

BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON TODAY'S SPEAKERS



Ann Notthoff is the California advocacy director of the Natural Resources Defense Council in San Francisco where she has worked since 1982. She directs a broad range of initiatives to promote public health and environmental protection. In 2010 she was a leader of the successful bipartisan campaign to defeat Prop 23 and defend California's landmark Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (AB 32). She has led NRDC's efforts to get many of California's nationally significant environmental laws enacted, including the Marine Life Protection Act, the Clean Car Bill, AB 32, SB 375, and a package of 2009 water policy reforms. Before assuming the director position, Notthoff's work at NRDC focused on coastal and marine management issues. She is currently a board member of the State Coastal Conservancy and a board member of the California League of Conservation Voters. She has held appointed positions on the California State Oil Spill Technical Advisory Committee, the San Francisco Harbor Safety Committee, and the CALFED Bay Delta Advisory Council. (*KEYNOTE*)



John Gioia is the chair of the Contra Costa Board of Supervisors, which he has served on since 1998. He represents El Cerrito, Richmond, San Pablo, and Pinole, and the unincorporated communities of El Sobrante, Kensington, Montalvin Manor, North Richmond, East Richmond Heights, Rollingwood, and Tara Hills. He serves on the California Air Resources Board and the Bay Area Air Quality Management District Board. He is an officer of the California State Association of Counties, the vice-chair of the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority, and serves on the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission. Gioia was first elected to public office in 1988 as a member of the board of directors for the East Bay Municipal Utility District, where he served for 10 years. (*PANEL ONE*)



Ken Kirkey is the planning director for the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, leading efforts to implement SB 375 and develop Plan Bay Area, the region's Sustainable Communities Strategy and Regional Transportation Plan. He previously worked as planning and research director with the Association of Bay Area Governments, overseeing the consensus-based process for developing the Bay Area's regional blueprint plan (the FOCUS Program) for over 150 transit-served infill Priority Development Areas and more than 100 Priority Conservation Areas. He has 20 years of experience related to regional land use and transportation planning. Prior to joining ABAG, he worked on specific plans, general plans, growth management strategies, and bicycle and pedestrian master plans in the public, private, and non-profit sectors. (*PANEL ONE*)



Stuart Cohen is co-founder and executive director of TransForm, a non-profit organization that advocates for transit and walkable communities in the Bay Area and beyond. He oversees TransForm's work on state policy, the expansion of GreenTRIP (a program to certify and support low-traffic developments), and the dissemination of regional policy innovations outside the Bay Area and California. Cohen has spearheaded TransForm's efforts to initiate the Bay Area's Regional Smart Growth Strategy, as well as campaigns on transportation sales taxes and other funding measures. He helped launch TransForm's Great Communities Collaborative, and he co-founded ClimatePlan, a statewide network that is promoting smart land use and transportation as critical components of California's climate strategy. Cohen is a 2010 Ashoka Fellowship awardee and a 2013 recipient of the James Irvine Foundation Leadership Award. (*PANEL ONE*)



Rich Gordon represents California's 24th Assembly District on the San Francisco Peninsula in San Mateo and Santa Clara counties. Among other Assembly positions, he is chair of the Select Committee on Sea Level Rise and the California Economy, chair of the Assembly Bay Area Caucus, a member of the Environmental Caucus, and a member of the Budget Subcommittee on Resources and Transportation. His stated legislative commitments include maintaining the state's position as a leader in environmental protection. He previously served on the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors, the San Mateo County Board of Education, and was president of the California State Association of Counties in 2008. Prior to public service, he was a minister in the United Methodist Church and the executive director of Youth and Family Assistance. (*PANEL TWO*)

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Bruce Riordan is the climate strategist for the Bay Area Joint Policy Committee, where he leads the Bay Area Climate & Energy Resilience Project, a collaboration of more than 300 Bay Area climate stakeholders from the public, private, and non-profit sectors that works to accelerate Bay Area climate adaptation and resilience planning through workshops, needs assessments, webinars and other activities. In early 2014, Riordan helped launch the Climate Readiness Institute, which brings together academic experts from UC Berkeley, Lawrence Berkeley National Lab, Stanford, and UC Davis with climate practitioners from Bay Area government agencies, non-profits, and the private sector. Riordan is also the co-founder and current chair of the Alliance of Regional Collaboratives for Climate Adaptation, and has consulted on climate change strategies for BART, Next 10, the Marin Community Foundation, the Metropolitan Transportation Commission, and the Bay Area Air Quality Management District. (*PANEL TWO*)



Linda Dismore (Diz) Swift is a scientist with a Ph.D. in geology who worked over 30 years as a geologist and at various levels of management, predominantly in minerals and oil and gas exploration and production. Since her retirement, she has been studying climate change; formerly a skeptic, she now lectures on the risks of climate change, its causes, and solutions, especially working to build an understanding among other skeptics. For the past five years she has lectured at the NYU Stern Business School on climate change and its impacts on business. She is active with the League of Women Voters, serves on the Community Advisory Group for Lawrence Berkeley National Lab, and is a public works commissioner for the City of Berkeley. She is currently building www.priceoncarbon.org, a soon-to-launch website that will call for a price on carbon across the world, probably to be developed through differing pricing mechanisms at regional and local levels. (*PANEL TWO*)



Timothy Burroughs is the Chief Resilience Officer for the City of Berkeley, leading the city's efforts to better prepare for natural disasters and the impacts of climate change. Prior to his appointment as Chief Resilience Officer, Burroughs led development and managed implementation of Berkeley's ambitious Climate Action Plan. The plan was adopted by City Council in 2009 and led to several pioneering programs. Burroughs has a master's degree in international environmental policy from American University in Washington, D.C. (*PANEL THREE*)



Jenny Bard is director for media advocacy and partner engagement for the American Lung Association in California, where she oversees advocates for policy change at the local, regional, and statewide levels to improve air quality and fight climate change to reduce lung disease and improve lung health. She works with local governments, air districts, and health departments to highlight the public health benefits of smart growth policies that reduce the need to drive and educates the public on the health impacts of air pollution and climate change. She coordinates the American Lung Association in California's Health Professionals for Clean Air, a statewide coalition of medical and health organizations that work to advance strong air quality and climate policies to protect public health, including implementation of AB 32 and SB 375, diesel truck rules, and cleaner vehicle emission standards. She serves on the Advisory Council of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District. (*PANEL THREE*)



M. Paloma Pavel is an author, educator, and activist. She is president of Earth House Center and co-founder with Carl Anthony of the Breakthrough Communities project, linking vulnerable communities to policy opportunities and growing multiracial, multiclass leadership for healthy, just, and sustainable communities. In conjunction with Breakthrough Communities, she has authored/edited "Breakthrough Communities: Sustainability and Justice in the Next American Metropolis" (MIT Press, 2009), "Random Kindness and Senseless Acts of Beauty" with a foreword by Desmond Tutu (New Village Press, 2014), and "Climate Justice: Frontline Stories from Groundbreaking Coalitions in California" (forthcoming). Pavel is in the 2015 cohort for Emerge California, training women for public service and running for political office. (*PANEL THREE*)