



California Planning Roundtable

Memorandum Report

To: American Planning Association, California Chapter Board

From: William Anderson, FAICP, President, California Planning Roundtable

RE: California Planning Roundtable Report – 2019-2020

DATE: November 1, 2020

Formed in 1980, the California Planning Roundtable is (CPR) is an organization of experienced planning professionals who are members of the American Planning Association (APA). CPR is a policy research and development resource for the California Planning profession to enhance the sustainability and livability of California's communities. CPR addresses policy issues with solutions that can be widely applied in the planning practice.

We currently have 29 members with the capacity for 34 positions, including two positions from state or federal government agencies, 4 positions from academia, and the remaining 28 positions evenly divided between public and private sector practicing planners. Per our by-laws, half of the members are from Northern California and half are from Southern California.

For 2019-2020, CPR focused on the following activities:

1. Published and distributed *Planning to House California Beyond 2020* (see attached), including preparation of an introductory video;
2. "Planners Count" - participated in promoting the importance of the Census 2020 count to planners;
3. Held a Planning & Equity Conversation amongst members;
4. Organized a leadership and panel sessions for the APACA chapter conference, focused on career development, equity, and infrastructure for infill;
5. Prepared and are in the process of implementing a communication strategy;
6. Funded a donation to the APACA Foundation;
7. Participated in PHEAL (Planning Health, Equity, Advocacy, and Leadership).



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Since our last report in March 2019, we held our 2019 spring meeting in Merced, focused on downtown revitalization and a UC Merced tour. Our 2019 summer meeting was in San Diego where we toured downtown San Diego, discussed regional growth management and delivery of infill housing, by-right housing regulatory approaches, and design considerations. We organized several panels for the APACA chapter conference in Santa Barbara. Our November 2019 retreat was held in Solvang. During 2019 we started to draft the Planning to House California Beyond 2020 report.

2020 was a disruptive year due to the Covid-19 pandemic and we had to cancel our in-person quarterly meetings scheduled since February 2020. We were able to hold our traditional January meeting in Sacramento. Our spring meeting was cancelled completely. We were scheduled to meet in person for our summer meeting in Koreatown in the City of Los Angeles but had to postpone that program until, hopefully, next year. Instead, we held an Equity Conversation virtual meeting.

We were scheduled to hold our annual retreat at UC Davis in November, but instead will hold a virtual retreat on November 6th and 7th, with a program to discuss the election and implications for planning nationally and in California, and a review of lessons learned amongst members using new tools and procedures for on-line public engagement.

At the retreat, we will establish our agenda for 2021. Upon member approval, we anticipate the following initiatives –

- Development of a Leadership Academy Curriculum focused on diversity;
- Development and initiation of our Oral History Listen & Learn Project, “How Planning Affects People,” interviewing individuals of diverse ethnicities and races regarding how they’ve experienced their communities and exploring what roles planning policies and actions may have played (positively and negatively);
- Prepare a “Funding Infrastructure for Infill” white paper;
- Housing Initiative – Next Phase actions;
- Continued PHEAL participation;
- Programs for the APACA annual conference;
- Others to be determined at the retreat.

We still plan to schedule our quarterly meetings through via video conferencing until it is safe to meet in person again. Until then, we won’t have specific locations identified.

Also, given the disruptions this year, the Board has agreed to stay on one more year until our annual retreat in November 2021.



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