



County of San Diego Planning & Development Services

December eBLAST

Great Teamwork & Customer Partnerships = An Excellence Award!



The County's Transportation Impact Fee (TIF) Update project lead consultant, EFS Engineering, Inc., won a "Small Firm Merit Award" in the 2014 Engineering Excellence Awards (EEA) competition sponsored by the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC). Planning &

Development Services (PDS) staff Nick Ortiz and Everett Hauser led the County TIF team which included staff from PDS, Department of Public Works (DPW) and County Counsel along with lead consultant, Skip Shank and traffic consultant, Steve Cook.

The TIF update project significantly reduced fees for new development – by an average reduction of 50% for residential and up to 80% reduction for commercial projects - by implementing the land use and Mobility Element network changes of the General Plan Update. Land Use and Environment Group (LUEG) Deputy Chief Administrative Officer Sarah Aghassi called the award, "validation for the hard work that went into turning around what was once a controversial County program", by using a "collaborative, solution-oriented approach with stakeholders". Skip Shank will receive the award at the EEA ceremony next February in Sacramento. Well done TIF Team!

San Diego and Taichung - Sister Cities Celebrate 30 year anniversary

In November 1983, Shou-tai An, a PDS Civil Engineer, founded the Sister City Association between San Diego and Taichung, Taiwan. He led the delegation, traveling with then Mayor Roger Hedgecock to Taichung to sign the affiliation. County Supervisor Ron Roberts (District 4) joined the 30-year anniversary celebration party for the City of San Diego's eighth Sister City. PDS congratulates Shou-tai and all of those involved on this historical achievement.

Board of Supervisors

GREG COX
First District

DIANNE JACOB
Second District

DAVE ROBERTS
Third District

RON ROBERTS
Fourth District

BILL HORN
Fifth District

Planning & Development Services

MARK WARDLAW
Director

DARREN GRETLER
Assistant Director

Important Dates

Board of Supervisors
Calendar and Agendas

Planning Commission
Calendars and Agendas



San Diego-Taichung Sister City Delegation 1983

Public Nuisance Eliminated in Bonita Neighborhood

Did you know?

San Diego County was much larger when it was first established in 1850 and included most of southern California; south and east of Los Angeles County. Back then, San Diego County encompassed 374,000 square miles, compared to 4,200 square miles today.



Online Services

[Citizen Access Portal](#)

Research property information and permits. Apply for some permits online.

[GIS Maps](#)

Determine the zoning and characteristics of properties with our web-based mapping tool.





PDS Code Compliance Division received a report of an abandoned and ramshackle trailer in the Bonita area that was creating a hazard to neighborhood children playing in it. Neighbors also reported that vagrants were using it for shelter. Staff used the Abandoned Vehicle Abatement program to quickly remove the trailer from the property and eliminate a public nuisance.



Need to report a public nuisance?
Go to the [Code Enforcement Website](#).

New California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines for Climate Change Streamline Development

The LUEG CEQA Guidelines for Determining Significance for Climate Change have been finalized, effective Nov. 9. The Guidelines and Report Formats provide detailed directions on assessing a project's potential impacts related to greenhouse gas emissions. The Guidelines reduce the number of projects that would be required to prepare a detailed greenhouse gas technical study by allowing smaller projects that are below identified thresholds to achieve compliance by incorporating a measure from the menu of mitigation options included in the Climate Action Plan.

Since Public Review of the draft Guidelines in early 2012, PDS staff have made minor changes and additions to the guidelines, including adding language to address construction screening criteria for typical public road improvement projects, and language recognizing that offset market uncertainty may necessitate new options to feasibly mitigate for greenhouse gas emissions. The final approved [Guidelines and Report Formats are available online](#).

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Jennifer Domeier, Land Use Environmental Planner, at jennifer.domeier@sdcounty.ca.gov or at (858) 495-5204.

PDS Staff Spotlight - Maggie Loy



Maggie began her career with the County in 1977. From 1977 to 1994 she worked as an Environmental Analyst for DPW. In 1996 she returned to the County as a planner for the Department of Planning and Land Use (DPLU) and was promoted to a Planner III in 2005. Maggie currently works in the PDS Project Planning Division as a Senior Environmental Coordinator and biologist. She works on some of the Division's most complex projects and has prepared the Climate Change Significance Guidelines. Her wealth of knowledge makes her a great mentor for other PDS biologists.

If you are fortunate enough to go with Maggie into the field, watch out for snakes! Maggie is known as the "snake magnet" and one always seems to find her. During her spare time, she cultivates more than 50 different species of beautiful and exotic orchids. Some of her orchids are even on display in the director's area every week. Maggie also spends her free time with her family which includes her husband Bill and two grown children. And of course, she has two furry four-legged toddler's (dogs).

Maggie's extensive knowledge and experience area are great assets to PDS! Join us in congratulating Maggie on her second 15 year award of service with the County.



[Back to Top](#)

December 2013 Edition

County of San Diego, Planning & Development Services
5510 OVERLAND AVE, SUITES 110 & 310, SAN DIEGO, CA 92123
WWW.SDCPDS.ORG

