



JOANNA JANSEN AICP, LEED AP

Managing Principal, Planning

Joanna has been with PlaceWorks for over 25 years and currently oversees the firm's comprehensive planning practice. She is committed to intensive hands-on involvement in all aspects of the projects she directs, from policy creation to meeting agendas to environmental review. She is an experienced and effective facilitator of community workshops, committee meetings, and public hearings.

Currently, Joanna is overseeing work on the Placer County General Plan Update, the Livermore General Plan Update, the Contra Costa County Comprehensive Zoning Code Update, and community engagement for the East Bay Regional Park District's District Plan.

HIGHLIGHTS OF EXPERIENCE

Comprehensive Planning

- East Bay Regional Park District 2nd Century District Plan | Bay Area CA
- Contra Costa County General Plan Update | Contra Costa County CA
- Imagine Livermore 2045 General Plan Update and EIR | Livermore CA
- Placer County 2050 General Plan Update and EIR | Placer County CA
- Strive San Mateo General Plan 2045 and EIR | San Mateo CA
- SB 2 and LEAP/REAP Technical Assistance | Statewide CA
- SB 1000 Environmental Justice General Plan Amendments | Vacaville and Vallejo CA
- Los Banos General Plan | Los Banos CA
- Palo Alto Comprehensive Plan Amendment and EIR | Palo Alto CA
- Morgan Hill 2035 | Morgan Hill CA
- Vacaville General Plan Update and EIR | Vacaville CA
- San Leandro General Plan Update, Housing Element, & EIR | San Leandro CA
- Los Gatos General Plan Update, Housing Element, and EIR | Los Gatos CA
- Avenal General Plan and Sustainability Implementation Programs | Avenal CA
- Corcoran General Plan Update | Corcoran CA
- Tulare TOD Plan and General Plan Amendment | Tulare CA
- Butte County Model Alternative Energy Ordinance | Butte County CA
- Butte County General Plan Update and EIR | Butte County CA
- Oroville General Plan and Development Code Update and EIR | Oroville CA
- Yolo County General Plan Update | Yolo County CA
- Newman General Plan Update and EIR | Newman CA
- Calistoga General Plan and EIR | Calistoga CA
- DuPont Bridgehead Road Specific Plan | Oakley CA
- Seaside Housing Element Update | Seaside CA
- Napa County Housing Element Update and EIR | Napa County CA
- Livermore Vision Project | Livermore CA



EDUCATION

- BA, History, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR

CERTIFICATIONS

- American Institute of Certified Planners
- Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Accredited Professional

AFFILIATIONS

- American Planning Association

Team member since 1999



JOANNA JANSEN

Principal

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Public Participation

- Bay Area Regional Smart Growth Strategy | San Francisco Bay Area CA
- Livermore Vision Project | Livermore CA
- Measure J Outreach, Facilitation, and Strategic Planning | Contra Costa CA
- La Honda Creek Open Space Preserve Master Plan | La Honda CA
- Northeast Livermore Public Facilities and Programs Planning | Livermore CA
- Los Gatos Housing Element | Los Gatos CA
- Vehicle Registration Fee Expenditure Plan and Public Outreach | Alameda County CA
- Vehicle Registration Fee Public Outreach | Contra Costa County CA
- State Route 239 Planning & Outreach
- Milvia Bikeway Project | Berkeley, CA

LEADERSHIP & COMMUNITY

- Instructor, “The General Plan in California,” UC Davis Continuing and Professional Education, 2020 – present.
- American Planning Association, California Chapter, Northern Section | Member, Board of Directors (2006- 2010)

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- “Planning Commission 101: The Nuts and Bolts of Planning” | 2025 League of California Cities Planning Commissioners Academy
- “Women in Planning: Landmark Leadership” | 2023 American Planning Association California Chapter Conference | Fresno CA
- “Just Transition: Navigating a Complex Path Towards A More Sustainable Economy” | 2022 American Planning Association California Chapter Conference | Anaheim CA
- “Pop-Up Concepts: the Exciting Possibilities and Logistical Challenges of Pop-Up Events” | 2018 American Planning Association California Chapter Conference | San Diego CA
- “The Envelope Please! Determining Appropriate Buildout” | 2017 Association of Environmental Professionals Conference | San Francisco CA
- “Net Zero Trips: Fact or Fiction?” 2016 American Planning Association California Chapter Conference | Pasadena CA
- “It’s Always Sunny in California: Planning for Utility-Scale Solar Facilities” 2016 American Planning Association California Chapter Conference | Pasadena CA
- “Connected Cities: Planning for Fiber, Broadband, and WiFi” 2015 American Planning Association California Chapter Conference | Oakland CA

AWARDS

- 2025 Excellence in Sustainability: Environment, Climate, and Energy Award, National APA, Sustainable Communities Division, Envision Contra Costa: 2045 General Plan and Climate Action & Adaptation Plan Update
- 2018 Hard-Won Victory Award of Merit, APA CA Northern Section, Palo Alto Comprehensive Plan Update
- 2017 AEP Merit Award, Butte County Utility-Scale Solar Guide
- 2016 Planning Award for Hard-Won Victories, APA California Chapter, Vacaville General Plan Update
- 2011 Outstanding Comprehensive Planning for a Small Jurisdiction, APACA Sacramento Valley Section, Butte County General Plan Update and EIR