



ASSOCIATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROFESSIONALS
PRESENTS

2020 AWARDS
PROGRAM


HOSTED BY
CLAUDIA GARCIA, 2020 AWARDS CHAIR
BRIAN MOONEY, FAICP, MASTER OF CEREMONIES

DECEMBER 9, 2020
Virtual Event

AWARDS PROGRAM



A key strategic goal of the Association of Environmental Professionals (AEP) is to provide statewide recognition of environmental professionals' best works which contributes to the "enhancement, maintenance and protection of the quality of the natural and human environment." Each year AEP conducts an awards program where we celebrate the best-of-the-best environmental documents, professional achievements, and services to the environmental profession. Please join your professional colleagues in congratulating the 2020 AEP award recipients as we recognize their achievements and accomplishments.



2020 AWARDS CEREMONY

The Awards Ceremony was held virtually on December 9, 2020 from 4:00pm - 5:30pm. Our special guest, Brian Mooney, FAICP, served as our Master of Ceremonies for the Awards Program for the 4th year in a row.

AWARDS JURY

AEP WISHES TO EXPRESS SINCERE THANKS TO THE VOLUNTEER AWARDS JURY, WAYNE LIM FOR DESIGNING THE PRESENTATION, & AECOM FOR THEIR CONTINUED SUPPORT & PRODUCTION OF VIDEOS HIGHLIGHTING AWARD WINNERS THIS YEAR.

CHAIR

Claudia Garcia, Environmental Planner, Ascent Environmental

JURY

Angie Xiong, Climate Change & Resilience Planner, Ascent Environmental

Anne Surdzial, VP/Director of CEQA/NEPA Services, ECORP Consulting

Avneet K. Sidhu, Partner, Grid Legal LLP

Carey J. Fernandes, CEQA/NEPA Practice Director, Dudek

Carl Winter, Associate Environmental Planner, LSA

Jasmin Mejia, Senior Environmental Planner, Jacobs

Jessie Barkley, Managing Director, ICF

Konnie Dobрева, Director of Environmental Planning, E|P|D Solutions

Kristi Black, Senior Environmental Project Manager, Ascent Environmental

Marissa Mathias, Environmental Planner, ICF

Ricky Caperton, Senior Planner, City of Clovis

Seth Myers, Air Quality/Noise Analyst & Consulting Arborist, ECORP Consulting

Stephanie Oslick, W. Coast Director, Environmental Services, Moffatt & Nichol

THANK YOU!

ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS DOCUMENT

OUTSTANDING AWARDS

UC San Diego 2018 Long Range Development Plan La Jolla Campus EIR

Prepared by Baranek Consulting Group & AECOM

The project involved a comprehensive programmatic environmental analysis of an unprecedented 20-year expansion of the UC San Diego campus. The LRDP & its EIR were prepared to be responsive to the academic & facility needs of the campus, the expectations of the campus & local communities, & the UC system-wide commitment to carbon neutrality & zero waste initiatives. Innovative impact analysis techniques were developed in order to create a defensible & relevant EIR in light of major revisions to the CEQA Guidelines driven, in part, by the implementation of new transportation analysis metrics under SB 743.

Aspire ERES Academy International Boulevard Project Infill Environmental Checklist

Prepared by Stantec

Together with the City of Oakland & Applicant, Stantec worked to progress the Oakland community - providing options that deliver safe spaces for students, educators, & residents. The Aspire ERES Oakland Charter School Environmental Analysis (Exemption) document was successfully developed with strong support garnered from the local community's parents & students.

CONGRATULATIONS!

ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS DOCUMENT

MERIT AWARDS

San Jose Downtown Strategy 2040 Integrated Final EIR

Prepared by David J. Powers & Associates

The San José Downtown Strategy 2040 Final EIR establishes the framework that will guide CEQA analysis for projects in the Downtown area over the next two decades, helping the City achieve environmentally sustainable growth. The EIR's best features are: 1) it is a concise, easy to understand EIR that allows for CEQA streamlining through tiering, including its project-level analysis of traffic, air, and noise impacts that avoids the need for most individual development projects to complete technical reports in those areas, 2) it provides CEQA clearance for the transfer of previously planned development away from outlying areas of the City to the Downtown core to intensify growth near transit, thereby reducing vehicle miles travelled (VMT) and associated environmental impacts, and 3) it was the first EIR in the City to rely on VMT instead of Level of Service (LOS) to determine transportation impacts, providing a model for future projects.

City of Los Angeles Citywide Cat Program EIR

Prepared by ICF

The Citywide Cat Program represents policy and legislative changes related to the management of cats in the City. Under the proposed project, the City would: Directly engage in, or make available funds for, the spaying/neutering of free-roaming (feral or stray) cats that may be returned to where they were found, relocated to a working cat program, or adopted; Make amendments to the City of Los Angeles Administrative Code to broaden the permitted use of Animal Sterilization Funds and to the City of Los Angeles Municipal Code regarding the definition of a cat kennel; Implement a modified TNR program that includes facilitation of trapping, neutering, and returning, TNR-related community education and outreach, collaboration with "trap, neuter, and return" organizations, and use of incentives to encourage the capture, sterilization, and release of free-roaming cats, including to "trap, neuter, and return" groups who may return the cats to free roaming status; Publish and implement program guidelines and ecological conservation measures; and Create a working cat program. Broadly stated, the Project assists in achieving the City's no-kill goal and supports the City's adoption of TNR as the preferred method of addressing the free-roaming cat population in the City.

ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS DOCUMENT

MERIT AWARDS

City of Jurupa Valley Etiwanda Avenue/Country Village Road Truck Restriction Ordinance EIR

Prepared by PlaceWorks

At its core, the purpose of this EIR was to evaluate the potential benefits of implementing a truck restriction ordinance along two roadways within the City to reduce the health risk, noise, and traffic impacts to residential communities adjacent to the roadways. That's unique since CEQA is required to address potential adverse impacts. Full disclosure and successfully communicating both the beneficial and adverse impacts of this project were critical in decision-making. The presentation and testimony were to a full house of stakeholders and residents without objection, and ultimately the EIR was certified, and a motion to move forward with the truck restriction ordinance was approved in a single City Council Public Hearing by a unanimous vote.

Caritas Village EIR

Prepared by Stantec

Caritas Village represents the largest comprehensive homeless care center and affordable housing project in the North Bay. The Stantec team provided an innovative and thoughtful approach in analyzing this controversial project. Stantec ensured that the EIR addressed the project's significant environmental impacts and responded to stakeholder and community concerns by providing thoughtful solutions and mitigation to address community concerns and ultimately secured unanimous approval by the City Council of Santa Rosa.

CONGRATULATIONS!

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE DOCUMENT

OUTSTANDING AWARDS

A Practical Guide to the California Environmental Quality Act

Prepared by PlaceWorks

Since the first edition in 1987, this guide has upheld its primary objective: explain the CEQA process to the public, decision makers, and planners in a compact guide that is easy to use and understand. In addition to covering perennial issues such as mitigation measures, and more recent issues such as tribal consultation under AB 52, this latest edition adds a new section, “Modernizing CEQA,” that traces climate-change legislation and its momentous effects on CEQA review—from the Global Warming Solutions Act through the paradigm shift in transportation analyses with SB 743. There are many who seek and order dozens of additional copies (beyond the thousands given away at the start of each new edition) for their staff, students, and the public.

Salinas River Long-Term Management Plan

Prepared by Stantec

Salinas River Long-Term Management Plan (LTMP) is a stakeholder-driven process describing a multi-benefit management program to address needs related to Monterey County Water Resource Agency facilities and operations, and related issues such as flood risk reduction, water supply, water quality, natural resource conservation, threatened and endangered species management, and federal and state Endangered Species Acts compliance.

CONGRATULATIONS!

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE DOCUMENT

MERIT AWARDS

Evaluation Methodology & Historic American Engineering Recordation of Route 66 in San Bernardino County

Prepared by Mead & Hunt, Inc. & Pacific Gas & Electric Company

In working with the NPS, Mead & Hunt learned this was the first Historic American Engineering Recordation (HAER) documentation of a road section of Route 66. This HAER recordation serves as an example for future documentation projects of Route 66 in California and other states. The cultural resource study and HAER recordation of Route 66 meet the requirements of the AEP category in three ways: (1) Creativity and Innovation by resulting in a robust and unique methodology developed to document and evaluate 26 distinct roadway segments; (2) Transferability since the unique methodology developed for this project has subsequently been adapted to apply to other historic highways and the HAER recordation serves as a resource for environmental professionals working on other historic road segments elsewhere in California and the United States; and (3) Methodology in that the cultural resource study developed a sound and well-substantiated approach and provided detailed analysis and presentation of the data and conclusions in adapting long-established NPS guidelines to address this important historical resource.

Historical Context & Archaeological Research Design for the Antelope Valley

Prepared by Caltrans District 7 & ECORP Consulting, Inc.

The California Department of Transportation contracted with ECORP Consulting, Inc. to prepare a regional historical context and research design to guide investigations of Native American archaeological resources in the Antelope Valley region of southeastern California. The focus of the Research Design is the archaeological record of Native Americans in the Antelope Valley region from initial occupation until AD 1835. The purpose of the document is to assist with evaluations of the information potential of Native American archaeological sites in the Antelope Valley through a discussion of research themes, research questions, and data needs.

CONGRATULATIONS!

PLANNING DOCUMENT

MERIT AWARD

Goleta Train Depot Master Plan

Prepared by Rincon Consultants

The Goleta Train Depot Master Plan represents the initial phase of Goleta Train Depot expansion project, establishing appropriate recommendations and guidelines that will shape the ultimate design and functionality of the rail depot. The master planning process focused on the identification of mobility and station improvements, while promoting the conservation of environmental resources. A greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction analysis prepared by SBCAG found that the project could reduce GHG emissions in the region by 525,119 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent. This comprehensive look at the overall functionality of the depot through the development of the Goleta Train Depot Master Plan illustrates Goleta's commitment to a transportation network that serves the needs of regional residents, businesses, and visitors while maintaining the City's high standards of development and environmental protection.

CONGRATULATIONS!

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT/ EDUCATION PROGRAM

MERIT AWARD

Energy Efficiency Outreach Program Development for City of Del Mar

Prepared by Rincon Consultants

The City of Del Mar (City) Home Energy Savings (HES) Program is a public outreach program designed to help disadvantaged, older adult residents of Del Mar evaluate their energy efficiency needs and overcome obstacles to making energy efficiency upgrades. As part of the City's 2016 Climate Action Plan, the HES program was developed to be a socially equitable implementation of energy efficiency outreach and education. A wide range of public outreach efforts were completed, including: developing an outreach strategy and materials, attending small group events, tabling at community events, and canvassing to promote and offer no-cost home energy audits as a means to connect residents with energy efficiency programs available through San Diego Gas and Electric.

CONGRATULATIONS!

CHAPTER ACTIVITY

OUTSTANDING AWARD

2019 CEQA Practicum

Prepared by AEP San Diego Chapter

The CEQA Practicum is a one-day annual event held by the AEP San Diego Chapter in which approximately 30 students attend an all-day workshop where they learn the basics of CEQA from local professionals and apply the knowledge gained throughout the day in a hands-on project impact analysis activity. The CEQA Practicum is strongly representative of what environmental professionals would face on a daily basis, and it illustrates the foundational principles of CEQA by teaching students how to apply them in a real-life situation. By incorporating an example project into the program, students can gain a hands-on experience of real challenges that arise within the world of CEQA. It is a highly valued program for the San Diego chapter and has received continuous praise from students and professionals alike.

MERIT AWARD

OCAEP Student Chapters & Young Professionals Mixer

Prepared by AEP Orange County Chapter

On November 7, 2019, OCAEP hosted the inaugural "OCAEP Student Chapters and Young Professional Mixer" at Bar Louie at the Tustin Marketplace in Tustin, California. The objective of this mixer was for students from the University of California Irvine, Chapman University, and the California State University Fullerton, to mingle with established young professionals, members of OCAEP, and firms located within Orange County. This event was a huge success and provided the opportunity for 35 highly talented students and young professionals to learn more about the varying career opportunities found within our industry. It also provided OCAEP firms in attendance with recruiting opportunities for potential future employees; further cementing the benefits of being an OCAEP member.

CONGRATULATIONS!

AL REYNOLDS LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Established in 2005, the ARMLA Award is the most prestigious of all awards presented by AEP. It acknowledges superior achievement throughout the recipient's entire career.

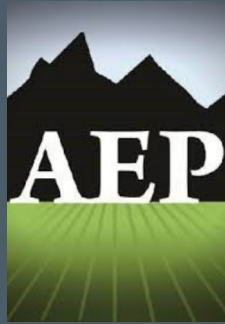
CONGRATULATIONS TO TERRY RIVASPLATA!



Terry has served as Technical Director, Environmental Planning at ICF for 22 years. He specializes in preparing CEQA documents for projects ranging from schools to general plans. He teaches classes on CEQA and related topics for clients at the University of California Extension.

Terry was with the Governor's Office of Planning & Research from 1985 to 1998, including a stint as the chief of both the state clearinghouse and the planning unit. He participated in drafting the 1998, 1997, and 1994 amendments to the CEQA Guidelines.

Terry is also the editor of AEP's journal, the *Environmental Assessor*, and was co-author of the 1998, 1990, and 1987 editions of General Plan Guidelines.



CONGRATULATIONS
TO ALL OF OUR
2020 AWARDS
RECIPIENTS!
