

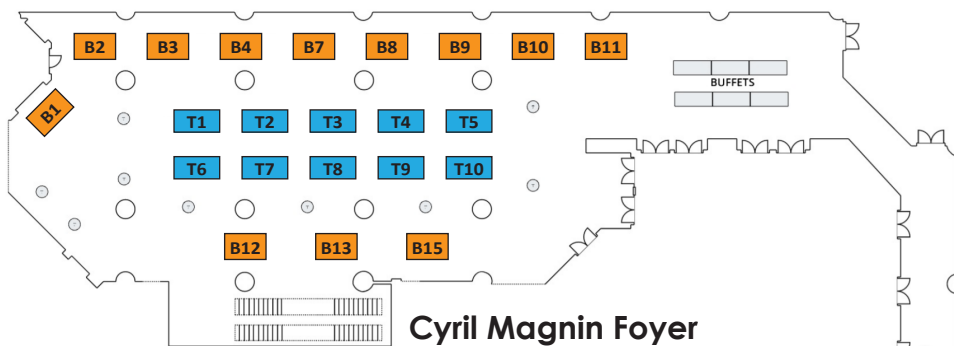


# CONFERENCE PROGRAM

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

Association of Environmental Professionals

# Exhibitor Area Map: Cyril Magnin Foyer



## Cyril Magnin Foyer

Exhibitor Area Map | AEP 2017 Conference

- Tabletop 1:** GeoSearch
- Tabletop 2:** David Powers & Associates
- Tabletop 3:** Transpo Group
- Tabletop 4:** Ascent Environmental
- Tabletop 5:** Wildnote
- Tabletop 6:** UC San Diego Extension
- Tabletop 7:** Benchmark Resources
- Tabletop 8:** Arkit
- Tabletop 9:** ASM Affiliates, Inc
- Tabletop 10:** Rincon Consultants, Inc

- Booth 1:** Insignia Environmental
- Booth 2:** PlaceWorks
- Booth 3:** WILDLANDS
- Booth 4:** AECOM
- Booth 7:** Aspen Environmental
- Booth 8:** Environmental Science Associates (ESA)
- Booth 9:** Westervelt Ecological Services
- Booth 10:** Horizon Water and Environmental, LLC
- Booth 11:** SWCA
- Booth 12:** WRA, Inc
- Booth 13:** equivalent
- Booth 15:** Sequoia Ecological Consulting, Inc



## Thank You Exhibitors

**Cover Photo by:** Matt Kawashima | IG: @MattKPhotos

**Conference Logo by:** Grant Reddy, PlaceWorks

# Thank You to Our Sponsors!



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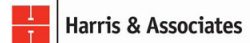
UC San Diego Extension



Sapphos environmental inc.



BBK  
BEST BEST & KRIEGER  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW





***A Special thank you to these Sponsors!***

- AECOM** – Awards Reception/Program
- PlaceWorks** – Opening Reception
- SWCA** – Keynote Luncheon, Saturday
- Denise Duffy & Associates** – Continental Breakfasts, Friday & Saturday
- Remy Moose Manley** – Idea Lunch
- Sapphos Environmental** – CEQA Update Brunch

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# 2017 AEP CONFERENCE-AT-A-GLANCE

## 5 Session Tracks (Plus Students):

-  Water Under the Bridge (9 sessions)
-  Practitioner's Guide to Environmental Planning (10 sessions)
-  It's All Geek to Me (10 sessions)
-  Intersection of Planning and CEQA (8 sessions)
-  CEQA Evolution (7 sessions)
-  Students/Emerging Professionals (4 sessions)

## Workshops:

- 1:** Climate Change and Air Quality
- 2:** Can a Street Really be Complete?  
(*Moblie Workshop*)

## THURSDAY, MAY 18, 2017

12:00 pm – 6:30 pm	Conference Registration – Cyril Magnin Foyer, Level 4
12:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Exhibitor Set-up – Cyril Magnin Foyer, Level 4
1:30 pm – 4:30 pm	<b>WORKSHOP:</b> Climate Change and Air Quality Workshop – 3.0 AICP Credits – Market, Level 3
1:30 pm – 3:00 pm	<b>WATER:</b> It Takes a Team to Build a Dam – 1.5 AICP – Cyril Magnin I, Level 4
	<b>PRACTITIONER'S:</b> From Planning through Construction: Effective Development and Monitoring of Mitigation Measures – 1.5 AICP – Cyril Magnin II, Level 4
	<b>GEEK:</b> CEQA Compliance Strategies for TOD in a Changing Regulatory Environment – 1.5 AICP – Mission, Level 4
	<b>CEQA EVOLUTION:</b> Reading the Tea Leaves of the Future of CEQA Compliance – 1.5 AICP   1.0 MCLE – Cyril Magnin III, Level 4
3:15 pm – 4:45 pm	<b>WATER:</b> Flood Channel Maintenance in Urban Streams: Using Quantitative Parameters to Assess the Maintenance Need – 1.5 AICP – Cyril Magnin I, Level 4
	<b>GEEK:</b> How to Say, "It's Too Loud!" Understanding the Metrics of Describing Noise – 1.5 AICP – Mission, Level 4
	<b>INTERSECTION:</b> Campus and Community – 1.5 AICP   1.0 MCLE – Cyril Magnin II, Level 4
	<b>CEQA EVOLUTION:</b> Translating CBIA V. BAAQMD: Bridging the Gap between the Holding and Practice – 1.5 AICP   1.0 MCLE – Cyril Magnin III, Level 4
5:30 pm – 8:30 pm	Opening Reception – Cyril Magnin Foyer, Level 4 ( <i>Sponsored by PlaceWorks</i> )
6:00 pm – 8:30 pm	AEP JAM Band – Cyril Magnin Ballroom

## FRIDAY, MAY 19, 2017

7:30 am – 6:00 pm	Registration – Cyril Magnin Foyer, Level 4
7:30 am – 6:30 pm	Exhibits Open – Cyril Magnin Foyer, Level 4
7:30 am – 9:00 am	Continental Breakfast – Cyril Magnin Foyer, Level 4 (Sponsored by Denise Duffy & Associates)
8:00 am – 8:45 am	<b>OPENING KEYNOTE:</b> Lisa Gibson, Environmental Review Officer/Director of Environmental Planning for the City and County of San Francisco Cyril Magnin Ballroom
9:00 am – 10:30 am	<b>WATER:</b> Ocean Beach Master Plan: Multi-Objective Adaptation to Sea-Level Rise along San Francisco's Pacific Ocean Shore – 1.5 AICP – Cyril Magnin I, Level 4
	<b>PRACTITIONER'S:</b> Best Practices for Addressing Impacts to Farmland under CEQA 1.5 AICP   1.0 MCLE – Embarcadero, Level 3
	<b>GEEK:</b> Transportation Transformed: New Regulations and Emphasis on Safety and Multimodality are Reshaping the Parameters of CEQA Transportation Analyses 1.5 AICP – Market, Level 3
	<b>INTERSECTION:</b> Best Practices in Climate Action Planning 1.5 AICP – Mission, Level 4
	<b>CEQA EVOLUTION:</b> Into the Vortex: The Ever Expanding Reach of the CEQA Administrative Record (Including Your Files?) 1.5 AICP   1.0 MCLE – Cyril Magnin II, Level 4
	<b>PRACTITIONER'S:</b> The Envelope, Please! Determining Appropriate Buildout 1.5 AICP   1.0 MCLE – Cyril Magnin III, Level 4
10:45 am – 12:15 pm	<b>WATER:</b> So You Want to Build a New Levee? – 1.5 AICP – Cyril Magnin I, Level 4
	<b>PRACTITIONER'S:</b> What CEQA Consultants Need to Know about CEQA for Public School Projects – 1.5 AICP   1.0 MCLE – Cyril Magnin II, Level 4
	<b>GEEK:</b> Protecting Species and Habitats Through CEQA - Keeping it Simple 1.5 AICP – Embarcadero, Level 3
	<b>INTERSECTION:</b> Getting to Know You: New Residents, Entertainment Venues and Noise at the Mixed-Use Frontier – 1.5 AICP – Mission, Level 4
	<b>CEQA EVOLUTION:</b> Measuring the Miles: VMT and Transportation Impacts Under SB 743 – 1.5 AICP   1.0 MCLE – Cyril Magnin III, Level 4
	<b>STUDENT:</b> Staying Ahead of the Curve: How Education & Leadership Development at AEP Can Help Advance Our Field – Market, Level 3
12:15 pm – 1:30 pm	AEP Membership Update & Idea Lunch – Cyril Magnin Ballroom (Sponsored by Remy Moose Manley)

1:45 pm – 5:00 pm	<b>MOBILE WORKSHOP:</b> Can a Street Really be Complete? - <i>Walking Tour</i> -(\$30)
1:45 pm – 3:15 pm	<b>WATER:</b> Climate Change, Water and Cities: How Communities Can Adapt to Sea-Level Rise and Increased Flood Risk – 1.5 AICP   1.0 MCLE – Cyril Magnin I, Level 4
	<b>PRACTITIONER'S:</b> The Moral of the Story: War Stories from the CEQA Trenches 1.5 AICP   1.0 MCLE – Cyril Magnin II, Level 4
	<b>GEEK:</b> Biological Resources Sections Dissected! - A Deeper Dive 1.5 AICP – Embarcadero, Level 3
	<b>INTERSECTION:</b> You Can Have Your Growth and Green It Too – 1.5 AICP – Market, Level 3
	<b>CEQA EVOLUTION:</b> Does Your 2017 EIR Look Too Much Like Your 2015 EIR? 1.5 AICP – Cyril Magnin III, Level 4
	<b>CEQA EVOLUTION:</b> Modernizing Transportation Impact Review in California 1.5 AICP – Mission, Level 4
3:15 pm – 3:45 pm	Take a Sponsor Break (Visit exhibit booths for special snacks. Don't forget your mingle card – Cyril Magnin Foyer, Level 4
3:45 pm – 5:15 pm	<b>WATER:</b> Measure AA – San Francisco Bay Restoration – 1.5 AICP – Cyril Magnin I, Level 4
	<b>PRACTITIONER'S:</b> Drafting Programmatic EIRs: Lessons Learned and Practical Tips 1.5 AICP   1.0 MCLE – Cyril Magnin II, Level 4
	<b>GEEK:</b> Connecting the Technical Analysis to Public Understanding – 1.5 AICP – Embarcadero, Level 3
	<b>INTERSECTION:</b> VMT and Air Quality Analyses: Keeping Them Consistent – 1.5 AICP – Market, Level 3
	<b>CEQA EVOLUTION:</b> Saving CEQA: The Promise and Peril of Efforts at Reform – 1.5 AICP – Mission, Level 4
5:30 pm – 7:00 pm	Awards Reception – Cyril Magnin Foyer, Level 4 (Sponsored by AECOM)
6:00 pm – 7:00 pm	AEP 2017 Awards Program – Cyril Magnin Ballroom (Sponsored by AECOM)
<b>SATURDAY, MAY 20, 2017</b>	
8:00 am – 6:00 pm	Registration – Cyril Magnin Foyer, Level 4
8:00 am – 6:30 pm	Exhibits Open – Cyril Magnin Foyer, Level 4
8:00 am – 9:30 am	Continental Breakfast – Exhibit Area (Sponsored by Denise Duffy & Associates)

8:45 am – 10:15 am	<b>WATER:</b> Sea Level Rise and Shoreline Adaptation: Lessons from the Bay Area 1.5 AICP   1.0 MCLE – Cyril Magnin I, Level 4
	<b>PRACTITIONER'S:</b> Air Quality: Developing Effective Offsite Mitigation Programs 1.5 AICP – Cyril Magnin II, Level 4
	<b>GEEK:</b> Rural California CEQA Toolbox Additions – 1.5 AICP – Mission, Level 4
	<b>INTERSECTION:</b> Removing Road Blocks to New, Infill Housing Development 1.5 AICP   1.0 MCLE – Cyril Magnin III, Level 4
10:30 am – 12:00 pm	<b>WATER:</b> Tidal Restoration in Suisun Marsh: Conflicting Regulatory Requirements and Permits – 1.5 AICP – Cyril Magnin I, Level 4
	<b>PRACTITIONER'S:</b> Mitigation Creation Station: A Hands-on Workshop Focusing on How to Construct Defensible, Implementable Mitigation Measures 1.5 AICP   1.0 MCLE – Cyril Magnin II, Level 4
	<b>GEEK:</b> AEP White Paper on Consumptive Inventories – 1.5 AICP – Mission, Level 4
	<b>INTERSECTION:</b> Community Risk Reduction Planning: Taking the HRA to the Next Level to Address Public Health – 1.5 AICP   1.0 MCLE – Cyril Magnin III, Level 4
12:15 pm – 1:30 pm	<b>STUDENT:</b> Resume Writing: Crafting a Standout Resume that Will Get Noticed by Environmental Professionals – Balboa, Level 4
	<b>KEYNOTE LUNCH:</b> Scott Morgan, Director, State Clearinghouse , Deputy Director of Administration – Governor's Office of Planning and Research Cyril Magnin Ballroom ( <i>Sponsored by SWCA</i> )
1:45 pm – 3:15 pm	<b>WATER:</b> Sea Level Rise Mapping: The Past, the Present and the Future 1.5 AICP – Cyril Magnin I, Level 4
	<b>PRACTITIONER'S:</b> Lost in Translation: Addressing Communication Challenges Amongst CEQA Consultants, Developers, Public Agencies and Attorneys 1.5 AICP   1.0 MCLE – Cyril Magnin II, Level 4
	<b>GEEK:</b> Get Out Your Trowel: Archaeological Resources Management from CEQA through Construction – 1.5 AICP – Mission, Level 4
	<b>INTERSECTION:</b> Bridging the CAP: From Climate Action Planning and Implementation to Healthy Communities in Santa Barbara and San Diego Counties – 1.5 AICP – Cyril Magnin III, Level 4
3:15 pm – 3:45 pm	<b>STUDENT:</b> Open Forum: You've Got Questions, We've Got Answers Balboa, Level 4
	Take a Sponsor Break (Visit exhibit booths for special snacks. Don't forget your mingle card – Cyril Magnin Foyer, Level 4

3:45 pm – 5:15 pm	<b>PRACTITIONER'S:</b> Findings: How to Bridge the Analytic Gap Between Raw Evidence and the Decision – 1.5 AICP   1.0 MCLE – Cyril Magnin II, Level 4
	<b>GEEK:</b> Hydroacoustics: 101 How it Works, Why it Matters and What to Do With it in CEQA – 1.5 AICP – Mission, Level 4
	<b>NEPA:</b> Update on latest NEPA practices. Note: Pre-session to AEP NEPA Workshops in June 2017 – 1.5 AICP Credits – Cyril Magnin III, Level 4
	<b>STUDENT:</b> What is the Right Choice for My Career? Tips of the Trade in the Environmental Profession – Balboa, Level 4
8:00 pm – 11:00 pm	<p><b>San Francisco Chapter AEP Party at the Press Club San Francisco!</b></p> <p><b>Where:</b> Press Club SF – 20 Yerba Buena Lane, San Francisco, CA 94103 pressclubsf.com</p> <p><b>Cost:</b> Free for AEP members and guest</p> <p><i>Free wine and beer will be provided. We hope to see you there!</i></p>
<b>SUNDAY, MAY 21, 2017</b>	
8:30 am – 10:00 am	Registration – Cyril Magnin Foyer, Level 4
8:30 am – 10:00 am	Exhibits Open – Cyril Magnin Foyer, Level 4
8:30 am – 10:00 am	Brunch – Cyril Magnin Foyer, Level 4 ( <i>Sponsored by Sapphos Environmental</i> )
9:00 am – 12:00 pm	<b>2017 CEQA UPDATE:</b> 3.0 AICP   3.0 MCLE Credits – Cyril Magnin Ballroom
10:30 am – 12:00 pm	Exhibitor Teardown

## Welcome from the AEP President

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Devon Muto and family.

### Fellow AEP Members and Conference Attendees:

Greetings! Welcome to the 2017 Association of Environmental Professionals (AEP) Annual Conference.

Please join me in thanking our Conference Chair, Steve Noack and the Conference Committee, for their hard work, organization, and leadership in making this Conference a success. Steve and his team put forth tremendous effort to make this conference the best to date. They have planned an outstanding schedule of sessions and events to challenge and inspire our thinking, support our professional development, and to allow us to have some fun and expand our networks.

We also cannot forget the tireless efforts of Lynne Bynder – our Executive Director and Conference Planner who makes our conferences a success year after year.

Finally, we all extend a great note of gratitude to our many sponsors – without their help the Conference couldn't happen and they are also a critical component to our annual AEP budget. Thank you all!

I hope that you all have a great conference and get to enjoy beautiful San Francisco.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Devon Muto', written in a cursive style.

Devon Muto

AEP President



Steve Noack

### Welcome To San Francisco

On behalf of myself and the Conference Committee we welcome you to the 2017 Association of Environmental Professionals State Conference. Over the last 16 months, we have worked hard to plan what we hope is an educational and entertaining conference that provides you with new ideas and approaches to enhance your professional skills while providing the opportunity to renew acquaintances and meet new colleagues.

This year's conference seeks to "bridge the gap" between CEQA practitioners and the technical experts they rely on, between CEQA and planning, and among other related local, regional, statewide, and national environmental issues. We have worked to create an interactive atmosphere where ideas, policy, and science collide to generate innovative strategies and solutions for successful environmental planning, environmental review, project approvals, and permitting.

All of us on the Conference Committee look forward to meeting you at the opening reception on Thursday night with the infamous AEP Jam Band, and at our breakfast and lunch events. Be sure to attend the Awards Ceremony on Friday night, which will start at 6:00 PM to allow time for beverages and bites outside the ballroom. And don't forget that the San Francisco Chapter is hosting a party on Saturday night from 8-11 at the Press Club, 20 Yerba Buena Lane, about ½ mile from the hotel.

Finally, I would like to thank all of our sponsors, for their generosity in supporting AEP.



Steve Noack

Conference Chair

## Track Descriptions

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- » **CEQA Evolution** – panels focusing on recent or upcoming changes to CEQA, including amendments to the CEQA Guidelines, VMT vs. LOS, AB 52, “reverse CEQA,” and implications of recent case law
- » **Practitioner’s Guide to Environmental Planning** – interactive knowledge-sharing panels on, among other possibilities, CEQA and NEPA “nuts & bolts,” best practices/ lessons learned, and professional development
- » **Intersection of Planning & CEQA** – sessions about the relationship between the CEQA process and broader planning matters, such as housing, in-fill development, gentrification, and regional transit
- » **It’s All Geek to Me** – panels bridging the gap between CEQA practitioners and technical experts on topics such as air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geotechnical, greenhouse gas emissions, noise, transportation, and visual resources
- » **Water Under the Bridge** – panels focusing on any and all water-related issues, including groundwater resources, sea-level rise and adaptation, shoreline issues, and drought management
- » **Student/Emerging Professionals Track** – sessions designed to advance the development of students and emerging environmental professionals

### **Student Programs**

In acknowledgement of the importance of students to the future of our profession and AEP, we have developed a unique students and emerging professionals program. There will be sessions focusing on resume building, interview preparation, professional networking event, and a CEQA Basics course for the new and future environmental professionals. The balance of the content shifts from students to networking.

## ***Committee Chair:***

**Steve Noack**, AICP - PlaceWorks

## ***Conference Coordination:***

**Lynne Bynder** - California AEP Executive Director

## ***Programs Chair:***

**Alan Murphy** - Perkins Coie

## ***Track Chairs:***

CEQA Evolution - **Jonathan Hidalgo** - WRA, Inc.

Practitioner's Guide - **Kansai Uchida** - S.F. MTA

Water Under the Bridge - **Louise Engel**

It's all Geek to Me - **Emma Rawnsley** - AECOM

Intersection of Planning and CEQA - **Tanya Sundberg** - PlaceWorks

Student and Emerging Professionals - **Darcy Kremin** - Michael Baker International

Student and Emerging Professionals - **Christina Hirt** - WRA, Inc.

## ***Conference Support:***

**Alexis Whitaker** - PlaceWorks

**Antoinette Romeo** - Santa Clara County Parks

**Christine Schnieder** (*Chair*) - Contra Costa Water District

**Justine Rembac** - Urban Planning Partners, Inc.

**Samantha Thomas** - Sonoma Land Trust

**Terri McCracken** - PlaceWorks

# General Information

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## Exhibitor Hours

### Registration

The Registration Desk is located in the  
*Cyril Magnin Foyer, Level 4*

### Registration Hours

*Cyril Magnin Foyer, Level 4*

Thursday, May 18, 2017

12:00 pm – 6:30 pm

Friday, May 19, 2017

7:30 am – 6:00 pm

Saturday, May 20, 2017

8:00 am – 6:00 pm

Sunday, May 21, 2017

8:30 am – 10:00 am

Exhibitors are located in the  
*Fairbanks Ballroom*

### Exhibitor Set Up

Thursday, May 18, 2017

12:00 pm – 5:00 pm

### Exhibits Open

*Cyril Magnin Foyer, Level 4*

Friday, May 19, 2017

7:30 am – 6:30 pm

Saturday, May 20, 2017

8:00 am – 6:30 pm

Sunday, May 21, 2017

8:30 am – 10:00 am

### Exhibits Tear Down

Sunday, May 21, 2017

10:30 am – 12:00 pm

### Registration Badges

Please wear your name badge at all times for entry into the events and sessions. Prior to departure, drop your badge holder at the registration desk to be recycled.

## Speaker Registration

All speakers and panel members must check in at registration. Please pick up your name badges at the registration desk during registration hours.

## Electronic Devices

Please turn off or put in silent mode all cell phones during sessions.

## Conference Attire

Business Casual attire is appropriate for all sessions and events.

## AICP CM Approval/ MCLE Approval

AICP and MCLE credits have been approved for the 2017 conference. While all sessions qualify, we do not guarantee that some Mobile Workshop and General Sessions will receive credit. This will be determined at a later date.

## Additional Greening at the AEP 2017 Conference

- » Lanyards made of recycled materials
- » Program and name badges printed on recycled paper
- » Signage printed on recycled materials
- » Water stations in all meeting rooms - no plastic water bottle policy at conference
- » Food and beverage will only be served in glass materials when possible.

## AEP State Officers

Title	Name / Phone / Email	Address
<b>President</b>	<b>Devon Muto</b> 858.444.3960 <a href="mailto:devon.muto@icf.com">devon.muto@icf.com</a>	<b>ICF International</b> 525 B Street, Suite 1700 San Diego, CA 92101
<b>Executive Vice President</b>	<b>William Halligan, Esq.</b> 714.922.9660 <a href="mailto:whalligan@placeworks.com">whalligan@placeworks.com</a>	<b>PlaceWorks</b> 3 MacArthur Place, Suite 1100 Santa Ana, CA 92707
<b>Administrative Vice President</b>	<b>Christina Ryan</b> 916.930.3196 <a href="mailto:christina.ryan@ascentenvironmental.com">christina.ryan@ascentenvironmental.com</a>	<b>Ascent Environmental, Inc.</b> 455 Capitol Mall, Suite 300 Sacramento, CA 95814
<b>Financial VP &amp; Chief Financial Officer</b>	<b>Lynn Calvert-Hayes, AICP</b> 951.781.9310 <a href="mailto:lynn.hayes@lsa.net">lynn.hayes@lsa.net</a>	<b>LSA Associates</b> 1500 Iowa Avenue, Suite 200 Riverside, CA 92507
<b>NAEP Liaison</b>	<b>Michael Smith, PhD</b> 571.830.0854 <a href="mailto:michael.smith84@gmail.com">michael.smith84@gmail.com</a>	315 Vermont Avenue Berkeley, CA 94707
<b>Director-At-Large Climate Change Committee Chair Emerging Issues Committee Chair</b>	<b>Michael Hendrix</b> 909.521.3765 <a href="mailto:michael.hendrix@lsa.net">michael.hendrix@lsa.net</a>	<b>LSA Associates</b> 1500 Iowa Avenue, Suite 200 Riverside, CA 92507
<b>Director-At-Large CEQA Workshops Committee Chair Membership Committee Chair</b>	<b>Mindy Fogg</b> 805.884.6848 <a href="mailto:mfogg@countyofsb.org">mfogg@countyofsb.org</a>	<b>County of Santa Barbara Planning &amp; Development</b> 123 E Anapamu Street Santa Barbara, CA 93101
<b>Director-At-Large Student Outreach Committee Chair CEQA Portal Committee Chair</b>	<b>Ricky Caperton</b> 559.490.1210 <a href="mailto:ricky.caperton@lsa.net">ricky.caperton@lsa.net</a>	<b>LSA Associates</b> 5084 N Fruit Ave, Suite 103 Fresno, CA 93711

## Local Chapters Directors and Presidents

Chapter	Director	President
<b>Central</b> <a href="http://www.aepcentral.net">www.aepcentral.net</a>	<b>Amy E. Fischer</b> 5084 N Fruit Ave, Suite103 Fresno, CA 93711 559.490.1210 <a href="mailto:amy.fischer@lsa.net">amy.fischer@lsa.net</a>	<b>Elena Nuño</b> Stantec <a href="mailto:elena.nuno@stantec.com">elena.nuno@stantec.com</a>
<b>Channel Counties</b> <a href="http://www.ccc.califaep.org">www.ccc.califaep.org</a>	<b>David Wolff</b> 1065 Higuera St, Suite 301 San Luis Obispo, CA 93401 805.434.2804 x102 <a href="mailto:dwolff@sageii.com">dwolff@sageii.com</a>	<b>John Karamitsos</b> County of Santa Barbara- Public Works 123 E. Anapamu, Santa Barbara, CA 93101 805.598.7735 <a href="mailto:john.s.karamitsos@gmail.com">john.s.karamitsos@gmail.com</a>
<b>Inland Empire</b> <a href="http://www.ie.califaep.org">www.ie.califaep.org</a>	<b>Amanda Daams</b> San Manuel Band of Mission Indians 26569 Community Center Drive Highland, CA 92346   909.864.8933 x3164 <a href="mailto:adaams@sanmanuel.nsn.gov">adaams@sanmanuel.nsn.gov</a>	<b>Kevin Cunningham</b> Riverside County Flood Control 1995 Market Street Riverside, CA 92501   951.955.1526 (w) <a href="mailto:kcunningham@rcflood.org">kcunningham@rcflood.org</a>
<b>Los Angeles</b> <a href="http://www.laaep.org">www.laaep.org</a>	<b>Marie Campbell</b> Sapphos Environmental 430 N Halstead Street Pasadena, CA   626.683.3547 (w) <a href="mailto:mcampbell@sapphosenvironmental.com">mcampbell@sapphosenvironmental.com</a>	<b>Geoff Danker, AICP</b> Southern California Gas Company 555 West 5th Street Los Angeles, CA 90013   213.244.3363 <a href="mailto:president@la.califaep.org">president@la.califaep.org</a>
<b>Monterey Bay Area</b> <a href="http://www.mb.califaep.org">www.mb.califaep.org</a>	<b>Mike Coleman, AICP</b> Santa Clara Valley Water District 5750 Almaden Expressway San Jose, CA 95118   408.630.3096 (w) <a href="mailto:mcoleman@valleywater.org">mcoleman@valleywater.org</a>	<b>Sally Rideout</b> EMC Planning Group 301 Lighthouse Ave, Suite C Monterey, CA 93940 831.649.1799
<b>Orange County</b> <a href="http://www.oceaep.com">www.oceaep.com</a>	<b>Konnie Dobrev</b> EPD Solutions, Inc 2030 Main Street, Suite 200 Irvine, CA 92614   949.794.1183 <a href="mailto:konnie@epdsolutions.com">konnie@epdsolutions.com</a>	<b>Alisha Winterswyk</b> Best Best & Keiger, LLP 18101 Von Karman Avenue, Suite 1000 Irvine, CA 92612   949.263.6505 <a href="mailto:alisha.winterswyk@bbklaw.com">alisha.winterswyk@bbklaw.com</a>
<b>San Diego</b> <a href="http://www.sd.califaep.org">www.sd.califaep.org</a>	<b>Julia Norris</b> Potomac-Hudson Engineering, Inc 5030 Camino de la Siesta, Suite 320 San Diego, CA 92108   619.260.1033 x306 <a href="mailto:julia.norris@phe.com">julia.norris@phe.com</a>	<b>Corinne Lytle Bonine</b> Chambers Group, Inc 9620 Chesapeake Drive, Suite 202 San Diego, CA 92123   858.541.2800 x7100 (w) <a href="mailto:cllytle-bonine@chambersgroupinc.com">cllytle-bonine@chambersgroupinc.com</a>
<b>San Francisco Bay Area</b> <a href="http://www.sf.califaep.org">www.sf.califaep.org</a>	<b>Steve Noack</b> PlaceWorks 1625 Shattuck Avenue, Suite 300 Berkeley, CA 94709   510.848.3815 (w) <a href="mailto:snoack@placeworks.com">snoack@placeworks.com</a>	<b>Jonathan Hidalgo</b> WRA Environmental Consultants 951.288.8058 (w) <a href="mailto:hidalgo@wra-ca.com">hidalgo@wra-ca.com</a>
<b>Superior California</b> <a href="http://www.superior.califaep.org">www.superior.califaep.org</a>	<b>Emily Bacchini</b> Sacramento Municipal Utility District 6201 S Street, MS H201 Sacramento, CA 95817   916.732.6334 <a href="mailto:Emily.Bacchini@smud.org">Emily.Bacchini@smud.org</a>	<b>Patrick Angell</b> Ascent Environmental, Inc 455 Capitol Mall, Suite 300 Sacramento, CA 95814   916.930.3196 <a href="mailto:pangell@ascentenvironmental.com">pangell@ascentenvironmental.com</a>

## AEP Staff

Position	Name / Phone / Email	Address
<b>AEP Management Executive Director</b> <a href="http://www.califaep.org">www.califaep.org</a>	<b>Lynne C. Bynder, CMP</b> 760.340.4499 (w) 760.674.2479 (f) <a href="mailto:lbynder@califaep.org">lbynder@califaep.org</a>	<b>AEP</b> c/o Meetings Xceptional 40747 Baranda Court Palm Desert, CA 92260
<b>AEP Membership Manager</b>	<b>Candace Bynder</b> 760.340.4499 (w) 760.674.2479 (f) <a href="mailto:membership@califaep.org">membership@califaep.org</a>	
<b>Legislative Policy Director/Lobbyist</b>	<b>Will Gonzalez</b> 916.930.0796 (w) <a href="mailto:will@gqhlobby.com">will@gqhlobby.com</a>	<b>Gonzalez, Quintana &amp; Hunter, LLC</b> 915 I Street, Suite 1480 Sacramento, CA 95814
<b>Environmental Assessor Editor</b>	<b>Terry Rivasplata</b> 916.737.3000 (w) <a href="mailto:antero.rivasplata@icf.com">antero.rivasplata@icf.com</a>	<b>ICF International</b> 2600 V Street Sacramento, CA 95818
<b>AEP Graphic Designer</b>	<b>Grant Reddy</b> 510.848.3815 <a href="mailto:greddy@placeworks.com">greddy@placeworks.com</a>	<b>PlaceWorks</b> 1625 Shattuck Ave, Ste 300 Berkeley, CA 94709
<b>AEP Webmaster</b>	<b>Reid Walley</b> 916.416.6404 <a href="mailto:reid@designparc.com">reid@designparc.com</a>	<b>Design Parc</b> 1424 P Street, Ste 12 Sacramento, CA 95814
<b>Insurance</b>	<b>Dick Lemon</b> 916.488.4702 (w) <a href="mailto:dick@mcclatchyins.com">dick@mcclatchyins.com</a>	<b>McClatchy Insurance</b> 2410 Fair Oaks Blvd, Suite 140 Sacramento, CA 95825
<b>Professional Liability Insurance for AEP Members</b>	<b>Marsha Bastian</b> 949.242.9240 <a href="mailto:mbastian@riskstrategies.com">mbastian@riskstrategies.com</a>	<b>Risk Strategies Company</b> 2040 Main Street, Ste. 450 Irvine, CA 92614

## Keynote Speakers

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### Opening Keynote:

**Friday, May 19, 2017 - 8:00 am – 8:45 am - Cyril Magnin Ballroom**



**Lisa Gibson** - Environmental Review Officer/Director of Environmental Planning for the City of San Francisco

Lisa Gibson is the Director of Environmental Planning for the San Francisco Planning Department. She oversees CEQA review of all projects under the jurisdiction of the City and County of San Francisco, including development permits (all of which are discretionary under the City Charter), infrastructure projects, area plans, legislation, and other approvals. In her capacity as Environmental Review Officer, she is the senior authority to elected

officials, City agencies, and other official bodies of the City and County regarding CEQA. Prior to joining the San Francisco Planning Department in 2000, Ms. Gibson served as a senior project manager for a Bay Area consulting firm, overseeing CEQA and NEPA compliance for a wide variety of public agency clients. Overall, Ms. Gibson has over 23 years of experience as a CEQA practitioner.

### Keynote Lunch:

**Saturday, May 20, 2017 - 12:15 pm – 1:30 pm - Cyril Magnin Ballroom**



**Scott Morgan** - Director, State Clearinghouse, Deputy Director of Administration- Governor's Office of Planning and Research

Scott Morgan is the Director of State Clearinghouse and Deputy Director of Administration for the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR). He has 20 years of experience working with CEQA, California planning law, land-use and environmental regulations. He is a member of the Association of Environmental Professionals, the American Planning Association, is an Ex-Officio Member

of the Governor's Military Council and is the Principal from California to the Western Regional Partnership. Scott works with Federal, State, Tribal, and Local agencies on land use, environmental, renewable energy development, and cultural site protection issues. In his spare time he enjoys being with his wife and daughter, skiing, and hangin with his bro's playing music. Scott can be reached at [scott.morgan@opr.ca.gov](mailto:scott.morgan@opr.ca.gov) and for more information on OPR visit [www.opr.ca.gov](http://www.opr.ca.gov)

### Opening Reception:

**Thursday, May 18, 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm - Cyril Magnin Foyer-Level 4**

Join us for our Opening Reception at the Parc 55 over-looking the world-renowned, San Francisco Union Square. We'll enjoy traditional San Francisco fare while we catch up with long-time colleagues and get to know new ones. This will also be our first chance to stroll through our Sponsor booths and get acquainted with the companies that are the major support to our conference.

### AEP JAM Band:

**Thursday, May 18, 2017 - 6:00 pm – 8:30 pm - Cyril Magnin Ballroom**



**The AEP Jam Band**

- » Aaron Brownwood, ICF – Guitar & Dobro
- » Bill Halligan, PlaceWorks – Guitar
- » Scott Morgan, OPR – Bass
- » Bill Prince, Retired! – Guitar
- » Charles Smith, ICF – Drums
- » Chris Stabenfeldt, Ecorp – Sax
- » David Wolff, Sage – Harp

### AEP Party at the Press Club San Francisco!

The San Francisco Bay Area Chapter of AEP would like to welcome all conference attendees to San Francisco by hosting a conference party! Join AEP Saturday May 20th at the Press Club SF for a chance to connect with fellow attendees, while enjoying one of San Francisco's finest wine bars. Located just 0.5 miles from the Parc 55 Hotel, we will continue the day's celebration of AEP member's dedication to excelling in their fields and bettering our world. This event will be held from 8:00pm-11:00pm, featuring exciting appetizers from local, organic farms and suppliers. Free wine and beer will be provided. We hope to see you there!

**When:** Saturday, May 20, 8:00 pm- 11:00 pm

**Where:** Press Club SF – 20 Yerba Buena Lane, San Francisco, CA 94103, [pressclubsf.com](http://pressclubsf.com)

**Cost:** Free for AEP members and guest

## Hotel Conservation

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**Parc 55** proudly participates actively in several programs dedicated to conserving environmental resources. We earnestly welcome suggestions from our guests, our staff and our purveyors that may lead to further efforts to help conserve our limited resources.

- » The Parc 55 has a comprehensive composting and recycling program that includes all Hotel services from the kitchen to the laundry room. The majority of the Parc 55's cleaning products are environmentally friendly; energy-saving lights have been installed throughout the Hotel, and the Parc 55 voluntarily coordinates with Pacific Gas & Electric to reduce energy usage during peak periods.
- » The Parc 55 has replaced all of its toilets with low-flow models that exceed California's standards for energy efficiency and reduce the hotel's water usage by 72%.
- » As part of our green drain maintenance program, the Parc 55 has installed 4 BIO-Amp™ Biological Drain Maintenance units.
- » Approximately 80% of our staff commute via public transportation, and the Company actively promotes both transit usage and carpooling.
- » Waste chemicals such as lubricants and cleaning substances are routinely disposed of in an environmentally friendly manner.
- » Bottles, cans, paper (including waste office materials, cardboard, and newspapers), batteries and fluorescent light bulbs are recycled.
- » Used computer equipment is recycled by a local company, and used toner cartridges are returned either to the vendor or the manufacturer for recycling.
- » Food waste is taken off site by a local company and composted.
- » Used cooking oil is processed for alternative fuel.
- » We launder guest bed and bath linen every three days unless otherwise requested during a guest stay, thereby reducing laundry volume and conserving water, electricity and cleaning chemicals.
- » Retired and remaindered linen and room amenities are donated to charities and non-profits in our community. Several hundred pounds of bed linens and blankets are contributed to charitable organizations annually.
- » For several years, our registration process has been "paperless" both for the convenience it affords arriving guests and the significant reduction that results in paper consumption and in records storage.
- » During and after any renovation, all carpeting from guestrooms and public areas are taken offsite and recycled.
- » Onsite commercial laundry machines are retrofitted to save 35% of water usage by utilizing the final rinse water as the first wash water of the following load.
- » Our hotel's front driveway proudly features a "Juice Bar" which is an Electric Car Charging Station.

### 2017 AEP Awards Program

A key strategic goal of the Association of Environmental Professionals (AEP) is to provide statewide recognition of environmental professionals' best works which contributes to the "enhancement, maintenance and protection of the quality of the natural and human environment." Each year AEP conducts an awards competition where we celebrate the best-of-the-best environmental documents, professional achievements, and services to environmental profession.

Award winners continually advance state-of-the-art environmental analysis and the presentation of this analysis to the public and to decision makers is attractive and public friendly format. Please join your professional colleagues in congratulating the 2017 AEP award recipients as we review their achievements and distribute the prestigious awards.

### New Awards Program Format!!

In an effort to improve the overall awards program experience, the 2017 Awards and Conference Committee is switching up the schedule and format for this year. The Awards Ceremony will be held on Friday, May 19th from 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM in the Exhibit Area and Ballroom. Our special guest Brian Mooney, FAICP, will be serving as our Master of Ceremonies for the awards program for the second year in a row. Stop by the Exhibit Area, and grab a glass and a bite, then come into the Ballroom for the awards presentation. We invite and encourage you to attend and join us in congratulating the hard work and effort put forth by the award winners as they receive their trophy.

### New Award Trophies!!

In keeping with the intent of the AEPs goals as an environmental professional organization focused on sustainability and the environment, this year's trophies will be produced using 100% sustainable post-consumer materials. Join us at the event to see the new awards!

AEP wishes to express its sincere thanks to the volunteer AEP Awards Jury and to AECOM our Gold Sponsor, for their support and for the production of the videos highlighting this year's award winners.

### 2017 Awards Chair:

» **Ricky Caperton** - Senior Environmental Planner, LSA

### 2017 Awards Jury:

- » **Antoinette Romeo** - Senior Planner, Santa Clara County Parks
- » **Dawn Edwards** - Environmental Project Manager, HDR
- » **Jessie Barkley** - Managing Associate, ESA|PCR
- » **Todd Nguyen** - Transportation & Environmental Planner, WSP|Parsons Brinkerhoff
- » **Anne Surdzial** - Director of CEQA/NEPA Services, ECorp Consulting
- » **Tricia Thrasher** - Principal Environmental Planner, UC Riverside

# ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS DOCUMENT

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## Outstanding Award

Pure Water San Diego Program Final Program Environmental Impact Report

Prepared for the City of San Diego

Prepared by **Dudek**

### Summary:

Pure Water San Diego is the City's phased, multi-year program that will provide one-third of San Diego's water supply by 2035. The Pure Water Program will use proven water purification technology to clean recycled water to produce safe, high-quality drinking water. The Program consists of new advanced water purification facilities, a water reclamation plant, upgrades to existing treatment facilities, and new pump stations and pipelines. The City was aware that the project would be of great interest to the community, due to the large scale of the project and public spotlight of potable reuse projects. The document provided numerous tools to enhance reader comprehension, including high-quality graphics, tables and charts. The EIR provided a very clear suite of figures to graphically demonstrate the impact analysis, while making it easy to comprehend to the public and decision making bodies. The Program EIR's language is direct and concise in addressing the project's environmental considerations. In order to be as efficient as possible, the 908-page Final PEIR and 14-month public involvement process was reduced into a 10-page Executive Summary. The document provided full disclosure of worst-case effects of the Program and provides the framework for subsequent streamlining of individual project-level review processes.

## Outstanding Award

Tahoe Basin Plan and Tahoe City Lodge EIS/EIR

Prepared for Placer County and the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency

Prepared by **Ascent Environmental**

### Summary:

Adoption of the Placer County Tahoe Basin Area Plan and the Tahoe City Lodge project represents a monumental step toward revitalizing communities and restoring environmental conditions in the Lake Tahoe region. The EIR/EIS—which was certified and unanimously approved by both Placer County and the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency—includes robust

environmental analysis of the plan, which covers over 72 square miles of the Tahoe Basin, and consolidates 60 separate land use guidance documents into one comprehensive plan. The analysis considered the effects of a wide range of plan features including an innovative transfer of development rights program, redevelopment incentives in Town Centers, transit features, and more.

The EIR/EIS also includes a project-level analysis of the Tahoe City Lodge Project, a near-term opportunity to showcase, in a real-world fashion, the policies of the Area Plan. The project would implement many of the new standards, providing a specific example of how the Area Plan would achieve the region's planning and environmental goals.

The environmental review process was exceptionally responsive to public comments. The team met frequently with stakeholders to discuss and resolve issues of concern, revising mitigation accordingly, and producing an EIR/EIS that enjoyed broad support.

### **Merit Award**

#### **Arroyo Seco Music and Arts Festival Environmental Impact Report**

#### **Prepared for the City of Pasadena Rose Bowl Operating Company**

#### **Prepared by Environmental Science Associates (ESA)**

##### **Summary:**

The Arroyo Seco Music and Arts Festival (Festival) will be the largest recurring multiday event in the Los Angeles area, and will be hosted at the iconic Rose Bowl Stadium. The Festival will be held over a 3-day weekend each year (for up to 20 years as now codified in the zoning code) and will host up to 93,000 patrons, including 3,400 employees. One of the primary objectives of the project was to address the fact that the long-term viability of the historic Rose Bowl Stadium depends heavily on securing its financial future, in the face of new modern stadiums coming to Los Angeles. ESA worked closely alongside the City of Pasadena, the Rose Bowl Operating Company, and Anschutz Entertainment Group (AEG), the force behind Coachella, to produce a legally defensible Environmental Impact Report (EIR), including a comprehensive project description and a mitigation reporting program that allowed for flexibility and refinements through the course of Festival implementation (up to 20 years). The EIR was successfully completed in less than one year and went unchallenged. Planning for the first year of the event is already in full swing with an amazing line up (including Tom Petty!).

### Merit Award

Golden State Warriors Event Center and  
Mixed-Use Development SEIR

Prepared for the City of San Francisco

Prepared by **Environmental Science Associates (ESA)** and **Orion  
Environmental Associates**

#### Summary:

The Golden State Warriors Event Center and Mixed-Use Development is a landmark \$1 Billion, privately funded, 2 Million SF development being built within San Francisco's thriving Mission Bay neighborhood. The project's centerpiece is a state-of-the-art, LEED® Gold, 18,000-plus-seat event center that will be the new home of the Golden State Warriors and a year-round venue for concerts, family shows, and cultural events. The project implemented substantial new off-site roadway, transit, and bicycle/pedestrian improvements, and funded a \$60 Million comprehensive Transportation Management Plan (TMP).

The San Francisco Office of Investment and Infrastructure and Planning Department, in partnership with ESA, completed a Subsequent EIR (SEIR) for the project in just over one year. The project was eligible for CEQA streamlining as an "Environmental Leadership Development Project" under AB 32 and SB 743. The six-volume, 5,000-page SEIR included substantial detailed modeling for transportation, air quality, health risks, noise, utilities, and wind and shadow; a helipad airspace assessment, site-specific archaeological testing, urban decay analysis, and stand-alone TMP. The SEIR adequacy was upheld by the California Superior Court and the California Court of Appeals and recently, the California Supreme Court denied a petition for further review.

The project will be constructed in time for the Golden State Warriors 2019-20 season.

### Merit Award

Millbrae Station Area Specific Plan Update and Transit-Oriented  
Developments (TOD) #1 and #2 Projects EIR

Prepared for the City of Millbrae

Prepared by **PlaceWorks** with support from  
**Fehr & Peers Transportation Consultants** and  
**Tom Origer & Associates**

### **Summary:**

Together the Millbrae Station Area Specific Plan Update (MSASP) and Transit-Oriented Developments (TOD) #1 and #2 EIR represent a model process for integrating land use planning with environmental review that results in a cost- and time-effective process for the preparation of a first-tier streamlining EIR for future development in Millbrae and enables the immediate implementing the creation of a compact, walkable and highly transit-oriented housing and jobs in the Bay Area that foster the reduction of Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT), air quality pollutants, and Greenhouse Gas emissions. Millbrae is located adjacent to the San Francisco International Airport (SFO) on the San Francisco peninsula, and is home to the Bay Area Rapid Transit Caltrain Station (Millbrae Station), the largest intermodal terminal in the western US. The Millbrae Station is a crucial intermodal transit center that connects riders with San Mateo County Transit bus services, and corporate shuttles to destinations in the greater Bay Area and beyond. The Millbrae Station is the only station in the Bay Area that links global travelers through SFO and it is the proposed location for a High-Speed Rail station.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE DOCUMENT**

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### **Outstanding Award**

A Conservation Strategy for the Lytle-Cajon Creek Area

Prepared by **Environmental Science Associates (ESA)** and  
**Randy Scott, AICP**

### **Summary:**

A collaborative group of public and private interests is proposing a Conservation Strategy for the Lytle-Cajon Creek Area in San Bernardino County. The Conservation Strategy is intended to establish a vision, and an efficient and effective approach to addressing endangered species permitting issues (as well as sensitive habitat and sensitive species mitigation/conservation issues) for public and private projects primarily within, adjacent to, and in the vicinity of Lytle Creek and the Cajon Wash. Under this strategy, conservation efforts would be concentrated within a roughly 20,000-acre area encompassing highly restricted natural communities and endangered species populations. The strategy envisions a broad "Service Area" that would enable select projects in the vicinity of the area of focused conservation to benefit by enabling those projects to mitigate their biological impacts as well by concentrating their mitigation efforts. As opposed to using surrogate ratio approaches to determine mitigation, the strategy employs Habitat Equivalency Analysis to scale impacts and mitigation which is based on 15 separate metrics for habitat, landscape context and net gain analyses along both horizon and vertical dimensions. Further, it builds upon and incorporates existing conservation lands and programs.

## 2017 AEP Awards Program

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### Merit Award

#### REVEAL Initiative Report

Prepared for the County of San Bernardino Land Use Services Department

Prepared by **Aspen Environmental Group** with support from **Collaborative Economics, Essergy Consulting, and Life Cycle Associates**

#### Summary:

Through the San Bernardino County Partnership for Renewable Energy and Conservation (SPARC), the County has sought to strengthen its policies and regulatory system to manage renewable energy development while protecting its environment, communities and residents, and economy. Aspen Environmental Group (Aspen) prepared the Renewable Energy Value Evaluation and Augmentation Leadership (REVEAL) Initiative Report, which was developed to present the County with potential new opportunities for developing community-based renewable energy (CORE) projects, with an emphasis on providing economic benefits to the County and its residents. Aspen developed a quantitative model tailored to the County predicting local economic benefits. While the Report was intended to assist with preparing goals and policies for the REC Element, the content was developed to serve larger topics and to be a fluid document for overall renewable energy planning. A quantitative model and data are presented that can be adjusted over time and by geography, to estimate the effectiveness of recommended policies and tools to maximize economic benefits to jurisdictions and their residents. The Report's quantitative cost/benefit model and recommended policies, tools, and performance measures are focused to increase economic, social, and environmental benefits to the County. The California Energy Commission has commended the REVEAL Initiative Report.

## CLIMATE CHANGE DOCUMENT

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### Outstanding Award

#### City of Riverside Restorative Growthprint

Prepared by **Environmental Science Associates (ESA), National Community Renaissance, Three Squares Inc., and Fehr & Peers**

#### Summary:

The Riverside Restorative Growthprint (RRG) is a Climate Action Plan (CAP) that integrates greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction strategies with local economic development. The

RRG lays out measures to boost low-carbon economic growth through investment in urban infrastructure, urban mobility systems, public-private partnerships, and local entrepreneurship. It provides a roadmap for the City of Riverside to achieve deep GHG emission reductions through the year 2035, while building on the City's reputation as a center of innovation and setting the stage for local entrepreneurs to bring innovative GHG reducing practices, services, and new technologies to the marketplace. The RRG includes two plans: (1) a local Climate Action Plan (RRG-CAP) that supports and builds on state and regional measures to reduce the carbon footprint of the community; and (2) a companion Economic Prosperity Action Plan (RRG-EPAP) with policies that steer investment and resources toward entrepreneurial green businesses and sustainable development.

UC Riverside and the local business community were key partners in this effort. ESA led planning workshops with key local stakeholders, and developed an innovative crowdsourcing campaign using several social media and web-based platforms to solicit ideas for the RRG from the public.

## Merit Award

### City of San Diego Climate Action Plan Program

#### Prepared by the **City of San Diego**

##### **Summary:**

The City of San Diego's Climate Action Plan (CAP) included a group of strategies and actions, including performance targets, that substantial evidence demonstrated would collectively achieve specified GHG emissions levels on a Citywide level. The San Diego CAP represents one of the most aggressive GHG reduction programs of any city in the state, and an in-depth environmental impact analysis was conducted of the aggressive strategies and actions outlined in the CAP. The CAP PEIR also described what potential physical changes would occur with each strategy and action and the environmental issue areas that would likely be affected.

As the final piece of the CAP Program, City Staff from the Planning Department, Development Services Department, Office of the Mayor, and Office of the City Attorney developed a project-level CAP Consistency Checklist that would include measures to be implemented on a project-by-project basis. The approach to developing the Checklist questions was to determine measures that would be additive to the requirement of existing state and local codes. If a new project incorporates these identified measures that exceed existing requirements, it would not hinder the City's ability to achieve its reduction targets, and more importantly, would contribute to ensuring that the City meets its overall CAP targets.

### PLANNING DOCUMENT

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#### Outstanding Award

##### Midtown Specific Plan

Prepared for the City of Long Beach Department of Development Services

Prepared by **PlaceWorks** and **Katalyst**

##### Summary:

The Midtown Specific Plan was adopted in 2016 as the primary tool for redevelopment along Long Beach Boulevard. Implementation of the Plan will lead to new goods, services, and housing while improving mobility, beautifying the streets, and increasing open space. The Plan addresses many factors for the City including, population growth, TOD to minimize GHG emissions, and an unconventional approach to urban recreation. The corridor, and nearby residents, will also benefit from the LID, public art, streetscape and even recycling provisions found in the plan.

The Plan is unique in that it does more than simply upzone and hope for the best—it sets forth a path for achieving a bold vision: “Midtown will be a vibrant and thriving community for our children, family, and friends. The area will be known for its unique blend of parks, strong businesses, and transit-oriented housing. Additionally, the corridor will be an early leader in multi-modal transportation practices where a person can safely and easily travel by walking, riding a bike, catching a bus, taking a train, or driving a car.” By including mobility, open space and affordable housing solutions the Plan assures that the ingredients for community and quality of life are combined with a flexible regulatory framework for successful development.

#### Outstanding Award

##### Bear Creek Redwoods Preserve Plan and EIR

Prepared by **Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District** with support from **Ascent Environmental** and **POPULOUS**

##### Summary:

To achieve smart growth, it is critical not only to concentrate growth around urban centers, but also to restrict growth in the rural (especially environmentally sensitive) areas. The Bear Creek Redwoods Open Space Preserve Plan, along with its EIR, vigorously protect and restore the important habitat and cultural resources within this one-of-a-kind landscape while inviting millions of nearby Silicon Valley and other Peninsula and South Bay residents and employees to enjoy this hidden gem—to walk and ride its 20 miles of trails, to interact

with the rehabilitated cultural landscape of the former Alma College site, to observe and learn about the Preserve's rich ecosystem, and to simply enjoy the sun filtered by the majestic redwoods and oak trees. The Preserve Plan will support projected regional growth by providing nearby population centers with convenient access to a first-rate recreation and open space facility, which increases health and quality of life for the region's existing and future residents of all ages and income levels. This plan preserves 1,432 acres of some of the most valuable property in the world, enhances the land's natural and cultural resources, and opens it up for public enjoyment.

### Merit Award

#### Downtown Waterfront District Specific Plan and CEQA Review

Prepared for the City of Suisun City

Prepared by **AECOM** with support from

**Applied Development Economics and Ninyo & Moore**

#### Summary:

The Downtown Waterfront District Specific Plan implements the recently updated General Plan for the historic downtown and adjacent neighborhoods, facilitating infill development over the next two decades. This Specific Plan strikes a very careful balance between certainty and flexibility. The Specific Plan provides enough certainty for residents of the area with respect to design for future projects, enough certainty related to the rules for development proposals, but enough flexibility to allow the private marketplace to support future infill development.

The Specific Plan uses a powerful, but underutilized provision of the Public Resources Code (21083.3) and CEQA Guidelines (15183) to maximize CEQA streamlining for this Specific Plan and also for future projects consistent with the Specific Plan.

The Specific Plan provides clear design and architectural guidance, illustrating a variety of methods for complying with this guidance. The Specific Plan provides example site plans for all key infill opportunity sites in order to demonstrate viable development concepts that comply with Specific Plan direction.

The Specific Plan details future pedestrian, bicycle, and transit access and financing for these improvements, paired with a complementary mix, density, and arrangement of land uses that will make these modes of transportation more practical in the future.

# PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND EDUCATION PROGRAM

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## Outstanding Award

Pure Water San Diego

Prepared by the **City of San Diego** with support from  
**Katz & Associates, Inc.**

### Summary:

The City of San Diego is moving forward with Pure Water San Diego, a phased, multi-year program that will provide one-third of San Diego's water supply locally by 2035. Pure Water San Diego is a potable reuse program that will use proven technology to clean recycled water to produce safe, high-quality drinking water.

The City of San Diego has implemented an extensive public outreach and education program to inform San Diegans about Pure Water and how it addresses San Diego's water challenges. The City's demonstration Pure Water Facility is the centerpiece of the Program's outreach efforts, and has hosted tours for more than 11,900 people to date. More than 400 people attended the City's Pure Water Day Open House in October 2016, which is the largest community outreach event held to date for the program. The City recently partnered with Stone Brewing Company to brew Stone Full Circle Pale Ale, the first beer brewed 100% with advanced-treated recycled water. In addition, Pure Water staff regularly host informational booths at community events and give presentations to local organizations.

Pure Water's extensive outreach efforts have resulted in a 50 percent increase in public support for potable reuse in San Diego.

## CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

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Each year this award is given to AEP members who have made outstanding contributions (excluding monetary) to either the state AEP organizations or a local chapter. This year, the following AEP members are being recognized for their contributions

**Dev Vrat** for his involvement in AEP's Awards Program from 2001 to 2016

**Roger Turner** for his involvement in AEP's Awards Program from 2001 to 2016

**Craig Stevens** for his involvement in the CEQA Portal

# Climate Change and Air Quality Workshop

## Climate Change and Air Quality Workshop

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

### 3.0 AICP Credits

“The Climate Change and Air Quality Workshop” will provide valuable information concerning the latest in climate change and air quality analysis. This will include an overview of the latest version of CalEEMod model that will be coming out later this month, guidance on when and how to do a CEQA compliant health risk assessment in light of recent court rulings, and guidance on defensible greenhouse gas (GHG) thresholds and climate action plan reduction targets from the 2017 Scoping Plan Update and court rulings. We will end the day discussing Consumptive based GHG Inventories, when to use them and how to focus the inventory information based upon the recent Bay Area Consumptive based GHG Inventory conducted by UC Berkeley and the Bay Area Air Quality Management District.”

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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

# Conference 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

#### **Panelists:**

- » **Cullen Wilkerson** - BioMaAS, Inc.
- » **Debbie Craven-Green** - San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
- » **Dan Wade, P.E., G.E.** - San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
- » **Chris Kern** - San Francisco Planning Department

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
- » **Rogelio Foronda, Jr.** - Maximus Real Estate Partners
- » **Barbara W. Sahm** - SWCA Environmental Consultants
- » **Marcelle W. Boudreaux, AICP** - City and County of San Francisco, Planning Department
- » **Kimberly Stern Liddell** - San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
- » **Elizabeth Purl** - City and County of San Francisco, Planning Department

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.

### Panelists:

- » **Ezra Pincus-Roth, AICP** - Nelson\Nygaard
- » **Chris Bersbach** - Rincon Consultants, Inc.
- » **Bill Piazza** - Air Quality Dynamics
- » **Tom Liao** - Deputy Community Development Director,  
City of San Leandro

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

**Panelists:**

- » **Whitman Manley, J.D.** - Remy Moose Manley, LLP
- » **Sara Clark, J.D.** - Shute Mihaly & Weinberger, LLP
- » **Gary Jakobs, AICP** - Ascent Environmental

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

**Panelists:**

- » **Keenan Foster** - Principal Environmental Specialist, Sonoma County Water Agency.
- » **Christie Beeman, P.E.** - Hydrology Program Manager, ESA.
- » **Devin Mody, P.E.** - Operations and Maintenance Engineering Support Manager, Santa Clara Valley Water District.
- » **Scott Akin** - Environmental Service Manager, Stream Maintenance Program, Santa Clara Valley Water District.

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

### Panelists:

- » **James D. Barnes** - Acentech
- » **Shannon Walker, ENV SP** - Environmental Specialist, LA Metro
- » **Robert Curley** - Insignia

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

**Panelists:**

- » **Charlotte Strem** - UC Office of the President
- » **Steve Lohr** - CSU Chancellor's Office
- » **Catherine Palter** - Stanford University
- » **Jim Moose, J.D.** - CEQA Attorney at Remy Moose Manley

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

**Panelists:**

- » **Curtis E. Alling, AICP** – Ascent Environmental, Inc.
- » **Doug Carstens, J.D.** - Chatten-Brown & Carstens LLP
- » **Scott Gregory** - Lamphier Gregory

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

**Panelists:**

- » **Anna M. Roche** - San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
- » **Chris Kern** - City and County of San Francisco Planning Department
- » **Steve Ortega** - Golden Gate National Recreation Area
- » **Stacy Radine Bradley, AICP** - San Francisco Recreation and Park Department
- » **Ben Grant** - Company San Francisco Planning + Urban 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
- » **Bruce Steubing** - Benchmark Resources
- » **Matt Treber** - Director of Community and Economic Development, County of Madera

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

**Panelists:**

- » **Meghan Macias, PE** - Transpo Group
- » **Wade Weitgreffe, AICP** - Senior Planner, City of San Francisco
- » **Mike Bagheri, PE, TE** - City of Pasadena

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

**Panelists:**

- » **Tammy L. Seale, AICP** - PlaceWorks
- » **Sarah Favrot** - LSA Associates
- » **David Mitchell** - Mitchell Air Quality Consulting

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

### **Panelists:**

- » **Charity Schiller, J.D.** - Partner, Best Best & Krieger LLP
- » **Veera Tyagi, J.D.** - Senior Deputy District Counsel, South Coast Air Quality Management District

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
- » **Christian Cebrian, J.D.** - Cox, Castle, and Nicholson
- » **Andrew Crabtree** - City of Santa Clara

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

**Panelists:**

- » **Laurie Dobson Correa** - Regional Conservation Authority
- » **Stuart McKibben, P.E.** - Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District
- » **Joseph Caldwell, PE, CPESC, CPSWQ, QSD, QSP** - Albert A. Webb Associates
- » **Sonya Hooker** - Ruth Villalobos Associates

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
- » **Steve Noack, AICP** - Placeworks
- » **Jessika Johnson, J.D.** - Dannis Woliver & Kelley
- » **Robert Porter** - Chief Operating Officer, San Carlos School District

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.

**Panelists:**

- » **Amanda McCarthy, Ph.D.** - Chief Operating Officer & Principal, WRA, Inc.
- » **Mike Josselyn, Ph.D.** - Principal, WRA, Inc.
- » **Clark Morrison, JD.** - Partner, Cox, Castle & Nicholson
- » **Melanie Day** - California Department of Fish and Wildlife

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

### **Panelists:**

- » **Jonathan Piakis** - San Francisco Department of Public Health
- » **Jocelyn Kane** - San Francisco Entertainment Commission

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

### **Panelists:**

- » **David Somers, AICP** - City of Los Angeles
- » **Kathy Phelan, J.D.** - City of Los Angeles
- » **Sarah Brandenburg, PE** - Fehr & Peers

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

### Panelists:

- » **Marie Campbell** - President, Sapphos Environmental & NAEP President, AEP LA Chapter Director
- » **Ricky Caperton** - Senior Environmental Planner, LSA & AEP State Director at Large
- » **Devon Muto** - Senior Manager, ICF & President, AEP
- » **Leslie Tice** - Program Director/Principal Consultant, ERM West & NAEP Director at Large

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

### **Panelists:**

- » **Brian Strong** - City and County of San Francisco
- » **Diane Oshima** - Port of San Francisco
- » **Geoff Smick** - WRA, Inc.

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

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
- » **David Wolff** - Sage Institute, Inc.
- » **Christian L. Marsh** - Downey Brand

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

### **Panelists:**

- » **Doug Darnell, AICP** - City of Riverside
- » **Jeff Caton, P.E., LEED AP** - ESA
- » **Jaime Nack** - Three Squares Inc.

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
- » **Tim Paone** - Cox, Castle & Nicholson
- » **Tony Petros** - LSA Associates, Inc.
- » **Kimberly Brandt, AICP** - City of Newport Beach
- » **Ron J. Ronvansek, 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

**Panelists:**

- » **Wade Wietgreffe, AICP** - City and County of San Francisco
- » **Meenaxi R. Panakkal, AICP** - City of San Jose
- » **Sarah Fine** - City of Oakland

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

### Panelists:

- » **David Lewis** - Save The Bay
- » **Adrian Covert** - Bay Area Council
- » **Jeremy Lowe** - San Francisco Estuary Institute.
- » **John Bourgeois** - South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project.

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
- » **Alyssa Muto** - City of San Diego
- » **Margaret M. Sohagi, J.D.** - The Sohagi Law Group
- » **Fred Buder** - City of Vacaville

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

**Panelists:**

- » **Dennis Pascua** - Transpo Group
- » **Heather Dubois** - ESA Associates
- » **Julian Capata** - Placeworks

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

### **Panelists:**

- » **David Mitchell** - Mitchell Air Quality Consulting
- » **Hasseb Qureshi** - Urban Crossroads

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

**Panelists:**

- » **Jennifer Hernandez, J.D.** - Holland & Knight, LLP
- » **Terry Rivasplata, AICP** - ICF International
- » **Erin Efner** - ICF International
- » **Darin Ranelletti** - City of Oakland

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

### **Panelists:**

- » **Marc Zeppetello, J.D.** - San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission
- » **Lina Velasco** - City of Richmond
- » **Matt Brennan, PhD** - Environmental Science Associates
- » **Christy Herron, AICP** - Environmental Science Associates

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
- » **Alison Kirk, AICP** - Bay Area Air Quality Management District
- » **Honey Walters** - Ascent Environmental
- » **Andrea Ruiz-Esquide** - San Francisco City Attorney's Office

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

### Panelists:

- » **Greg O'Connell** - Streamline Planning
- » **Steve Donovan, PE** - SHN Engineers and Geologists

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

**Panelists:**

- » **Jennifer L. Hernandez** - Partner, Holland & Knight
- » **Barbara Kautz, J.D.** - Goldfarb & Lipman LLP
- » **Trudi Ryan, AICP** - City of Sunnyvale

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

**Panelists:**

- » **Steven Chappell** - Executive Director, Suisun Resource Conservation District
- » **Byron Buck** - Executive Director, State and Federal Contractors Water Agency

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.

- » **Jess Yang, J.D.** - Taylor & Wiley
- » **Tracey Ferguson, AICP** - D.R. Horton
- » **Mike Eng** - Ascent Environmental, Inc.
- » **Elizabeth Purl** - City and County of San Francisco, Planning Department

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

### **Panelists:**

- » **Tammy L. Seale, AICP** - PlaceWorks
- » **Dave Mitchell** - Mitchell Air Quality Consulting
- » **Sarah Favrot** - LSA Associates
- » **Dave Burch** - Bay Area Air Quality Management District

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

### **Panelists:**

- » **Jessica Range, LEED AP** - City and County of San Francisco
- » **Philip Martien, PhD** - Bay Area Air Quality Management District
- » **Dimitri Antoniou, AICP** - Ascent Environmental

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.

**Christina Hirt** is an Environmental Planner at WRA, Inc.

**Reema Mahamood** is an environmental planner with over 15 years of experience preparing CEQA and NEPA documents.

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

**Alisa Moore** is the Director of ESA's Bay Area Water Business Group in San Francisco with 23 years of experience.

**Kieulan Pham** is currently an urban planner on the Environmental Planning Team at the City of San Jose.

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

#### **Panelists:**

- » **Dr. Daniel R. Cayan, PhD** - Research Meteorologist, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of California San Diego
- » **Lindy Lowe** - Planning Director, BCDP
- » **Alex Westhoff** - Planner, Marin County Community Development Agency
- » **Charles Lester, J.D., PhD** - Previous Director of the California Coastal Commission
- » **Bob Battalio, P.E.** - Environmental Science Associates, ESA
- » **Jeff Caton, P.E., LEED AP** - Environmental Science Associates

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
- » **Aimee Epstein** - Senior Manager, Development Operations, NRG Energy
- » **Jennifer Haddow, PhD** - Principal Environmental Scientist, Rincon Consultants
- » **Deirdre West** - Environmental Team Manager, The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

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 on-going 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

### Panelists:

- » **Kimberly Stern Liddell** - Master of Science, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
- » **Randall Dean** - Master of Urban Planning, Master of Arts, City and County of San Francisco
- » **Jack Meyers, M.A., RPA** - Far Western Anthropological Research Group, Inc.

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 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

### **Panelists:**

- » **Mindy Fogg** - County of Santa Barbara
- » **Michael Wonsidler** - County of San Diego
- » **Shelley Saitowitz, MPH** - County of San Diego
- » **Poonam Boparai** - Ascent Environmental, Inc.
- » **Selena Evilsizor, AICP** - County of Santa Barbara
- » **Laurel G. Lees** - County of San Diego, Planning & Development Services

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.

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

**Sadie McGarvey** has over 8 years of professional experience as a field biologist and regulatory specialist, working in a variety of habitats and municipalities.

**Steve Noack** has over 35 years of experience in environmental and land use planning, primarily in the San Francisco Bay Area.

**Carrie Tai, AICP**, is the Current Planning Officer / Zoning Administrator for the City of Long Beach.

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
- » **Ruta K. Thomas** - Principal, Dudek
- » **Carrie Tai, AICP** - Current Planning Officer / Zoning Administrator, City of Long Beach

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.

### **Panelists:**

- » **Justin Semion, MBA** - WRA, Inc.
- » **James Reyff** - Illingworth & Rodkin
- » **Dan Chase, MS** - WRA, Inc.

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

## **NEPA: Update on Latest NEPA Practices.**

### **1.5 AICP Credits**

### **Speakers:**

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

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.

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**
- » **Emilie Wolfson** - PlaceWorks
- » **Fernando Sotelo, PE, PTP** - PlaceWorks
- » **Diana Edwards** - AECOM
- » **Alexandra Hallowell** - San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency

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

### ***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

### **Panelists:**

- » **Michael Smith, PhD** - Enercon
- » **Leslie Tice** - Program Director/Principal Consultant, ERM West
- » **Devon Muto** - Senior Manager, ICF
- » **Marie Campbell** - President, Sapphos Environmental

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### Contacts

Aaron Goldschmidt Vice President  
aaron.goldschmidt@amecfw.com

Dan Gira Program Manager  
daniel.gira@amecfw.com

Doug McFarling Program Manager  
doug.mcfarling@amecfw.com

Rita Bright Project Manager  
rita.bright@amecfw.com

Erika Leachman Project Manager  
erika.leachman@amecfw.com

Nick Meisinger Project Manager  
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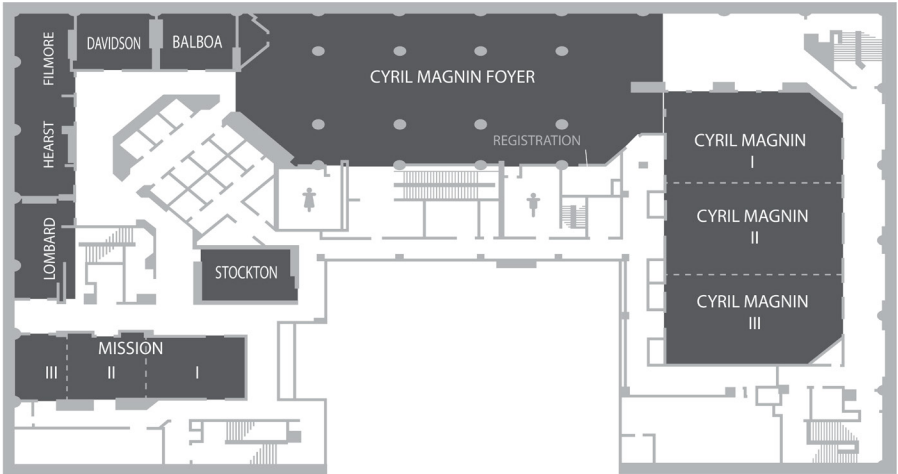


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# Parc 55 Conference Map

## LEVEL FOUR



## LEVEL THREE

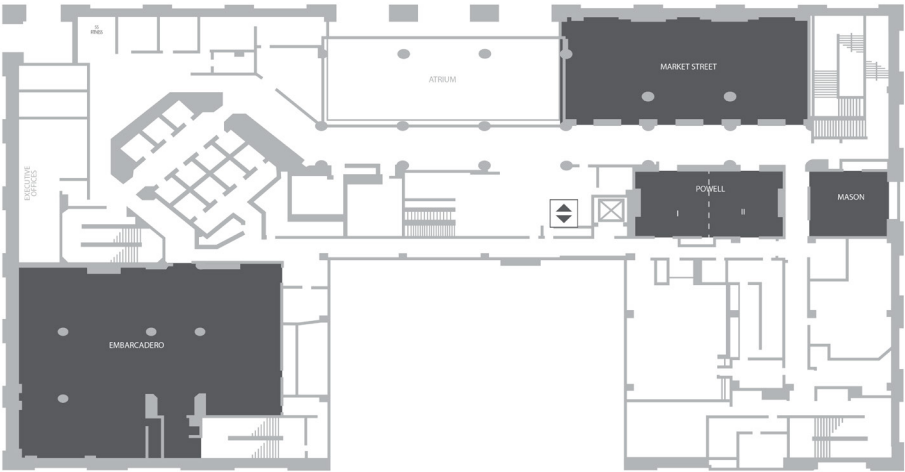




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