



American Planning Association
California Chapter

Creating Great Communities for All

---SPEAKER BIOS---

April 30, 2020 Webinar

Hosted by Sacramento Valley Section and the APA California Chapter

Planning through the COVID-19 crisis: How are we adapting in these uncertain times?

Daniel S. Cucchi, Senior Associate, Abbott & Kindermann, Inc.

Mr. Cucchi provides legal services for the firm's land development, public agency and industry practice groups. His practice areas include land use, CEQA, municipal law, real estate, natural resources, administrative and business law. Mr. Cucchi rejoined Abbott and Kindermann, Inc. in 2019. Mr. Cucchi assists with the firm's representation of public agency and private clients, including cities and counties, air districts, developers, and industrial and agricultural landowners in matters relating to land use entitlements, planning and zoning laws, CEQA, conservation grants and easements, and litigation. He has also been a speaker at both national and state conferences for the American Planning Association speaking on climate change and improving the agency/public communication process. He is currently the Programs Director for the Sacramento Valley Section of APA California. Education: J.D., University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law, with distinction, 2012; M.U.P., San José State University, 2010; B.A., California State University, Chico, 2003

Daniel Friedman, PhD, Partner, Remotor Consulting Group

Daniel Friedman, PhD, is a researcher and consultant at Remotor Consulting Group (remotorconsulting.com) He completed his PhD in Evolution & Ecology in 2019 at Stanford University, studying the genetics and neurophysiology of collective behavior in ants. In 2017 he co-founded FM Analytics, an international consulting firm focused on data visualization and predictive modeling in the real estate, logistical, and financial sectors. Since 2017 he has also been working with Cryptoptera on topics related to cryptography, economics, and law. Learn more at: danielarifriedman.com

Wendy Nowak, AICP, Principal, PlaceWorks

Wendy is an experienced and versatile planner who has collaborated with public and private sector clients for over 20 years. Her winning interpersonal skills and passion for working with the public make her a natural in community participation and visioning, and her background in local government provides her with the know-how to successfully navigate a project through all aspects of a process from community outreach to interdepartmental coordination.

She has managed projects of a diverse variety and scale including public outreach and visioning, general

plan updates, specific plans, corridor infill development, grant writing and entitlement coordination. She is working currently on the Westminster Mall Specific Plan, the Redondo Beach General Plan Update and recently led the consultant team for the Southeast Area Specific Plan (SEASP) a controversial 1,500-acre area in Long Beach with traffic, coastal, wetland, and infill-related issues.

Wendy is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners, a National Ambassador for the International Association of Public Participation (IAP2 USA), President of IAP2 USA Orange County, and serves as adjunct faculty for the Executive Masters Program in Planning at USC.

Tom Pace, Interim Director, City of Sacramento, Community Development Department

Tom Pace has 25 years of expertise in municipal planning, including current planning, long range planning, housing policy, and community participation. Currently, he is the Interim Community Development Director for the City of Sacramento. Previously, he was Planning Director for Sacramento and Deputy Community Development Director for the City of Stockton, where he headed the City's planning and development engineering functions and oversaw the Envision Stockton 2040 General Plan Update.

Tom's experience spans brownfields re-use, railyard redevelopment, transit-oriented development, short-term home rental policies, flood risk management, infrastructure financing plans, and development impact fees. In Sacramento, Tom directed the preparation of the Sacramento 2030 General Plan, the 2035 General Plan Update with an integrated Climate Action Plan, and a new Planning and Development Code that replaced the city's 60-year old zoning ordinance.

Yassi Sarvian, Director, APA Sacramento Valley Section

Yassi Sarvian is the Sacramento Valley Section Director for APA California and is an associate environmental planner with Jacobs. Her work primarily involves CEQA and NEPA compliance for water and transportation infrastructure projects ranging in scope at the state, local, and regional level, and is passionate about diversity, equity, and inclusion in the planning field.