Becoming a Leader on the Planning Commission

Workshop 1
January 31, 2019; Dinner at 6:00; Meeting from 6:30-8:30 PM
San Mateo Public Library, Oak Room
55 W. 3rd Avenue, San Mateo, CA 94402

6:30 I. Welcome, Goals, and Introductions

6:50 II. Meet Your Colleagues
Goal: Provide an opportunity for newer Planning Commissioners to talk and learn from more experienced members.

7:00 III. 100 Years of Planning Covered in 10 Minutes
Goal: Guide Commissioners through a history of planning movements and legislation, highlighting the changing goals of planning and the ways that community members are involved.

7:15 IV. Why and How We Plan? (Types of Plans and Review Processes)
Goal: To describe the types of plans and planning processes that Commissioners are likely to be involved in, as well as other relevant planning efforts that affect their responsibilities.

[Peer learning: Discussing what they’ve learned from participating in or interacting with plan development and project review.]

7:40 V. Role of the Planning Commission and Relationships with Others
Goal: To have Planning Commissioners understand their roles and responsibilities, particularly in relationship to other bodies (e.g. City Council, staff, etc.). Including some conversation about responsibility to the greater good and ethics.

[Peer learning: Discussing stand-out interactions that Commissioners have had in their role and tips on navigating those relationships.]

8:00 VI. The Art of Making a Finding
Goal: Describing the elements of a good finding, legal considerations, and the process for preparing one, often on the fly.

[Peer learning: Commissioners who have prepared findings will discuss their experiences and strategies they’ve used.]

8:25 VII. Next steps
Goal: Discuss next steps and additional training opportunities.