



# ARCH

newsletter of the san joaquin chapter of the american institute of architects

ISSUE NO. 10\_Q3

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## New Initiatives Promise a Facelift for Fresno

by John Dugan, City of Fresno

The City of Fresno has embarked on an exciting land use planning and development entitlement reform program destined to comprehensively reshape the face and form of the City. Of utmost importance is the new 2035 General Plan, which is underway to be completed in two years. The General Plan will be designed to implement the Smart Growth Principles embodied in the 2025 General Plan and the Valley Blueprint, and will address new greenhouse gas and energy conservation goals while squarely addressing the land and resource needs of an estimated 900,000 population by 2035. We have found that it will not be possible to accommodate an additional 400,000 persons within our current sphere of influence following the previous low density, auto-oriented development patterns.

The new Fresno will be characterized by pedestrian-oriented mixed use and higher density development located along the Blackstone and Ventura corridors, Downtown, and around key community and regional centers, like Fashion Fair and Fresno State. Such higher density development will require enhanced bus and street-car/light rail services, as well as a much more refined system of design criteria and supportive development codes. The detailed Fulton Corridor Specific Plan and Downtown Neighborhoods Community Plan will form the foundation for City-wide development standards.

The City is also revising all of its development codes to implement its new plans. A new Form-based Zoning Code is being crafted to focus on the corridors and centers where growth is to be concentrated, which will foster both flexible uses and good place-making design in the creation of new mixed-use neighborhoods. A complimentary "standard" revised zoning code and subdivision regulation will round out the code revisions. The new codes will be clear, easy to use, illustrated and accessible on-line. Our goal is to be clear about what the City development policy is, how to develop in accordance with it, and to be rapid in our approval of development proposals which are consistent with our Plans.

The new entitlement reform, called the PIPES program for Process Improvement and Permitting Enhancement Strategy, is being implemented to insure City customers that their plan amendment, zoning, site plan, CUP, and subdivision applications will be processed expeditiously and professionally. Reforms include extensive preapplication advice, assigned project managers, senior-level issue resolution committees, and on-line tracking of applications from inception to approval. These new processes will be complimented by state of the art on-line processing tools that the City plans to employ by the end of the fiscal year.

Fresno has a great future, and it is gearing up to meet the current planning challenges and future promise. We invite everyone to join in and work with us to make Fresno the place to live and work in the Valley over the next decade.

*John Dugan has acted as the Planning & Development Director for the City of Fresno since September 2009. Plan information and a complete public meeting schedule are at [www.fresnodowntownplans.com](http://www.fresnodowntownplans.com)*



Image from Downtown Neighborhoods Design Visioning and Workshop held 5/10 - 5/15, 2010.



Conceptual design sketch from DNCP Charrette Catalog (courtesy of Moule & Polyzoides)



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

On June 8, 2010 we as Californians executed our right to vote. The outcome of the California Primary Elections will either propel the current downward trajectory of California, or we will collectively decide to alter things. If the outcome of the elections demonstrates a desire, or dare I say mandate, to alter the direction in which California is heading, we will then be subjected to the inevitable dissatisfaction with the faction (pun intended) that claims victory.

Will the power of dissatisfaction really bring about change for the better? Election outcomes have brought wholesale sweeping improvement in the past, and there are promising signs of recovery in various regions of the country. That said, California's rebound is lagging and it may take more than a new Governor to fix things. There is no doubt that our firms are not as robust as they were a year ago, and unfortunately, immediate relief is doubtful. However, this economic lull that seems to dominate practice today can be transformational if we remain positive and use the down time wisely. Ask yourself this question - what mode are you in - *Panic Mode*, *Survival Mode*, or *Growth Mode*?

Firms in *Panic Mode* are chopping and hacking at their foundational core with a scorched earth mentality in hopes of reducing overhead enough to remain in business. Unfortunately, they can't see past the here-and-now and will likely be ill prepared to take advantage of better times.

Those in *Survival Mode* are those who will do anything to stay afloat. The act of doing something, anything, feels productive, but is it really? Look up. Remember what made you successful, and don't just keep doing it, do it better with more passion, creativity, and smart business decisions.

*Growth Mode* firms take advantage of the slow down by allowing the firms' leaders to think, plan, and execute. After all, isn't that what we do as architects? These firms view current conditions as a design problem. They "design" a preferred reality using the talent, expertise, and knowledge base of their staff and identify the qualities of the firm they want in place when the economy returns from vacation.

The architectural press is full of ideas and strategies that can be imported into our firms. We often think that the practice of Architecture in Fresno is completely different from practice elsewhere, but it's not all that different. Some firms are paring down to their essential core, rethinking strategies, and even looking for new processes. Others are looking at how to improve what they do by the creation, organization, and distribution of the firm's collective information and often, its wisdom. B.J. Novitski's article "No Need to Reinvent the Wheel", in the June 2010 issue of Architectural Record, discusses the idea of "Knowledge Management" as a way to improve everything from marketing to production. It's a good read and I encourage everyone interested in improving their practice to consider Novitski's ideas for a better future.

Managing the knowledge of a firm that collects and redirects its capital can be the key to your firm's long term health and success. AIASJ is here to help each member and each firm retool and get ready for prosperity ahead.

Paul Halajian, AIA, LEED AP  
AIASJ President

## extras...



**Architecture of the Sun: Los Angeles Modernism 1900-1970**  
by Thomas S. Hines  
**Norman Foster: A Life in Architecture**  
by Deyan Sudjic  
**Grid/Street/Place: Essential Elements of Sustainable Urban Districts**  
by Nathan Cherry  
**What We See - Advancing the Observations of Jane Jacobs**  
by Stephen A. Goldsmith and Lynne Elizabeth



**Int'l Design Competition for Creating Productive Green Space in Cities**  
register\_submit: 6/30/10  
**Call for Abstracts - Reconciling Urbanscapes**  
register\_submit: 7/1/10  
**Architect's Annual Design Review**  
register\_submit: 7/9/10  
**railla Call for Ideas**  
register\_submit: 7/13/10  
**HP Skyline 2020**  
register\_submit: 7/15/10



**SAH/SCC Film & Talk: The Spirit in Architecture**  
Los Angeles, CA SCI-Arc  
Saturday, July 31, 2010 | 2:00 PM  
**Lunch Box Talk: Do Places Make You Fat?**  
London, UK  
Thursday, July 1, 2010  
**Triskelion: The Story of the Presidio Habitats Exhibition Pavilion**  
San Francisco, CA  
Thursday, July 8, 2010 | 7-8 pm



five to check out:

1. [www.architektourist.de/en/](http://www.architektourist.de/en/)
2. [www.archpaper.com](http://www.archpaper.com)
3. [www.architectureweek.com](http://www.architectureweek.com)
4. [www.cityofsound.com](http://www.cityofsound.com)
5. [www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov](http://www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov)



**Dwell on Design**  
Los Angeles, CA  
6/25/10  
**Dynamic Structures**  
San Francisco, CA  
7/12/10 thru 7/21/10  
**Hitoshi Abe - Exhibition**  
Los Angeles, CA SCI-Arc  
7/30/10 thru 9/12/10  
**Drinks by Design - Monthly Social**  
San Francisco, CA  
4/28/10 thru 7/25/12

## ...beyond aiasj



# VALLEY CITIES WORK TOGETHER TO BRING HIGH SPEED TRAIN TO THE REGION

by Eric VonBerg, URS Corporation

The Central Valley has always been isolated from the Bay Area and the LA Basin, both geographically and politically. It has one tenth the carrying capacity for pollutants compared to the LA Basin due to this same geography that traps air in the Valley.

The large geographic area of the Central Valley, combined with low population levels relative to this area, has given us less political clout in comparison to our southern and northern neighbors, and has thus caused us to be on the short end of transportation planning and funding in the state as well. An early example of this is illustrated in the placement of Interstate 5 on the West side of the Central Valley, away from our population centers and transportation needs.

With the continual population growth in California and the Central Valley we, as a region, cannot afford to continue building, living, and driving as we have done. It is just not economically or environmentally sustainable. The Valley

Blueprint and other planning efforts are looking towards more sustainable, compact development and greater use of public transit as a model for development. The California High Speed Train (HST) fits very well into this new model for growth, providing a regional transportation system that can directly connect to public transit within a city's population center. Locating the Valley HST stations in city centers is therefore essential to maximizing this benefit to reduce vehicle miles in the Valley.

Valley leaders recognized these benefits early in the planning of the HST system and worked to ensure this happened locally. Selecting stations in our city downtowns, with existing infrastructure and capacity for increased density, makes good planning sense. It was not the easy solution, but the right solution for the Valley. The stations will be a needed catalyst for downtown development, encouraging more concentrated development nearby, providing additional ridership to local transit, and opening up new



Conceptual rendering for a high speed rail station (courtesy of URS Corporation)

markets for Valley businesses who can reach the Silicon Valley, Bay Area, or LA in an hour to an hour and a half, without having to drive. The Valley must continue to act as a region, and look beyond just the addition of more roads, to find solutions to our transportation needs. Supporting HST is just the start.

*Eric VonBerg is a Project Planner and Public Outreach Specialist for URS Corporation. He is currently the Public Outreach Manager for the Fresno to Palmdale section of the California High Speed Train.*

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# AFFORDABLE HOUSING AT A GLANCE

by Shaunt Yemenjian, APA, Assoc. AIA, LEED AP

## GENERAL DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

	New York	San Francisco	San Jose	Sacramento	Stockton	Fresno
Total City Population	8,008,278	776,733	894,943	407,018	243,771	427,652
Adult Population (Over 18 years)	6,070,275	664,107	658,678	295,902	164,789	286,954
Housing Units	3,200,912	346,527	281,841	163,957	82,042	149,025
Households	3,021,588	329,700	276,598	154,581	78,556	140,079
Per Capita Income	\$22,442	\$34,556	\$26,697	\$18,721	\$15,405	\$15,010
Population Below Poverty Level	21.2%	11.3%	8.8%	20.0%	23.9%	26.2%
Land Area	303	46	174	97	54	104
Persons Per Square Mile	26,403	16,636	5,118	4,189	4,456	4,098

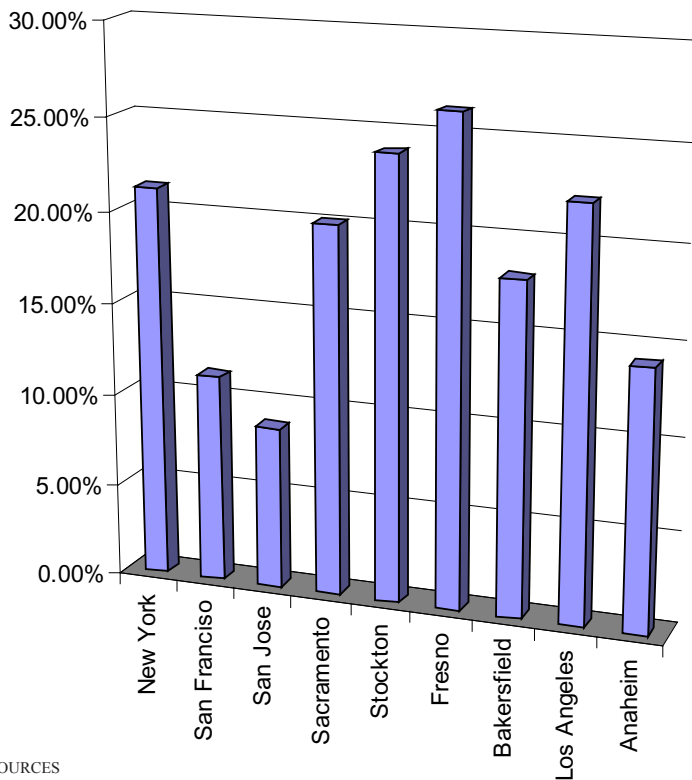
## AFFORDABLE HOUSING INFORMATION

	New York	San Francisco	San Jose	Sacramento	Stockton	Fresno
Adult Population (Over 18 years)	6,070,275	664,107	658,678	295,902	164,789	286,954
Housing Units	3,200,912	346,527	281,841	163,957	82,042	149,025
Persons Below Poverty Level	1,286,898	75,044	57,964	59,180	39,385	75,182
Total Area of Built Housing	6,613,084,192	715,924,782	582,283,506	338,735,162	169,498,772	307,885,650
Square Feet of Built Housing Per Person	826	922	651	832	695	720

## QUANTIFYING THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING CHALLENGE

	New York	San Francisco	San Jose	Sacramento	Stockton	Fresno
Persons Below Poverty Level	1,479,933	86,301	66,658	68,057	45,292	86,459
Total Affordable Housing Units: CURRENT	180,000	20,779	17,000	4,886		2,495
Total Population Housed in Affordable Housing	540,000	62,337	51,000	14,658		7,485
Total Persons in Poverty w/o Adequate Housing	939,933	23,964	15,658	53,399		78,974
Total Affordable Housing Units: TARGETED 20%	187,987	4,793	3,132	10,680		15,795
GAP	104.44%	23.07%	18.42%	218.58%		633.06%

Population Below Poverty Level



SOURCES  
<http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/recs/sqft-measure.html>  
<http://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty/08Poverty.shtml>  
<http://www.affordablehousingportal.org/ProjectsList.aspx?cid=0&st=6&cn=19>  
<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2006/07/25/BAGEVK406L1.DTL>  
[http://www.mercurynews.com/news/ci\\_11180033](http://www.mercurynews.com/news/ci_11180033)  
<http://www.shra.org/WebReports/AffHousing/Listing.php>  
<http://www.nyc.gov/html/hpd/downloads/pdf/New-Housing-Market-Place-Plan.pdf>



Affordable Housing - Aspen, Colorado (project by Peter Gluck and Partners Architects)



Folsom + Dore, LEED Silver affordable housing complex (project by David Baker + Partners Architects; photo by Bill Owens)



## UPCOMING EVENTS: CANSTRUCTION

AIA San Joaquin in partnering with the Central Valley Afterschool Foundation and Community Food Bank of Fresno brings you Canstruction.

Canstruction® is the most unique design oriented food charity started by the Society for Design Administration an affiliate of AIA. Teams of architects, engineers, and students mentored by these professionals, compete to design and build giant structures made entirely out of canned foods. It takes planning, hard work and thousands of cans of food to create a structure.

The event will take place in a vacant River Park storefront on October 16th. The results will be on display to the public. The public is invited to donate canned food at the time of the exhibition. At the close of the exhibitions all of the canned food used in the structures is donated to the Community Food Bank.

For details and to reserve a spot for your team email [kiel@aiasj.com](mailto:kiel@aiasj.com)



## ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION AT COS

by Rolando Gonzalez, AIA

Greetings from the South Valley and the College of the Sequoias Architecture Department. For those of you not aware of our program, we offer a 2-year Associate of Science Degree in Architecture and 5 Certificates: Architecture, Architectural Design, Architectural Drafting, Visual Communication, and Architecture History. Our faculty has grown to 9, including 4 licensed architects. To stay on the cutting edge, local architects participate as design critique jurors. The architects are always amazed at the level of the work and the students really appreciate the comments. Feel free to email me if you would like to participate as we are always looking for new jurors. Our computer software is extensive; our students learn ArchiCAD, AutoCAD, AutoCAD Architecture, SketchUp, Maya, Illustrator, and PhotoShop. But don't worry; we emphasize hand drawing skills too. For more information visit our website at [www.cos.edu/architecture](http://www.cos.edu/architecture). The Student Work Gallery is amazing.

It has been a busy and exciting year. The architecture students have been involved in many interesting projects. Here are some examples:

**AIASJ Sand Castle Competition:** People's Choice Award

**Egg Catapult:** A great problem solving exercise. A rat trap was used for the power. I was the target positioned 35 feet away, and of course I heckled the students. I was hit 4 times by raw eggs!

**Martial Arts Dojo:** Real black belts attended the critique. I think the visiting architects were scared...

**Cal Poly Design Village Competition:** Honorable Mention Award with 50 teams participating.

**Design Studio and Residence (AIASJ Competition):** 6 awards out of 8, including 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 2 Honorable Mentions, as well as 1 Citation.

Our transfer success rate for students has been great. We recently established an Articulation Agreement with the NewSchool of Architecture and Design in San Diego. Our students are able to transfer into the program as 3rd year students.

In 2016 COS is scheduled to complete the new Tulare Campus. The Architecture Department will be part of this new campus, and our new room will include new drafting / computer stations, a model making room, and a paint room.

This summer we will be reaching out to high school students with a Summer Architecture Program. It's an attempt to excite students about architecture and the profession at an earlier age. Students will create an architectural design project complete with drawings and a model.

I know what you are thinking. You are ready to go back to architecture school!

**Go COS Giants!**



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## FIRM PROFILE:

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As a leading historic preservation firm, Johnson Architecture specializes in the rehabilitation of historic buildings and historic preservation services. Johnson Architecture is recognized for the design of structures and spaces that strike a balance between the value of history and the viability amid present and future realities. The firm finds great reward in achieving cost-effective and creative solutions for the design of built environments that meet the objectives and expectations of each client.

Founded in 1991, our experience includes award-winning design of new structures, the adaptive reuse and seismic strengthening of existing structures, and the evaluation, documentation and restoration of historic properties. As registered architects, architectural historians, preservation planners, and interior designers, we specialize in historic preservation, renovation, rehabilitation, urban revitalization, planning, project management, and interior design.

Our expertise enables us to bring neighborhoods and cities back to their original splendor, creating an environment that elicits feelings of security and pride. Our hands on attention to detail, experience, quality and depth of our resources sets us apart from other firms, benefiting our client with creative and efficient solutions.



*Bank of America Building before rehabilitation, 2009, Exeter, CA (courtesy of Johnson Architecture)*



*Bank of America Building after rehabilitation, 2010, Exeter, CA (courtesy of Johnson Architecture)*



## MEMBER PROFILE:

### RACHEL KNOD

#### Where do you currently work?

I am currently employed at Gonzalez Architects. We are a small firm of six.

#### How long have you practiced Architecture?

I have been working full-time as an intern since 2008 and part-time since 2002.

#### Whose architecture has inspired/influenced you the most?

Luis Barragan. His architecture spoke with the usage of color and minimal detail.

#### Why did you choose this field?

I grew up going to work on the weekends with my father, who is an Architect. I remember thinking that being an Architect meant that you drew pictures all day. I was also eight at the time. I started taking CAD classes in high school and that led me to Architecture.

#### If you weren't practicing Architecture, what would you be doing?

I would definitely be spending more time with my daughter. Time is something we can never get back.

#### Which is your favorite building in your city/town?

Warnor's Theatre in downtown Fresno. The theatre has personality and its own character.

#### What makes the Central Valley a unique place to practice architecture?

The rapid spread of development and changing ideology of what the Central Valley should be.

#### What stereotypical architect's characteristic are you guilty of possessing?

I would say that I have the characteristic of critiquing everything and thinking about what I would change for next time. Basically, I want to REVISE and improve. A professor once told me, "A design is never finished. It can always be improved. Keep working till you present your design."

#### What is your dream project?

Considering I haven't had much experience, I would say at this point in time my dream project is any project that helps me grow as an aspiring Architect. I am a sponge soaking everything in. I'll take what I can get.

#### What is your personal motto/mantra?

"If you don't have a plan, you plan to fail." I use that in everything I want to accomplish in life.



# PROJECT PROFILE: TULARE PUBLIC LIBRARY AND COUNCIL CHAMBERS

by Enoch Sears, Assoc. AIA, LEED AP

In his book *Purple Cow: Transform Your Business by Being Remarkable*, marketing guru Seth Godin states that the key to success is to find a way to stand out - to be the purple cow in a field of monochrome Holsteins. If the secret to success is truly being remarkable, or as Godin clarifies, "worth making a remark about," then the City of Tulare has struck pay dirt. Godin's metaphor is a great way to introduce a very remarkable building set in the center of the cow capital of the United States; a true "purple cow" among Holsteins.

Designed by Architect and Partner Paul Halajian of Taylor Teter Partnership, the Tulare Library and Council Chambers goes beyond creating a building of purely sculptural quality. The designer has evidently thought deeply about referencing the local context and carrying the design methodology throughout the building. Salient design features include brightly painted steel beams, metal siding, projecting clerestory windows, and two circular towers. By pairing two seemingly contradictory elements, common industrial materials and a building of civic pride, the designer critically challenges commonly accepted paradigms of beauty while also referencing the local agricultural context.

The bold design is playful and intriguing. Some people have kidded Library Director Michael Stowell that the projecting cantilever over the City Council Chambers is a wing or giant skateboard ramp. "Once they enter the building, however, they begin to see the reasons for these elements and how they add to the design", he comments. He is quick to mention how the aesthetics, day-lighting and design of the space will contribute



Port orford cedar runs fluidly from interior to exterior along the West reading area.



A May 4th, 2010 photo of the Council Chambers canopy under construction. The library will host an all-day Grand Opening on August 21, 2010 (photo by Mary-Catherine Oxford)

to a better experience for patrons. "We are especially excited about how the teen area will engage the youth of our community," he states.

As for the interior, Taylor Teter Architect and project team member Jamie Dronyk counts the unique inverted bowstring trusses among her favorite elements. The trusses create soaring spaces and allow natural day-lighting to bathe the interior while also exposing the beauty of the structure. The trusses themselves are constructed of parallams which have been glue-laminated, curved, and matched to steel pipe webs. Attention to detail is also apparent on the West side of the building where the exterior



A perforated metal soffit delineates the main circulation through the book stacks.

finishes continue through to the interior space with thoughtful detailing.

The project aims for a LEED Gold certification. The Mayor, City Council, Library Board and Library Director of Tulare are to be commended for their forward-thinking emphasis on sustainability. "Tulare's goal is be known as a great place live, learn, play, work, worship and prosper," states Mayor Craig Vejvoda. Halajian is pleased with the effort to gain LEED certification and stated that it was not difficult to sell the client on this goal.

The project was originally submitted under the California Library Bond Act of 2000, but was ultimately not funded under the bond. The City decided to move ahead and raise the funds elsewhere. The building encompasses approximately 31,400 sf at a construction cost of \$11.6MM.

Already the building has benefited the community by encouraging dialogue about the built environment, paving the way for future innovative projects. Over the years, the strong post-modern design is sure to spark debate between residents who choose to see a skateboard ramp versus those who see an engaging and inspiring civic space. I see a purple cow.

*Enoch Sears works with Christiansen Group in Visalia. He is a recent addition to the AIA San Joaquin Chapter, having relocated from Houston, TX where he was recently licensed as an architect.*



# Tulare & Kings Counties Builders' Exchange

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*Dear American Institute of Architecture (AIA) members:*

The Tulare and Kings Counties Builders' Exchange (TKCBE) has been around since 1948 and offers one of the best plan rooms in the State of California. We provide services throughout all of the San Joaquin Valley. We are pleased to support the San Joaquin Valley Chapter AIA in its professional high touch, high technology of today.

TKCBE has over 2,800 plans in its plan rooms each year. If you review the quality prime list and sub-contractor listings, you will find that the majority of quality performers are members of the TKCBE. TKCBE will provide your clients with a first-class project that you can be proud of as a professional architect.

In my 42 years serving the industry as Executive Director of the TKCBE, I have instilled the word "service" into my staff. My personal motto is that "Earth's great treasure lies in human personality, and service to our industry is the best work of life."

*Sincerely,*

George E. Elam, Executive Director

TULARE AND KINGS COUNTIES BUILDERS' EXCHANGE



## DEAR ARCHITECTS: ARE YOU READY FOR THE NEW CODES?

by Imad Naffa, NAFFA International

Every three years we have to go through this process. You get accustomed to a set of building codes, and just as you become comfortable with them, they change. This time is no different. The 2010 California Building Codes are around the corner, in effect January 1, 2011.

California will be adopting the 2010 California Building Code (CBC) which will be based on the 2009 IBC. A new code for us will be the California Residential Code (CRC) and that will be based on the 2009 IRC. The balance of the codes will include the 2010 CFC, CMC, and CEC. The 2008 California Energy Standards will remain in effect. Another twist will be California's new Green Building Code (a.k.a. CALGreen). In addition, architects will have to contend with obtaining accessibility CEU in order to renew their licenses. SB 1608 and the CASp program have recently become hot topics as well. With so many code and regulation revisions beginning next year, now is the time to get prepared. What to do to prepare:

- 1) Seminars and training are already underway by ICC, CALBO, AIA and others. Take advantage of those at your earliest.
- 2) Leverage your resourcefulness by accessing online sites and forums dedicated to Building Code information.
- 3) You can email me directly with your code-adoption questions at [imad@NAFFAinc.com](mailto:imad@NAFFAinc.com)

*Imad Naffa is the founder and president of NAFFA International, and has over 25 years experience in the Building, Fire and Accessibility Codes. His firm provides Building Code Consulting and develops web-based technical resources and software.*



## GOV'T AFFAIRS: PROGRAM AIDS ENERGY UPGRADES

by Tom Key, AIA

While most statewide legislation seems to benefit larger firms, or firms engaged in publicly funded projects, AB 811 and California FIRST is posing an opportunity for smaller offices whose mainstay is residential remodels. Having familiarity with these programs will allow an architect to guide a client through the process rather than relying on a contractor to take this initiative.

Imagine working on a remodel and telling your client that they can add solar panels or upgraded retrofit windows to the project and get a low interest loan at the same time. The low interest loan is only for the energy saving components, but that means you can remove that portion of the work from the construction budget. This also allows the architect the opportunity to coordinate the work, such as location of solar panels or detailing of windows, prior to construction.

Fresno County is participating in a pilot program that enables homeowners to borrow money to finance energy efficiency and water system improvements, and then pay it back through their property taxes. The California FIRST plan will allow home owners to tailor improvements, anything from solar panels to tankless water heaters, according to their financial ability. The loan comes from local bonds, and property owners repay it as a line item in their property taxes over 20 years, transferring to the new owner if the house is sold. For more information, go to [www.californiafirst.org](http://www.californiafirst.org).



## EMERGING PROFESSIONALS NEWS

by Julie Jaurique-Chipps, Assoc. AIA

As an Emerging Professional, you are faced with many dilemmas when it comes to fitting in with your profession and lifestyle. It may have become a struggle within the past year alone to reassure yourself that as an intern, your dream can still be a reality. As for the 2010 graduating class, those of us currently in the profession can only imagine the decisions they are facing when deciding where to locate themselves to start their path into licensure. Will they consider relocating to the Central Valley, or will they move elsewhere? These are questions every Emerging Professional is being forced to acknowledge and act upon.

That is why now, more than ever, it is important to network and build relationships with your local chapter and construction industry. Kicking off the 2010 calendar year, AIASJ held a number of events focusing on the Emerging Professionals group. We have had a couple of ARE Workshops and a handful of student design competitions; however, this past May AIASJ launched its first site visit for our mentorship program. Art Dyson, AIA, volunteered his time and took the Emerging Professionals and their mentors on a tour of University High School which is currently under construction and located at the California State University, Fresno campus. The mentors and their interns had the chance to walk the site and see the project during mid-construction. The visit enabled the interns to ask questions and receive answers from Mr. Dyson, but also afforded the opportunity for questions and answers between intern and mentor.

There are many upcoming events taking place this summer and information will soon follow. Please take the time to see if any of the events that we have lined up can benefit you, whether you are preparing for and taking the ARE's, or just simply engaging in lectures and social events pertaining to the Emerging Professionals.



*Interns and mentors touring the University High School Project at Fresno State University.*

## in other words...

Fresno metropolitan area ranked 5th in vehicle thefts. Visalia-Porterville ranked 8th (*Fresno Bee*)

Santa Fe Passenger Depot opened in 1899 (*Wikipedia*)

Fresno County 2009 Population estimate by U.S. Census Bureau: 915,267

99% of the raisins in the nation come from Fresno County (*DiscoverCentralValley.com*)

There are more turkeys (3.3 million) living in Fresno County than people (*DiscoverCentralValley.com*)

Percentage of residents (by city) commuting by Bicycle, Foot, Public Transit (2000, *Bicycle Universe*), respectively:

Clovis: 1.39%, .61%, 2.97%

Fresno: .81%, 2.12%, 2.63%

Hanford: .6%, 1.76%, 1.03%

Madera: .72%, 1.94%, 1.56%

Tulare: .55%, 1.53%, 1.11%

Visalia: .94%, 1.6%, 1.21%

Vehicle Miles of Traffic by county (2008, *Dept. of Transport.*):

Fresno: 3,405,900,000

Kern: 4,710,800,000

Kings: 712,500,000

Madera: 1,076,800,000

Tulare: 1,748,400,000

In 2005 there were over 3,600 miles of maintained public roadway in Fresno County (*Fresno County Dept. of Public Works*)

Use of Fresno County roads expected to increase by over 55% by 2025, to over 7,000,000 vehicle miles traveled per day (*2005 Fresno County Dept. of Public Works*)

For the 14.8 million U.S. households that make \$10,000 or less per year, a year's rent costs about 70 percent of their annual income (*Income and Poverty: American Fact finder*)

To afford the fair-market price of the average U.S. two-bedroom rental unit, renters working full-time need to earn at least \$15.28 per hour. That's almost three times the current federal minimum wage, and 37 percent more than renters needed to earn in 1999 (*The National Low Income Housing Coalition*)

*ARCH is a publication of AIA San Joaquin. The editors reserve the right to determine the appropriateness of contributions and to edit where necessary for length and clarity. Editorial contributions and correspondence to the chapter are welcome. All material submitted for publication must be in electronic form either via email or CD.*

*If you are interested in contributing or advertising, have questions/comments, or would like subscribe to our newsletter, email [jamie.dronyk@aiasj.com](mailto:jamie.dronyk@aiasj.com)*

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**Corrections:** Issue 10\_02, article "THE BMA STEPS UP TO THE PLATE TO MAKE THEIR MARK" should have also noted the Fresno Redevelopment Agency as a supporter of the BMA.

## YOUR VOICE: FULTON MALL

The Fulton Mall, as we now know it, consists of a six block long pedestrian only street in Downtown Fresno. Constructed in 1964, the original planned vision of the mall included a streetless "superblock" that consumed 18 blocks, strategically located parking structures, and a site for a major anchor tenant. The mall received several awards including an AIA Honors Award for "Excellence in Community Architecture" in 1965, and many other cities visited the Fulton Mall to emulate its anticipated success.

Due to the costs of the parking structures, empty lots were paved to support the parking loads. No major anchor tenant was secured, and the available lot became the home of a single story Longs Drugs. Being disconnected from vehicular circulation and lack of parking ease has led many to speculate the original mall concept was doomed from the start. On a positive note, the Fulton Mall is a respite for those seeking outdoor comfort in the heat of our summers.

The AIASJ Chapter would like to advance the topic of what to do with the Fulton Mall:

**Should the City of Fresno focus on upgrading the Fulton Mall and give it a face lift? Should it remove the pedestrian only aspect of the mall and make it available to vehicle traffic? Or should the City implement the original superblock concept and create an even larger pedestrian only zone within the Downtown fabric?**

Send your thoughts and comments to [jamie.dronyk@aiasj.com](mailto:jamie.dronyk@aiasj.com). Your comments may be placed into our next AIASJ Newsletter, and/or posted to our <http://archop.org> website. For additional information on the mall, visit <http://www.downtownfresno.org/fulton-mall.html>.

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## 2010 AIASJ STUDENT DESIGN COMPETITION

This year, the San Joaquin Chapter of the AIA held a design competition for Architecture, Construction Management, and Interior Design students from COS, FCC, and CSUF. The competition program consisted of a mixed-use studio/residence for a prominent Interior Designer who had decided to relocate to a 90' by 120' downtown corner lot in Selma, CA. There were over 50 submissions, with 9 awards totaling \$1,900 given to the winning entries and school.



### Winning Entries:

Finish	Student	School	Prize
First	Yanisse Montano	COS	\$500
Second	Rodrigo Saldivar	COS	\$300
Third	Erika Rivera	COS	\$200
HM	Denise Grayson	CSUF	\$100
HM	Todd Swanson	COS	\$100
HM	Richard Martinez	COS	\$100
CIT	Maggy Saliba	CSUF	\$50
CIT	Jose Flores	COS	\$50

### First Place School:

College of the Sequoias	COS	\$500
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### Abbreviations:

COS	College of the Sequoias
CSUF	California State University, Fresno
HM	Honorable Mention
CIT	Citation

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# AIA San Joaquin

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AIA SJ	July 14, 2010	<b>AIASJ Lunch &amp; Learn   11:30am - 1:00pm   PESC Office   Members \$5 (w/RSVP)</b> Masonry Construction & Sustainability presented by David Willis
	July 22, 2010	<b>Emerging Professionals Happy Hour   5:30pm - 7:00pm   Location TBD</b> Come meet fellow emerging professionals!
	July 29, 2010	<b>CALGreen Training   Fresno, CA   Public Sector: \$65, Private Sector \$95   3 AIA CEUs</b> California's green building code becomes mandatory on January 1, 2011 and will affect all commercial and residential construction! Green Technology seminars can help you prepare.
	August 7, 2010	<b>Emerging Professionals Day-Trip   TBD - Proposing Downriver Canoe Adventure</b> Spend a day cooling down on the river and networking with fellow professionals.
	August 11, 2010	<b>AIASJ Lunch &amp; Learn   11:30am - 1:00pm   PESC Office   Members \$5 (w/RSVP)</b>
	August 12, 2010	<b>AIASJ Lecture Series - Brian Lane of Konig Eizenberg   Location TBD</b>
	August 27 thru 29	<b>AEP Statewide Camping Trip   South of Big Sur, North of San Luis Obispo, CA</b> This event is hosted by the Academy of Emerging Professionals.
	September 8, 2010	<b>AIASJ Lunch &amp; Learn   11:30am - 1:00pm   PESC Office   Members \$5 (w/RSVP)</b>
	September, 2010	<b>A.R.E. Workshop: Construction Documents   Location and Date TBD</b>
	2nd Wednesday each Month	<b>AIASJ Board of Directors Meeting   6-7pm   PESC Office</b>
USGBCCC	1st Tuesday each Month	<b>USGBC-CC Fresno Branch Members Meeting   5:30-7pm   PESC Office</b>
	1st Wednesday each Month	<b>TK Branch Event   5:30-7pm   Provost and Pritchard Engineering Group Office</b>
	2nd Tuesday each Month	<b>Emerging Green Builders Member Mtg.   5:30-7pm   ITT Technical Institute, Clovis</b>
	3rd Tuesday each Month	<b>USBBC-CC M3 Branch Meeting   5:30-7pm   UC Merced Campus</b>
CSI	June 29, 2010	<b>2010 CSI Fresno Summer Party &amp; Installation of Officers   5:30pm - 7:30pm   Kearney Park Tea House Pavilion</b>
	2nd Tuesday each Month	<b>CSI Fresno Board of Directors Meeting   5-6:30pm   PESC Office</b>