

2019 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 the environmental profession.

Please join your professional colleagues in congratulating the 2019 AEP award recipients as we recognize their achievements and accomplishments.

2019 AWARDS CEREMONY

The Awards Reception will be held on **March 25th from 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM** in the **Monterey Bay Room**, followed by the **Awards Ceremony from 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM**. Our special guest Brian Mooney, FAICP, will be serving as our Master of Ceremonies for the awards program for the third year in a row. Stop by the Exhibit Area, and grab a drink and a bite, then come join us as we recognize this year's recipients 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 award.

2019 AEP AWARDS JURY

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

2019 Awards Chair:

Marissa Mathias, Environmental Planner, ICF

2019 Awards Jurors:

Anne Surdzial, Director of CEQA/NEPA Services, ECORP Consulting, Inc.

Betty Dehoney, Vice President, HDR

Cindy van Empel, Senior Planner, City of Modesto

Claudia Garcia, Environmental Planner, Ascent Environmental

Doug Feremenga, Environmental Planning Manager, Transportation Corridor Agencies

Elizabeth Meyerhoff, Environmental Specialist, Coachella Valley Water District

Jessie Barkley, Senior Project Manager, ICF

Kristin Blackson, Senior CEQA Project Manager, Harris & Associates

Leann Taagepera, Principal, Leann Taagepera Environmental Planning

Ricky Caperton, AICP, Senior Planner, City of Clovis

Sarah Owsowitz, Of Counsel, Best Best & Krieger LLP

Seth Myers, Air Quality/Noise Analyst; Consulting Arborist, ECORP Consulting, Inc.

Stephanie Oslick, West Coast Director of Environmental Services, Moffatt & Nichol

Stephanie Roberts, Senior Environmental Planner, LSA

Susan Lee, Vice President, Aspen Environmental Group

Tina Andersen, Principal, T&B Planning

ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS DOCUMENT

Outstanding Awards

Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project EIR/EIS

Prepared by ESA for the CPUC and Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary with support from Applied Marine Sciences, Sutro Science, Burke Williams & Sorensen, HydroFocus, and Dr. Phil Roberts

The Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project is intended to replace CalAm's existing Carmel River and Seaside Groundwater Basin supplies. The 4-volume Draft EIR/EIS was a recirculated Draft EIR that incorporated new NEPA analyses, particularly with respect to the equal consideration of eight alternatives. The 8-volume Final EIR/EIS included 15 Master Responses and responses to 1,750 individual comments. It is the first desalination project EIR/EIS to be published and certified that is in compliance with the 2015 Amendment to the California Ocean Plan, and includes an extensive brine discharge analysis which also supports the NPDES permitting and the water code determination processes.

The project includes seven subsurface slant wells at the CEMEX sand mining property in the northern coastal area of the City of Marina, and a 6.4 million gallons per day capacity desalination plant in unincorporated Monterey County. The brine will be discharged into Monterey Bay through an existing wastewater outfall. The project will also include improvements to the existing Seaside Groundwater Basin aquifer storage and recovery system, about 21 miles of pipelines, and a water purchase agreement for 3,500 acre-feet per year of advanced treated recycled water from the Pure Water Monterey Groundwater Replenishment (GWR) project.

Lake Tahoe Shoreline Plan

*Prepared for the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency
Prepared by Ascent Environmental, Inc.*

After decades of controversy and litigation, the Lake Tahoe Shoreline Plan was unanimously adopted by the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency as the first comprehensive plan governing the use, development, and management of Lake Tahoe's shores. The Shoreline Plan EIS analyzed four plan alternatives through a transparent and collaborative environmental review process. A joint-fact-finding process allowed stakeholders and independent experts to provide input on the best available information and analytical approaches early in the environmental review process. The lead agency demonstrated a sincere willingness to incorporate public suggestions into the EIS and mitigation programs throughout the environmental review.

The Shoreline Plan EIS developed innovative approaches to analyze the effects of policies, regulations, and new boating facilities. It included a first-of-its-kind model of motorized boating activity that informed the analysis of effects on air, water, noise, and other resources. The EIS provided details on how the Shoreline Plan would affect the quality of recreational experiences for various user groups, and it modeled build-out of the shoreline to illustrate how different alternatives would affect the scenic quality of Lake Tahoe. The document presented this complex information in a concise, complete, and easy to understand EIS with generous use of graphics, tables, and technical appendices.

Pure Water Monterey Environmental Impact Report

*Prepared for: Monterey One Water and Monterey Peninsula Water Management District
Prepared by: DD&A DENISE DUFFY & ASSOCIATES, INC. with Technical Assistance
from Perkins Coie LLP, Schaaf & Wheeler Civil Engineers Trussell Technologies*

The Pure Water Monterey (PWM) Groundwater Replenishment Project is an Advanced Water Purification project which embodies the definition of "innovation". The project is not only groundbreaking in its conception, but also in its water sources, partnerships, technical analysis, agency approvals and the project's importance to solving regional environmental health and water supply issues.

The project's environmental documentation is a standout in the following ways:

- » The PWM EIR excels in its originality and approach in addressing an unprecedented breadth and depth of potential contaminants and compounds of emerging concern.

- » The EIR also concisely analyzes multiple project components and creates a strong technical baseline and a template for subsequent analysis and permitting. Several recent Addenda concisely build upon the high-quality environmental analysis of the original EIR and address critical project updates.
- » The full set of environmental documentation allowed project permitting and construction to move forward in an unprecedented schedule – exactly what was needed to meet the critical water needs of an entire community.
- » DDA Environmental and the expert team produced an outstanding set of environmental documents – capable of encapsulating an extraordinary project.
- » The entire DDA team’s work on the EIR and Addenda laid the groundwork and sketched out the possibilities of what would ultimately become a model for the future of purified water projects.

Biosolids Digester Facilities Project EIR

*Prepared by the City and County of San Francisco
with support from ESA and Orion Environmental Associates*

Located in the Bayview-Hunters Point neighborhood, San Francisco’s Southeast Water Pollution Control Plant, built in 1952, treats 80 percent of the City’s wastewater and stormwater. The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission’s (SFPUC’s) Biosolids Digester Facilities Project will replace aging solids treatment facilities at the Southeast Plant with facilities employing modern technologies, including odor control and energy recovery. The new processes will produce biosolids for beneficial reuse and digester gas to power the facilities, and odors from solids processing will be limited to the Plant’s fence line. Environmental analysis of this project presented unique challenges. Key areas of investigation included:

- » Air Quality. The project is within an Air Pollutant Exposure Zone, and a detailed Health Risk Assessment was prepared.
- » Odor. A site-wide odor assessment and dispersion modeling were employed.
- » Historic Resources. A historic building complex and historic district within and overlapping the project were identified and evaluated.
- » Archeological Resources. Geoaicheological testing of the oldest known prehistoric settlement in the city was conducted.

The City and County of San Francisco prepared the BDFP EIR, supported by a consultant team led by Environmental Science Associates (ESA) and Orion Environmental Consultants. The project sponsor was the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission. The EIR was certified in 2018; Project construction begins in 2019.

Merit Awards

Environmental Justice Analysis for Bayview-Hunters Point

*Prepared for the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
Prepared by ESA*

This first-of-its-kind Environmental Justice Report is a groundbreaking example of a public utility living up to its commitments to equity while evaluating the impacts of a major public works project – the Biosolids Digester Facilities Project. It integrates census, public health, education, air and water quality, traffic and transportation, housing, and economic and workforce data to provide a snapshot of San Francisco’s Bayview-Hunters Point neighborhood’s burdens and opportunities, and comprehensively analyzes how the subject project could exacerbate or improve conditions in this overburdened and underserved area. This neighborhood is home to a historically large African-American population and is situated near a former Naval Shipyard and other industrial uses. ESA helped SFPUC prepare the report, which begins with an inventory of existing disproportionate environmental and health burdens, lack of services and amenities, and other indicators—over 60 in all, based on input from several of SFPUC’s advisory committees. The report next evaluates the project’s potential effects, comparing its impacts to known EJ burdens. That analysis resulted in SFPUC’s voluntary adoption of recommendations, such as expanded air quality monitoring and offsets, tree planting, bike and pedestrian improvements, and electric vehicle charging stations.

City of San Diego Vernal Pool Habitat Conservation Plan EIR/EIS

Prepared by the City of San Diego with Support from AECOM

The City of San Diego Vernal Pool Habitat Conservation Plan (VPHCP) is a regional conservation plan for vernal pools and seven threatened and endangered species that do not have federal coverage under the City's MSCP Subarea Plan. The VPHCP purpose is to preserve the network of vernal pool habitat within this matrix of open space; protect the biodiversity of unique wetlands; and define a formal strategy for the long-term conservation, management, and monitoring of vernal pools and associated species. The VPHCP conservation strategy is to allow impacts to degraded vernal pools with low long-term conservation value in exchange for restoration, enhancement, preservation, and long-term management and monitoring of vernal pools with higher conservation value in the MHPA. The EIR/EIS was required to analyze this project with over 20 years of regional data and research and complicated agency requirements. The approach involved a critical look at issues that were truly tied to potential physical impact, resulting in the legally sound elimination of 13 topics. Briefly summarized text or matrices allowed pertinent information to be presented within the EIR/EIS in easily understood terms, while allowing access to the complex details in the appendices.

North Coast Trail Draft Environmental Impact Report

*Prepared by the Santa Cruz County Regional Transportation Commission
with support from Rincon Consultants, Inc. and Harris & Associates*

Rincon partnered with Harris & Associates to co-manage and prepare the North Coast Rail Trail Draft EIR. Through best practices, the EIR provides a fully objective, substantiated, and reliable presentation of technical and substantive information. It follows a logical structure, consistent with the CEQA Appendix G checklist for environmental issue areas, and uses language clear to the average reader. The analysis thoroughly and comprehensively assesses the environmental effects of the project, but keeps the information organized and concise, through tables and graphics and by putting technical information in appendices. The document's introduction provides the full history of the project within the context of recent Santa Cruz County transportation policy-making. It addresses head-on the concerns of local stakeholders including agencies, landowners, agricultural lessees, and non-profit organizations. The innovative teaming approach resulted in a robust, legally defensible, and technically accurate evaluation of the environmental impact of this important project on the Central Coast of California.

Palen Solar Project

*Prepared for Bureau of Land Management and Riverside County
Prepared by Aspen Environmental Group*

The Palen Solar Project Supplemental EIS/EIR is a joint NEPA/CEQA document for a 500 megawatt solar photovoltaic project in unincorporated Riverside County on Bureau of Land Management land. It has undergone three rounds of partial and complete CEQA and NEPA, each evaluating a different solar generation technology. Therefore, the CEQA and NEPA processes supporting the 2018 SEIS/EIR were atypical. The applicant, EDF Renewable Energy, was seeking to revise a BLM Right-of-Way application for a solar trough proposal. The Energy Commission regulates solar thermal technologies but not solar PV projects and Riverside County became the CEQA lead agency. This led to analysis and mitigation challenges because the Energy Commission uses a Certified Regulatory Process rather than an EIR.

Additionally, substantial information was presented in the Desert Renewable Energy and Conservation Plan published between the first two iterations of the project and the current one. To inform the public about the plan, the SEIS/EIR included an alternative that considered how the project would be changed by it. Aspen worked with the BLM and County to make sure that the planning requirements and regulations applicable to each were adequately addressed. Focusing on each agency's requirements allowed them to feel comfortable with the document.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE DOCUMENT

Outstanding Awards

County of San Mateo Routine Maintenance Program Manual

*Prepared by the County of San Mateo
with Consulting Support from Horizon Water and Environment*

The San Mateo County (County) Department of Public Works (DPW) and Parks Department (Parks) conduct a range of routine maintenance activities to ensure that County facilities are properly functioning and operational. The purpose of developing the Routine Maintenance Program (Program) is to provide a more comprehensive and consistent approach to conducting routine maintenance activities countywide that facilitates using programmatic longer-term regulatory permits and countywide impact avoidance and mitigation approaches to protect natural resources.

The Routine Maintenance Program Manual (Maintenance Manual) describes the routine maintenance activities that comprise the Program, natural resources in the Program area, and specific conditions at facility sites where routine maintenance is anticipated. The Maintenance Manual is a state-of-the-art document for resource planning and protection due to its clear methodology, transferability, and example of how to use site-specific resource assessments to target and focus impact avoidance and minimization approaches for routine maintenance activities.

- » The Maintenance Manual presents a creative but practical approach to categorize routine work sites according to their resource sensitivity, an approach that is supported by regulatory agencies.
- » The Maintenance Manual provides an approach to classify and organize different maintenance activities and their potential environmental effects that are directly transferable to other jurisdictions and organizations.
- » The methodology presented in the Maintenance Manual represents a flexible and programmatic approach toward resource management that can evolve as the County's needs shift over time
- » Information in the Maintenance Manual is presented in a clear and accessible format and structured in a logical sequence for ease of use.

The Nature Conservancy- Natural Shoreline Infrastructure: Technical Guidance for the California Coast

*Prepared by ESA for The Nature Conservancy
in Collaboration with Point Blue Conservation Science and the
National Atmospheric Administration Site Sentinel Cooperative*

Flooding and erosion caused by rising seas threaten property throughout coastal California. Landowners' default response has typically been constructing coastal armoring. While armoring may provide acceptable short-term protection, it accelerates shoreline erosion, exacerbating hazards to people and leading to the loss of critical wildlife habitat and public beaches. Natural Shoreline Infrastructure can be as effective as armoring, while also preserving coastal habitat and public access. Recognizing this, California agencies have mandated the prioritization of its use in planning and investment decisions. Yet planners have encountered stumbling blocks as they try to incorporate these approaches into coastal resilience plans, including a lack of a common definition and shared terminology, expertise, precedent, and siting guidance and technical design standards.

ESA, in collaboration with The Nature Conservancy, Point Blue, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Site Sentinel Cooperative has worked with a technical advisory committee to develop Natural Shoreline Infrastructure: Technical Guidance for the California Coast, supporting the consideration of Natural Shoreline Infrastructure for sea-level rise adaptation planning. This effort is part of the California 4th Climate Change Assessment. The technical guidance enables coastal planners to determine planning-level space requirements and costs associated with a particular Natural Shoreline Infrastructure approach.

Merit Awards

City of San Diego Vernal Pool Habitat Conservation Plan

Prepared by the City of San Diego with Support from AECOM

The City of San Diego Vernal Pool Habitat Conservation Plan (VPHCP) is a regional conservation plan for vernal pools and seven threatened and endangered vernal pool species that do not currently have federal coverage under the City's MSCP Subarea Plan. The VPHCP Plan Area encompasses 2,800 vernal pools across 206,000+ acres. The purpose of the VPHCP is to preserve the network of vernal pool habitat within this matrix of open space; protect the biodiversity of unique wetlands; and define a formal strategy for the long-term management and monitoring of vernal pools and associated species. The overall conservation strategy of the VPHCP is to allow impacts to degraded vernal pools with low long term conservation value in exchange for restoration, enhancement, preservation, and long-term management and monitoring of vernal pools with higher conservation value in the MHPA. The VPHCP was a collaborative effort between the City, USFWS, and CDFW, with input from SANDAG, technical experts, the scientific community, the public, and stakeholders. The VPHCP was carefully coordinated to seamlessly incorporate detailed land manager knowledge, scientific survey results, environmental condition information; and mitigation history of each site. The VPHCP includes the Vernal Pool Management and Monitoring Plan, a framework program designed to direct long-term management and monitoring of VPHCP-covered vernal pools.

Carlsbad Review of Herbicide Use and Potential Alternatives

Prepared by ESA for the City of Carlsbad

ESA Document Authors: Julie Fontaine, Jim Prine, Alanna Sullivan

The City of Carlsbad tasked Environmental Science Associates (ESA) to look into the use of herbicides within its preserve system, over 6,000 acres. In 2015, the International Agency for Research on Cancer issued a statement that reclassified glyphosate, one of most commonly used herbicides in the land management industry, as "probably carcinogenic to humans." This reclassification resulted in Carlsbad residents expressing concern about the safety of using herbicides within the city. To inform the City, a review of herbicides and potential alternatives were provided in the 2017 report.

Conclusions drawn from shifting to non-toxic weed treatment options: these options generally require more labor and materials and are costlier than synthetic herbicides. However, overall, less adverse environmental impacts would be expected from shifting to non-toxic weed treatment options and monetary benefits to the public from reduction in health impacts and healthier ecosystems should be considered when assessing cost.

ESA recommended the City conduct non-native plant control pilot studies comparing alternative weed control options to standard herbicides on annual and perennial non-native target species. This would provide on-the-ground results based on current conditions in the city, rather than solely on literature.

Regional Climate Action Planning Framework

Prepared by the San Diego Association of Governments

with support from the Energy Policy Initiatives Center and Ascent Environmental

Nearly all the San Diego region's 19 local governments have adopted or are developing a Climate Action Plan (CAP). Local staff and elected officials communicated that ongoing efforts to adopt, update, and monitor their CAPs would benefit from regional consistency. In response, SANDAG prepared the Regional Climate Action Planning Framework (ReCAP), a first-of-its-kind guidance document that establishes a technical framework, consistent with State guidance, for regionally-consistent climate action planning. ReCAP identifies best practices for preparing, monitoring, and implementing CAPs, while preserving policy flexibility for the needs of each local jurisdiction. The goal of ReCAP is to facilitate the use of consistent methodologies and best available data in local climate planning processes for the San Diego region.

SANDAG is the first MPO in the State to develop a climate planning framework like ReCAP, which is "user friendly" for a variety of audiences. ReCAP consists of a visual and interactive summary document, as well as six technical appendices. SANDAG is using ReCAP to inform climate planning services offered through its Energy Roadmap Program, as well as the agency's regional GHG inventory. The approach to the development and implementation of ReCAP can have broader applications for regional and local partnerships elsewhere.

PLANNING DOCUMENT

Outstanding Awards

Midway Pacific Highway Community Plan

Prepared by the City of San Diego Planning Department

The Midway-Pacific Highway Community Plan implements the City of San Diego General Plan's City of Villages growth strategy in an existing underutilized, auto-oriented community. It provides a vision and policy direction to transform the community into an urban, pedestrian- and transit-oriented community that provides jobs and new housing opportunities. The community plan increases anticipated residential capacity by 130%, with 99% of the new capacity located in transit priority areas; while also supporting military land uses (U.S. Navy and U.S. Marine Corps) for employment and national security; repositioning industrial lands; and increasing areas designated for mixed-use business park and commercial uses. The plan addresses environmental issues such as climate action, transit use, active transportation, urban greening, storm water management, coastal resources, and sea level rise. Highlights of the community plan include identification of mixed-use, transit-oriented villages; transit-supportive employment and mixed commercial-residential land uses; five planned new complete streets and multimodal improvements on existing streets; a network of multi-use urban paths for pedestrians and bicyclists including a connection between San Diego Bay and Mission Bay; almost 30 acres of planned new parks; and a planned new recreation center.

Merit Award

Santa Clara Valley Agricultural Plan

*Prepared by the County of Santa Clara
and Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority;
with support from Cultivate, SAGE, New Agency,
UCCE, BAE, Steve Shaffer, Ag Innovations, and Acre Policy*

The Santa Clara Valley Agricultural Plan is a regional effort led by the County of Santa Clara and Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority to conserve working lands as an innovative strategy for climate change mitigation and economic development. The mission of the Ag Plan is to shift the planning paradigm and create a comprehensive regional framework for Santa Clara Valley, in order to preserve our remaining working lands and support a vibrant agricultural economy, while mitigating climate change effects and increasing agricultural ecosystem services.

Funded in part by cap-and-trade revenues through California's Sustainable Agricultural Lands Conservation Program, the Ag Plan will reduce future emissions by slowing conversion of working lands and focusing development in existing urban areas.

Once protected and stripped of speculative value, agricultural parcels are more accessible to first-generation and immigrant farmers in search of land. Proximity to growing cities ensures that these growers will have sustainable, direct access to high-value markets.

The Ag Plan recognizes positive externalities and ecological co-benefits associated with preventing the irrevocable conversion of farmland to urban sprawl development. The Ag Plan acknowledges working lands as public natural assets, contributing economic and ecological value to the resilience of the region as a whole.

CLIMATE CHANGE DOCUMENT

Outstanding Award

City of Encinitas Climate Action Plan

Prepared by the City of Encinitas with support from SANDAG, Ascent Environmental, and the Energy Policy Initiatives Center

The Encinitas CAP was developed after almost three years of thorough planning, analysis, outreach, and research by city staff, its partner SANDAG, and their consultants, Ascent Environmental and the Energy Policy Initiatives Center. The result is a comprehensive plan aimed to reduce GHGs and the potential impacts of climate change. Consistent with statewide targets, the CAP sets GHG targets to achieve a 13 percent reduction in from baseline 2012 levels by 2020, and a 41 percent reduction by 2050. Recognizing that anticipated State, federal, and local actions would achieve significant reductions by 2020, the City elected to set a more ambitious target for 2020. The CAP also has an accompanying Implementation Plan that lays out detailed implementation steps and includes careful consideration of the operational and capital resources needed, as well as timing, phasing, and monitoring of implementation. This CAP represents an important step in acknowledging global climate change and its effects on the City.

The CAP was unanimously approved by the Encinitas City Council in January 2018. Encinitas also became the second city in the region to earn Climate Action Campaign's "Gold Standard" designation in their annual Climate Action Plan Report Card. The CAP also received an honorable mention at the 2018 Mayor's Climate Protection Awards.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT/EDUCATION PROGRAM

Outstanding Award

City of Vista Climate Action Plan Update Community Outreach

Prepared by the City of Vista with support from Rincon Consultants, Inc

Rincon worked in partnership with the City of Vista to advance climate change education and awareness in a far-reaching public engagement program. The City and Rincon Consultants' Sustainability Team developed and hosted a multi-faceted and highly inclusive outreach program for the stakeholder engagement portion of the City's Climate Action Plan (CAP) Update. Rincon Consultants designed an interactive, online CAP measure voting survey to involve stakeholders in the measure evaluation process. From this information, goals were determined and then, working back from the desired results, a set of six community meetings were scheduled to address how the goals would be met. After the final community meetings, the City received three formal letters of CAP implementation support from local organizations and 25 signatures of support from Vista businesses. To supplement these letters, the team asked residents and businesses to respond to community outreach feedback surveys for further CAP development review. Responders provided positive reviews of the outreach program and the majority of respondents stated the presentations and interaction with staff exceeded expectations.

MEDIA COVERAGE OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL TOPIC

Outstanding Award

Restore the Community: A Disaster Recovery Resource for Planning Departments

Prepared by Rincon Consultants, Inc.

April Durham, PhD, Lilly Rudolph, Jennifer Haddow, PhD

In the aftermath of the state's particularly severe 2017 fire season, cities, public agencies, and private planning firms like Rincon Consultants, Inc. have come together to find new, more effective ways to foster resiliency in the wake of repeated, severe disasters. Rincon Consultants developed a set of resources to support planning departments contending with the details of recovery from these devastating natural disasters. The firm interviewed planning directors and city managers from regions especially hard-hit by similar events in the last 10 years and gathered their perspectives and practices in one place. The project involved rigorous research of nationwide resources for best practices concerning everything from ordinance development to post-disaster recovery plan development, and prepared a central hub with hyperlinks to direct planning practitioners to these resources. To alert the planning community to this resource, Rincon Consultants prepared a pamphlet with an overview of four areas of concern: creating an approach, communicating, training, and collaborating. This was mailed to every planning department in the state, with the hope that it would inspire and embolden others facing such challenges in the future, letting them know that they are not tackling the situation in a vacuum and linking them to the more in-depth website resource on the firm's website (<http://www.rinconconsultants.com/disasterrecovery/>).

AWARDS OF APPRECIATION

Please join us in congratulating the following for their dedication and participation on the State Board of AEP.

Kent Norton

» 1 year as Director at Large

David Wolff

» 18 years as Channel Counties Chapter Director

Julia Norris

» 3 years as San Diego Chapter Director

AL REYNOLDS MEMORIAL LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



John Hesler

of David J. Powers & Associates

John joined David J. Powers & Associates (DJP&A) in 1982 after he completed his undergraduate studies in Environmental Studies at San José State University and an internship at the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority. John immediately developed a focus on transportation, from roads and highways to transit and airports. Over his 37-year tenure at DJP&A, John has authored the majority of NEPA/CEQA documents on transportation projects in Santa Clara County. Highlights include new or expanded freeways, bridge retrofits/replacements, new/reconstructed interchanges, new light rail transit lines, commuter rail extensions, bike/ped projects, trails, transit centers, and more than 30 projects at Mineta San José International Airport. His projects have won awards for environmental mitigation that created win-win solutions for the community. John gives presentations at classes, seminars, and environmental career events. He is also a past president of the South Bay Transportation Officials Association

Aside from his unparalleled transportation experience, John brings to the table a light-hearted energy that prioritizes building and maintaining professional relationships. Though this comes naturally to him, he has also found that positive interactions among team members facilitates compromise and results in better projects.