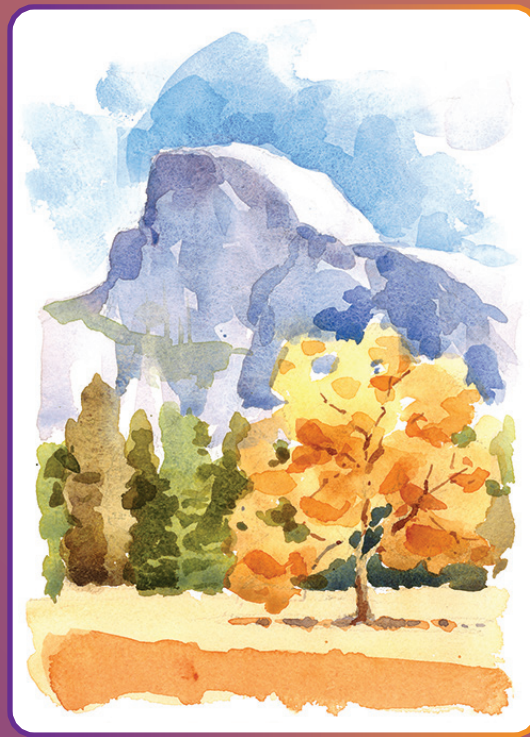




Speaker Biographies

AEP CALIFORNIA STATE CONFERENCE, 2022



AEP2022

CALIFORNIA STATE CONFERENCE

Strong Foundations to New Elevations

YOSEMITE | April 10-13

A

● **Panelist:** Ryan Allen, Dudek, Urban Forestry Specialist

● **Moderator:** Curtis Alling, AICP, Ascent Environmental, Principal

Biography: Curtis E. Alling, AICP, is an environmental planning expert with 40 years of experience, specializing in natural resources management, climate change, and CEQA/NEPA compliance. He is a founding principal of Ascent Environmental, an environmental, natural resources, and planning consultancy in Sacramento, Oakland, San Diego, Irvine, and Lake Tahoe. Curtis is a leader in planning and CEQA approaches for species conservation, ecosystem restoration, resources management, outdoor recreation, and fire fuel reduction. He also has extensive experience in planning and environmental analysis related to climate adaptation. Curtis' experience in resources management planning includes specialized approaches to CEQA/NEPA streamlining that increase the pace and scale of resources management actions. Representative project examples include: California Vegetation Treatment Program EIR (Board of Forestry and Fire Protection), 2015 State Wildlife Action Plan, Tasmam Kojom Land Management Plan (Maidu Summit Consortium), Lake Tahoe Programmatic Timberland EIR (Lake Valley Fire Protection District), and California State Park General Plans (Carmel Area SP, Kings Beach SRA, and Auburn SRA).

● **Panelist:** Dimitri Antoniou, AICP, Ascent

● **Panelist:** Steve Auten, Auten Resource Consulting, Registered Professional Forester

Biography: Steve Auten works on CAL FIRE grants, CalVTP permitting, development and approval of California Coastal Commission Public Works Plans (PWP), archaeological survey reports for CAL FIRE projects, GIS, contract compliance, and landscape-level climate and habitat resiliency plans for large public ownerships seeking permits to take restorative actions. Steve will provide the perspective of a project proponent implementing fire fuel treatment projects using the CalVTP Program EIR, including projects within the Coastal Zone that required coordination with the California Coastal Commission.

B

● **Panelist:** Tom Barlett, AICP, City of Calabasas, City Planner

Biography: Tom Bartlett has 37 years' experience in public sector municipal planning, including 18 years as the City Planner for the City of Calabasas. Previously Tom served as the Planning Director for the City of Santa Paula, and the Planning Administrator for the City of Indianapolis. In addition to planning management experience, Tom has coordinated or contributed to a wide range of planning projects, including comprehensive plans and general plans, military base reuse, regional transportation planning, urban redevelopment, municipal annexations, recreation trail master planning, aquifer conservation and protection policies, historic preservation, zoning ordinance updates, and environmental impact reviews under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Among his varied responsibilities and projects while in California, Tom coordinated preparation of the General Plan Housing Elements for each of the past four Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) cycles. Tom's educational background includes a Bachelor of Arts degree in Geography from Indiana University and a Master's degree in Urban Planning from the University of Illinois.

● **Panelist:** Megan Basinger, City of Santa Rosa, Interim Director

Biography: Megan serves as Interim Director of Housing & Community Services (HCS) for the City of Santa Rosa. She has over 16 years of experience with the City, spanning multiple Departments, with recent years serving as the HCS Manager for the Housing Trust Division. In this position Megan supervised a team of technical, administrative and professional staff that administer the City's federal housing grants. These grants include the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)'s Community Development Block Grant, HOME Investments Partnerships Program, and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) funding, in addition to locally generated resources used to fund affordable housing. The Housing Trust has a current loan portfolio of over \$120 million and performs compliance on over 4,000 housing units, mobile home parks and federally funded service programs. In addition to her professional experience, Megan has a Bachelor of Science degree in City and Regional Planning from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo and a Master's in Public Administration from Sonoma State University.

● **Moderator:** Ryan Bensley, AICP, LSA, Associate/Senior Environmental Planner

Biography: Mr. Bensley is an Associate/Environmental Planner in the Irvine office of LSA. Mr. Bensley is responsible for managing the preparation of environmental documents for a variety of transportation and land development projects. His primary responsibilities include coordinating and conducting research and analysis for environmental documents prepared in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

● **Moderator:** Kristi Black, JD, ICF, Senior Environmental Planner

Biography: Kristi is an Environmental Project Manager with a focus on managing teams preparing CEQA documents, largely for public agencies. She has experience with a number of project types with a special focus on infrastructure projects and controversial projects. Her favorite part of the CEQA process is responding to comments.

● **Panelist:** Helen Blackmore, Branch Chief, Architectural History, Office of Cultural Resource Studies, Caltrans, District 4

● **Moderator:** Heather Blair, Ascent Environmental, Senior Project Manager

Biography: Heather Blair is a senior environmental scientist with 17 years of experience managing complex environmental projects throughout California. Her practice includes natural resource management, CEQA and NEPA compliance, and environmental policy and regulation. Having prepared multiple statewide Program EIRs, including the CalVTP Program EIR for the California Vegetation Treatment Program (CalVTP), Heather is a specialist in landscape-scale environmental review and strategic CEQA streamlining. She is actively assisting public agencies with CEQA and other regulatory compliance approaches that provide legal defensibility while expediting the implementation of fire fuel management projects. She will provide an overview of the wildfire crisis, explain CEQA streamlining using Program EIRs, and introduce the CalVTP.

● **Panelist:** Jim Blanke, Woodard & Curran, Hydrogeologist

Biography: Jim has over 20 years of experience specializing in the intersection of groundwater planning and groundwater science. By bringing together the latest innovations in hydrogeology, water resources, permitting, and groundwater management, he provides input to solve complex water resources and groundwater problems in regions and communities across California. Jim has authored or provided technical guidance to many Groundwater Sustainability Plans, including North Yuba, South Yuba, Eastern San Joaquin, Merced, Cuyama, and San Pasqual Valley. Jim holds a Masters and Bachelors in Geological and Environmental Sciences from Stanford University. He is a registered Professional Geologist, Certified Hydrogeologist, and Professional Engineer in California.

● **Panelist:** John Boarman, Law an Greenspan Engineers (LLG), Principal Traffic Engineer

Biography: John Boarman is a Principal Traffic Engineer with Linscott, Law and Greenspan Engineers (LLG). Mr. Boarman holds a Master of Science degree in Civil Engineering from Purdue University and is a registered Traffic Engineer and Civil Engineer in the State of California. Mr. Boarman has personally prepared, participated in or directed the preparation of several hundred traffic impact studies. His work has included not only traffic impact studies but studies of parking impact and sufficiency, site access and circulation, and internal auto, pedestrian and public transit traffic circulation. Mr. Boarman has worked closely with other professionals in the preparation and presentation of environmental documentation to citizens groups, local government engineers and planners, Transportation Commissions, Planning Commissions, and City Councils. He has also made presentations to the California Coastal Commission. Mr. Boarman has managed traffic studies for several high profile projects including the Qualcomm Stadium Expansion, the North Embarcadero Visionary Plan, the South Embarcadero Urban Development Plan, the Imperial County General Plan Update, the San Diego Convention Center Expansion, the Hotel Del Coronado Expansion, Fanita Ranch, the Del Mar Fairgrounds Master Plan, the I-805/Mira Mesa Blvd. PSR, and the 2,200 home Sierra development.

● **Moderator:** Kristen Bogue, Michael Baker International, CEQA/NEPA Generalist (Visual/Hazardous Materials)

Biography: Ms. Bogue graduated with a BA in Environmental Analysis and Design at the University of California, Irvine. She currently works as a CEQA/NEPA generalist within the Planning Department at Michael Baker International, Inc., with a focus on visual and hazardous materials analyses. Ms. Bogue has more than 17 years' experience preparing CEQA and NEPA clearance documentation (IS/ND, MND, EIR, EA, CE, etc.) for various clients within southern California. Ms. Bogue has a focus on preparing Phase I Environmental Site Assessments as well as visual analyses (key view analysis, photosimulations, viewshed mapping, shade/shadow study, and light and glare analysis). Ms. Bogue also sits on the OCAEP Board as Student Liaison.

● **Panelist:** Bob Brown, AICP, SHN, Principal Planner

Biography: With over 35 years of experience, Mr. Brown is the Principal Planner for SHN. His approach combines land use planning, community involvement, and environmental strategies. Using his background in planning, natural sciences and environmental assessments, he provides planning and permitting expertise to both public and private clients. Mr. Brown has been managing the development of CEQA/NEPA documents for over thirty-five years. These projects have often involved complex regulatory constraints and controversial community input throughout northern California.

● **Panelist:** Shaun Buckman, Engineer III, EIT, Cardno Now Stantec.

C

● **Panelist:** James Campbell, City of Newport Beach, Deputy Director, Community Development Dept.

Biography: Jim has over 30 years of experience as a municipal planner in California. He has overseen the preparation of numerous environmental impact reports for large and small development projects as well as general plans. The City's noise environment is complex with noise sensitive development near high volume roadways, 24-hour industrial uses, late night restaurants abutting Newport Harbor, and John Wayne Airport. The City's Noise Element provides a tiered threshold approach for impact analysis and a land use compatibility matrix for noise. The City's Community Noise Ordinance is also used as a standard of review for projects. Jim has a keen understanding of how noise impacts are treated by residents, developers, and local decision-makers.

● **Panelist:** Marc Campopiano, Latham and Watkins LLP

Biography: Marc Campopiano has extensive experience in obtaining governmental approvals and ensuring environmental compliance for energy, infrastructure, and land use matters, involving complex climate change, air quality, and land use issues. With his strong environmental background and legal experience, he delivers specialized representation on matters where technical and legal issues are intertwined.

● **Moderator:** Julian Capata, Massetti Consulting, LLC, Environmental Programs Manager

Biography: Julian Capata is a Senior Project Manager, with 17 years of technical, supervisory, project and client management, and business development experience in the preparation and management of CEQA documentation, with an emphasis on K-14 Facilities. As Environmental Program Manager for Massetti Consulting, his role includes management of our clients environmental consultants relating to CEQA, historic resources, traffic, air quality, hazardous materials, and biological resources. Review consultant work product and coordinate with outside agencies and stakeholders. Coordinate with design, planning and construction teams to ensure project complies with relevant regulatory regime as well as meeting district's vision and objectives.

● **Panelist:** Ricky Caperton, AICP, City of Clovis, Deputy City Planner

Biography: Ricky is the Deputy City Planner at the City of Clovis. His experience includes a combined 10 years working both in the private and public sectors. Ricky has drafted CEQA documents of all types during his time in the private sector, and has spent the last 5 years in the public sector managing expectations of projects, including navigating the CEQA process from the "other side." His favorite part of CEQA is when a project is exempt and the statute of limitations runs out.

● **Panelist:** Nic Cardella, Wanger Jones Helsley PC

● **Moderator:** Josh Carman, INCE-USA, PlaceWorks, Senior Associate

Biography: Josh Carman has 20 years of experience in acoustics and air quality and has participated in the environmental review and monitoring process for a diversity of projects in California, Washington, Nevada, and New York. Josh prepares noise, air quality/GHG and community health risk assessments for environmental impact studies (CEQA/NEPA) and technical studies using federal, state, and local guidelines. His experience includes complex project- and program-level analyses of general plan updates and specific plans; mixed-use development; traffic, transit, and rail; infrastructure; vibration-sensitive; industrial; long-term and remote construction noise and vibration monitoring; and underwater construction projects.

● **Panelist:** Hunter Castro, Wanger Jones Helsley PC

● **Panelist:** Jennifer Clark, AICP, City of Fresno, Director

Biography: Jennifer Clark began her role at the City of Fresno in July 2013. The P&D Department, broken into Development Services and Community Investment, is responsible for envisioning and implementing quality development investment. Since coming to Fresno, Clark has introduced a new General Plan and Development Code, several neighborhood and specific plans, and two Consolidated Plans, among other accomplishments. Beginning with the COVID-19 recovery funding, the Department has received over \$50 million for housing and homeless projects requiring both CEQA and NEPA review. In addition to her role at the City of Fresno, she served as the Central Section Director for APA California in 2020 and 2021.

● **Panelist:** Brian Cary, State Water Resources Control Board, Senior Environmental Scientist

Biography: Brian Cary graduated from Western Washington University with a B.S. in biology and followed up with a master's in environmental studies from the Evergreen State College. His previous work experiences include working as a Habitat Specialist for Arizona Game and Fish, the Refuge Water Supply Coordinator with CDFW, and a Program Manager for the Wildlife Conservation Board, and he currently supervises staff in the Environmental Review Unit for the State Water Resources Control Board. In Brian's off time, he enjoys spending time with his 14-year-old daughter and 10-year-old son, camping, biking, and hiking.

● **Panelist:** Anne Crealock, Marin Wildfire Prevention Authority, Planning and Program Manager

Biography: Anne Crealock is the Planning & Program Manager for the Marin Wildfire Prevention Authority (MWPA). Anne helps lead the MWPA's efforts to create more fire adapted communities using sound scientific, financial, programmatic, and ecological practices through vegetation management, community education, as well as evacuation and warning systems with the support of its member and partner agencies. Anne has twenty years of experience working in environmental planning, water resources management, field biology, and climate adaptation. She also has several years of experience in fire resilience, fire recovery, and prescribed burning as a FFT2 (wildland fire fighter) with a particular focus on improving the resilience of our landscapes to more frequent and severe wildfire.

● **Panelist:** Patrick Cruz, Dudek, Project Manager

D

● **Panelist:** Kristine Day, City of Beaumont, Assistant City Manager

● **Panelist:** Shannon Davis, Director, Architectural History, ASM Affiliates

● **Panelist:** Cheryl DeGano, Albert A. Webb Associates, Principal Environmental Analyst

Biography: Cheryl DeGano serves as a Principal Environmental Analyst with WEBB's Planning and Environmental Department. Cheryl manages the preparation and approval of environmental and planning documents for public and private sector clients. During her consulting career, Cheryl has been responsible for the preparation and processing of environmental and planning documents including environmental impact reports, environmental assessments, initial studies and mitigated negative declarations, mitigation monitoring and reporting programs (MMRPs), specific plans, development impact fee ("Nexus") studies per California Government Code 66000 et seq., and development and entitlement applications. Cheryl has been responsible for all aspects of these projects including research, data collection and analysis, report writing, quality assurance/quality control review, preparation of distribution lists, direction of public noticing, project management, representation at public meetings and hearings, and agency and client coordination. Cheryl is also experienced in the analysis of construction noise using the Federal Highway Administration's Roadway Construction Noise Model (RCNM). In addition to her environmental and planning background, Cheryl has assisted public agencies and private sector clients finance public facilities/services through the formation and administration of special finance districts and is well versed in socio-economic issues. Cheryl possesses strong communication and analytical skills and establishes and maintains excellent client relationships. Cheryl has a proven ability to take over large projects with minimal disruption to the client, experience with high profile and controversial studies, and the ability to work effectively and collaboratively within the increasingly complex regulatory and environmental context of development in southern California to develop solutions, strategies, and feasible alternatives for complex projects. Cheryl is experienced in the preparation of environmental and planning documents and assisting public agencies and private sector clients finance public facilities/services through the formation and

administration of special finance districts and the preparation of development impact fee studies. Strengths include communication and analytical skills, establishment and maintenance of excellent client relationships, proven ability to take over large projects with minimal disruption to client, experience with high profile and controversial studies, and a desire to work collaboratively toward a common goal.

◆ **Panelist:** Jessica Ditto, Michael Baker International, CEQA/NEPA Generalist (Transportation)

Biography: Ms. Ditto graduated with a BA in Communications at the University of California, Los Angeles. She currently works as a CEQA/NEPA generalist within the Planning Department at Michael Baker International, Inc. Ms. Ditto has more than six years' experience preparing CEQA and NEPA clearance documentation (IS/ND, MND, EIR, EA, CE, etc.) for various clients within southern California. Ms. Ditto sits on the OCAEP Board as Student Liaison (focusing on the Chapman University Student AEP Chapter).

◆ **Moderator:** Neil Doran, Principal Geologist, Stantec Consulting Services Inc.

Biography: Neil has 17 years of experience as an environmental professional. His expertise includes site investigation design and implementation, geologic and hydrogeologic characterization, remediation planning and implementation, vapor intrusion evaluation, human health risk assessment and management, environmental compliance monitoring for remediation projects, development and implementation of in-situ bioremediation programs, and due diligence property evaluations. He is experienced in coordinating all aspects of project delivery including scope development, execution of field activities, coordination with outside consultants and subcontractors, and project close-out. Neil has successfully managed environmental investigation projects for large utility providers, major technology companies, and land developers, with an emphasis on collaborative relationships with regulatory and public stakeholders to ensure achievement of project objectives.

◆ **Panelist:** Leslie Dumas, Woodard & Curran, Water Resources Engineer

Biography: Leslie Dumas is a surface water and groundwater hydrologist, and senior water resources engineer with Woodard & Curran. Leslie graduated with a B.S. in Civil Engineering from Virginia Tech, and an M.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of California at Berkeley. In over 25 years of practice, Leslie has provided hydrogeologic, hydrologic, environmental and scientific consultation for projects throughout the United States. She has managed multi-disciplinary teams on a wide variety of projects, including integrated water resources planning, groundwater investigation and modeling, well siting and design, environmental permitting and site remediation, and most recently has been supporting SGMA-compliance in several groundwater basins in the State.

◆ **Panelist:** Lauren Dusek, Stillwater Sciences, Wildlife and Fisheries Biologist

Biography: Ms. Dusek has 20 years of experience in aquatic and terrestrial biology. She has extensive experience with both biotic and physical sampling techniques for monitoring and assessing population structure and diversity of aquatic and terrestrial species. Her areas of experience include field techniques and study design in freshwater and estuarine fishes, monitoring birds, small and large mammals, invertebrates, and amphibians; and impacts assessments for CEQA and NEPA. Her project management experience includes the areas of watershed analysis, aquatic restoration, and hydroelectric relicensing.

E

◆ **Panelist:** Grecia Elenes, Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability, Senior Policy Advocate

Biography: Grecia Elenes is Senior Policy Advocate at Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability, based in Fresno, CA. Ms. Elenes joined the organization in 2016. In this position and in previous professional experience, Ms. Elenes specializes in developing strong relationships with diverse stakeholders including governmental agencies, nongovernmental agencies, community-based organizations, community members, and coalition partners. She has led numerous community education and advocacy campaigns in the San Joaquin and Eastern Coachella Valleys, and coordinated and facilitated coalition meetings with diverse stakeholders. Ms. Elenes leads work alongside three communities in Fresno County and four neighborhoods in the City of Fresno. She works with state and local governmental agencies to secure investment, infrastructure investments, and equitable land use, among other campaigns.

◆ **Moderator:** Tim Erney, AICP, PTP, CTP, Kittelson & Associates, Inc., Senior Principal

Biography: Tim Erney is a Senior Principal at Kittelson & Associates, Inc. and leads their Southern California office. With almost 25 years of experience, Tim's work spans all facets of transportation planning and traffic engineering, including active transportation planning, travel demand management (TDM), traffic modeling and simulation, operations analysis, and corridor studies. In addition, Tim has been working closely with multiple agencies and jurisdictions to study and adopt new transportation study guidelines to account for the changes associated with SB743, including the identification and support of VMT-reducing mitigation measures.

F

◆ **Panelist:** Caroline Farrell, Center for Race Poverty and the Environment, Executive Director

Biography: Caroline Farrell is the Executive Director of the Center on Race, Poverty & the Environment (CRPE) based out of CRPE's Delano office. For over 15 years, she has assisted low-income communities and communities of color in the south San Joaquin Valley and throughout the country in their struggle for environmental justice. She quickly established a reputation as one of the Valley's foremost environmental justice advocates, going toe-to-toe with agricultural polluters from Fresno to Bakersfield. Caroline has represented low-income communities and communities of color on issues related to dairy development in the Central Valley, hazardous waste facilities, land application of biosolids, and land use planning issues.

◆ **Panelist:** Carey Fernandes, Dudek

Biography: Carey Fernandes leads Dudek's CEQA/NEPA practice and has 23 years' planning-related experience specializing in the planning, environmental, and development industries. Ms. Fernandes' diverse background of education and experience includes permit processing with local jurisdictions, coordination with public agency staff, preparation of CEQA/NEPA documents, project management, due diligence, and feasibility analysis.

◆ **Moderator:** Amy Fischer, LSA, Principal

Biography: Amy Fischer serves as a Principal/Project Manager for CEQA documents on a variety of development and infrastructure projects. As a key member of LSA's environmental technical staff, Ms. Fischer serves as a senior air quality, climate change, and noise analyst for CEQA/NEPA and planning documents and is responsible for research, and preparation of technical reports. Using the California Emissions Estimator Model (CalEEMod) (or other local

model), Ms. Fischer performs a quantitative assessment of air quality and GHG emissions associated with all relevant sources related to the project, including construction activities, vehicle trips, electricity consumption, water usage, and solid waste generation and disposal. Her noise experience includes ambient noise monitoring and the application of local and State noise standards used in impact analysis and the development noise mitigation for residential and commercial development projects. Ms. Fischer has over 20 years of experience in the environmental field and has participated in environmental analysis for many diverse projects in California.

◆ **Panelist:** Yara Fisher, AICP, Helix Environmental Planning, Inc., Principal Planner

◆ **Panelist:** Catherine Fong, Park Hydrologist, Yosemite National Park

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◆ **Panelist:** Claudia Garcia, AICP, ICF, Senior Environmental Planner,

Biography: Claudia is a Senior Environmental Planner with experience working on a broad range of projects and environmental issues. She has managed and helped manage programmatic and project-specific environmental documents for infill development projects, general plans, specific plans, and climate action plans. In her spare time, Claudia serves as a director-at-large for the AEP State Executive Board. Her favorite part of CEQA is attending scoping meetings and public hearings.

◆ **Panelist:** Tom Gaul, Fehr & Peers, Principal

Biography: Tom Gaul is a Principal with Fehr & Peers in the City of Los Angeles. He has almost 40 years of experience as a transportation planner and engineer conducting studies for public agencies, private firms, and institutions throughout the western U.S. Tom has managed numerous multimodal transportation planning studies including the Westside Mobility Plan for Los Angeles and transportation analyses for the award-winning Santa Monica Land Use and Circulation Element (LUCE). Tom is a recognized expert on vehicle miles traveled (VMT), having assisted both the City and the County of Los Angeles and numerous other jurisdictions with developing their VMT metrics in response to Senate Bill (SB) 743, and having presented on SB 743 and VMT to numerous groups including the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE), the California Association of Environmental Professionals (AEP) Los Angeles and Central Coast chapters and local agency, business and attorney groups. Tom's educational background includes a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from MIT and graduate course work at the University of California, Berkeley.

◆ **Panelist:** Andrew Goodrich, AICP, Architectural Resources Group, Senior Associate, Architectural Historian & Preservation Planner

Biography: Andrew is an Architectural Historian and Preservation Planner in ARG's Los Angeles office, with a joint background in city planning and historic preservation and formal training in both fields. His academic and professional pursuits have led him to develop an interest in how public policy can be used to enliven the historic built environment. He also brings an understanding of urban landscapes and is versed in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) software. A Los Angeles-area native with a keen interest in the region and its history, Andrew has been practicing in the preservation planning field since 2008 and worked for various public and not-for-profit agencies prior to joining ARG. At ARG, he has managed and contributed to numerous historic resource surveys and historic context statements that have ranged in scale from entire cities, to college campuses, and down to individual neighborhoods. His experience also includes landmark nominations, historic property assessments, and rehabilitation incentives. Andrew is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP), and sits on the Programs Committee for the American Planning Association (APA)'s Los Angeles chapter.

- **Moderator:** Melanie Greene, Senior Project Scientist, Cardno Now Stantec
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- **Moderator:** Emma Haines, PlaceWorks, Planner
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Biography: Emma Haines is an Environmental Planner that has recently joined the CEQA Team at PlaceWorks. She earned her bachelor's degree in environmental management and protection from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. For the past year, Ms. Haines has been working to evaluating environmental impacts on mixed-use, residential, school, and general plan development projects. Ms. Haines would like to continue learning about all the aspects of CEQA and environmental planning to help grow in her career.

- **Panelist:** Sarah Halterman, Dudek, Air Quality Specialist
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Biography: Sarah Halterman is an air quality expert who specializes in the preparation of air quality and GHG emissions inventories, CEQA/NEPA environmental impact analyses, and climate action plans. Previously, Sarah collaborated with the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute investigating how climate change will alter sequestration in carbon-rich ecosystems.

- **Moderator:** Alex Hardy, Dudek, CEQA Project Manager
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Biography: Alex Hardy is an environmental project manager with 17 years' experience as a researcher and author, project manager, program manager, quality-control reviewer, and strategy advisor. Mr. Hardy has extensive experience preparing the full spectrum of the California CEQA documents for local jurisdictions, public agencies, and private developers.

- **Panelist:** Cally Hardy, City of Los Angeles, City Planning Associate
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Biography: Cally Hardy is a City Planning Associate in the Los Angeles Department of City Planning's citywide policy planning division, where she has served for over 5 years as a member of the division's housing policy team. In that role, she develops land use tools to increase the City's affordable housing stock and create housing opportunities for people experiencing homelessness. Most recently, she was the project manager for the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) prepared for the City's 2021-2029 Housing Element Update, in addition to the Adequate Sites Inventory included in the plan. She has also been involved in the policy development and environmental review of several recent housing initiatives in Los Angeles, including the City's Permanent Supportive Housing Ordinance, which created a streamlined incentive program for the construction of supportive housing, and the Transit Oriented Communities Affordable Housing Incentive Program, which resulted from a voter initiative to prioritize affordable housing development near high quality transit. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Economy from UC Berkeley and a Master's degree in Urban and Regional Planning from UCLA.

- **Panelist:** Kelsey Hawkins, Harris & Associates, CEQA/NEPA Generalist (Air Quality/GHG/Noise)
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Biography: Kelsey Hawkins is an environmental analyst at Harris & Associates specializing in the technical writing of CEQA-compliant documents for various projects throughout southern California. Ms. Hawkins graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Sciences from San Diego State University and a Master of Science in Environmental Studies from California State University, Fullerton. She has over 4 years of experience preparing various environmental analysis documents including environmental impact reports, mitigated negative declarations, and initial studies for both private and public development. She has assisted in preparing several air quality, greenhouse

gas emissions, and noise technical analyses including visiting various project sites to take noise measurements and perform associated modeling. Project experience includes long range plans, multi-use development, planned communities, redevelopment, and infrastructure. Ms. Hawkins also serves on the San Diego AEP Board as the Student Membership and Outreach Director, overseeing the San Diego student chapters and facilitating various professional development workshops.

◆ **Moderator:** Michael Hendrix, LSA Associates, Inc.

Biography: Mr. Hendrix is the current Chairperson for the AEP Climate Change Committee. He has extensive experience providing analysis related to global climate change, and air quality. He is the principal author of the AEP White Paper on “Alternative Approaches of Analysis on Climate Change in CEQA (2007). Michael Hendrix is one of the State’s leading air quality scientists. He is the recipient of AEP’s “Professional Achievement Award” for innovative Air Quality Mitigation Programs for projects that provide comprehensive air pollutant reduction measures throughout the life of a project. AEP specifically recognized that “his commitment to balancing the need for industrial, commercial and residential development projects in the State with the reduction of air pollution is evident through his dedication to air quality evaluations and mitigation that significantly reduce air pollution generated by the expansion of these markets.”

◆ **Panelist:** David Holmes, ES Technical Leader for Brownfields (US), Stantec Consulting Services, Inc.

Biography: David has more than 30 years of professional consulting experience performing and managing environmental assessment, investigation, and cleanup projects and helping public and private sector clients to secure funding to implement these projects. David has worked on hundreds of brownfield sites on behalf of local government and developer clients throughout the US. He has exceptional experience securing state and federal grants to support brownfields redevelopment and habitat restoration projects (with more than 126 grants and \$30 million in funding awarded to date).

◆ **Panelist:** Mike Howard, Dudek, Senior Biologist

Biography: Mike Howard has 21 years’ experience in biological resource assessment, habitat conservation planning, regulatory permitting, and specializes in developing permitting and environmental documentation solutions for complex projects. Focusing on habitat conservation planning, he has managed and served as lead conservation biologist on habitat conservation plans and natural community conservation plans.

◆ **Moderator:** Michael Huff, Dudek, RCA, Urban Forestry/Fire Protection Planning Practice L

Biography: Mr. Huff is founder and manager of Dudek’s Urban Forestry/Fire Protection Planning team with 29 years’ experience as a forester and fire protection planner. He specializes in management of community-wide and project-specific fire protection plans, wildland—urban interface fire management plans, wildfire hazard reduction projects and CEQA supporting technical documents.

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◆ **Panelist:** Andrea Jacobsma, Senior Project Engineer, Cardno Now Stantec

● **Panelist:** Shelley Jiang, Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District, Climate Change Analyst

Biography: Shelley Jiang works on the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District's climate change mitigation and adaptation programs. Her focus areas include developing urban heat reduction strategies for the Sacramento region, supporting local climate mitigation solutions, and updating the California Emissions Estimator Model (CalEEMod) and CAPCOA GHG Handbook. She chairs the Capital Region Climate Readiness Collaborative, a network of local governments, businesses, universities, and non-profit organizations working to elevate the urgency of climate adaptation in the Sacramento region. Shelley started her career as a writer and editor in Beijing, China, covering travel and environmental topics, and made her transition to climate and energy with Greenpeace East Asia. She holds an A.B. in English from Harvard University and a Master of Public Policy degree from UC Berkeley.

● **Panelist:** Haley Johnson, Woodard & Curran, Water Resources Planner

Biography: Haley is a water resources planner with 13 years of experience in environmental analysis, planning and compliance in the private, public, and nonprofit sectors. She possesses expertise in CEQA, NEPA, Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas, Noise, benefit/cost analysis, funding applications, the federal Endangered Species Act, and California water resources planning. She graduated with a B.S. in Environmental Science from UC Berkeley's College of Natural Resources. Haley's professional background includes expert witness support in matters of natural resource economics.

● **Panelist:** Kaela Johnson, Stantec Consulting Services Inc., Environmental Planner

Biography: Kaela is an environmental planner with over five years of experience in environmental planning, permitting, and compliance. She has provided technical support for preparing CEQA and NEPA compliance documents for various local, state, and federal projects. Kaela has experience in conducting environmental constraints analyses, visual impact analyses and assessments, due diligence investigations, and ambient noise monitoring surveys in support of local community development projects, as well as large-scale renewable energy projects. Kaela also specializes in GIS and has prepared maps and graphics to support multiple CEQA and NEPA documents.

● **Panelist:** Sally Johnson, Woodard & Curran, Water Resources Planner

Biography: Sally Johnson is a Water Resources Planner with Woodard & Curran, where she's spent the past 9 years supporting clients with their environmental, planning, and funding needs. She has written CEQA documents for a variety of water, wastewater, and recycled water projects, including Environmental Impact Reports, Addendums, and Mitigated Negative Declarations. She is also experienced in managing stakeholder outreach for a variety of planning and environmental projects, along with supporting clients through the funding application and administration processes. Many of her projects are located near sensitive resources in Southern California, where potential conflicts between community needs and the environment are of increasing concern.

● **Panelist:** Shannon Johnson, California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, Acting Deputy Chief, Environmental Protection

Biography: Shannon will provide the perspective of CAL FIRE on meeting the state's vegetation treatment goals and share examples about experience preparing project-specific analyses using the CalVTP Program EIR.

● **Panelist:** Trevor Jones, Dudek, Hydrogeologist, PhD

Biography: Trevor Jones is a hydrogeologist develops and benchmarks groundwater flow and transport models. He specializes in the development of reactive transport models to quantify coupled fluid and chemical—chemical interactions in heterogeneous environment and assesses large-scale groundwater flow models used to guide the sustainable management of groundwater basins in California.

◆ **Panelist:** Deborah Jue, Wilson Ihrig, Principal & CEO

Biography: Deborah has been with Wilson Ihrig since 1990 and is an integral part of the company's management team. She also serves as a senior technical lead on highway noise models, environmental analyses for all types of projects, and planning for long-term construction noise and vibration. With over 30 years of experience addressing impacts related to highway noise, rail transit noise and vibration, and construction-related noise, hydroacoustics and vibration; Deborah has a keen interest in finding solutions and clearly communicating with affected stakeholders to achieve broad project support.

K

◆ **Panelist:** Adam Kanold, Montecito Water District, Assistant General Manager / Engineering Manager

Biography: Adam Kanold is a licensed civil engineer specializing in water, wastewater, and storm water utility design and construction. Mr. Kanold's project management, engineering and design experience spans water projects around the world, including locations throughout the United States and overseas in Honduras, Nicaragua, Peru, Korea, Afghanistan, Cambodia, Tanzania, and Kenya.

◆ **Panelist:** Fareeha Kibriya, Michael Baker International, Planning Department

◆ **Panelist:** Brian Knoll, PE, Albert A. Webb Associates, Chief Operating Office

Biography: Brian Knoll, PE, is WEBB's Chief Operations Officer. Brian has been responsible for the design and direction of capital improvement projects throughout southern California. Brian's expertise lies in planning, design, and construction oversight of water and wastewater facilities. Brian has been involved in numerous large multi-discipline water and wastewater projects including the City of Riverside's 26 MGD expansion of their water quality control plant, the City of Beaumont's advanced water treatment facility and brine line, the 14 MGD expansion of the Western Riverside Wastewater Treatment Plant, and the 6 MGD expansion of the Calipatria Water Treatment Plant. He has worked extensively with the City of Imperial, Western Municipal Water District, Golden State Water Company, the City of Corona, Crestline Lake Arrowhead Water Agency, Eastern Municipal Water District, the City of Riverside, and WRCRWA. Brian has also worked closely with other engineering partners such as CDM Smith, Black & Veatch, and CH2M Hill. His macro style in water resources leadership coupled with a practical approach, enhances Brian's standing within the firm and the industry.

◆ **Panelist:** Hannah Kornfeld, AICP, Ascent Environmental, Air Quality and Climate Change Specialist

Biography: Hannah is an Air Quality and Climate Change Specialist at Ascent Environmental, where she manages and prepares climate action plans and greenhouse gas reduction strategies for municipalities throughout California. Using her technical expertise in GHG quantification, she works to bridge the gap between technical analyses, ever-evolving California climate regulation, and local policymaking through crafting first-of-their-kind mitigation strategies. Hannah has experience developing and managing carbon neutrality plans and assists local agencies with some of their most challenging climate change projects. Hannah was a 2019 Fellow of the Clean Energy Leadership Institute and is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners.

● **Panelist:** Rachel Kwok, City of Santa Monica, Environmental Planner

Biography: Rachel Kwok serves as the environmental planner for the City of Santa Monica, and is responsible for the preparation and review of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) compliant documents in the City. Rachel has over 20 years as an environmental planner, specializing in CEQA. She has been involved in the completion of numerous Environmental Impact Reports (EIRs) and complex Initial Studies / Mitigated Negative Declarations (IS/MNDs) for City plans and infrastructure projects including the Downtown Community Plan and 6th Cycle Housing Element Update, as well as private development projects ranging from commercial office, residential, and mixed use projects. Prior to her career at Santa Monica, she worked as a principal planner in the private sector preparing EIRs and IS/MNDs across the Los Angeles County region. Rachel holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Policy Analysis and Planning from UC Davis, and a Master's degree in Environmental Management from Brown University.

L

● **Panelist:** Taylor Lane, Wood PLC, Project Manager

Biography: Mr. Lane is a Project Manager for Wood with more than 6 years of experience in consulting and planning, serving a diverse range of federal, state, and local agency clients. Mr. Lane specializes in complex EIRs for long-range planning projects, including specific plans, master plans, and general plans. Mr. Lane has strong experience coordinating public outreach, organizing stakeholder and public meetings aimed at facilitating input on high-priority planning and development projects, communicating project details to stakeholders and the public, and responding to concerns or ideas raised by these interest groups.

● **Panelist:** David Lewis, Riverside County Transportation Commission, Capital Projects Manager

Biography: With almost 15 years of experience working in transportation, David understands the complexities of the NEPA/CEQA processes and has worked with a variety of federal, state, and local agencies. He has been fortunate to work on several high-level projects in his career while gaining valuable experience from his mentors and peers along the way. Making the transition from Environmental Planner to Capital Project Manager has been a fulfilling goal in his career development as he guides projects from the planning phase to final construction in his current role at RCTC. In his free time, David enjoys trips to the mountains, playing golf, and spending time with his two beautiful daughters and lovely wife.

● **Panelist:** Scott Lichtig, CA Attorney General's Bureau of Environmental Justice

Biography: Scott Lichtig is a Deputy Attorney General at the Attorney General's Bureau of Environmental Justice Public Rights Division, Environment Section. In this position, Mr. Lichtig focuses on enforcement of California's environmental laws on behalf of the Attorney General and client agencies. He has extensive experience involving the application of CEQA, CERCLA, RCRA, California's HWCA, and Proposition 65. Mr. Lichtig received his law degree from Georgetown University Law Center and his B.A. in Public Policy from Stanford University.

● **Panelist:** Dana Link-Herrera, Dudek, Urban Forestry/Wildfire Planner and Aesthetics Spe

Biography: Ms. Link-Herrera is an environmental analyst with 6 years' experience and a strong foundation in urban and regional planning and CEQA/NEPA. She has a diverse background working in natural resource management, public universities, tribal communities, community outreach, permitting support, and environmental analysis.

◆ **Panelist:** Dana Lodico, PE, INCE Bd. Cert., RSG, Director

Biography: Dana has over two decades of experience in acoustics, including 17 years of CEQA and NEPA experience. She is a nationally recognized expert on quiet pavement, has conducted noise studies for a wide variety of land uses, and has led highway traffic noise studies throughout the US. She currently serves as a Vice President of the Institute of Noise Control Engineering (INCE) and is an INCE Board Certified Noise Control Engineer and a Registered Professional Engineer in the states of California and Colorado.

◆ **Panelist:** Jennifer Lynch, Manatt, Phelps & Phillips LLP, Associate

Biography: Jennifer is a land use attorney with the law firm Manatt, Phelps & Phillips. She counsels, defends, and litigates on behalf of a variety of clients, with a special emphasis on CEQA. Her projects include low and high density residential, commercial and mixed use, logistics warehousing, cannabis facilities, and intense industrial uses.

◆ **Panelist:** Cailin Lyons, RECON Environmental, Director of Biology

Biography: Cailin Lyons serves as Director of RECON Environmental's Biology Group, leading a team of biologists and environmental scientists to ensure successful completion of both public and private projects. Throughout her career, she has led numerous field surveys and studies for projects with complex biological resources, and specializes in regulatory compliance and conservation planning. Cailin has a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Management & Protection from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, and a Masters in Liberal Arts in Sustainability & Environmental Management from Harvard University. She also currently serves as a teaching assistant for Ecology in Harvard's Extension School.

M

◆ **Panelist:** Trevor Macenski, Stantec Consulting Services Inc., Senior Principal

Biography: Trevor leads Stantec's Environmental and Urban Planning Practice in the Western US and brings a creative, problem-solving approach to his role as a liaison between the various participants in the planning, permitting, and project development process, including project sponsors, engineers, attorneys, lead and responsible agencies, and concerned community groups. Trevor has consulted multiple cities in the Bay Area on infill projects implementing the current CEQA streamlining provisions under SB 375 and SB 226. He is an experienced environmental impact assessment practitioner, a skilled public presenter, and an educator in the environmental field. Trevor has worked on over 125 CEQA documents, including more than 25 EIRs that have been litigated, and has two published CEQA court cases to his name without a single document having been overturned. Trevor is also a City Council Member for the City of Benicia and was previously on the Planning Commission and Historic Preservation and Design Review Commission for the City of Benicia.

◆ **Panelist:** Lisa Machado, State Water Resources Control Board, Senior Cultural Resources Officer

Biography: Lisa Machado currently serves as the Senior Cultural Resources Officer with the State Water Resources Control Board Division of Financial Assistance. She earned her M.A. in Anthropology with a concentration in Archaeology at the University of Nevada, Reno. While attending graduate school, she worked for various cultural resource management firms in Nevada. Lisa began her career with the State of California at Caltrans in 2014 and served as an archaeologist with Caltrans District 3 for over 6 years before beginning her current position at the State Water Board.

● **Panelist:** Kathleen Mallory, AICP, MA, LEED GA, City of Oxnard, Planning & Sustainability Manager

Biography: Kathleen Mallory has over 25 years of municipal planning experience. In 2016, Kathleen became the Planning & Environmental Services Manager for the City of Oxnard where she managed all aspects of the Planning Division. In 2019, in response to state mandates and initiatives, climate concerns, and housing policies she became the City's first Planning & Sustainability Manager. In this capacity, she manages and helps set policies for the future of the City including work on the City's Climate Action and Adaptation Plan, Sea Level Rise, Local Coastal Plan policies, community and municipal resilience, housing policies and programs, and the City's pending 2050 General Plan update. Since beginning her career Kathleen has managed and guided a number of complex, controversial, and regionally important projects throughout Ventura and Los Angeles counties. Kathleen brings a special understanding of departmental organization, sustainability, community engagement, and technology resources through her work provided to cities and organizations. Kathleen is a LEED Green Associate and holds a Master's degree in Urban Planning with a specialty in Energy Programming and City Planning from UCLA. She is also a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners. Ms. Mallory is an avid outdoor enthusiast and cyclist and enjoys the outdoors with her three children. She is active in the Ventura County Chapter of the American Planning Association and serves on a variety of boards, philanthropies and non-profit organizations.

● **Panelist:** Sydnie Margallo, Wood, Inc, Environmental Analyst

Biography: Sydnie Margallo graduated from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo in 2016 with a B.S. in Environmental Management and Protection and a minor in City and Regional Planning. During her senior year of college, Sydnie was Vice President of the Cal Poly Chapter of AEP and worked as a planning intern with the City of San Luis Obispo Community Development Department. Sydnie completed her senior project at her internship by developing a 5-year progress report for the City's Climate Action Plan. Since graduating, Sydnie became an environmental analyst at Wood, Inc. (previously Amec Foster Wheeler), where she's been working for nearly 5 years preparing CEQA- and NEPA-compliant environmental and planning documents.

● **Panelist:** Dr. Margarita Jerabek-Bray, ESA, Architectural Historian, Art Historian, and Historic Preservation Consultant

Biography: Dr. Margarita Jerabek-Bray is an architectural historian, art historian, and historic preservation consultant who directs ESA's historic resources management and technical preservation services practice. She has over 30 years of professional experience throughout the United States and is a highly recognized expert on Southern California architecture. Her interests include 19th and 20th Century architecture, Modernism, urbanism, historic landscapes, vernacular resources, maritime resources, and preservation law. She assists agency and private clients in preservation planning and design for urban redevelopment projects and implements comprehensive mitigation programs to reduce potential impacts to historical resources through recordation, relocation, rehabilitation, salvage, and interpretation.

● **Panelist:** Elaine Marshall, City of Milpitas, Deputy Public Works Director

Biography: Elaine Marshall has more than 25 years of experience developing and managing public sector environmental compliance and sustainability programs. She is currently the Deputy Public Works Director for the City of Milpitas where she is managing the department's environmental services operations and providing strategic support, including leading the update to the Milpitas Climate Action Plan. Prior to her role with Milpitas, Elaine was the Environmental Programs Manager with the City of Sunnyvale, where she oversaw efforts to update and implement Sunnyvale's CAP and Climate Action Playbook. Elaine also has extensive experience developing and managing programs to reduce stormwater and wastewater pollution, improve energy efficiency, and foster sustainability for the cities of Milpitas, Sunnyvale, and San Jose. Elaine's collaborative approach to projects has also

resulted in over \$3 million in grants for local implementation of low impact development green streets, stormwater pollution prevention projects, and electric vehicle charging stations. Elaine is a San Jose resident and graduate of San Jose State University with a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Biology.

● **Panelist:** Karen Massey, Burbank Housing, Senior Project Manager

Biography: Ms. Massey serves as Senior Project Manager for Burbank Housing, where she spearheads project management efforts for Santa Rosa's largest fire recovery project, 3575 Mendocino Avenue, a 532-unit master planned mixed income development on the site of the former Journey's End Mobile Home Park. Ms. Massey brings extensive project management expertise to her role with Burbank Housing, where she leverages over 19 years of land use planning and project management experience, specializing in entitlements and master planning for complex land use projects throughout Sonoma County and greater California. Ms. Massey brings a unique perspective to her role having worked in both the public and private sectors. Prior to her role with Burbank Housing, she served as Community Housing and Development Director for the City of Healdsburg's first Community Housing and Development Department, overseeing the City's affordable housing strategic initiatives. Ms. Massey has also worked as Assistant City Manager and Community Development Director for the City of Cloverdale. She has also worked extensively in the private sector including as a Project Manager for the Jackson Family where she managed entitlements for a 30,000-acre portfolio of diverse winery and vineyard holdings through Sonoma, Napa, and Mendocino counties. Ms. Massey holds a Masters in City and Regional Planning and Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from California State Polytechnic University.

● **Panelist:** Christina Maxwell, AICP, LSA, Senior Environmental Planner

Biography: Ms. Maxwell is a Senior Environmental Planner in the Irvine office of LSA. Ms. Maxwell is responsible for managing the preparation of environmental documents for a variety of complex transportation and infrastructure projects for federal, state, regional, and local agencies. Her primary responsibilities include managing the preparation of technical studies and conducting analysis for environmental documents prepared in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Ms. Maxwell has managed the preparation of environmental documents for projects in the Bay Area and Southern California, including regional transportation projects such as the SR-241/91 Tolled Express Lanes Connector. She has a particular interest in assisting clients navigate the environmental process for both CEQA and NEPA to strategically implement vital infrastructure improvement projects, utilizing federal funding when available. Ms. Maxwell also currently serves as Secretary for the Orange County Chapter of AEP.

● **Moderator:** Heather McDaniel McDevitt, RPA, Dudek, Archaeologist

Biography: Heather McDaniel McDevitt is an archaeologist and cultural resources lead with 16 years of cultural resource management experience including serving as a principal investigator, lab director, and project manager in the public and private sector. Her technical expertise encompasses vertebrate and invertebrate analysis, human osteology, GIS, and ground penetrating radar.

● **Panelist:** John McDougal, Element Markets

Biography: Mr. McDougal is a carbon offset verifier and assists with carbon offset projects, optimizing offset volumes and ensuring scheduled delivery of biogas and other carbon credits to clients including the University of California.

● **Panelist:** Will Medlin, Woodard & Curran, Ecologist

Biography: Will is a senior ecologist and practice leader with over 14 years of experience in environmental and ecological consulting. Will has provided environmental services for a variety of public and private sector clients across the United States. His experience includes environmental program management, direction and execution of environmental studies and scientific data collection, preparation and review of technical reports and permitting documents, and regulatory agency coordination. Will is a proficient natural resource manager with in-depth expertise in wetland delineation, habitat assessment, wetland restoration techniques, hydric soils analysis, botanical identification, and terrestrial wildlife identification. Will has a strong working knowledge of the Clean Water Act Section 404/401 permitting and wetland mitigation processes. He is experienced in managing NPDES stormwater design, permitting, and compliance for infrastructure and site development projects. Will has managed environmental due diligence and site investigation projects for real estate transactions and has conducted extensive chemical and biological sampling for contaminated site remediation projects. Recently, he has served as the lead ecologist for assessing groundwater dependent ecosystems (GDEs) as a part of the groundwater sustainability planning process under SGMA.

● **Moderator:** Nick Meisinger, Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions, Inc., Environmental Planning and Permitting Specialist

Biography: Nick Meisinger is an environmental planning and permitting specialist with over a decade of experience preparing environmental documentation compliant with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). In this capacity, Nick has managed or contributed to the preparation of dozens of CEQA-compliant Project- and Program-level Environmental Impact Reports (EIRs) and supporting technical studies, with a focus on coastal and urban infill development in communities with engaged citizenries. Nick is particularly interested in local land use planning and policy development. In 2017 he managed the preparation of the Program-level EIR for the Downtown Community Plan in the City of Santa Monica, which implements the City's Land Use and Circulation Element (LUCE) goals and policies for the Downtown. The Downtown Community Plan envisioned over 3,024 net new residential units and over 1 million square feet of commercial development in the Downtown. Nick also contributed to the preparation of the Peery Park Specific Plan EIR in the City of Sunnyvale and the Fountain Valley Crossings Specific Plan, both of which guided land use planning, private reinvestment, and urban renewal of light industrial districts. Most recently, Nick managed the preparation of the Program-level EIR for the City of Santa Monica's 6th Cycle Housing Element Update, which programmatically assessed a Citywide increase of between 8,895 and 11,000 new residential units in order to meet the City's 6th Cycle Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA), more than five times the 5th Cycle RHNA and indicative of the housing crisis within the State. Nick holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Science from UC Santa Barbara

● **Moderator:** Ronald T. Milam, AICP, PTP, Fehr & Peers, Director of Evolving the Status Quo

● **Moderator:** Peter Minegar, AICP, Michael Baker International, Associate Vice President/Department Manager

● **Moderator:** Chad Moffett, Mead & Hunt, Inc., Market Leader, Cultural Resources

● **Panelist:** David Moore, Element Markets

● **Panelist:** Danielle Morone, Gatzke, Dillon, & Ballance LLP, Partner

Biography: Danielle represents lead agencies and project applicants on CEQA and NEPA compliance for a variety of project types, including residential and non-residential, university campus and airport development. As part of this practice, Danielle works with environmental consultants from multiple disciplines but devotes a measurable portion of her practice to air quality regulation and greenhouse gas emission reduction analyses. In this respect, she has considerable expertise in the preparation of emissions inventories for criteria air pollutants and greenhouse gases, health effect evaluations for criteria air pollutant and toxic air contaminants, and plan-level consistency studies concerning the intersection of air quality, greenhouse gas, land use and transportation.

● **Panelist:** Caitlin Munson, Dudek, Environmental Planner

Biography: Caitlin Munson is an environmental planner with 8 years' experience specializing in CEQA. document preparation, including EIRs. Ms. Munson has prepared environmental documents for a variety of projects throughout California, including residential and infill development projects, colleges and universities, healthcare facilities, energy projects, water infrastructure, and transportation projects, including Caltrans analyses.

N

● **Panelist:** Darin Neufeld, AICP, Harris & Associates, Senior Project Manager

Biography: Darin Neufeld is a Senior Project Manager at Harris & Associates with over 14 years of experience in environmental planning and project management, eight of those working for lead agencies. He specializes in California Environmental Quality Act compliance. He has experience with climate action planning, adaptation and resilience, safety elements, master-planned communities, commercial/retail, industrial, renewable energy, and long-range planning projects. Darin has managed complex projects including general plan amendments, community plans, climate action plans, and large-scale renewable energy projects.

● **Panelist:** Jennifer Norris, Ph.D., California Natural Resources Agency, Deputy Secretary for Biodiversity and Habitat

Biography: Jennifer Norris, Ph.D., is Deputy Secretary for Biodiversity and Habitat at the California Natural Resources Agency. She is responsible for overseeing statewide biodiversity strategy, including the California Biodiversity Collaborative. She also leads the 30 by 30 initiative in support of increasing landscape-scale conservation and habitat restoration. Jennifer comes from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, where she was the field supervisor for the Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office. Since 2013, she has overseen the implementation of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and other laws for over 100 listed and trust species across north-central California. Dr. Norris has a Bachelor of Science in Resource Policy and Planning from Cornell University, a Masters in Conservation Biology from the University of Michigan, and a Ph.D. in Ecology from the University of New Mexico.

● **Moderator:** Elena Nuno, Stantec, Principal Planner/Air Quality Scientist

Biography: Elena is a Principal air quality scientist, project manager, and planner. With over 17 years of experience, she is focused on California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance. Elena's experience includes managing the preparation of environmental impact assessments for federal and state compliance. Her technical specialty is preparing thorough and legally defensible CEQA documents and air quality and greenhouse gases (GHGs) impact assessments that accurately characterize a project's impacts and provide applicable strategies or mitigation measures to reduce potential impacts. As Stantec's US Technical Lead for air quality and an environmental planner she enjoys leveraging Stantec's global capabilities to provide local solutions that balance the environment and development.

O

- **Panelist:** Yliana Ortega, Harris & Associates, Environmental Analyst
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Biography: Yliana Ortega is an environmental practitioner with experience in private and public-sector planning, working on a variety of projects including general plans, specific plans, government facilities, large-scale master planned communities, and mixed-use development. Yliana is currently working as an environmental analyst at Harris & Associates where she prepares technically sound and legally defensible analyses and environmental impact assessment documentation, including technical writing, analysis, review, and quality control, in compliance with both CEQA and NEPA, including the latest changes to CEQA Guidelines and legislation. Previously, Yliana worked as an Associate at PlaceWorks for the environmental team. She received her B.S. in City and Regional Planning with a minor in Sustainable Environments from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, where she assisted in the development and organization of the 2018 California State Hazard Mitigation Plan (SHMP).

- **Moderator:** Tony Overly, ESA, Cultural Resources Practice Lead
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Biography: Tony Overly is the Cultural Resources Practice Lead at ESA where he works for clients and agencies to make sure that planning and project requirements for cultural resources are addressed efficiently and legally. He has worked nearly 30 years in heritage preservation in the private sector, government, and academic setting. Tony holds a Master of Arts in Anthropology (Archaeology) and a Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology (Archaeology) and is a Registered Professional Archaeologist. He has an extensive background in compliance under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA), the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and the California Forest Practice Act. Tony is well versed in planning and project review for varying industries and circumstances including renewable energy, fossil fuels, electrical transmission, transportation, water infrastructure and conveyance, military installations, habitat restoration, vegetation management, regional resource management planning, and timber harvesting. He has also completed regional and multi-state Section 106 consultation efforts involving hundreds of parties that resulted in new and innovative Programmatic Agreements.

- **Panelist:** Sarah Owsowitz, Best, Best and Krieger, LLP, Of Counsel
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P

- **Panelist:** John Parke, County of Santa Barbara, 3rd District Planning Commissioner
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Biography: John Parke is a retired attorney who serves on the Santa Barbara County Planning Commission. As a planning commissioner, he has proven to be a strong proponent of increased public outreach by government agencies on planning issues. In addition to his 45 years of making presentations in the courtroom or before other hearing bodies, he has more recently moderated numerous planning related public workshops, including workshops on agricultural tourism and recreation. In the last year, he has assisted with the public outreach effort for the Santa Barbara County recreation master plan project by conducting multiple workshops and making presentations to landowner groups. He is an avid trail user himself, both as a long time competitor with his horse in endurance riding and as a recreational hiker.

● **Panelist:** Stacey Parks, Stantec Consulting Services Inc., Senior Scientist

Biography: Ms. Parks has been assisting clients with a variety of environmental projects since 2000, including wetland investigations and permitting, wetland mitigation and monitoring, Endangered Species Act section 7 consultation, threatened and endangered species surveys, Indiana bat studies, habitat assessments, and preparation of National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documents.

● **Panelist:** Chantal Power, AICP, Interwest, Senior Planner

● **Moderator:** Rosalyn Prickett, Woodard & Curran, Water Resources Planner

Biography: Rosalyn is a senior water resources planner who leads water management planning, along with environmental compliance and permitting associated with wastewater, recycled water, and water supply projects. She excels at managing stakeholder-based water supply planning and engineering programs. She has been involved in development of numerous Water Resources Plans, Groundwater Sustainability Plans, Water Reuse Strategic Plans, Salt & Nutrient Management Plans, and Urban Water Management Plans. Her specialty in environmental documentation and regulatory permitting for infrastructure projects provides Woodard & Curran's clients with the full range of planning and implementation services. She focuses on CEQA and permit compliance for water supply and potable reuse projects.

● **Panelist:** Jacqueline Protsman Rohr, PlaceWorks, Associate I

Biography: Jacqueline Protsman Rohr is an Associate on both the Environmental and Climate Action and Resilience teams at PlaceWorks. She received her bachelor's degree from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo in Environmental Management and Protection, learning about the environmental planning world through internship experiences with the City and County of San Luis Obispo. This led her to then receive a Masters in City and Regional Planning at Cal Poly, prior to joining PlaceWorks in 2018. For the past 3 years, Jacqueline has been working on environmental review for development projects and general plans, as well as climate change vulnerability assessment and safety elements for local and regional jurisdictions throughout California. With an in environmental and climate adaptation planning, Jacqueline hopes to help create healthy and resilient communities statewide.

Q

● **Panelist:** Haseeb Qureshi, Urban Crossroads, Associate Principle

Biography: Haseeb Qureshi has been working in the field of air quality and climate change analysis since 2006. In this time he, has authored numerous air quality, health risk, greenhouse gas, and malodorous impact analysis studies for projects ranging from small development projects to citywide General Plan updates and large scale specific plans. Recent activities include efforts to inventory greenhouse gas emissions for various projects and provide recommendations to reduce carbon impacts through innovative mitigation strategies. Mr. Qureshi earned his Master of Science degree in Environmental Science from California State University, Fullerton and his Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Analysis & Design from University of California, Irvine.

R

● **Panelist:** Lara Rachowicz, Ascent Environmental, Senior Ecologist

Biography: Lara Rachowicz, PhD, is an ecologist with 20 years of experience throughout California, and a focus on special-status species. She manages and supports the preparation of program and project environmental impact reports and other environmental documents for resource management programs (e.g., vegetation management to reduce wildfire risk and ecosystem restoration). Lara manages the implementation of compliance and mitigation programs, including several projects implemented consistent with the CalVTP. On behalf of the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection and CAL FIRE, she led coordination efforts with CDFW in preparation of the CalVTP PEIR and during implementation of qualifying treatment projects. She will explain the agency coordination requirements and biological resources mitigation framework of the CalVTP, which was designed to encompass species and resources statewide, be inherently flexible to address the needs of specific projects, and compliant with CEQA.

● **Panelist:** Jennifer Reed, Dudek, Air Quality Services Manager

Biography: Jennifer Reed leads Dudek's air quality team and has 14 years' experience. She specializes in air quality and GHG emissions technical analyses, has completed numerous environmental documents in support of a diverse range of public and private developments, and continues to provide technical leadership in this evolving field.

● **Panelist:** Danielle Regimbal, Michael Baker International, CEQA/NEPA Generalist (AQ/GHG/Energy/Noise)

Biography: Ms. Regimbal graduated from the University of California, Santa Barbara with a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Studies and went on to complete a Master of Science in Environmental Engineering from the California State University, Fullerton. She currently works as a Senior Environmental Specialist at Michael Baker International with a focus on air quality, climate change, acoustics, and hazardous materials. Ms. Regimbal has previous experience with Federal Department of Defense contracts, including environmental remediation and hazardous waste projects. Overall, Ms. Regimbal has more than 8 years of experience working in the environmental field.

● **Panelist:** Katie Ross-Smith, Senior Principal- Ecology, Cardno Now Stantec

● **Moderator:** Sam Ruderman, Ascent Environmental, Climate Change Analyst

Biography: Sam Ruderman has five years of experience in the environmental industry and has worked in the public, private, and non-profit sectors. Sam is currently a Climate Change Analyst at Ascent Environmental, where he specializes in guiding California local governments through the climate action and adaptation planning process. Prior to joining Ascent, Sam worked with municipalities across the country to reduce GHG emissions and improve resilience to climate change through his role as a GHG Mitigation Specialist for ICLEI — Local Governments for Sustainability USA. He also served for two years as an AmeriCorps CivicSpark Climate Fellow at the Sierra Nevada Alliance, where he focused on helping the City of South Lake Tahoe and other public agencies around the Lake Tahoe Basin achieve their sustainability and climate change-related goals. Sam has additional experience performing energy audits and energy analyses for private and public agencies, including housing authorities, water utilities, and school districts.

S

● **Moderator:** Gina Sawaya, Wood PLC, Environmental Analyst

Biography: Ms. Sawaya is an environmental/planning consultant for Wood with expert experience in consulting, planning, and communications. Ms. Sawaya specializes in public and stakeholder outreach, and communicating planning, science, and policy to a broad range of special interest and user groups. Ms. Sawaya has strong experience in organizing stakeholder and public outreach, working with community organizations, and coordinating robust public outreach programs aimed at communicating the details of a project and fostering feedback from the public. Ms. Sawaya also has experience in developing strategic communications and graphic designs to environmentally-focused companies like non-profits and government agencies, managing social media, developing curriculum, and grant writing.

● **Moderator:** Eric Schniewind, Dudek, Environmental Geologist/Haz Materials Specialist

Biography: Eric Schniewind has 26 years' experience as a geologist, hydrogeologist, hydrologist, and hazardous materials specialist in environmental consulting, with the last 17 years focusing on CEQA/NEPA environmental review. His technical background includes geotechnical engineering, soil and groundwater contamination investigations, environmental remediation planning and implementation, and Phase I environmental site assessments.

● **Panelist:** David Sibbet, San Diego County Fire Protection District, Deputy Fire Marshall

Biography: He has worked in planning and fire in San Diego County for 25 years. He currently is the Deputy Fire Marshal where he now supervises fire inspectors, conducts plan reviews, reviews fire protection plans and evaluates planning submittals, including several large-scale residential projects. He has also completed damage inspections for several wildfires.

● **Panelist:** Maia Singer, PhD, CED, Stillwater Sciences, Senior Scientist/Water Quality Specialist

Biography: Dr. Singer has over 20 years of experience in aquatic sciences and engineering spanning water quality, limnology, reservoir and lake management, river and wetland ecology, mercury biogeochemistry, restoration planning, and monitoring design. Dr. Singer is an experienced project manager who brings technical expertise to a variety of interdisciplinary projects, including habitat assessments, created wetland projects, river restoration and fisheries programs, and a number of monitoring plan design projects. She has particular expertise in trace metals biogeochemistry, including the fate and transport of mercury and selenium in aquatic environments.

● **Panelist:** David Smith, Manatt, Phelps & Phillips LLP, Associate

● **Panelist:** Wes Speake, City of Corona, Mayor of the City of Corona

Biography: Wes Speake is the Mayor of the City of Corona (December 2021), he was elected in November 2018 and serves as the first councilman for Corona's 5th District. He earned an Associate degree from Riverside Community College, Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration with an Emphasis in Management from the University of Redlands and has a certificate in Land Use and Environmental Planning from the University of California, Riverside. Wes serves on many regional boards and committees including Riverside County Transportation Commission, Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) Community, Housing and Economic Development Committee in 2021 and was a vocal on land use and the 6th Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) cycle and served as an appointee to League of California Cities ACA 7 (Muratsuchi) Working Group to discuss making local control of land use the law of the land. In addition to his role as an elected official, Wes is a principal consultant Wood Environment &

Infrastructure Solutions, Inc. in Riverside, which specializes in environmental studies including regulatory permitting, special studies for endangered species, and cultural resources for a variety of commercial, state, local, and federal government clients.

◆ **Moderator:** Stephanie Standerfer, Albert A. Webb Associates, Vice President

Biography: Stephanie Standerfer is a Vice President and Director of WEBB's Planning and Environmental Department. Stephanie has worked as an environmental planning project manager, focusing on California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) matters for small, medium, and large public and private projects. Stephanie has managed all levels of CEQA documents for healthcare clients, community college districts, water districts, cities, counties, and private developers. Her varied project experience allows her to foresee and navigate challenges that arise during CEQA compliance. As an expert in CEQA implementation throughout Inland Southern California, she also provides local agencies training in CEQA processing. She regularly oversees and coordinates with large teams of environmental planners, engineers, and architects and actively assists her clients through the environmental compliance gauntlet. Stephanie served as contract staff to the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority (RCA), the agency responsible for implementing the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan (MSHCP). In this role, she provided processing, review, and consultation on MSHCP implementation procedures and policies. She provided training and policy guidance documents to not only the RCA but all permittees which included all 17 cities in western Riverside County. In this capacity she regularly interfaced with regulatory agencies working toward solutions to MSHCP compliance issues. Stephanie's experience with the RCA has resulted in a solid amicable working relationship with the regulatory agencies which allows her to anticipate issues on projects before they arise and advise clients accordingly. Clients benefit from Stephanie's interdisciplinary environmental planning background which includes experience on general plan updates, specific plans, planning studies, environmental constraints analyses, air quality impact studies, health risk assessments, noise studies, biological resource surveys, and cultural resource studies. She has managed small and large teams of subconsultants, engineers, and architects on a variety of controversial public works and private development projects over the years and often spearheads making public presentations on her projects. Because of her reputation as a CEQA authority, clients seek out Stephanie's assistance in peer reviewing CEQA documents and guidance on CEQA and MSHCP processing strategies. She enjoys working closely with her clients and establishing long-standing professional relationships with her clients.

◆ **Panelist:** Kristin Starbird, Dudek, CEQA Project Manager

Biography: Kristin Starbird is a senior project manager with 18 years experience in the management and preparation of environmental documents pursuant to CEQA/NEPA. She is responsible for managing the environmental documentation for complex projects, including flood control, and water infrastructure projects, master/ specific plans and infill and urban development projects.

◆ **Panelist:** JT Stephens, LSA, Principal

Biography: JT is a Principal/Senior Acoustical Specialist and part of LSA's environmental technical staff. He is primarily responsible for the preparation of noise studies for a variety of projects. Mr. Stephens is experienced in the use of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Highway Traffic Noise Prediction Model (FHWA RD-77-108), the SOUND32 noise model, the Traffic Noise Model (TNM) 2.5, the Roadway Construction Noise Model (RCNM), the Wyle Train Noise Model, and Computer Aided Noise Abatement (CadnaA) Noise Prediction Software. Mr. Stephens also performs noise-monitoring surveys using a variety of Larson-Davis sound level meters. He recently completed the Noise Impact Analysis for the One Metro West project in the City of Costa Mesa, the Dana Point Harbor Hotel project EIR noise analysis for the City of Dana Point, and the Magnolia Tank Farm Noise Impact Analysis in the City of Huntington Beach.

● **Panelist:** Monica Strauss, ESA, Southern California Cultural Resources Director

Biography: Monica Strauss is the Southern California Cultural Resources Director with ESA. She has 25 years' experience in cultural resources management and specializes in assisting public and private development clients in navigating complex cultural resources issues in the contexts of CEQA, NEPA, and Section 106. Monica's experience ranges from large infrastructure projects that are controversial and multi-jurisdictional to smaller development projects that are important to local agencies and stakeholders. She excels at working with agencies to develop creative mitigation solutions to address challenging cultural resources impacts and has cultivated and maintained relationships with agency staff, regularly working with them to develop creative mitigation to address challenging cultural resources impacts. Monica manages a team of specialists who conduct Phase I archaeological/paleontological and historic architectural surveys, construction monitoring, Native American outreach, archaeological testing and treatment, historic resource significance evaluations, and large-scale data recovery programs. She has excellent relationships with local Tribal representatives, is an expert in the area of Assembly Bill 52, and routinely provides training to her clients and through industry workshops.

● **Panelist:** Richard Sucre, Deputy Director, Current Planning Division, Southeast Team, Historic Preservation & Planning Information Counter, San Francisco Planning Department

T

● **Panelist:** Mark Teague, AICP, Placeworks, Principal

● **Panelist:** Noeli Topete, GPA Consulting, Environmental Planner

Biography: Noeli Topete is an Environmental Planner at GPA Consulting. She earned her bachelor's degree in Environmental Management and Protection from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. For the past year, Ms. Topete has worked on CEQA and NEPA compliance documentation for transportation and development projects. Ms. Topete would like to learn more about hydrology to write technical documents that would support environmental analysis.

● **Panelist:** Paul Travis, AICP, Historic Resources Group, Managing Principle

Biography: Paul Travis, AICP, Managing Principal has a Master of Arts degree in Urban Planning from the University of California, Los Angeles. He has 15 years of experience as a preservation planner at HRG, specializing in campuses and large-scale development projects that involve historic resources. During his preservation career, Paul has provided historic preservation planning expertise to develop downtown and neighborhood specific plans, college and university master plans, long-range planning for motion picture studios, and plans for the adaptive reuse of former military installations. He has conducted numerous historic resource surveys and cultural resource technical analyses for environmental review. He regularly conducts workshops and speaks at conferences, including those of the California Preservation Foundation and the American Planning Association. Paul maintains memberships with the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the American Planning Association and the Urban Land Institute. He is also certified by the American Institute of Certified Planners.

◆ **Moderator:** Tania Treis, Panorama Environmental, Principal

Biography: Tania Treis (Principal, Panorama Environmental, Inc.) has 20 years of experience managing the CEQA/NEPA and permitting processes for a wide range of projects across California. She is the Founding Principal of Panorama and has particular expertise in leading program definition, policy analysis, and environmental review for wildland fuels reduction projects. She has been leading the planning and environmental review for fuel reduction work since 2012, having prepared fire and fuel management plans and environmental review for entities such as the MWPA, Marin Municipal Water District, Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District, Santa Clara Valley Water District, San Lorenzo Valley Water District, Stanford University, University of California San Francisco, Alpine County, and San Mateo County Resource Conservation District. Tania has graduate degrees in biology and geology.

◆ **Panelist:** Julie Tumamait-Stenslie, Barbareño/Ventureño Band of Mission Indians (Chumash), Tribal Chair

Biography: Julie Tumamait-Stenslie is currently the Tribal Chair of the Barbareño/Ventureño Band of Mission Indians (Chumash). Julie has worked as a cultural resources consultant throughout the California Central Coast, providing guidance for private groups and state, county and city regulatory agencies, including the Ventura and Santa Barbara County District Attorney's offices.

U

◆ **Panelist:** Carey Upton, Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District, Chief Operations Officer

Biography: Carey Upton is the Chief Operations Officer with the Santa Monica — Malibu Unified School District where he oversees Facility Improvements, Maintenance & Operations, and Facility Use. While at SMMUSD, he has guided the construction of new learning facilities, including campus planning for the schools, and modernization of the schools. Though his journey to supervising school facilities might seem unconventional, his extensive experiences have led to a passion for engaging learning environments. Carey has directed, designed, produced, and stage managed over 400 theater productions at major regional theaters. He was an Artist in Residence as part of the award-winning Shakespeare & Company arts education program and taught in university and professional theater programs.

V

◆ **Panelist:** Michael Vader, ESA, Cultural Resources Specialist

Biography: Michael Vader is a cultural resources specialist at ESA with experience working on survey, data recovery, and monitoring projects throughout California including Riverside, San Diego, Imperial, San Bernardino, Los Angeles, Orange, Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, Kern, Fresno, Madera, and Inyo counties. Michael has authored multiple reports in support of CEQA environmental documents. Michael has also authored cultural resource studies complying with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act requirements for agencies including the Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, the Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Forestry Service, California State Water Resources Control Board, and the California Department of Transportation.

◆ **Panelist:** Jill Van Wie, County of Santa Barbara, Capital Division Manager

◆ **Panelist:** Nicole Vermilion, PlaceWorks, Principal

Biography: Nicole Vermilion combines broad perspective and big-picture thinking with a good technical grounding to find workable solutions to environmental constraints. She is an air quality specialist with over 10 years of experience in air quality and greenhouse gas assessments for CEQA analyses. Nicole is involved in nearly every one of the firm's CEQA projects and closely follows the rapid changes in requirements and the latest information on CEQA thresholds and analysis methodology. She has performed numerous greenhouse gas emissions inventories for individual projects as well as citywide emissions inventories for general plans. She participated in the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District's CEQA GHG significance thresholds working group for development projects and beta-tested the CalEEMod program for the South Coast Air Quality Management District.

◆ **Panelist:** Delia Votsch, PE, Fehr & Peers, Senior Engineer

W

◆ **Panelist:** Rich Walter, ICF, Vice President

Biography: Rich Walter has 22 years of experience in environmental planning, compliance, permitting, mitigation and implementation. Rich is the leader of ICF's California municipal climate action planning practice which supports local and regional agencies on greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and climate adaptation. ICF's municipal climate action planning team has developed municipal and community climate action plans across California, GHG inventories for hundreds of communities across the U.S., general plan policies addressing climate change, cost-benefit analyses of emission reduction strategies, studies of adaptation to sea level rise, as well as numerous California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documents addressing GHG emissions and adaptation. Rich is currently leading ICF's team preparing GHG reduction plans for 9 jurisdictions in Sonoma County, Marin County, Los Angeles County and Oroville. Rich was also a key author for the California Air Pollution Control Officer's Association (CAPCOA) white papers on CEQA and Climate Change and on Climate Change and General Plans.

◆ **Panelist:** Alyssa Way, Ascent Environmental, Inc., Air Quality and Climate Change Analyst

Biography: Alyssa Way is an Air Quality and Climate Change Analyst at Ascent Environmental, Inc. She earned her bachelor's degree in urban studies and environmental design at the University of California, Irvine. Previously, she worked for the University in California, Irvine Advanced Power and Energy Program which led her to then pursue a master's degree in urban and regional planning from California Polytechnic State University. While attending graduate school, she was a Climate Change Intern for the County of San Luis Obispo and worked on the County's Climate Action Plan Update. Upon receiving her master's, Alyssa has worked in the environmental planning consultant field working on Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Analyses for CEQA and Climate Action Plans.

◆ **Panelist:** Jill Weinberger, PhD, PG, Dudek, Principal Hydrogeologist

Biography: Jill Weinberger is a principal hydrogeologist with 19 years' experience in water supply, ecohydrology, marine hydrogeology, and global change science. She specializes in litigation support, the design/ implementation of water resource investigations, management/oversight of water quality investigations, synthesis/analysis of field data, and drafting/presenting data and reports.

● **Moderator/ Panelist:** Morgan Weintraub, RECON Environmental, Environmental Planner

Moderator/ Biography: Morgan Weintraub is an environmental planner at RECON Environmental, Inc. with over 7 years of experience in the preparation and management of CEQA and NEPA compliance documents. Morgan graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies from University of California, Santa Cruz where she explored numerous environmental professions before finding a career in environmental planning. Morgan's experience spans from policy planning documents as well as a full range of large-scale projects including mixed-use, commercial, industrial, and residential developments, urban redevelopment, public facilities, and infrastructure.

● **Panelist:** Matt Wells, Watershed Restoration Grants Branch Chief, California Department of Fish and Wildlife

● **Panelist:** Melissa Whittemore, Supervising Environmental Planner/Project Manager, Rincon Consultants

Biography: Melissa has more than 20 years of experience in managing and preparing CEQA and NEPA compliance documents and associated technical studies for projects throughout California. She specializes in infrastructure projects, such as water and wastewater infrastructure (e.g., pipelines, pump stations, reservoirs, recharge basins, treatment plants). Melissa also regularly works on other project types, including transportation and other public infrastructure, renewable energy, residential, commercial, industrial, and institutional, as well as habitat management/conservation plans.

● **Panelist:** Matthew Wilkins, KTUA, Associate

Biography: Matt leads KTUA's California Central Coast office as a senior landscape architect and has worked on various public projects throughout his career where outreach was a major factor in the project's success. He is a licensed landscape architect and has a bachelor's degree in landscape architecture with a minor in sustainability from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. Matt has been involved in various outreach projects in Southern California and on the Central Coast including Hollister Ranch, the Santa Ynez Trail, Chumash Cultural Project at Ambassador Park, Stow Grove Park, Santa Maria River Levee Trail, and various others. Matt served as an ACE mentor and served as the San Diego Chapter of ASLA's Vice President of Public Relations and Communications while living in San Diego. Matt also led the national ASLA's digital technology Professional Practice Network as the chair for three years and is currently involved as the officer for the PPN's Field Article series for which he's written several articles highlighting how outreach can be enhanced using technology. He is currently the APA Central Coast Section's webmaster where he recently led the redesign of the website to allow for a better user experience.

● **Panelist:** Drew Wilson, Supervising Planner, City of Fresno

● **Panelist:** Alisha Winterswyk, Best Best & Krieger LLP, Partner/Attorney

Biography: Alisha Winterswyk's practice centers on advising public and private clients on an array of state and federal environmental laws, with a specific focus on the California Environmental Quality Act and the National Environmental Policy Act. A partner in the Best Best & Krieger LLP's Environmental Law & Natural Resources practice group, Alisha regularly counsels clients on the substantive and procedural mandates of CEQA/NEPA. When her clients face legal challenges to their decisions or projects, Alisha successfully and zealously defends those clients in court. A trusted land use advisor, Alisha is regularly called upon to assist public and private clients with navigating the land entitlement process. In her land use practice, Alisha advises public and private clients on complex land use matters involving the Planning and Zoning Law, the Subdivision Map Act, the California Coastal Act, the State Mining and Reclamation Act, the Cortese-Knox Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act, the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act, and other related laws. Alisha served as an adjunct law professor at Whittier Law School where she

taught California environmental law. Alisha has guest lectured at several other Southern California universities on environmental and land use matters. Alisha frequently speaks on CEQA and land use issues at professional conferences, seminars and continuing legal education events. Over the past several years, she has contributed as a panelist to several AEP essential and advanced CEQA workshops. Each year Alisha coaches or advises a team of law students who participate in the California Lawyers Association's Annual Environmental Negotiations Competition. Alisha is an advisor and former secretary to the California Lawyers Association Environmental Law Section Executive Committee, and the past director and president of the Orange County Association of Environmental Professionals. She also serves on BB&K's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee.

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● **Panelist:** Abby Young, Bay Area Air Quality Management District, Climate Protection Manager

Biography: Abby Young is the Manager of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District's Climate Protection Program. During her twelve years at the Air District, Abby has developed and overseen over \$7 million in local climate protection grant programs, developed CEQA GHG thresholds of significance and guidance, and produced technical guidance and assistance programs for local governments in developing and implementing climate action plans. Prior to working at the Air District, Abby spent eleven years as Director of the US Cities for Climate Protection Campaign at ICLEI — Local Governments for Sustainability, overseeing the development of training programs, software and research to assist local governments in achieving their climate protection goals.

Z

● **Moderator:** Jennifer Ziv, Woodard & Curran, Water Resources Planner

Biography: Jennifer Ziv is an environmental planner and senior project manager with Woodard & Curran. Jennifer graduated with a B.A. in Environmental Science from the University of California Berkeley and an M.S in Water Resources Management from the University of Wisconsin, Madison. She has over 25 years in the environmental consulting field, with expertise in CEQA compliance and environmental permitting for projects throughout California with a focus on water, wastewater, storm water and reuse projects. She also worked as adjunct CEQA staff for a large water district in Southern California where she gained insight into the practical aspects of developing and implementing mitigation monitoring and reporting programs.