

# SDHDA Monthly Meeting, October 10th, 2011



since 1935

## THE SAN DIEGO HIGHWAY DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

Location	Best Western Seven Seas 411 Hotel Circle South   San Diego	
Time	11:30 am - 12:00 pm: Members arrive 12:00 pm - 12:10 pm: Official Business/Announcements; begin serving lunch 12:10 pm - 12:25 pm: Finish Lunch 12:25 pm - 12:45 pm: Presentation by our Guest Speaker(s) 12:45 pm - 1:00 pm: Q&A	
Cost:	\$20 Member \$30 Non - Member	Sponsorships available at \$75 and \$150. Please contact Sean Colorado at <a href="mailto:scolorado@leightongroup.com">scolorado@leightongroup.com</a> if you are interested in being a sponsor.

### Topic **Plaza de Panama Project**

In August 2010, Balboa Park launched the Plaza de Panama Project to transform the park's Plaza de Panama area into a car-free open space. Cars have been allowed in the Plaza de Panama area since 1917, shortly after the Panama-California Exposition. The automobile culture has changed the nature, use, and enjoyment of the plaza, now providing limited parking with pedestrians forced to the periphery.

*"It was built for the 1915 Exposition as a grand ceremonial plaza for the public. Over time, it was transformed into a grand ceremonial parking lot for cars. We will reclaim that plaza for ourselves and posterity before the park's centennial celebration in 2015."* – San Diego Mayor Jerry Sanders, 2010.

#### Project Vision & Objectives:

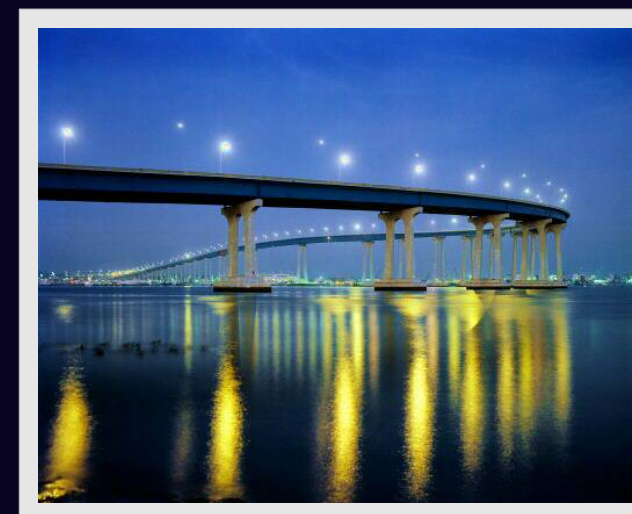
- Remove all cars from the Plaza de Panama, consistent with the original vision of a ceremonial plaza and gathering space.
- Provide for displaced parking and create additional parking for visitors and staff.
- Improve traffic circulation to increase efficiency.
- Limit pedestrian-vehicular conflicts for comfort and safety.
- Increase open, accessible park land by creating new opportunities for park venues.
- Improve transportation systems and provide accessibility improvements.
- Create pedestrian environments; increase landscapes; enhance cultural, active, and passive recreational uses.
- Build on previous park planning while addressing new opportunities.
- Achieve the improvements by December 31, 2014, through an inclusive public process.

### Speakers **Michael While, PE, LEED AP,**

is an Associate at Rick Engineering Company. Mike graduated from San Diego State University with a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering and has over 21 years of professional experience. supervises and manages a land development design division of project managers, civil engineers, designers and drafters. He is responsible for project management and design engineering for many private land development projects and routinely directs staff through the entitlement process, the preparation of preliminary site layouts, final engineering plans, and final maps.

### **Robert Fitch, PE, LEED AP,**

is a Project Engineer with Rick Engineering Company. Rob graduated from the University of Colorado with a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering and has over 8 years of professional experience. He manages a land development design team consisting of civil engineers, designers and drafters. He is responsible for project management and design engineering for multiple commercial and residential land development projects and routinely directs the preparation of master planning, preliminary site layouts, final engineering plans, and construction coordination.



### Mission Statement

To foster the timely, orderly, and efficient development of all planned transportation facilities in the San Diego region and to promote appropriate means to finance and maintain these facilities.

# Sponsors of SDHDA



LSA ASSOCIATES, INC.



Simon Wong Engineering



Chambers Group, Inc.



Kimley-Horn  
and Associates, Inc.



moffatt & nichol



South Bay Expressway



CH2MHILL



Experience | Quality | Commitment

TYLIN INTERNATIONAL

engineers | planners | scientists

FEHR & PEERS



WINZLER & KELLY



Hatch Mott  
MacDonald  
Delivering Solutions



PROJECT DESIGN CONSULTANTS

RAILPROS INC.