

Congratulations to the 2011-12 Board of Directors and Officers!

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Executive Vice President	David Bernal
North County Vice President	Carol Nash
South County Vice President	Paul Hernadi
Treasurer	Michael Gray
Secretary	Mary Louise Days

Check out CPA's Newly Designed Website and Download:

CPA's 2011 Annual Report
Results from the May, 2011 Membership Survey
Past CPA Newsletters
Advocacy Documents/Statements

www.citizensplanning.org

Newsletter
of the
July, 2011

Citizens Planning Association of Santa Barbara County



*Promoting responsible
land-use planning &
environmental
protection in Santa
Barbara County*

CPA Board of Directors

Steve Dunn
President

David Bernal
Executive Vice President

Paul Hernadi
South County Vice President

Carol Nash
North County Vice President

Michael Gray
Treasurer

Mary Louise Days
Secretary

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Pam Brandon

LeeAnne French

Lee Moldaver

Else Wolff

Eric Zimmerman

Staff

Linda Davis (Accountability
Plus) *Bookkeeper*

*Above photo: CPA President
Steve Dunn meets and
greets CPA members at
February's Open House*



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Message from the President: CPA's Annual Meeting and the Future

In June, 2011 CPA held its Annual Meeting at the Marisol Room in the Alhecama Plaza, adjacent to the Santa Barbara Presidio. Thanks to those who gave support and direction for the future of CPA while attending the meeting. Members who were unable to join us are welcome to download a copy of the meeting agenda, CPA's 2011 Annual Report, and a copy of the results of our May, 2011 Membership Survey from our website at: www.citizensplanning.org.

Following opening remarks attendees were introduced to the 2011-12 slate of Board of Directors and Committee Reports were delivered. Members were then presented the results from CPA's Membership Survey conducted in May, which provided the catalyst for a lively discussion about the future of our organization. Membership on hand expressed passion and belief on; mission, representation, organizational structure, board development, community needs, political and social landscape, ideology, quickening of ecological change, etc.

Now having heard from our base, the Board of Directors feels complete in soliciting the necessary input to the process of configuring CPA for the future. The Board will now engage an outside facilitator to lead us through an

evaluation of the membership input to distill areas of consensus, identify areas and issues that need special focus, and generally help navigate us through this time of revised focus and opportunity as we move into our next 50 years.

Clearly, membership wishes to have a countywide CPA, focused on land use process, water and transportation, with paid staff, expanded volunteer, committee and general membership, and a greater role in public policy process. We are committed to meeting the challenge of fulfilling these wishes.

We will keep you informed as we move through the process of revitalization and feedback and suggestions from members are always welcome.

Thank You,
Steve Dunn

**Be sure to visit CPA
online at:
www.citizensplanning.org**



Comprehensive Land Use and Water Committee In Action

By Lee Moldaver

After a brief hiatus, CPA's combined Water + Comprehensive Planning + South County Land Use Committees kicked off the year's second half on July 11th, at Santa Barbara's historic Carrillo-Hill Adobe, with three talented, diverse speakers.

Twenty members and guests gathered to hear Goleta mayor **Margaret Connell** launch a new CPA series on More Effective Citizen Participation.

1. School board veteran, and City of Goleta co-founder, Connell shared over a dozen tips on when and how to persuasively present ideas or suggestions to elected officials.

Accuracy, brevity, specificity, timeliness, politeness, were all high on Connell's list, whether for oral or written testimony. A personal meeting, phone call, or a hand-written letter, still can carry more weight than emails, faxes, or organized-campaign postcards, she noted. Testimony which emphasizes a speaker's direct, personal experience to a relevant issue can also be a powerful persuader.

2. Santa Barbara Water Services Director **Rebecca Bjork** and **Bill Ferguson** shared highlights from the newly revised "Long Term Water Supply" Plan, explaining via Power Point charts and graphs, all the different south coast water supplies, and how their "reliable yield" is changing over time. Bjork noted that in a semi-arid area prone to cyclical droughts, planners must regard any "dry year" as the first year of a new drought cycle, and plan accordingly.

Bjork also noted that a full Cachuma reservoir has a five-year supply capacity, and that the City's desalinization facility could take as long as a year to get prepped for "emergency drought supply," and that de-sal remains "far and away the most expensive of all potential water supplies," so its use would probably be a "last resort". Enhanced conservation and wider use of reclaimed water provide much cheaper opportunities. State and area building codes for new structures and major remodels now routinely mandate more water-efficient designs.

3. Santa Barbara County Long

Range Planning Director **Jeff Hunt** shared an overview of the new draft Goleta Community Plan, which will guide planning and resource management in unincorporated areas from the City of Santa Barbara west to Patterson Avenue, and north from the foothills above La Cumbre Road west to the City of Goleta. A proposed new mixed use "hub" for services and housing is proposed where Modoc Road, outer State Street, Hollister come together, near the Hope Ranch annex. The "MTD property" on Calle Real might be able to do residential development if they could meet seven different requirements. Emphasis on preserving "Ag" uses and More Mesa "open space" are also high priorities. Because the printed version of the draft report is large, it is most easily accessed on-line. **Valerie Olson**, chair of the Community Plan Advisory Committee, attended the entire CPA meeting, and offered very valuable insight and background on the draft plan's priorities, and how they were reached.

4. Upcoming hearings and free public workshops:

Connell noted that a series of public workshops on the Bishop Ranch [City of Goleta] will begin soon, to examine outside consultants evaluation of the Ranch's long-term "Ag" potential, and a possible range of alternate uses.

Hunt gave a timetable on County hearings for the draft Goleta Community Plan, that would take it through environmental review and Planning Commission review.

Paul Hernadi [CPA's General Plan Update Committee] noted upcoming design workshops on Plan Santa Barbara density issues, co-sponsored by the Community Environmental Council, the American Institute of Architects local chapter, and several other community groups.

5. Attend Committee Meetings: All CPA members are welcome to attend. We will be soliciting input about preferred meeting locations, times, etc., to make future meetings as convenient as possible. Future meeting times will be emailed to members and posted on our website. Look forward to seeing you at the next meeting.

Lompoc Area Land Use Committee

Congratulations to the Hibbits Family! On June 30, the family announced that the Hibbits Ranch (about 400 acres) had been placed in an Agricultural Conservation Easement, limiting land use to Agriculture, in perpetuity. Their beautiful walnut trees and farmland preserve the rural landscape that is the gateway to Lompoc and enhance the foreground of La Purisima Mission State Historic Park. The Land Trust of Santa Barbara County successfully secured state and federal grants and matching private funds. We trust that our CPA Lompoc Area Land Use Committee (LALUC) letter to the agencies submitted by

the LTSBC was helpful. Lompoc's proposed annexations. -The Bailey Avenue Expansion into prime farm lands on the West was initially approved by the City Council. Faced with a lawsuit, the project was sent back to the Planning Commission for further review. - On the East side of the city, another study of a Central Ave Extension, cutting through the rural area, was proposed. The City Council did not support the inclusion for this expenditure in a SBCAG study.

Space Exploration Technologies (Space X), a private company, is reactivat-

ing the Titan IV facility on South Vandenberg AFB to launch its new Falcon Heavy launch vehicle. Space X is planning both government and commercial launches beginning in 2013.

How will this new program affect Land Use Planning in the Lompoc Area?? It will certainly stimulate the sagging economy with new jobs and visitors. However, from past experience, we have learned that the backbone of the Lompoc area is agriculture and our precious rural character. Wild population and job projections of past space programs have led to repeated Booms and Busts that did not serve Lompoc well.

Santa Barbara General Plan Update Committee

This committee of CPA was established in September 2005, during the City of Santa Barbara's preparation of draft documents to amend certain portions of its general plan.

Committee members attended many meetings and public workshops while the drafting process was under way. In June 2008 the Committee presented an 18-page illustrated booklet to the Planning Commission and the City Council.

In early March 2011, a three-member Ad Hoc Subcommittee of the City Council began holding meetings to discuss the September 2010 Goals, Policies and Implementation Actions recommended by the City's General Plan Update staff and the Planning Commission. Representatives of the CPA General Plan Update Committee,

usually Mary Louise Days and Dr. Paul Hernadi, have monitored each of the subsequent meetings of the Council subcommittee, and have spoken at nearly all of them. Written comments have also been submitted.

The subcommittee has concentrated on the topic of residential density at a majority of its meetings. CPA committee member Hernadi presented our views about sustainable residential and nonresidential growth limits with density incentives for rentals and employer-supported housing (based on the Average Unit Size principle rather than the bedroom count approach). He also reminded the subcommittee of the need to follow the California Air Resources Board's advice to maintain a 500-foot buffer between Highway 101 and new residential developments. Committee

chair Days has spoken to the Ad Hoc Subcommittee on topics such as the need for protection of single family neighborhoods and for a separate Historic Resources Element in the general plan. The Ad Hoc Subcommittee has responded, in part, by recommending that a draft element be prepared with assistance from knowledgeable persons in the local preservation community. Chair Days has agreed to be the CPA representative in this effort. She has begun attending regular meetings of the new Historic Resources Element Task Force. The City of Santa Barbara's YouPlanSB website now includes CPA's 2008 booklet of recommended General Plan Elements and amendments.

CPA's General Plan Update Committee will continue to monitor and attempt to influence the adoption process.



Established in 1960, Citizens Planning Association (CPA) is one of California's first grassroots environmental organizations. We have been promoting responsible land-use planning and environmental protection in Santa Barbara County for over 50 years!

Our membership consists of any resident who elects to be responsible for what happens in our county, to our land, our environment, and our way of life.

There are no quick or easy fixes to our land-use problems, but CPA offers a unifying voice, a chance for citizens to work together and assure Santa Barbara County's unique qualities are not given away to special interests!

Please help CPA continue the tradition by renewing your membership or joining CPA as our newest member today.

Call us at 805-966-3979, or join on line at our website: www.citizensplanning.org

CPA is a 501(c)3 non-profit and all donations and membership dues are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

Introducing New Board Member: Pam Brandon

Elected to CPA's Board of Directors at CPA's 2011 Annual Meeting/Election Pam is a creative management professional with a background in marketing and communications and TV/video production. As a producer and production manager, she produces corporate and nonprofit videos, commercials, and cable and

Internet TV programs. Pam has a Bachelors degree in marketing and is also a creative director and marketing and communications consultant.

Pam is a neighborhood advocate leading her neighborhood in opposing a radically incompatible project. She is also a Street Captain for the

Neighborhood Watch, has volunteered for several nonprofits, and is a former VP of the Board of Directors for JobSmart. Her interest in protecting Santa Barbara as a unique paradise is her motivation for wanting to expand her advocacy as a board member for CPA.

