

Marina del Rey “Regeneration”

The County of Los Angeles is now rethinking the design of Marina del Rey as it approaches its 60th birthday and we have a chance to comment on their proposed plans for a regenerated facility there. At one time the “world’s largest man-made marina,” after six decades of use it’s showing its age and the fundamental question surrounding any rethinking of the place is whether it is primarily a yacht harbor or a waterside urban “attraction” in the sense of a shopping venue and amusement park. The LA County Department of Regional Planning is conducting a visioning study to consider how the marina might be changed and they are seeking public input. The issues are multidimensional with apartment owners favoring stability, boaters seeking enhanced facilities for docking, service and shoreside support and retail lessees seeking more space for stores and perhaps moving boating facilities to accommodate more retail. It will be an interesting year as the county seeks to update this aging, yet unique souvenir of the 60’s.

May Luncheon Program Report -

The May program featuring the proposed AltaSea marine science research center at the Port of Los Angeles was a presentation by our chapter members Jim Fawcett, PhD, Millard Lee, and Brian Kite. Jim Fawcett, a USC professor of planning and marine sciences, described the context of the project, which is located on an existing wharf with transit sheds for breakbulk cargo known as Berths 57-60 – and is strategically located on the main channel. The Southern California Marine Institute (SCMI), a consortium of 12 local colleges and universities, currently operates a small facility at Fish Harbor that is being displaced by the growth of adjacent facilities.

Millard Lee, a Principal at Gin Wong Associates, explained that a project such as this is often touched by a succession of architectural firms whose ideas generate interest as seed money for initial programming and planning is later provided by a succession of sponsors. GWA provided design studies that accommodated the needs of SCMI, USC, incubator businesses, and a maritime museum.

Brian Kite, managing Principal at SRK Architects, described the design studies that he performed for the SCMI. A landscaped esplanade linked the linear progression of research and teaching facilities along the wharf to each other and the possible NOAA federal research center on the opposite side of the wharf.

Jim concluded the program with a description of the Ahmanson Foundation providing \$25 million in seed money so that the AltaSea entity can be established, with Rachel Etherington serving as Executive Director. Ms. Etherington is formerly the Managing Director of the BLUE Marine Foundation, London. The Annenberg Foundation has retained William McDonough Partners to provide master planning and conceptual design services, so that a major fund raising program can be initiated to fund the construction of these exciting research and teaching facilities.

Program Sponsorship Opportunity

In response to the needs of our members, the Los Angeles Chapter of LAI is making the luncheon sponsorship opportunity available. This program will allow the luncheon sponsor to introduce his or her firm to the members with a five-minute presentation. Please contact our Treasurer, Mr. Barry Baker at barry.baker10@verizon.net to book your sponsorship.

LAMBDA ALPHA INTERNATIONAL



AN HONORARY LAND ECONOMICS SOCIETY

Los Angeles Chapter

K E Y N O T E S

June 2, 2014

New L.A. Chapter Website

lailosangeles.org

Land Economics Weekend

October 15-17, 2014 | Madrid

Register on LAI.ORG

June 18 Program

USC University Village –

Lloyd Silberstein, USC Vice President of Capital Projects, will describe the vision of University Village and how it will more closely integrate the USC north campus into the fabric of the surrounding community.

June 28 Venue Series

Old Pasadena Walking Tour -

Our own Marsha Rood and Bob Fazio will show us the significance of Old Pasadena, along with Marilyn Buchanan. They will describe the long road that they took to accomplish this iconic redevelopment project.

July 17

New Member Mixer –

New and prospective members will be able to be introduced to current members at an early evening reception on the beautiful California Club terrace. Current members will be able to

August Venue Series

Los Angeles Times Printing Plant Tour –

Stay tuned for date and time