**April 29th Summaries/Abstract and Bios**

**2014 State of California General Plan Guidelines Update**- Seth Litchney

Abstract: Seth to review the Governor’s OPR update to the General Plan Guidelines.  The state is taking a new approach to the guidance to cities and counties by incorporating policy recommendations, data resources, and online mapping tools in the General Plan Guidelines.  We are also focusing on four key areas where general plans can make a difference: Climate Change, Equity, Economics, and Healthy Communities.  Seth will explain OPR’s approach, provide a demonstration of the mapping tool, and request input from participants about how the General Plan Guidelines can become a resource for local planners

Bio: **Seth Litchney** is appointed to the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research to oversee the update of the General Plan Guidelines. He previously worked for the California Natural Resources Agency administering its Urban Greening Grant Program, as Senior Planner in the Office of Planning and Research, and as land-use policy advisor to the mayor of San Diego. Mr. Litchney has participated in writing and implementing technical advisories on land use, climate change, and Complete Streets, and has been involved in developing the Strategic Growth Council’s Sustainable Communities grant programs. He is also experienced in California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) compliance and provides advice to planners, consultants, and the general public. He has a degree in Urban Studies from the University of San Diego [seth.litchney@opr.ca.gov](mailto:seth.litchney@opr.ca.gov). (916) 327-4737.

**Regional Snapshot & How General Plans Can Assist**—Bruce Riordan.

Abstract: Mr. Riordan will present the findings from the Joint Policy Committee's recent report on adaptation and resilience projects, plans and barriers to action in all nine Bay Area Counties. He will briefly discuss the draft recommendations based on the report findings, focusing on planning, structures and roles. Discuss how a more integrated state, regional and local government approach is needed for the Bay Area to move forward on climate adaptation; and how the General Plan process can help facilitate that process.

**Bruce Riordan** is the Climate Strategist for the Bay Area Joint Policy Committee. At the JPC, Mr. Riordan leads the Bay Area Climate & Energy Resilience Project, funded by the Kresge Foundation and the JPC regional agencies. BACERP is a collaboration of more than 100 Bay Area climate stakeholders from the public, private, and non-profit sectors. The project is helping to accelerate Bay Area climate adaptation and resilience planning through workshops, needs assessments, webinars and other activities. Mr. Riordan is also the co-founder and current chair of the Alliance of Regional Collaboratives for Climate Adaptation (ARCCA) that brings together climate adaptation leaders from San Diego, Los Angeles, the Bay Area, and Sacramento. Prior to joining the JPC in 2008, Mr. Riordan consulted on climate change strategies for BART, Next 10, the Marin Community Foundation, Metropolitan Transportation Commission, BAAQMD and other Bay Area organizations. [Bruce@bayareajpc.net](mailto:Bruce@bayareajpc.net)

**City of El Cerrito—Getting Started**

Abstract: The City of El Cerrito adopted a Climate Action Plan (CAP) in 2013 intended to reduce the City’s greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 15% by 2020. The CAP called for a targeted update to the 1999 General Plan to increase transit-oriented residential and commercial density, reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT), and develop a stronger economic base to meet the daily needs of the City’s residents. Building off the City’s current San Pablo Avenue Specific Plan, designed to create the regulatory framework to center future population growth along San Pablo Avenue consistent with *Plan Bay Area,* the City has applied for a Strategic Growth Council Planning Grant to prepare the targeted General Plan update. The Plan will increase density and reduce private automobile dependence throughout the City through innovative infill design solutions, parking and transportation demand management strategies, and updated land use policies to allow for neighborhood-supporting services in well-established, single-family residential districts, intended to achieve the City’s Climate Action goals. Emily Alter [ealter@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us](mailto:ealter@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us) or (860) 319-1402

**City of Pinole—Creating Short and Long Term Goals**

Abstract: Pinole’s 2010 General Plan update includes more than 90 climate adaptation and mitigation policies focused on topics such as resilience to storm events, open space protection and water conservation! <http://www.icleiusa.org/action-center/learn-from-others/case-study-incorporating-adaptation-to-climate-change-in-pinole2019s-general-plan-update>

Bio: [wrhodes@ci.pinole.ca.us](mailto:wrhodes@ci.pinole.ca.us) or (510) 724-9832

**City of Richmond—Tying Together Energy and Climate Change**

Abstract: The City of Richmond has incorporated an Energy and Climate Change element into their General Plan. The element provides policy direction for Richmond to protect its energy resources and respond to climate change. In this General Plan, Richmond created 6 main goals in which each task was assigned to a city department, increasing accountability. <http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/DocumentCenter/Home/View/8813>

Bio: [adam\_lenz@ci.richmond.ca.us](mailto:adam_lenz@ci.richmond.ca.us) or (510) 620-5537

**City of Berkeley—Tools for Implementation (With or Without a General Plan Update)**

Abstract: This presentation is an overview of tools that the City of Berkeley is currentlyusing to implement our Climate Action Plan and General Plan in order to reach our goals of a 33% reduction in GHG emissions by 2020 and an 80% reduction by 2050 in comparison to our year 2000 levels. In addition to creating enabling ordinances, Berkeley focuses on education, enforcement, measurement, and transparency to emphasize and achieve environmental sustainability.

**Sarah Moore** is a planner in the City of Berkeley’s Office of Energy and Sustainable Development. She supports implementation of Berkeley’s Climate Action Plan and other environmental sustainability goals, primarily through education, integration, and improvement of internal processes that have an impact on the community’s greenhouse gas emissions. In 2103 many of her efforts focused on supporting electric vehicle charging infrastructure. Sarah moved to Berkeley from Pittsburgh, PA, where she promoted sustainable building practices at the non-profit Green Building Alliance and worked as a planning consultant at Environmental Planning and Design, LLC. She has a master’s degree in urban and regional planning from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, and an undergraduate degree in chemistry from Carleton College in Northfield, MN. (510) 981-7494 [smoore@cityofberkeley.info](mailto:jharrison@cityofberkeley.info)

**City Outreach on “Be Idle Free:**—Stephanie Anderson.

Abstract: Cities can play a key role in helping Contra Costa drivers save money, reduce air pollution, and help everyone in the community breathe easier just by turning a key! Representatives from the Contra Costa County Spare the Air Resource Team will share information *and seek your input* about a simple, straightforward city outreach effort to encourage one easy behavior that can help improve air quality and reduce GHG emissions. The *Be Idle Free* outreach campaign encourages drivers to reduce passenger vehicle idling.

Bio: **Stephanie Anderson** facilitates the Contra Costa County Spare the Air Resource Team. Stephanie has worked with all of the nine Spare the Air Resource Teams throughout the Bay Area since 2006.