



City of Placentia Press Release

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CITY RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS AWARD FROM THE AMERICAN PLANNING ASSOCIATION

PLACENTIA, CA – The California Chapter of the American Planning Association (APA CA) has awarded the City of Placentia its “2020 Award of Merit for Opportunity and Empowerment” for the Health, Wellness, and Environmental Justice Element for the Placentia General Plan.

The APA CA Awards Program encourages quality in planning and increases the public’s awareness of the planning profession by recognizing outstanding achievement in the planning field. APA CA Planning Awards are presented annually at the APA California Conference in two categories: Awards of Excellence and Awards of Merit.

The City of Placentia endeavors to be a leader in planning practices. The City’s Development Services Department is responsible for creating a livable community that balances the needs of residents, businesses, property owners, and visitors. The City of Placentia’s Health, Wellness, and Environmental Justice Element of the recently updated Placentia General Plan focuses on addressing SB 1000 requirements, which compels local governments to address disproportionate pollution burdens and the unique health risks that accompany the exposure experienced by low-income communities. This Element’s goal is to improve conditions in disadvantaged communities with elevated pollution levels and provides specific, holistic policies and goals designed to ensure the health of these communities is prioritized as future projects and plans are considered.

“Placentia is proud of these efforts to continue to improve upon our citywide planning efforts which focuses on our disadvantaged communities and their health,” said Mayor Ward Smith. “The City Council is pleased to have our City recognized among some of the most notable planning efforts in the entire State of California.”

“This award highlights our City Council’s vision and the community’s commitment in working together to create a healthier community, particularly for disadvantaged communities,” said City Administrator Damien R. Arrula.

Recipients of the Awards of Excellence and Awards of Merit were formally announced and honored at the APA CA 2020 annual conference, which took place virtually on September 16, 2020. APA California provides vision and leadership that fosters better planning for California, builds public and political support for sound planning and provides its members with the tools, services and support that advance the art and science of planning. For more information on this organization, please visit: www.apacalifornia.org.

For more information about the City of Placentia's planning efforts and Development Services Department, please visit www.placentia.org/developmentservices or call (714) 993-8268. This is the second award that has been received for the City's General Plan.

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