did not occur during the year, for example, due to the Board making conscious decisions to carefully assess member program benefits against costs before committing to any particular project. Also, a large expense reflected in the Chapter account is the subvention provided to the eight local sections that receive a proportion of member dues and conference profits. With growth in both National member subventions and conference profit, we are pleased to have shared a larger amount of funds with the local Sections that in turn provide membership with additional customized programs and member services.

A Strategic Plan was developed that prioritizes programs and other activities that reinvest the revenue proceeds to enhance member benefits for the foreseeable future.

Illustrations of the year's finances and breakdown of revenues and costs are provided in the pie charts.



Also approved by the Board were updates of the Chapter and Section financial processes recommended by APA California's certified public accountant and bookkeeper, both of whom were retained by the Chapter in 2018 and provided a thorough review of the accounting system. These resulted in required updates to the Chapter Financial Policies as well as Chart of Account line items that clarified either existing or new financial guidance.

# VICE PRESIDENT PORTFOLIO & PROGRAMS

## Administration



*Chris Pahule  
Co-Awards Coordinator  
Northern California*



*Shane Burkhardt, AICP  
Co-Awards Coordinator  
Southern California*

### STATE CHAPTER AWARDS

Congratulations to the 2019 State Chapter Award winners presented at the Chapter Conference in September in Santa Barbara. The list of winners and categories is shown below.

APA California 2019 Awards AWARD RESULTS		
Project Name	Award Category	
Envision Stockton 2040 General Plan	Comprehensive Plan (Large)	AWARD OF EXCELLENCE
City of San Jacinto Trails Master Plan	Comprehensive Plans (Small)	AWARD OF EXCELLENCE
Santa Clara Valley Agriculture Plan	Innovation In Green Community	AWARD OF EXCELLENCE
Long Beach Everyone in Economic Inclusion Initiative	Economic Planning and Development	AWARD OF EXCELLENCE
SANDAG and ICTC Regional Mobility Hub Strategy	Transportation Planning	AWARD OF EXCELLENCE
San Mateo County Second Unit Center	Best Practices Award	AWARD OF EXCELLENCE
Y-PLAN (Youth - Plan, Learn, Act, Now) Initiative	Public Outreach Award	AWARD OF EXCELLENCE
Pier 70 Project	Urban Design	AWARD OF EXCELLENCE
City of Santa Rosa, Planning and Economic Development Department, Planning Division	Planning Agency Award	AWARD OF EXCELLENCE
Derek R. Hull	Advancing Diversity and Social Change	AWARD OF EXCELLENCE
Oroville Alley Revitalization Program: Vision Plan and Preliminary Feasibility Study	Academic Award	AWARD OF EXCELLENCE
Visions to Victory: A People's History of the SR-15 Freeway	Communication Initiative	AWARD OF EXCELLENCE
Power Struggle: How Oxnard Turned the Tide of California's Energy Future	Hard-Won Victories	AWARD OF EXCELLENCE
Housing Initiatives, Permit Sonoma, County of Sonoma	Opportunity and Empowerment Award	AWARD OF MERIT
El Cajon Transit District Specific Plan	Comprehensive Plan (Large)	AWARD OF MERIT
Vallco Town Center Specific Plan	Comprehensive Plans (Small)	AWARD OF MERIT
Regional Climate Action Planning Framework (ReCAP)	Innovation In Green Community	AWARD OF MERIT
Caltrans/Shasta Regional Transportation Agency Redding to Anderson Six-Lane Trade Corridor Enhancement Program	Economic Planning and Development	AWARD OF MERIT
Neighborhood Mobility Plan for the Communities of Thermal and Oasis	Transportation Planning	AWARD OF MERIT
Orange Eichler Design Standards	Best Practices Award	AWARD OF MERIT
Project Bike Love Local Delivery	Grassroots Initiative	AWARD OF MERIT
City of Santa Cruz Housing Voices Outreach Process	Public Outreach Award	AWARD OF MERIT
San Pedro Squared Project	Urban Design	AWARD OF MERIT
L. Robert Ulibarri, AICP	Advancing Diversity and Social Change	AWARD OF MERIT
Alleys in Action! UC San Diego	Academic Award	AWARD OF MERIT
2018 Progress Report California's Sustainable Communities and Climate Protection Act	Communication Initiative	AWARD OF MERIT



## VICE PRESIDENT PORTFOLIO & PROGRAMS

# Policy and Legislation



Eric Phillips, AICP

The 2019 Legislative Session was the first year of a two year session, and it kicked off another busy term for APA California. To no one's surprise, housing continued to be a major hot topic in the Legislature, and major bills regarding Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs), the Housing Accountability Act, and the Permit Streamlining Act focused on increasing residential production were signed into law.

APA, the Legislative Review Team members, and the housing and environmental special committees spent hours identifying bills to support, as well as working on amendments to bills that had goals consistent with APA's policies, but with provisions that were

not practical or feasible as written. APA was successful in amending many measures, which removed our opposition to the bills, many of which were eventually signed into law.

AB 1482 created statewide rent stabilization and eviction protections for tenants, and it also attracted much coverage and attention before being signed into law. In the meantime, many bills passed without the same level of attention, notably SB 330 (the Housing Crisis Act of 2019, limiting the ability to enforce certain housing regulations) and the suite of bills intended to further promote second unit development.

Unfortunately, one measure strongly supported by APA, SB 5 by Senator Beall, was vetoed by the Governor. SB 5 would have given the state a major on-going stake in funding housing and infrastructure, eventually shifting up to \$2 billion annually to pay for projects approved by the state for affordable housing, transit-oriented development, infill development, and housing-related infrastructure.

APA hopes to work with the Governor and Legislature along with other key stakeholders in 2020 to support funding a similar program. Without such a commitment from the state, there is not enough funding available to build all the affordable-income, or even moderate-income housing, to match the number of units needed in California. In addition, 2020 will likely continue to be focused heavily on housing production and impact fees.

### HIGH PRIORITY BILLS WITH POSITIONS

Below are some of the high priority bills APA California worked on this year. Position letters for these bills are located on the APA California website. To view the full list of hot planning bills, copies of the measures, up-to-the minute status and APA California letters and positions, please continue to visit the legislative page on APA California's website.

#### **AB 11 (Chiu) – Redevelopment 2.0 for infrastructure to support housing**

Position: Support  
Status: *Two-Year Bill*

#### **AB 36 (Bloom) Rent Control**

Position: Watch  
Status: *Two-Year Bill*

#### **AB 68 (Ting) Major changes to accessory dwelling unit law**

Position: Neutral as Amended  
Status: *Signed by the Governor*

#### **AB 139 (Quirk-Silva) Emergency and transitional housing**

Position: Support  
Status: *Signed by the Governor*

#### **AB 670 (Friedman) Accessory dwelling units in common interest developments**

Position: Support  
Status: *Signed by the Governor*

#### **AB 725 (Wicks) Restrictions on above moderate housing on single-family sites**

Position: Oppose Unless Amended  
Status: *Two-Year Bill*

#### **AB 891 (Burke) Safe Parking Programs**

Position: Support if Amended  
Status: *Vetoed by the Governor*

#### **AB 1250 (Gloria) New limitations on subdivisions**

Position: Oppose Unless Amended  
Status: *Two-Year Bill*

#### **AB 1279 (Bloom) By right approval of housing development projects in high-resource areas**

Position: Support if Amended  
Status: *Two-Year Bill*

#### **AB 1399 (Bloom) Rent Control: Withdrawal of Accommodations**

Position: Support  
Status: *Signed by the Governor*

#### **AB 1482 (Chiu) Tenant Protection, Rent Caps, Eviction Restrictions**

Position: Support  
Status: *Signed by the Governor*

#### **AB 1483 (Grayson) Requirements for web posting of fees imposed on housing developments and additional annual housing report requirements**

Position: Oppose Unless Amended  
Status: *Signed by the Governor*

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## VICE PRESIDENT PORTFOLIO & PROGRAMS

# Policy and Legislation

### LEGISLATIVE WEBINARS

APA California hosted two webinars that focused on implementation of the recent passage of the ADU bills (mainly AB 68, AB 881 and SB 13) and the Housing Crisis Act of 2019 (SB 330). The focus of the webinars was to provide members with an update on the new laws in order to ensure proper implementation. Materials for the webinars can be accessed on APA California's website.



[www.apacalifornia.org/legislation/](http://www.apacalifornia.org/legislation/)

**AB 1484 (Grayson) Vehicle for Fee Recommendations from HCD Fee Study and Posting Requirements for Fees Applicable to Housing Developments**

Position: Support existing fee language if amended  
Status: Two-Year Bill

**AB 1485 (McCarty) Prohibition on applying for state grants if jurisdiction found in violation of state housing law**

Position: Watch  
Status: Two-Year Bill

**AB 1717 (Friedman) Transit-Oriented Affordable Housing Funding Program Act**

Position: Support  
Status: Two-Year Bill

**AB 1763 (Chiu) 100% Density Bonus and Other Incentives for 100% Affordable Housing**

Position: Support  
Status: Signed by the Governor

**ACA 1 (Aguilar-Curry) Local government financing for affordable housing and infrastructure**

Position: Support  
Status: Two-Year Bill

**SB 4 (McGuire) By right approval for transit-oriented development and small multifamily developments**

Position: Watch  
Status: Two-Year Bill (was merged with SB 50)

**SB 5 (Beall) Affordable Housing and Community Development Investment Program: State Approved Alternative Redevelopment Process**

Position: Support  
Status: Signed by the Governor

**SB 6 (Beall) Available land database**

Position: Support  
Status: Signed by the Governor

**SB 13 (Wieckowski) Major changes to accessory dwelling unit law**

Position: Neutral as Amended  
Status: Signed by the Governor

**SB 18 (Skinner) – Tenant Assistance: Keep Californians Housed Act**

Position: Support  
Status: Signed by the Governor

**SB 48 (Wiener) Interim low-barrier shelter housing developments**

Position: Support if Amended  
Status: Two-Year Bill (Included in Housing Budget Trailer Bills)

**SB 50 (Wiener) Housing development incentives and requirements**

Position: Oppose Unless Amended  
Status: Two-Year Bill

**SB 330 (Skinner) Housing Crisis Act of 2019**

Position: Neutral as Amended  
Status: Signed by the Governor

**SB 592 (Wiener) Housing Accountability Act**

Position: Oppose Unless Amended  
Status: Two-Year Bill

**AB 747 (Levine) Evacuation routes capacity**

Position: Support as Amended  
Status: Signed by the Governor

**SB 99 (Nielsen) Evaluation of existing evacuation routes**

Position: Support  
Status: Signed by the Governor

**SB 182 (Jackson) Wildfire planning in wildland urban interface areas**

Position: Support  
Status: Two-Year Bill

**AB 490 (Salas) Affordable housing streamlining**

Position: Support  
Status: Two-Year Bill

**AB 782 (Berman) Land trust transfers**

Position: Support  
Status: Signed by the Governor

## VICE PRESIDENT PORTFOLIO & PROGRAMS

# Professional Development



Sharon Grewal, AICP

The Professional Development team works to assist Chapter members in their pursuit of professional development opportunities and information. The duties of the Vice President for Professional Development shall be to:

- promote professional development and continuing education, including the provision of Chapter-sponsored workshops each year;
- serve as a member of the Board of Directors of the California Planning Foundation;
- coordinate the activities of the Section Professional Development Officers, including preparation for the AICP exam;
- ensure that the annual conference includes a session relating to the AICP exam, presented by the AICP Exam Coordinator;
- conduct meetings with Section Professional Development Officers (PDOs) at the Chapter conference or as needed;
- work with Sections to ensure maintenance of members' AICP status, and coordinate the Certification Maintenance (CM) Program among California AICP members;
- coordinate activities of the AICP Workshop Coordinator, Statewide Programs Coordinator, and the FAICP Coordinator;
- act as liaison with the American Institute of Certified Planners Commission and the National Planning Accreditation Board;
- work with other entities, such as the Governor's Office of Planning and Research, to provide relevant professional development programs and educational opportunities; and
- perform any other duties assigned by the Chapter Board of Directors.

[www.apacalifornia.org](http://www.apacalifornia.org)

### CONGRATULATIONS TO THE APA CALIFORNIA CHAPTER MEMBERS WHO ACHIEVED AICP STATUS IN 2019.

#### **Central Section**

Daniel Brennick  
Brian Schwartz

#### **Central Coast Section**

Gilbert Bostwick  
Amber Piona

#### **Inland Empire Section**

Cheryl Kitzerow  
Chantal Power  
Michelle St. Thomas

#### **Los Angeles Section**

Dina Abdulkarian  
Juan Arauz  
Manraj Bhatia  
Anders Bjerregaard-Anderson  
Dave Blumenthal  
Amanda Chapman  
Ross Fehrman  
Bradley Furuya  
Aaron Galinis

Azeen Kahnmalek

Jeffrey Khau  
Michael Klein  
Jeremiah LaRose  
Weining Liang  
Richard Marshalian  
Lauren Marsiglia  
Ashley McCoy  
Taylor Miller  
Alexander Moore  
Cassandra Pruett  
Maya Saraf  
David Schumacher  
Shruti Shankar  
Tara Worden

#### **Northern Section**

Della Acosta  
Barry Bergman  
Autumn Bernstein  
Daniel Berumen  
Julian Bobilev  
Jeff Bond  
Sarah Bowab

Brian Chambers

Celina Chan  
William Chui  
Kate Christopherson  
Stein Coriell  
Tony Dang  
Jesse Davis  
Stefanie Farmer  
Charles Felder  
Christina Ferracane  
Jessica Garner  
Matthew Gilster  
Alicia Giudice  
Danae Hall  
Anna Harkman  
Jordan Harrison  
Michael Hettenhausen  
Michael Hibma  
Daniel Jacobson  
Ashley James  
Ethan Lavine  
Joseph Lawlor  
Xinyu Liang  
Jia Liu

Rafael Murillo

Brian Oh  
Trevor Parker  
Garrison Rees  
Korey Richardson  
Annie Ryan  
Rachelle Sarmiento  
Margaret Smith  
Jasmine Stitt  
Stephen Tu  
Erin Vaca  
Atisha Varshiney

#### **Orange Section**

Jessica Bui  
Pedro Gomez  
Joanne Hwang  
Mengting Liu  
Laurel Reimer  
Michael Sahimi  
Andrew Watkins  
Jenny Yu

#### **Sacramento Valley Section**

Antonio Ablog  
Rodney Brown  
Laura Dabe  
Katherine Green  
Erin Gustafson  
Kat Hughes

#### **San Diego Section**

Ann Dolmage  
Michael Fellows  
Caitlin Jafolla  
Aleksandar Jovanovic  
Lynette Leighton  
Suchitra Lukes  
Casey Schooner  
Allie Scrivener  
Elyce Shorb  
Katherine Stevenson  
Joe Whitaker  
Katelyn Witherspoon

## VICE PRESIDENT PORTFOLIO & PROGRAMS

### Conferences



Hanson Hom, AICP, ASLA

**Thank you for making the APA California 2019 Conference a resounding success!**



Over 1,500 planners and allied professionals from throughout the state gathered in Santa Barbara on September 12-15 for the annual APA California Conference. The city's wonderful weather and downtown amenities provided a superb setting for the event, while



the Hilton Santa Barbara Beachfront Resort was a comfortable home base for the conference. The success of the conference can be attributed to the hard work of the Central Coast Section Conference Host Committee, capably lead by Conference Cochairs Tess Harris, Bret McNulty, Rachel Raynor, and Jeff Wilson.

***“The success of the conference can be attributed to the hard work of the Central Coast Section Host Committee . . .”***



Of course, our conferences would not be possible without the generous support of event sponsors and planners throughout the state that presented excellent informative sessions. The conference offered over 100 sessions, two pre-conference workshops, Opening and Closing Keynotes, the annual Diversity Summit, and 14 mobile workshops. This totaled over 200 AICP CM credits, including multiple opportunities for law and ethics credits. Additionally, over 900 planners enjoyed the Opening Reception, which was held at Sunken Gardens on the expansive grounds of the iconic Santa Barbara County Courthouse. The theme was a “Taste of Santa Barbara” with food and drinks provided by a collection of popular Santa Barbara restaurants.

Senator Scott Wiener, State Senate District 11, was the Opening Keynote Speaker. He spoke passionately about the challenge of producing much needed housing in the state and removing the barriers to housing, such as excessive local land use controls and onerous zoning regulations. See the *CalPlanner, Volume 19|Issue 4*, for highlights of his presentation. The topic for the Diversity Summit, entitled “*Representation Matters: A Panel on Diversity in the Planning Profession*,” was inward-looking with planners sharing personal observations about working in the profession. The annual APA Chapter Awards Ceremony, Consultants’ Reception, and California Planning Foundation Auction/Reception were also well-attended events. The conference concluded with a motivational Ted-type talk by Kate Meis, Executive Director, Local Government Commission, entitled “*Resiliency in Time of Unprecedented Change*,” that was a fitting way to close the event and reinforce the resiliency theme of the conference.

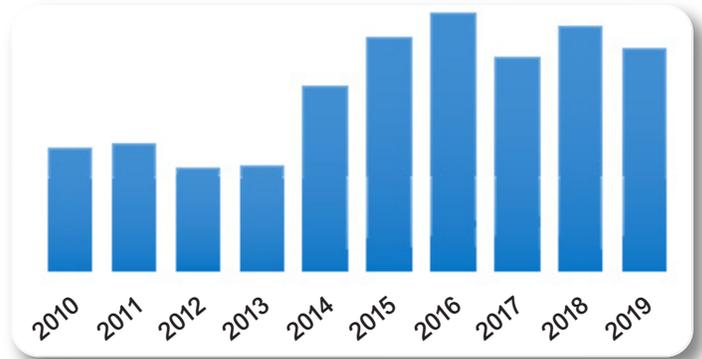
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## VICE PRESIDENT PORTFOLIO & PROGRAMS

# Conferences

### PLANNING THE FUTURE OF OUR CONFERENCES

The table and chart indicate that our conferences now attract over 1,500 participants, which validate the value of this annual event for our members. With the larger attendance, however, it is appropriate to take a holistic look at the core goals and objectives of our conferences and how we can best serve APA members as well as allied professionals. Identified issues include: 1) revisiting criteria for conference locations and facilities; 2) enhancing session topics and formats; 3) growing networking and mentoring opportunities; 4) diversifying conference participation and attendance; and 5) exploring supplemental and affordable professional development options. The APA California Board authorized forming a Conference Ad Hoc Committee, to explore these issues and develop recommendations for Board consideration. Committee members are: Hanson Hom, VP of Conferences; Julia Lave-Johnston, Chapter President; Betsy McCullough, Past VP of Conferences and 2018 Conference Cochair; Bob Lagomarsino, Past Sacramento Valley Section Director and 2017 Conference Cochair; and Deene Alongi, Conference Manager.



Total registration for the APA California 2019 conference was 1,519. Approximately 89% of attendees registered for the entire conference and 11% registered for one day. Registration for 14 mobile work-shops totaled 275. Attendance at the Santa Barbara conference compared to prior years is shown below.

### HISTORIC CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

2019	Central Coast.....	1,519
2018	San Diego.....	1,665
2017	Sacramento Valley.....	1,462
2016	Los Angeles.....	1,758
2015	Northern.....	1,590
2014	Orange.....	1,257
2013	Central.....	717
2012	Inland Empire.....	708
2011	Central Coast.....	879

Continued on page 13

### Looking Forward to 2020 Riverside Conference

The 2020 APA California conference will be held at the Riverside Convention Center in downtown Riverside in September. Hosted by the Inland Empire Section, the Conference Cochairs, Chris Gray and Aaron Pfannenstiel, are leading a committee of dedicated planners to produce a memorable event with a full program of sessions and activities. The Cochairs and Conference Host Committee (CHC) have been meeting since early 2019, and productive collaboration is ongoing with the VP of Conferences and conference contractors. Additionally, city leaders are excited to showcase the



urban transformation of their downtown, the community's diversity, and the ambitious planning occurring in the city and region.

The conference theme is "Cultivating Our Future." The CHC kicked off publicity for the conference at the Santa Barbara conference last September. Check out the video on the conference website that was prepared exclusively for this conference. In November 2019, a Call for Topics, Moderators and Speakers was released. This helped shape the conference tracks and the Call for Presentations that was then issued in January 2020. Over 200 session submittals were received and approximately 100 sessions will be offered at the conference. The Mobile Workshops Committee is also planning for up to 16 mobile workshops to explore the city and region. Additionally, sponsorships and exhibitor space are still available. Come and enjoy another energizing and engaging event!

## VICE PRESIDENT PORTFOLIO & PROGRAMS

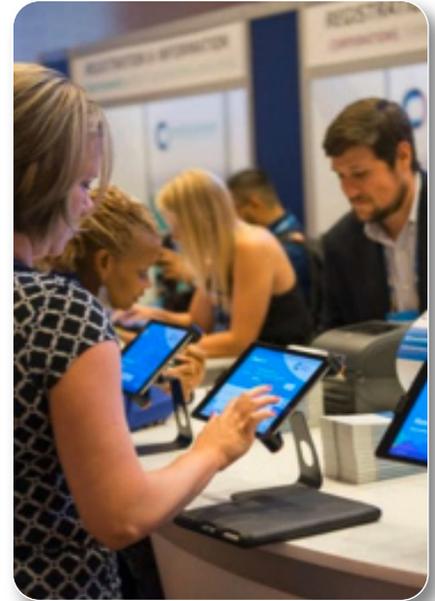
# Conferences

The Committee recognizes the importance of gathering ideas and feedback to formulate its recommendations. Since our conferences are rotated among the eight APA California Sections and Section-level Conference Host Committees assume the primary role in conference planning, the essential insight of Section Directors was sought. A robust discussion will occur at the annual APA California Board Retreat (January 2020) to receive comments and suggestions from Board members. Additionally, a conference survey will be sent out to all APA California members in March 2020. The Committee expects to present its findings and recommendations to the Board in June 2020.

### EMBRACING SMART TECHNOLOGY

With the growth in conference attendance, one of the primary goals of the VP of Conferences for this year, in addition to the work of the Conference Ad Hoc Committee, was to explore a better use of technology to deliver our conferences and enhance support for

attendees, speakers and exhibitors. After researching available solutions, the Board approved entering into a contract with Cvent, a leader in software for event management, to provide APA California with an integrated conference registration, website, and mobile app platform. While many of the efficiency improvements will occur



Cvent OnArrival 360. Source: Hanson Hom

behind the scenes, members will notice changes starting with the 2020 Riverside Conference. The most obvious change when you arrive at the Convention Center is that self-check-in stations (OnArrival 360) will be available for attendees to print their badges and tickets, make any necessary changes, and register and pay fees on-site. (However, pre-registering for the conference is still strongly advised.)

Another welcomed enhancement is that session organizers will no longer have to bring their own laptops to the conference. Presentations can be submitted prior to the conference (preferred) or loaded by A/V staff at the conference Speaker Ready Room. Conference-provided laptops will be set up in each session room with presentations pre-loaded. Session organizers will also be able to incorporate interactive live polling into their sessions via the mobile app on attendees' smartphones. More information on all of these technology enhancements will be announced as the conference approaches.

[www.apacalifornia-conference.org](http://www.apacalifornia-conference.org)

### Save the Date for 2021 Fresno Conference



Finally, it is not too early to mark your calendar to attend the APA California 2021 conference to be held in the City of Fresno. Hosted by the Central Section, the spacious Fresno Convention Center will be the conference headquarters. Hotel rooms have been reserved at several downtown hotels within easy walking distance to the Convention Center. Come and learn about the urban revitalization of downtown Fresno, its historic neighborhoods, and the region's rich agricultural heritage.



## VICE PRESIDENT PORTFOLIO & PROGRAMS

# Marketing and Membership



Mary P. Wright, AICP

The Vice President for Marketing and Membership is responsible for the development of programs to improve membership retention and expand membership, the development of marketing programs, the identification of new member benefits and services, and coordinating with APA on membership initiatives and other policy changes that affect membership. The VP for Marketing and Membership also coordinates the activities of the University Liaisons, Young Planners Group Coordinator and the Great Places California Coordinator.

In 2019, the overall membership of APA California continued to increase. A primary factor was the continued availability of free and reduced membership rates for students and new professionals introduced by APA National in 2017. APA California is committed to serving these and all members by ensuring our programs, policies, seminars and events have relevance to today's planning profession.

***“Reviewing and implementing the APA California Strategic Plan continued to be major effort for the VP of Marketing and Membership and the Board of Directors as a whole in 2019.”***

### 2019 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- **Student Representative** – The APA California Student Representative acts as a liaison between the Board and students attending accredited and non-accredited planning programs in California. The Student representative also helps relay student perspectives on planning and planning education as well as participate in the development and implementation of Chapter policies and programs. After a period of vacancy, the Board unanimously approved Elizabeth Owen, a 4th year urban planning student at the University of California, San Diego, to serve in this position through December of 2020.
- **Strategic Plan** – Reviewing and implementing the APA California Strategic Plan continued to be major effort for the VP of Marketing and Membership and the Board of Directors as a whole in 2019. Marketing and Membership contributed to conversations and actions related to building and maintaining membership and expanding the effectiveness of APA California. In addition, progress was made on a major Strategic Plan initiative, development of a Planning survey, as outlined below.
- **State of Planning Survey** – A major effort of the VP of Marketing and Membership and the University Liaisons was to develop a State of Planning Survey to assess the make-up and competencies of planners and the planning profession in California. The Survey was developed and piloted in early 2019 and was launched at the APA California State Conference in Santa Barbara in October of 2019. Survey responses will be compiled, analyzed and disseminated in 2020 year.
- **Great Places in California** – 2019 marked the fifth year of the Great Places in California Program which honors places that exemplify excellence in character, quality and planning. Three Great Places were awarded including El Pueblo del Los Angeles, the Lake Merritt Park Master Plan, and Solano Avenue in Albany as outlined below.

*Additional information on these and other accomplishments are highlighted on the following pages.*

*Continued on page 15*



## Marketing and Membership

### UNIVERSITY LIAISONS

Two University Liaisons connect APA California with California’s many urban planning schools and academic programs. Mirle Rabinowitz-Bussell, Ph.D. and Rick Kos, AICP began their ex-officio appointments in 2018 and represent southern and northern California, respectively. Their most recent achievement was management of a member survey to ascertain the state of the planning profession in California. Over 900 planners completed the survey. Mirle and Rick are working with a graduate student team to study the survey responses and are excited to present their eye-opening findings at the fall 2020 virtual conference.

- **Mirle Rabinowitz-Bussell, Ph.D.**  
**University Liaison - South**

Dr. Bussell is the Academic Director of Real Estate and Development in the Urban Studies and Planning Program at UC San Diego where she is dedicated to undergraduate planning education. Her research interests include private foundations’ involvement in community development, planning in underserved neighbor-hoods, affordable housing and homelessness policy, and planning and aging.



- **Rick Kos, AICP - University Liaison - North**

Rick Kos has been teaching, urban planning, geographic information systems and community engagement at San Jose State University since 2008. He considers working with students to be very fulfilling and values their energy and drive to earn valuable degrees and make a positive difference in the world.



In 2019, the University Liaisons worked to strengthen the bonds between APA and the academic community by coordinating activities to encourage membership and involvement among students and faculty. Future goals include building stronger connections between faculty and students in northern California planning schools and helping them get better ‘plugged in’ to APA.

***“Their most recent achievement was management of a member survey to ascertain the state of the planning profession in California.”***

## Marketing and Membership

### YOUNG PLANNERS GROUP

In spring of 2019, a new Young Planners Group (YPG) Coordinator was appointed to continue supporting each section throughout California. 2019 was spent revamping the YPG position and conducting an opportunity and needs assessment to better understand how APA California can support new and upcoming planners through local sections and mentorship programs.



Molly Wagner

YPG sections have grown over the years to offer valuable professional development and networking opportunities to members. Through the opportunities and needs assessment, YPG sections highlighted the following areas of interest for 2020 and beyond:

***“2019 was spent revamping the YPG position and conducting an opportunity and needs assessment . . .”***

- **From Young to Emerging** – Over the years, sections have recognized that while not every new planner considers themselves “young” they may be young or new to the profession but find the name a barrier to event participation. A few of the sections have already shifted the name to Emerging Planning Professionals or Young and Emerging Planners/Professionals to ensure event offerings are inclusive for everyone who is interested in the event. In 2020 APA California will work to formalize the name change. This name change is consistent with other sections across the country as well.
- **Better Connections and Resources** – Each section is unique in how they structure their emerging professional programs and mentoring programs. With APA California being home to some of the longest running YPG programs in the country, there is wealth of knowledge to share. A Google Drive resources file and contact information for each section will be shared to open up communication and collaboration between each Section’s young and emerging leaders.
- **APA Sacramento Valley Section Celebrates 10 years of YPG**—the first and oldest YPG in the country!

## Marketing and Membership

### GREAT PLACES IN CALIFORNIA



*John Hildebrand  
Coordinator*

The California Chapter of the American Planning Association was pleased to announce the three winners of the Great Places in California program for 2019. A Great Place in California is one that exemplifies character, quality, and excellent planning. It can be anywhere

from the beach to the mountains, from a large city square to a small neighborhood gathering place. It can be a vibrant downtown, a suburban gathering place, a historic small town, a public park, or preserved open space. Above all, it must be a place where people want to be!

#### Lake Merritt Park Master Plan

Lake Merritt is considered the jewel of Oakland by many, which serves as an important open space for not only Oakland's neighborhoods, but also for other East Bay communities.



The inland estuary connects portions of downtown with its many diverse neighborhoods. Open water and shaded green shoreline parks attract a host of users including bicyclists, joggers, sailors, child craft students, picnickers, garden lovers, and bird enthusiasts. Designated as the first United States Wildlife Refuge in the 1880s, the saltwater lake is home to a range of wildlife species. The City of Oakland adopted the Lake Merritt Park Master Plan in 2002 with the mission that the restored park will serve as a park for all of Oakland. Its green space, water area, playgrounds, and attractions should serve the widest audience of Oakland citizens and visitors, where they learn about the park as a natural resource—unique ecology within a densely urban environment.

#### El Pueblo de Los Angeles

El Pueblo is a historic district located in the heart of Los Angeles. It is the site where 44 settlers of Native American, African, and European heritage journeyed for more than 1,000



miles across the desert from present-day Mexico in September 1781 to establish a farming community. Today, El Pueblo serves as a living museum that continues to fulfill its unique role as the historic and symbolic heart of Los Angeles and original birthplace of the city. El Pueblo embodies the foundation and evolution of Los Angeles, as demonstrated through its rich historical context and diverse cultural resources. Food festivals, receptions, concerts, health fairs, dance performances, art exhibits, and other cultural activities take place here. Not only is El Pueblo a popular tourist destination—drawing more than two million visitors annually, it is also very much a destination for Los Angeles' diverse communities.

#### Solano Avenue

The City of Albany, California, located in northern Alameda County, incorporated in 1908, bears the motto "Urban Village by the Bay." Solano Avenue is the historical,



social, and economic heart of Albany, California, running east-west from the Berkeley Hills to the Union Pacific railroad tracks adjacent to Interstate 80. Known as Main Street until the early 1900s, Solano Avenue maintains its main street character as the heart of the Albany community. Solano Avenue is the city's main street and includes a range of uses from retail, local schools, office, restaurant and residential and draw many visitors to the community. The corridor is a retail and food destination in the East Bay. Solano Avenue is synonymous with Albany and local community identity.

## VICE PRESIDENT PORTFOLIO & PROGRAMS

### Diversity and Equity



Miroo Desai, AICP

APA California considers a diverse membership vital to the strength of the organization and works to support the inclusion of all who work in, or desire to work in, the field of planning. It proved its commitment by creating a new position as part of its Executive Board: Vice President for Diversity and Equity, an elected position with voting rights. The Vice President held monthly conference calls with Section Diversity and Inclusion Directors to coordinate activities and plan for key events, as outlined below.

#### 2019 HIGHLIGHTS

- **2019 Diversity Summit**

- The 14th Annual Diversity Summit started off the APA California Santa Barbara Conference with a panel entitled “Representation Matters: A Panel on Diversity in the Planning



- Profession,” this year’s Diversity Summit decided to take a brief break from the profession’s outward focus on the general public and instead turn inwards for a deep, long overdue reflection on our workplaces and our professional community. The summit gathered four professionals with differing backgrounds and varied professional experiences to examine the planning profession internally, taking an honest look at where the profession stands on diversity, inclusion, and equity and how the field can improve diversity. The panelists included Hemalata Dandekar, Ebony McGee-Andersen, Ali Mir, and James Rojas. For more details please see article on the Summit by Tanner Shelton, Central Coast’s Inclusion Director in *CalPlanner*, Volume 19, Issue 04.

- **Planners for Color Mixer and Networking Event** was held during the Santa Barbara conference at Dargan’s Irish Pub and Restaurant. We had a very successful turnout with approximately 60-75 people in attendance. Everyone enjoyed themselves and had many opportunities to network with fellow planners including have an opportunity to have one on one conversations with couple of the Diversity Summit panelists most of who were in attendance.



- **A Cultural and Implicit Bias Workshop Training** was offered as part of the President’s Session by the Oakland-based The Justice Collective. This was a 3-hour training that was attended by about 65 people and received excellent reviews. This training was made possible by obtaining a grant from National APA and support from the State Board. It was evident that from participant responses that such trainings were needed and efforts to develop web based implicit bias seminars were initiated.
- **Created a new Diversity, Equity and Inclusion webpage** on the State website.
- **Section Activities** – Throughout the year APA Section Inclusion Directors worked tirelessly to promote diversity in California planning that included organizing a variety of events including presentations at high schools, hikes, celebratory events for Black History Month, panel discussions and Planners of Color mixers. In addition, the Sacramento Section made changes in their by-laws that clarified the role of the position now entitled Director of Membership, Diversity and Equity. The Los Angeles Section and the Sacramento Section also worked to develop surveys to establish baseline data for assessing the state of diversity in our membership.

**“Throughout the year APA Section Inclusion Directors worked tirelessly to promote diversity in California planning that included organizing a variety of events . . .”**

# VICE PRESIDENT PORTFOLIO & PROGRAMS

## Public Information



Marc Yeber, ASLA

The Vice President for Public Information manages the Chapter's communications by crafting and delivering information via various digital and traditional platforms to help keep APA California members updated on the latest Chapter news, programs, and activities. Further, statewide planning efforts including legislative matters are also communicated using these channels. From the APA California website and our bi-monthly member-only newsletter, *CalPlanner*, to our email alerts and various social media platforms, a broad range of topics were shared with our members to help them stay informed on a regular basis. Assisting in these efforts during the past year was APA California member, Ellie Fiore, *CalPlanner* Assistant Editor. Also, APA California contract staff members, Dorina Blythe, *CalPlanner* Managing Editor; Carol Malin, Copy Editor; and Francine Farrell, Web Manager, helped to make our communications efforts possible.

As the communication delivery methods and user preferences keep evolving, APA California continues to seek strategies to leverage today's digital sphere. In the past year, we continued to produce the *CalPlanner*, the Chapter's topic specific newsletter. In fact, we produced the 25th Anniversary edition of the newsletter's reorganization and redesign that was instituted in 2014. From Disaster Recovery to the Chapter's History, readers got an opportunity to not only peer into some of the planning efforts in the state, but also a review of APA California's evolution since the mid-20th Century. Thank you to all the contributors in 2019 . . . you all make this newsletter possible. On the social media front, we continued our communication efforts by harnessing the capabilities of our digital platforms to keep APA California members informed and engaged. We also continued to identify and inventory our digital needs for the imminent update of the Chapter website. In that endeavor, it was confirmed that members could be better served with a comprehensive digital home that utilizes the latest functionality and offers opportunities for current content to provide a more value-added member experience.

As we look ahead, and in addition to the APA California website, we are engaged in updating our communications element of the Chapter strategy to recalibrate our communication efforts to meet the everchanging needs of our members now and into the future. Of course, this will require feedback from our members and as such, continued communications input will help us determine Chapter program priorities, which social media platforms remain relevant, and how the Chapter can better utilize these forums. So, we hope you look forward to these continued modifications in the year ahead so that APA California continues to be your first stop when it comes to getting planning information and staying engaged in the profession.



# Commission and Board Representative



Jay Higgins, AICP

The Commission and Board Representative joins the APA California Board to voice the needs and perspectives of planning commissioners and other local board members who are appointed to represent the public on planning and community development activities. The Representative is also charged with increasing the level of representative participation in APA and APA California. To achieve these objectives, the Representative

works with the board to develop and implement activities in the Strategic Plan that are designed specifically to engage and educate planning commissioners and appointed board members. Commissioners and other public board members provide a bridge between planning professionals and the community members that planners serve. As an organization, APA California wants to make sure that commissioners and board members have the knowledge and the tools necessary to make decisions that support the economic, environmental and social health of the communities they represent. Creating educational materials for planning commissioners, board members, local officials and community representatives is an important part of APA California's 2019 Strategic Plan. In 2019 this included planning commissioner sessions and networking at our annual conference and coordinating with our sections to develop events for planning commissioners.



<https://www.apacalifornia.org/membership/planning-commissioners/>

***“Education and involvement for Planning Commissioners and Planning Officials are key focuses of the APA California Board as it looks for opportunities to better serve Planning Commissioners and Planning Officials throughout California . . .”***

# APPOINTED DIRECTORS AND AFFILIATE ORGANIZATIONS

## Chapter Historians



J. Laurence Mintier, FAICP Northern



Steven A. Preston FAICP Southern

The Chapter's history program was founded by the late Betty Croly, FAICP, in 1984. Today, two Chapter Historians—one serving in Northern California and one in Southern California—document, preserve and disseminate the rich history of California planning, with emphasis on the history of APA California and its predecessors. We work in concert with the Planner Emeritus Network, Section Historians, and CCAIP board and staff members.

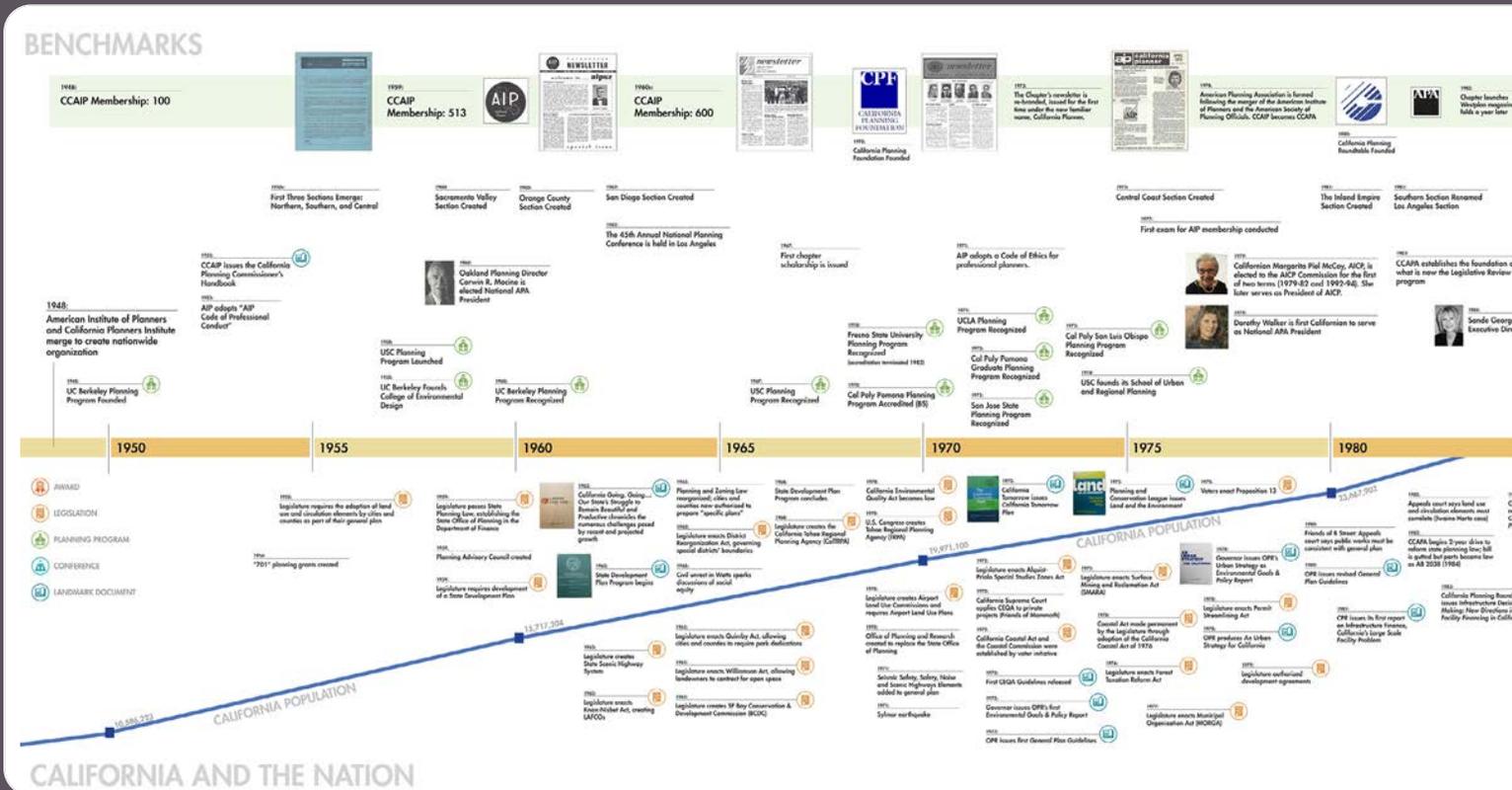
### ARCHIVES

Founded in 1998 following the Chapter's 50th anniversary, the APA California archives represent an important collaboration with the Oviatt Library at California State University, Northridge (CSUN). As of 2018, the collection consists of approximately 89 feet of papers and publications, a small amount of audio-visual material, and 17 oversized boxes containing maps, drawings and other oversized items. The archives are managed under the direction of the CSUN's Special Collections and Archives Coordinator, Holli Teltow, and her staff.

- **Digitization Project.** The archives staff, funded by a \$15,000 grant from APA California with generous donations by the California Planning Roundtable and others, has undertaken the processing of all materials received through 2018, and the digitization of specified Chapter records, starting with more than 3,600 pages of *CalPlanner* (and its predecessors) dating back to 1947. Archives staff estimates that the work is now 60% complete. When finished, these materials will become part of an online, digital collection accessible to researchers around the state.

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## CHAPTER HISTORY TIMELINE



# Appointed Directors and Affiliate Organizations

## CHAPTER HISTORIANS

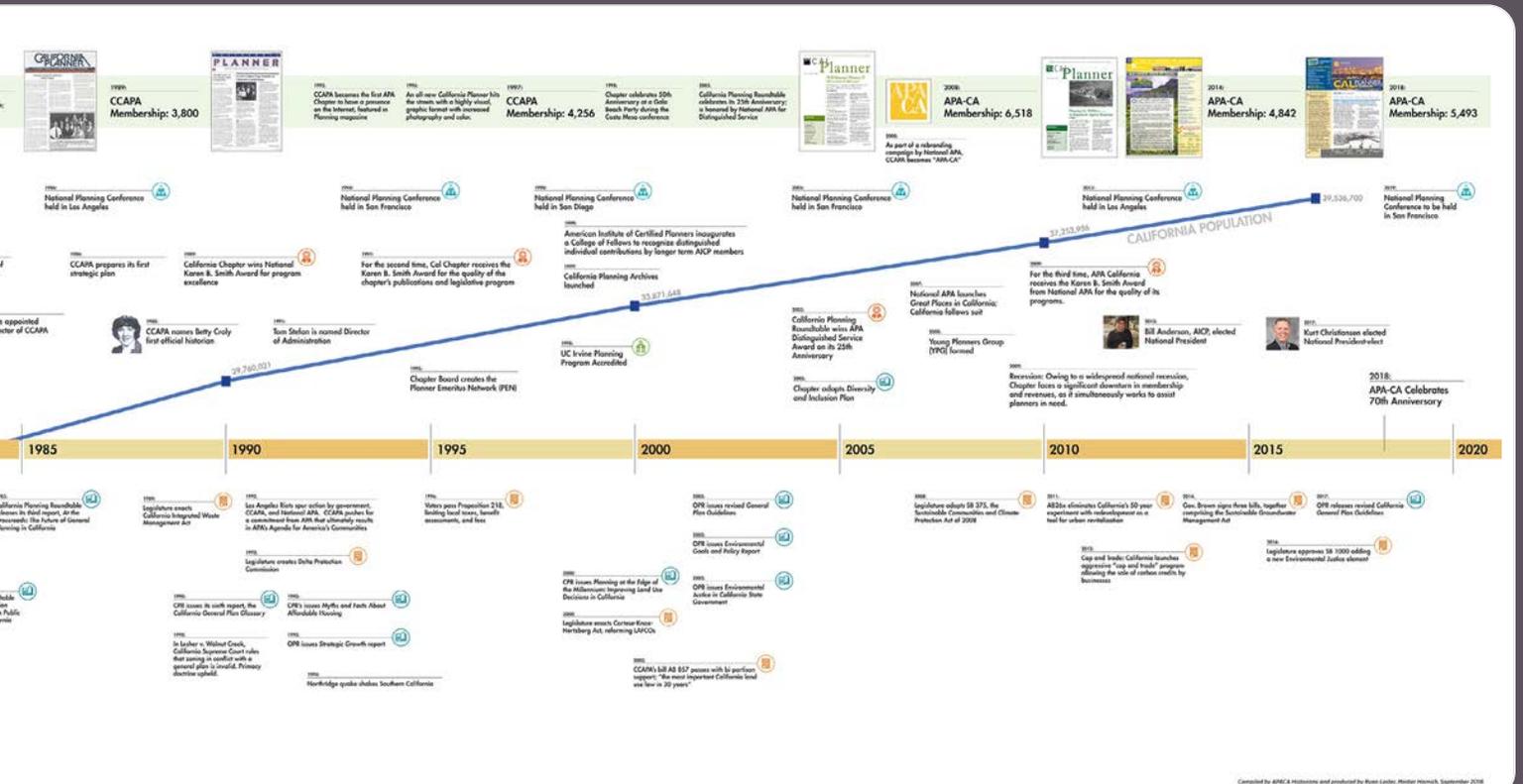
- Recent Donations.** The existing collections were increased in July with the delivery of seven boxes of new material. This included both Steve Preston's own collection of *CalPlanners* (1978-present) and an older collection of *CalPlanner* from the late Glenn Blossom going back to 1958. This shipment also included a variety of other APA California records, including three large graphics designed for the 70th anniversary celebration held in San Diego in 2018, and a significant contribution spanning some 20 years from the Central Section. Thanks to Naphtali Knox, FAICP and the Northern Section, the archives also received a substantial collection of the printed Northern News following its conversion to an all-digital publication.
- Upcoming Transmittals.** A second shipment of 12 boxes, including significant contributions from Tom Jacobson, FAICP, Kurt Christianson, FAICP, and the City of Los Angeles, is pending delivery in February 2020. These include landmark plans from throughout the state, training programs and videotaped presentations, and records from APA California and several Sections.



APA's Executive Director Joel Albizo joins Betsy McCullough, FAICP and former APA President Bill Anderson, FAICP at the Historians' exhibit in Santa Barbara.

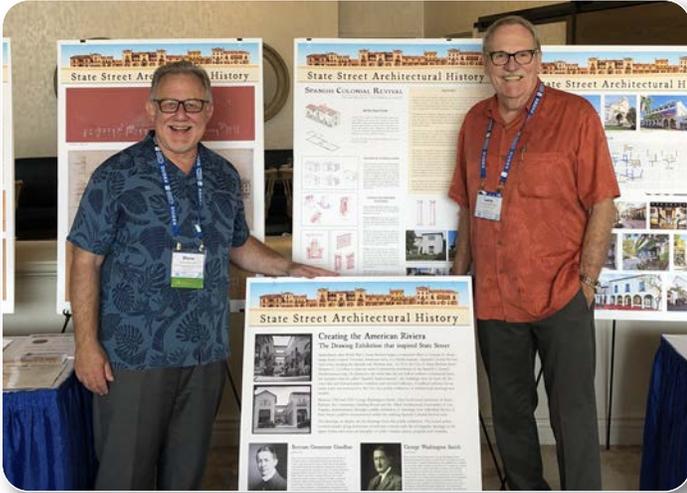
- Technology.** Although the archival world remains firmly rooted in paper, the archives are now receiving *CalPlanner* digitally so that it may directly download and process new issues for the archives' systems.

Continued on page 22



## Appointed Directors and Affiliate Organizations

### CHAPTER HISTORIANS



Chapter Historians Steve Preston and Larry Mintier take a break to enjoy the exhibit of Santa Barbara's architectural history.

### CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES

Each year the Chapter's Historians work with the local host section to design an exhibit documenting that region's planning history. The 2019 Santa Barbara conference featured a special exhibit documenting the historical development of Santa Barbara's State Street, and its impact on the evolution of the Spanish Colonial Revival design movement in California. Our thanks go to the City of Santa Barbara and its planning staff for their efforts to produce an attractive, informative exhibit.

For the first time in 2020, the APA California Archives at CSUN were formally welcomed to the conference when Special Collections staff member Julieta Garcia joined us in Santa Barbara, staffing the Archives table and making a presentation to the Planning Emeritus Network board. Plans are underway to expand the opportunities for the archives to participate.

### ANNUAL AWARDS

The Chapter Historians are responsible to review nominations for California Planning Landmark and Planning Pioneer Awards and prepare nominations for those which advance to National APA for consideration.

- **APA California Awards.** In 2019, the Chapter Board voted to nominate the Los Angeles Centers Concept (1970) for a Planning Landmark Award. The Chapter's award was presented at the September conference in Santa Barbara. No Planning Pioneer nominations were received in 2018.
- **National Planning Awards.** California submitted two nominations: the 1970 Los Angeles Centers Concept, and the California Coastal Act/California Coastal Commission. We were disappointed that the National Jury chose not to award to these deserving projects but are thankful to the individuals who helped assemble these nominations.

*Continued on page 23*

[steve.preston@charter.net](mailto:steve.preston@charter.net) and [mintierassociates@gmail.com](mailto:mintierassociates@gmail.com)

### THANK YOU

We would like to thank all those whose contributions helped grow and improve our historical collections and programs this year. They include:

- Ashley Atkinson, AICP
- Kurt Christianson, FAICP
- Julieta Garcia
- Sande George
- Anthony Grumbine
- Jim Harnish
- Nicole Hernandez
- Ryan Lester

- Tom Jacobson, JD, FAICP, Sonoma State University
- Naphtali Knox, FAICP
- Serena McClintick
- Holli Owen
- Steven A. Preston, FAICP
- Noaki Schwartz
- Holli Teltoe
- Lauren de Valencia y Sanchez
- Bradley Watson
- Miguel Vasquez, AICP
- Alexander Yee

- Central Section
- Inland Empire Section
- Los Angeles Section
- Northern Section
- Sacramento Valley Section
- California Planning Roundtable
- Planning Emeritus Network
- City of Los Angeles, Department of City Planning

## Appointed Directors and Affiliate Organizations

### CHAPTER HISTORIANS



The Historian Exhibit at the 2019 APA California conference in Santa Barbara featured the architectural history of Santa Barbara.

#### LOCAL PLANNING HISTORY PROGRAMS

Section Historians are now working in four of the eight Sections. In addition, the Chapter Historians provide support to other local planning history initiatives, including:

- **Annual Historical Symposia**s conducted in the Inland Empire and Orange Sections;
- **Activities of the Los Angeles Region Planning History Group**, based at the Huntington Library;
- **Working with local sections** to coordinate the delivery of materials to the Chapter archives and to prepare section-level historical data.

#### RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

Northern Section Historian Larry Mintier has been developing research concerning early California planner Sydney Williams, based on recent information made available by Mr. Williams' family. We are hoping to use this material to develop an article or presentation concerning his unique career, and the little-known history of those early planners whose lives and careers were affected by Sen. Joseph McCarthy and the House Un-American Activities Committee in the 1950s. In 2019, we assisted Los Angeles Section in documenting its former directors back to the 1950s.

#### UPCOMING IN 2020

- Working with Vice President for Conferences Hanson Hom, AICP, a new conference-related historical initiative, the **Betty Croly Memorial Lecture**, will launch in 2020. The lecture is part of a new by-right session for the Chapter Historians. We want to thank Miguel Vasquez, AICP, whose vision led to this achievement.
- The Chapter Historians have been tasked, working with the Chapter President, PEN President, and the Vice President for Marketing and Membership, to develop a proposal for the **Chapter's 75th anniversary in 2023**. That proposal is expected in Spring 2020.
- Research is continuing to document the contributions of late planner **Sydney Williams**, and the struggles of planners whose careers were threatened in the 1950s by the work of the **House Un-American Activities Committee**.
- Special Collections and Archives personnel at CSUN will **complete the processing of records received through 2018**, as well as **digitizing 3,600-plus pages of Chapter newsletters**. Once these records are completed, they can be made available for online research through Oviatt Library and the Online Archive of California. We are also in discussions concerning the possibility of an exhibition at Oviatt Library based on the materials from the collection.
- At the request of the **Los Angeles Region Planning History Group**, the APA California Archives will be made available for a tour in Spring, 2020.

## APPOINTED DIRECTORS AND AFFILIATE ORGANIZATIONS

# California Planning Foundation



*Juan Borelli, AICP  
CPF President*

The California Chapter of the American Planning Association (APA California) established the California Planning Foundation (CPF) in 1970 as a nonprofit, charitable corporation with the goal of furthering the professional practice of planning in California. The primary focus is providing scholarships and awards to university students in financial need. The scholarship recipients come from many backgrounds and are selected because they

are talented and motivated and have demonstrated academic excellence at university planning programs in California.

A secondary, but vitally important function is fostering professional development through the sponsorship of workshops, publications, research studies and other continuing educational and professional programs. CPF promotes the objectives of equal opportunity and social equity in all programs supported by contributions and fund-raising activities.

### CPF SCHOLARSHIPS

CPF's major and named scholarships are awarded each year to students in accredited and non-accredited schools based on an application and selection process by the CPF board. These scholarships are designed for California planning students entering their final year of an undergraduate or master's degree program. Scholarship criteria include academic performance, financial need, increasing diversity in the profession of planning, and a commitment to serve the planning profession in California.

*Continued on page 25*

[www.californiapanningfoundation.org](http://www.californiapanningfoundation.org)

### 2019-2020 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

#### CPF Major and Named Scholarship Awards

##### Outstanding Student Award (\$5,000)\*

- Marta Polovin, University of California Berkeley

##### Outstanding Student Award, Runner-Up (\$3,000 each)\*

- Ashley Wagner, University of California, Berkeley
- Elena Eimert, UC Berkeley
- Amy Young, University of California, Los Angeles

##### Diversity in Planning Award (\$3,000)\*

- Amiel Leano Atanacio, UC Berkeley

##### Merit Scholarships (\$3,000 each)

- Cassie Halls, UCLA
- Shannon McCarthy, University of California, Berkeley
- Lily MacIver, University of California, Berkeley

##### Richard H. Weaver Scholarship (\$2,000)

- Eduardo Galdamez, University of California, Irvine

#### California Planning Roundtable (CPR) Memorial Scholarships (\$1,000 each)

- Amy Zhou, UCLA
- Isabel Qi, University of Southern California
- Kareem El-Sisi, University of Southern California

#### APA California Scholarship in honor of Frank Wein (\$1,000)

- Kavina Yashang Patel, University of Southern California

#### David Wilcox Scholarship (\$1,000)

- Jorge Canez, University of California, Los Angeles

#### Ken Milam Scholarship (\$1,000)

- Erik Mumm, UC San Diego

#### Paul Wack Cal Poly SLO Scholarship (\$1,000)

- Jayeong Kim, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo

#### Paul Wack Sustainability Scholarship (\$1,000)

- Lauren Dickinson, San Jose State University

#### Planners4Health Scholarship (\$1,000)

- Ashley Wagner, University of California, Berkeley

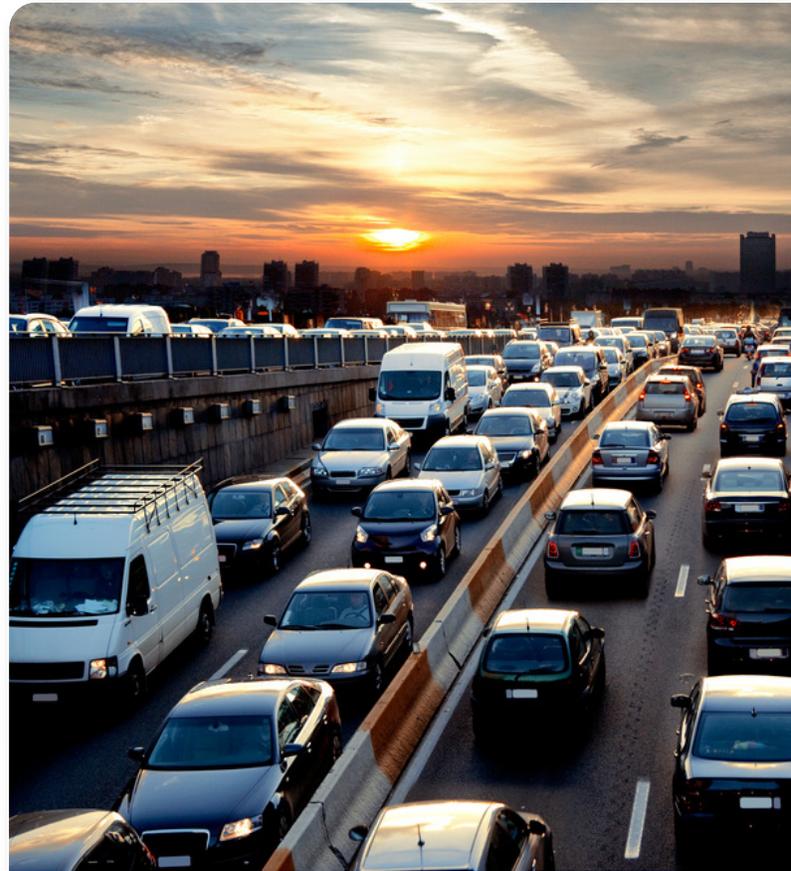
## Appointed Directors and Affiliate Organizations

### CALIFORNIA PLANNING FOUNDATION

#### CPF FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

The CPF Annual Auction is the main fundraiser for the California Planning Foundation. The Auction takes place each year at the APA California Conference. CPF was established in 1971 as APA California's nonprofit foundation. If you are a member of APA California, you are already a member of CPF. Relying on your donations and fund-raising activities like the auction, CPF annually awards approximately \$50,000 in student scholarships and memberships in APA.

CPF's primary fundraising activities include the annual CPF auction and raffle events held at the APA California Conference, which for 2019 took place in Santa Barbara (September 15-18). We are excited to announce that one major change to this year's event is a new auction format that will allow participants to bid online using a computer or smart device!



#### **Ted Holzem Memorial Scholarship (\$1,000)**

- Max Heninger, UC Berkeley – CED

#### **Virginia Viado Memorial Scholarship (\$1,000)**

- Victoria Urenia, USC Sol Price School of Public Policy

*\*Includes a full conference registration to the 2019 APA California Planning Conference held in Santa Barbara.*

#### **Section Scholarship Awards**

##### **Russell Fey / Central Valley Section (\$1,000 each)**

- Viridiana Santoyo, UC Berkeley

##### **Central Coast Section (\$1,000 each)**

- Brian McGinnis, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo

##### **Inland Empire Section (\$1,000 each)**

- Stephanie Camacho Arriola, Cal Poly Pomona

##### **Los Angeles Section (\$1,000 each)**

- Lemesis Quintero, Cal Poly Pomona
- Anna Geannopoulos-Solorzano, University of California Los Angeles
- Dongyang Lin, University of Southern California

##### **Northern Section (\$1,000 each)**

- Isa Gaillard, University of California, Berkeley
- Beatriz Guerrero Auna, University of California, Berkeley
- Diego Rentería, UC Berkeley
- Mariela Herrick, University of California Berkeley
- Andrea Carranza, University of California, Berkeley

##### **Orange Section (\$1,000 each)**

- Vanessa Gonzalez, University of California, Irvine
- Prathna Maharaj, UC Irvine

##### **Sacramento Valley Section (\$3,000 each)**

- Evangelina Chavez, Sacramento State University
- Brianna Banks-McLean, University of California, Davis

##### **San Diego Section (\$1,000 each)**

- Rhiannon Koh, University of California, San Diego
- Maya Kulkarni, University of California, San Diego

# APPOINTED DIRECTORS AND AFFILIATE ORGANIZATIONS

## California Planning Roundtable



*Bill Anderson*

Formed in 1980, the California Planning Roundtable (CPR) is an organization of experienced planning professionals who are members of the American Planning Association (APA). CPR is a policy research and development resource for the California Planning profession to enhance the sustainability and livability of California's communities. CPR addresses policy issues with solutions that can be widely applied in the planning practice.

We currently have 29 members and capacity for 34 positions, including two positions from state or federal government agencies, four positions from academia, and the remaining 28 positions evenly divided between public and private sector practicing planners. Per our by-laws, half of the members are from Northern California and half are from Southern California.

### **FOR 2019, CPR FOCUSED ON THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES:**

- held a Planning & Equity Conversation amongst members;
- organized a leadership and panel sessions for the APA California chapter conference, focused on career development, equity, and infrastructure for infill;
- prepared and are in the process of implementing a communication strategy;
- funded a donation to the APA California Foundation;
- participated in PHEAL (Planning Health, Equity, Advocacy, and Leadership).

Since our last report in March 2019, we held our 2019 spring meeting in Merced, focused on downtown revitalization and a UC Merced tour. Our 2019 summer meeting was in San Diego where we toured downtown San Diego, discussed regional growth management and delivery of infill housing, by-right housing regulatory approaches, and design considerations. We organized several panels for the APA California chapter conference in Santa Barbara. Our November 2019 retreat was held in Solvang. During 2019 we started to draft the Planning to House California Beyond 2020 report.

[www.apacalifornia.org/apa-organizations/california-planning-roundtable](http://www.apacalifornia.org/apa-organizations/california-planning-roundtable)

*“CPR is a policy research and development resource for the California Planning profession to enhance the sustainability and livability of California’s communities”*



# APPOINTED DIRECTORS AND AFFILIATE ORGANIZATIONS

## Planner Emeritus Network



*Robert Paternoster, FAICP  
President*

The following report highlights the ongoing activities and accomplishments of the Planner Emeritus Network (PEN)

for 2019. The year's activities culminated at the Statewide APA California Chapter Conference in Santa Barbara, including a well-attended PEN panel on climate change, a busy PEN table promoting the organization and the CPAT Program, and the award of PEN Honors to four distinguished planners from the California Chapter. We also helped organize the special recognition ceremony for the late Stan Hoffman, who served as PEN President for four years in addition to his many other outstanding contributions to the planning profession in California.

- **PEN Board Members:** The current officers that were approved at our September 16, 2019 Board meeting are: Robert Paternoster, FAICP, President; Naphtali Knox, FAICP, Vice-President North; Linda Tatum, FAICP, Vice-President South; and, Gina Natoli, AICP, Secretary/Treasurer. The non-executive board members are: Dr. Don Bradley, PhD, AICP; Brian Mooney, FAICP; Bruce Baracco, AICP; Hanson Hom, AICP; Margaret Sohagi; and Matthew Winegar, AICP. Additionally, two non-voting board members are APA California Chapter Historians Steve Preston, FAICP (south), and Larry Mintier, FAICP (north).
- **Annual PEN Honorees:** One of PEN's very important responsibilities is to annually honor distinguished planners in APA California Chapter that have made significant contributions to the betterment of our communities in California and to the planning profession. In 2019, we honored the following four planners at the annual statewide conference: David Early, AICP (Northern Section); Tim Snellings (Sacramento Valley Section); David Mieger, AICP (Los Angeles Section); and, Thomas Davis, AICP (Inland Empire Section).
- **Annual PEN Panel:** The Statewide California Chapter panel topic at the 2019 Santa Barbara conference was Climate Action Plans, Are They Making a Difference or Just Satisfying Regulations? The five member panel was led by Brian Mooney, FAICP.
- **Community Planning Assistance Team (CPAT) Program:** Two potential CPAT projects were actively considered by the Board in 2019, both in areas which had been devastated by wildfires. A team led by Alex Hinds was actually assembled for the Burbank Housing Project in Santa Rosa, asked to prepare a preliminary site plan for a burned out mobile home park, before the sponsor withdrew amidst an extended approval process by State agencies. PEN representatives met with the Butte County Community Development Director and the City Manager of the Town of Paradise to fashion a project focused on public outreach and a planning grant application. The City Manager subsequently informed them that Paradise would proceed without CPAT aid in light of the many well-funded support offers received from throughout the nation. There are currently no applications for assistance pending, and PEN stands ready to offer CPAT to California municipalities and community groups who are in need of pro bono planning assistance.
- **Community Planning History Committee Report:** California Chapter's co-historians, Steve Preston, FAICP, (South), and Larry Mintier, FAICP, (North), are non-voting members of the PEN Board. They kept the Board informed of their key activities over the past year, which are presented separately in the Chapter Historians section of this Annual Report.
- **PEN Cross-Generational Planning Exchanges:** Three years ago, in cooperation with the Sections, PEN initiated a new program of Cross-Generational Planning Exchanges, wherein past PEN honorees share their perspectives with young planners new to the profession about how the practice of planning has changed over the years, and what they see as the challenges ahead. The programs held in the San Diego and Central Valley Sections were documented this year, and PEN is actively encouraging other sections to participate in 2020.
- **California Planners Remembrance:** PEN helped organize and conduct the remembrance ceremony for Stan Hoffman at the Santa Barbara Conference. The APA California Board has since asked PEN to undertake similar remembrances for deceased planners at future conferences. We have appointed a committee to recommend how to assemble the list of recently past members of California Chapter and to design an annual program of recognition.



## APA California Sections



APA California is one of the 47 state chapters that comprise the American Planning Association. As a state chapter, we support the mission of the organization by providing leadership in advocating for excellence in planning, promoting education and resident empowerment, and providing our members with the tools and support necessary to ethically meet the challenges of growth and change. The largest chapter in the nation, APA California has eight sections that provide professional development and other services and activities to APA members. Each section is governed by an elected board of volunteers that works to meet the professional needs of planners in the geography they represent.



## LOCAL SECTIONS

# Central



*Rob Terry, AICP, MPA  
Director*

The Central Section covers eleven 11 counties in the central interior of California and serves over 200 planning professionals and students in a wide variety of backgrounds and settings, including urban, suburban, small town and rural. Some call this area the “Final Frontier” for growth in California. To keep up with member needs, the Central Section has expanded its program, offering more services and events as well as reaching out to students to build a relationship and member base in within the area's universities. This is particularly critical given the return of a bachelor's degree in planning once again being offered within in the Central Valley, as Fresno State re-launched its City and Regional Planning Degree (Bachelor of Science).

### SECTION BOARD

Several changes have taken place within the Section in recent years. First, a new website was introduced ([cencalapa.org](http://cencalapa.org)) which highlights the vast diversity and geography found within the Section. In addition, several new faces were introduced onto the Board including:



- Jennifer Clark, AICP, Section Director-Elect
- Eric VonBerg, MRP, Director for Administration and Finance
- Carolina Ilic, AICP, Director for Professional Development
- Ricky Caperton, Director for Membership and Public Information
- Nicole Hoke, Student Programs Manager

The inclusion of these new faces onto the Board has not only reinvigorated many long-standing activities and traditions within the Section, but has also led to several new and progressive ideas that have improved outreach, professional development and networking amongst APA members and fellow planning professionals.

The Sierra Retreat continues to be a beloved Central Section tradition within the Section. With this event being such a treasure for Section members of the Section for 26 so many years (celebrating its 26th this year), we need to ask: “why aren’t we sharing this with other Sections throughout the State?” the question was asked. As such, the Board elected to reach out to the other Sections, inviting a Board member from each Section to participate free of charge. Several Sections took us up on the offer and now consider themselves regular attendees with the rest of us!

*Continued on page 30*

[www.apacalifornia.org/local-sections/central](http://www.apacalifornia.org/local-sections/central)

*“To keep up with member needs, the Central Section has expanded its program, offering more services and events as well as reaching out to students to build a relationship and member base in within the area's universities.”*

## Local Sections

### CENTRAL

Looking to improve Section support for membership, a new distance education partnership was established with the San Diego Section, allowing members to further their reach and professional development opportunities. Much thanks to Lorena Cordova, AICP with the San Diego Section, and Greg Konar, AICP, the APA California's Distance Education coordinator, for making this possible.

#### SECTION ACTIVITIES

- **City and Regional Planning Program at California State University, Fresno**—Building upon last year's efforts to support the newly placed degree in Planning, the Section has been active in helping the University continue to place and support interns and beyond. The Section has also helped with the success of the newly established bachelor's degree in City and Regional Planning, including providing guest lecturers and presentations at the campus Geography Club.
- In partnership with the university, the Central Section sponsored an **Affordable Housing Summit** in Fresno that was well attended by a diverse group of housing interests.
- **Sierra Retreat** – The much beloved and long-standing Central Section Sierra Retreat was held at scenic Sequoia Lake near King's Kings Canyon National Park in August. Attendees were treated to training on outreach and other relevant topics. Nature and recreation were abundant, including the lake water sports, hiking, and relaxing, as well as the long-standing traditions of campfires and the extraordinarily competitive bingo game (many dance moves included). There were new attendees and long-time friends gained.

- **San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Conference** – The SJV Regional Policy Conference put on by the Valley's Regional Governments was again held. APA continues to be involved in the planning and sponsoring of this event—particularly with sponsorships supporting the Valley Blueprint Awards.
- **Events/Mixers** – The Section put on two holiday parties in December this year. The first was a gathering at former Board Member Barbara Steck's home who conveniently lives adjacent to the street where the annual Fresno Christmas Tree Lane Celebration is held each year. Attendees were able to enjoy the company of fellow members and take some time to stroll the amazing holiday displays along the pedestrian-only route. A week later, the Section also joined Association of Environmental Professionals (AEP) for a Holiday Mixer at Piazza del Panne Italian Café in north North Fresno for an evening of socializing, food and drinks. These holiday events continue to be a beloved tradition for the members who attend, with a growing partnership for such events continuing with our professional colleagues at AEP. Much thanks to the Central Chapter for this great partnership.

#### SECTION AWARDS

One public agency and their private firm consultant partners have been recognized for outstanding achievement in land use planning and best practices. The California Chapter Central Section of the American Planning Association has made the following award:

- **Outstanding Planning Award – Public Outreach** – To the City of Fresno, PlaceWorks and Shared Space for the "Fresno Southwest Fresno Specific Plan"



## LOCAL SECTIONS

# Central Coast



*Rachel Raynor*  
Director

- **Rachel Raynor, AICP Candidate** – Appointed as the Central Coast Director in May 2019 and with the APA California Conference in September the year has been a whirlwind—to say the least. With our conference profits, we as an Executive Board are excited to turn those funds back over to our membership in the form of additional Section events, as well as our first annual Central Coast APA ‘Mini-Conference,’ which we will be pairing with our 2020 Annual Awards event! We are excited to try something new and provide additional educational opportunities to our membership.
- **Section Elections** – Kyle Jordan, the Board’s Webmaster will be leaving the Board as he has accepted a new position outside the Central Coast Section; Paul Fields has been

appointed to the Public Information Officer, as Clay Downing, who held the position previously, has been elected as the Ventura County Subsection Director. Addition, Spencer Johnson, Tess Harris, Denice Thomas and Tanner Shelton have also been re-elected to remain on the Board for another term

- **Annual Awards Program** – On May 4, 2019, the Central Coast APA Board hosted the 2019 Annual Planning Awards Program.

The theme for the event was a Casino Night benefiting CPF. The event was held at the scenic Crowne Plaza Ballroom in Ventura California. There were five Award of Excellence's awarded, along with four Award of Merit's. \$970 was raised for CPF through the Casino night and one silent auction item. One project that won an Award of Excellence went on to win an Award of Excellence at the 2019 State APA Conference. That project was for the City of Oxnard's ‘Power Struggle: How Oxnard Turned the Tide of California's Energy Future.’



*2019 Annual Award Winners*

*Continued on page 32*

[www.apacalifornia.org/local-sections/central](http://www.apacalifornia.org/local-sections/central)

- **Sponsorships** – We received \$3,500 in sponsorships and we would like to thank Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, Jacobson and Wack, Jensen Design and Survey, Rincon, RRM Design Group, and Suzanne Elledge Planning and Permitting Services, Inc. We greatly appreciate your continued support in the Central Coast APA Section.
- **Membership Inclusion** – As host Section for the 2019 APA Conference, Central Coast APA's Membership Inclusion Officer was responsible for organizing this year's Diversity Summit. This year's summit was titled “Representation

Matters: A Panel on Diversity in the Planning Profession”. The summit gathered four professionals with differing backgrounds and varied professional experiences to examine the planning profession internally, taking an honest look at where the profession stands on diversity, inclusion, and equity and how the field can improve diversity. The program was well received by attendees and spurred meaningful conversations about inclusion and equity. The summit was followed by a mixer at Dargan's Pub, where professionals were able to network and relax with old and new friends and colleagues.



## Local Sections

### CENTRAL COAST

- **Subsections**

**Santa Barbara Subsection Director: Tess Harris and Emerging Planning Professional Representative: Lexi Journey** – The Section held the 2019 California APA Conference at the Hilton Beachfront Hotel in Santa Barbara. Section members played critical roles on the Conference Host Committee. The conference included a wide range of programs and mobile workshops that showcased Santa Barbara. Over 1,500 people attended the conference. Networking mixers were held in April at The Cruisery, and in May at the Institution Ale, along with an event co-hosted with Association of Women in Water, Energy, and Environment (AWEE) in August at Modern Times. In December, the Santa Barbara subsection hosted a holiday party at Modern Times with AEP.

**Ventura Subsection Director: Michelle D’Anna and Emerging Planning Professional Representative: Kristina Roodsari** – The Ventura County Subsection continued hosting quarterly joint mixers with colleagues from the Association of Environmental Professionals and culminating with the ever-popular holiday mixer in December 2019. In April, our Emerging Planning Professionals coordinated an Earth Day hike along the Santa Clara River. In August, the

Subsection hosted a historical talk and garden tour at Pleasant Valley Historical Society. In October, the Subsection co-hosted a first of its kind joint event at California Lutheran University (CLU) that included a panel discussion of urban resiliency in Ventura County, break-out small group discussions, and a fast-paced Speed Networking exercise.

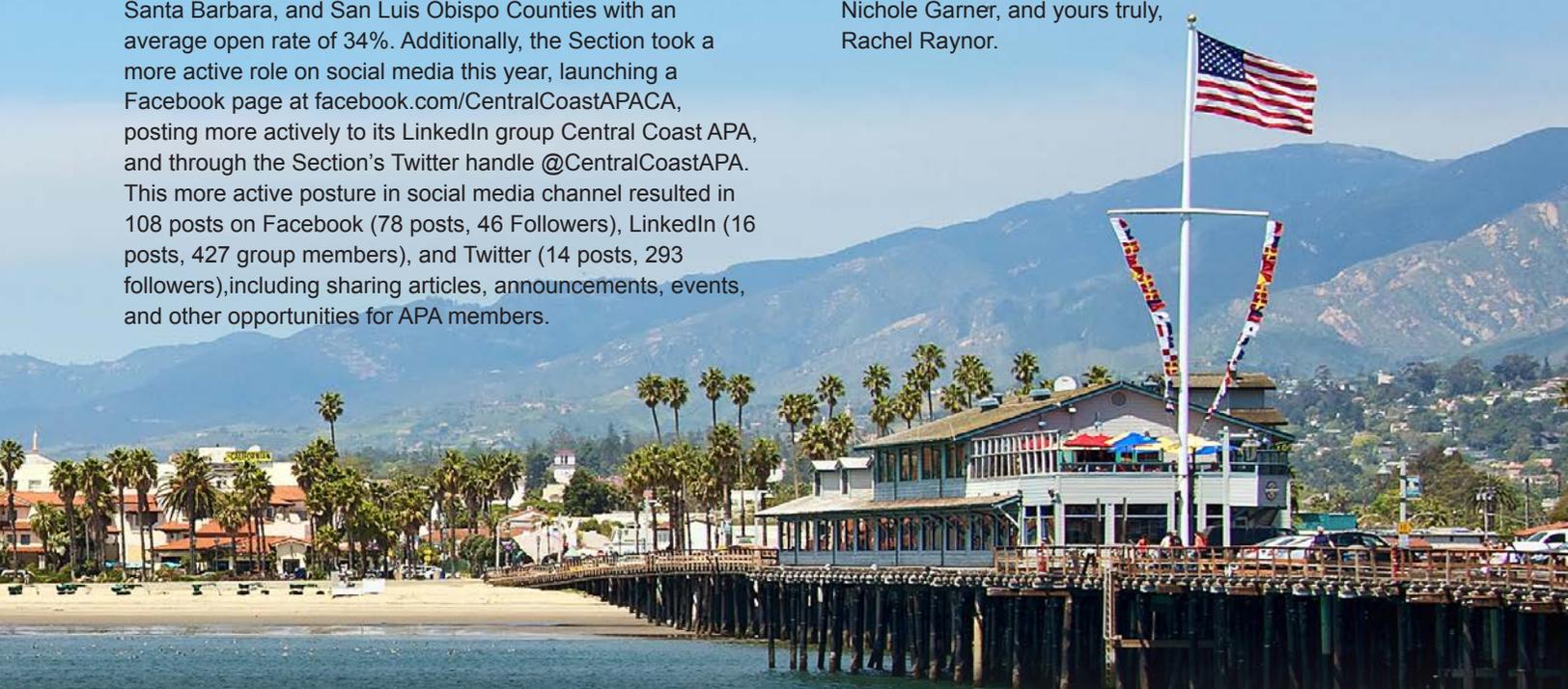
**San Luis Obispo (SLO) Subsection Director: Spencer Johnson, CNU-A** – In 2019, the SLO Subsection provided a variety of opportunities to engage with planning professionals and students, including mixers, workshops, and hikes. The Subsection had a large role in facilitating the California APA Conference in Santa Barbara and also led the 2019 Citizen Planning Academy, which aimed to empower local community members to become more active in regional planning issues and opportunities. The Cal Poly Associated Students in Planning and the Graduate Planning Students Association collaborated with the Central Coast Section by providing support at events and leading a local firm tour. This provided future planners studying at Cal Poly opportunities to expand their network and gain knowledge of the local planning industry.



San Luis Obispo Planning Academy

- **Section Website and Communications** – The Section reached out to Central Coast members with 37 direct email communications over the course of the year, delivering each of those emails to approximately 910 people across Ventura, Santa Barbara, and San Luis Obispo Counties with an average open rate of 34%. Additionally, the Section took a more active role on social media this year, launching a Facebook page at [facebook.com/CentralCoastAPACA](https://facebook.com/CentralCoastAPACA), posting more actively to its LinkedIn group Central Coast APA, and through the Section’s Twitter handle @CentralCoastAPA. This more active posture in social media channel resulted in 108 posts on Facebook (78 posts, 46 Followers), LinkedIn (16 posts, 427 group members), and Twitter (14 posts, 293 followers), including sharing articles, announcements, events, and other opportunities for APA members.

- **Professional Development** – On behalf of the Executive Board, I would like to extend a congratulatory note to our newest AICP members/ Candidates who passed their AICP certificate exam in 2019: Brian Schwartz, David Christie, Nichole Garner, and yours truly, Rachel Raynor.



## LOCAL SECTIONS

# Inland Empire



*John E. Hildebrand*  
Director

2019 was another great year for the Inland Empire Section (IES). We furthered the Section's goals by continuing to establish strategic partnerships and collaborations, bringing dynamic workshops and events to our membership throughout the year. This included our continued partnerships with the Western

Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG) and the Association of Environmental Professionals (AEP), as well as multiple cities within our

region. We will continue to seek these types of strategic partnerships in hopes of leveraging all our collective resources and bring high quality content to the members.

### WHO WE ARE

The Inland Empire Section Board is comprised of approximately 25 elected and appointed members, representing a diverse background including the public, private, and education sectors. The Inland Empire Section Board has a strong commitment to host meaningful workshops and events for our membership each year and provide resources to help Planners in the region. We continue to grow our board and are always looking for enthusiastic new members who are interested in Planning and the Inland Empire!

### YOUNG PLANNERS GROUP

Our Young Planners Group (YPG) is continuing to gain momentum. We hosted multiple meet-and-greets for the Young

Planners in our Section to discuss planning topics, APA, and development within the Inland Empire. We are

proposing a number of additional YPG events over the following year and hope to tackle more substantive topics, as well as potentially develop a new mentor program. With our new Vice Chair of YPG and several YPG Coordinator Board members, we hope to continue building on this program by partnering with our Section's young and emerging planners and also share resources with the neighboring Sections.



### ENDOWMENT

This Section has placed a greater focus in connecting with our student and emerging planners over the past few years. Implementing this focus, the IES had partnered with the California Planning Foundation (CPF) to establish a permanent IES-APA student scholarship endowment. We continue to fund this endowment annually, intending for it grow into multiple scholarships in the future, supporting student Planners in the IES.

### SUMMARY

The IES-APA develops an annual strategic plan, outlining the workshops, events, and other resources that we feel will address our member's needs. Our Board continues to be creative in their approach to operating the Section and in bringing unique ideas to our members. As the Section Director for Inland Empire, thank you to all our Board members in your commitment to volunteer in this organization and embodying the spirit of the American Planning Association. Also, thank you to our members and sponsors for your continued support of this Section and the Planning profession.

[www.apacalifornia.org/local-sections/inland-empire](http://www.apacalifornia.org/local-sections/inland-empire)

### EVENTS

Each year, this Section strives to bring a variety of topical and relevant workshops to our members, as well as fun events and mixers. The following represents some of our events we either directly created or collaborated on:

- YPG Mixer: CPP Brew Works – January 31
- The Color of Law – February 28
- YPG Mixer: Speed Planning – March 7
- The Enacted Environment: Latinx Urbanism Observations – March 30
- YPG Mixer: Golden Road Brewing – May 16
- IES-APA Awards Program – May 23
- YPG Mixer: Long Beach Boat Tour – August 17



- Historical Symposium: Hole Mansion at the Divine Word Seminary – October 8
- SB 1000: Policy to Action – October 29
- Planning Commissioners Workshop – November 7

In our continuing partnership with AEP, the following represents our desert workshop series of events:

- The Future of the City of Coachella – February 28
- Intelligent Transportation Systems – May 23
- Acquiring Land for Public Open Space and Conservation – August 22



## LOCAL SECTIONS

# Los Angeles



Ashley Atkinson, AICP  
Director

2019 was a year of milestones for the Los Angeles Section. We surpassed 1,800 members, a nearly 60% increase over our membership just two years prior. A person of color was appointed as director for the first time in the documented history of the section. And we began implementation of our first-ever strategic plan, which was designed by Board members to help achieve our vision.

That vision elevates several priority areas identified by our membership and our Board in recent years: policy, inclusivity, and the value of our profession. But as planners know, it's not enough to envision a goal, or to establish a plan—we also have to implement and evaluate it. As

such, in 2019 we took concrete steps to achieve the milestones in our strategic plan, including:

- Conducted a diversity survey to analyze member demographics, and help define what success in representation means for APA Los Angeles;
- Identified 10 “regional representatives” living and working across Los Angeles County, and supported them in coordinating several local engagement opportunities for members;
- Expanded relationships with local universities to include schools with planning-related programs and non-traditional degrees;

- Transitioned from “Young Planners” to “Young and Emerging Planners” to better represent the objectives of the group;
- Established a 2020-2021 Policy Mission Statement, with priority on issues related to Housing & Homelessness, Environment & Climate Change, Transportation, and Equity;
- Conducted recruitment for a new paid, part-time staff position to professionally support these and other goals.

That's in addition to the suite of two dozen professional development opportunities and social events that constitute our core programming, plus the day-to-day Board operations carried out by our dedicated team of volunteer Board and committee members.

### STRATEGIC PLAN VISION & GOALS

APA Los Angeles will be recognized as a visionary champion for planning and a hub for urban policy discussions across Los Angeles County and will inclusively engage planning professionals from different backgrounds and career stages.

**GOAL 1.** Encourage membership and active involvement of diverse groups from the planning field.

**GOAL 2.** Increase engagement and visibility of mid-career planning professionals in APA Los Angeles.

**GOAL 3.** Increase sponsorship support for APA Los Angeles.

**GOAL 4.** Develop leadership and operational capacity at APA Los Angeles.

**GOAL 5.** Increase employer support for membership and AICP certification.

**GOAL 6.** Enhance partnerships with allied organizations to achieve greater impact.

**GOAL 7.** Enhance local member engagement and strengthen state-level connection on advocacy.

**“... we're educating and employing the next generation of planners with four graduate planning programs, and many more undergraduate or related programs.”**

[www.apacalifornia.org/local-sections/los-angeles](http://www.apacalifornia.org/local-sections/los-angeles)

The leadership of APA Los Angeles believes that some of planning's toughest challenges are being faced in Los Angeles County, and some of the profession's best work is also done here. Moreover, we're educating and employing the next generation of planners with four graduate planning programs, and many more undergraduate or related programs. It's therefore our obligation to support our profession and our members; be a vocal advocate for good planning practice and policy; and to bring our planning community together in an inclusive way, including practitioners of all backgrounds, educations, ages, and areas of expertise.

We're committed to doing this strategically and successfully, in service to one of the nation's most vibrant planning communities. We're pleased with what we accomplished in 2019, but recognize the need to do more in 2020 and beyond to address members' needs, rise to our policy challenges, and reflect the diversity of the cities we serve. Under the leadership of our new Section Director, Tony Mendoza of Chen Ryan Associates, we're anticipating even more progress toward our vision. We invite the participation of planners living and working in Los Angeles County to help us become the visionary, inclusive organization our community deserves.

## LOCAL SECTIONS

### Northern



Jonathan Schuppert, AICP  
Director

The Northern Section represents the counties of Alameda, Contra Costa, Del Norte, Humboldt, Lake, Marin, Mendocino, Monterey, Napa, San Benito, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Solano, and Sonoma. In 2019, we continued to build on the successes and excitement from the prior year by serving over 1,900 members in the section by continuing to revamp and expand existing programming while launching new initiatives.

- **Bylaws Update** – The Northern Section started the process to update the Bylaws, which were last updated in 2013. The Bylaws Committee met regularly, and the goal was for the updates to be adopted at the 2020 Retreat.

- **Sponsorship Kit** – The sponsorship package will tell firms how they can contribute to Northern Section events, similar to what the LA Section is already doing. The idea is to consolidate all advertising and sponsorship requests (including the holiday party sponsorship).
- **Mentorship Program** – The Northern Section continues to engage with what is one of the largest one-on-one mentorship programs in the country. With the 2019 program, over 200 individuals have joined the mentorship program with some mentors taking on a pair of mentees due to the popularity.
- **Awards Gala** – The Northern Section's Awards Gala is entering its third year of being revamped as one of our major networking and gathering events of the year. The Gala allows planners to meet and greet award recipients and other attendees before the program begins. The application for the 2019 program continued with streamlined online submittals.



[www.apacalifornia.org/local-sections/northern](http://www.apacalifornia.org/local-sections/northern)

- **Professional Development** – The Northern Section 2019 events featured regional issues such as Disaster



Preparedness and Recovery, Transportation Planning and Housing Crisis. The Bay Area Planning Director's Association offered their signature event on disaster preparedness with a focus on sea level rise. Transportation Planning offered events on Autonomous Vehicles with a Symposium on Developing Policies and Plans for Livability. The Housing Crisis was a topical concern with events ranging from Outside the Box Housing Solutions for Disadvantaged Communities to Delivering Housing Faster, and to the State of Housing at the State. 84.75 CM Credits were offered, and 38 events occurred from January 1, 2019 to December 1, 2019.

*Continued on page 36*

***“The Housing Crisis was a topical concern . . .”***

## Local Sections

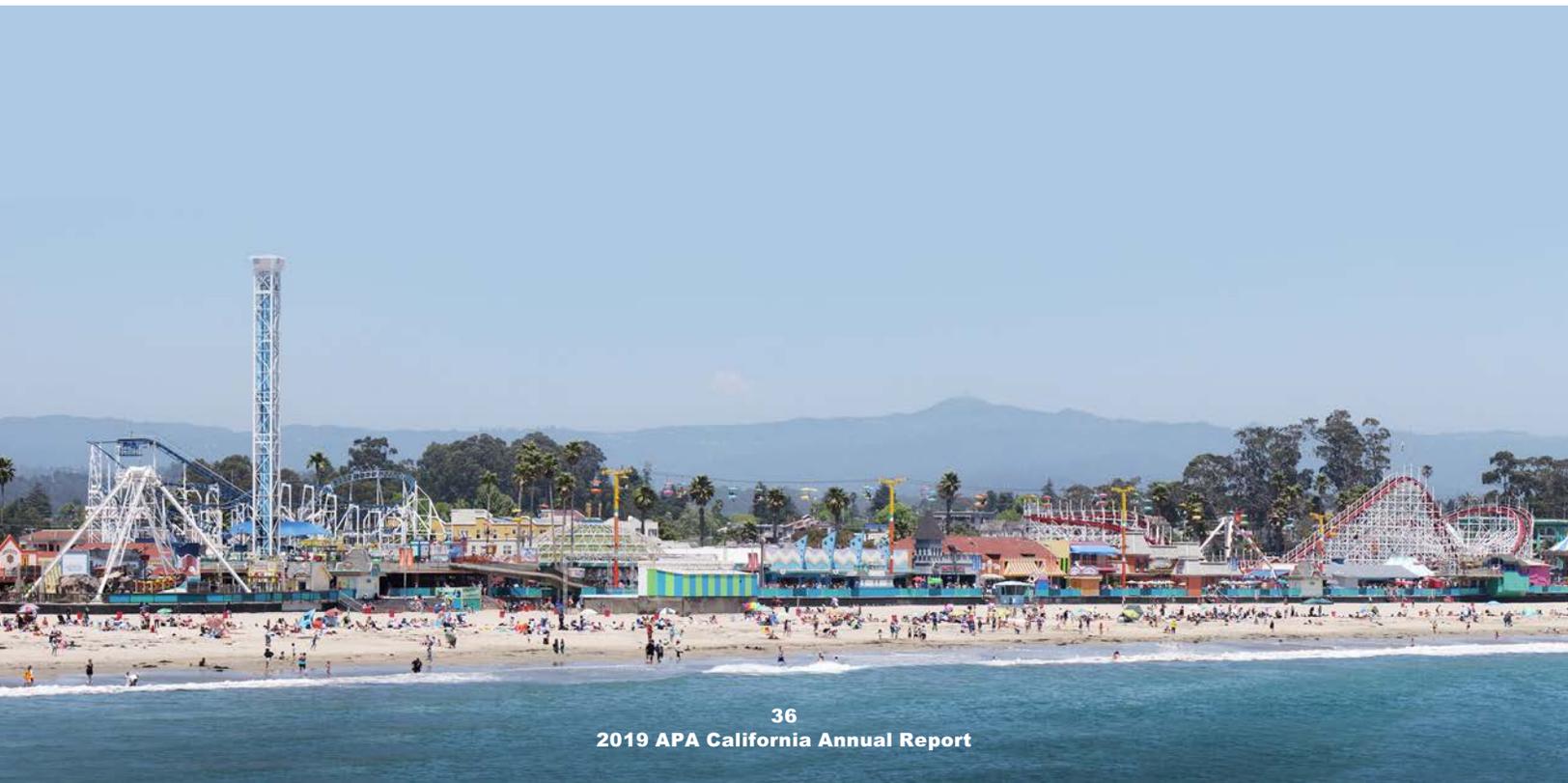
### NORTHERN

- **International Planning Program** – The Northern Section continues to provide opportunities for Northern Section planners and others to exchange ideas with planners, architects, university professors, and municipal officials from around the world. In 2019, the International Planning Program co-directors continued with collaboration activities in Brazil, as well as explored additional options in Mexico. The International Planning Program started gearing up in planning for the next international planning tour to countries in the Middle East.
- **Planning Diversity Committee** – 2019 was the first full year with Cherise Orangeas co-chair with Cindy Ma for the Diversity Committee. We held a Planners of Color (POC) mixer in March and then a Career Panel in partnership with the Young and Emerging Planners Group (YEP), and UC Berkeley students and their College of Environmental Design Students of Color Network (CED SOC). There was a farm tour event in the summer and a few local school presentations on “What is Planning”. As with every year, co-chairs continued conversation with other state chapter inclusion directors and provided support and feedback for the Diversity Summit at the state conference which was in Santa Barbara this year (2019).

- **Website** – During 2019 we transitioned our venerable newsletter, the *Northern News*, from a PDF-based print publication into an all-online format. This saved us thousands of dollars in annual costs for graphic layout and design work. The change also has been popular with our readers as newsletter openings continue to set new monthly records.
- **Northern News** – Our monthly newsmagazine, *Northern News*, continues to be our longer-form medium for the exchange of planning views, news, and information, valued far beyond our Section for its content, quality, and locally authored articles and features. In May 2019, newsletter editor Naphtali Knox, FAICP, and webmaster Tom Holub transitioned the magazine to a fully digital, mobile responsive product that retains its 10 times per year publication schedule. By the end of the year, readership—as measured by opens/page views on Constant Contact—had increased by 50%.



***“The International Planning Program co-directors continued with collaboration activities in Brazil, as well as explored additional options in Mexico.”***



## LOCAL SECTIONS

# Orange



*Nicholas Chen, AICP  
Director*

The Orange Section had another successful year in 2019. We welcomed new board members at both the Section level as well as our Young Planner Group board, ensuring that we continue to promote and facilitate opportunities for our members to get involved. Additionally, the Section continued to strengthen partnerships with allied organizations and other APA California Sections to provide a variety of content and perspectives.

***“One of the underlying themes within the Orange Section for 2019 was finding ways to think outside the box to engage our members in meaningful ways that provided benefit to them.”***



*Planning Commissioner Forum*

One of the underlying themes within the Orange Section for 2019 was finding ways to think outside the box to engage our members in meaningful ways that provided benefit to them. This was accomplished through informative programming of interactive lunch sessions, half-day site walks, and of course our yearly social events that brought our members together to connect, discuss, learn, and celebrate. In line with our values, we continued our OC PEEL Mentorship program to connect young professionals with our more seasoned Orange members.

[www.apacalifornia.org/local-sections/orange](http://www.apacalifornia.org/local-sections/orange)

In 2019, we held the following programs for our members:

- **An informative session on the Color of Law with Richard Rothstein** – Mr. Rothstein is a leading authority on housing policy who lead a discussion on discriminatory practices in housing in our nation’s history and the impacts they have had.
- **Legislative Update** – David Snow and Diana Varat provided a comprehensive overview of new legislation in 2019.
- **Awards Ceremony** – 15 different people/teams/projects won recognition awards for their excellent work across all facets of the planning professions. Winners ranged from local jurisdictions, to consultants, to non-profits, and students.
- **Outreach Toolbox with IAP2** – The Orange Section teamed up with the International Association of Public Participation (IAP2) to explore effective strategies and best practices for conducting meaningful public engagement within our communities.
- **APA/AEP Angel’s Game** – Our members spent a day at the ballpark with members of the Association for Environmental Professionals (AEP).
- **Regional Planning for Multi-Modal Support** – The presentation discussed local efforts and solutions to improve quality of life for communities to better serve vulnerable users throughout the county.
- **Leadership on the Dais** – A discussion and training directed towards educating Planning Commissioners in Orange County. This was the inaugural training conducted in coordination with Orange County Planning Officials Leadership Initiative Collaborative (OC-POLIC) on what hopes to be an annual event.
- **4th Annual Historical Symposium** – Guided by prominent local figures, the Orange Section lead guided discussion through the streets of the City of Orange. Topics included the founding of Orange, the history of the built environment, movements in historic preservation planning, and the city’s current and future planning efforts.
- **Election Mixer and Trivia Contest** – Our inaugural Election Mixer provided a relaxed setting for Board members to discuss roles with members interested in getting more involved.
- **APA/AEP Holiday Party** – As always, we ended our year with our annual holiday get together with our friends and colleagues from the Association for Environmental Professionals.

## LOCAL SECTIONS

# Sacramento Valley



Robert G. Lagomarsino, AICP  
Director

The Sacramento Valley Section (SVS), which covers the 21 northeastern-most counties in the state, is divided into four divisions: Cascade, North Valley, Sierra, and Sacramento. Together, these counties include over 40,000 square miles, which represents over a quarter of the land area in California. Approximately 62.3 percent of the Section's population of 4.1 million lives in cities, with 37.7 percent living in unincorporated areas. In 2019, SVS hosted a variety of activities for its approximately 500 members, who represent not only a dramatically diverse geography, but also diverse economies and cultures. Here's what we did in 2019 to serve our membership:

### **SPEAKER SERIES:** 2019

was the 12th year for SVS' signature educational program, our annual Speaker Series. Our theme was "*Bridging the Divide: Discovering the Ties That Make for Strong Communities.*"

The 2019 Speaker Series was cosponsored by Caltrans and was hosted in partnership with the American Institute of Architects (AIA); American Society for Public Information (ASPA), California Air Resource Board (CARB), Office of Planning Research (OPR), Sacramento Area Council of



Governments (SACOG), and Urban Land Institute (ULI), with contributions from outstanding speakers representing a range of subject matter expertise. The six-session series covered the following subjects:

- **Many Plans, One Direction (June 28)** – OPR and SVS co-hosted this session, which kicked-off the series with an informative panel discussion before a crowd of approximately 75. Panelists Suzanne Hague, AICP (OPR), Tom Pace (City of Sacramento), and Tim Snellings (Butte County) and facilitator Bob Lagomarsino, AICP (SVS Director) focused on three key topics: Housing; Climate Change/Adaptation; and Social Equity/Environmental Justice. Panelists described their organization's priorities, how they are acting on those priorities, and what their greatest challenges are. They also explained what they're doing differently in addressing their priorities.
- **Census 2020: The Future is at Stake (July 26)** – SVS hosted a panel discussion on the 2020 Census featuring David Banuelos, Jr. with the U.S. Census Bureau, Ditas Katague with California Complete Count, and Gabby Trejo with the Sacramento County Complete Count Committee and Sacramento Area Congregations Together (Sacramento ACT). The panelists briefly covered the "nuts and bolts" of the Census to establish the foundation for the thought-provoking dialogue moderated by SVS Section Director Bob Lagomarsino. They also explained that California is unique because the state is making large investments to ensure a complete and accurate count to secure a fair share of Federal funding and political representation—an endeavor that is increasingly difficult in 2020.
- **Envisioning Corridors for Stronger Communities (August 23)** – ULI and SACOG collaborated to host a panel focused on rethinking public rights-of-way and how they interact with the people who travel along them. Sara Hammerschmidt, Senior Director with ULI in Washington, DC, featured the findings of ULI's publication *Envisioning Healthy Corridors: Lessons from Our Communities and Blind Spots: How Unhealthy Corridors Harm Communities and How to Fix*

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[www.apacalifornia.org/local-sections/sacramento-valley](http://www.apacalifornia.org/local-sections/sacramento-valley)

***“ . . . California is unique because the State is making large investments to ensure a complete and accurate (census) count to secure a fair share of Federal funding and political representation—an endeavor that is increasingly difficult in 2020.”***

## Local Sections

### SACRAMENTO VALLEY

*Them.* From the local perspective, participants in SACOG's Civic Lab 2.0 program provided an overview of their efforts on corridor revitalization.

- **Making Communities Stronger Through Housing Affordability - Focus on ADUs (September 27)** – The American Institute of Architects (AIA) hosted session provided attendees with an update on the state's Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU) legislation; introduced a number of ADU resources, including AIA's [www.plus1house.org](http://www.plus1house.org), which can be used to address homeowner's questions about pursuing an ADU on their property; and architectural insight and best practices to consider when designing an ADU. Matt Hertel, AICP (City of Sacramento) moderated the panel, which consisted of Gennifer Munoz, AIA, Michael Malinowski, FAIA, and Heather Peters, San Mateo County.
- **California Transportation Plan (CTP) 2050 (November 22)** – Caltrans hosted the final session of 2019 with a presentation on the California Transportation Plan 2050 (CTP 2050). The panel reviewed CTP 2050's presentation of innovative, sustainable, and integrated multimodal mobility solutions, with a central focus on developing a low-carbon transportation system that fosters economic vitality, protects the environment and natural resources, and promotes health and well-being equitably for all Californians.



- **Planning Versus Implementation: Advancing Plan Implementation through Innovation & Collaboration (October 25)** – The California Air Resources Board (CARB) hosted a discussion of a range of matters related to the relationships among land use, transportation, and air quality. Jennifer Gress, Ph.D., started with an overview of CARB's research into implementation of SB 375. Karen Magliano, Chief of CARB's Air Quality Data Branch, then reviewed AB 617 (2017) and CARB's community-based framework for implementing the Community Air Protection Program. The presentations concluded with Sharon Sprowls providing an overview of how the Franklin Neighborhood Development Corporation is leveraging various resources to improve conditions for residents and businesses. Moderator (and SVS member) Nader Afzalan, Ph.D., wrapped-up the morning with a vigorous question-and-answer session.

**YOUNG PLANNERS GROUP (YPG)** – YPG ran in its 10th year in style, breaking previous records in subcommittee participation (21 members), event attendance, and social media presence (537 likes on our Facebook page, a 13% increase from 2018). YPG hosted 17 events over the year, (some months had three events!):

- **Two** Joint Happy Hour events with other professional organizations were offered over the course of the year. An April event with young planners in transportation and environmental (YPT/YPE), and in September with YPT, Capital Science Communicators (CapSciComm).
- **Eight** Planner's Pint Nights (a record!): Local Food Systems (January), Landmark Projects in Sacramento (March), Mental Health and the Built Environment (March), UC Davis Long Range Development Plan (April), Economic Development and Urban Placemaking (June), Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta (July), Planning for Wildfires – How Planners Can Address Wildfire Risks (August), Environmental Justice in Sacramento (November)
- **Five** Inter-Association Events: Constructing the Future Panel with IIDA and AIA (January), Happy Hour and CEQA Trivia

Night with AEP (May), Summer Networking Social with APA and AEP (July), Inter-Association Sacramento Republic Game with AIA, ASLA, and SEA OCC (August), APA SVS/AEP/TWS Holiday Party (December)

- **Two** Student Events: Student Info Night at UC Davis (February), UC Davis Long Range Development Plan (April)
- **One** AICP Info Night: AICP Exam Study Session (February)
- **Other Cool Events:** Del Paso Blvd Walking Tour (June), Spring Hike at Big Chico Creek Ecological Reserve (June), Subcommittee bonding activity—Rivercats Game (April), YPG 10-Year Anniversary Party (October), SVS Movie Night (October)
- 8.0 CM credits offered at events this year

As it enters its second decade, SVS YPG continues to provide a forum for students, and young and emerging planners to engage peers and more experienced professionals on the issues that are shaping the future of planning. YPG cultivates young professionals through career building programs, social events, and mentoring opportunities on today's issues and trends while developing leadership on the issues of tomorrow.

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## Local Sections

### SACRAMENTO VALLEY

**MEMBERSHIP EVENTS:** While much of our energy was spent on the State Conference, we were able to host many events, both social and educational, for our members:

- **2019 Awards Ceremony (January 24)** – Over 90 people gathered to celebrate all the good planning that has happened in the Sacramento Valley Section in the last year! SVS members both celebrated successful planning projects and initiatives and recognized the contributions and achievements of our members, including Al Herson, FAICP (PEN Honoree), Heidi Tschudin, FAICP (new inductee into the AICP College of Fellows), and Tricia Stevens, AICP (winner of the SVS Legacy Award).
- **Making Room: Housing for a Changing America (March 21)** – The SVS Cascade Division hosted this event in Redding, attracting a capacity crowd to learn about the publication *Making Room: Housing for a Changing America*, jointly published by the AARP and The National Building Museum. People from all backgrounds and professions attended and were presented the key statistics and findings of the report. Local data was then presented for perspective and interactive breakout discussions were held. The energy and enthusiasm in solving this issue was very encouraging and it appears there may be a need for follow-up events on the subject.
- **Planning Commissioner Training (May 18)** – "Definitely worth my Saturday!"
  - Led by Russ Liebig (Planning Commission representation on the Section Board), SVS hosted a training session for planning commissioners from throughout the section. The event attracted approximately 70 participants, most of whom were Planning Commissioners and about a third of whom were new in their positions. The newer commissioners clearly appreciated the presentation on Planning Commissioner Best Practices, and the group seemed to appreciate the detail of the Housing Element and the General Plan/Zoning updates as they related to both urban and rural communities. The workshop included a huge amount of information packed into 6 hours (including an

overview of CEQA), and the topics were given meaning during Tim Snellings' (Director of Development for Butte County) presentation on the Camp Fire and lessons learned related to regional planning and Wildland/Urban disasters.

- **Summer Social/Membership Appreciation (July 30)** – Over 70 members of APA, AEP and WTS enjoyed great food, drinks and each other's company for a couple of hours while advancing the SVS objective of collaboration with peer professional organizations.
- **Planners of Color Happy Hour (August 21)** – Led by Yassi Sarvian (SVS Director of Membership, Diversity, and Equity) and the newly-formed Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Subcommittee, the SVS hosted its very first Planners of Color Happy Hour! It was a lovely evening spent networking with Planners of Color and fellow colleagues interested in furthering the Section and State's goals to make the planning profession more diverse, equitable, and inclusive.

*Continued on page 41*



## Local Sections

### SACRAMENTO VALLEY

- **Student Scholarship Fundraiser (September 15)** – The annual SVS Student Scholarship Fundraiser again reached the goal of raising \$3,000 for two scholarships! The event also recognized Tricia Stevens as this year's SVS Legacy Award recipient. In addition to participating in the live auction, guests competed in a spirited game of trivia, with questions focused on Tricia and her career and general planning knowledge (thanks to SVS Director of Professional Development Brent Gibbons).
- **YPG Anniversary Celebration (October 10)** – SVS's pioneering Young Planners Group celebrated its 10th birthday on 10/10! Past and present YPG subcommittee members and supporters of YPG came together to celebrate the first YPG in the nation and its successful decade of programming, networking, and support for emerging professionals in the Sacramento area. The event also honored the inaugural winners of the Emerging Planner Award. Thanks to all who have made YPG what it is today! Cheers to the next 10 years!



- **Emerging Planner Awards (October)** – In 2019, the Sacramento Valley Section developed a new award designed to recognize the great work of emerging planners in the region. In its inaugural year, the Emerging Planner Award was presented to four outstanding individuals who exemplify a commitment to good planning, knowledge-sharing, innovation and creative approaches, and involvement in APA: Heidi Gen Kuong, AICP, Kate Rose, Yassi Sarvian, and Jenny Welch.



- **SVS Movie Night/Community Planning Month (October 24)** – The Sacramento Valley Section hosted an intimate movie screening of *City Dreamers* in celebration of Community Planning Month. It was held at artspace 1616, a gallery located in Old North Sacramento. Attendees enjoyed beer, wine, sushi, full gallery access, and a quaint outdoor patio before settling in to watch the award-winning documentary about how four trail-blazing women have influenced the built environment in North America for over half a century.
- **Winter Social (December 10)** – APA Members joined with colleagues from AEP and the Wildlife Society to raise a glass in celebration of the holiday season and a successful year of programs, professional development, and networking events. The event also was an opportunity to give back to the community by bringing a donation of non-perishable, non-expired food or personal care items for the River City Food Bank.

[www.apacalifornia.org/local-sections/sacramento-valley](http://www.apacalifornia.org/local-sections/sacramento-valley)

**PLAN MENTORING PROGRAM** – The SVS PLAN program (Planning + Leadership + Advancement + Networking) continued to fulfill its mission of providing the next generation of professional planners a dynamic and challenging one-on-one and group mentoring forum for personal and professional growth and development. In 2019, PLAN finished its eighth year and started its ninth year, with a class of 11 mentor-mentee pairs supported by an active Steering Committee consisting of program graduates (both mentees and mentors). In addition to the direct mentorship activities, the participants met for monthly educational sessions, networking and teambuilding events, and a community service project. In 2019, the 2018-19 class culminated with a “Catapult Party” in June and the 2019-20 class launched its year with a Kick-Off meeting in October.



## LOCAL SECTIONS

# San Diego



Nancy Graham, AICP  
Director

### SAN DIEGO CHAPTER JOURNAL ARTICLES

- “Connecting Regional Water Planning and Climate Resilience in the San Diego Region” – June 7, 2019
- “The Inaugural Pint with a Planner” – June 7, 2019
- “La Mesa CAP Workshop – Local Jurisdiction Outreach Efforts” – April 19, “2019 Housing Inequality in San Diego – Forum 2/28/2019” – March 14, 2019
- “YPG Celebrates Earth Month” – March 11, 2019

- “The Story of City Heights, Route 15, the Center Line Rapid Bus Stations, with an Look to the Future – Event Recap” – March 8, 2019
- “2019 Welcome Message from SDAPA Section Director” – February 27, 2019

### AICP HIGHLIGHTS

- Hosted the annual Spring AICP Training Sessions with approximately 20 attendees and covered a range of topics such as ethics, planning law, planning history, plan making and public participation to help prepare AICP exam takers (February 9, February 23, March 9 and March 23)
- Hosted the AICP Application Preparation Session with approximately 20 attendees. Discussions included hearing testimonials from recent exam passers and sharing information on the application process (May 23). This was a collaborative effort with the Central Section and the California Chapter of APA to live stream and offer the session through their Distance Learning Series.
- Hosted the annual Fall AICP Exam Roundtable with approximately 10 attendees and discussions included hearing testimonials from recent exam passers and sharing information such as the exam outline, content and study resources (September 26).

***“With over 500 members and a calendar of activities directed to both new and experienced planners, the San Diego Chapter provides members an opportunity to expand their professional knowledge, meet peers, and get directly involved in the operation of the Section.”***

[www.apacalifornia.org/local-sections/san-diego](http://www.apacalifornia.org/local-sections/san-diego)

### 2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Section Director, Nancy Graham, AICP
- Former Section Director, Rachel Hurst
- Treasurer, Dahvia Lynch
- Secretary, Tara Lieberman, LEED AP
- Programs Co-chair, Bill Figge, AICP
- Programs Co-chair, Kimiko Lizardi, AICP
- AwardsChair Awards Chair, Russ Cunningham
- Membership & Marketing, Mike Fellows, AICP
- Membership & Marketing, Renee Yarmy
- Inclusionary Membership, Jerry Rivera
- Website Coordinator, Eric Henson
- Communications Coordinator, Elizabeth Dickson
- Professional Development, Joan Isaacson, AICP
- Professional Development, Lorena Cordova, AICP
- *Planning Journal* Editor, Kiran Karr
- Young Planners Group, Regina Ochoa
- Imperial Valley Representative, Lisa Tylanda
- Academic & CFP Liaison, Mirle Rabinowit Bussell, PhD
- SDSU Student Representative, Tony Cruz
- UCSD Student Representative, Erik Mumm

## Local Sections

### SAN DIEGO

#### SECTION AWARDS

Project	Award	Category
1. Alleys in Action! Let's take back our alleys	Excellence Award	Academic
2. Envision South Centre City Specific Plan	Excellence Award	Advance Diversity and Social Change
3. Plug-in San Diego Regional Needs Assessment Mapping Tool	Achievement Award	Best Practice
4. Visions to Victory: A People's History of the SR-15 Freeway	Excellence Award	Communications Initiative
5. Transit District Specific Plan	Excellence Award	Comprehensive Plan: Large Jurisdiction
6. Regional Climate Action Planning Framework (ReCAP)	Achievement Award	Environmental Planning
7. Townsite Dr/W. Los Angeles Dr. & N. Santa Fe Corridor Study	Achievement Award	Implementation: Large Jurisdiction
8. 50 <sup>th</sup> Street Gathering Space	Achievement Award	Urban Design
9. City of La Mesa Climate Action Plan	Merit Awards	Comprehensive Plan: Small Jurisdiction
10. South Bay Rapid	Merit Awards	Transportation Planning
11. San Diego Ocean Planning Partnership: Preliminary Assessment Report	Merit Awards	Best Practice
12. Jason Griffen	Merit Awards	Environmental Planning
13. Transit Priority Areas Multifamily Residential Parking Standards Report	Merit Awards	Best Practice
14. Midway-Pacific Highway Community Plan	Merit Awards	Comprehensive Plan: Large Jurisdiction
15. Old Town San Diego Community Plan Update	Merit Awards	Urban Design
16. San Diego Forward: The Regional Plan	Merit Awards	Implementation: Large Jurisdiction
17. University Innovation District Sectional Planning Area (SPA) Plan	Merit Awards	Urban Design

#### CM CREDIT EVENTS

Date	Event Title	CM	Rating	Attendance	CM Log #
2/20/19	The Story of City Heights, Route 15, & the Center Line Rapid Bus Stations, with a Look to the Future	1.50	3.40	N/A	9171858
2/28/19	Forum on Housing and Inequality in San Diego	6.25	4.00	N/A	9172476
5/9/19	Marine Corps Air Station Miramar Walking Tour	1.50	4.25	N/A	9176444
5/23/19	SDAPA film: "Reveuses de villes (City Dreamers)" and panel discussion	2.00	0.00	N/A	9176559
6/21/19	Design Guidelines Preparation Training	6.50	5.00	N/A	9178901
6/22/19	Design Guidelines Preparation Training	6.50	4.67	N/A	9178902
7/18/19	Port Master Plan Update: Integrated Planning at the Port of San Diego	1.50	4.46	N/A	9180716
7/25/19	Plan4Health: Integrating Planning and Public Health Where We Live, Learn, Work and Play	3.00	4.60	N/A	9180207
10/8/19	Climate Change and its Consequences for Regional Water and Natural Hazards Planning in the San Diego Region	1.50	4.20	N/A	9186469
TOTALS	9 Events	30.25	34.58	N/A	N/A

#### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

##### February

- 5th: YPG Trivia & Happy Hour
- 9th & 23rd: AICP Training Sessions
- 20th: City Heights and the SR-15 Viewing and Discussion

##### March

- 8th: Planner's Night Out at Rock Bottom Brewery
- 9th & 23rd: AICP Training Sessions
- 13th: YPG Pint with a Planner

##### May

- 9th: San Diego APA Awards and Walking Tour
- 23rd: AICP Application Preparation Session

##### June

- 21st and 22nd: Design Guidelines Preparation Training Sessions
- 29th: YPG Scavenger Hunt

##### July

- 12th: Planner's Night Out at McGreggors
- 18th: Port of San Diego Background and Port Master Plan Update
- 25th: Planning 4 Health Event

##### August

- 1st: YPG Meet and Greet at Kairoa Brewing
- 8th: Social Mixer with the California Planning Roundtable
- 9th: APA Padres Game

##### September

- 5th: Planner's Night Out at Surfrider Pizza in La Mesa
- 26th: AICP Exam Roundtable

##### October

- 8th: Luncheon – Climate Change and its Consequences for Regional Water Planning in the San Diego Region

##### November

- 19th: Planner's Book Club

##### December

- 8th: Holiday Party





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