



COUNTY OF YOLO

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Planning Commissioner Receives Statewide Recognition

(Woodland, CA) – Recently, the California County Planning Commissioners Association (CCPCA) recognized Yolo County Planning Commissioner Leroy Bertolero with the “Commissioner of the Year” award. Commissioner Bertolero was one of three commissioners recognized by region at the CCPCA’s annual conference, among the nearly 300 planning commissioners that currently serve statewide.

Commissioner Bertolero has served on the Yolo County Planning Commission for the past five years, unanimously appointed by the Board of Supervisors as one of two at-large commissioners representing the entire unincorporated area. During this time, he was elected by his fellow commissioners to act as vice-chair in 2007, and then as chair in 2008. During his time as Chair, Commissioner Bertolero guided several significant and controversial projects through the hearing process, including: the revised Old Sugar Mill Specific Plan; the Clark-Pacific General Plan Amendment; and the West Bio-Fuels Use Permit. His chairmanship also included several other noteworthy accomplishments, including adoption of: the Downtown Mixed Use Ordinance; the Alcohol Beverage Control Ordinance; the Sign Ordinance, the Accessory Structure Ordinance; and the In-Channel Mining Ordinance.

“Community outreach and consideration of all points of view has been a hallmark of the leadership role provided by Commissioner Bertolero,” said Yolo County Board of Supervisors Chairwoman Helen M. Thomson.

During his tenure, Commissioner Bertolero has been to meetings of each of the seven community advisory committees located throughout the county, regularly attending four to five meetings each month. He also instituted the annual conference wherein members of the advisory committees meet jointly to discuss mutual concerns and the relationship of the communities to county government. Commissioner Bertolero was also the architect of the effort to create training procedures and standardized by-laws for advisory committees, to improve their function and provide needed guidance.

“Commissioner Bertolero is actively involved in planning issues,” said Yolo County Planning & Public Works Director John Bencomo. “Having been involved in real estate development, growth management, soil conservation and water supply, he has an exhaustive knowledge of laws, regulations, and best practices. He brings this expertise to each hearing, using it to clarify disputes and propose solutions to potential conflicts.”

Commissioner Bertolero will be acknowledged by fellow Yolo County Planning Commissioners during their December 9 Planning Commission meeting.

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