

Vol. 13, Number 3
March 16, 2026 CPAREports ...

... Speaker's Series

Thank you for joining CPA's February Speakers Series featuring Meredith Hendricks, Executive Director of the Land Trust for Santa Barbara County on March 2. To find the recording, see [our website](#).

Join the CPA April Speakers Series featuring Silvia Perea, an architect, Ph.D., and Curator of the Architecture and Design Collection at the AD&A Museum, University of California, Santa Barbara. She holds a Doctorate in Architecture with Honors from the Polytechnic University of Madrid (UPM) and completed graduate museum studies at Harvard University.

CPA has been invited to be a sponsor of the 2027 David Gebhard Centennial Celebrations by the Architecture & Design Collection at UCSB. This will be a landmark series of events honoring the legacy of David Gebhard, a long time CPA member, an advocate for historic preservation in SB and beyond, and one of So Cal's most influential architectural historians. The year-long celebration will include a public symposium, a dedicated reading/exhibition space and a commemorative publication.

At the April Speakers Series, Ms. Perea will describe the work of David Gebhard during his long and prolific career. She will be able to tell us more about the centennial and explain how the local community can promote the events. Register using [this link](#).

The flyer features the CPA logo at the top left, the website www.citizensplanning.org in a blue bar, and the title "CPA April Speaker's Series". It includes a calendar icon for "MONDAY APRIL 6" and a clock icon for the time "12:00 PM 1:00 PM". A photo of Silvia Perea is shown with the caption "Speaker: Silvia Perea". The main text describes the 2027 David Gebhard Centennial Celebrations and the speaker's role. A blue button at the bottom says "Click on the flyer to register."

... South County

Young Italian Stone Pines - Saving our Living Landmarks

Recently, CPA supported the community effort to save the pines on Anacapa Street. The coalition of groups led by Rick Closson did an excellent job in educating the public and the decision-makers about the importance of these trees. The significance of the "Doremus Pines" is that they are a "living landmark," recognized by a Resolution of the SB City Council in 1997. They were first planted in 1908 by Parks Commissioner Dr. Boyd Doremus.

Last week, the City worked with members of the community to plant more trees adding to the original grove. It's a challenging area for any street trees and these little ones have been given a careful, even loving start with the air pruning pots, 5-gallon containers with vertical slashes, top to bottom, to encourage downward root development.

The planting follows an appeal by author and historic preservationist Rick Closson. Supporters of the replanting include the generosity of Santa Barbara Beautiful, the Pearl Chase Society, the Citizens Planning Association and friends of the rare "living landmark" that are the canopy of pines along Anapamu Street. CPA board member Betsy Cramer attended the planting and provided us with these photos.





CPA supported saving the historic stone pines. This is an additional planting to what was saved.

Shelby Housing Project Near Dos Pueblos High Back on Table for Goleta

The Shelby Development is on the agenda for the City of Goleta City Council tomorrow Tuesday, March 17th. See the [City of Goleta agenda here](#) for more information on how to provide public comment. Read more in [this article](#) in the Independent. EDC has a letter regarding creek setbacks not being honored in the Shelby project. Other concerns include high fire zones and transportation and circulation impacts.

Dark Skies Issue

A CPA member wants us to see if anyone is interested in forming a group to try to get some lighting standards for the area, especially with uncapped lighting at the track area at the SBCC. Dark Skies has a good [website](#) with ideas. If you are interested in this issue or know about a group that might already be working to preserve night skies over Santa Barbara, please contact Marell at the cpa gmail address.

1609 Grand Avenue, [et.al.](#)

CPA is staying current with updates about the 1609 Grand Avenue proposal. At this point, we know that an EIR is needed for the project to move forward.

Visit [Smart Action for Growth and Equity \(SAGE\)'s website](#) for more information on 1609 Grand Avenue and 505 E Los Olivos.

Carpinteria's 18-Story Housing Project:

CPA will also follow the 5115 Ogan Road Application, most commonly known as Carpinteria's 18-Story Housing Project, proposed by the same developer looking to build the eight story building behind the Santa Barbara Mission and the huge proposal for 1609 Grand Ave. Read more in [this article](#). Stay tuned for more information.

... State Legislation Report

Federal Housing and Community Development Act of 1980: Verification of Eligible Status

The Housing Authority of the City of Santa Barbara has submitted a letter in strong opposition to this proposed federal rule, stating that it "would significantly destabilize households currently participating in HUD programs under long-standing regulations that have governed mixed-status families for decades" and that it would intensify housing instability in Santa Barbara County and beyond.

The proposed rule would restrict federal housing assistance to households where every member has eligible immigration status, and in Santa Barbara County it could put hundreds of families at risk of losing subsidized housing or being forced to split up to keep assistance.

Currently, families with mixed immigration status—where some members are eligible for assistance and others are not—can still live in public housing or use Section 8 vouchers, but the subsidy is reduced so only eligible members receive aid. The proposed rule would require every person in the household to prove citizenship or eligible immigration status, meaning families with any ineligible member could lose housing assistance entirely or be forced to remove that person from the household.

The deadline to submit public comment is April 21. CPA strongly urges you, your friends, and your family to submit a comment letter. You can do so through the Federal Registrar website [here](#).

See the letter written by the Housing Authority of the City of Santa Barbara attached.

The [CPA website](#) offers a wealth of information. All our past comment letters are posted as are the links. to some of the past Speakers Series. Important links for decision-making bodies are listed and we will now add copies of CPAR. You may join CPA via this [Paypal link](#).

Sincerely,



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