

COUNTY OF YOLO

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Yolo County Takes Home Planning Awards

(Woodland, CA) – During the recent California County Planning Commissioners Association (CCPCA) annual conference, two from Yolo County were recognized. Yolo County Assistant Director of Planning & Public Works David Morrison received the first annual "Planner of the Year" award and Yolo County Planning Commissioner Richard Reed was recognized with the "Commissioner of the Year" award, one of three commissioners recognized by region, among the nearly 300 planning commissioners that currently serve statewide.

Assistant Director of Planning & Public Works David Morrison has worked in public sector planning for over 20 years, a majority of those years with Yolo County. Significant milestones in his tenure with Yolo County include completion of the county's recent General Plan update, the Wild Wings and Old Sugar Mill Specific Plans, six grants totaling nearly \$2.5 million, the Cache Creek Area Plan and the Climate Action Plan. Other recognitions Morrison has received include two Governor's Awards for Economic and Environmental Leadership, the SACOG Blueprint Excellence Award and two Sacramento Area Planning Association awards.

"It doesn't surprise us that the California County Planning Commissioners Association has recognized David Morrison as "Planner of the Year," said Yolo County Board of Supervisors Chair Matt Rexroad. "Yolo County has long benefited from David's expertise in planning, building, code enforcement, parks, economic development, airports, Community Development Block Grants, special districts, resource management...and the list goes on."

Commissioner Reed has served on the Planning Commission for the past three years, as the District 4 representative. During this time, he was elected by his fellow Commissioners to act as Vice-Chair in 2010, and then as Chair in 2011. As Chair, Commissioner Reed has guided several significant and controversial projects through the hearing process, including: the Solar Facilities Ordinance, the Climate Action Plan; the Putah Creek Solar Project; and the Cemex Wind Turbine project. His chairmanship also included several other noteworthy accomplishments, including the Granite -Esparto Mining Permit and Reclamation Plan, Seka Hills Olive Mill, and the Park Winters Bed and Breakfast.

"Commissioner Reed is well deserving of this award as he analyzes applications in great depth, often visiting the proposed project site and discussing potential impacts (both positive and negative) with applicants and community members," said Yolo County District 4 Supervisor Jim Provenza. "Ultimately, he endeavors to achieve the broad goals of county policy, while accommodating the interests of individual land owners and their neighbors."