



Association of Environmental Professionals

# CONFERENCE PROGRAM

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***Session Track Descriptions and  
Full Biographies***



## Climate Change and Air Quality Workshop

Thursday, May 18th – 1:30 pm – 4:30 pm – Market, Level 3

### 3.0 AICP Credits

The state just revised criteria to use in health risk assessments that will double the risk factors, CARB updated the CalEEMod model, the Supreme Court invalidated the GHG Thresholds for the Newhall Ranch Project, and the Appellate Court invalidated the San Diego County CAP for not providing reductions to meet an aggressive 2050 target. How are you going to deal with these changes as you evaluate projects or your City's CAP? Help is here! The AEP Climate Change Committee will guide you through the changes and assist you in meeting these challenges. This workshop will give an overview of the OEHHA protocol changes on health risks, model updates, and how to provide legally defensible CAPs. Don't miss this one.

LSA climate change specialists Michael Hendrix and Sarah Favrot are speaking at the **AEP State Conference in San Francisco, May 18-21**. Michael is the moderator and Sarah is a panelist for the Climate Change Air Quality Workshop on Thursday, May 18, 1:30-4:30. Sessions will review ARB's 2017 Scoping Plan Update addressing climate change; legally defensible GHG thresholds and CAP reduction targets; CEQA Health Risk Assessments; and a review of CalEEMod 2016.

Michael and Sarah will collaborate with other planners and scientists to discuss Best Practices in Climate Action Planning (Friday, May 19, 9:00-10:30); they will also present an AEP White Paper on Consumptive Inventories (Saturday, May 20, 10:30-12:00). Finally, Michael will lead a session on VMT and Air Quality Analyses: Consistency (Friday, May 19, 3:45-5:15).

We hope that you can join Michael and Sarah for these presentations-- see you in San Francisco!

#### » **Michael Hendrix** - LSA Associates

Michael is the Chair of the AEP Climate Change Committee and principal author of the AEP White Papers on Climate Change. In 2008 he assisted OPR in drafting CEQA Guideline Amendments to address climate change. He was the recipient of AEP 2010 Achievement Award for his dedication in advancing climate change science through the educational programs and practitioner workshops he authored and conducted. Contact him at michael.hendrix@lsa.net

#### » **Sarah Favrot** - LSA Associates

Sarah is a Senior Climate Action Planner and has worked with many local governments in the development and adoption of climate and/or energy action plans (CAP/EAP), including 15 cities in the South Bay region of Los Angeles, the City of Del Mar, and Sacramento County. Contact her at sarah.favrot@lsa.net

# Mobile Workshop

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## Mobile Workshop

Friday, May 19<sup>th</sup> – 1:45 pm – 5:00 pm

**Walking Tour – Can a street really be complete? Design and environmental review considerations on a complete streets project – Market Street, San Francisco:** Participants will walk a portion of Market Street with members of the project sponsor and environmental review teams. The participants will be able to learn and ask questions about the various design (urban design and mobility) considerations involved in achieving the objectives of the project and how those considerations frame the environmental review. In particular, participants will make stops along the street where the right-of-way leaves difficult choices in designing the street and they will learn how the project sponsor team is proposing to address those choices. Participants will also learn about ways the City is currently trying to activate space for people to gather along Market Street.

### Sponsor:

» **Jessica Range** - City and County of San Francisco  
jessica.range@sfgov.org

**Duration:** 3 hours

**Transportation Mode:** Walking

1:30 pm – 3:00 pm – Cyril Magnin I, Level 4

## *Water Under the Bridge*

### **It Takes a Team to Build a Dam**

#### **1.5 AICP Credits**

Originally built in 1890 and 1925, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission's Lower Crystal Springs Dam (LCSD) and Calaveras Dam (CD) and their reservoirs provide approximately 165,000 acre feet of water storage at full capacity. These reservoirs represent critical storage to ensure water delivery to 2.6 million water users—a particularly important agency mission in view of increasing drought conditions in California. Following Division of Safety of Dams (DSOD) operating restrictions that decreased reservoir storage capacity by approximately 16% (LCSD) and 40% (CD), the SFPUC undertook a large scale endeavor to modify LCSD and replace CD which required successful completion of challenging CEQA and permitting processes in order to restore storage in the reservoirs. During construction, the SFPUC implemented an extensive environmental monitoring and compliance program to meet the projects' environmental obligations.

Both projects encountered a wide variety of environmental obstacles during preparation of the CEQA documents ranging from public access conflicts, traffic, noise, massive spoils disposal, and potential impacts to sensitive habitats and species during construction, air quality and naturally occurring asbestos, and restoration of reservoir water levels. Challenges were also encountered during permitting and construction. However, through clearly stated team roles and responsibilities, a defined decision making process, set design and implementation protocols, stakeholders and public involvement programs, and commitment to development of a mitigation program on an ecosystem scale, the SFPUC-led teams successfully completed CEQA and obtained the resource agency permits to implement both projects. Join us as we explore the factors which posed potential complications during CEQA, permitting, and construction compliance as well as the solutions that led to their ultimate success. The panelists will represent the key specialty disciplines involved as well as the decision making and approving agencies: SFPUC, SF Planning, and BAWSCA, the water users.

#### **Moderator:**

» **Nicole Sandkulla, P.E.** - Bay Area Water Supply & Conservation Agency

Nicole Sandkulla is Chief Executive Officer/General Manager of the Bay Area Water Supply & Conservation Agency, better known as BAWSCA.

BAWSCA represents the interests of 24 cities and water districts, and two private utilities, that purchase water wholesale from the San Francisco Regional Water System. These entities provide water to 1.75 million people, businesses and community organizations in Alameda, Santa Clara and San Mateo counties. Together these agencies use two-thirds of the water delivered by the Regional Water System and pay two-thirds of the System's cost.

BAWSCA is the only entity having the authority to directly represent the needs of the cities, water districts and private utilities that depend on the Regional Water System.

BAWSCA provides the ability for the customers of the regional system to work with San Francisco on an equal basis to ensure the water system gets fixed, and to collectively and efficiently meet local responsibilities.

As CEO/General Manager of BAWSCA, Ms. Sandkulla carries out BAWSCA's goals which are to ensure:

- » Reliable water supply
- » High-quality water
- » Fair price

Ms. Sandkulla has over twenty-five years of technical and policy level experience related to all aspects of state and local water resources planning, public water agency operations, and leadership of water resources programs and operations for a multi-agency, multi-county special district.

Ms. Sandkulla is a registered Professional Civil Engineer and has a B.S. Degree in Civil Engineering from California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo.

### Panelists:

- » **Cullen Wilkerson** - BioMaAS, Inc.

Cullen Wilkerson is a co-founder BioMaAS, Inc. He has a B.S. in Biology from UC Davis and an MS in Entomology from California State University, East Bay. He has been working in construction compliance for over 14 years. His experience includes windfarm design and construction, transportation, utility projects, and restoration projects. For the past nine years, he has been the environmental compliance manager for the SFPUC on various Water System Improvement Program projects including the New Crystal Springs Bypass Tunnel, the Calaveras Dam Replacement Project, and the Alameda Creek Diversion Dam. Mr. Wilkerson's specialties are natural history of California vertebrates, Zoology, Herpetology, Entomology, and Water Quality. He holds federal permits and MOUs for many protected species in the Greater Bay Area and Sacramento area.

- » **Debbie Craven-Green** - San Francisco Public Utilities Commission

Debbie Craven-Green is the Permitting Manager at the SFPUC and has been working in the Bureau of Environmental Management for nine years. She has over twenty years of experience in the environmental field, with a background in ecology and permitting. She has obtained numerous permits from the US Army Corps of Engineers, US Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, California Department of Fish and Wildlife Service, Regional Water Quality Control Board and the Bay Conservation and Development Commission for many complex infrastructure projects for the SFPUC including the Lower Crystal Springs and Calaveras Dams.

- » **Dan Wade**, P.E., G.E. - San Francisco Public Utilities Commission

Daniel L. Wade, P.E., G.E., is the Director of SFPUC's \$4.8 billion Water System Improvement Program (WSIP). At over 90 percent complete, the WSIP is one of the largest water infrastructure programs in the country, and will enable the SFPUC to provide reliable, affordable, high quality water in an environmentally sustainable manner to its 26 wholesale

customers located throughout the Bay Area and to retail customers in San Francisco. The WSIP includes 83 water infrastructure projects, including the construction of a new dam, three tunnels, an ultraviolet treatment facility and large- diameter pipelines, as well as the rehabilitation and upgrades of existing storage, treatment and transmission facilities. The WSIP has received extensive industry awards and recognition, and Mr. Wade was recently named one of the 25 Top Newsmakers by Engineering News Record (ENR) magazine. Mr. Wade earned his B.S. Degree in Civil Engineering from the University of California at Berkeley, and his M.S. Degree in Civil/Geotechnical Engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. Prior to joining the SFPUC in 2007, he worked as a consultant for 18 years in the water infrastructure industry as Principal Engineer and Vice President with MWH Americas.

» **Chris Kern** - San Francisco Planning Department

Chris Kern is a senior environmental planner with the San Francisco Planning Department, in charge of CEQA review for public and private projects and supervises staff responsible for review of CEQA documents for SFPUC projects. He has 25 years of experience in environmental and land use planning and regulation. Prior to joining the Planning Department in 2006, Chris worked on coastal and ocean resource management and regulation as a staff member of the California Coastal Commission and the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission.

1:30 pm – 3:00 pm – Cyril Magnin II, Level 4

### ***Practitioner's Guide to Environmental Planning***

## **From Planning through Construction: Effective Development and Monitoring of Mitigation Measures**

### **1.5 AICP Credits**

Mitigation measures are crucial tools used in the CEQA process to protect the environment. To be effective, the MMRP must clearly explain each individual measure's objectives and include specifics regarding implementation. This means the mitigation measures themselves must be clear and effective. In practice, planners often lack opportunities to evaluate the effectiveness of individual measures or the MMRP.

Planners involved in implementation of projects may find that mitigation measures are written in ways that make implementation and/or monitoring a challenge.

This panel will focus on mitigation development and monitoring for the following private and public projects, all of which are currently in the monitoring phase:

- » Parkmerced is a master redevelopment plan for a 152-acre site in the southwest portion of the city. This project is being implemented over four phases, with the first phase currently underway.

- » The Oceanwide Center project comprises a historic rehabilitation of existing buildings and construction of two new high-rise buildings that will contain residential, office, and hotel uses. Demolition has begun, with associated mitigation monitoring well underway.
- » The SFPUC's Water System Improvement Project is a \$4.8 billion dollar capital program to upgrade the SFPUC's regional and local water systems and includes several major projects throughout the region. SFPUC has developed an extensive mitigation monitoring compliance program for its work that will be highlighted.

The panelists will discuss best practices and lessons learned in developing and monitoring various measures, including those associated with historic resource surveys, traffic, archaeological monitoring, air quality monitoring, and wind tests. Panelists will also discuss the process whereby mitigation measures are incorporated into contractor specifications. Projects both in urban and natural areas will be covered. Different perspectives will be provided by an environmental consultant, City agency staff in charge of overseeing mitigation programs for major public and private projects, and a project sponsor.

### Panelists:

- » **Tatyana Sheyner, AICP** - City and County of San Francisco Planning Department

Tania is an environmental planner with over 13 years of experience managing the environmental review process pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act and National Environmental Policy Act for a variety of complex and often controversial projects and plans related to commercial, residential, institutional and coastal developments, in both the public and private sectors. Among some of the projects she was instrumental in, either as a technical analyst or manager, are Transit Center District Plan and Transit Tower EIR, 800 Presidio Avenue EIR, Western SoMa Community Plan, Rezoning of Adjacent Parcels, and 350 Eighth Street Project EIR, Port of Redwood City Terminal Master Plan Wharf 1 and 2 Redevelopment EIR, the ECOMM Digital Microwave Project IS/MNDs, and the Seawall Lot 337 and Pier 48 Mixed-Use project EIR (for which she is currently serving as the Environmental Coordinator). Tania holds a BS in Environmental Economics and Policy from UC Berkeley and a MS in Environmental Management from University of San Francisco.

- » **Rogelio Foronda, Jr.** - Maximus Real Estate Partners

Rogelio has worked on the Parkmerced Development Project for over seven years and brings to the project a depth of direct experience. Since the beginning, Rogelio has lead and collaborated on tasks relating to the preparation and approvals of the Project EIR, Development Agreement, Equal Opportunity Employment Program and First Source Hiring Program, and supporting planning documents including the Vision, Sustainability and Transportation Plans, Infrastructure Report and Design Standards & Guidelines.

Through transparency, leadership, and engagement, Rogelio plays a vital role in communication and coordination as Parkmerced prepares to break ground for construction of its initial development phase. His background in Urban Planning allows Parkmerced to ensure that we are responsible as developers and accountable in recognizing the needs of all stakeholders, including residents, government agencies, community groups, and the environment. Rogelio holds a BA in Environmental Analysis & Design/Urban & Regional Planning from UC Irvine (2008) and a Master of Urban Planning from San Jose State University (2015).



» **Barbara W. Sahm** - SWCA Environmental Consultants

Barbara Sahm has over 30 years of experience preparing CEQA and NEPA documents and reviewing technical environmental analyses. Ms. Sahm oversees CEQA compliance for the documents produced in SWCA's San Francisco and Half Moon Bay offices, and is an expert in implementing CEQA. She is known for her ability to translate complex technical and legal issues into text understandable to the lay reader and useful to the public and decision-makers. Ms. Sahm's project management experience throughout California includes EIRs on infrastructure projects, Specific Plans, redevelopment plans, area plans, hospitals, schools, and mixed-use office/retail/residential projects. Her San Francisco project experience includes managing and directing the EIRs for the major development programs on Treasure Island and at Parkmerced; EIRs and Mitigated Negative Declarations for multiple individual development projects throughout San Francisco; and transportation and water-related infrastructure projects in and for San Francisco. She directed the recently completed EIR for SFMTA's Transit Effectiveness Project, a project that is improving transit service throughout San Francisco, and the Academy of Art University Existing Sites Technical Memorandum (ESTM), which was lauded by decision-makers for its thorough and commendable analysis. She was also project director on the Mare Island Specific Plan SEIR in Vallejo, a private infill development project on public lands, which retained and reused historic industrial buildings in a National Register District. Ms. Sahm also has managed EIRs and Negative Declarations for projects in the San Joaquin Valley, including the Master EIR for the Modesto Wastewater Master Plan Update, the Tivoli Specific Plan EIR, the Kaiser Modesto Medical Center EIR, and the Villages of Patterson Development Plan EIR. SWCA staff routinely prepare the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Programs for the EIRs they produce, and often draft the CEQA Findings for the Lead Agency. Ms. Sahm was San Francisco Environmental Review Officer for 11 years, managing and directing CEQA and NEPA documentation for all public and private development and planning projects in the City.

» **Marcelle W. Boudreaux, AICP** - City and County of San Francisco, Planning Department

Marcelle is a Current Planner and Preservation Technical Specialist for the northeast section of San Francisco, which includes the City's Downtown and Mid-Market areas and Russian Hill and Telegraph Hill historic districts. Her role with the Department involves comprehensive project review for the Planning and Historic Preservation Commissions, and preservation analysis under CEQA as in-house technical staff; she is also a member of the Department's Urban Design Advisory Team. She has over ten years of experience in the private, non-profit and municipal settings; specifically preservation and city planning in the Los Angeles area, and preservation and redevelopment planning in post-Katrina Louisiana. Marcelle holds a graduate degree in urban planning from UCLA and a professional degree in architecture from LSU.

» **Kimberly Stern Liddell** - San Francisco Public Utilities Commission

Kim Stern Liddell is the Environmental Construction Compliance Manager for the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission in their Bureau of Environmental Management (BEM) Manager. Kim develops procedures for and oversees environmental compliance inspection and monitoring during construction of the SFPUC's projects. She and her staff

manage numerous projects at all times from San Francisco up to Hetch Hetchy Reservoir consultant support for roles such as project-specific compliance managers, environmental inspectors, biological monitors, cultural resources monitors, and other technical fields. Prior to her current role, Kim was an Environmental Project Manager at BEM and managed CEQA and permitting for two EIRs, an MND, and numerous Categorical Exemptions. Prior to coming to the SFPUC, Kim worked at several environmental consulting companies. She began her career traveling from project to project as an environmental construction compliance coordinator and inspector on large-scale natural gas projects and crisscrossed several states throughout the Rocky Mountain West. Her unique experience in CEQA, permitting, and construction allow her to provide input on projects from planning through implementation.

» **Elizabeth Purl** - City and County of San Francisco, Planning Department

Elizabeth Purl has been an environmental planner for over 25 years, both as a consultant for municipal and institutional clients and as a planner with the San Francisco Planning Department. She has prepared environmental analyses and conducted mitigation monitoring for a wide range of public, private, and institutional projects throughout California. She is currently the Department's Development Performance Coordinator, with responsibility for monitoring mitigation and other post-approval requirements for major development projects. Elizabeth holds a BA in Political Science from Bryn Mawr College and a MS in Environmental Management from the University of San Francisco.

1:30 pm – 3:00 pm – Mission, Level 4

### ***It's All Geek to Me***

## **CEQA Compliance Strategies for TOD in a Changing Regulatory Environment**

### **1.5 AICP Credits**

As opportunities to plan for and develop transit-oriented communities within Transit Priority Project Areas continue to expand throughout California facilitated by recent legislation (SB 375, SB 743, and AB 32), the development of the High Speed Rail system, and increased availability of localized funding sources, developing a CEQA compliance strategy is critical to the success of any project. This panel will discuss strategies for analyzing and mitigating impacts to land use, air quality/greenhouse gas, traffic and circulation, and noise issues specifically encountered as part of transit oriented development projects. The presenters and topics that will be covered in this session include:

» **Land Use**

- » Introductions and Summary of Land Use Regulatory Environment
- » Impact Assessment
  - Statewide- Sustainable Communities Strategy Consistency
  - Local- General Plan/Specific Plans Consistency
  - Impact of project design features
- » Mitigation Strategies – Describe benefits of TOD

» **Air Quality/GHG**

- » Review of Regulatory Environment
- » Fate and Transport of Mobile Source Emissions
- » Impact Assessments
  - Source Identification
  - Source Characterization
  - Exposure Quantification
  - Risk Characterization
- » Mitigation Strategies
- » Greenhouse Gas Emissions

» **Transportation/Circulation**

- » Review of Regulatory Environment
  - Characterize benefits and impacts of TODs
  - The “old guard” of transportation assessment methods
- » Impact Assessment
  - Supplemental transportation methods and strategies that embrace sustainable planning while still measuring performance
  - Integration of context-sensitive assessment and mitigation methods into the CEQA process
- » Mitigation Strategies
- » Success stories of transit-oriented and transportation demand management (TDM) planning

» **Noise**

- » Review of Regulatory Environment
- » Impact Assessment
  - Noise Impact Assessment Modeling Techniques (Construction vs. Operational)
- » Mitigation Strategies
  - Exterior Noise
  - Interior Noise
  - Transportation system design features

**Moderator:**

- » **Jasch Janowicz** - Company Rincon Consultants, Inc.

Mr. Janowicz is a Principal in Rincon’s Environmental Planning and Sustainability group. Mr. Janowicz has over 17 years of experience and specializes in providing land use planning services to public and private clients and managing and preparing complex planning and environmental documents. He has prepared numerous CEQA and NEPA environmental documents for Specific Plans and Master Plans for high-density transit oriented development projects, mixed-use commercial shopping centers, conventional suburban residential projects; and specialized technical reports on a range of planning and environmental topics.

### Panelists:

» **Ezra Pincus-Roth, AICP** - Company Nelson\Nygaard

Ezra Pincus-Roth, AICP, has 8 years of experience working in municipal policy, regional development research, and urban planning. His expertise is rooted in interpreting government accessibility standards and transit-oriented planning practices. Particularly in transit-oriented development (TOD) policy and planning, Ezra's experience includes the research and development of newly revised TOD guidelines for the Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) system, a comprehensive analysis of development potential and spatial characteristics throughout the Twin Cities region's transit station areas, an assessment of station area plans and EIRs for the San Francisco Foundation, and multiple bus stop redesigns throughout Greater Boston. Ezra has also assisted and facilitated community outreach efforts in locations as varied as city parks, corporate headquarters, university campuses, and suburban town halls.

» **Chris Bersbach** - Company Rincon Consultants, Inc.

Chris Bersbach is the technical services program manager for Rincon Consultants' Environmental Science Planning group. He has 12 years of experience managing CEQA and NEPA documentation and preparing air quality, greenhouse gas emissions, and noise impact analyses. His experience includes a wide range of technical environmental and planning studies involving land and infrastructure development, transit-oriented urban redevelopment, solar power facilities, oil extraction and refining facilities, landfills, general plans and specific plans, climate action plans, and other long-range planning products.

» **Bill Piazza** - Company Air Quality Dynamics

Mr. Bill Piazza has more than 25 years of experience in the field of environmental health and safety with particular expertise in both air dispersion modeling and health risk assessments. Mr. Piazza has completed more than 200 risk and hazard assessment studies associated with both air toxic exposures and soil/ground water vapor intrusion. To date, he has characterized and modeled the contaminant emissions of more than 2,000 commercial and industrial operations.

» **Tom Liao** - Company Deputy Community Development Director,  
City of San Leandro

Tom Liao is currently the Deputy Community Director for the City of San Leandro. He has over 22 years of experience in planning, community development and affordable housing finance/development. He has been with San Leandro since 2004, and also worked at the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs and the City of Daly City.

1:30 pm – 3:00 pm – Cyril Magnin III, Level 4

## **CEQA Evolution**

### **Reading the Tea Leaves of the Future of CEQA Compliance**

#### **1.5 AICP | 1.0 MCLE Credits**

CBIA, Friends of the College of San Mateo Gardens, Newhall, VMT, greenhouse gases, environmental justice, etc. The diversity of court decisions and new laws and guidelines over the past three years have created tectonic shifts in land use planning and CEQA compliance. Our panel will bring their tarot cards and magic eight balls and offer some observations and predictions for the future of CEQA compliance based on published and unpublished court cases, recent legislation, and draft guidance by OPR. The panel consists of attorneys that represent environmental advocate and developer views on CEQA compliance, as well as a seasoned CEQA practitioner, each of whom will offer their unique views on the future of CEQA for discussion. How does the future look for CEQA streamlining and subsequent environmental review? Will environmental justice become a requirement of environmental review under CEQA? What is the future of public health impacts? These and other challenging questions will be posed to our CEQA fortune tellers and the session audience.

#### **Moderator:**

» **Patrick Angell** - Ascent Environmental

Pat has 23 years of experience serving as a project director and manager and technical analyst for a variety of projects. He specializes in environmental and urban land use planning, supporting a full range of projects including water and wastewater facilities, energy facilities, flood control projects, mixed-use urban developments, and general plans. His experience includes establishing environmental review divisions for cities, coordinating and facilitating large-scale private and public projects. He is currently the President for the Superior California Chapter of AEP and also serves on the AEP Legislative Committee.

#### **Panelists:**

» **Whitman Manley, J.D.** - Remy Moose Manley, LLP

Mr. Manley's practice focuses on advising and representing public agencies, project applicants, and citizen's groups both during administrative proceedings and in trial and appellate litigation. His practice encompasses California and Federal environmental and land use law, including the California Environmental Quality Act, National Environmental Policy Act, California Planning and Zoning Law, Subdivision Map Act, Williamson Act, initiatives and referenda, air and water quality, solid and hazardous waste, forestry, natural resources, endangered species, wetlands and related matters.

» **Sara Clark, J.D.** - Shute Mihaly & Weinberger, LLP

Ms. Clark's practice focuses on representation of environmental groups, Indian tribes, and public agencies in CEQA and NEPA litigation, federal Indian and public land law, initiative and election law, and land conservation. Ms. Clark represents clients in litigation and provides advice and counseling for non-litigation matters. She was part of the SMW litigation team that successfully challenged the development of a proposed new city in rural Riverside County. In non-litigation matters, Ms. Clark regularly advises land trusts on complex legal issues, including conservation easement drafting and enforcement. She also advises the Colorado River Indian Tribes in its efforts to ensure cultural resource protection on public lands facing pressure from utility-scale energy developers. In addition, Ms. Clark represented the Transbay Joint Powers Authority in negotiations over the electric service agreement for the Transbay Transit Center.

» **Gary Jakobs, AICP** - Ascent Environmental

Gary is a principal/project director with a diverse background in preparing environmental planning studies throughout California and the western United States. He leads Ascent's NEPA and CEQA practice, ensuring all practitioners are current on practice methods, regulations, emerging trends, and applicable case law. Gary specializes in NEPA/CEQA compliance projects, and also focuses on environmental policy and numerous other environmental regulations. He regularly instructs other professionals and public agencies on environmental compliance. With 35 years of professional experience, he has participated in the analyses and management of projects ranging from large-scale planned communities and general plans, urban high-rise and redevelopment to water resources development, wastewater treatment, industrial and energy developments (including renewable energy projects), telecommunications, prisons, and airport expansions.

3:15 pm – 4:45 pm – Cyril Magnin I, Level 4

### ***Water Under the Bridge***

## **Flood Channel Maintenance in Urban Streams: Using Quantitative Parameters to Assess the Maintenance Need and Enhance Natural Resources, and other Programmatic Challenges**

### **1.5 AICP Credits**

Flood management agencies invest significant resources in channel maintenance planning and implementation. Most agencies rely on qualitative assessments or defined maintenance cycles to decide when vegetation and/or sediment removal is needed. In northern California, some permitting agencies are now requiring a more analytic and quantitative approach to demonstrate the need for channel maintenance activities. We present applied examples of how hydraulic analysis is used to develop quantitative decision-making metrics for flood control channels in Santa Clara and Sonoma counties. The goal of this approach is to develop hydraulically-based maintenance objectives for vegetation growth and sediment accumulation.

Our panelists will also discuss vegetation-management decision making and how to translate field assessments into management decisions. These approaches enable flood control managers to more accurately and systematically assess maintenance needs, while at the same time minimizing the frequency of channel-disturbing activities. Our panelists will also discuss other contemporary challenges to conducting stream maintenance including permitting requirements and public safety issues.

### Moderator:

- » **Ken Schwarz, Ph.D.** - Principal, Horizon Water and Environment

Ken Schwarz, Ph.D., is a founding principal at Horizon Water and Environment and a geomorphologist. For 24 years, he has directed complex projects throughout California involving erosion and sediment management, flood and stormwater management, stream maintenance, land use planning, water rights, habitat conservation, ecosystem restoration, CEQA, and regulatory permitting. Ken specializes in working with flood control and public works agencies to help them develop stream maintenance programs which achieve required flood protection, obtain long-term regulatory permits, and protect natural resources.

### Panelists:

- » **Keenan Foster** - Principal Environmental Specialist, Sonoma County Water Agency.

Mr. Foster is an experienced botanist and senior program manager who specializes in environmental data collection programs, salmonid recovery, and leading the environmental management of the Water Agency's stream maintenance program (SMP). Mr. Foster has developed innovative approaches to evaluate vegetation conditions in flood control channels and manage the overall ecological trajectory of natural resources in such channels.

- » **Christie Beeman, P.E.** - Hydrology Program Manager, ESA.

Ms. Beeman leads ESA's hydrology practice directing technical studies involving rainfall-runoff estimation, instream flow hydraulics, water balance estimation, and stormwater and watershed management. She specializes in applying hydrologic and hydraulic modelling and simulation to help design and plan projects. Ms. Beeman works in an array of hydrologic environments including natural streams, tidal wetlands, engineered flood control channels, and urban settings.

- » **Devin Mody, P.E.** - Operations and Maintenance Engineering Support Manager, Santa Clara Valley Water District.

Mr. Mody is an engineer who oversees operations and maintenance within the District's Watersheds Management Unit. In this capacity, Mr. Mody and his team are responsible for maintaining District channels and streams to reduce flooding risks, while supporting the District's overall mission to provide a healthy environment.

- » **Scott Akin** - Environmental Service Manager, Stream Maintenance Program, Santa Clara Valley Water District.

Mr. Akin oversees environmental protection and compliance for the District's Stream Maintenance Program (SMP). This includes ensuring maintenance activities follow impact avoidance and minimization protocols and best practices.

3:15 pm – 4:45 pm – Mission, Level 4

## *It's All Geek to Me*

### **How to say “It’s too Loud!”; Understanding the Metrics of Describing Noise**

#### **1.5 AICP Credits**

For many of us, noise from airplanes, traffic, railroads, and building systems is part of our daily lives. Keeping this noise at a reasonable level for living and work space is a high priority for evaluating land use. The first half of this session will discuss environmental noise basics and explain the confusing metrics used to describe and limit noise. The second half of the seminar will discuss case studies of environmental noise projects. Advances in noise mitigation such as remote monitoring services will also be discussed.

#### **Moderator:**

» **Aaron Betit** - Acentech

As a senior consultant in architectural acoustics and mechanical systems, Aaron’s consulting experience encompasses project management and acoustical recommendations for a variety of projects including theaters, studios, education facilities, performance spaces, as well as healthcare, commercial, public, and residential construction. Aaron’s environmental noise expertise includes acoustical design and computer modeling of power plants, roadways, warning sirens and water treatment plants. Aaron has been consulting in acoustics and the built environment in the Southern California design community since 1998. He graduated from the University of Hartford with an engineering degree in acoustics and has published research papers on the effects of stud gage, spacing and length on acoustical isolation. He has provided noise technical reports and computer modeling for numerous CEQA studies including power plants, road ways, warning sirens, and water treatment facilities.

#### **Panelists:**

» **James D. Barnes** - Acentech

Mr. Barnes is a Principal and a past Director of the Noise and Vibration Group at Acentech. His consulting efforts concentrate on noise and vibration control, with an emphasis on resolving community and workplace noise problems. Over the past forty years, he has managed and technically supervised hundreds of projects covering the energy, transportation, manufacturing, and processing markets. His projects have encompassed interior and community noise and vibration control studies for existing sources, prediction of construction and operation noise levels, and ambient sound studies for proposed industrial sites and transportation corridors. For his contributions as a course instructor at INCE-USA conferences, Jim was named an INCE-USA Fellow, and in recognition of his overall career, he was honored in 2016 with the INCE/NCAC Laymon N. Miller Award for Excellence in Acoustical Consulting. He is a graduate of Cornell University and a Registered Professional Engineer in several states.



» **Shannon Walker, ENV SP** - Environmental Specialist, LA Metro

Shannon Walker is an Environmental Specialist with the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro). Throughout Shannon's 4 years at Metro she has focused on environmental compliance and CEQA/NEPA clearances on a number of construction projects and is currently assigned to the Crenshaw/LAX Transit Project. This is Shannon's third year as a member of the Los Angeles Chapter of AEP and her first year on the LA AEP Board of Directors. She received her B.S. in Environmental Science and Resource Management at California State University, Channel Islands.

» **Robert Curley** - Insignia

Robert Curley combines an engineering background with over 15 years of experience in the field of environmental analysis. During his career, he has focused on the siting, planning and permitting of energy infrastructure, including electric transmission lines and substations, natural gas pipelines, and telecommunications facilities, with a particular focus on California Public Utilities Commission-regulated projects. This work has included preparing routing/siting studies, evaluating project feasibility/constructability, managing the preparation of all associated environmental documentation, and negotiating and securing appropriate jurisdictional agency authorizations and permits. As a technical contributor to these projects, he regularly prepares comprehensive analyses that evaluate the potential noise levels resulting from the construction, operation, and maintenance phases of projects. As a part of these efforts, Robert works collaboratively with his clients to identify and evaluate feasible alternative project designs, construction methods, and scheduling strategies to reduce the potential for noise impacts. He holds a Master of Business Administration from Santa Clara University and a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from the University of California, Santa Barbara.

3:15 pm – 4:45 pm – Cyril Magnin II, Level 4

### **Intersection of Planning and CEQA**

## **Campus & Community**

### **1.5 AICP | 1.0 MCLE Credits**

There are more than 100 colleges and universities in California – 10 in the University of California (UC) system, 23 in the California State University (CSU) system, and dozens of private universities and colleges, not to mention the more than 100 community colleges. These colleges and universities are in all types of communities throughout California from major urban centers such as Los Angeles and San Francisco, to coastal areas such as Santa Barbara and Monterey Bay, to smaller rural communities such as Chico and Merced. Each campus faces its own set of planning challenges that are often unique to universities and to each campus setting. These unique planning challenges impact not only the campuses themselves, but also the communities and regions in which they are located. Staff at these campuses need to navigate the political waters between campus and community, as well as evaluate environmental impacts under CEQA to achieve successful development projects, all in a time of growing enrollments and limited capital resources.

### Moderator:

- » **Kate Giberson** - Harris & Associates

Kate Giberson is an outstanding environmental professional! Kate has a BA in Geography from UC Berkeley, and an MA in Urban Geography from UC Davis. She has more than 25 years of experience specializing in project management of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) environmental compliance documents for development and infrastructure projects, including campus projects. She started at Harris & Associates in 2016 and is Director of Environmental Services operating out of the Salinas office.

### Panelists:

- » **Charlotte Strem** - UC Office of the President

Charlotte Strem is the Assistant Director of Physical and Environmental Planning with the UC Office of the President (UCOP) in Oakland. Charlotte has been with UCOP for more than 25 years providing guidance and reporting to the UC Regents on university land use and site planning, long range development plans, CEQA compliance, and environmental documents for all 10 UC campuses, medical centers and other university facilities.

- » **Steve Lohr** - CSU Chancellor's Office

Steve Lohr is the Chief of Land Use Planning and Environmental Review with the CSU Chancellor's Office in Long Beach. Steve has an MA in Architecture and Urban Planning from UCLA and an Ed.D in Educational Leadership from the University of Southern California (USC). Steve has been with the CSU Chancellor's Office for more than 5 years and previously worked in similar roles for both CSU Northridge and USC. He has extensive knowledge of campus planning and capital program development and how these issues intersect with CEQA compliance.

- » **Catherine Palter** - Stanford University

Catherine Palter is the Associate Vice President of Land Use and Environmental Planning at Stanford University in Palo Alto. She has a Bachelor's degree in Geological Sciences from UC Santa Barbara and a Master's in Mineral Economics from the University of Arizona. Catherine has been with Stanford University for more than 20 years and will lend her perspective on planning issues at a private university.

- » **Jim Moose, J.D.** - CEQA Attorney at Remy Moose Manley

James G. Moose is the senior partner in the Sacramento-based law firm of Remy Moose Manley, LLP, which emphasizes environmental law, land use and planning law, water law, and related fields of administrative law. He has been in practice since 1985. During his over 30 years of experience, he has represented public agencies, private developers, environmental consultants, and nonprofit organizations on land use and environmental issues throughout California. He has actively litigated cases during that entire time period, and his work has resulted in numerous significant CEQA precedents in the Courts of Appeal and California Supreme Court. Along with his late partner Michael Remy and his former

partners Tina Thomas and Whitman Manley, Mr. Moose is co-author of the *Guide to the California Environmental Quality Act*, which has been published and updated periodically since 1987 by Solano Press Books. Widely regarded as a leading scholarly authority on CEQA, the book has been cited more than 40 times in published CEQA opinions by the Court of Appeal and California Supreme Court.

Starting in 1989 and continuing through the present, Mr. Moose has taught courses on CEQA through the University of California at Davis Extension Program. Starting in 1991 and continuing through 2016, he has taught courses on CEQA on behalf of the Association of Environmental Professionals. He has also taught CEQA courses for CLE International, Law Seminars International, and the California Continuing Education of the Bar program, and has spoken about CEQA several times at the annual State Bar Environmental Law Conference at Yosemite. He is a member of the Advisory Board of the Center for Law, Energy and the Environment at the School of Law at the University of California at Berkeley.

Mr. Moose has received an “AV” rating from Martindale-Hubbell, which ranks attorneys throughout the United States based on solicited feedback from their colleagues. “AV” is the highest rating available, with “A” signifying that an attorney is ranked from “Very High to Preeminent” in his or her field(s), and “V” indicating high ethical standards.

3:15 pm – 4:45 pm – Cyril Magnin III, Level 4

### **CEQA Evolution**

## **Translating CBIA v. BAAQMD: Bridging the Gap between the Holding and Practice**

### **1.5 AICP | 1.0 MCLE Credits**

In *California Building Industry Association v. Bay Area Air Quality Management District* (2015) 62 Cal.4th 369, 392 (“CBIA”), the Supreme Court held “CEQA does not generally require an agency to consider the effects of existing environmental conditions on a proposed project’s future users or residents.” But it also held that “when a proposed project risks exacerbating those environmental hazards or conditions that already exist, an agency must analyze the potential impact of such hazards on future residents or users.”

This panel, made up of two attorneys and two planners, all with differing views of CEQA, will discuss how to bridge the gap between the holding in CBIA and real-world planning, particularly writing CEQA documents. After providing an overview of the law that led to the Supreme Court’s holding, the panel will focus on the gray areas of CBIA that practitioners will have to address, if they haven’t already, when preparing CEQA documents. These areas include whether CEQA documents should address exposure of project users and residents to existing environmental hazards, and if so, how; the appropriate CEQA analysis for phased projects; and what “risk exacerbating” means for existing environmental conditions, as well as the appropriate way to analyze “exacerbation.”

As the discussion will demonstrate, there may be no single “right” answer to these questions, but there are good approaches to address the court’s direction. After presenting different options, the panel, with the help of the audience, will put together a list of “best practices” that address the panelists diverging views, thus resulting in an informative, and legally defensible CEQA document.

### **Moderator:**

» **Linda Klein, J.D.** – Cox, Castle & Nicholson

Linda Klein’s practice focuses on land use and environmental law, with particular expertise in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). She advises clients on the regulatory hurdles facing development projects in California, with an emphasis on urban development and projects involving cultural resources. Recent entitlement experience includes Oak Knoll in the City of Oakland and Netflix’s Headquarters in the Town of Los Gatos. She also has been extensively involved in the litigation of multiple CEQA cases, including two of the CEQA cases pending before the California Supreme Court as of November 2016. Super Lawyers named Linda one of the Top Woman Attorneys in Northern California in 2016 and a Rising Star.

### **Panelists:**

» **Curtis E. Alling, AICP** - Ascent Environmental, Inc.

Curtis E. Alling is a CEQA and NEPA expert with over 35 years of experience, who specializes in natural resources management, climate change issues, water supply, transportation, and park and recreation projects. He is a founding principal of Ascent Environmental, Inc., an environmental and natural resources consultancy established in 2010 and located in Sacramento, Lake Tahoe, San Diego, and Berkeley. Curtis is a leader in CEQA practice approaches for public agencies’ most complex or “first-time” situations. His projects include: City of Sacramento General Plan Master EIR, 2015 California State Wildlife Action Plan, Lake Tahoe Regional Transportation Plan/Sustainable Communities Strategy EIR/EIS, Carmel Area State Parks General Plan and EIR, City of Sacramento Climate Action Plan, and the Air Resources Board’s CEQA- equivalent documents for regulations implementing AB 32 GHG emissions reduction programs. Curtis is also Co-Chair of the Enhanced CEQA Action Team (ECAT), a collaboration of the Association of Environmental Professionals and American Planning Association – California Chapter that helps promote beneficial CEQA amendments with state legislators.

» **Doug Carstens, J.D.** - Chatten-Brown & Carstens LLP

Doug Carstens has extensive experience in environmental, land use, municipal and natural resource matters. He was a member of the Long Beach Naval Complex Restoration Advisory Board overseeing the implementation of the Base Realignment and Closure Act process for the Long Beach Naval Station and Shipyard. Doug has also written articles and lectured on CEQA, water quality, public trust, and historic resources issues. Doug has been extensively involved in all of the appellate litigation handled by Chatten-Brown & Carstens, and takes pride in the over 90% success rate in reported cases. He was selected to be a Southern California “Super-Lawyer” (reportedly representing the top 5% of lawyers) for environmental law since 2009.

» **Scott Gregory** - Lamphier Gregory

Scott Gregory is the co-founder of Lamphier Gregory, a small Bay Area professional services firm specializing in environmental analysis and urban planning. Scott is skilled in preparing environmental documents that communicate well to technical audiences as well as public decision-makers and the community. Scott has written complex CEQA documents including recent EIRs for the West Oakland and the Oakland Coliseum Specific Plans, but also prepares numerous streamlined CEQA documents relying on infill exemptions, community plan exemptions and other available streamlining provisions. Lamphier-Gregory neither seeks nor receives many planning awards, but rather measures their success by how well they are able to manage other people's projects through the often complex CEQA and local planning process in a fair and impartial manner, with a certified environmental document that can withstand legal challenge.

9:00 am – 10:30 am – Cyril Magnin I, Level 4

### *Water Under the Bridge*

## **Ocean Beach Master Plan – Multi-Objective Adaptation to Sea-level Rise along San Francisco’s Pacific Ocean Shore**

### **1.5 AICP Credits**

The Ocean Beach Master Plan was developed by the San Francisco Planning + Urban Research Association (SPUR) and a team of consultants in 2012 for the City / County of San Francisco and the National Park Service (<http://www.spur.org/ocean-beach>). The Master Plan is a vision of the west shore of San Francisco through 2100, and covers 3.5 miles of National Park beach, major transportation and sewer infrastructure, and extensive residential and commercial development. Consideration of coastal processes, traffic and pedestrian access informed the tough decisions needed to balance infrastructure functions with beach recreation and ecology. The Plan is being implemented via several parallel actions.

- » Engineering analysis has refined and detailed the required implementation, focusing on the long-term protection of the wastewater infrastructure.
- » Transportation and access analysis has addressed the effects of roadway modifications for vehicles, bicycles, and pedestrians.
- » The City is amending its Local Coastal Program to incorporate recommendations from the Plan addressing coastal erosion and sea level rise.
- » An interim renovation is under consideration.
- » Immediate management actions are underway:
  - » Monitoring of conditions, and risk to infrastructure
  - » Sand placement to buffer erosion and enhance beaches
  - » Contingency plans developed in case of excessive erosion

This panel will describe the OBMP, including context leading to its development and the recent implementation efforts

### **Moderator:**

- » **Robert (Bob) Battalio, P.E.** - ESA

As vice president, chief engineer, and leader of ESA’s Environmental Hydrology Coastal Zone Engineering & Management team, Bob oversees the firm’s engineering services in flood management, restoration design, and coastal engineering. A licensed civil engineer in five states and with several pioneering projects under his belt, Bob will lead our team as they plan and implement multi-objective projects to restore and enhance natural systems. Bob has dedicated his career of 30 years to coastal and estuarine engineering, wetland and creek restoration design, and waterfront civil engineering projects throughout the U.S. He has addressed erosion and flooding hazards in numerous locations in California,

Washington, and Oregon. He is a leader in managed retreat – landward realignment; restoration of shores, wetlands and lagoons; future conditions hazards assessments and adaptation-climate scenario planning. Bob is also an avid surfer, supporter of environmental organizations and an advocate for nature-based designs.

### Panelists:

» **Anna M. Roche** - San Francisco Public Utilities Commission

Biography: Anna M. Roche is currently serving as the Climate Change & Special Projects Manager for the Wastewater Enterprise at the SF Public Utilities Commission. She has over 22 years of project management experience in the environmental field. Her experience includes urban planning, CEQA/NEPA compliance, regulatory permitting, climate change science, policy and legislation. Prior to joining the SF Public Utilities Commission, Anna worked as an environmental consultant in the private sector and served as Peace Corps Volunteer in Caribbean.

» **Chris Kern** - City and County of San Francisco Planning Department

Chris Kern is a senior environmental planner with the SF Planning Department, with 25 years of experience in environmental and land use planning and regulation. Prior to joining the Planning Department in 2006, Chris worked on coastal and ocean resource management and regulation as a staff member of the California Coastal Commission and the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission

» **Steve Ortega** - Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Steve Ortega, National Park Service - Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Senior Environmental Planner, Liaison to City and County of San Francisco (CCSF) regarding Ocean Beach Erosion Issues, 29 years of resource management, environmental compliance, and project management experience. Steve leads large planning efforts and provides guidance for environmental and regulatory compliance requirements. Steve works with all CCSF departments, regulatory agencies, and stakeholders regarding Ocean Beach actions in NPS jurisdictional areas. Steve is active in solving the complex jurisdictional challenges associated with the implementation of the Ocean Beach Master Plan

» **Stacy Radine Bradley, AICP** - San Francisco Recreation and Park Department

Stacy Radine Bradley is Deputy Director of Planning, Capital and Planning Division, San Francisco Recreation and Park Department. Ms. Radine Bradley has almost 15 years of experience in a broad range of policy and planning efforts, Stacy currently manages the planning unit at the San Francisco Recreation and Park Department. She is actively working on strategic open space planning to address the anticipated growth in San Francisco. Her planning and policy background started at a transportation and land use non-profit in the Bay Area and continued with a Master's of Science in Urban Planning from Columbia University with a concentration in environmental planning. Before moving to San Francisco, she worked for the New York City Department of Environmental Protection working on sustainable stormwater management, environmental compliance, and zoning changes.

» **Ben Grant** - Company San Francisco Planning + Urban Research

Benjamin Grant: Urban Design Policy Director, San Francisco Planning + Urban Research (SPUR). Mr. Grant is a city planner, urban designer, curator and teacher in the San Francisco Bay Area. Since 2009 he has led SPUR's Ocean Beach Master Plan, an award-winning climate adaptation strategy for San Francisco's open coast. He leads SPUR's policy research on physical planning and urban design, including the 2013 report *Getting to Great Places*, supporting the transformation of San Jose and other suburban communities into walkable, sustainable places. Ben has developed exhibitions on a range of urban issues, including *Agents of Change*, a historical survey of San Francisco urbanism for the opening of the SPUR Urban Center. He has been a lecturer and studio instructor in the graduate program in Urban and Regional Planning at San Jose State University and has taught at the San Francisco Art Institute. His areas of practice include conceptual urban design, adaptive coastal management, open space planning and policy, code reform, transportation and land-use integration, and targeted client and stakeholder communications. He is a frequent commentator and participant in juries and studio reviews and has published dozens of articles and reports. Benjamin also co-founded CITY|SPACE, a nonprofit cultural institution exploring cities and urbanism through fine art, film, design and cultural landscape research.

9:00 am – 10:30 am — Embarcadero, Level 3

### *Practitioner's Guide to Environmental Planning*

## **Best Practices for Addressing Impacts to Farmland under CEQA**

### **1.5 AICP | 1.0 MCLE Credits**

Although John Denver once sang that “Life on the farm is kind of laid back,” modern day life on the farm is not so relaxing as project opponents have found a new line of attack: project impacts to farmland. With the drought and other development pressures reducing the amount of land being actively farmed, this issue is becoming increasingly combative. This panel will present a summary of the case law on this nascent topic, best practices for disclosing and mitigating a project's impacts to farmland, and how farmland impacts are viewed by lead agencies and the California Department of Conservation's Division of Land Resource Protection. This panel will also discuss lessons learned and how agencies can ensure that their local policies are crafted to avoid unwanted complications and to craft findings that can support a findings of overriding consideration. If you are an environmental consultant, public agency representative, developer, or legal counsel who deals with CEQA documents that involve impacts to farmland, then this presentation is not to be missed.

### **Panelists:**

» **Andrew Skanchy, J.D.** - Best Best & Krieger LLP

Andrew Skanchy is Of Counsel in the Environmental Law & Natural Resources practice group of Best Best & Krieger LLP. His practice focuses on CEQA advice and litigation. He represents both public and private clients in administrative proceedings and litigation involving CEQA, as well as state and local planning and zoning laws. With a results oriented approach,



Andrew assists clients in accomplishing their goals, whether through collaborative deal-making or litigation. In addition to CEQA, Andrew's experience includes advising clients as to the National Environmental Policy Act, the California Surface Mining and Reclamation Act, California's Proposition 65, the federal Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, the Clean Water Act, the Clean Air Act and other issues.

» **Bruce Steubing** - Benchmark Resources

Bruce Steubing has more than 20 years of experience as an attorney and Project Director, specializing in federal, state, and local environmental law and regulation. After starting his career at two of Sacramento's prominent law firms, he joined forces with Benchmark Resources to strengthen the firm's environmental law and regulation compliance practice. Bruce has been responsible for managing the preparation of numerous environmental documents (e.g., EISs, EIRs) for large, complex, and controversial projects, including projects related to mining, oil pipelines, and industrial, commercial, and residential developments. Bruce currently directs the permitting and compliance efforts for technical documents, mine plans, and formulation of strategies for legal, environmental, and permitting success.

» **Matt Treber** - Director of Community and Economic Development,  
County of Madera

Matt Treber serves as the County of Madera's Director of Community and Economic Development. Prior to that, Matt was the Madera County Deputy Planning Director. He has been integrally involved in the planning of numerous projects in Madera County, including projects that impact farmland.

9:00 am – 10:30 am – Market, Level 3

***It's All Geek to Me***

**Transportation Transformed: New Regulations and Emphasis on Safety and Multimodality are Reshaping the Parameters of CEQA Transportations Analyses**

**1.5 AICP Credits**

Change is coming on all fronts—from the rise in infill projects and new legislation such as SB743 and AB 1358 to active transportation plans and general plans that promote alternative travel modes and emphasize safe walking and bicycling—and all require new ways to evaluate transportation impacts. Transportation professionals also have new tools—the AASHTO Highway Safety Manual, the NACTO Urban Street Design Manual, more powerful activity-based travel demand models, and upcoming new Trip Generation Panelists in this session will discuss current “state-of-the-practice” regarding design and analysis of transportation for all roadway used Highway Capacity Manuals. Although the transition from LOS to VMT has received the most attention, it is only one of many changes that are transforming transportation in California as well as impact assessment

under CEQA. Panelists in this session will discuss current “state-of-the-practice” regarding design and analysis of transportation for all roadway users; the growing importance of impact assessment related to pedestrian, bicycle, and transit facilities; and challenges such as creating effective mitigation and evaluating its actual effectiveness. The panel will share their experiences with high profile and progressive projects throughout California and the perspectives they’ve gained. This session will engage participants to gain a working understanding of the changes ahead and to discuss how to comply with new regulations and progressive general plans, address safety concerns, and provide an effective and defensible analysis in the environmental document.

### **Moderator:**

- » **Fernando Sotelo, PE, PTP** - PlaceWorks

Fernando is a registered traffic engineer in California and a certified transportation planner with a master’s degree in transportation engineering. He has extensive experience in CEQA and the technical aspects of transportation planning, including travel demand forecasting, traffic impact analyses, and parking demand studies.

### **Panelists:**

- » **Meghan Macias, PE** - Transpo Group

Meghan is a transportation planner/traffic engineer with over 17 years of experience on numerous and varied projects through California, including land development, infrastructure, active transportation, and master/specific/general plans. Meghan has a track record of managing complicated and controversial projects to achieve defensible and implementable solutions to technical issues. Her expertise includes traffic engineering and operations analysis methodologies and CEQA. Meghan is on the ITE SB743 subcommittee and is the co-chair of programs for the Orange County Chapter of AEP.

- » **Wade Weitgreffe, AICP** - Senior Planner, City of San Francisco

Wade Wietgreffe, AICP, is a senior planner with the San Francisco Planning Department, where he has been employed since 2011. Mr. Wietgreffe reviews projects subject to California Environmental Quality Act, with particular focus on air quality, transportation, and greenhouse gases, and leads policy efforts that align good public policy with environmental review. Prior to joining the San Francisco Planning Department, Mr. Wietgreffe worked as an environmental consultant for Winzler & Kelly (now GHD). Mr. Wietgreffe earned a Master’s in Science Degree in Planning at the University of Arizona and a Bachelor’s of Arts in Geography and History at Gustavus Adolphus College.

- » **Mike Bagheri, PE, TE** - City of Pasadena

Mike Bagheri is a transportation manager with the City of Pasadena heading the Complete Streets Division of Department of Transportation. Mike has more than 25 years of experience in transportation planning and operations. Mike holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from Iowa State University and Master’s degree in Public Administration from California State University, Northridge. Mike is also registered as a Civil and Traffic engineer in the State of California.

9:00 am – 10:30 am – Mission, Level 4

***Intersection of Planning and CEQA***

**Best Practices in Climate Action Planning**

**1.5 AICP Credits**

This session will provide the AEP Climate Change Committee's recommendations on drafting a climate action plan that can be used for CEQA streamlining including advice on legally defensible reduction targets, quantifying reduction goals, general plan consistency, and dealing with climate change risk and resiliency.

**Moderator:**

» **Michael Hendrix** - LSA Associates

Michael is the Chair of the AEP Climate Change Committee and principal author of the AEP White Papers on Climate Change. In 2008 he assisted OPR in drafting CEQA Guideline Amendments to address climate change. He was the recipient of AEP 2010 Achievement Award for his dedication in advancing climate change science through the educational programs and practitioner workshops he authored and conducted. In addition, this award recognized his contribution and participation with the various California agencies in developing methods of analysis, implementation policies, and advocating local control in developing community climate action plans for local governments in California.

**Panelists:**

» **Tammy L. Seale, AICP** - PlaceWorks

Tammy is on the AEP Climate Change Committee and leads the climate action and sustainability planning practice at PlaceWorks.

» **Sarah Favrot** - LSA Associates

Sarah Favrot is the senior climate action planner in LSA's Carlsbad office and has worked with many local governments in the development and adoption of climate action plans.

» **David Mitchell** - Mitchell Air Quality Consulting

Dave Mitchell has more than 24 years of experience in land use and air quality planning, including long-range planning, plan implementation, and managing large multidisciplinary projects. Dave is currently an independent consultant that prepares Climate Action Plans, Greenhouse Gas Inventories, Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas technical studies for development projects, and special analyses required for regulatory compliance. Formerly Dave led the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District's (SJVAPCD) CEQA Section for many years. In that role he was responsible for the review of CEQA documents and for providing guidance to consultants preparing air quality studies for environmental documents. Dave lead the preparation of the SJVAPCD's Guide for Assessing and Mitigating Air Quality Impacts, and participated on California Air Pollution Control.

9:00 am – 10:30 am – Cyril Magnin II, Level 4

### ***CEQA Evolution***

## **Into the Vortex: The Ever Expanding Reach of the CEQA Administrative Record (Including Your Files?)**

### **1.5 AICP | 1.0 MCLE Credits**

At its core, the CEQA administrative record is supposed to include all those items that a lead agency actually reviews and relies upon in its decision-making process. However, recent case law suggests that the scope of the administrative record is evolving to reach outside the files of the lead agency and into the files of other entities – such as the consultants who assist in the preparation of project plans or the CEQA document. This panel will address this ongoing evolution on issues such as document retention, the pluses and pitfalls of emails, implications when a lead agency directly contracts with consultants, the differences between public agency sponsored projects and private applicant proposals, the pros and cons of “screencheck” drafts, and transparency issues under the Public Records Act. Through this discussion, attendees will learn best practices for document management and take home a better understanding of what may fall within the scope of the administrative record.

### **Moderator:**

» **Ricia Hager, J.D.** - Partner, Woodruff, Spradlin & Smart

Ricia Hager practices environmental law, land use law, and public law. Her clients include regional and local government agencies. Ms. Hager advises clients on the California Environmental Quality Act and state and federal laws regulating air quality, water quality, endangered species, and historic resources. Ms. Hager has successfully defended environmental challenges in federal and state courts, both at the trial court and appellate levels.

### **Panelists:**

» **Charity Schiller, J.D.** - Partner, Best Best & Krieger LLP

Charity Schiller is an environmental and land use attorney who helps public agencies and private clients entitle and build all forms of public and private projects, including roadway and water infrastructure projects, public facilities, and residential, commercial, and industrial developments. She assists clients with all aspects of the California Environmental Quality Act, the National Environmental Policy Act and related environmental laws. She has extensive experience with the preparation and adoption of environmental impact reports, environmental impact statements, negative declarations, addenda, exemptions and other environmental documents. She is also an experienced litigator, successfully defending her clients before administrative boards and trial and appellate courts throughout California.

- » **Veera Tyagi, J.D.** - Senior Deputy District Counsel, South Coast Air Quality Management District

Veera Tyagi is a Senior Deputy District Counsel with the South Coast Air Quality Management District. She handles a wide range of legal matters, including advising and ensuring compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act, the Clean Air Act, and other environmental laws. She also represents the SCAQMD in federal and state courts, in actions brought under those laws. Other responsibilities include advising on general governmental law issues, such as compliance with the Public Records Act, the Brown Act, and contract laws.

9:00 am – 10:30 am – Cyril Magnin III, Level 4

### *Practitioner's Guide to Environmental Planning*

## **The Envelope, Please! Determining Appropriate Buildout**

### **1.5 AICP | 1.0 MCLE Credits**

A common challenge for Programmatic EIRs on General Plans and other long-range plans: analyze the complete amount of ultimate buildout, even if not expected for generations, or focus the analysis on the “horizon development” anticipated in the reasonably foreseeable future? Discuss the pros and cons.

### **Panelists:**

- » **Joanna Jansen, AICP** - PlaceWorks

Ms. Jansen is an Associate Principal at PlaceWorks with 18 years of experience in comprehensive land use planning and environmental review. Her main focus area is preparing General Plans in Northern California and the Central Valley, and she frequently manages both the General Plan and its EIR.

- » **Christian Cebrian, J.D.** - Cox, Castle, and Nicholson

Christian advises developers and public agencies regarding plans, entitlements and environmental strategies, including CEQA and the Subdivision Map Act. Christian has litigated land use, property, and environmental actions before trial and appellate courts, as well as the California Supreme Court.

- » **Andrew Crabtree** - City of Santa Clara

Andrew Crabtree is Community Development Director for the City of Santa Clara. He updated General Plans at two prior positions in Morgan Hill and San Jose. He has extensive experience with environmental analysis for long-range and current planning projects and has taught classes on defensible CEQA documents.

10:45 am – 12:15 pm – Cyril Magnin I, Level 4

## *Water Under the Bridge*

### **So You Want to Build a New Levee?**

#### **1.5 AICP Credits**

Constructing anything these days is challenging, but to propose a new levee on the upper reaches of the San Jacinto River in Southern California proved to be challenging to not only the public agencies proposing the project, but also to the project engineers, biologists and regulatory agencies. It took years of negotiations to work out the details of the construction impacts and long term maintenance needs against the various biological and ecological resources in the river. Our panel will tell the story of one project's plight of trying to balance flood protection and future community development interests with the biological resources dependent on a river and its hydrologic regimes. The panelists include one of the project proponent Lead Agencies, a regulatory agency staffer, project engineer and project biologist/CEQA consultant. The panel will provide their insights and perspectives as to how this project represented an example of balancing economic, engineering and environmental considerations.

#### **Moderator:**

» **Stephanie Standerfer** - Albert A. Webb Associates

Stephanie Standerfer is a Vice President overseeing the Planning & Environmental Services Department at Albert A. Webb Associates. Ms. Standerfer specializes in environmental planning and natural resource management. Ms. Standerfer has 19 years' professional experience as an environmental planner. Ms. Standerfer manages large California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) projects for both public and private projects mostly within the Inland Empire of Southern California. Ms. Standerfer currently manages several on-call contracts where she and her staff act as extension of staff to agencies helping to provide CEQA and other environmental regulatory compliance for projects. She is considered an expert in CEQA implementation in the Inland Empire, and enjoys providing training in CEQA processing to local agencies.

Her natural resources management experience results from over 8 years serving as extension of staff to the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority, the entity responsible for implementation of the Multiple Species Conservation Plan (MSHCP). As contract staff to the RCA, Ms. Standerfer provided processing, review and consultation on implementation procedures and policies. In recent years she led SANBAG through their Conservation Framework Study for the County of San Bernardino working on developing best practices and offering guidance on how to address conservation planning along with development.

Ms. Standerfer received her Bachelor of Science from UC Riverside in Environmental Science and earned a Master of Science from Washington State University also in Environmental Science. She is an active member of the Association of Environmental Professionals and provides instruction at various venues on MSHCP and CEQA implementation classes.

### Panelists:

» **Laurie Dobson Correa** - Regional Conservation Authority

Laurie Dobson Correa is the Director of Reserve Management and Monitoring for the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority (RCA). She is responsible for overseeing reserve management, biological monitoring and project review for the Western Riverside County MSHCP. Originally from Washington State, Laurie attended Humboldt State University's in the Wildlife Management program but after moving to warm southern California, stayed and obtained her degree in Environmental Studies from CSUSB. Laurie joined the County of Riverside in 1987 as a land use planner and but spent the majority of her career managing environmental compliance for Riverside County's 2600 mile road system before moving to her RCA position in 2010.

» **Stuart McKibbin, P.E.** - Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District

Stuart McKibbin has been with the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District for 31 years and manages its Watershed Protection Division.

» **Joseph Caldwell, PE, CPESC, CPSWQ, QSD, QSP** - Albert A. Webb Associates

As an expert in hydrology and hydraulics, Joseph Caldwell leads the firm's Stormwater Engineering Department at Albert A. Webb Associates (WEBB), focusing on the development of master drainage plans, the design of backbone drainage infrastructure, and the design of water quality systems for flood control projects throughout the region. As a Certified Professional in Erosion and Sediment Control and Storm Water Quality, Joseph is a specialist in water quality and environmental compliance.

Joseph's experience includes the design of regional flood control basins, a flood control levee, master drainage plans, and the design and construction of several miles of backbone drainage infrastructure. He has also hydrologically and hydraulically modeled the San Jacinto River from Railroad Canyon to the existing Army Corps levee in the City of San Jacinto. Having managed previous projects within this region, Joseph has extensive knowledge of the local agency's design standards and procedures.

» **Sonya Hooker** - Company Ruth Villalobos Associates

Sonya Hooker is the Director of Environmental Services at Ruth Villalobos & Associates, Inc. Sonya has worked as a consultant since 2000. Sonya earned a bachelor's degree in Biology from California State University, San Bernardino. Sonya is a long-time member of the Association of Environmental Professionals and American Planning Association. Sonya has extensive experience navigating complex and controversial projects through the federal and California environmental compliance processes with her in-depth understanding of the evolving regulatory environment on a local, state, and federal level. Sonya has served as a consultant to the US Bureau of Land Management, US Bureau of Reclamation, US Fish and Wildlife Service, US Army Corps of Engineers, US Army, US Marine Corps, and numerous municipalities throughout southern California including cities, counties, and utility and flood control districts.

10:45 am – 12:15 pm – Cyril Magnin II, Level 4

## *Practitioner's Guide to Environmental Planning*

### **What CEQA Consultants Need to Know about CEQA for Public School Projects**

#### **1.5 AICP | 1.0 MCLE Credits**

This session will be a panel of CEQA consultants, one CEQA attorney, and a school district COO who have had experience preparing CEQA documents for school districts in northern California. Topics will include: 1) How public schools differ from private schools 2.) What consultants need to request at start of job (or before) 3). How to interface with District staff and/or Board members 4). When public schools are exempt 5). What NOT to forget (NOD, Administrative record, etc.); 6) Type of hurdles to expect and 7). How to interface with project architects/engineers.

#### **Panelists:**

» **Amy Skewes-Cox, AICP** - Amy Skewes-Cox, Environmental Planning

Amy Skewes-Cox has a consulting business specializing in environmental and land use planning. Ms. Skewes-Cox has over 35 years of experience in working with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and other legislation related to land use and environmental planning. Ms. Skewes-Cox recently completed EIRs for the College of Marin Bond Spending Implementation Plan, and two elementary schools in San Carlos, CA.

» **Steve Noack, AICP** - Placeworks

Steve Noack, AICP is an Environmental Planner with over 35 years of experience in conducting environmental review under CEQA and NEPA for a wide variety of projects, primarily in the Bay Area. Currently, he serves as Principal in Charge for a number of school projects, including Hayward, San Jose, Vallejo and Napa.

» **Jessika Johnson, J.D.** - Dannis Woliver & Kelley

Jessika Johnson is an attorney at Dannis Woliver Kelley, an education law firm focused entirely on serving California public school districts, community colleges, and other educational organizations. Ms. Johnson's practice focuses on real property, construction, and environmental law, and includes advising and representing clients on compliance with statutory and regulatory procedures, such as the California Environmental Quality Act.

» **Robert Porter** - Chief Operating Officer, San Carlos School District

Mr. Porter joined the San Carlos School District as Chief Operations Office in July 2012. In his role as COO, Mr. Porter is managing the implementation of a \$72 million Facilities Bond which includes the construction/modernization of two 6-8 grade middle schools, two 4/5 upper elementary schools and a K-8 grade independent charter school. He also oversaw the production of two EIRs for the San Carlos School District over the past 3 years.



Prior to joining the District, Mr. Porter served in the financial services sector for over 25 years as a capital markets specialist and financial analyst. In his latest position he was Managing Director and Global Head of short-term debt origination for Bank of America Merrill Lynch. Before his investment banking experience he was an analyst at Stanford University in the Business and Finance Department. He received his MBA in Finance from the University of Chicago and BA in History and English Literature from Claremont McKenna College.

10:45 am – 12:15 pm – Embarcadero, Level 3

### *It's All Geek to Me*

## **Protecting Species and Habitats through CEQA - Keeping it Simple**

### **1.5 AICP Credits**

To effectively protect species and their habitats (biological resources) through CEQA, impact analyses must be couched within the law's framework, and action prompting triggers to protect the environment must be clearly identified. Likewise, Lead or Public Agencies are frequently flabbergasted when their environmental document falls short or their exemption determination is challenged.

CEQA practitioners know that CEQA is a complex law with specific, albeit perplexing, triggers that prompt public agency action to protect the environment. However, practitioners may not possess the technical knowledge to analyze project impacts on biological resources. Compounding the complexity for biologists and practitioners is the relationship between CEQA and other laws. The interplay often leads to false parallels and uncertainty.

This presentation will merge the perspectives of biologists and CEQA practitioners for more effective impact analyses, and ultimately, better resource protection. Topics will include the CEQA mandate to protect the environment (and how it applies to biological resources and relates to other laws), the CEQA framework (the intersection between the project and its environmental setting, and impacts), the types of impacts CEQA cares about and how to focus analyses (Appendix G checklist nuances and more), determining significance (action prompting triggers), substantial evidence, mitigation tips, and the "unusual circumstances" exception to categorical exemptions following recent case law.

### **Moderator:**

- » **Jonathan Hidalgo, AICP, MCRP, MPP** - Associate Environmental Planner, WRA, Inc.

Jonathan Hidalgo is an Environmental Planner at WRA, Inc. He has experience in the preparation of environmental review documents pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). He received his Master Degrees in City and Regional Planning and Public Policy with a concentration in environmental policy from California Polytechnic State University. He serves as project manager and principal writer for a variety of projects, including residential subdivisions,

public infrastructure, recreational facilities, solar, bridge replacements, and roadway improvements. Jonathan is the current President of the Association for Environmental Professionals (AEP) San Francisco Bay Area Chapter.

### Panelists:

» **Amanda McCarthy, Ph.D.** - Chief Operating Officer & Principal, WRA, Inc.

Dr. Amanda McCarthy specializes in regulatory permit preparation and compliance, wetland delineations, rare plant surveys, mapping and describing habitats, and analyzing environmental impacts under CEQA/NEPA. She has been involved in environmental review and restoration projects throughout California for both public and private groups. The majority of her experience is in desert ecosystems, but she also has extensive experience in vernal pools, riparian habitats, marshlands, and California annual grasslands. Amanda is formally trained in lichen identification, bryology, phycology, mycology, soils, hydrology, vegetation mapping, and environmental regulations.

» **Mike Josselyn, Ph.D.** - Principal, WRA, Inc.

As a co-founder and former President of WRA Inc., Mike Josselyn formed the company to incorporate the best scientific information on the environment to assist clients with environmental compliance and to assure successful implementation of habitat protection and restoration plans. Mike has consulted internationally on wetland ecology and restoration. He has authored or edited several books and more than 50 articles on wetland ecology and mitigation published in national and international scientific journals. As a recognized expert in his field, he has served on national advisory committees to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the National Wetlands Technical Council in the development of federal wetland policy and research. He has served as a peer reviewer for State TMDL programs, served on the Wetland Recovery Program's Science Advisory Panel, and is an expert on the Santa Susanna Field Laboratory Surface Water Panel. He was appointed as to the Science Advisory Panel to the EPA to prepare a report on the proposed federal definition of "waters of the United States". He has participated in scientific advisory missions to the Philippines, Japan, and China. Mike has also provided expert witness services to the Department of Justice, the State of California, and many private parties.

» **Clark Morrison, JD.** - Partner, Cox, Castle & Nicholson

Clark Morrison is a Partner at Cox, Castle & Nicholson. He was recently named the 2017 Natural Resources Law "Lawyer of the Year" in San Francisco by The Best Lawyers in America. Clark has more than 25 years of experience in the permitting and development of large and controversial projects. His clients include residential and commercial developers, wind and solar energy development companies, public agencies (universities, water districts, airports, cities, and counties), domestic and international commercial and industrial firms, and wineries and other agricultural concerns. Clark's areas of experience include all California laws affecting the development of real property. He is also recognized nationally for his concentration in federal endangered species, wetlands, public lands, and other natural resource laws, and works on the largest habitat conservation planning efforts in the western United States.

» **Melanie Day** - California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Grew up in Las Vegas and spent a lot of time outdoors in the Red Rock Canyon and Mount Charleston areas. Graduated from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas earning a Bachelor of Science in Biological Sciences, with an environmental concentration.

Worked at a consultant firm focusing on desert tortoise and burrowing owl, and later as a regulatory biologist for two utility companies in southern and northern California. Began working for CDFW Habitat Conservation Planning Branch in 2013, and function as the CEQA statewide coordinator in the Sacramento headquarters office.

10:45 am – 12:15 pm – Mission, Level 4

### ***Intersection of Planning and CEQA***

## **Getting to Know You: New Residents, Entertainment Venues and Noise at the Mixed-Use Frontier**

### **1.5 AICP Credits**

San Francisco has supported a thriving nightlife, arts and entertainment scene since its early days as a Gold Rush town. Today, the restaurants, bars, nightclubs, and various performance venues – together known as “places of entertainment” or “POEs” – make a substantial contribution to the City’s unique character, lively civic life, and economy. San Francisco also has an extraordinarily tight and expensive housing market. With limited room for new construction, the City has adopted plans and zoning that emphasize mixed land uses with the goal of creating new housing and promoting vibrant, diverse and walkable neighborhoods. One byproduct of this planning model has been a substantial increase in the number of noise complaints from residents living near POEs.

This presentation will examine the CEQA context for noise issues arising with mixed-use planning and the proximity of residences and places of entertainment:

- » Overview of the conflict between POEs and nearby residents in San Francisco
- » Applicable standards and regulations
- » Determining whether entertainment noise is a CEQA impact or an annoyance
- » CEQA-in-reverse: when to analyze the existing noise environment
- » Determining a baseline, measuring the problem
- » Establishing significance criteria

The City's recently adopted Places of Entertainment ordinance will be presented as a proactive planning tool to avoid potential entertainment-related noise conflicts. Case studies of conflicts between residents and entertainment venues will be discussed with San Francisco's Noise Control Officer and the Executive Director of the San Francisco Entertainment Commission. Video, photographs and audio will be used to illustrate examples and context for the issue. The presentation will be broadly applicable to a variety of noise issues that can arise in a mixed-use planning context.

### **Moderator:**

- » **Christopher Thomas, AICP** - San Francisco Planning Department

Chris Thomas is an environmental planner with the San Francisco Planning Department. In addition to preparing and reviewing CEQA documents for a variety of projects, Chris assists fellow planners in evaluating project-specific noise issues and analyses.

### **Panelists:**

- » **Jonathan Piakis** - San Francisco Department of Public Health

Jonathan Piakis is an Industrial Hygienist with the San Francisco Department of Public Health (DPH), Environmental Health Branch in the Air Quality, Hazardous Material Emergency Response, and Noise Programs. As the Noise Control Officer, Jonathan is responsible for enforcing the city's Noise Ordinance with respect to fixed mechanical building equipment as well as acting as a liaison to all other city departments providing training, technical guidance/review, and acoustic equipment maintenance.

- » **Jocelyn Kane** - San Francisco Entertainment Commission

Jocelyn Kane is Executive Director of San Francisco's Entertainment Commission, which is charged with ensuring the health and vitality of indoor and outdoor entertainment venues in the City. Along with daily regulatory concerns, her most current policy work includes the first legislative protections for nightlife businesses from new residential construction in the US, and ongoing improvements to SF Bay Area late night/early morning transit. Jocelyn co-produces the San Francisco Nitey Awards, ([www.niteyawards.com](http://www.niteyawards.com)), an annual awards show which celebrates creative excellence and positive patron experience in San Francisco's nightlife.

10:45 am – 12:15 pm – Cyril Magnin III, Level 4

## **CEQA Evolution**

### **Measuring the Miles – VMT and Transportation Impacts under SB 743**

#### **1.5 AICP | 1.0 MCLE Credits**

This panel will focus on developing and implementing new transportation performance metrics and impact criteria under the revised CEQA guidelines. The transportation analysis world is changing both from the perspective of our customers and their changing expectations, and from the perspective of our shifting statewide policy and environmental requirements and criteria. All of this comes at a time when the pace of development activity is accelerating with regional economic growth. This session will help you navigate through this change and emerge with solutions that work to achieve General Plan goals and provide legal defensibility.

The City of Los Angeles has been working on multiple efforts to revamp business as usual when it comes to identifying transportation impacts. Understanding a project's VMT impact and how it changes with the implementation of design features or TDM strategies will be critical as the CEQA guidelines change as a result of SB 743. The success of implementation is particularly dependent on the technical objectivity, ease of use, and legal defensibility of the tools and procedures that jurisdictions use to evaluate projects going forward.

Our panel will focus on SB 743 implementation in Los Angeles and share stories on lessons learned along the way. Specifically, we will discuss:

- » Establishing VMT-based CEQA impact thresholds for land development and transportation projects.
- » Developing a transportation impact fee program to fund projects that reduce VMT.
- » Updating traffic impact study guidelines to reflect new procedures and methodologies.
- » Creating focused travel forecasting models and quick response tools to measure VMT.
- » Customizing trip generation rates for affordable housing and mixed-use developments.
- » Applying TDM measures to mitigate project impacts, and quantifying trip reduction benefits of various TDM measures.
- » Conducting staff training and public outreach on the new approach to transportation impact review.

#### **Moderator:**

- » **Jeremy Klop, AICP** - Fehr & Peers

Jeremy Klop, AICP has a wide range of experience in multimodal planning and implementation projects across the United States. He is known for working effectively with planning commissions, elected officials, advocacy groups, and multiple city departments to gain consensus on complex transportation planning issues. He frequently lectures and trains practitioners on multimodal planning and served as a chapter co-author for the ITE Transportation Planning Handbook.

### Panelists:

- » **David Somers, AICP** - City of Los Angeles

David Somers is a mobility planner with the department of City Planning and the City of Los Angeles. He has lead multiple high profile City projects, such as the adoption of the City's Bike Plan and Mobility Plan 2035, and is the Project Manager for the City's Measuring the Miles initiative.

- » **Kathy Phelan, J.D.** - City of Los Angeles

Kathy Phelan is a Deputy City Attorney at the City of Los Angeles. She specializes in CEQA review and has been instrumental in helping the City adopt new transportation performance thresholds, develop legally defensible EIRs, and navigate through the adoption of the City's first VMT Transportation Impact Fee.

- » **Sarah Brandenburg, PE** - Fehr & Peers

Sarah Brandenburg is a Principal in the Los Angeles office of Fehr & Peers. She has navigated a variety of land use, mobility, and infrastructure projects through the CEQA process, often in highly controversial urban environments. Sarah was the project manager for the City's Westside Mobility Plan that included a VMT Transportation Impact Fee program to fund multi-modal improvements.

10:45 am – 12:15 pm — Market, Level 3

### ***Student and Emerging Professionals***

## **Staying Ahead of the Curve - How education and Leadership Development at AEP can Help Advance our Field**

**Background:** Working at the national, State and local levels, as environmental professionals we share a common interest in advancing the field through membership in NAEP, AEP and numerous other organizations with an educational mission.

**Session Details:** A panel of environmental professionals active in continuing education activities will share how their experience has contributed to their career development. The panelists will share their thoughts on the following question: *What are the ways in which we can be active in NAEP and AEP to exchange knowledge and ideas, produce excellent work, and advance the profession?*

### **Moderator:**

- » **Ashley James** - Project Planner, PlaceWorks

Ashley has over three years of experience in community economic development and urban planning, including economic development with an emphasis on community engagement and cross-sector collaboration. She specializes in comprehensive planning, preparing General Plans for a range of cities in California. In addition, Ashley applies her

knowledge of the California Environmental Quality Act to prepare program and project-level environmental documentation. She is recognized for her skills in project management, writing, and group facilitation. Ashley currently serves as Membership Director for the SF Bay Area Chapter of AEP.

### Panelists:

- » **Marie Campbell** - President, Sapphos Environmental & NAEP President, AEP LA Chapter Director

Marie is principal and owner of Sapphos Environmental, Inc. She is an environmental compliance specialist with more than 30 years of experience in managing public- and private-sector projects that require strategic planning, environmental compliance documentation, and resource management planning. She is recognized by the Los Angeles Bar Association as an expert in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). She has extensive experience with environmental compliance documentation for capital improvement projects for transportation, health care, and utilities

Marie is a 30-year member of NAEP and the California AEP. She has served as Chair of the Education Committee during her first two terms as an elected member-at-large on the NAEP Board of Directors. Her focus as Education Chair has been to develop a webinar series that allows environmental professionals to stay abreast of changing in environmental statutes, regulations, guidance, and state-of-the practice. [mcampbell@sapphosenvironmental.com](mailto:mcampbell@sapphosenvironmental.com)

- » **Ricky Caperton** - Senior Environmental Planner, LSA & AEP State Director at Large
- » **Devon Muto** - Senior Manager, ICF & President, AEP

Devon Muto is a senior manager with ICF International, leading ICF's environmental planning in southern California. He has extensive experience with planning, policy, permitting, and environmental analysis projects.

Prior to joining ICF, Mr. Muto was chief of the County of San Diego's Advanced Planning Division, where he completed the county's general plan update and associated environmental impact report (EIR). He was responsible for various San Diego County projects, such as its Climate Action Plan, Energy Upgrade California, Wind Energy Ordinance and Environmental Impact Report (EIR), Boutique Wineries Ordinance EIR, and Ramona and Alpine Town Center Plans. In addition, he provided oversight to San Diego County's Multiple Species Conservation Program and Energy Program.

Mr. Muto has also worked as a land use and environmental planning consultant. He currently serves as the President of the Association of Environmental Professionals.

- » **Leslie Tice** - Program Director/Principal Consultant, ERM West & NAEP Director at Large

Leslie is a Certified Environmental Professional with over 16 years of experience in environmental impact assessment. She is a Program Director at Environmental Resources Management (ERM) in Walnut Creek, California. Here she manages NEPA, CEQA, and other state environmental reviews. She currently services as a program manager for a large utility client and has managed and supported a variety of federal, state, and private programs throughout the United States.

Leslie serves on the Certification Review Board of the Academy of Board Certified Environmental Professionals. She is a member of the National Association of Environmental Professionals (NAEP) NEPA Working Group. Leslie started her NAEP involvement on the board of the Hawaii AEP chapter before moving to California. She now continues to be active in the California Chapter of AEP, previously serving in several chapter and state board positions.

1:45 pm – 3:15 pm – Cyril Magnin I, Level 4

### *Water Under the Bridge*

## **Climate Change, Water, and Cities: How Communities Can Adapt to Sea-Level Rise and Increased Flood Risk**

### **1.5 AICP | 1.0 MCLE Credits**

Climate change threatens hundreds of miles of vulnerable coastline and nearby areas in California's metropolitan areas. Sea-level rise projections continue to increase, and scientists predict a rise in the frequency and severity of storm surges and flooding. With an estimated half million people living in coastal low-lying areas, a substantial segment of the state's population will be directly affected.

This panel convenes local officials and experts who grapple every day with the tough challenges—and opportunities—presented by the need for cities to begin adapting to the water-related effects of climate change. Moderated by an environmental attorney, the panel will address the approaches taken by local agencies to:

- » Convene stakeholders and timely engage the public;
- » Identify potential solutions consonant with public values;
- » Protect people, infrastructure, and the natural environment;
- » Preserve existing development and assess the resilience of new development;
- » Ensure scarce available resources are allocated equitably; and
- » Coordinate efforts with other public agencies.

Individual presentations will be brief to allow ample time for discussion among panelists and with the audience. Topics specific to each panelist include:



- » In April 2016, the City and County of San Francisco became one of the first cities in the world to release a comprehensive resilience strategy addressing climate change, population growth, infrastructure needs, community preparedness, housing and other issues. The City's Chief Resilience Officer will discuss this document and San Francisco's ongoing implementation efforts.
- » The Port of San Francisco, a major landowner along San Francisco Bay, is in the process of updating its Waterfront Land Use Plan, and undertaking engineering and seismic improvement studies for the Seawall Resiliency Project. The Port's planning manager will address the state of public dialogue around climate change adaptation and waterfront resilience.
- » For any significant sea-level rise adaptation project, multiple agencies generally must issue permits. The president of an environmental consulting firm will discuss this permitting process and available adaptation strategies.

### **Moderator:**

- » **Alan Murphy, J.D.** - Perkins Coie LLP

Alan Murphy is a Counsel at Perkins Coie LLP in San Francisco, with a legal practice focused on land use and development matters, and environmental review under CEQA. He secures and defends land use entitlements and counsels clients in preparing development applications, during the approval process, and in the due diligence period. In his practice, Alan strives to identify innovative solutions to complex and politically sensitive development challenges. He routinely interacts with public agency staff and regularly appears on behalf of clients before city councils and boards of supervisors, planning commissions and local appellate boards. Alan graduated with a Juris Doctor degree from Yale Law School and received his Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Stanford University.

### **Panelists:**

- » **Brian Strong** - City and County of San Francisco

Brian Strong is responsible for San Francisco's Resilient SF strategy, 10-year Capital Plan, and annual Capital Budget. He created the City's first multi-year capital plan in 2006 and has been instrumental in the development and passage of \$3.5 billion in general obligation bonds to improve San Francisco's infrastructure.

Brian has implemented a number of innovative resilience programs to protect San Francisco's infrastructure, including the creation of a Capital Planning Fund to support early project development, the Earthquake Safety and Emergency Response bond program, Sea Level Rise Guidelines, and building-by-building HAZUS seismic assessments. Brian currently serves as President of the Board for the San Francisco Community Investment Fund, which distributes new market tax credits to promote economic development in disadvantaged communities.

» **Diane Oshima** - Port of San Francisco

Diane Oshima manages planning and regulatory compliance for the Port of San Francisco. She directs development of area plans and policies, advises entitlements for waterfront improvement projects, and manages community engagement and participation in major Port development and policy projects. Diane currently is leading the Port's update of its master plan, the Waterfront Land Use Plan. This effort will include new policies for waterfront resilience, including sea level rise adaptation, flood protection, and seismic reinforcement of the Port's 150-year-old seawall along The Embarcadero.

» **Geoff Smick** - WRA, Inc.

Geoff Smick is the President of WRA, Inc. He focuses on biological consulting, environmental regulatory compliance, and permitting for development, restoration, and mitigation projects for a variety of clients at the private, commercial, and public sector levels. Geoff excels in finding common ground between clients and regulators on complex issues. He brings experience from case studies in habitat restoration and public access as well as redevelopment efforts that strike a balance between economic vitality with public access to natural environments in an urban context. Geoff serves as WRA's principal on a number of high-profile restoration and public access projects as well as Bay Area redevelopment projects; collaborating with developers, architects/engineers, and public agency staff to plan and implement healthy and sustainable waterfront sites, including adaptive planning for sea level rise. By combining his ecological background with current trends in restoration and planning, Geoff attempts to find soft, green solutions for sea level rise protection when feasible.

1:45 pm – 3:15 pm – Cyril Magnin II, Level 4

### *Practitioner's Guide to Environmental Planning*

## **The Moral of the Story: War Stories from the CEQA Trenches**

### **1.5 AICP | 1.0 MCLE Credits**

The panel, consisting of a County Division Manager, environmental consultant and environmental attorney, will share anonymous CEQA "war stories" from their practices that each end with "And the moral of this story is \_\_\_." With almost 70 years of CEQA experience among them, the panelists will share their CEQA experiences with practical implications for the audience, such as addressing public concerns during the environmental review process, how to comply with CEQA while at the same time seeking other permits and entitlements, how to meet the needs of the lead agency decision makers, the public relations aspect of the CEQA process, working with the entire "CEQA team" in an effective productive manner and how to survive the perils of CEQA litigation. Active audience participation sharing their own war stories will be strongly encouraged.

**Panelists:**

» **Stephanie N. Standerfer** - Vice President, Albert A. Webb Associates

» **Trevor Keith** - Division Manager, County of San Luis Obispo

Trevor Keith works in the Administrative Office as a Division Manager at the County of San Luis Obispo. Trevor holds a Master's in City and Regional Planning and a B.S. in Ecology and Systematic Biology from the California Polytechnic State University. He has more than 15 years of professional experience in environmental planning and review.

Trevor has focused his career working with public agencies in California. He has prepared and coordinated all levels of CEQA and NEPA review and long range planning efforts. His project experience includes complex residential and commercial development, renewable energy generation, specific and general plans, and Habitat Conservation Plans. In addition, Trevor has taught environmental review and assessment classes at Cal Poly for the past 8 years.

» **Joe Power, AICP CEP** - Rincon Consultants, Inc.

Joe Power, AICP CEP, is a Principal with Rincon Consultants, Inc. Joe holds an M.A. in Urban Planning from UCLA and has more than 25 years of experience preparing CEQA and NEPA documentation for projects throughout California. Joe has worked extensively with both public agencies and private developers in urban, suburban, and rural environments. His project experience includes residential, commercial, industrial, and mixed-use developments; transportation, energy, and water infrastructure; and general, community, and specific plans. Through his work on numerous controversial projects in high profile communities, Joe has gained substantial practical knowledge about addressing and resolving environmental concerns raised by decision makers, reviewing agencies, and concerned community members (as well as their attorneys).

1:45 pm – 3:15 pm – Embarcadero, Level 3

***It's All Geek to Me***

**Biological Resources Sections Dissected! - A Deeper Dive**

**1.5 AICP Credits**

This session will delve into examples of the good, the bad, and the ugly of CEQA biological resources analysis and the site-specific analysis needed to address impacts to sensitive species and habitats (e.g., wetlands), including advanced strategies for significance thresholds, mitigation, responses to comments, findings, and the lead agency's administrative record. The panel includes two seasoned biologists-one consultant and one Lead Agency representative-and an attorney with expertise in CEQA and endangered species compliance and litigation, who will together share their experience in crafting readable, effective, and iron-clad biology sections that answer the underlying impact

questions accurately, succinctly, and in ways that address agency and public concerns. Specific issues to be covered will include how to: (i) address gaps in the scientific evidence, (ii) reconcile survey methods, (iii) avoid deferred mitigation, (iv) address late hits and the battle among experts, and (v) render defensible conclusions that maintain final regulatory compliance decisions within the Lead Agency's control. Finally, the panel will touch upon key CEQA case law related to biological resources and the interrelationship between CEQA and other species-protection laws (e.g., federal and state Endangered Species Acts, state Fully Protected Species laws, the Coastal Act, and common law public trust doctrine).

### Panelists:

» **Emily Bacchini** - Sacramento Municipal Utility District

Emily Bacchini has over 15 years of experience in preparing and reviewing CEQA documents working for different environmental consulting firms, and as a CEQA lead agency. She has a solid background in CEQA project management and permitting assistance, including Clean Water Act, Section 401 Water Quality Certification and Section 404 wetland fill permits; Section 10 Rivers and Harbors Act permits; Streambed Alteration Agreements; and state and federal Endangered Species Acts incidental take permits. She is trained to conduct wetland delineations and identify vernal pool branchiopods and California tiger salamanders. Ms. Bacchini currently works at the Sacramento Municipal Utility District and has been on the Superior California Chapter Board for over 10 years. She currently serves as the Chapter Director.

» **David Wolff** - Sage Institute, Inc.

David Wolff serves as the Principal Ecologist for Sage Institute, Inc. (SII) conducting CEQA biological resources analysis for over 25 years. Mr. Wolff has special expertise in both flora and fauna, including terrestrial, freshwater aquatic, estuarine, and marine environments. He is knowledgeable in many bioregions of California including Southern California coastal, inland, and desert regions, Central California coastal & inland areas, Great Valley, and Sierra Nevada foothills. Along with his regional and landscape-scale resources planning experience, he is also an accomplished wetland scientist, botanist, and wildlife biologist well versed in endangered species issues.

» **Christian L. Marsh** - Downey Brand

Christian L. Marsh provides advice to public and private clients on regulatory and entitlement issues for a wide breadth of projects in California, including commercial and residential real estate developments, ground and surface water supply projects, renewable and non-renewable energy facilities, and waterfront and other public infrastructure. Christian is particularly expert in matters related to endangered species, CEQA and NEPA review, water rights, wetlands, and the common law public trust doctrine. With an emphasis on matters pertaining to NEPA and CEQA review, Christian also litigates these matters in state and federal court, and represented the prevailing parties in consecutive appeals before the California Supreme Court. Before practicing law, he served as an assistant to the Director of the White House Office on Environmental Policy and as special assistant in the U.S. Department of the Interior, where he advised the Deputy Secretary and the

Assistant Secretary for Water & Science on endangered species and water policy in the Columbia River basin, the California Bay-Delta, and the U.S.-Mexico border region. Christian is regularly called upon to represent clients in formal and informal administrative matters before a host of federal and state regulatory agencies, including the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, NOAA Fisheries, Army Corps of Engineers, Bureau of Reclamation, California Department of Fish & Wildlife, State and Regional Water Quality Control Boards, State Lands Commission, Coastal Commission, Bay Conservation & Development Commission, and local governments.

1:45 pm – 3:15 pm – Market, Level 3

### *Intersection of Planning and CEQA*

## **You Can Have Your Growth and Green it Too**

### **1.5 AICP Credits**

A multidisciplinary team describes how they developed the award-winning Riverside Restorative Growthprint (RRG), a Climate Action Plan (CAP) that integrates greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction strategies with local economic development. The RRG lays out a plan for boosting low-carbon economic growth through investment in urban infrastructure, urban mobility systems, public-private partnerships, and entrepreneurship. It provides a roadmap for the City to achieve deep GHG emission reductions through the year 2035, while building on its reputation as a center of innovation and setting the stage for entrepreneurs to bring innovative GHG-reducing practices, services, and new technologies to the marketplace.

This panel will describe the challenges they confronted in developing the RRG as a qualified climate action plan for streamlining CEQA review of future development. Achieving deep GHG reductions consistent with SB 32 will require profound economic and technological transformations that are largely beyond the control of local governments. Through the RRG, the City of Riverside is looking at GHG reduction through the lens of economic opportunity, aligning its future growth with the need for transformative new technologies and business solutions. The RRG aligns local strategies for GHG reduction with state and regional actions, positioning the City for robust economic development in a low carbon economy. The Team will describe how Riverside is promoting clean-tech innovation and how innovative stakeholder engagement (e.g., crowdsourcing) is being used to engage with local universities (e.g., UC Riverside) and Riverside's thought leaders, influencers, and community leaders, to gather ideas and best practices for spurring economic development and inspiring entrepreneurship while reducing emissions.

### **Moderator:**

» **Alexa Washburn, AICP** - National Community Renaissance

Alexa Washburn, AICP, is Vice President of Planning at National Community Renaissance. As a private consultant, developer, and public agency program manager, Alexa has managed,

prepared and implemented a variety of award-winning planning and design projects. Her understanding of progressive land use, policy and implementation strategies effectively enhances the sustainability of plans and communities.

### Panelists:

» **Doug Darnell, AICP** - City of Riverside

Doug Darnell, AICP, is Senior Planner with the City of Riverside's Advanced Planning & Strategic Initiatives Team and is responsible for a variety of long range planning projects for the City including the Riverside Restorative Growthprint. He has over 19 years of public sector planning experience in both long range and current planning.

» **Jeff Caton, P.E., LEED AP** - ESA

Jeff Caton, P.E., LEED AP, ESA's Sustainable Communities Director, has more than 25 years of planning, engineering and business strategy experience. Jeff assists clients with sustainability and climate change initiatives through strategy development, benchmarking, performance measurement, and various communications media. Jeff has managed multiple CAPs and sustainability plans for cities and public agencies throughout California.

» **Jaime Nack** - Three Squares Inc.

Jaime Nack is President of Three Squares Inc. (TSI), providing comprehensive sustainability planning for corporate, government and nonprofit entities. She's a presenter for The Climate Reality Project (led by Al Gore) and a federal appointee to the National Women's Business Council. Nack was named a Young Global Leader by the World Economic Forum. Jaime has close connections with the CleanTech business sector, and helped produce the annual CleanTech Open Global Forum in 2015.

1:45 pm – 3:15 pm – Cyril Magnin III, Level 4

### CEQA Evolution

## Does Your 2017 EIR Look Too Much Like Your 2015 EIR?

### 1.5 AICP Credits

Global climate change and the historic drought continue to shape legislative policies in California. A new set of acronyms and phrases is gaining prominence: VMT, GSA, TPA, RCIS. We know more about "reverse CEQA," but what does it really mean for your EIR? New legislation and guidelines are changing how key environmental conditions are evaluated and mitigated under CEQA. SB 379 now requires jurisdictions to include climate adaptation and resiliency strategies in their general plan safety elements, and regulatory agencies, such as the Coastal Commission, are taking aim at policies to address sea level rise, all of which influence how EIRs are drafted. And, as always, court decisions continue their role in changing the CEQA process. It's fair to say that these changes will have a "significant impact" on the preparation of EIRs, affecting analysis of transportation, climate change,

water supply, land use compatibility, and much more. The EIR of 2017 is likely to be a very different animal than the EIR of even a few years ago. The panel will look at significant legislative changes, court decisions, and changing environmental conditions that are reshaping CEQA analysis. The panel will include a CEQA consultant, a land use attorney, a transportation planner, a city planner, and a civil engineer.

### Panelists:

» **JoAnn Hadfield** - PlaceWorks

JoAnn has led hundreds of diverse projects spanning major commercial, residential, industrial, and infrastructure projects. With a background in both urban planning and civil engineering, she is ideally suited for complex, technical projects and to assist in formulating creative environmental solutions. She regularly performs CEQA training for clients and planning organizations.

» **Tim Paone** - Cox, Castle & Nicholson

Tim Paone is a partner in Cox, Castle & Nicholson's Irvine office. His practice emphasizes CEQA, the Coastal Act, development agreements, and the local planning process. He has worked on the entitlement of projects throughout California, as well as handling land use matters in courtrooms throughout the State. He has served as a Planning Commission Chairman and a Governor's appointee to the California Law Revision Commission, and taught Environmental Law Practice as an Adjunct Professor at Chapman University School of Law.

» **Tony Petros** - LSA Associates, Inc.

Tony is a transportation planner who manages his firm's traffic engineering and planning disciplines in California. He sat on the County of Orange Housing & Community Development Commission and was project manager for the Orange County Sustainable Communities Strategy and the Orange County Long-Range Transportation Plan. He has taught transportation planning principles at California State University, Fullerton and the University of Southern California, and he is a lecturer and advisory board member of the UC Irvine Master's program in public policy. Tony also serves as a Newport Beach City Councilmember.

» **Kimberly Brandt, AICP** - City of Newport Beach

Kim Brandt joined the executive team of Newport Beach in May 2011 and brought her 30 plus years of professional planning practice and extensive experience in all phases of municipal planning. As Community Development Director, Kim is responsible for Building and Life Safety, Real Estate Administration, Coastal Act compliance, Code Enforcement, and Planning. She is also certified by the American Institute for Certified Planners and is active in the Orange Section of the American Planning Association and the Planning Directors Association of Orange County.

» **Ron J. Ronvasek, PhD, LEED AP, PE** - PACE

1:45 pm – 3:15 pm — Mission, Level 4

### *CEQA Evolution*

## **Modernizing Transportation Impact Review in California**

### **1.5 AICP Credits**

The Bay Area contains a range of development environments, political priorities, land use–transportation realities, and population growth associated with a growing regional economy. Recently, three cities in the Bay Area re-examined their tools aimed at leveraging development for transportation benefits in light of these challenges. This re-examination intensified with California Senate Bill 743 as several jurisdictions understand the disconnection between standard traffic metrics and the goals of their adopted general plans and transportation policies.

San Francisco re-examination resulted in substantial impact fees, leading implementation of Senate Bill 743 provisions, and ambitious transportation demand management requirements. San Francisco’s presentation will focus on its history in seeking alignment of its environmental review metrics with its adopted policies, the technical aspects of the change, and updates regarding its implementation.

In Oakland, environmental reform that could streamline housing development became a significant priority for a city during a historic housing crisis. Using available resources and the benefits of internal structural changes, Oakland implemented Senate Bill 743 provisions recently. Unique among the three cities, Oakland’s reforms also explicitly prioritized health outcomes and equity considerations in its transportation demand management program. Oakland’s presentation will focus on the decision for implementing Senate Bill 743 provisions and challenges encountered since that time.

San Jose’s re-examination has its basis in the City’s General Plan–Envision San Jose 2040. While moving towards environmental review reform, the City’s land use plans already includes metric consistent with Senate Bill 743. This is one important means for achieving the City’s goals. San Jose’s presentation will reflect the geographic variation throughout California, from urban to suburban, and the technical challenges that this variation brings in implementing Senate Bill 743 provisions.

For all three agencies, coordination between technical experts and CEQA practitioners was critical and will be highlighted in the presentations.

### **Moderator:**

» **Jeffrey Tumlin** - Nelson Nygaard

Jeffrey Tumlin is Director of Strategy at Nelson\Nygaard Consulting Associates, a San Francisco-based transportation planning and engineering firm that focuses on sustainable mobility. For more than twenty years, he has led station area, downtown, citywide, and campus plans, and delivered various lectures and classes in 20 U.S. states and five other countries. His major development projects have succeeded in reducing their traffic and



CO2 emissions by as much as 40%, and accommodated many millions of square feet of growth with no net increase in motor vehicle traffic. These projects have won awards from the U.S. General Services Administration, Institute of Transportation Engineers, American Planning Association, American Society of Landscape Architects, Congress for the New Urbanism, and Urban Land Institute. He is the author of *Sustainable Transportation: Tools for Creating Healthy, Vibrant and Resilient Communities*, published by Wiley in 2012. He served as interim director of the Oakland Department of Transportation.

### Panelists:

» **Wade Wietgreffe, AICP** - City and County of San Francisco

Wade Wietgreffe, AICP, is a senior planner with the San Francisco Planning Department, where he has been employed since 2011. Mr. Wietgreffe reviews projects subject to California Environmental Quality Act, with particular focus on air quality, transportation, and greenhouse gases, and leads policy efforts that align good public policy with environmental review. Prior to joining the San Francisco Planning Department, Mr. Wietgreffe worked as an environmental consultant for Winzler & Kelly (now GHD). Mr. Wietgreffe earned a Master's in Science Degree in Planning at the University of Arizona and a Bachelor's of Arts in Geography and History at Gustavus Adolphus College.

» **Meenaxi R. Panakkal, AICP** - City of San Jose

Meenaxi R. Panakkal, AICP is the interim Principal Planner of the Environmental Review team in the City of San Jose's Planning, Building, and Code Enforcement Department. She manages environmental review under California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for all private and public projects in the City of San Jose. She has over twenty five years' experience in the land development industry; ranging from design (architecture), construction management, long range planning, and environmental planning, both in the private and the public sector. Her goal is to provide proactive environmental management for a balanced growth within urban areas.

» **Sarah Fine** - City of Oakland

Sarah Fine is a senior transportation planner in the City of Oakland's new Department of Transportation, where she is a planning lead on complete streets project development, strategic transportation policy, and major land use development coordination. Sarah has been with the City of Oakland since February 2016. Prior to this position, she worked as a transportation planner with the San Francisco County Transportation Authority and with Alta Planning+Design. Sarah was also a founding member and communications director of Transport Oakland. Sarah holds a Master's degree in American Studies from Brown University and a Master's degree in City and Regional Planning from the University of California at Berkeley. She lives near beautiful Lake Merritt in Oakland, CA.

3:45 pm – 5:15 pm – Cyril Magnin I, Level 4

### *Water Under the Bridge*

## **Measure AA: San Francisco Bay Restoration**

### **1.5 AICP Credits**

In June 2016, San Francisco Bay Area voters passed Measure AA: a ballot measure to create a wetland restoration fund of \$500 million through a new parcel tax. This panel provides lessons learned from the efforts to pass Measure AA, as well as plans for successfully implementing the restoration program over the next 20 years. This dynamic panel will feature discussion among participants who worked together to conceive and secure passage of Measure AA and are now working to distribute the funds throughout the Bay Area for projects that achieve the goals of Measure AA: clean water, vital wetland habitats for fish and wildlife, nature-based flood management, and public access to bayland habitats.

### **Panelists will cover:**

- » How a stakeholder case statement for the bay's ecological and financial needs led to creation of a new regional agency with taxing and grant-making authority to restore bay marshes.
- » The economic study and public education campaign that established the region's vulnerability to an extreme storm event, and how marsh restoration could provide green infrastructure to mitigate that vulnerability.
- » The scientific report that established an ecological imperative for accelerating marsh restoration in the face of sea level rise from climate change and set quantifiable objectives for wetlands restoration in San Francisco Bay.
- » How a broad coalition of environment, business, local government and organized labor interests coalesced around Measure AA, a \$12 annual parcel tax on the June 2016 ballot in nine counties.
- » The public campaign emphasizing shared values and shared benefits; the messages and methods used to secure voter support for Measure AA.
- » Mechanisms established to produce maximum restoration benefits from \$500 million raised locally, provide grants to restoration projects, and leverage additional federal and state money to match the new bay fund.

### **Moderator:**

- » **Amy Hutzel** - State Coastal Conservancy

Amy Hutzel is a Deputy Executive Officer at the Coastal Conservancy, which works to protect open space, increase public access and recreation, and restore wildlife habitats along the Coast and in the Bay Area. She worked in the San Francisco Bay Area Program of the State Coastal Conservancy for 15 years, on such projects as the Hamilton Restoration, Napa River Salt Marsh and the South Bay Salt Ponds. She is the current chair of the San Francisco Estuary Partnership. She has a bachelor degree in urban and environmental planning from

the University of Virginia. She worked as an educator at the San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge, Kilauea Point National Wildlife Refuge, and Save The Bay prior to joining the Coastal Conservancy.

### Panelists:

#### » **David Lewis** - Save The Bay

As Executive Director of Save The Bay since 1998, David Lewis has been San Francisco Bay's top advocate for more than 15 years. Under his leadership, Save The Bay has developed strong relationships with public officials, business leaders, and key stakeholders to improve the overall health of San Francisco Bay. David has testified before Congress on oil spill prevention and restoring Bay wetlands to combat the impacts of climate change. He was born and raised in the Bay Area, holds a B.A. in Politics and American Studies from Princeton University, and is still trying to catch up to his daughters on the ski slopes.

#### » **Adrian Covert** - Bay Area Council

Adrian Covert is a Vice President for the Bay Area Council, providing research and advocacy leadership for the Council's committees on Water, Commuter Shuttles and 21st Century Communications Infrastructure. Prior to joining the Council, Adrian served on the research and communications team for Repair California: Californians for a State Constitutional Convention, and received a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science from San Francisco State University. Adrian authored the 2016 book *Taverns of the American Revolution*, and in his spare time plays baseball in the Pacific Coast Hardball League. A native Californian, Adrian currently resides in San Francisco's Mission District.

#### » **Jeremy Lowe** - San Francisco Estuary Institute.

Jeremy Lowe is a coastal geomorphologist with 30 years of experience in tidal wetland restoration and sea-level-rise adaptation planning on the Pacific Coast and in Europe. Career highlights include designing sea defenses to reduce flooding in Venice, Italy; designing restoration initiatives for the Ballona Wetlands in Venice, Calif.; and authoring tidal wetland guidelines for San Francisco Bay, the Puget Sound and Lower Columbia River Estuary. He will lead the Institute's initiatives related to rising ocean levels due to climate change. Jeremy most recently served as a director at Environmental Science Associates, where he developed nature-based climate change adaptation strategies for San Francisco Bay and the Lower Columbia. He was the project director for the Oro Loma Ecotone Slope Demonstration Project, one of the first nature-based climate adaptation projects in San Francisco Bay. Born in Britain, Jeremy previously worked at the universities of Cambridge and Newcastle in England.

#### » **John Bourgeois** - South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project.

John Bourgeois, Executive Project Manager, South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project, California Coastal Conservancy. John has over 18 years of experience working on large-scale wetland restoration projects. Prior to his current position, John was a restoration ecologist with the Los Gatos-based ecological consulting firm H.T. Harvey & Associates having worked on the planning and permitting for numerous Bay restoration projects. Prior

to moving to California in 1999, John worked for the National Wetland Research Center, the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, and the Institute of Pacific Islands Forestry. He has an M.S. in biology from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette and a B.S. in biology from Tulane University.

3:45 pm – 5:15 pm – Cyril Magnin II, Level 4

### *Practitioner's Guide to Environmental Planning*

## **Drafting Programmatic EIRs: Lessons Learned and Practical Tips**

**1.5 AICP | 1.0 MCLE Credits**

CEQA practitioners often divide themselves into two camps: those that prepare project EIRs and those that prepare program EIRs. Most of us fall into the “project” camp, and have trouble adjusting our perspective accordingly for a programmatic EIR. Although the California courts clarified in 2014 that the project vs program label doesn’t really matter – the level of specificity in an EIR should be dictated by the nature of the project – there are some fundamentally different approaches to the CEQA evaluation of a General Plan or other planning document, especially one that applies to an entire county, city, or specific plan area, than for a specific development project with known construction and operation details.

This session will delve into the nuts and bolts of programmatic EIRs, focusing on issues that are specific to plan-level documents, as well as how aspects of the EIR and analysis are different in a program EIR than in a project EIR. We’ll cover issues related to self-mitigating plans; use of policies, programs, and measures as mitigation; best practices for mitigation and response to comments in a plan context; and setting up for and implementing future tiering. Panelists will offer perspectives from local agency, consulting, and legal backgrounds to share best practices on these and other aspects of programmatic EIRs. We’ll also present case studies from San Diego, Vacaville, and Butte County to illustrate these issues and how the lessons learned can be applied to other program EIRs.

### **Panelists:**

» **Tanya Sundberg** - PlaceWorks

Tanya Sundberg is a Senior Associate with PlaceWorks, where she manages a variety of comprehensive and environmental planning projects. Tanya falls into the “program” camp, with most of her CEQA work focused on general plans, specific plans, ordinances, climate plans, and other policy documents. For many of her CEQA projects, Tanya also manages the development of the plan, helping to facilitate the creation of self-mitigating plans and an efficient environmental review process.

» **Alyssa Muto** - City of San Diego

Alyssa Muto received a master’s in Public Administration from San Diego State University and has 17 years of experience in environmental and land use planning, in both the public and private sectors. Ms. Muto is the Deputy Director of Environment and Policy Analysis

within the Planning Department at the City of San Diego, and currently manages staff preparing CEQA and NEPA analysis of community plan updates and other long-range plans and projects. Ms. Muto is also responsible for Planning's implementation of the City's CAP and GHG streamlining, as well as developing and updating City-wide CEQA thresholds and compliance. Her combination of both public and private planning experience brings a unique perspective to the understanding and implementation of CEQA at a city-wide programmatic level, as well as at a project level for tiering and streamlining of analysis and mitigation. She is a former Board Member of the AEP, and has been both a moderator and panelist for the AEP CEQA Basics/CEQA Essentials workshops.

» **Margaret M. Sohagi, J.D.** - The Sohagi Law Group

Margaret M. Sohagi is a recognized authority on CEQA, NEPA, climate change and land use planning. She has extensive experience in general plan updates, sensitive resources, the Coastal Act, planning and zoning, takings and First Amendment, including the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act (RLUIPA), impact fees, rates and charges, and adult uses. For the past 20 years, Ms. Sohagi has represented only public agencies in complex, high profile land use and environmental transactional and litigation matters. Ms. Sohagi is an Adjunct Professor of Land Use Law at USC Law School, a statewide instructor in environmental law, and an instructor for the Judicial Council of California.

» **Fred Buderl** - City of Vacaville

Fred Buderl is City Planner for the City of Vacaville, overseeing the Community Development Department's Advanced Planning Division. The division completed the City's General Plan Update and Energy & Conservation Action Strategy (ECAS – the City's Climate Action Plan) in late 2015 and is now overseeing the implementation of the General Plan through multiple actions to update.

3:45 pm – 5:15 pm – Embarcadero, Level 3

***It's All Geek to Me***

## **Connecting the Technical Analysis to Public Understanding**

### **1.5 AICP Credits**

One of the greatest and most unmet challenges in preparing a CEQA document is translating highly technical information into understandable impact analyses. Yet the CEQA Guidelines unequivocally states that "EIRs shall be written in plain language." The highly educated, talented professionals who provide essential technical evidence for our environmental documents have spent years gaining experience and certifications. Not surprisingly, each field has a language all its own, and traffic, air quality, and noise studies (to name just a few) can be stubbornly opaque to most readers. Although most studies are attached as appendices, it's our job to make the analysis understandable to the public and decision makers, who must rely on that information and for whom the consequences are not "academic." This session will present some best practices for summarizing technical information and explaining complex methodology in ways that are easy to understand.

### **Moderator:**

#### » **Mark Teague, AICP** - PlaceWorks

In over 30 years of public and private sector experience, Mark has worked throughout California in agencies large and small and is considered an innovative problem solver. His projects include planned communities, shopping center EIRs, general plan and zoning code updates, impact fees, and public outreach for projects highly scrutinized by the public. Mark is an excellent public speaker and regularly presents at the League of California Cities Planning Commissioner's Academy and teaches CEQA with a focus on how new legal decisions affect compliance.

### **Panelists:**

#### » **Dennis Pascua** - Transpo Group

Dennis Pascua is a Transportation Planning Manager with 23 years of experience in transportation planning/traffic engineering in southern California. Dennis has successfully managed a variety of project types for local agencies and private developers, including traffic and circulation impact analyses and parking demand studies in both highly urbanized and rural areas. Dennis is highly experienced with CEQA/NEPA and transportation topics and policies surrounding active transportation, context sensitive solutions, and complete streets throughout California. He also offers an international perspective, having managed transportation planning projects abroad in the Philippines, Japan, and the United Arab Emirates.

#### » **Heather Dubois** - ESA Associates

Heather Dubois is a technical analyst with more than twelve years of experience as an environmental scientist/planner with local and regional jurisdictions in California. Heather's last seven years focused on air quality impact analysis, including health risk assessments and global climate change impacts in compliance with NEPA and CEQA processes and regulations. She has a wide range of environmental experience, including composition of complex planning documents that require comprehensive knowledge of land use planning, transit and transportation planning, and environmental planning.

#### » **Julian Capata** - Placeworks

Julian has 11 years' experience providing project management and technical and analytical assistance for environmental documentation and urban planning projects. He has prepared over 100 CEQA documents, from multibillion-dollar transportation projects spanning multiple jurisdictions to local capital improvement projects, covering a wide variety of sectors—e.g., hospitality and hotel, transportation, residential, commercial, mixed-use, and redevelopment—as well as specific plan and general plan updates. In addition, Julian has prepared several environmental noise analyses for CEQA documents and as such has extensive understanding of the methodologies and approach to noise impact analysis. His technical capabilities include measuring ambient noise levels, performing computer-based noise attenuation modeling, and designing environmentally superior alternatives to mitigate construction and operational noise impacts.

3:45 pm – 5:15 pm – Market, Level 3

### ***Intersection of Planning and CEQA***

## **VTM and Air Quality Analyses: Keeping them consistent**

### **1.5 AICP Credits**

Now that CEQA requires VTM analysis to evaluate traffic impacts, and CEQA analysis in air quality and GHG emissions uses different modeling systems to calculate emissions associated with VTM. The traffic impact section will be using subregional traffic models to predict VTM, while the air quality and GHG analysis uses CalEEMod. With these different models, how do you keep the information within these three sections of a CEQA document consistent? Find out how at this session.

### **Moderator:**

» **Michael Hendrix** - LSA Associates

Michael is the Chair of the AEP Climate Change Committee and principal author of the AEP White Papers on Climate Change. In 2008 he assisted OPR in drafting CEQA Guideline Amendments to address climate change. He was the recipient of AEP 2010 Achievement Award for his dedication in advancing climate change science through the educational programs and practitioner workshops he authored and conducted. In addition, this award recognized his contribution and participation with the various California agencies in developing methods of analysis, implementation policies, and advocating local control in developing community climate action plans for local governments in California.

### **Panelists:**

» **David Mitchell** - Mitchell Air Quality Consulting

Dave Mitchell has more than 24 years of experience in land use and air quality planning, including long-range planning, plan implementation, and managing large multidisciplinary projects. Dave is currently an independent consultant that prepares Climate Action Plans, Greenhouse Gas Inventories, Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas technical studies for development projects, and special analyses required for regulatory compliance. Formerly Dave led the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District's (SJVAPCD) CEQA Section for many years. In that role he was responsible for the review CEQA documents and for providing guidance to consultants preparing air quality studies for environmental documents. Dave lead the preparation of the SJVAPCD's Guide for Assessing and Mitigating Air Quality Impacts, and participated on California Air Pollution Control.

» **Haseeb Qureshi** - Urban Crossroads

Haseeb is a member of the AEP Climate Change Committee. He is a Principal at Urban Crossroads in charge of air quality and GHG emissions analysis. Mr. Qureshi earned his Master of Science degree in Environmental Science from California State University, Fullerton and his Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Analysis & Design from University of California, Irvine.

3:45 pm – 5:15 pm — Mission, Level 4

## *CEQA Evolution*

### **Saving CEQA: The Promise and Peril of Efforts at Reform**

#### **1.5 AICP Credits**

In the more than four decades since its adoption, CEQA has been magnet for controversy. While an effective tool for promoting environmental protection and public engagement in planning, CEQA is also beset with bureaucratic inefficiencies and litigation risks that can obstruct successful environmental planning efforts. Environmental review requirements, for instance, are known to add time and cost to project review and approval in California, and have thus resulted in a widespread perception, with examples to demonstrate its rooting in reality, that the state's economic development and environmental policy goals are being thwarted by CEQA's mandate. Further, there are those, including labor unions, business interests, and neighborhood NIMBYs, whose implicitly non-environmental motivations lead them to threaten or actually file legal actions to halt the approval of projects they oppose. Significant to the cause of promoting sound environmental planning, the threat and/or execution of such legal challenges can inhibit or halt the development of net-positive projects such as high-density, affordable housing, which could ultimately lead to better jobs-housing balances, reduced commute times for low-income workers, and reductions in greenhouse gas emissions associated with more transit-oriented housing patterns.

In an effort to address some of these challenges, this panel will focus broadly on the status of and need for CEQA reform, in the context of ongoing legal challenges to projects that could provide net environmental, social, and economic benefits throughout the state. Through a discussion of whether and why CEQA reform is needed; a review of past and present reform proposals; a look at the current challenges and opportunities associated with existing streamlining techniques; and a visioning of a path forward toward effective but efficient CEQA implementation, this panel will advance the themes both of CEQA Evolution and Intersection of Planning and CEQA. Panelist presentations will be followed by opportunities for audience-directed discussion.

#### **Moderator:**

» **Greta Brownlow, PhD** - LSA/SJSU

Greta Brownlow, PhD is Senior Manager at ICF, where she specializes in CEQA/NEPA compliance and land use planning. Over the course of her 19-year career as an environmental consultant, Dr. Brownlow has collaborated with numerous agencies, developers, and local communities in implementing development projects throughout California. Dr. Brownlow also serves as Adjunct Faculty at both San José State University and California State University East Bay, where she teaches Environmental Planning (a graduate course in the Department of Urban and Regional Planning), and Environmental Impact Assessment (a core, undergraduate course in the Environmental Studies Department), respectively. Dr. Brownlow earned an MA in Urban Planning from U.C.L.A. and a PhD in Social and Cultural Studies in Education from UC Berkeley. Her doctoral research at UC Berkeley focused on



public outreach and activism around new school planning in Los Angeles. A synopsis of this work was published in *Building Schools and Community Connections: Outreach and Activism for New Schools in Southeast L.A.*, in *Schools and Urban Revitalization: Rethinking Institutions and Community Development*, Patterson, K. and Silverman, R., eds, New York: Routledge, 2013.

### Panelists:

» **Jennifer Hernandez, J.D.** - Holland & Knight, LLP

Jennifer L. Hernandez co-chairs Holland & Knight's National Environmental Team and leads the West Coast Land Use and Environment Practice Group. She has achieved national prominence in her work on brownfields redevelopment, wetlands and endangered species, and master planned community projects. She represents private, nonprofit and public sector clients, ranging from real estate developers to biotechnology and other operating industries, to communication and energy utilities. Ms. Hernandez also chairs a conference on Climate Change Law in California and has written and spoken extensively on major California climate change laws (including AB 32, SB 375 and SB 97) and emerging climate change regulations and guidance documents. She has taught land use and environmental law for the University of California and Stanford Law School and frequently speaks for client and lawyer professional associations and continuing education seminars. Ms. Hernandez has written two books and more than 30 articles on environmental and land use law.

» **Terry Rivasplata, AICP** - ICF International

Terry Rivasplata is a Technical Director at ICF, where he prepares and reviews environmental analysis documents for compliance with CEQA and NEPA for public and private clients. Prior to joining ICF, Mr. Rivasplata served as the deputy director of the Governor's Office of Planning and Research. In this role, he managed the Planning and State Clearinghouse units, providing technical assistance to cities and counties regarding California planning laws and distributing environmental analysis documents for state agency review. Mr. Rivasplata is currently the editor of the Association of Environmental Professionals' "Environmental Assessor," a publication that summarizes current CEQA case law. He is also a co-author of the CEQA Deskbook, Third Edition published by Solano Press Books, and is a popular CEQA instructor with the University of California Davis Extension.

» **Erin Efner** - ICF International

Erin Efner is a principal at ICF and has been preparing CEQA and NEPA environmental documents for over 13 years. Ms. Efner's project experience includes stormwater infrastructure projects, transportation, large residential projects, infill development, affordable housing, commercial/ industrial projects, elementary and high schools, mixed-use developments, specific plans, and General Plan Updates. Ms. Efner also has experience on large-scale land use plans including General Plans (individual elements as well as comprehensive updates) as well as specific plans covering large geographic areas. She has experience utilizing CEQA streamlining in Menlo Park, Oakland, and San Francisco and is currently assisting the City of Los Angeles with developing streamlining guidelines.

» **Darin Ranelletti** - City of Oakland

Darin Ranelletti is the Deputy Director of the Department of Planning and Building at the City of Oakland. In this position he oversees the Bureau of Planning, including the preparation of long-range policy plans and the review of development projects, and serves as the City's Environmental Review Officer.

8:45 am – 10:15 am – Cyril Magnin I, Level 4

***Water Under the Bridge***

**Sea Level Rise and Shoreline Adaptation – Lessons From the Bay Area**

**1.5 AICP | 1.0 MCLE Credits**

This panel will serve to “bridge the gap” between CEQA practitioners and technical experts statewide, by focusing on cutting-edge developments in planning for shoreline adaptation to combat sea level rise in the San Francisco Bay Area. Panelists will provide multiple perspectives on the complex and nuanced issues that must be addressed at the planning level when conducting environmental review and permitting of shoreline development, and will share their recommendations concerning best practices for addressing this critical topic. The multifaceted, moderated panel will include the following viewpoints: regulatory agency, local government planning, coastal engineering, CEQA, and legal.

**Moderator:**

» **Donald Sobelman, J.D.** - Downey Brand LLP

Don Sobelman is a partner at the law firm of Downey Brand LLP in the San Francisco office. He represents public and private sector clients in environmental and land use litigation in state and federal trial and appellate courts, and provides advice concerning compliance with state and federal environmental laws and regulations. His practice includes:

- » Assisting clients (including lead agencies and project applicants) with all aspects of the CEQA environmental review process,
- » Defending CEQA litigation on behalf of lead agencies and project applicants;
- » Managing legal risks associated with investigation and remediation of contaminated sites;
- » Advising with respect to brownfields redevelopment;
- » Guiding clients through land use permitting and entitlements processes, including with respect to wetlands and species issues and general plan and zoning amendments; and
- » Litigating statutory, contractual, and common law claims related to contamination, including cost recovery actions and Clean Water Act citizen suits.

Don is a graduate of Harvard Law School (1996) and is admitted to the practice of law in the California state courts, all federal district courts in California, the United States Court of Appeals (Ninth Circuit), and the United States Supreme Court. He also holds a B.A. degree in English Literature (UCLA, 1991).

**Panelists:**

» **Marc Zeppetello, J.D.** - San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission

Marc Zeppetello is Chief Counsel of the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) where he provides legal advice to the Executive Director and Commission on all matters related to the functions and operations of BCDC; reviews and comments on major projects prior to action by federal, state, regional, and local government agencies and other stakeholders; serves as liaison with the Attorney General's Office; advises about legal policy and participates in the development and implementation of agency policy. Prior to joining BCDC in September 2015, Marc was a partner at a San Francisco law firm; he practiced environmental and land use law for 29 years at several firms, first in Washington, D.C. and since 1989 in San Francisco. Marc is a 1985 graduate of UC Berkeley Law (Boalt Hall). Prior to law school, he worked at an environmental consulting firm preparing CEQA and NEPA documents for a wide range of Bay Area land use projects.

» **Lina Velasco** - City of Richmond

Lina Velasco is a Senior Planner at the City of Richmond. Lina was the City's Project Manager for both (1) the Terminal One redevelopment project at Point Richmond and (2) the Richmond Bay Specific Plan, which will regulate future development of 220 acres on the City's South Shoreline. Both projects required significant analysis and adaptation measures to address sea level rise. Lina was also a key member of the team that developed the City of Richmond's Climate Action Plan. She received her B.A., History and Chicana/o Studies with Minor in Public Policy, from UCLA. Prior to joining the City of Richmond in 2005, Lina was an Associate Planner with the City of Vacaville.

» **Matt Brennan, PhD** - Environmental Science Associates

Matt Brennan, PhD, PE, is an engineering hydrologist who focuses on understanding and managing estuaries and coasts for habitat, flood control, and water quality. Matt assists natural resource managers and public agencies resolve current issues and improve resiliency in the face of ongoing sea-level rise. Matt's experience includes:

- » Evaluating shoreline development and its resilience to sea-level rise for the City of Richmond
- » Developing sea-level rise design guidance for Redwood City's Inner Harbor Specific Plan
- » Estimating present and future coastal hazards and vulnerabilities for the Los Angeles County coastline
- » Assessing sea-level rise vulnerability and adaptation strategies for 9 miles of South Bay shoreline between Menlo Park and Mountain View

Matt received his Ph.D. in Civil and Environmental Engineering from Stanford University. Matt lives in San Francisco, and uses the Bay Trail to commute to his position at Environmental Science Associates.

» **Christy Herron, AICP** - Environmental Science Associates

Christy's expertise includes environmental planning in multiple cities throughout California. Christy's goal is always to combine a broad perspective with good technical grounding to find workable solutions to environmental constraints. She specializes in CEQA and NEPA analysis, land use planning, and environmental review for urban infill and shoreline

projects. She has managed the preparation of several project- and program-level EIRs that included a sea level rise assessment component, including the Terminal One EIR and Richmond Bay Specific Plan EIR, both for the City of Richmond. Christy received her Masters of City Planning (M.C.P.), from UC Berkeley and her B.A., Environmental Studies and English Literature from Mills College.

8:45 am – 10:15 am – Cyril Magnin II, Level 4

### ***Practitioner's Guide to Environmental Planning***

## **Air Quality: Developing Effective Offsite Mitigation Programs**

### **1.5 AICP Credits**

Offsite mitigation programs are routinely used to address impacts to biological and natural resources. Can offsite mitigation programs address air quality and greenhouse gas impacts too? Lead agencies evaluate air quality impacts in accordance with established thresholds. Projects that exceed these thresholds are required to implement feasible mitigation measures to reduce impacts to below threshold levels. Are offsite mitigation programs considered “feasible” under CEQA? And after incorporating offsite mitigation measures into a project, can impacts remain significant?

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District and San Francisco Planning Department are exploring offsite mitigation opportunities to further reduce air quality impacts from development projects. San Francisco is developing an Offsite Mitigation Program as part of its development of a Citywide air quality plan aimed at reducing the adverse health effects of air pollution and the BAAQMD is developing an Offsite Mitigation Program to demonstrate that it is a feasible mitigation strategy under CEQA and to attain health- based ambient air quality standards and statewide climate stabilization goals. Offsite mitigation programs offer opportunities to clean up emissions from existing air pollution sources that adversely affect regional air pollution and could alleviate the need for expensive environmental impact reports. Offsite mitigation programs implemented locally can also reduce population exposure to harmful pollutants for the most vulnerable populations.

This session will discuss why offsite mitigation opportunities are important tools for CEQA mitigation and explore: the nexus required for CEQA mitigation; how to calculate the quantity and type of emissions needing to be offset; how to include offsite mitigation opportunities in CEQA documents and assessing the resulting environmental effect; the types of offsite projects that could be implemented; successful air quality offsite mitigation programs and lessons learned; and programs being developed at the regional and local level in the Bay Area including challenges and opportunities.

### **Panelists:**

» **Jessica Range** - San Francisco Planning Department

Jessica Range, LEED AP is a Senior Environmental Planner with the City and County of San Francisco where she oversees CEQA analysis and serves as a lead technical specialist for noise, air quality, greenhouse gases, and hazardous materials for the Planning Department.

With the City and County of San Francisco, Jessica prepared the City's Greenhouse Gas Reduction Strategy document for CEQA purposes and collaborated with Public Health and Building departments to develop air quality regulations for sensitive use buildings and clean construction practices. Jessica is currently overseeing the development of a Community Health Risk Reduction Plan that would reduce citywide health risk exposures to air pollution. Jessica holds a B.S. in Natural Resource Management from the University of California at Berkeley and a Masters in Environmental Management from the University of San Francisco.

» **Alison Kirk, AICP** - Bay Area Air Quality Management District

Alison Kirk, AICP is a Senior Environmental Planner at the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (Air District), where her responsibilities include working with Lead Agencies to apply the Air District's CEQA Guidelines, answering questions about the CAPCOA land use model CalEEMod, and CEQA document review. In previous positions at the Air District she managed Carl Moyer Program and other grant program call for projects, application review, and grant management. She has worked in transportation and environmental planning in both the public and private sector since 2000.

» **Honey Walters** - Ascent Environmental

Honey Walters, one of Ascent's founding partners, leads the firm's climate change and air quality practice. She is an expert in GHG analysis, reduction planning, air quality impact assessments, and modeling. Honey has 16 years of professional experience in the private and public sectors that is coupled with a strong educational background in air pollution chemistry and climate change science. Honey is currently working closely with SACOG, TMPO, and MTC regarding climate action planning and sustainable communities' strategies; ARB on Ascent's preparation of the EIR-equivalent CEQA documents for GHG regulations; and climate action planning efforts for the counties of San Diego, Napa, Sacramento, and Ventura and the cities of Sacramento, Millbrae, San Diego, and Carlsbad.

» **Andrea Ruiz-Esquide** - San Francisco City Attorney's Office

Andrea Ruiz-Esquide is a Deputy City Attorney at the San Francisco City Attorney's Office, where she practices environmental and land use law. She specializes in environmental review, historic preservation, air quality and transportation issues. Prior to joining the City Attorney's Office Andrea was a law fellow at Shute, Mihaly and Weinberger LLP in San Francisco, and a law clerk to the Honorable John T. Noonan, Jr., in the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. Andrea received her J.D. from Boalt Hall School of Law (now Berkeley Law) in 2004, and a Ph. D. from Columbia University in 2000.

8:45 am – 10:15 am – Mission, Level 4

### ***It's All Geek to Me***

## **Rural California CEQA Toolbox Additions**

### **1.5 AICP Credits**

Rural areas in California have historically been dependent on a natural resource utilization base that has, in recent years, turned into sensitive habitats, requiring use of tools not normally thought of in CEQA analysis. Staying ahead in current trends requires developing application of these tools suited for the rural environment. Panel members will present on applications of services such as unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) drone services, horizontal drilling and others. Are these technologies considered in the development of or as a feasible mitigation in your CEQA document? Two examples are described below but there are several others that will be discussed. UAVs are utilized for mapping and quantifying spatial coverage of sensitive habitats such as intertidal eel grass or other sensitive plant habitat. UAVs have also been utilized to establish, through full color spectral analysis, where Quinoa crops are stressed due to lack of irrigation or nutrients. This technology can be applied to reduce water withdrawal/water consumption of crops that impact creek and wetland resources by direct withdrawal from creeks and springs. By monitoring stress levels appropriate irrigation amounts can be applied. UAV technologies can also be utilized to develop digital elevation models and topographic mapping of hillside quarries, gravel bars, landslides and can be utilized economically for emergency response personnel responding to natural disasters. Another tool in use is horizontal drilling technology that allows avoidance of trenching through sensitive or aquatic environments by tunneling under them. By positioning horizontal drilling correctly there are minimal direct impacts to the creek or wetland; water diversions are not necessary and erosion control/revegetation adjacent to these aquatic environments is minimized. It can be further utilized where utilities need to be deep underground or to avoid disrupting traffic on roadways with no detours. These and other technologies will be discussed with examples that have recently been implemented.

### **Moderator:**

» **Bob Brown, AICP** - Streamline Planning

Bob has worked for over 33 years to develop Streamline Planning Consultants' approach combining land use planning, community involvement and environmental strategies for rural communities. Using his background in planning, natural sciences and environmental assessments, he continues to provide application of cutting edge technologies and mitigation strategies to both public and private clients. Bob teaches the CEQA/NEPA class at Humboldt State University.

### **Panelists:**

» **Greg O'Connell** - Streamline Planning

Greg is a Biologist/Botanist at Streamline Planning. Greg has expertise focusing on botanical and aquatic research, conservation, and regulatory compliance. Greg's recent projects have used unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) imagery to produce very high resolution mosaic images of intertidal eelgrass, a protected marine species. Georeferenced UAV imagery is easily imported into GIS software for quantitative spatial analysis. Greg has also used UAV imagery to classify and map native vegetation at project sites as well as analyze crop health, resulting in increased spatial analysis opportunities when compared to traditional ground-based surveys.

» **Steve Donovan, PE** - SHN Engineers and Geologists

Steve has 25+ years of civil and environmental engineering experience primarily in the Public Works Sector. Steve brings many years of experience in trenchless technologies for new installations and rehabilitation of facilities. He is a recognized authority in horizontal directional drilling (HDD) and he teaches introductory classes on trenchless technologies to public works officials.

8:45 am – 10:15 am – Cyril Magnin III, Level 4

### ***Intersection of Planning and CEQA***

## **Removing Road Blocks to New Infill Housing Development**

**1.5 AICP | 1.0 MCLE Credits**

**Background:** Many by-right, infill housing projects that qualify for either a CEQA exemption or CEQA streamlining provision continue to undergo discretionary review due to complex zoning and design regulations at the local level. CEQA issue being addressed: Applying CEQA streamlining strategies to by-right, infill housing development.

**Session Details:** Presentation of lessons learned in developing new infill housing units to meet local and regional demand from the perspective of a City housing expert as well as Land Use and Environmental attorneys. Discuss the potential for further environmental review reform among practitioners that may improve the environmental review process of infill housing development in order to meet housing demand as projected by ABAG.

**Session Learning Outcome:** This will be an interactive learning session, where panelists and participants will answer the question: How are local governments working within the current legal framework to produce the number of housing units needed on designated by-right, infill sites to meet local and regional housing goals, such as those set by Plan Bay Area, and what environmental review barriers exist? Participants will be encouraged to make suggestions on potential strategies to further reduce barriers within the environmental review process to new by-right, infill housing development. These suggestions will be drafted into a letter to the Governor by the moderator as a next step to move the conversation forward.



### Moderator:

» **Ashley James** - PlaceWorks

Ashley has over three years of experience in community economic development and urban planning, including economic development with an emphasis on community engagement and cross-sector collaboration. She specializes in comprehensive planning, preparing General Plans for a range of cities in California. In addition, Ashley applies her knowledge of the California Environmental Quality Act to prepare program and project-level environmental documentation. She is recognized for her skills in project management, writing, and group facilitation. Ashley currently serves as Membership Director for the SF Bay Area Chapter of AEP.

### Panelists:

» **Jennifer L. Hernandez** - Partner, Holland & Knight

Jennifer L. Hernandez leads the West Coast Land Use and Environment Practice Group. She divides her time between the San Francisco and Los Angeles offices, and works on projects in Northern and Southern California, as well as the Central Valley. She has achieved national prominence in her work on brownfields redevelopment, wetlands and endangered species, as well as CEQA. She represents private, nonprofit and public sector clients, including real estate developers, public agencies and operating companies in numerous industries. Ms. Hernandez serves on the firm's Directors Committee and was the first West Coast lawyer and first Latina awarded the firm's highest honor for her professional, pro bono and community achievements.

Ms. Hernandez chairs a conference on Climate Change Law in California and has written and spoken extensively on California climate change laws (including AB 32, SB 375 and SB 97) as well as emerging regulations and guidance documents. She also advises clients on pending State legislative and regulatory proceedings, in regional air districts, and in Climate Action Plans among other local land use policies. She also received the American Planning Association Award for her book, "A Practical Guide to the California Environmental Quality Act" and the Greenlining Institute's "Big Brain Award" for developing a "New Paradigm that Intersects Environmental and Inner-City Economic and Health Goals."

Ms. Hernandez has taught land use and environmental law for the University of California and Stanford Law School and frequently speaks for client and lawyer professional associations and continuing education seminars. She is a Board Member of the California Infill Builders Federation.

» **Barbara Kautz, J.D.** - Goldfarb & Lipman LLP

Barbara E. Kautz is a partner at Goldfarb & Lipman LLP and practices in the areas of land use (especially housing-related land use and CEQA compliance), fair housing, and affordable housing. She has assisted public agency and private clients in a wide variety of land use and CEQA matters. In the last legislative session, she participated in negotiations regarding the Governor's 'by right' proposal on behalf of the American Planning Association.

Before becoming an attorney, Ms. Kautz worked for 30 years as a planner, planning director, community development director and assistant city manager, concluding her career as Community Development Director and Assistant City Manager for the City of San Mateo. During that period she served on the Board of Directors for the League of California Cities and on the Board of Directors for the American Planning Association, California Chapter. She is a Fellow of the American Institute of Certified Planners.

Ms. Kautz is a current AEP member and frequent speaker at conferences, including those sponsored by the League of California Cities, American Planning Association, and Nonprofit Housing Association for Northern California. She is the co-author of *Local Government Financing Powers and Sources of Funding* in the ABA Legal Guide to Affordable Housing (2005, update 2011) and author of *In Defense of Inclusionary Zoning: Successfully Creating Affordable Housing*, 36 U.S.F. Law Review 971 (2002).

» **Trudi Ryan, AICP** - City of Sunnyvale

Ms. Ryan has worked as a land use and environmental planner for over 30 years. She has a Bachelor of Arts from Rutgers University, majoring in Sociology/City Planning. She also has a Master of Landscape Architecture degree from the University of California, Berkeley, with a concentration in Environmental Planning. Ms. Ryan has served as the Planning Officer for the City of Sunnyvale for over 20 years. Under her management the Planning Division has prepared specialized plans for the Downtown, business parks, El Camino Real (the main retail corridor in the city), and other key redevelopment areas. These plans were developed to improve the urban form, promote green building, and provide a wider range of land use options within the community. In Sunnyvale she has also directed the development review process for tens of thousands of land use permits. As a private land use consultant she worked for cities, counties and other government agencies providing: environmental review under NEPA and CEQA; land use feasibility studies; policy development; and, also served as contract project planner. Early in her professional planning career she worked several years for the City of San Diego administering the zoning and design review provisions of several historic and special land use districts and as a project planner for planned residential developments.

10:30 am – 12:00 pm – Cyril Magnin I, Level 4

### *Water Under the Bridge*

## **Tidal Restoration in the Suisun Marsh and Conflicting Regulatory Requirements and Permits**

### **1.5 AICP Credits**

**Problem Statement:** A large number of regulatory agency approvals are needed for tidal restoration projects in the Suisun Marsh, and each agency has legal and policy requirements that often put those requirements in conflict with other agencies. Resolving these often unanticipated conflicts adds time to project approval and takes careful negotiation. Resulting long timelines for permit approval of tidal restoration projects increases cost and uncertainty when initiating projects for development.

**Approach:** The Tule Red Tidal Restoration Project began its planning and design phase in 2012 with a suite of resource agencies. Sufficient basis of design detail was developed by the spring of 2015 to initiate environmental review and permitting. Careful study of existing permits and approvals for other relevant projects provided a baseline of potential permit conditions. Early consultation with agencies will also give project proponents information on permit requirements, relevant interdependencies of other approvals, and timelines for approvals.

**Results:** Once permit applications and environmental documents were submitted, several conflicting requirements became apparent. Requirements for creation of a “habitat levee” to provide transitional habitat between wetlands and uplands for salt marsh harvest mouse converted wetlands to uplands, putting the project in conflict with California’s no-net-loss wetland policy. One agency’s guidance requires development of maximum feasible public access under any permit given for a shoreline project which is in conflict with the conservation easement required by a different agency.

**Conclusion/Relevance:** Within the Suisun Marsh and elsewhere in the Delta, tidal restoration projects would benefit from programmatic solutions to resource conflicts like the ones experienced in development of this project. Creating a “Regional Permit” that would apply to all tidal restoration projects meeting the goals of the Suisun Marsh Plan would be an economical and time-saving alternative to project-by-project permitting, often costing hundreds of thousands of dollars per project.

### **Moderator:**

- » **Hal Holland** - Assistant Regional Manager/Senior Conservation Planner,  
Westervelt Ecological Services

Mr. Holland is a Assistant Regional Manager and Sr. Conservation Planner with Westervelt Ecological Services. He oversees Entitlement and Compliance of their western region mitigation and conservation projects. Mr. Holland is responsible for project development components including design, permitting, and resource agency approvals, as well as the long-term compliance with Bank commitments. He has also served as the project manager for several highly complex wetlands/species habitat restoration projects, including the first two mitigation banks approved in the Corps Sacramento District following the issuance of the federal compensatory mitigation rule. Mr. Holland is a nationally recognized expert in long-term stewardship planning for mitigation sites, with particular emphasis on endowment fund budget preparation, long-term monitoring and management plan development, and third-party conservation easement holder negotiation. Mr. Holland has a Bachelor of Science degree in ecology, behavior, and evolution from the University of California at San Diego. Prior to coming to WES, Mr. Holland spent two years at a Wildlands, Inc., and oversaw Northern California regional planning and mitigation entitlement activities as the Conservation Group leader. Mr. Holland has also spent 5 years with EDAW (now AECOM), a national environmental consulting firm, as a project manager, biologist, and CEQA/NEPA compliance specialist.

### Panelists:

- » **Steven Chappell** - Executive Director, Suisun Resource Conservation District

Mr. Chappell is the Executive Director of the Suisun Resource Conservation District. He has participated in numerous Suisun Marsh planning and regulatory programs including the U.S. Army Corp's of Engineers Regional General Permit renewal and administration, the Baylands Ecosystem Goals Project, the Suisun Ecological Workshop, and Suisun Marsh Environmental Coordination Advisory Team. A negotiator of the Suisun Marsh Preservation Agreement, a participant in the development of the Suisun Marsh Charter, and is an agency principal in the preparation of the Management, Preservation, and Restoration Plan for the Suisun Marsh. Mr. Chappell has worked in the Suisun Marsh since March of 1994 as a field technician for the California Waterfowl Association to conduct breeding waterfowl survey and banding of local waterfowl. In the fall of 1994 he began working for the SRCD as a Biologist conducting field studies and habitat management, soon advancing to District biologist. In 1998 he was promoted to Executive Director.

- » **Byron Buck** - Executive Director, State and Federal Contractors Water Agency

Mr. Buck is the Executive Director of the State and Federal Contractors Water Agency, a Joint Powers Authority made up of contractors to the Federal Central Valley Project and State Water Project who collectively deliver water to over 2/3 of California's population and over 3 million acres of farmland. Mr. Buck has a thirty year background in water resources and environmental planning, having operated a consulting practice for 10 years and serving in executive capacities for water agencies, special districts and non-profit corporations. Mr. Buck has written numerous urban water management plans and water supply assessments in both northern and southern California. Mr. Buck is a published author in the field of urban water supply reliability planning and was the 1989 Samuel C. May award from the Western Governmental Research Association for a paper on water marketing in California. Mr. Buck has bachelors and masters degrees from California State University Long Beach.

10:30 am – 12:00 pm – Cyril Magnin II, Level 4

### *Practitioner's Guide to Environmental Planning*

## **Mitigation Creation Station: A Hands-on Workshop Focusing on How to Construct Defensible, Implementable Mitigation Measures.**

### **1.5 AICP | 1.0 MCLE Credits**

If an EIR is the heart of CEQA, then mitigation measures are the hands and feet. Mitigation is the place where all of the painstaking environmental analysis converts to real-world action, and it is imperative that the mitigation text is not only legally defensible, but also clearly expresses the requirements needed to reduce impacts. Otherwise, applicants may be uncertain how to implement such measures, and lead agencies may find it difficult to

monitor or verify completion. This workshop—led by a panel consisting of an environmental consultant, a city planner, a mitigation/regulatory permitting specialist, a land use attorney, and a private developer—will provide tools to bridge the gap between the intended mitigation action and the interpreted mitigation action. Such tools include statutory and case-law-based “best practices” for preparing clear, defensible, and implementable mitigation measures, as well as anecdotes and lessons learned from actual projects. The panel will also conduct an interactive mitigation writing group exercise.

### Panelists:

» **Mike Parker, AICP** - Ascent Environmental, Inc.

Mike Parker is a CEQA and NEPA project manager drawing from 13 years of environmental planning and urban planning experience. He has successfully managed the CEQA processes for large and small projects throughout California, but with a concentration in the Central Valley region. His diverse project experience ranges from open space projects to high rise towers in downtown settings, from elementary schools to General Plan updates, from small city halls to major criminal justice facilities. Many of these projects involved intense public controversy. Also, as a former planner at the City of Sacramento, Mike brings a thorough understanding of the local civic process, stakeholders, environmental issues and planning opportunities and constraints.

» **Jess Yang, J.D.** - Taylor & Wiley

Jesse Yang is an attorney with Taylor & Wiley, a Sacramento environmental and land use law firm. He has successfully represented many clients in an array of matters of environmental compliance associated with securing and defending land use entitlements. Jesse has over 20 years of experience involving the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), including 4 years as an environmental consultant and 18 years as an attorney. Jesse also advises clients with regard to a variety of other land use and environmental matters, including, but not limited to, compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975 (SMARA), the Williamson Act, and the State Planning and Zoning Law.

» **Tracey Ferguson, AICP** - D.R. Horton

Tracey Ferguson, AICP is a Forward Planner with D.R. Horton and is responsible for managing residential land development and planning entitlements, including CEQA IS/MND and EIR preparation, in addition to implementing project conditions of approval, environmental mitigation measures, and conditions of state and federal regulatory permits. Tracey brings over 15 years of experience specializing in land use planning, housing, CEQA, entitlement coordination, permit processing, and preparation of general and specific plans. She holds a B.A. in Geography from California State University, Sacramento and is active in the planning community where she most recently served as the Section Director of the American Planning Association, California Chapter, Sacramento Valley Section.

» **Mike Eng** - Ascent Environmental, Inc.

Michael Eng specializes in project management of complex water resources projects involving CEQA, regulatory permitting, and mitigation. Mike's key experience has included project management and coordination of fast-paced and controversial public infrastructure projects with multiple clients and stakeholders. He specializes in water resource projects with natural resource/restoration components and has working knowledge of permitting procedures and requirements under the Federal Clean Water Act (CWA) Sections 404, 402, and 401, California Fish and Game Code 1602, and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) water rights. Mike also specializes in the Federal and California Endangered Species Acts (ESA), CEQA, land use planning, and water quality issues in the Central Valley.

» **Elizabeth Purl** - City and County of San Francisco, Planning Department

Elizabeth Purl has been an environmental planner for over 25 years, both as a consultant for municipal and institutional clients and as a planner with the San Francisco Planning Department. She has prepared environmental analyses and conducted mitigation monitoring for a wide range of public, private, and institutional projects in urban, suburban, and rural/agricultural settings throughout California. She is currently the Department's Development Performance Coordinator, with responsibility for monitoring mitigation and other post-approval requirements for major development projects. Elizabeth holds a BA in Political Science from Bryn Mawr College and an MS in Environmental Management from the University of San Francisco.

10:30 am – 12:00 pm — Mission, Level 4

### *It's All Geek to Me*

## AEP White Paper on Consumptive Inventories

### 1.5 AICP Credits

Consumptive greenhouse gas inventories include upstream life cycle analysis when determining emissions. The Bay Area Air Quality Management District completed a consumptive inventory for the Bay Area in 2016. Given this trend in GHG Inventories, the AEP Climate Change Committee invested time and research into what is appropriate within CEQA. Find out when consumptive inventories are appropriate, how to develop one, and best practices in using this type of GHG inventory within climate action plans or project analysis.

### Moderator:

» **Michael Hendrix** - LSA Associates

Michael is the Chair of the AEP Climate Change Committee and principal author of the AEP White Papers on Climate Change. In 2008 he assisted OPR in drafting CEQA Guideline Amendments to address climate change. He was the recipient of AEP 2010 Achievement

Award for his dedication in advancing climate change science through the educational programs and practitioner workshops he authored and conducted. In addition, this award recognized his contribution and participation with the various California agencies in developing methods of analysis, implementation policies, and advocating local control in developing community climate action plans for local governments in California.

### Panelists:

» **Tammy L. Seale**, AICP - PlaceWorks

Tammy is on the AEP Climate Change Committee and leads the climate action and sustainability planning practice at PlaceWorks.

» **Dave Mitchell** - Mitchell Air Quality Consulting

Dave Mitchell has more than 24 years of experience in land use and air quality planning, including long-range planning, plan implementation, and managing large multidisciplinary projects. Dave is currently an independent consultant that prepares Climate Action Plans, Greenhouse Gas Inventories, Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas technical studies for development projects, and special analyses required for regulatory compliance. Formerly Dave led the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District's (SJVAPCD) CEQA Section for many years. In that role he was responsible for the review CEQA documents and for providing guidance to consultants preparing air quality studies for environmental documents. Dave lead the preparation of the SJVAPCD's Guide for Assessing and Mitigating Air Quality Impacts, and participated on California Air Pollution Control.

» **Sarah Favrot** - LSA Associates

Sarah Favrot is the senior climate action planner in LSA's Carlsbad office and has worked with many local governments in the development and adoption of climate action plans.

» **Dave Burch** - Bay Area Air Quality Management District

Dave Burch is a Principal Environmental Planner at BAAQMD within the Climate Protection Section of Planning and Research. Dave worked with key staff at UC Berkeley during the development of the Bay Area Consumptive-Based Inventory of GHG Emissions. Dave is currently working with other BAAQMD staff to integrate the Consumptive-Based Inventory into the Air District's Regional Climate Protection Strategy. Dave also worked on the Air Districts 2011 Production-Based Inventory of GHG Emissions and integration of GHG Emissions into the Bay Area Clean Air Plan.

10:30 am – 12:00 pm – Cyril Magnin III, Level 4

## *Intersection of Planning and CEQA*

### **Community Risk Reduction Planning: Taking the HRA to the Next Level to Address Public Health**

**1.5 AICP | 1.0 MCLE Credits**

Human exposure to toxic air contaminants (TACs) is associated with numerous adverse health effects and is typically addressed in air quality analyses conducted in compliance with CEQA. While the debate continues after the California Supreme Court's CBIA vs. BAAQMD decision on how and when to address or mitigate the effects of the environment on a project in CEQA, Governor Brown signed SB 1000 into law in September 2016, which amends the State's Planning and Zoning Law to require local governments to include a new mandatory Environmental Justice (EJ) Element in their general plan updates. According to the statute, the EJ Element must "reduce the unique or compounded health risks in disadvantaged communities by means that include, but are not limited to, the reduction of pollution exposure." Thus, while there may be less certainty around when and how to prepare project-level health risk assessments (HRAs) under CEQA, there is now a clear policy mandate (at least for jurisdictions with disadvantaged communities) to address and mitigate health risk exposure to air pollution through the general plan.

Several local agencies in the Bay Area (i.e., BAAQMD, San Francisco, Hayward) have already realized the benefits of developing plan-level approaches to addressing and mitigating TAC exposure for a community as a whole as an alternative to project-specific HRAs, through the preparation and implementation of a Community Risk Reduction Plan (CRRP). This session will provide an overview of the CRRP approach, including technical modeling approaches that can be used; lessons learned; developing a health risk reduction policy framework, project-level mitigation measures, and best management practices; and considerations for integrating the CRRP into local general plans or community plans.

#### **Moderator:**

» **Erik de Kok, AICP** - Ascent Environmental

Erik de Kok is a Senior Planner/Project Manager at Ascent Environmental, where he leads the firm's Sustainability Planning practice and specializes in the preparation and implementation of climate action plans, sustainability plans, greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction plans, climate change vulnerability assessments, and climate adaptation plans. Over his career, he has prepared and implemented a variety of long-range planning projects and related programs, including community and neighborhood plans, comprehensive plans and general plans. He is also experienced in air quality and climate change analysis and environmental document preparation for project compliance under CEQA and NEPA. He recently led Ascent's work on a CRRP as part of the City of Hayward 2040 General Plan Update, and is currently working with the City and County of San Francisco on their CRRP.



**Panelists:**

» **Jessica Range, LEED AP** - City and County of San Francisco

Jessica Range is a Senior Environmental Planner with the City and County of San Francisco where she oversees CEQA analysis and serves as a lead technical specialist for noise, air quality, greenhouse gases, and hazardous materials for the Planning Department. With the City and County of San Francisco, Mrs. Range prepared the City's Greenhouse Gas Reduction Strategy document for CEQA purposes and collaborated with Public Health and Building departments to develop regulations that require sensitive use buildings in areas with poor air quality to install and operate mechanical ventilation systems that remove fine particulates and regulations requiring public projects to use the cleanest available construction equipment. Mrs. Range is currently overseeing the development of a Community Health Risk Reduction Plan that would reduce citywide health risk exposures to air pollution. Mrs. Range holds a B.S in Natural Resource Management from the University of California at Berkeley and a Masters in Environmental Management from the University of San Francisco.

» **Philip Martien, PhD** - Bay Area Air Quality Management District

Dr. Philip Martien manages the Community Air Risk Evaluation (CARE) program at the Bay Area Air Quality Management District, where he has served for 26 years. Dr. Martien holds a doctorate degree from UC Berkeley's Civil & Environmental Engineering program.

» **Dimitri Antoniou, AICP** - Ascent Environmental

Dimitri Antoniou is an environmental planner and air quality/greenhouse gas specialist with experience in environmental impact analysis, critical writing and document preparation, and GIS analysis. He has worked on a variety of projects conducting environmental analyses and preparing environmental documents pursuant to CEQA and NEPA. He has experience conducting technical air quality and GHG analyses for development projects using computer based emissions models such as CalEEMod. He also has experience in air dispersion modeling software such as AERMOD and HARP which he has used to conduct community-wide air dispersion and health risk modeling in California. In addition, Dimitri has experience conducting ambient noise level measurements and technical noise studies.

10:30 am – 12:00 pm — Balboa, Level 4

***Student and Emerging Professionals***

**Resume Writing: Crafting a Standout Resume that Will Get Noticed by Environmental Professionals**

Perhaps the most important tool for gaining employment, resumes provide a unique opportunity to market yourself before you have even walked through the door. This session is designed to present students with industry standards for crafting a resume that is sure to be noticed. Students will learn how to effectively articulate their skills on paper and

highlight knowledge and experience valued by environmental professionals. Pros and cons of various resume formatting and content will be discussed. This workshop will provide examples of how cover letters can supplement your resume and gain the interest of hiring managers. Students will also have the opportunity to have their resumes reviewed by professionals and recent alum.

### Panelists:

**Nisha Chauhan** Environmental Planning (NCEP) specializes in CEQA and NEPA environmental impact assessment. NCEP provides environmental planning, project management and coordination, and preparation of environmental technical studies for infrastructure, development, and water resources projects. Nisha is also available to teach and facilitate workshops. With 16 years of environmental management experience, Nisha has developed a network of environmental professionals to team and collaborate with on an as-needed basis.

**Christina Hirt** is an Environmental Planner at WRA, Inc. She graduated Summa Cum Laude from the University of San Diego in May 2015 with a B.A. in Environmental Studies and a Communication Studies minor and is a member of Phi Beta Kappa. Her two years of experience at WRA include assisting with the preparation and review of EIR/EIS's and other environmental review documents pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Prior to joining WRA, she was awarded multiple research grants in the fields of Land Management and Environmental Justice and worked in the Conservation Department for the San Diego Audubon Society. Christina currently serves as the Student Outreach Director for the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter of AEP.

**Reema Mahamood** is an environmental planner with over 15 years of experience preparing CEQA and NEPA documents. While most of her experience has been in the private sector, she is currently experiencing the field from the Lead Agency point of view as an environmental planner with the City of San José. She enjoys sharing her experiences and being a mentor to people entering the field.

**Matthew Gerken, AICP** - Senior Urban and Environmental Planner, Environmental Planning Department Manager

Matthew Gerken is an urban and environmental planner who has served a variety of clients on a wide range of municipal planning and environmental assignments. He has experience with comprehensive and focused general plan updates, specific plans, climate action plans, zoning code updates, CEQA thresholds development for GHGs, and grant writing to support his clients' priority planning, design, and construction projects. He has conducted environmental review and impact analysis of general plans, specific plans, residential and mixed-use development projects, government office projects, public infrastructure improvements, parks and recreational facilities, school campus projects, and many other project types.

He is typically the hiring manager for environmental requisitions in AECOM's Sacramento office, and often serves as hiring manager or co-manager for urban planning and design positions, as well.

Matthew has a master's degree in urban and regional planning from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a B.A. in urban geography from the University of Iowa.

**Alisa Moore** is the Director of ESA's Bay Area Water Business Group in San Francisco with 23 years of experience. She holds a B.S. Biology degree from the University of San Francisco. She is a project manager and compliance specialist for largescale resource management and facilities projects, specializing in water resources and land management projects. She has recently managed the EIR and construction monitoring efforts for the San Francisco Groundwater Supply Project and the San Francisco Westside Recycled Water Project, which will increase the City's water supply portfolio; and is currently managing the City of Daly City Vista Grande Drainage Basin Improvement Project EIR/EIS, which would provide substantial flood protection and Lake Merced water supply management, and the Soquel Creek Water District Pure Water Soquel Project EIR, which will include injection of advanced purified water supply and redistribution of existing groundwater well pumping to address longterm water supply planning and seawater intrusion considerations.

**Kieulan Pham** is currently an urban planner on the Environmental Planning Team at the City of San Jose, providing CEQA environmental clearance on planning entitlements and the Regional Wastewater Facility's Capital Improvement Program projects. Additionally, she assists with NEPA environmental packages for State Water Board grants. Previously, Pham worked at David J. Powers & Associates: Environmental Planners & Consultants; City of San José's Stormwater Compliance Team; and Naval Postgraduate School Public Works Department. She holds a Master of Urban and Regional Planning from San Jose State University and a Bachelor of Landscape Architecture from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo.

1:45 pm – 3:15 pm — Cyril Magnin I, Level 4

### ***Water Under the Bridge***

## **Sea Level Rise Mapping: The Past, the Present, and...the Future**

### **1.5 AICP Credits**

Creating useful maps that illustrate potential sea level rise in coastal areas can be a confusing topic for those of us without "PE" after our names (most planners). This panel will present an overview of sea level rise mapping and how it has evolved (the "past"); discuss sea level rise mapping as presented in a recent planning document prepared for the City of Richmond per SB 379 (the "present"); and discuss a new and innovative planning tool, the Technical Methods Manual (the "future"). Our panel of agency experts, a coastal engineer, an oceanographer, a planner will help "bridge the gap" between planners and technical experts on the topic of sea level rise. The panel will address the following topics:

- » The City of Richmond's recent Climate Change Adaptation Study, which is meant to guide adaptation planning by identifying community assets vulnerable to climate change.
- » Marin County's Vulnerability Assessments and Adaptation Planning efforts which integrate USGS's Coastal Storm Modeling System (CoSMoS).
- » The Technical Methods Manual for Local and Regional Planners (Relating Future Coastal Conditions to Existing FEMA Flood Hazard Maps), which was produced developed by Environmental Science Associates (ESA) and Scripps Institution of Oceanography (SIO) scientists with input from OST and DWR as part of a multi-agency effort funded by the NOAA Coastal and Ocean Climate Adaptation (COCA) Program, and the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) with coordination support from the California Ocean Science Trust (OST), with broad participation by professionals active in coastal engineering, planning and management. The Manual provides guidance products to help local communities adapt and plan for sea level rise.
- » Recent sea level rise scenarios that are being investigated as part of the California 4th Climate Change Assessment.

### **Moderator:**

- » **Jennifer Brown** - Environmental Analyst, ESA

Jennifer is an Environmental Analyst with over four years of CEQA/NEPA planning experience that extends from formal document preparation to biological fieldwork, intake and management support for a non-profit environmental law firm to policy outreach with the EPA. Jennifer serves as deputy project manager on a range of projects including large urban infill development, affordable housing redevelopment, as well as campus master plan and specific plan updates with ESA.

### **Panelists:**

- » **Dr. Daniel R. Cayan, PhD** - Research Meteorologist, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of California San Diego

Dr. Dan Cayan is a climate researcher at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, UC San Diego. Cayan's work is aimed at understanding climate variability and changes over the Pacific Ocean and North America and how they affect the water cycle and related sectors over western North America. He has specific interests in regional climate in California and has played a leading role in a series of California climate vulnerability and adaptation assessments. He is also involved with programs to deliver improved climate information to decision makers: the California Nevada Applications Program (CNAP), sponsored by the NOAA RISA Program and the Southwest Climate Science Center, sponsored by the US Geological Survey, Department of Interior.

- » **Lindy Lowe** - Planning Director, BCDC

Lindy received a Bachelor of Arts degree in art history and public health and a Master of Urban Planning degree with an emphasis in law and environmental policy from the University of California, Los Angeles where her master's thesis was on potential preservation strategies for the Santa Monica Mountains. Prior to joining BCDC's staff in 2005, Ms. Lowe

was a senior planner in the long range planning division of the City of San Diego where she worked on habitat conservation planning, assisted community groups in understanding development proposals, creating trails systems and preserving open spaces. She has also worked for the Los Angeles Regional Planning Department in both their advance and current planning divisions and for the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors. At BCDC she has worked on regional airport planning, has served as the San Francisco Waterfront planner and helped develop the nationally recognized Adapting to Rising Tides Program, a climate adaptation planning effort that emphasizes community participation, the four frames of sustainability and transparent processes

» **Alex Westhoff** - Planner, Marin County Community Development Agency

Alex Westhoff, AICP, is a planner with the Marin County Community Development Agency focused on adaptation planning for communities vulnerable to sea level rise. Alex has more than 13 years of experience in planning, monitoring, and management activities for San Francisco Bay-Delta communities. He is the co-creator of the “Game of Floods” – developed by the County of Marin as a public education activity to consider sea level rise adaptation and the trade-offs between traditional flood protection measures (i.e., levees and seawalls), green infrastructure approaches, and policy/zoning changes. He holds a joint Master of City Planning/Master of Landscape Architecture from UC Berkeley.

Prior to working for Marin County, he spent seven years with the Delta Protection Commission, focused on the establishment of the Heritage Area and other projects to enhance the region’s sense of place.

» **Charles Lester, J.D., PhD** - Previous Director of the California Coastal Commission

Dr. Charles Lester has been working in the field of ocean and coastal management for more than 25 years. He is currently at the Institute of Marine Sciences at UC Santa Cruz, researching and writing about sea level rise, coastal resilience, and other aspects of California coastal law and policy. Charles previously worked for the California Coastal Commission, including serving as the fourth executive director of the agency from 2011 to 2016. He also served as the Commission’s senior deputy director, a district director and manager in the agency’s Santa Cruz office, a coastal program analyst, and a student intern during graduate school.

Prior to moving to Santa Cruz, Charles was an assistant professor of political science at the University of Colorado, Boulder, where he taught environmental law and policy, with a focus on public lands governance and coastal zone management. He also worked with NOAA’s General Counsel for Ocean Services.

Charles Lester received his J.D. and his Ph.D. in Jurisprudence and Social Policy from the University of California at Berkeley. His doctoral thesis examined the politics, policy and law of offshore oil development in the United States. He earned his B.A. in Geochemistry in 1984 from Columbia University in New York City, and worked his college summers at the Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory. Charles lives in Sequel with his wife, daughter, two dogs, two cats, and a remarkably resilient betta fish.

» **Bob Battalio, P.E.** - Environmental Science Associates, ESA

As vice president, chief engineer, and leader of ESA's Environmental Hydrology Coastal Zone Engineering & Management team, Bob oversees the firm's engineering services in flood management, restoration design, and coastal engineering. A licensed civil engineer in five states and with several pioneering projects under his belt, Bob will lead our team as they plan and implement multi-objective projects to restore and enhance natural systems. Bob has dedicated his career of 30 years to coastal and estuarine engineering, wetland and creek restoration design, and waterfront civil engineering projects throughout the U.S. He has addressed erosion and flooding hazards in numerous locations in California, Washington, and Oregon. He is a leader in managed retreat – landward realignment; restoration of shores, wetlands and lagoons; future conditions hazards assessments and adaptation-climate scenario planning. Bob is also an avid surfer, supporter of environmental organizations and an advocate for nature-based designs.

» **Jeff Caton, P.E., LEED AP** - Environmental Science Associates

Jeff Caton, P.E., LEED AP, ESA's Sustainable Communities Director, has more than 25 years of planning, engineering and business strategy experience. Jeff assists clients with sustainability and climate change initiatives through strategy development, benchmarking, performance measurement, and various communications media. Jeff has managed multiple CAPs and sustainability plans for cities and public agencies throughout California.

1:45 pm – 3:15 pm – Cyril Magnin II, Level 4

### *Practitioner's Guide to Environmental Planning*

## **Lost in Translation: Addressing Communication Challenges Amongst CEQA Consultants, Developers, Public Agencies, and Attorneys**

**1.5 AICP | 1.0 MCLE Credits**

The CEQA process involves meeting and balancing a number of, sometimes competing, priorities: factual development, timing/schedule concerns, cost restrictions, process/public outreach, and legal defensibility. This panel will feature speakers highlighting the often humorous ways in which consultants and technical experts, developers, public agencies, and attorneys face communication challenges when they attempt to “translate” comments and concerns between groups. Attendees will learn about: (i) tools that can be used to translate technical expertise into defensible (and accessible) CEQA documents; (ii) communication strategies for resolving potential disputes between team-members; and (iii) best practices for communicating between groups throughout the CEQA process. Audience participation (in the form of sharing their own communication challenges) will be strongly encouraged, so that attendees can ensure their CEQA concerns are not “lost in translation.”

### Panelists:

» **Charity Schiller, J.D.** - Best Best & Krieger, LLP

Charity Schiller is an environmental and land use attorney who helps public agencies and private clients entitle and build all forms of public and private projects, including roadway and water infrastructure projects, public facilities, and residential, commercial, and industrial developments. She assists clients with all aspects of the California Environmental Quality Act, the National Environmental Policy Act and related environmental laws. She has extensive experience with the preparation and adoption of environmental impact reports, environmental impact statements, negative declarations, addenda, exemptions and other environmental documents. She is also an experienced litigator, successfully defending her clients before administrative boards and trial and appellate courts throughout California.

» **Aimee Epstein** - Senior Manager, Development Operations, NRG Energy

Aimee Epstein brings nearly a decade of land development, permitting, and land use policy experience to the Renewables division of NRG Energy. At NRG, she has provided real estate and permitting direction for 20+ distributed generation projects across the U.S. Prior to joining NRG, Aimee managed the land use entitlement process for a portfolio of projects with Recurrent Energy, successfully permitting more than 450 MW (4,000+ acres) of distributed and utility-scale solar projects in four years. She has extensive experience establishing and maintaining partnerships with critical stakeholders, including local and State agencies, property owners, community members, and environmental and agricultural advocacy groups. She has also analyzed impacts of large-scale renewable energy, transmission, and public works projects pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act and the California Environmental Quality Act with two environmental consulting firms. Aimee holds a M.S. and B.S. in Earth Systems from Stanford University.

» **Jennifer Haddow, PhD** - Principal Environmental Scientist, Rincon Consultants

Jennifer Haddow holds a Ph.D. in Geochemistry and a Master's Degree in Environmental Science from the University of Aberdeen, and a B.S. in Environmental Policy Analysis and Planning from the University of California, Davis. She has more than 12 years of professional experience in the field of environmental science and assessment and has prepared and coordinated all levels of environmental documentation for infrastructure and development projects in California and Ireland. Her project experience includes water supply management and pollution reduction projects, roadway and bridge projects, renewable energy generation, onshore natural gas pipelines, and high voltage electricity transmission lines.

» **Deirdre West** - Environmental Team Manager, The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

Deirdre West has more than twenty years of progressively responsible experience in the environmental planning field, including managing The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California's (Metropolitan's) Environmental Planning Team. She has extensive experience as a project manager of large-scale, complex, water infrastructure projects, including direction and oversight of multi-disciplinary teams, supervision and mentoring

of employees, administration of multi-million dollar contracts, negotiations with outside agencies, and partnering on numerous projects with NGOs, regulatory agencies, legislators, and all organizational groups within Metropolitan including the General Counsel. Ms. West has extensive knowledge and proficiency with key environmental legislation including CEQA, federal and state Endangered Species Acts, Clean Water Act, California Fish and Game Code, Migratory Bird Treaty Act and National Historic Preservation Act.

1:45 pm – 3:15 pm – Mission, Level 4

### *It's All Geek to Me*

## **Get Out Your Trowel – Archaeological Resources Management from CEQA through Construction**

### **1.5 AICP Credits**

California and the San Francisco Bay Area are rich in cultural resources. This panel will bridge the gap between CEQA practitioners and cultural resources experts. Comprised of staff from the City of San Francisco, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission and Far Western Anthropological Research Group, Inc., archeological resources management from CEQA through construction will be discussed. The City of San Francisco will highlight their use of GIS to address San Francisco's rich and complex archeological record through an ongoing project (the Archeo GIS Project) of developing individual map layers and associated databases for distinct archeological topics or time periods, for example, prehistoric, maritime, Hispanic Period, Overseas Chinese, etc. Relatedly, some of the peculiarities of San Francisco's approach to archeology will be discussed. The SFPUC will discuss their Preliminary Archaeological Checklist, a tool developed to prepare informed archaeological sensitivity assessments for Categorical Exemptions along with the role of SFPUC planners in project design to minimize impacts to archeological resources. Far Western will discuss recent trends in archaeological studies conducted for CEQA regulated projects in California, including modern methods and approaches to site inventory/discovery, testing, and data recovery and treatment mitigation. The differing challenges and approaches that face archaeology in urban versus non-urban settings will be highlighted along with novel geoarchaeological and mitigative approaches to CEQA projects using case studies.

### **Moderator:**

» **Karen Frye, AICP** - San Francisco Public Utilities Commission

Karen Frye is a CEQA Practitioner with over 20 years of experience. She has worked in both the private and public sector. As a Senior Environmental Project Manager with the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, Karen managed several CEQA projects for the SFPUC's Water System Improvement Project and is now responsible for overseeing environmental review on all of the SFPUC's Sewer System Improvement Program. In particular, she is the manager for the multi-million dollar Biosolids Digester Facilities Project, which has included extensive archaeological resources work. Karen excels at bridging the gap between CEQA practitioners, project managers, engineers, and technical experts.



### Panelists:

- » **Kimberly Stern Liddell** - Master of Science, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission

Kim Stern Liddell (M.S. Environmental Management) is the Environmental Construction Compliance Manager for the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission in their Bureau of Environmental Management (BEM) Manager. Kim develops procedures for and oversees environmental compliance inspection and monitoring services during construction of the SFPUC's projects. During the past 15 years, Kim has worked on several projects that have involved implementation of extensive archaeological testing, evaluation, monitoring and data recovery programs. She has managed the process of addressing archaeological discoveries on several projects, including close coordination with Native American representatives.

- » **Randall Dean** - Master of Urban Planning, Master of Arts, City and County of San Francisco

Randall Dean (MUP-UVA, MA-UNM) is senior archaeologist with the City and County of San Francisco Planning Department that reviews hundreds of projects per year for potential effects to archaeological resources, manages appropriate project or area-wide archaeological studies and archeological mitigation programs. He is part of a Department archaeology team engaged in developing more refined technologies (GIS, database management) and approaches (codified archaeological districts) for addressing San Francisco's archaeological record.

- » **Jack Meyers, M.A., RPA** - Far Western Anthropological Research Group, Inc.

Jack Meyers, M.A., Registered Professional Archaeologist, began doing California archaeology at the Anthropological Studies Center at Sonoma State University in 1992, where he studied the practice of geoarchaeology and its application to cultural resources management. His primary research interests include late Quaternary geology, paleoenvironments, landscape evolution, landform chrono-stratigraphy, site formation processes, the structure of the archaeological record, and the problem of locating buried sites. As an advocate for improving the multi-disciplinary relationships between archaeology and the earth sciences, he regularly integrates and synthesizes geological and archaeological datasets to identify where buried archaeological sites may or may not be located. He has directed hundreds of archaeological and geoarchaeological studies throughout California.

1:45 pm – 3:15 pm – Cyril Magnin III, Level 4

## *Intersection of Planning and CEQA*

### **Bridging the CAP: From Climate Action Planning and Implementation to Healthy Communities in Santa Barbara and San Diego Counties**

#### **1.5 AICP Credits**

Through sustainability planning, specialists from all backgrounds have an opportunity to cultivate a region that is building better health, living safely, and thriving in the face of climate change. This session will highlight three phases- and three different perspectives- of planning for a changing climate.

First, it will cover the County of San Diego's efforts to prepare a comprehensive Climate Action Plan accompanied by a robust Environmental Impact Report. Specific challenges being addressed include: balancing competing stakeholder interests in diverse industries; planning for a housing shortage and dispersed communities with minimal access to transit; and identifying strategies to remove barriers to alternative energy generation, access, storage and use. Speakers will highlight effective tools for sustainability planning and greenhouse gas emissions analysis.

The session will progress from planning to action as the County of Santa Barbara discusses implementation of its Energy and Climate Action Plan (ECAP). Some of the challenges associated with putting emission reduction measures (ERMs) into action include: acquiring funding without increasing costs to customers; getting essential departments and agencies involved; and continuing to collect relevant data while testing the assumptions of the ECAP. The latest efforts to align ERMs with public health policies will also be described.

Finally, the session will progress from implementation to results as environmental and public health experts make direct connections between sustainability planning and community health. Panelists will discuss the social impacts of land use and regional transportation decisions, and how walkable neighborhoods, bicycle and trail networks, and efficient food and waste systems can work to together to improve communities while also reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The session will further explore how these efforts can reduce racial, ethnic or socioeconomic disparities, meet statewide goals for waste diversion and public health initiatives, and help communities be safe and resilient to climate change hazards.

#### **Moderator:**

» **Darin Neufeld, AICP** - County of San Diego

Darin Neufeld is the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Manager in the County of San Diego Planning & Development Services. Mr. Neufeld is responsible for a team of environmental professionals to support CEQA compliance in the County of San Diego. His team reviews all private development and advance/long-range planning Environmental

Impact Reports, Negative Declarations, and all other types of CEQA documents. The team coordinates with specialists from all County departments to deliver legally defensible and technically adequate CEQA documents.

In addition to supervising the CEQA team at the County, Darin is responsible for CEQA legislation and coordination with County Counsel on all CEQA issues in the unincorporated County of San Diego. Darin is currently on the Association of Environmental Professionals San Diego Chapter Board. He spent three years on the San Diego Section of the American Planning Association Board.

Darin has over 10 years of professional experience in the public and private sectors as an environmental planner and project manager. Darin has a Master's Degree in Urban History from San Diego State University and a Bachelor's Degree in History from Point Loma Nazarene University. Mr. Neufeld received his American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) in 2013.

### **Panelists:**

#### **» Mindy Fogg - County of Santa Barbara**

Mindy Fogg is a Supervising Planner at the County of Santa Barbara in the Long Range Planning Division. She has worked in the public sector for over 15 years as a biologist, a planner and a CEQA specialist. In 1999, Ms. Fogg received a bachelor's degree in environmental biology from UC San Diego. Soon after, she took a position as a Land Use/Environmental Planner at the County of San Diego, where she promoted to a Planning Manager. Her work there involved the preparation of CEQA documents and land use permits for a wide range of private and public projects, as well as development and implementation of various County plans and programs. Since her transition to the County of Santa Barbara in 2015, she has been overseeing the implementation of the County's Energy and Climate Action Plan and the development of the Coastal Resiliency Program. Ms. Fogg is also a Director-at-Large on the State board of AEP.

#### **» Michael Wonsidler - County of San Diego**

Michael Wonsidler is the Program Coordinator for the County of San Diego's Solid Waste Planning & Recycling Section and responsible for meeting and maintaining the state-mandated 50% landfill diversion rate in the unincorporated areas of the County. Through technical assistance and trainings, the program engages businesses, schools and residences to enhance recycling programs and improve resource efficiency. To help the region expand processing infrastructure, he administers the North San Diego Recycling Market Development Zone (RMDZ) program, which has awarded over \$5M in low-interest loans for facilities processing plastics, tires, asphalt shingles, and compostable materials.

Michael is a member of SANDAG's Integrated Waste Management Local Task Force Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), an advisor to the Citizen's Advisory Committee (CAC), a member of the Live Well San Diego Food System Initiative, past Secretary of the San Diego Chapter of the California Resource Recovery Association (CRRRA) and a member of the Zero Waste International Alliance (ZWIA).

Michael received his undergraduate B.A. degree from the University of Miami, FL, completed graduate study in Community Economic Development at San Diego State University and received a Recycling and Resource Management Certification through the California Resource Recovery Association.

» **Shelley Saitowitz, MPH** - County of San Diego

Shelley Saitowitz, M.P.H., is a Community Health Program Specialist (since 2007) with the County of San Diego, Health & Human Services Agency (HHS)—Chronic Disease and Health Equity Unit. At the County, she supports work on a wide range of topics including chronic disease and health equity, food systems, climate change, and public health impacts of land use and regional transportation decisions. Shelley is part of the HHS team, who administered the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Grants including Communities Putting Prevention to Work and Community Transformation Grant, and is now administering the recently awarded State and Local Public Health Actions to Prevent Obesity, Diabetes, Heart Disease and Stroke. Shelley received her Masters of Public Health in Health Services, Management and Policy from the University of California at Los Angeles.

» **Poonam Boparai** - Ascent Environmental, Inc.

Poonam is an expert in air quality and GHG/climate change assessments for land use planning, transportation, energy, and infrastructure projects. Her professional experience of over nine years in the public and private sectors is complemented by a strong educational background specializing in air pollution chemistry, air quality management and global climate change. Her skill set balances technical expertise with a keen understanding of planning and environmental policy. Her experience includes the preparation of technical studies, related sections of CEQA and NEPA documents, climate action plans and GHG emissions inventories, federal conformity analyses, and air pollution emission reduction plans for a variety of projects. She has successfully applied her expertise in assisting agencies such as the County of San Diego, City of San Diego, California Air Pollution Control Officers Association (CAPCOA), Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD), and the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District (SMAQMD) with air quality and climate change policy development, development of GHG thresholds of significance, analysis methodologies, and GHG reduction strategies. Poonam has also served as extension of staff with the County of San Diego's Planning and Development Services department for over six years.

» **Selena Evilsizor, AICP** - County of Santa Barbara

Biography Selena Evilsizor, AICP is a Planner in the Long Range Planning Division at the County of Santa Barbara. She has over 10 years of experience in land use and environmental planning in both the public and private sectors. Selena has a bachelor's degree in biology from Otterbein College in Ohio, and a master's degree in planning from the University of Southern California. Her private sector experience includes over five years as an Environmental Planner and Project Manager with Cardno, where she managed and authored environmental analyses and technical documents for a wide range of federal government and private clients in compliance with CEQA and NEPA. She also worked closely with U.S. Navy and Marine Corps planners on community planning and

compatibility initiatives. With Santa Barbara County, she has experience in development review, climate change adaptation planning, and CEQA. For the past year she has been the day-to-day lead for implementing the County's Energy and Climate Action Plan and the Coastal Resiliency Project.

» **Laurel G. Lees** - County of San Diego, Planning & Development Services

Laurel Glass Lees is the Sustainability Team Manager in the County of San Diego Planning & Development Services Advance Planning Division. The Sustainability Team is responsible for developing and implementing long-range energy and climate plans and programs in the unincorporated areas of San Diego County. The team specializes in balancing stakeholder interests in the community, business, and environmental sectors and collaborating with regional partners to provide public services in line with the County's Strategic Plan. The team coordinates with specialists from over 10 County departments to deliver the Climate Action Plan, Comprehensive Renewable Energy Plan, Purchase of Agricultural Conservation Easements Program, Local Government Partnership, and other sustainability-related initiatives that enhance the quality of life for residents.

In addition to supervising the Sustainability Team, Laurel currently leads the Waste Diversion Subcommittee for the Planning & Development Services Departmental Excellence Goals Committee, and serves as a Board Member for the San Diego Chapter of the Association of Environmental Professionals.

Laurel's professional experience in the public and private sectors as a Land Use/Environmental Planning Manager is complemented by a strong background in project management and environmental policy, science, and economics. While in the private sector, Laurel was a CEQA planner, wetland delineator, and marine scientist. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Studies and Economics from the University of San Diego, and Professional Certificates in Urban Planning & Development and Grant Writing from University of California San Diego and San Diego State University, respectively.

1:45 pm – 3:15 pm – Balboa, Level 4

### ***Student and Emerging Professionals***

## **Open Forum: You've Got Questions, We've Got Answers**

This session is designed to allow students the opportunity to openly ask their most pressing questions about leaving the world of academia and entering the world of environmental professionals. Panelists from a variety of different environmental professions, will share their experiences about breaking into their respective fields. Students will have the opportunity to inquire about the panelists' academic backgrounds, how their career path lead to their current position, and what are some of their favorite, and least favorite, aspects of their work. Environmental consultants, technical specialists, city planners, and regulatory agency specialists will provide students unique insight on a day in the life of these exciting careers. In this informal setting, students will be able to gain invaluable career advice from professionals eager to share their knowledge.

### Panelists:

**Brock Hoegh** is currently an Associate Vice President and serves as the Southeast Region Environmental Practice Leader for HNTB. He is also the current Georgia District Office Operations and Delivery Manager for HNTB. Brock has more than 18 years of experience in the consulting industry managing the preparation of NEPA documents for a wide variety of federal infrastructure expansion projects across the country including highway, rail, bridge, pedestrian trails and transit projects. Brock has been committed to the environmental profession by becoming part of the National and local scene of the profession since 2004. Brock led the initiation of the Indiana Association of Environmental Professionals (INAEP) Chapter in 2005 and was President and NAEP Chapter Representative for INAEP from 2006-2010 and moved to Georgia in November 2011. For NAEP, he just ended his second year as NAEP President in March, and has been an at large National Board Member since 2011. As a NAEP board member, Brock has worked to support NAEP current initiatives as well as work on new initiatives to grow NAEP as an organization in membership, increase the associations image within the industry, and develop forums for continued interaction and education between NAEP and our State AEP Chapters and the industry.

» **Josh Hohn, AICP** - Senior Planner, Stantec

Josh Hohn is an environmental planner and permitting specialist for power generation and transmission projects in the United States, with a focus on utility scale and distributed renewable energy projects. He leads the Visual Resources technical practice for Stantec's American environmental services group.

Prior Jobs: Renewable Energy Systems Americas, Inc.; CH2M HILL; and AECOM

» MCP, City and Regional Planning at University of California, Berkeley

» Master of Arts (MA), Communication Studies at CSU Chico

» Bachelor of Arts (BA), Public Administration at CSU Chico

**Sadie McGarvey** has over 8 years of professional experience as a field biologist and regulatory specialist, working in a variety of habitats and municipalities. She graduated from Humboldt State University in 2008 with a degree in Wildlife Biology with an emphasis in Wildlife Management and Conservation, and has since worked as a field technician/lab assistant at UC Berkeley, and as a project biologist and regulatory specialist at various environmental consulting firms. She has a wide range of experience in biological field work, regulatory compliance, and environmental permitting. Her professional experience includes special-status species surveys and research, vegetation and hydrology monitoring, vegetation mapping, wetland delineations and habitat assessments, California Environmental Quality Act level site assessments, and due diligence reporting, regulatory compliance support for various development, reclamation, repair, transportation, and utilities projects throughout Northern California, and construction compliance monitoring.

**Steve Noack** has over 35 years of experience in environmental and land use planning, primarily in the San Francisco Bay Area. He specializes in preparing environmental documents on a wide range of projects, including commercial and residential development, parks and trails, Specific Plans, and transportation projects. His expertise includes day-to-

day application of the California Environmental Quality Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, and other State and federal environmental regulations and guidelines. Steve assembles a team of technical consultants tailored to each specific project and manages the work effort to produce cohesive planning documents. In addition, Steve provides planning analysis expertise in land use and socioeconomic studies, and he is a trained facilitator. He is also the Executive Vice President of the California Association of Environmental Professionals.

**Carrie Tai**, AICP, is the Current Planning Officer / Zoning Administrator for the City of Long Beach. Carrie heads the Current Planning division, which handles all development review for the City. As the Zoning Administrator, Carrie has the authority to interpret standards contained in the Zoning Ordinance, and to act upon coastal development and Administrative Use permits. Carrie has been a local agency planner for 15 years and provides a perspective on CEQA issues from a lead agency point of view, balancing the needs of applicants, environmental and technical consultants, and attorneys to ensure that CEQA documents are thoroughly, yet efficiently prepared and reflect the lead agency's independent judgment. Carrie is also well versed with the integration of the CEQA process into the entitlement processes, including details such as public noticing and review periods, mitigation measures, conditions of approval, and public hearings. Carrie holds a Masters of Urban Planning degree from Hunter College in New York City.

3:45 pm – 5:15 pm — Cyril Magnin II, Level 4

### ***Practitioner's Guide to Environmental Planning***

## **Findings: How to Bridge the Analytic Gap Between Raw Evidence and the Decision**

### **1.5 AICP | 1.0 MCLE Credits**

Come learn how to turn facts into findings! More than 40 years have passed since the California Supreme Court penned the famous words in *Topanga Association for a Scenic Community v. County of Los Angeles* regarding the importance of making factually based, substantive findings. As the Supreme Court put it, in drafting findings, the lead agency must explain the analytic route the agency traveled from evidence to action.

Properly crafted findings reflect the substantial evidence upon which the agency's determination is made and allows interested parties to draw conclusions and sub-conclusions from that information. After all these years one would expect that drafting findings would be an easy task. It is not. How best can a lead agency in fact show the path it traveled from evidence to action? How do we bridge the gap between raw evidence and the ultimate decision as the Supreme Court instructed all those years ago?

The goal of this interactive panel is three-fold: (1) to discuss the basics of findings of fact, (2) to review the specific CEQA findings that must be made before a project can be

approved, and (3) to practice drafting defensible findings based on hypothetical factual situations created by the presenters. If you are an environmental consultant, public agency representative, developer, or legal counsel who deals with CEQA findings – or any other related type of land use finding-- then this presentation is not to be missed.

### Panelists:

» **Alisha Winterswyk, J.D.** - Best Best & Krieger LLP

Alisha Winterswyk is a Partner in the Environmental Law & Natural Resources practice group of Best Best & Krieger LLP. She represents public agency and private clients in the areas of the California Environmental Quality Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, and state and federal endangered species laws. Alisha also advises public agency and private clients on land use matters. Alisha is the immediate past-President of the Orange County Chapter of the Association of Environmental Professionals and she was recently selected to serve on the California State Bar's Environmental Law Section Executive Committee. For the past several years, Alisha has been designated as a Southern California Super Lawyer Rising Star for environmental law. She regularly speaks at conferences, legal symposia, and law school classes across the state on environmental and land use topics.

» **Ruta K. Thomas** - Principal, Dudek

Ruta K. Thomas, REPA has nearly 20 years' experience managing the preparation and coordination of highly complex, controversial, and visible environmental documents for urban and rural development and redevelopment projects throughout California. She is well versed in all areas of the California Environmental Quality Act and National Environmental Policy Act, including facilitating community outreach workshops and events to effectively address participants' concerns. Ms. Thomas successfully navigates her projects through complex regulatory requirements and oversight. She brings scientific rigor to the projects on which she works, and with demonstrated expertise in writing and negotiation, she effectively communicates and collaborates with agencies and colleagues to successfully achieve clients' goals.

» **Carrie Tai, AICP** - Current Planning Officer / Zoning Administrator,  
City of Long Beach

Carrie Tai, AICP, is the Current Planning Officer / Zoning Administrator for the City of Long Beach. Carrie heads the Current Planning division, which handles all development review for the City. As the Zoning Administrator, Carrie has the authority to interpret standards contained in the Zoning Ordinance, and to act upon coastal development and Administrative Use permits. Carrie has been a local agency planner for 15 years and provides a perspective on CEQA issues from a lead agency point of view, balancing the needs of applicants, environmental and technical consultants, and attorneys to ensure that CEQA documents are thoroughly, yet efficiently prepared and reflect the lead agency's independent judgment. Carrie is also well versed with the integration of the CEQA process into the entitlement processes, including details such as public noticing and review periods, mitigation measures, conditions of approval, and public hearings. Carrie holds a Masters of Urban Planning degree from Hunter College in New York City.



3:45 pm – 5:15 pm – Mission, Level 4

***It's All Geek to Me***

**Hydroacoustics 101: How it works, why it matters, and what to do with it in CEQA**

**1.5 AICP Credits**

Hydroacoustic noise (i.e., underwater sound) has become a prominent issue within the San Francisco Bay along with all large West Coast estuaries. Much like the noisy urban environment, large estuaries have become a noisy place for many species. These noises can be generated by a number of human made sources including in-water construction work such as pile driving or other removal or demolition, and water vessel traffic. When these anthropogenic sounds exceed certain levels, they can cause harm to fish and marine mammals. Consequently, hydroacoustic levels are regulated for projects that involve work within the water column, such as pier repair and installation, waterfront development, and bridge projects. The purpose of this panel is to provide attendees with a thorough understanding of the technical and regulatory elements of this issue in California and how to incorporate that information into CEQA. The panel will include experts representing sound, biology, policy, and regulatory aspects of hydroacoustics. Panel presentations will cover a diversity of topics including: an introduction to hydroacoustics and the hydroacoustic working group; overview of the physics of hydroacoustics, sound exposure, peak levels and cumulative impacts; a biological discussion on the physiological and behavioral effects of sound on fish and marine mammals; regulatory guidelines for permitting requirements and compliance; and CEQA applications for how this issue should be addressed in CEQA documents along with example mitigation measures. Following the presentations, a Q&A and open discussion with the panel will be held for the conclusion of the session.

**Moderator:**

» **Christina Hirt** - WRA, Inc.

Christina Hirt is an Environmental Planner at WRA, Inc. with two years of experience preparing environmental review documents pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). She completed a Bachelor's Degree in Environmental Studies and Communications from the University of San Diego where she conducted research in the fields of Land Management and Environmental Justice. She also serves as the Student Outreach Director for the San Francisco Chapter of AEP.

**Panelists:**

» **Justin Semion, MBA** - WRA, Inc.

Justin Semion is an aquatic ecologist at WRA, Inc. with over 15 years experience working throughout California. He received his undergraduate training at the University of Michigan School of Natural Resources and Environment and completed his graduate work at the Presidio Graduate School, completing a MBA in Sustainable Management. Justin has managed hundreds of diverse projects involving the California Environmental Quality Act

(CEQA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), permitting, restoration and habitat management, habitat mitigation planning and monitoring, and essential fish habitat evaluation. His broad environmental science expertise includes eelgrass and subtidal estuarine habitats, wetland delineation, ecosystem functions and services evaluation, stream and riparian habitat assessments, rare and endangered species surveys and evaluations, wildlife corridor evaluation, vegetation ecology, and fisheries ecology.

» **James Reyff** - Illingworth & Rodkin

Mr. Reyff is a noise and air quality scientist at Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc. with almost 30 years experience working on projects throughout California. He is a nationally known expert in the measurement and evaluation of underwater sounds from marine construction projects. He has lead investigations on numerous projects that involved underwater sound impacts. He was the lead acoustical investigator on construction projects studying impacts to marine mammals and fish. He provided testimony to the national Fisheries and Hydroacoustic Working Group, as well as resources agencies and blue ribbon commissions investigating these critical issues. His work in this field has been recognized by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), California Department of Transportation and the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO). More importantly, his expertise, flexibility and timely efficient work have assisted projects in sensitive agency consultations regarding underwater noise impacts to aquatic species. His expertise in this area includes the measurement of underwater sound, evaluation of methods to reduce underwater construction sounds, and prediction of underwater sound levels from marine pile driving. Mr. Reyff has authored several papers on this subject and given many papers at national and international noise conferences.

» **Dan Chase, MS** - WRA, Inc.

Dan Chase is a fisheries biologist at WRA, Inc. with over 10 years experience working throughout California. He completed a master of science in physiology and behavioral biology from San Francisco State University where he studied the stress response and growth rate of juvenile fish. Dan has worked on several hydroacoustic related projects, and his direct project experience includes impact analysis, minimization measure development, permitting, regulatory consultation, and biological monitoring.

3:45 pm – 5:15 pm – Cyril Magnin III, Level 4

## NEPA: Update on Latest NEPA Practices.

### 1.5 AICP Credits

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) practice is constantly evolving through changing presidential administrations and executive orders, issuance of new federal agency and Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) guidance, and federal court decisions. This session will highlight the most important recent changes and developments, and provide a summary of analysis best practices and recent NEPA court decisions on topics including connected actions, cumulative impact assessment, and climate change.

**Speakers:**

- » **Michael D. Smith, Ph.D.** - Principal, ENERCON
- » **Laura Zagar** - Partner, Perkins Coie

3:45 pm – 5:15 pm – Balboa, Level 4

***Student and Emerging Professionals***

**What is the right choice for my career? Tips of the Trade in the Environmental Profession**

This session is intended to provide an open forum to students, emerging and mid-career professionals to meet with and discuss tips and tricks of the trade from practicing environmental professionals. This session brings together a panel of practicing professionals with a diversity of experience and educational backgrounds that represent the public, and private sectors. The moderator will engage audience participants in a dynamic discussion with the panelists on how to approach their future as an environmental professional. Students and emerging professionals can expect to learn what they need to know about entering into a career as an environmental professional, and where the profession is headed.

As many new graduates, emerging and mid-career professionals continually seek gainful employment, they often can be overwhelmed with questions such as:

- » Public or private sector...what's the difference?
- » As environmental law and planning policy are constantly evolving, how do I choose the best career path?
- » B.A., B.S, M.A, J.D., PhD.... Which degree is right for me?
- » 200 applications, 1 position. How does your application stand out?
- » How to make the most of networking. Is it really all about who you know?
- » What is the role of specialization for environmental professionals? Are those with multiple specialties "the new generalists?"

**Panelists:**

- » **Diana Keena, AICP**

Diana Keena, AICP, has 24 years of city and regional planning experience. She worked on transportation, Stormwater Guidelines for Green Dense Redevelopment, parks and area planning; housing and landscape ordinances; and current planning projects, at the City of Emeryville since completing her Master's degree in City and Regional Planning at UC Berkeley. Earlier she worked on Environmental Impact Reports for a variety of projects including the Regional Transportation Plan for the Bay Area and residential projects in Santa Cruz County, and worked on a regional housing plan for the Appalachian Regional Commission.

- » Master of City Planning/Master of Landscape Architecture, University of California, Berkeley
- » Master of Science in Journalism, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV
- » Architecture course work, Boston Architectural Center, Boston, MA
- » Bachelor of Arts in Urban Studies, The College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA
- » **Emilie Wolfson** - PlaceWorks

Emilie Wolfson is a Planner at Placeworks and she contributes a wide range of skills and compliance. She holds a Master's in Environmental Planning from UC Berkeley. As a planner, she prepares programmatic and project-specific environmental documents, and develops existing condition reports and technical memorandum. Emilie has also contributed to citywide urban agricultural plans, as well as parks and trails assessments for municipalities and counties across the state. She has a strong background in public outreach, having worked as a program coordinator and environmental educator throughout California with a range of non-profit and public entities. She is a graduate of UC, Berkeley having earned a Master's of City and Regional Planning and holds a Bachelor's of Science in Environmental Science and Policy from University of Maryland, College Park.

- » **Fernando Sotelo, PE, PTP** - PlaceWorks

Fernando Sotelo is a Senior Associate at PlaceWorks. Fernando earned a master's degree in transportation engineering and became a licensed traffic engineer and a certified transportation planner. He has extensive experience in CEQA and the technical aspects of transportation planning, including travel demand forecasting, traffic impact analyses and parking demand studies. Fernando also has experience with environmental noise and air quality. Having prepared hundreds of traffic, noise and air quality studies for land use and infrastructure projects, he understands the complexities of environmental planning, CEQA while having the technical knowledge to address traffic, noise and air quality issues.

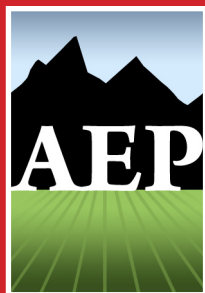
- » **Diana Edwards** - AECOM

Diana Edwards is a Project Manager in the Natural Resources Division at AECOM. Diana is a seasoned field biologist with over five years of experience in natural resource planning. Her background includes expertise in endangered species, landscape restoration, sea level rise adaptation planning, and environmental permitting and experience related to urban and environmental planning.

- » **Alexandra Hallowell** - San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency

Alexandra Hallowell is a Senior Transportation Planner in Transit Operations for the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency. Alexandra's work focuses on operational efficiencies in transit operations. She holds a Master of City Planning from UC Berkeley, and a BA in International Relations from Hobart and William Smith Colleges. She was a 2010 Fulbright Fellow to Turkey, and a 2013 and 2014 FLAS Fellow at UC Berkeley.





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