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PCL INSIDER: News from the Capitol

Mark Your Calendar for Three Upcoming Events

Last Chance to RSVP for PCL's Celebration in Honor of John Van de Kamp

This is your **last chance** to RSVP for PCL's celebration in honor of former CA Attorney General John Van de Kamp on **November 14th** at the Los Angeles River Center and Gardens. It should be a wonderful evening as we will be joined by our event co-Chairs **Senator Kevin de León** and **LA City Attorney Mike Feuer** as well as a host of dignitaries to honor Mr. Van de Kamp's tireless efforts on behalf of California's environment, and thank him for his years of leadership and service on the Planning and Conservation League's Board of Directors. We will also be recognizing the important work of the [LA Conservation Corps](#) with the first ever John Van de Kamp Youth and the Environment Award. The event will benefit the advocacy and outreach work of the Planning and Conservation League and PCL Foundation. Visit the PCL [website](#) for more information or to [sponsor](#) or [register](#) for the event. Contact Beverley Newman at bnewman@pcl.org or (916) 822-5636 with any questions.

Save the Date for PCL/F's 2014 Environmental Symposium

Join us on **February 1st, 2014** at the UC Davis School of Law for PCL/F's annual Environmental Symposium that brings together California's nonprofit, community, business, agency and elected leaders to explore the leading environmental issues of the day. The 2014 event will focus on how we can ensure an equitable and sustainable water future for all Californians. We will be exploring the future of the Bay-Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP), discussing what the 2014 water bond can and should include, and much more. Visit our website for [more information](#) and to learn how you can [sponsor](#) or [register](#) for the event. If you have any questions, please get in touch with us at symposium@pcl.org or (916) 822-5636.

CEQA Law Conference in San Francisco on Dec 12-13

Join PCL Executive Director Bruce Reznik and a host of the state's top CEQA experts for the 9th Annual CEQA: Legislation, Case Law and Practice Tips Continuing Legal Education (CLE) Conference that will be held on December 12-13, 2013 at the Hotel Nikko in San Francisco. This year's event will be headlined by California State Senator, and longtime CEQA champion, Noreen Evans, and will feature a comprehensive analysis of 2013 CEQA case law; and assessment of what really happened to CEQA bills in 2013; and the legislative outlook for 2014 legislation; among many other topics. Nonprofit employees get discounted registration. More info can be found [here](#).

Upcoming Comment Deadlines for State Water Plan Update 2013

The California Department of Water Resources' (DWR) State Water Plan, updated every five years, is a comprehensive document intended to guide water planning throughout the state. This State Water Plan has significant potential to influence policy makers and water managers, but has historically been only a good source of water information rather than a vision for the future. For the past several years, PCLF has provided input on the development of the State Water Plan Update 2013. We have been striving to ensure that Update 2013 sets a clear vision for California's water planning, including goals of establishing supplies that are affordable, protect environmental and public health, foster regional self-sufficiency, and prioritize a 'reduce, reuse, recycle' approach to water management.

The Public Review Draft of Update 2013 is [now available](#). If you are interested in providing input into this important planning document, deadlines are fast approaching. Comments are due in 3 stages:

Nov 18 – the Strategic Plan

Dec 2 – the 30 Resource Management Strategies

Dec 9 – the 12 Regional Reports

More information on navigating the Public Review Draft is available on the [Water Plan website](#).

If your organization is interested in submitting comments on a specific portion of the Water Plan Update, and would like to coordinate your efforts with ours, please contact [Rebecca Crebbin-Coates](#).

Happening Right Here: Threats to affordable housing threaten air quality

Environmentalism, once seen as relating mainly to species and landscapes, now encompasses a much broader area of concern as we learn more and more about how human health, development, and our environment are intertwined. Smart planning and green development are critical not only to protecting our remaining rural landscapes, but also to improving the quality of life for people. These plans need to include all people, otherwise we neglect not only segments of society, but also environmental quality.

Here in PCL's neighborhood, Sacramento County is considering weakening the Inclusionary Housing Ordinance. The Ordinance, currently in place, requires that new developments of 100 units or more include 15% of those units for low, very low, and extremely low income housing. (This fall Governor Brown vetoed a bill that would have authorized cities and counties to create similar ordinances, AB 1229 (Atkins)). Now in Sacramento, extremely large developers are also crying foul about the current requirement, and hoping the County will let them pay a fee instead of providing housing for Sacramento's lower-income residents.

In addition to the costs to the welfare of lower-income people who will be pushed out of their neighborhoods, there are other costs to the public health, economy, and air quality that result from the predictable displacement. When these developments take place in urban areas near transit, for example on Sacramento's Watt Avenue, they push out the biggest users of public

transportation (low-income people and renters) for wealthier car-owning residents. Displaced lower-income residents then become reliant on cars to get to work and perform other tasks, resulting in an overall increase of driving and therefore increasing greenhouse gas emissions.

If you are in Sacramento County, you can get learn more from the [Sacramento Housing Alliance](#), and get involved by contacting the [County Board of Supervisors](#) and attending upcoming meetings. Meetings and talking points are also available on the Sacramento Housing Alliance's website. If you aren't in Sacramento County, stay tuned; this is probably happening now or will soon in your neighborhood as well.



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