

SUNDAY, MARCH 24, 2019

WORKSHOP: Dolphins Ballroom - AICP credit: 3.0 - MCLE credit: 2.0**1:30 pm – 4:30 pm**

Climate Change and Air Quality Workshop

Session Description: In The AEP Climate Change Committee will provide an Air Quality and Climate Change Workshop to provide attendees with the latest requirements and methods of analyzing air quality and climate change impacts within CEQA. In addition this workshop will provide guidance in how to address air quality, greenhouse gas emissions and climate change within General Plans. The workshop will provide guidance in the following topics:

CalEEMod Trick of the Trade: Learn how to customize the model to precisely fit you project as well as work-a-rounds on software bugs.

Traffic air quality and GHG analyses: Learn how to use the SB 743 compliant traffic analysis to feed into air quality and GHG analyses.

Air Toxics and CEQA: Learn the basics on air toxic emissions and when your project needs a health risk assessment..

Net Zero Emissions Development: This is an introduction of the concept based upon the recommendation for new development in the 2017 Climate Change Scoping Plan. A more in-depth presentation will be provided in a separate session.

Life cycle analysis of GHG Emissions: Learn what is appropriate in your analysis of GHG emissions within CEQA and climate action plans.

Best Practices in Climate Action Planning: The AEP Climate Change Committee just completed a year-long in-depth review of climate action plans within California. This session provides an introduction to the latest White Paper with a follow up session that goes into the details later during the conference.

Climate Change Risk and General Plan Safety Elements: This is an introductory review of the new requirements for General Plan updates. The AEP Climate Change Committee will be providing recommendations on climate change risk analysis and adaptation to include in General Plans.

IMMERSION: Carmel 1 - AICP credit: 1.5 - MCLE credit: 1.0**1:30 pm – 3:00 pm**

Addressing Stormwater Quality and Supply Augmentation in the Urban Environment

Session Description: California continues to suffer through periods of extreme drought. Meanwhile, communities and businesses struggle with the challenge of assuring that when stormwater discharges occur, they do not cause or contribute to exceedances of water quality objectives. This session will review current state and regional policies regarding the treatment of stormwater as a resource, particularly as it pertains to urbanized areas. Speakers will focus on current and proposed policies and regulatory initiatives, including offsite alternative compliance strategies to address impacts of new development and redevelopment on water quality and water supply augmentation through regional capture and treatment projects; proposed offsite strategies to address retention and infiltration of storm water from industrial facilities; engineering issues associated with regional strategies for the capture and use of stormwater; national examples of proven regional stormwater solutions to water quality and conservation challenges; performance based agreements between public agencies and the private sector to address both water quality and supply augmentation; and significant nonwater environmental benefits associated with regional water quality and conservation strategies.

Panelists:

S. Wayne Rosenbaum, Environmental Law Group LLP formerly Opper & Varco LLP

Brendan Hastie, Rick Engineering

George Kelly, RES

Michael McSweeney, San Diego Building Industry Association (BIA)

FROM THE GROUND UP: Carmel 2 - AICP credit: 1.5 - MCLE credit: 1.0**1:30 pm – 3:00 pm**

Data Alone is Not CEQA Analysis

Session Description: Between the internet of things, sophisticated modeling, and a new generation of data hounds, we can generate all sorts of data about nearly anything. Unfortunately, tables of data and charts are all but meaningless without context. Analysis is the process of applying data to answer a question. All too often in CEQA documents we find that the data is provided, but the analysis is lacking. This session will provide examples of appropriately using data to address the CEQA thresholds and answer the question. This session will cover what constitutes substantial evidence, and how it should be presented in the analysis to best support the CEQA findings.

Panelists:

Mark Teague, Associate Principal, PlaceWorks

Stephan Velyvis, Attorney, Burke, Williams & Sorenson

Shannon George, Principal Project Manager, David J. Powers and Associates

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WAVES OF CHANGE: Point Lobos - AICP credit: 1.5 - MCLE credit: 1.0

1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

The Ever-Changing Effects of Climate Change on Land Planning

Session Description: It's just the tip of another melting iceberg. As urban planners around the globe scramble to adapt to the constant flow of new information, changing metrics, and political stress resulting from global climate change, most eyes are on California. Being at the forefront of adaptation, California finds itself awash each year in new legislation, new court cases, and just plain old new ideas. And, when it comes to preparing our cities for the impacts of climate change, our knowledge and experience are still in their infancy. While what we are doing today may or may not look like what will be doing in the tomorrows of the climate change era, most of us need to know where we are right now just to do our jobs.

The panel will include a CEQA consultant, a land use attorney, a transportation planner, and a city planner and will examine how: The City of Long Beach is adapting its planning activities to the evolving climate change rulebooks through its Climate Action and Adaptation Plan. The Port of Long Beach is responding to new climate change legislation through planning and educating the public. New CEQA guidelines and legislative mandates may have both intended and unintended consequences. Local control, the will of the voting public, the composition of California's housing stock, and investment in circulation improvements may be forever altered by climate change legislation. CEQA documents will evolve as they adapt to the most current analytical methods for evaluating impacts related to climate change. Coastal communities and property owners must adapt to the special challenges of rising sea levels.

Panelists:

Carrie Tai, AICP, Manager of Master Planning, Port of Long Beach

JoAnn Hadfield, Principal, PlaceWorks

Tony Petros, Principal, LSA Associates, Inc.

Tim Paone, Partner, Cox, Castle & Nicholson

FIELDS OF OPPORTUNITY: Big Sur - AICP credit: 1.5 - MCLE credit: 1.0

1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

New Fields of Vision: Using Immersive Technologies for Public Outreach, Preservation, and Environmental Management

Session Description: Technological advancements are rapidly altering the way in which we view our built and natural environments. Virtual reality (VR) platforms, data visualization, and digital modeling have become critical components of project engineering and development. Increasingly, however, they also provide value in helping stakeholders, agencies, and even project proponents more fully understand a project's potential effects to specific natural resources, and vice versa. Achieving a more robust, shared understanding of a project and its environment can yield greater consensus regarding potential impacts and related mitigating actions.

This panel presents specific applications of immersive technologies to projects where aesthetic, biological, and cultural resources were critical issues. The placement of photo-realistic simulations within 360-degree photographs allowed East Sacramento residents to view via virtual reality recreational facility improvements proposed for McKinley Park as part an underground flood control project. The development of similar imagery as a demonstration for a utility-scale wind energy project can provide clients and stakeholders the ability to see the full landscape context within which such a project would appear. The use of mobile applications and real-time data management have accelerated field biologists' ability to relay and analyze field data during critical phases of environmental compliance projects. And three-dimensional imaging and scanning technologies, coupled with real-time visualization of their outputs, created a digital model of a 19th Century Gothic Revival style house, complete with period-specific interior recreations. This would allow regulators, the public, or other invested community groups to view and interpret an otherwise inaccessible historic house in a fully navigable, virtual reality environment.

Attendees will leave the session with a better understanding of what technologies are being applied to augment more traditional processes of understanding project effects, and how such applications might help them in their work. They'll also have a better understanding of what may soon be possible.

Panelists:

Dave Cubberly, Landscape Architect, Stantec

Tom Davis, Stantec, Senior Biologist, Stantec

Josh Hohn, AICP, Visual Resources Practice Lead, Stantec

Dalton LaVoie, Landscape Architect, Stantec

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STUDENTS/ EMERGING PROFESSIONALS: Robert Louis Stevenson

1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

A Student's Introduction to CEQA

Session Description: This session will provide an introduction into the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) with a curriculum developed specifically for students and new CEQA professionals. The panelists will provide a broad overview of the purposes of CEQA; the CEQA Statute and Guidelines and their governmental context; describe the types of environmental review documents and how to determine the appropriate level of review (exemption, Negative Declaration, EIR); discuss roles and responsibilities, such as the role of the lead agency, responsible and trustee agencies, applicants, and consultants, and the courts; and broadly discuss the adequacy of analysis and mitigation.

Panelists:

Ron Sissem, EMC Planning Group

Andy Schiffrin, County of Santa Cruz/UCSC

Brian Grattidge, Dudek

IMMERSION: Carmel 1 - AICP credit: 1.5 - MCLE credit: 1.0

3:15 pm – 4:45 pm

Lower Carmel River Flood Control and Restoration: Opportunities and Challenges for Multi-Benefit Projects

Session Description: The lower Carmel River and the Carmel River Lagoon area have several projects proposed for habitat restoration and increased public access to open space, while addressing flooding and long-standing needs for flood control improvements to protect developed areas at risk. An ambitious plan to restore the lower Carmel River floodplain and Carmel Lagoon has evolved over several decades. One significant milestone was State Parks' 2002 Carmel River Lagoon Enhancement Project (CRLEP), located at Carmel River State Beach on the west side of Highway 1. The Carmel River Floodplain Restoration and Environmental Enhancement (CRFREE) Project is the next phase to implement a long-term vision for Carmel Lagoon and lower Carmel River floodplain, with an overarching goal to restore historical ecosystem functions as one dynamic, self-sustaining system to the greatest extent feasible. This green infrastructure approach to address long-standing problems of flood management and floodplain habitat loss within the lower Carmel River Basin will be achieved through the hydraulic reconnection of the Carmel River, its undeveloped southern floodplain east of Highway 1, and the lagoon. While the CRFREE project has community support, other projects to address different flooding issues in more constrained localized areas of the Carmel Lagoon, which would also be protective of critical steelhead habitats, are more complex and solutions limited. Ongoing and long-term management are key considerations. This session will include representatives from Big Sur Land Trust, the County of Monterey, the CEQA/NEPA consultant team for these restoration projects, and the State of California. The focus of the presentation will be on the opportunities and challenges associated with multi-benefit projects that also involve multiple public agencies, multiple grant funders, multiple landowners, and multiple stakeholders in a complex regulatory environment.

Panelists:

Sarah Hardgrave, County of Monterey

Melanie Beretti, Monterey County Resource Management Agency

Erin Harwayne, AICP, Senior Project Manager, Denise Duffy & Associates (DD&A)

Josh Harwayne, Senior Project Manager, Denise Duffy & Associates (DD&A)

Rachel Saunders, Director of Conservation, Big Sur Land Trust

FROM THE GROUND UP: Carmel 2 - AICP credit: 1.5 - MCLE credit: 1.0

3:15 pm – 4:45 pm

Making Sense of Architectural History

Session Description: Properly addressing impacts to historical buildings can be difficult. Public opinion, incomplete lists of old buildings, local historic ordinances, well-meaning but misguided policies, and confusing technical assistance can confuse the process. All too often, studies of architectural history are incomplete or fail to reach a CEQA conclusion. The results can be frustrating for the CEQA planner, time consuming, and expensive for the applicant. Add in a misguided belief that everything old is important, or that everything new is not, and the development process becomes more difficult. Moreover, a difficult development process discourages building owners from trying to preserve important buildings, essentially rewarding neglect. During this panel discussion, moderated by a CEQA practitioner, an Architectural Historian, a CEQA director, and a City Historic Preservation Planner will reveal best practices in evaluating historical buildings, discuss effective mitigation, and help bring clarity to the process.

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Panelists:**Mark Teague**, Associate Principal, PlaceWorks**Jeremy Adams**, ECORP Consulting, Inc.**Anne Surdzial**, AICP, Director of CEQA/NEPA Services, ECORP Consulting Inc.**Tricia Olsen**, AICP, Historic Preservation Planner, City of Coronado, CA**WAVES OF CHANGE: Point Lobos** - AICP credit: 1.5 - MCLE credit: 1.0

3:15 pm – 4:45 pm

Implications of NEPA Streamlining

Session Description: President Trump issued Executive Order (EO) 13807, titled “Establishing Discipline and Accountability in Environmental Review and Permitting Process for Infrastructure Projects,” which directs development of a performance accountability system with deadlines for major infrastructure projects, established “One Federal Decision,” and sets permitting timelines for projects. In response to the EO, the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) identified several actions it will take to comply with the EO. Additionally, the Department of the Interior (DOI) issued Secretarial Order 3355. The Secretarial Order requires that Environmental Impact Statements (EISs) adhere to strict page limits at 150 pages, or 300 pages for unusually complex projects, and that the Record of Decision is issued 1 year from when the Notice of Intent is published in the Federal Register.

Over the years, the size of EISs has increased and can often be in the thousands of pages for complex projects, taking many years to complete. The changes in policy under Secretarial Order 3355 represent a considerable challenge to agencies and NEPA practitioners to prepare comprehensive and legally defensible documents within the strict time and page limits.

During this panel, we will: Summarize the EO and Secretarial Order for DOI; Identify the average length of EISs and time to completion prior to Secretarial Order 3355, providing some examples; Identify the positives and negatives associated with the limitations on pages and timeframes for EISs and any conflicts that could arise; and Provide approaches and strategies to meet the requirements.

The panel will also provide thoughts on the implications for other federal agencies, as well as for California agencies implementing CEQA and joint documents. We will identify the average length of and time to prepare a CEQA EIR and potential ways to streamline EIRs from lessons learned in the new NEPA process.

Panelists:**Tania Treis**, Principal, Panorama Environmental, Inc.**Sally Zeff**, AICP, Project Director, ICF International**Allison Smith**, Esq., Partner, Stoel Rives, LLP**Mike Coleman (Moderator)**, AICP, Environmental Planner, Santa Clara Valley Water District, Director of Monterey Bay-Silicon Valley Chapter- Association of Environmental Professionals (AEP)**FIELDS OF OPPORTUNITY: Big Sur** - AICP credit: 1.5 - MCLE credit: 1.0

3:15 pm – 4:45 pm

We’ve Estimated VMT: How Do We Mitigate It?

Session Description: Once guidance is adopted for estimating how projects affect vehicle miles traveled (VMT), how can significant impacts be mitigated or reduced? This panel presents initial findings from the California Air Resources Board Zero Carbon Buildings study, with panelists from Fehr & Peers and the Center for Resource Efficient Communities at the University of California, Berkeley to discuss the latest in VMT and GHG reduction programs, including summaries of academic literature and case study results. We’ll then examine the practical aspects of implementing mitigation programs with staff from the City of San Jose, who will discuss and demonstrate their citywide tool for estimating VMT and applying reductions related to land use context and Transportation Demand Management strategies. This segment includes a live and interactive demonstration of San Jose’s VMT evaluation tool—come prepared with your hypothetical projects to analyze!

Panelists:**Teresa Whinery**, transportation planner, Fehr & Peers**Bill Eisenstein**, PhD, Executive Director, Center for Resource Efficient Communities at UC Berkeley (CREC)**Agustin Cuello Leon**, transportation engineer, City of San José, Department of Transportation

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STUDENTS/ EMERGING PROFESSIONALS: Robert Louis Stevenson

3:15 pm – 4:45 pm

Give me the Job; Show me the Money: Career Opportunities and Practical Tips for Getting Hired

Session Description: This session will discuss career opportunities in the field of environmental consulting, CEQA practice, and land use planning. Panelists will provide an overview of the various careers in the field, discussing the skill set required for each to help students determine their career path. Panelists will also provide real-world advice on getting hired – from crafting a good resume to presenting one's self professionally to salary negotiating. Panelists from the public and private sectors will provide broad perspectives, and students will leave this panel with an understanding of career options and how to go about entering the CEQA field.

Panelists:

Mindy Fogg, Senior Supervisor/Project Manager, Rincon Consultants

Mike Novo, Retired Director of Planning, County of Monterey

Matt McCluney, Senior Campus Planner, CSU Monterey Bay

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IMMERSION: Carmel 1 - AICP credit: 1.5 - MCLE credit: 1.0

9:00 am – 10:30 am

The SGMA/CEQA Connection

Session Description: In 2015, the State of California passed the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), a transformative piece of legislation that recognized the need to regulate groundwater. For the first time in the state's history, groundwater use and its impacts on land use, surface water flows, and biological systems will be monitored and regulated. The criteria that define sustainable groundwater use have been left to local Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) to determine via a collaborative, stakeholder-driven process. GSAs that govern the 21 most critically over-drafted basins are nearing the end of this process, with groundwater sustainability plans (GSPs) for those basins due in January 2020. Many of the GSAs that govern the remaining 88 high- and medium-priority basins are just getting started. Although the GSPs themselves are exempt from CEQA, the projects and management actions proposed to implement these plans are not exempt.

This session provides an insider's view of the SGMA process from those who have been through it and those preparing to go through it. Topics covered will include preparing an adaptive plan for an uncertain future, the SGMA/CEQA connection, coordinating GSPs and general plans, and reaching consensus in a contentious environment. This panel will provide a series of lessons learned to help cities and counties prepare for the new world of groundwater regulation in California.

Panelists:

Jill Weinberger (moderator), Principal, Dudek

Wendy Wang, Of Counsel, Best Best & Krieger

Dylan Duvergé, PG, Senior Hydrogeologist, Dudek

Claire Kouba, M.S., P.E., University of California Davis

FROM THE GROUND UP: Dolphins Ballroom - AICP credit: 1.5 - MCLE credit: 1.0

9:00 am – 10:30 am

Toeing the CEQA Line: Preparing Defensible CEQA Documents for Linear Projects

Session Description: Evaluation of linear CEQA projects raises several challenges. Even when linear projects are small, they can span a large area, crossing a wide variety of environmental resources and jurisdictions. CEQA practitioners may find themselves dealing with several types of habitats, communities with differing and sometimes conflicting concerns, and an overwhelming amount of ground to cover. The range of environmental resources and stakeholders can substantially increase the effort and complexities associated with CEQA compliance. This panel will address strategies for effectively and efficiently evaluating linear projects under CEQA, discussing topics such as:

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How can the analysis provide flexibility should the project alignment change? What is the most efficient way to consider variations in resources? What is the best approach for defining alternatives? How can you best consider different communities' needs?

Practitioners who focus on linear projects such as roads, transmission lines, pipelines, and trails will find this discussion informative, and audience members are welcome to bring their experience and questions to the discussion. In addition to challenges specific to linear projects, the panelists will discuss relevant CEQA fundamentals and case law, making the session relevant to all CEQA practitioners. General CEQA topics will include deferred mitigation, segmenting, cumulative impacts, and alternatives.

Panelists:

Lonn Maier, Program and Project Supervisor, Energy Division California Public Utilities Commission

Nicole Hoeksma Gordon, Esq., Partner, The Sohagi Law Group

Kristi Black J.D., Senior Environmental Project Manager, Ascent Environmental

WAVES OF CHANGE: Carmel 2 - AICP credit: 1.5 - MCLE credit: 1.0**9:00 am – 10:30 am****High waves, high water levels and historic tidelands...How do we pay for this?**

Session Description: This panel will describe the challenges posed by sea level rise impacts on historic tidelands in the city of Monterey and the city of Avalon. Tidelands of Monterey include historic structures and landmarks along Cannery Row, the world famous Monterey Bay Aquarium, and the harbor, which supports a range of ocean-based industries and activities. The city of Avalon is located on Santa Catalina Island, approximately 22 miles off the coast of southern California. The picturesque and dynamic seaport village of Avalon has a permanent population of around 4,000, with annual visitors in excess of one million.

A thriving visitor-serving commercial economy with a wide range of waterfront infrastructure and activities are the main attraction of each community. The panel will offer a summary of the methods applied to evaluate wave runup hazards + sea level rise and market and non-market economic impacts, and how these findings will be used to shape long-term planning of the historic and vibrant waterfronts of Monterey and Avalon. The co-presenters offer diverse expertise and perspective, which is essential to evaluating the complex and interdisciplinary challenges of planning for a changing coastal environment.

This panel will also highlight the various types of grants that are available, and walk through a few examples where these grant funding streams turned concepts into reality. The objective is to take industry professionals beyond the more widely known grants, and tap into funding streams that may not otherwise be apparent or known. The focus will be on a broad range of federal, state, and local grants for infrastructure ranging from new public access piers to beach nourishment, engineering studies focused on resiliency against future extreme events, and programs for research and education for marine ecosystems.

Panelists:

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

Amanda Cook, Planning Director, City of Avalon

Kimberly Cole, AICP, Community Development Director, City of Monterey.

Colin Averill, PE, Coastal Engineer, Moffatt & Nichol

Aaron Holloway, PE, Coastal Engineer, Moffatt & Nichol

FIELDS OF OPPORTUNITY: Big Sur - AICP credit: 1.5 - MCLE credit: 1.0**9:00 am – 10:30 am****Biological Mitigation Measures: Getting Your Ducks in a Row**

Session Description: Clients and consultants often process projects that will result in impacts to biological resources, requiring the development of mitigation to reduce or avoid such impacts. Typically, mitigation must satisfy environmental review and project permit requirements so proactive thought needs to be incorporated into mitigation measure development. Unspecific mitigation measures can expose environmental documents to legal challenges or may not fulfill mitigation required by the resources agencies. Getting your ducks in a row involves upfront planning about all aspects of the project, understanding the impacts, and identifying reasonable mitigation measures prior to the release of the environmental document.

The panel will discuss how to develop appropriate mitigation measures based on science, consistency with permit requirements, and legal defensibility. The panel will more specifically address proactive coordination with the client and agencies to develop avoidance and minimization measures during project planning to reduce mitigation requirements and avoid project changes during permitting.

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The panel will cover the development of mitigation measures that meet the requirements of CEQA/NEPA and address direct, indirect, short-term, and long-term impacts. Additionally, the panel will provide guidance on working with project engineers and compliance agencies during the project development phase to ensure that measures are developed that will coincide with project construction methods and schedules. Examples of “problematic” biological mitigation measures will be used to show how the lack of getting your ducks in a row, from initial planning and avoidance of impacts through mitigation measure development and project implementation, can result in disorderly ducks.

Panelists:

Michelle Ouellette, Partner, Best Best & Krieger

Katie Barrows, Director of Environmental Resources for the Coachella Valley Association of Governments

Michael Henry, PhD, Senior Ecologist

Wade Durant, Manager of Field Engineering Services, T.Y. Lin International’s Southern California Operations

Mari Quillman, Principal Biological Resources Program Manager/Wildlife Biologist, ECORP Consulting, Inc.

Brian Owens, Senior Environmental Scientist, California Department of Fish and Wildlife

WAVES OF CHANGE: Point Lobos - AICP credit: 1.5 - MCLE credit: 1.0**9:00 am – 10:30 am****Mitigating GHG Impacts: Carbon Offsets and Net Zero Initiatives**

Session Description: With the passage of SB 97 in 2007, projects under CEQA are required to adequately mitigate GHG impacts below a significance threshold determined by the corresponding lead agency. New initiatives by jurisdictions in the State as well as Newhall Ranch’s Net Zero commitment have taken mitigation efforts a step further by advocating for net zero GHG impacts by the project. These new developments, coupled with the need for effective GHG mitigation measures under CEQA, have led to increased interest in the use of carbon offsets as a viable off-site mitigation measure. The following panel will consist of representatives from the County of San Diego, Cox, Castle & Nicholson, and Element Markets, and the panel discussion will be presented and moderated by Michael Hendrix from LSA. The session will include unique perspectives from a California county, CEQA-focused law firm, carbon offset provider, and environmental consultant—as well as insight into the process for retiring carbon offsets for CEQA projects (starting from the Initial Study phase through the Environmental Impact Report and subsequent construction permit issuance). Further commentary will describe motivations and feasibility of net zero initiatives throughout the State.

Panelists:

Michael Hendrix (Moderator), LSA

Randall Lack, Element Markets

John McDougal, Element Markets

Linda Klein, Cox, Castle & Nicholson, LLP

MOBILE WORKSHOP #1: Meet in Lobby - AICP credit: 1.5 - MCLE credit: 1.0**10:30 am – 12:30 pm****Bike Tour #1 – Natural Wonders of the Monterey Bay (Additional Fee \$35)**

Session Description: This biking tour along the Monterey Coastal Trail to the north provides an opportunity to experience the unique diversity of life and geology that exists at interface between the Monterey Bay and the Salinas River Valley. From rich agricultural lands in the valleys to the coastal dunes and deep-sea life of the bay, there is something for all to admire. During the 7-mile ride, we’ll stop to discuss the aquatic biodiversity of Monterey Bay and the underwater Monterey Canyon, coastal dune ecosystem, Salinas River Valley, Fort Ord National Monument, and active transportation planning vis a vis the Coastal Trail. Come on out and enjoy the sights and sounds in the wonderful coastal air. The tour will start from the conference venue on Cannery Row.

Tour Leads:

Debbie Hale, Executive Director, Transportation Agency for Monterey County

Kailash Mozumder, Biologist/Public Works Project Manager, City of Capitola

Kate Giberson, AEP Mobile Workshops Coordinator, Harris & Associates

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IMMERSION: Carmel 1 - AICP credit: 1.5 - MCLE credit: 1.0

10:45 am – 12:15 pm

Safety First: San Clemente Dam Removal

Session Description: Addressing the seismic safety of aging dams throughout California is a challenging issue that has gained more attention with the increased focus on water storage and new dam construction. While the elimination of reservoirs and dams is not the most popular option in a water-hungry state, the benefits of dam removals and retrofit surpass safety. This panel will use the San Clemente Dam Removal project—the largest dam removal in the state—as an example of “addition by subtraction.” The dam, located above Carmel Valley on California’s Central Coast, required seismic upgrades to protect public safety in case of an earthquake. When it was discovered that a seismic retrofit of the dam structure would be an engineering and permitting challenge, dam removal became the preferred alternative. After 10 years of review with a multi-agency team, the structure was removed in 2015, and a restoration project was constructed to restore steelhead habitat in Carmel River. The panel speakers will provide an overview of the project history and goals, environmental and regulatory processes and challenges, and an overview of ongoing monitoring efforts.

Panelists:

Stephanie Strelow (Moderator), Principal, Dudek

Trish Chapman, Central Coast Program Manager, California Coastal Conservancy

Dylan Wade, Engineer, WSC, Water Systems Consulting

Third Panelist, TBD

FROM THE GROUND UP: Dolphins Ballroom - AICP credit: 1.5 - MCLE credit: 1.0

10:45 am – 12:15 pm

Simplifying CEQA: A Tale of Two Cities

Session Description: Oakland and San Francisco are two of the most innovative cities when it comes to CEQA. Their practices confirm that CEQA streamlining is a reality, not a pipe dream. Projects in urban locations close to transit or consistent with an adopted plan, such as a general plan, specific plan, or community plan, can often take advantage of existing, underused options for streamlining that reduce the level of environmental review required while producing legally defensible documents. Covering everything from exemptions to programmatic EIRs, the panelists will discuss their CEQA successes and lessons learned related to simplifying CEQA. There will be a brief and informative overview of CEQA’s streamlining provisions and relevant case law regarding how courts interpret them. With this background, the panel will highlight ways Oakland and San Francisco use existing CEQA provisions to speed up the environmental review process and obtain greater litigation certainty. The panel will then discuss how to create successful first tier documents and provide a summary of “dos” and “don’ts.” Throughout, the panel will invite audience participation through hypotheticals designed to illustrate the promises and pitfalls of CEQA streamlining.

Panelists:

Linda C. Klein, senior associate, Cox, Castle, Nicholson

Darin Ranelletti, Policy Director for Housing Security, City of Oakland

Lynette Dias, Urban Planning Partners.

Lisa Gibson, Director of Environmental Planning, City of San Francisco.

WAVES OF CHANGE: Carmel 2 - AICP credit: 1.5 - MCLE credit: 1.0

10:45 am – 12:15 pm

Social Equity as Part of Cannabis Licensing Programs: Emerging Trends to Prioritize and Redress Impacts upon Disadvantaged Communities and their Populations

Session Description: As multiple agencies statewide have adopted cannabis licensing regulations, a state and national trend is occurring to include Social Equity principles into these programs. We will highlight two adopted Cannabis Social Equity Programs for the City of Oakland (the first in the state) and the City of Los Angeles, with shared purpose to promote equitable ownership and employment opportunities in the cannabis industry, to provide measures of community reinvestment, and to highlight other actions intended to directly decrease disparities in life outcomes for marginalized communities and to address disproportionate impacts of the War on Drugs in those communities.

Our esteemed panel will address the concept of social equity, highlighting principles, goals, and actions; strategies to advance and adopt an effective program including highlights of essential elements and challenges; robust data analysis necessary to identify and defend the

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selection of social equity populations and communities; and the status of both programs. We will also highlight SB 1294, The California Cannabis Equity Act, which is aimed at encouraging adoption of local-level Cannabis Social Equity programs through grant funding opportunities. Finally, we will discuss the possible emergence and applicability of Social Equity principles for other policy programs beyond cannabis licensing programs.

Attendees interested in social equity, environmental justice, and other forms of social betterment of communities through planning and environmental processes will learn about effective tools, strategies, and approaches to develop successful programs.

Recently, the City of Los Angeles Cannabis Social Equity Program received the American Planning Association (APA) California Chapter 2018 Award of Excellence for Advancing Diversity and Social Change and won the APA Los Angeles Chapter 2018 Award of Excellence for Social Change and Diversity.

Panelists:

Rita Bright (Moderator), Planning & Policy Manager, Senior CEQA/NEPA Project Manager, Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions

Cat Packer, Director, City of Los Angeles Department of Cannabis Regulations

Darlene Flynn, Director, City of Oakland Department of Race and Equity

Matt Sauter, Senior Analyst, Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions, Inc.

FIELDS OF OPPORTUNITY: Big Sur - AICP credit: 1.5 - MCLE credit: 1.0 **10:45 am to 12:15 pm**

Watershed Planning and Response in a Fiery California

Session Description: California is in the midst of an unprecedented period of wildfires spanning the last several fire seasons, with the recent wildfire season being the most destructive in recorded history. These wildfires have burned millions of acres and cost billions of dollars in damages, and resulted in substantial loss of life and property, degradation of air quality, and loss of sensitive biological resources and scenic vistas, amongst other impacts.

These last few fire seasons have hit our region especially hard with several significant fires having taken place in Big Sur and Carmel Valley, most notably including the Soberanes Fire, which burned more than 132,000 acres of the Los Padres National Forest and Ventana Wilderness and cost more than 250 million dollars.

Our panel of experts will review: the effects of fire on the Carmel River and its watershed, including impacts to water supply, fisheries, and sediment loads; watershed planning and fire management: an example of what one community has done for fire management and how local community organizations and agencies are working to plan for future large-scale events; and strategies for fire protection and development standards to be implemented in the wildland–urban interface. What do we do to protect watersheds and resources after the fire? How can we reduce the impacts from future wildfires, including maintaining key firebreaks and environmental regulations aimed at protecting wildlands?

Panelists:

Josh Harwayne, Senior Project Manager, Denise Duffy & Associates (DD&A)

Larry Hampson, Planning and Engineering Manager/District Engineer, Monterey Peninsula Water Management District

Lorin Letendre, Executive Director, Carmel River Watershed Conservancy

Christy Fischer, Director, Santa Lucia Conservancy

Christy Wyckoff, Senior Wildlife Ecologist, Santa Lucia Conservancy

FROM THE GROUND UP: Point Lobos - AICP credit: 1.5 - MCLE credit: 1.0 **10:45 am – 12:15 pm**

The New CEQA Guidelines: What You Need to Know, Now

Session Description: The State CEQA Guidelines update were approved by the Office of Administrative Law and filed with the Secretary of State on December 28, 2018. Feeling lost? Have questions? This panel – moderated by Devon Muto, past President of AEP, and including Scott Morgan and Jeannie Lee from OPR – will build onto the AEP webinar held earlier this year and provide you with what you need to know to implement the new guidelines, now. The panel will provide an overview of the process, substance, and technical improvements, with a focus on the non-transportation changes that will have the most impact on CEQA practitioners. The panel will allow ample time for questions and answers from the audience, with the goal of clarifying and troubleshooting issues that have arisen in the three months since adoption.

MONDAY, MARCH 25, 2019

Panelists:**Devon Muto (Moderator)**, Director, Solar Development, EDF Renewables**Scott Morgan**, State Clearinghouse Director and Deputy Director of Administration, Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR)**Jeannie Lee**, Senior Counsel, OPR**MOBILE WORKSHOP #2: Meet in Lobby - AICP credit: 1.5 - MCLE credit: 1.0****1:45 pm – 3:45 pm****Bike Tour #2 – Sea Level Rise Adaptation** (Additional Fee \$35)

Session Description: Severe storms and inundation of record high waves are impacting our coastlines. Come for a waterfront bike ride along the Monterey Bay Coastal Recreation Trail from Monterey to the Pacific Grove coastline. Learn how the City of Pacific Grove is better prepared than many cities to address these issues due to the City's Shoreline Park that runs the length of the coastline, long standing policies of setting development back from the shoreline and the geologic foundation of granite overlain by marine terrace deposits. The City is evaluating and planning for potential shoreline impacts that are expected to result from sea level rise, including the potential for relocation of portions of the recreational trail, and relocation of utilities. Hear updates from the City on the *Pacific Grove Shoreline Management Plan* being developed and the recently updated *City of Pacific Grove Local Coastal Program*. The tour will start from the conference venue on Cannery Row.

Tour Leads:**Anastazia Aziz**, City of Pacific Grove**Fernanda Roveri**, City of Monterey**Christy Sabdo**, Rincon Consultants**IMMERSION: Carmel 1 - AICP credit: 1.5 - MCLE credit: 1.0****1:45 pm – 3:15 pm****Working Toward a Sustainable Water Supply Solution**

Session Description: This session provides an insider's view of how several water agencies are working toward a sustainable water supply solution for their communities. The process is complex and can take decades to traverse, involving increasingly complex regulatory requirements and engaged communities, both of which can influence the process. This panel will look at three specific examples of coastal water supply agencies attempting to address the challenges of water supply planning posed by the state's regular drought conditions, growing population and continued overuse of shrinking groundwater supplies, among other factors.

The City of Santa Cruz has been pursuing possible new supplemental water supplies for the past several decades. After suspending its pursuit of seawater desalination in 2013, the City's Water Supply Advisory Committee developed a future water supply management strategy for the City. The strategy includes conservation, groundwater recharge, and supply augmentation, if needed, using recycled water with desalination as a back-up if recycled water is not feasible.

The Soquel Creek Water District has also been seeking new supplemental water supplies and developed the Community Water Plan in 2015 to serve as a water sustainability roadmap. The plan focuses on promoting water conservation, managing groundwater proactively, and seeking additional water supplies, which include the following options: a groundwater replenishment and seawater intrusion prevention project, river water transfers, stormwater capture and/or seawater desalination.

The Pajaro Valley is an agricultural intensive valley, heavily dependent on groundwater, which produces nearly \$1 billion of high-value fruit, vegetable, and flower crops annually. Chronic groundwater overdraft has led to groundwater storage depletion and seawater intrusion. The Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency developed a Basin Management Plan through a stakeholder driven process that focuses on developing supplemental water supplies such as recycled water and surface water, along with robust conservation programs, to achieve a sustainable groundwater basin.

This panel will provide lessons learned and takeaways to help public agencies and their consultants navigate the complex water planning process and associated regulatory compliance requirements.

Panelists:**Ann Sansevero**, AICP, (Moderator), Principal, Dudek**Rosemary Menard**, Water Director, Santa Cruz Water Department**Ron Duncan (Panelist)**, General Manager, Soquel Creek Water District**Brian Lockwood**, General Manager, Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency

MONDAY, MARCH 25, 2019

FROM THE GROUND UP: Carmel 2 - AICP credit: 1.5 - MCLE credit: 1.0

1:45 pm – 3:15 pm

What Is So Fair About the “Fair Argument” Test Anyway?

Session Description: The “fair argument” is an iconic CEQA concept that has been around for years. Where there is a “fair argument” that a project may have significant impacts, an agency should prepare an EIR rather than undertake a faster (and typically less expensive) form of environmental review. Yet, the fair argument test continues to be tricky to apply, particularly in view of a number of new court decisions that interpret how the test works in practice. This panel will address the many questions that arise when working with the fair argument standard. For example, what should CEQA practitioners be looking for, and weary of, when preparing an initial study? How should responses to comments on a negative declaration or mitigated negative declaration tackle “expert” comments alleging that a “fair argument” exists? When does lay-person testimony qualify as substantial evidence in support of a “fair argument”? How does the fair argument test arise in the context of CEQA’s exemptions? This presentation will provide a brief overview of the fair argument standard, review the statutory and regulatory basis for it, and discuss recent court decisions addressing how much evidence must be present before a “fair argument” exists. Through this discussion, attendees will learn answers to frequently asked questions, recommended best practices for working with the fair argument standard, and be provided with a toolkit checklist to use when deciding whether a “fair argument” has been made.

Panelists:

Veera Tyagi, Principal Deputy District Counsel with the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD)

Ricia Hager, Practices Environmental Law, Land Use Law, and Public Law

Alyssa Helper, Senior Environmental Planner, LSA

Amy Hoyt, Attorney, Partner, Best & Krieger

WAVES OF CHANGE: Dolphins Ballroom - AICP credit: 1.5 - MCLE credit: 1.0

1:45 pm – 3:15 pm

Pot-Pourri: A Tri-County, Joint Session on Evaluating Commercial Cannabis Activities under CEQA

Session Description: The cannabis industry and its regulation in California encompasses a broad array of social, economic, and planning issues. But we rarely hear about the environmental issues. This session will focus on three Counties’ approaches to regulating cannabis activities and the challenges with evaluating and mitigating impacts under CEQA.

First, we’ll hear the status of the County of Monterey regulations, which began with medicinal cannabis regulations that were developed to mitigate impacts by limiting activities to zoning districts that already allowed similar uses, established regulations to address cumulative impacts, and required individual discretionary review of commercial cannabis uses. The discussion will track the County’s regulations through a circuitous route since adoption of the initial medical regulations, keeping pace with state legislation, and relying on statutory CEQA exemptions in MAUCRSA. Staff will describe the types of environmental impacts common to mixed-light and indoor grows and the latest methods for mitigating them.

The session will progress along the central coast to San Luis Obispo where the County relied on the CEQA exemption under SB 94 to establish regulations for permitting cannabis activities. With each permit application now undergoing individual CEQA evaluation, some of the biggest challenges involve addressing cumulative impacts in areas where application “clusters” may affect groundwater basins, special-status species, and cultural resources. Such analyses are particularly difficult when cannabis cultivation is proposed in areas where other agricultural product cultivation does not require a permit.

Finally, staff from the County of Santa Barbara will describe its Cannabis Land Use Ordinance, which is one of the most permissive in the state. Rather than conducting individual CEQA analyses, Santa Barbara is relying on its certified Program EIR. Staff will describe efforts to abate excessive odors near residential communities, to make consistency determinations regarding Williamson Act Lands, and to apply energy conservation measures.

Panelists:

Mindy Fogg (Moderator), Rincon Consultants, Environmental Planning and Sustainability

Brandon Swanson, County of Monterey, Resource Management Agency

Craig Spencer, County of Monterey, Resource Management Agency

Rob Mullane, AICP, Rincon Consultants, Contract Planning for San Luis Obispo County

Dennis Bozanich, County of Santa Barbara, CEO’s Office

MONDAY, MARCH 25, 2019

FIELDS OF OPPORTUNITY: Point Lobos - AICP credit: 1.5 - MCLE credit: 1.0

1:45 pm to 3:15 pm

Implementing Cultural and Paleontological Mitigation Measures: Discovery and Treatment of the Amazing Resources Beneath Our Feet!

Session Description: This panel will take a deep dive into the implementation of cultural and paleontological mitigation measures during construction through case studies of what has been found below the ground on the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission's Calaveras Dam Replacement project and Sunol Yard and Watershed Interpretive Center projects. Through discussing the discovery of ancient sharks and amphibious mammals, 2,000+-year-old Native American resources, and Spanish Adobe rancheros, the panel will bring greater familiarity to CEQA planners on current practices and cutting-edge scientific methods for preconstruction surveying, monitoring, testing, and data recovery. The panel will also highlight the environmental construction compliance management approach and Native American collaboration implemented on these projects that allowed construction to continue while meeting mitigation requirements. Lastly, the panel will provide examples of interpretive programs being developed to share the findings with the greater public, which are intended to educate and cultivate the public's sense of stewardship for these non-renewable resources. Our work doesn't end with publication of the CEQA document. Having insight into how mitigation measures are implemented, and their level of effort, will help us become even better Planners.

Panelists:

Kim Stern Liddell, Environmental Construction Compliance Manager, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission

Jonathan Mates-Muchin, Environmental Construction Manager for the Calaveras Dam Replacement Project

James (Jim) P. Walker, J. P. Walker Paleontology

Brian Byrd, Archeologist, Far Western Anthropological Research Group, Inc.

BONUS! PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: Big Sur - AICP credit: 1.5 - MCLE credit: 1.0**Project Management 101**

1:45 pm to 3:15 pm

Session Description: CEQA projects cannot be completed without effective project management. In this session, we will step away from CEQA nuts-and-bolts, updates, and emerging issues to talk about a fundamental and foundational topic for CEQA professionals: project management. Panelists will provide an overview of effective project management, drawing from their diverse backgrounds in both the public and private sectors. Topics will include: the importance of communication, managing your internal team and subconsultants, budget tracking, and building trust through effective execution. Panelists will also discuss the importance of developing a good client relationship and provide practical tips and tricks for success.

Panelists:

Darcy Kremin, Environmental Planning Practice Leader, Rincon Consultants

Justin Meek, Principal Planner, City of Watsonville

Florentina Craciun, Associate planner, AECOM

IMMERSION: Carmel 1 - AICP credit: 1.5 - MCLE credit: 1.0

3:45 pm – 5:15 pm

Ocean Water Desalination: The Wave of the Future for California's Water Supply?

Session Description: With current drought conditions, and increasing pressures on California water supplies, identifying and developing additional or alternative supplies, such as seawater desalination, wastewater reclamation, and groundwater, is a necessity. Of these emerging water supply sources, only seawater desalination has a virtually unlimited source: the Pacific Ocean. An integrated approach to water supply management in California will inevitably include seawater desalination as a component—the amount of which depends on the location, supply status, and other factors affecting localized supply and demand. While technology for seawater desalination has advanced, making it more feasible, efficient, and cost effective, the regulatory processing and environmental issues surrounding it have grown more complex, presenting the greatest challenges in developing seawater desalination in California. This panel will summarize the issues driving the complex regulatory framework and significant costs associated with regulatory compliance. The primary environmental considerations include salinity effects, marine biological effects, project alternatives, and energy use/GHG emissions. Panelists will highlight technical studies, alternatives and mitigation, and the process required to navigate the regulatory process. They will also present an overview and update on two desalination projects proposed in the Monterey Bay area—the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project and the DeepWater Desal project—case studies that will illustrate different aspects of these issues.

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Panelists:**Joe Monaco**, AICP, (Moderator), Dudek, President**Kim Adamson**, MPA, Deepwater Desal, LLC**Eric Miller**, MS, Miller Marine Science & Consulting**Ian Crooks**, Vice President of Engineering, California American Water and Hawaii American Water**FROM THE GROUND UP: Dolphins Ballroom - AICP credit: 1.5 - MCLE credit: 1.0** 3:45 pm – 5:15 pm**The State of AB 52**

Session Description: Assembly Bill 52 (AB 52) established a new relationship between public agencies and Native American tribes, defining a new class of resources and impacts under CEQA. We will discuss the current state of the bill's implementation.

This panel will look into how AB 52 and the coordination between lead agencies, tribes, and CEQA practitioners has developed from each participant's perspective. How have things been "getting done"? What are the pitfalls of current approaches to AB 52? How can AB 52 be implemented differently or more effectively?

It can be challenging to implement AB 52, especially considering different goals of lead agencies, Native American tribes, cultural resources experts, and CEQA practitioners. This panel will discuss lessons learned and offer recommendations from different viewpoints, with candid dialogue between the different participants. The goal of this panel is to provide a better understanding of the AB 52 process and its execution so that a greater appreciation for diverse perspectives can be reached.

Panelists:**Micah Hale**, PhD, RPA, Principal, Dudek**Adam Giacinto**, RPA, Archaeologist, Ethnographic specialist, Dudek**Sarah Lozano**, AICP, Biology Practice Leader, Environmental Project Manager, Dudek**Merri Lopez-Keifer**, Attorney, Chief Legal Counsel, San Luis Rey Band of Mission Indians**Marcos Guerrero**, RPA, Cultural Resources Manage, United Auburn Indian Community**Thomas Gates**, PhD, Preservation Management Services**WAVES OF CHANGE: Carmel 2 - AICP credit: 1.5 - MCLE credit: 1.0** 3:45 pm – 5:15 pm**How to Prepare for Extreme Sea Level Rise: Keeping up with the Science on Rising Seas**

Session Description: With new scientific evidence indicating the potential for extreme sea level rise, the need to prepare and plan for safeguarding the coast from coastal hazards is even more important. We look to the best available science to help inform coastal planning decisions, but planners and agencies are faced with the challenge of keeping up with the constantly changing science, which often outpaces an agency's ability to adopt policies or a plan that effectively responds to the projected hazards. In 2018 the Ocean Protection Council released Rising Seas in California, predicting greater rises in sea levels with up to 10 feet by 2100; however, the tools available to planners such as coastal hazard models often do not reflect the newest science and findings. This presentation is targeted to those interested in how to navigate through the changing science and the updated guidelines when developing an adaptation plan. A panel of coastal scientists and environmental planners will describe what has changed from earlier sea level rise projections and how new science may change the way agencies and coastal communities should plan for adaptation. Attendees interested in sea level rise, adaptation, climate change, and coastal hazards will learn about the best available tools, strategies, and approaches to develop resilient adaptation strategies for sea level rise.

Panelists:**Julia Pujó (Moderator)**, Environmental Planner, Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions**Gary Griggs**, PhD, Professor of Earth and Planetary Sciences, University of California Santa Cruz**Dave Revell**, PhD, Founding Principal, Chief Scientist, Revell Coastal**Erika Leachman**, Project Manager, Planner, Wood Environment & Infrastructure

MONDAY, MARCH 25, 2019

FIELDS OF OPPORTUNITY: Point Lobos - AICP credit: 1.5 - MCLE credit: 1.0

3:45 pm to 5:15 pm

Public Land Conservation and Monetization through a Public–Private Partnership: A New Paradigm for Local Governments and Lead Agencies

Session Description: The City of Livermore teamed with WRA, Inc., a private consulting firm, creating a public–private partnership to identify conservation values on City-owned lands. Once identified, WRA works as a matchmaker by pairing project applicants that have habitat mitigation needs with the City and their appropriate lands.

The City and WRA developed a risk-free process to complete the entitlements for the mitigation planning. The applicants enter into an agreement with the City and pay deposits based on entitlement milestones to fund an overall mitigation fee in exchange for rights to the habitat values being preserved. This fee covers project planning and entitlement, developing a habitat restoration plan, preparing a long-term management plan, establishing an endowment from which annual monitoring and maintenance fees are pulled from, and establishing a conservation easement over the property. Any proceeds go into a special City fund to support future open space acquisition and management actions. The Tri-Valley Conservancy, a local non-profit land trust, holds the conservation easement and manages the endowment to ensure the habitat values are preserved in perpetuity.

To date the City has approved three successful mitigation agreements totaling over three million dollars. Over two hundred acres of sensitive biological resources have been preserved. Approximately one million dollars of the overall fees have been established into non-wasting endowments which will be used to implement the long-term management plans for the various preserves.

This session provides a framework for the overall process the partnership has established while diving into the specifics of a case study. Each panelist will address the process from their perspective (agency, consultant, and non-profit) and “lessons learned” along the way. The end of the session will include an interactive “workshop,” where participants can ask questions or get help to explore opportunities to establish a similar process for their agency.

Panelists:

Geoff Smick, Chief Executive Officer & President, WRA, Inc.

Laura Mercier, Executive Director, Tri-Valley Conservancy

Andy Ross, Associate Planner, City of Livermore

BONUS! PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: Big Sur - AICP credit: 1.5 - MCLE credit: 1.0**Find Project Success through Effective Communication & Conflict Management**

3:45 pm to 5:15 pm

Session Description: Project success can be hindered when miscommunication occurs. Deadlines can create stress on the entire team. The most effective way to mitigate these factors on projects and to ensure success is to understand each person’s thinking style and how they manage through conflict. As part of our Professional Development programming, we are excited to offer a workshop where you will get to explore your personal thinking style, derived from your own motivational values. You will learn how to determine the motivational values and thinking styles of others within your team, how to communicate most effectively with each, and how to evaluate where there are gaps that are detracting from the execution of your or the team’s vision. No matter where you are in your career or at what level of experience you have, this workshop will give you the tools to communicate up, down, and sideways.

Panelists:

Katie Miller, Principal, Left Lane Advisors

TUESDAY, MARCH 26, 2019

IMMERSION: Carmel 1 - AICP credit: 1.5 - MCLE credit: 1.0

8:45 am – 10:15 am

Pure Water Monterey: Sharing Challenges and Successes from Project Design through Environmental, Permitting, and Construction

Session Description: Pure Water Monterey (PWM) is an award-winning Advanced Water Purification project that embodies the definition of the word “innovation.” The project is not only groundbreaking in its conception, but also in its water sources, project partnerships, technology, agency approvals, and the project’s importance to solving environmental health and water supply issues for an entire region. Few other projects have utilized such divergent water sources, across such a divergent and at times disenfranchised group of public and private partners. Project environmental documents also had to address an unprecedented breadth and depth of potential contaminants and compounds of emerging concern. Adding to all the above, a shortened timeframe for permitting approvals for this innovative project was required. Under a state mandate for project completion and delivery of water by 2019, the principle project partners (Monterey One Water and the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District) worked feverishly to secure double-digit federal, state, and local agency approvals. And now that PWM is under construction, the management of four major infrastructure projects at once requires mitigation monitoring compliance beyond the norm.

Our experienced panel will explore the collaborative and intense process that occurred to develop the project, from design through environmental documentation, permitting, and construction management and mitigation compliance. Using PWM as an example, speakers will present approaches to address day-to-day changes in design and unanticipated project changes in the environmental and permit process, focusing on CEQA legal adequacy and expedited permitting. Well-defined methods for monitoring, management, and oversight of environmental mitigation compliance during construction will be presented. Panel members will offer tools for success, share challenges, lessons learned, tips, and sagas—and how partnerships and hard work came together to achieve PWM, a nationally recognized and innovative water project.

Panelists:

Denise Duffy (Moderator), Denise Duffy, Principal

Alison Imamura, AICP, M.S., Monterey One Water (M1W)

Laura Godfrey Zagar, Perkins Coie LLP, Partner

Matthew Johnson, Senior Environmental Scientist, Denise Duffy and Associates (DD&A)

FROM THE GROUND UP: Dolphins Ballroom - AICP credit: 1.5 - MCLE credit: 1.0

8:45 am – 10:15 am

Insider Help for CEQA and Federal Cross-Cutters

Session Description: As California’s water and wastewater infrastructure ages, many agencies seek out financial assistance from the State Revolving Fund (SRF) Programs at the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) for facility upgrades and expansions. However, because the SRF Programs receive an annual capitalization grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency—a federal nexus—all projects that pursue funding from either the Clean Water or Drinking Water SRF Programs must comply with both CEQA and the federal cross-cutter requirements (“NEPA-like”). Ensuring that your client’s CEQA and federal cross-cutter documents, and the overall financial assistance application, fulfills all of these federal and state requirements to the satisfaction of the reviewers at the SRF Program can be confusing. This panel will provide comprehensive information on how best to present your project with a complete Environmental Package. This panel will consist of SWRCB staff from the environmental part of the SRF Program who can speak to both the biological and cultural resources requirements, as well as consultants that have navigated the SRF Application process for several projects in the Inland Empire. The panel will include a CEQA consultant, a civil engineer who specializes in treatment plant upgrades, and a professional grant writer who have each worked on various SRF-funded projects. The presentation will include a review of what is required in the SRF financial assistance application and what is required in the Environmental Package. Guidance and tips from the SRF Program staff and the professional grant writer, as well as helpful lessons learned from the CEQA consultant and project engineer will round out the presentation. Audience members will come away with a solid primer on the SRF financial assistance application, the environmental requirements and technical studies to support said application, and a list of must-do items and pitfalls to avoid.

Panelists:

Cheryl DeGano, Principal Environmental Analyst, Albert A. Webb Associates

Brian Knoll, PE, Vice President, Albert A. Webb Associates

Autumn DeWoody, Associate Environmental Analyst, Albert A. Webb Associates

Andrea Owen, Vice President, Blais & Associates Professional Grant Consulting

Wendy Pierce, State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Financial Assistance

Bridget Binning, State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Financial Assistance

TUESDAY, MARCH 26, 2019

WAVES OF CHANGE: Point Lobos - AICP credit: 1.5 - MCLE credit: 1.0

8:45 am – 10:15 pm

GHG Analysis Part 1: GHG Firing Line – A Dialogue Between Litigators and Practitioners

Session Description: Our panel of CEQA litigators and practitioners will engage in lively conversation highlighting new litigation risks relating to CEQA thresholds of significance and GHG analyses and mitigation and discuss the key principles for creating defensible technical analysis in the wake of recent California Supreme Court and lower court decisions and the long-awaited implementation of SB 743 through the CEQA guidelines update. *This session can be combined with the Tuesday 10:30 am session on CEQA GHG practice in the Waves of Change track to first get a detailed understanding of the litigation risks and then dive into an in depth review of the state of practice for CEQA today.*

Panelists:

Rich Walter, Senior Fellow: Climate Action Planning, ICF International

Benjamin Rubin, Partner, Nossaman, LLP

Elizabeth Klebaner, Partner, Nossaman, LLP

FIELDS OF OPPORTUNITY: Carmel 2 - AICP credit: 1.5 - MCLE credit: 1.0

8:45 am – 10:15 am

Bird on a Wire: Finding the Balance Between Regulations and Resources

Session Description: From urban landscapes to natural lands, lead agencies and developers struggle to balance the protection of nesting birds with regulatory requirements while maintaining construction schedules. Poorly worded mitigation measures can lead to excessive or inadequate work buffers and frequently delegate the lead agency's CEQA authority to a resource agency, such as the USFWS or CDFW. Confusion of how to interpret the regulations protecting nesting birds can result in project delays from protecting inactive nests or lead to unnecessary violations as a result of mishandling or disturbance. Other unintended consequences of this confusion can lead to excessive habitat loss when contractors or lead agencies clear vegetation around a project in an attempt to reduce the potential for nesting birds to affect construction. New information from long-term avian monitoring at several large-scale construction projects has yielded a wealth of information on how birds respond to construction disturbance. This information coupled with a clear understanding of how to interpret the regulations protecting nesting birds and agency requirements can reduce conflicts in the field, minimize habitat loss, and prevent disruptions to construction activities. This panel would include biologists from Aspen, other consulting firms, and the County of San Luis Obispo who have worked on nesting bird strategies for the BLM, USFS, USFWS, CDFW, and CPUC. The panel members have been directly involved in the creation and implementation of mitigation for nesting birds and were key in developing new standards for nesting bird buffers.

Panelists:

Chris Huntley, Aspen Environmental Group

Brooke Langle, Terra Verde Consulting

Steve McMasters, Supervising Planner, County of San Luis Obispo

Nicole Gordon, Sohagi Law Group

MOBILE WORKSHOP #3: Meet in Lobby - AICP credit: 1.5 - MCLE credit: 1.0

10:30 am – 12:30 pm

Mobile Workshop #3 – Monterey Path of History Walking Tour (Additional Fee \$25)

Session Description: This walking tour will take you on a path of history from Spanish explorers to California statehood to the 21st century. Monterey was the Spanish and Mexican capital of California from 1774 to 1846 and was the official and sole port for international trade during this time. The City is also home to the first theater and the site of the California Constitutional Convention whereby on October 13, 1849, the delegates signed the Constitution in Colton Hall. During the tour, we'll view the historic buildings and describe the City of Monterey's local ordinances/actions to protect these unique historic resources. We'll use 4-6 passenger surrey bikes as transportation from the conference venue on Cannery Row to the tour starting point in downtown Monterey.

Tour Leads:

Ande Flower, Principal Planner, City of Monterey

Fernanda Roveri, Associate Planner, City of Monterey

Steven Treffers, Senior Architectural Historian, Rincon Consultants

TUESDAY, MARCH 26, 2019

IMMERSION: Carmel 1 - AICP credit: 1.5 - MCLE credit: 1.0

10:30 am – 12:00 pm

Can a Wastewater Plant in a San Francisco Neighborhood Become an Asset? Yes!

Session Description: Located in the Bayview Hunters Point neighborhood, San Francisco's Southeast Wastewater Treatment Plant, which was built in 1952, treats 80% of the city's wastewater and stormwater. After extensive planning and engagement with the community, the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission's Biosolids Digester Facilities Project is ready for construction. The project will fully replace the aging solids treatment processes with more reliable modern technologies, produce higher-quality biosolids for expanded end uses, reduce odors, and beneficially use biogas to generate enough power for the entire facility. In addition, the treatment facility will be located farther away from residences, will be more resilient to earthquakes, and will feature architectural and landscape features to transform the plant into a neighborhood asset and a citywide destination. This panel will discuss the project planning process from design through environmental review and approval for construction focusing on the scientific, engineering, and planning collaboration that will result in building a large and complex wastewater treatment project in a residential neighborhood. The panel will discuss the challenges of building the project on a site within a historic district, an archeological site, and a San Francisco Designated Air Pollutant Exposure Zone. Each aspect of the project required specialized attention from many disciplines, including air quality modeling and health risk analyses, odor modeling, changes in effluent water quality to receiving waters, geoarchaeological testing at the oldest known prehistoric settlement in the city, demolition of historic buildings, historic resource documentation and interpretive display, public input to project objectives and design, 3D Building Information Modeling (BIM), and federal environmental requirements for EPA financing.

Panelists:

Jill Hamilton, Principal Associate, Environmental Science Associates

Karen Frye, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission

Michael Keinath, Principal, Ramboll

Timothy Johnston, Senior Environmental Planner, San Francisco Planning Department

Phil Kaijankoski, M.A., Geoarchaeologist, Far Western Anthropological Research Group, Inc.

FROM THE GROUND UP: Dolphins Ballroom - AICP credit: 1.5 - MCLE credit: 1.0 10:30 am – 12:00 pm**The Ethics are Right!**

Session Description: "Come on down! The Ethics are Right" Do you have what it takes to play? In this wild and fun-filled session, teams will test their knowledge of the AICP code of ethics in everyday planning situations, until only one team remains. The top team will have a chance to win fabulous prizes in the Showcase!!

This session is a great and lively refresher with the Code of Ethics. As practicing planners, it is important to know what the code actually says about Ethics and practice applying it, rather than work off of what we "think" is ethical and what is not. A review of the code will be given and real-life scenarios will take the code and bring it to life. This is a fun, lively, and interesting session, and a great way to refresh and learn about ethics in our profession.

Panelists:

Florentina Craciun, AICP, Environmental Planner, AECOM

John Bellas, Senior Associate, Michael Baker International

FROM THE GROUND UP: Point Lobos - AICP credit: 1.5 - MCLE credit: 1.0 10:30 am – 12:00 pm**Adaptive Management: Everyone is Doing it!**

Session Description: You have a large, phased project with unknowns of where project elements are going to be located or the timing of the project. Or, you have a project where you are not sure exactly the magnitude of the impacts or effectiveness of the mitigation. Or, you have a project that is going to operate for over 50 years, with uncertainty of how climate change and future growth are going to affect the resources. What are you going to do? Ahh, adaptive management is the key. I will figure it out later, everyone else is doing it so can I. The session will review:

The legality of deferring your specific mitigation until later; dealing with uncertainty; examples of good, bad, and ugly adaptive management measures; and recommendations for enhancing the legal defensibility of the NEPA and CEQA documents.

Panelists:

Betty Dehoney, CEP, PMP, ENV SP, HDR Vice President/Water Business Group Environmental Director

TUESDAY, MARCH 26, 2019

WAVES OF CHANGE: Big Sur - AICP credit: 1.5 - MCLE credit: 1.0

10:30 am – 12:00 pm

GHG Analysis, Part 2: Diving Deep into CEQA GHG Practice, Circa 2019

Session Description: Calling all GHG geeks! You may find yourself asking: Do projects' GHG emissions have to be evaluated to 2050? How do you show consistency with state GHG reduction targets and the Scoping Plan? What models and methodologies are appropriate to quantify GHG emissions? We will explore these questions and provide ANSWERS!! Panelists will explain how the new CEQA Guidelines and OPR Discussion Draft should be interpreted at the project level, and how air districts and local jurisdictions are tackling GHG analysis under CEQA today. The session aims to provide direction and clarity on how to prepare GHG CEQA analyses and climate action plans consistent with the California Air Resources Board's 2017 Scoping Plan and state GHG reduction targets, and the nitty gritty of doing the work at a local level. *This session can be combined with the Tuesday 8:45 am session on CEQA GHG Litigation in the Waves of Change track to first get a detailed understanding of the litigation risks and then dive into an in depth review of the state of practice for CEQA today.*

Panelists:

Hannah Kornfeld (Moderator), AICP, Air Quality and Climate Change Specialist, Ascent Environmental
Jeannie Lee, JD, AICP, Senior Counsel, Governor's Office of Planning and Research
David Vintze, Air Quality Planning Manager, Bay Area Air Quality Management District
Christopher Jordan, AICP, Director of the Office of Strategic Planning and Innovation, City of Elk Grove
Erik de Kok, AICP, Senior Planner/Project Manager, Ascent Environmental

FIELDS OF OPPORTUNITY: Carmel 2 - AICP credit: 1.5 - MCLE credit: 1.0

10:30 am – 12:00 pm

The Aftermath of Wildfires

Session Description: This panel will explore the consequences of wildfires and what happens afterwards. What we have learned from recent wildfires in Mendocino, Lake, Sonoma, Butte, and Shasta Counties should help communities prepare for the aftermath of wildfires. There is currently attention given to reducing the risks of wildfires to communities, but what happens afterwards? Are our communities currently prepared for the aftermath? Is there needed preparation to take that goes beyond preventing or reducing the threat from wildfires? This panel will present the viewpoint of local officials (e.g., county and city officials, emergency responders such as CAL FIRE and other firefighters, utility companies) that have experienced wildfires in their communities and what caught them by surprise afterwards. As wildfires seem to be sprouting up in places not previously expected, this session will present advice on how to prepare for next season's aftermath of wildfires.

Panelists:

Bob Brown, AICP, Principal of Planning, SHN
Edith Hannigan, Land Use Policy Manager, State Board of Forestry & Fire Protection
Sonja Edd-Bennett, President, Northern California Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster (NorCal VOAD)

IMMERSION: Carmel 1 - AICP credit: 1.5 - MCLE credit: 1.0

1:45 pm – 3:15 pm

Advancing Program Management through More Integrated Environmental Consideration

Session Description: Capital projects are developed in a phased manner, from project definition through feasibility assessment, design, and construction. Environmental considerations are typically a peripheral part of each of these phases, and are often considered late in the process. What are the risks of not including a substantive environmental assessment in the early phases? Decisions may have to be revisited, resulting in the need to redo analyses, adjust designs, create completely new alternatives, or even more extreme changes due to the anticipated environmental implications. As an industry, we need to drive a change to this "reactive" approach, lobbying for early environmental involvement in planning and implementing projects. Early environmental input can identify new alternatives or design changes that can result in streamlining or even avoidance of permitting triggers. Likewise, involving environmental strategy early in the process can result in a better defined scope of work, a better awareness of necessary expertise, an understanding of how activities within the project are independent or connected, and clarity on the time required to obtain environmental clearance. During the session, the discussion will include such topics as a program manager's perspective regarding the typical resistance of early environmental involvement and the risks of not obtaining environmental input early, supported by specific examples; specific benefits to building

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environmental input into the main structure of the design and project delivery model, supported by specific examples; a program manager's perspective about the value of this format for overall program management; and how to effectively influence a paradigm shift of thinking within agency, local, or other applicant capital planning.

Panelists:

Leslie Tice, Environmental Planner and HDR's Environmental Business Class Leader for Northern California

Sarah Easley Perez, Associate Planner, City of Santa Cruz Water Department

Karen Pappas, Program Manager with HDR for the City of Santa Cruz's 10-Year Water Program

FROM THE GROUND UP: Dolphins Ballroom - AICP credit: 1.5 - MCLE credit: 1.0**1:45 am – 3:15 pm****AEP White Paper: Best Practices in Climate Action Planning**

Session Description: The AEP Climate Change Committee reviewed a database of over 600 climate action plans adopted by cities and counties in the State of California to determine the successes and challenges local governments encountered in the implementation of the plans. The committee then selected 50 climate action plans considered CEQA-qualified plans for an interim review. Finally, the committee focused on nine climate action plans for in-depth reviews that included a review of each specific GHG reduction strategy within these plans and monitoring mechanisms to determine which ones were the most successful in reducing emissions.

The result is the AEP White Paper on Best Practices in Climate Action Planning. Specifically, the review included a close look at the various types and differences of GHG reduction strategies that were successful in agricultural communities within the Central Valley of California, mountain and desert communities, and large coastal cities, including San Diego and Los Angeles. The review also looked at large inland cities including Sacramento, San Bernardino, and Fresno. Each of these regions had a different focus on reducing GHG emissions that coincides with the economic sectors that dominate the city or county.

Based upon the AEP Climate Change Committee review, the panel will provide recommended best practices for each type of city and county, including target setting, reduction strategies, implementation strategies, funding, and monitoring systems used within successful climate action plans for the various regions listed above. The panelists will include recommended best practices that are applicable for climate action plans outside of California, including reduction target setting that fits into the international efforts and are feasible to achieve.

Panelists:

Michael Hendrix, Chair of the AEP Climate Change Committee, LSA

Rich Walter, ICF

Nicole Vermilion, PlaceWorks

Brian Schuster, ESA Associates

WAVES OF CHANGE: Point Lobos - AICP credit: 1.5 - MCLE credit: 1.0**1:45 pm – 3:15 pm****Fair Treatment and Meaningful Involvement: Implementing Environmental Justice in Planning and Compliance**

Session Description: Has the EJ wave come to your shore yet? Though CEQA still does not use the term "environmental justice," the concept is rapidly working its way toward project-level analyses in California. SB 1000 requires general plan updates to include an EJ element identifying and addressing disadvantaged communities and federal grant applications to trigger consideration of project EJ effects, and community-led and local efforts have brought EJ to the foreground in policy and planning decisions. Further, with the resignation of the EPA's head of the EJ program in 2017 and continuing actions by the current Administration to cut environmental protections at the expense of low-income communities and people of color, there is a rising sense that state and local actors must make up the difference to empower, serve, and protect vulnerable, historically burdened populations.

This panel will present two nuts-and-bolts case studies on balancing community needs and demands with political and financial realities:

1) SFPUC's 2017 Environmental Justice Analysis for Bayview-Hunters Point: Biosolids Digester Facilities Project and Community Benefits Program, a "companion" report to an EIR that blazes a trail toward robust project- and program-level EJ analysis. The report goes above and beyond CEQA mitigation requirements to recommend measures to leverage SFPUC's resources to maximize environmental justice benefits for this neighborhood.

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2) Sacramento County's General Plan Environmental Justice Element, one of the first issued post-SB 1000. The presenter will describe the reality and politics of passing Phase 1 of the element (DAC identification and overarching goals – meeting the “letter of the law” to allow master plan adoption to continue) and the community outreach and policymaking process of preparing Phase 2 (implementable EJ policies – meeting the “spirit of the law” to promote environmental justice and equity).

Panelists:

Javier Padilla Reyes, Environmental Justice & Land Use Analyst, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission

John Lundgren, Senior Planner, County of Sacramento

Alexandra Thompson (Moderator), Managing Associate, Environmental Science Associates

FIELDS OF OPPORTUNITY: Carmel 2 - AICP credit: 1.5 - MCLE credit: 1.0**1:45 pm – 3:15 pm****One Year Implementing SB 743 VMT Policy in San Jose**

Session Description: San José is the fourth city in California to adopt a tailored policy in response to SB 743. San José's Transportation Analysis Policy replaces LOS with the VMT metric. This high-profile policy went into effect on March 29, 2018. As requested at the 2018 AEP Conference, San José is sharing the experience of implementing the VMT-based Transportation Analysis Policy from March 2018 to March 2019.

What does it mean to apply this policy to private developmental projects? What does it mean to apply this policy to public projects? How do the screening criteria perform? How is San José moving forward on use of exempting projects from transportation analysis that fall under the screening criteria? How can consultants and developers use San José's VMT Evaluation Tool? Sharing lessons learned with 1 year of implementation of the VMT Policy with examples. Audience participation is highly encouraged.

Panelists:

Meenaxi R. Panakkal, City of San José

Karen Mack, City of San José

Ramses Madou, City of San José

Wilson Tam, City of San José

MOBILE WORKSHOP #4: Meet in Lobby - AICP credit: 1.5 - MCLE credit: 1.0**3:15 pm – 5:15 pm****Mobile Workshop #4 - Pure Water Monterey (PWM) Demonstration Facility Tour** (Additional Fee \$40)

Session Description: On this tour you will learn about the state-of-the-art technology used in the Pure Water Monterey Demonstration Facility, which creates a new source of potable water from effluent produced at the Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant. Secondary treated effluent entering this facility undergoes a four-step Advanced Water Treatment (AWT) process of ozone pre-treatment, membrane filtration, reverse osmosis, and oxidation with ultra violet light and hydrogen peroxide. The Demonstration Facility is just one example of how technological innovations and partnerships are helping to solve complex water supply issues in northern Monterey County. Learn how this facility continues to provide unique opportunities for public outreach and project specific data collection. We'll use a shuttle as transportation from the conference venue on Cannery Row to the PWM facility.

Tour Leads:

Rachel Gaudoin, Monterey One Water

Diana Staines, Associate Planner, Denise Duffy & Associates

IMMERSION: Carmel 1 - AICP credit: 1.5 - MCLE credit: 1.0**3:45 pm – 5:15 pm****Keeping Restoration Sites Free From Invasive Pathogens: How Can Planners Prevent Pathogen Introductions?**

Session Description: Over the past five years, water districts, parks, and other land managers have been plagued by inadvertent introductions of *Phytophthora* pathogens on nursery stock outplanted for mitigation or rare plant habitat enhancement projects. Follow-up surveys found that *Phytophthora* pathogens, relatives of the sudden oak death pathogen (*Phytophthora ramorum*), are common in native plant nurseries and restoration sites. These plant pathogens are soilborne and, once introduced, are very difficult to eradicate. Restoration areas are conservation investments, and infested nursery stock has the potential not only to interfere with restoration success, but to introduce plant pathogens into the wildlands including rare, threatened, or endangered species habitat. To sustain

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plant health, preventive measures are needed, such as production of healthy nursery stock using strict phytosanitary measures, or direct seeding and other changes to restoration practices. This session will provide an overview of the threat, distribution, ecology, and biology of *Phytophthora* pathogens in restoration areas and discuss needed cultural, regulatory, and political changes for prevention and management. We will feature strategies developed by the Phytophthoras in Native Habitat Work Group (www.calphytos.org). Formed in 2015, the work group, is a voluntary coalition of native plant nursery managers, land management agencies, researchers, and non-profit organizations working to determine steps needed to protect wildlands from *Phytophthora* pathogens and assist the restoration.

Panelists:

Mike Coleman (Moderator), AICP, Environmental Planner, Santa Clara Valley Water District, Director of Monterey Bay-Silicon Valley Chapter- Association of Environmental Professionals (AEP).

Susan J. Frankel, Plant Pathologist, US Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Research Station

Janel Hillman, Senior Biologist/Plant Ecologist, Santa Clara Valley Water District

Will Spangler, Senior Restoration Ecologist, H. T. Harvey & Associates

FROM THE GROUND UP: Dolphins Ballroom - AICP credit: 1.5 - MCLE credit: 1.0 3:45 pm – 5:15 pm

CEQA Streamlining, Wildfire Risk, and Active Forest Management: Avoiding the Lorax's Outcome

Session Description: The recent wildfires throughout California underscore the importance of reducing wildfire risk to protect public safety and resource values. Managing wildfire risk is becoming more and more urgent as the climate changes. The two largest recorded wildfires in California's history occurred in 2017 and 2018, and the recently released California Climate Change Assessment predicts that, by the end of the century, the frequency of extreme wildfires will nearly double and the average area burned will increase by 77 percent. Active forest management, including forest thinning and prescribed burning, are important strategies to create climate resilience and reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire.

Like the character in the classic Dr. Seuss story "*The Lorax*" (who meant no harm, he most truly did not, but he had to grow bigger, so bigger he got), land managers need to increase the pace and scale of active forest management. But, how do we go bigger without suffering unintended consequences and reaching the Lorax's outcome.

This panel will discuss strategies to streamline environmental compliance for forest management projects while staying true to the letter and intent of CEQA. The session will address proposed legislative efforts to streamline wildfire risk reduction, and opportunities for the large-scale programmatic review of forest management, including the Board of Forestry Vegetation Treatment Program EIR and Program Timberlands EIRs. It will also cover "nuts and bolts" CEQA strategies for practitioners, including the appropriate use of CEQA exemptions, incorporating NEPA analysis, and Forest Practice Act compliance and CEQA-equivalent documents.

Panelists:

Curtis E. Alling, AICP, Principal, Ascent Environmental,

Bob Kingman, Assistant Executive Officer, Sierra Nevada Conservancy

Adam Lewandowski, AICP, Senior Project Manager, Ascent Environmental

Chris Browder, Deputy Chief, Environmental Protection and Archaeology Program Manager, CAL FIRE

WAVES OF CHANGE: Carmel 2 - AICP credit: 1.5 - MCLE credit: 1.0 3:45 pm – 5:15 pm

When is it Defensible to Mitigate CEQA GHG Emissions Impacts with GHG Credits?

Session Description: CARB's 2017 Scoping Plan outlines measures to achieve the 2030 GHG reduction target under SB 32. CEQA projects may not achieve the thresholds established by lead agencies to achieve the aggressive GHG target under SB 32 and even more aggressive long-term goal under Executive Order S-03-05. Although CARB recommends that lead agencies prioritize on-site design features and direct investments in GHG reductions, the 2017 Scoping Plan also identifies use of mitigation credits that provide real, verifiable, quantifiable, permanent, and enforceable reductions as acceptable GHG mitigation. Additionally, CARB's 2017 Scoping Plan cites that achieving a no net additional increase in GHG emissions is the appropriate overall objective for new development. This panel will discuss carbon credit opportunities as CEQA mitigation, including the Climate Action Reserve's new program to mitigate GHG emissions impacts. The panel will also discuss various GHG mitigation opportunities under CEQA. Lastly, staff from the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) will discuss the use of GHG carbon credits as CEQA mitigation.

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Panelists:**Nicole Vermilion (Moderator)**, Associate Principal, PlaceWorks**Marc T. Campopiano**, Esq., Partner, Lathan & Watkins LLC**Craig Ebert**, President, Climate Action Reserve**Dave Vintze**, Air Quality Planning Manager, Bay Area Air Quality Management District**FIELDS OF OPPORTUNITY: Point Lobos - AICP credit: 1.5 - MCLE credit: 1.0****3:45 pm – 5:15 pm****Stuck in Traffic? VMT to the Rescue!**

Session Description: Finally! Several years after passage of SB 743, new CEQA Guidelines have been adopted to address transportation impact analysis. LOS is (soon to be) dead... long live VMT! So, what do we do now? This panel will discuss four primary topics: the three key questions all lead agencies must answer in preparing compliant CEQA transportation analyses; the potential effect of SB 743 VMT guidance on air quality and GHG analysis; the substantial evidence conundrum; and potential legal vulnerabilities and how to navigate the minefield. Your panelists include Ron Milam of Fehr & Peers, who has been deeply involved in providing background to help develop the guidelines; Tiffany Wright of Remy Moose Manley, LLP, a well-known CEQA attorney focused on transportation projects; and Gary Jakobs of Ascent Environmental, a CEQA practitioner with expertise on all aspects of CEQA compliance. The panel will help provide the tools and identify the tripwires as we navigate through what may be one of the largest changes in CEQA practice in decades.

Panelists:**Patrick Angell**, Senior Director, Ascent Environmental, Inc.**Ronald T. Milam**, Fehr & Peers**Tiffany Wright**, Remy Moose Manley, LLP

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2019 CEQA Update: Cypress Ballroom - AICP credit: 3.0 - MCLE credit: 3.0**9:00 am – 12:00 pm****2019 CEQA Update**

Session Description: The AEP Conference CEQA Update has become a mainstay of the annual conference. What would be a better way to end your stay in Monterey? This session will top off your work tank with a discussion of some of the most critical issues to daily implementation of CEQA. It has been enhanced from prior years with two distinct parts and a diverse panel of well-known experts that will provide attendees with a variety of perspectives of the topics covered.

- **Part 1:** Capitol Happenings: An update on the new state administration, CEQA legislation passed in 2018 and in the works for 2019, AEP lobbying activities, and OPR initiatives.
- **Part 2:** From the Courts: A discussion on 2018 case law relevant to CEQA interpretation and implementation and other key land use and environmental decisions.

Panelists:**Devon Muto**, Director, EDF Renewables AEP Immediate Past President**Scott Morgan**, Deputy Director and Director of the State Clearinghouse Governor's Office of Planning and Research**Matt Klopfenstein**, Esq., California Advisors, LLC AEP, Lobbyist**Margaret Sohagi**, Partner, The Sohagi Law Group**Devyani Jain**, Deputy Environmental Review Officer/ Deputy Director of Environmental Planning, Planning Department, City and County of San Francisco**Richard Walter**, Senior Fellow, ICF