

# Environmental Planning in Berkeley: Town and Gown

LA237 – Process of Environmental Planning  
10.26.2017

Todd Henry, Campus Planner  
UC Berkeley Physical & Environmental Planning  
[ttherry@berkeley.edu](mailto:ttherry@berkeley.edu)

Aaron Sage, Principal Planner  
City of Berkeley Transportation Division  
[asage@cityofberkeley.info](mailto:asage@cityofberkeley.info)

© 2010 The Regents of the University of California, through the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory.

# CEQA Overview

- History
- Process
- Recent changes

# CEQA Overview



**"It's from the government—we'll have to file an environmental-impact statement before we can evolve."**

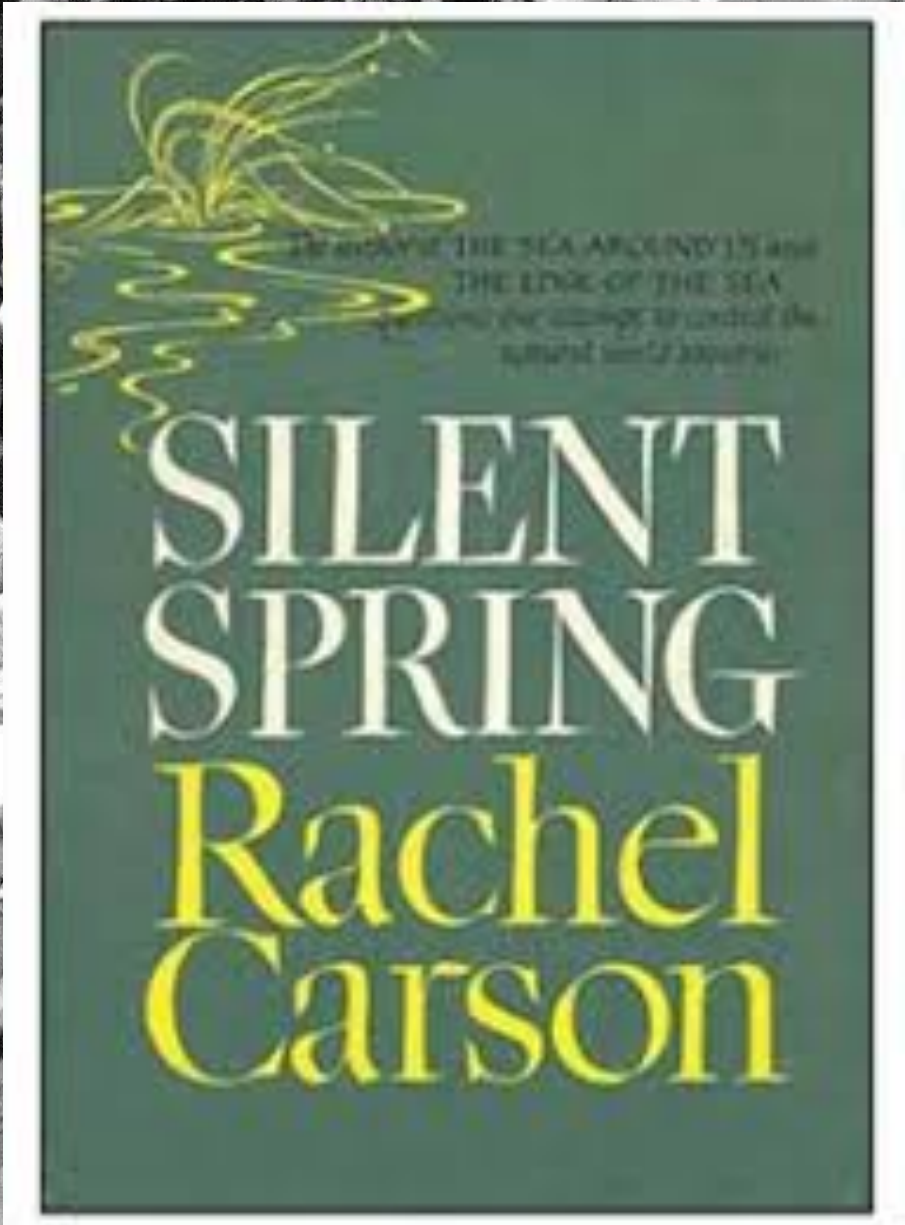
# CEQA Overview - History



# CEQA Overview - History



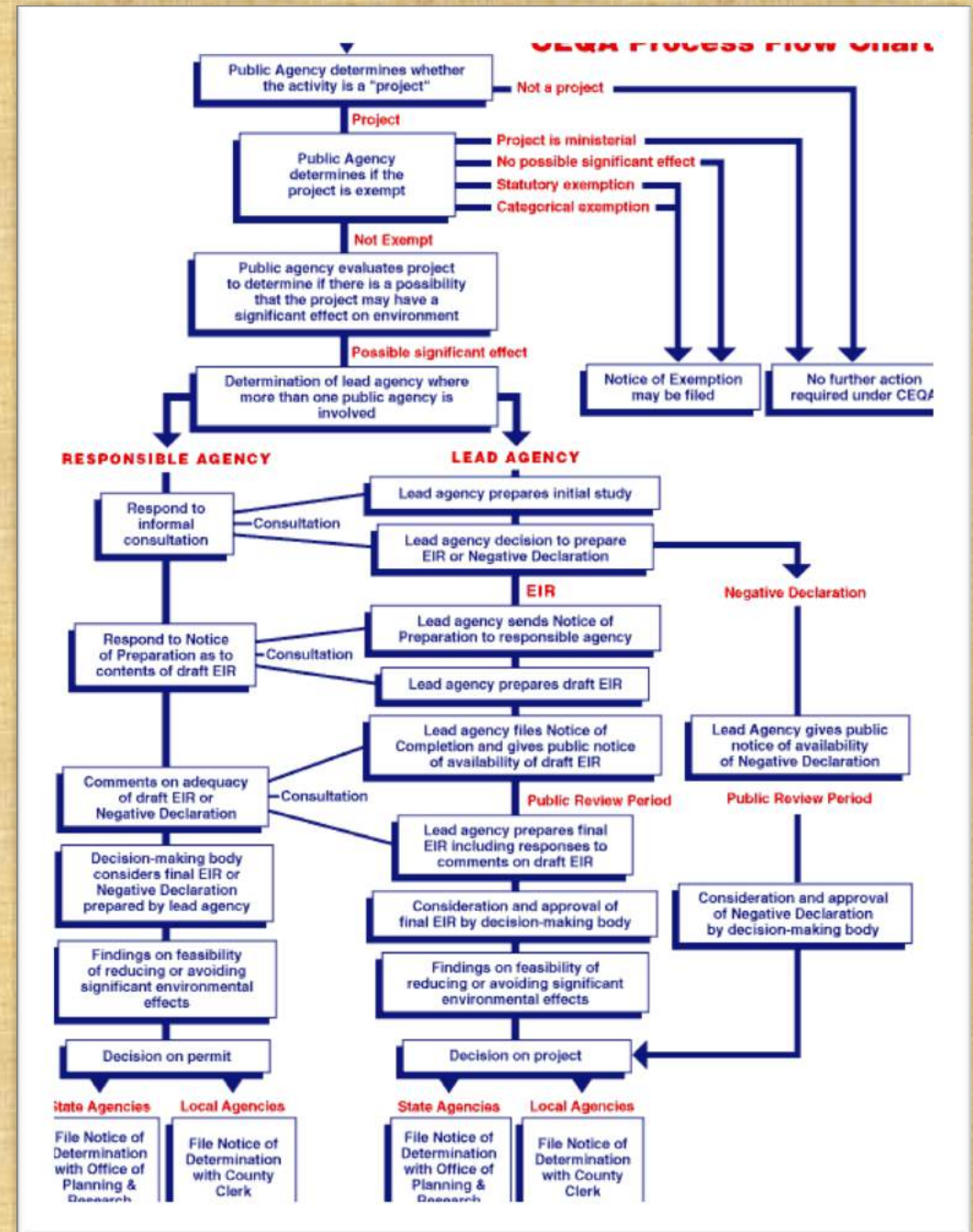
# CEQA Overview



# CEQA Overview - History



# CEQA Overview - Process





# CEQA Overview - Process

- Is project ministerial or discretionary?
- Is the project exempt from CEQA?
- Is there a “significant” impact? (checklist)
- No → Negative Declaration
- Yes → Environmental Impact Report
- CEQA is primarily informational, but also has “substantive mandate”

# CEQA Overview – EIR Process

- Public Review Required
- Alternatives Analysis
- Must reduce impacts to greatest extent feasible, or adopt findings of infeasibility or “overriding considerations”
- Legal action a key factor
- Recent changes – SB375, VMT

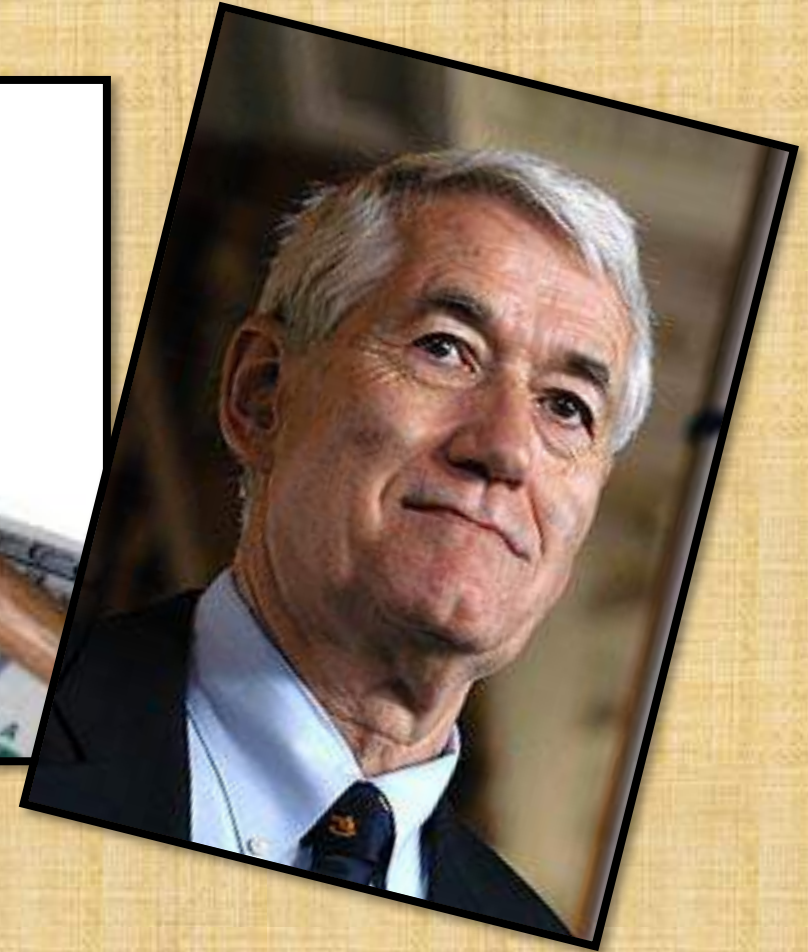
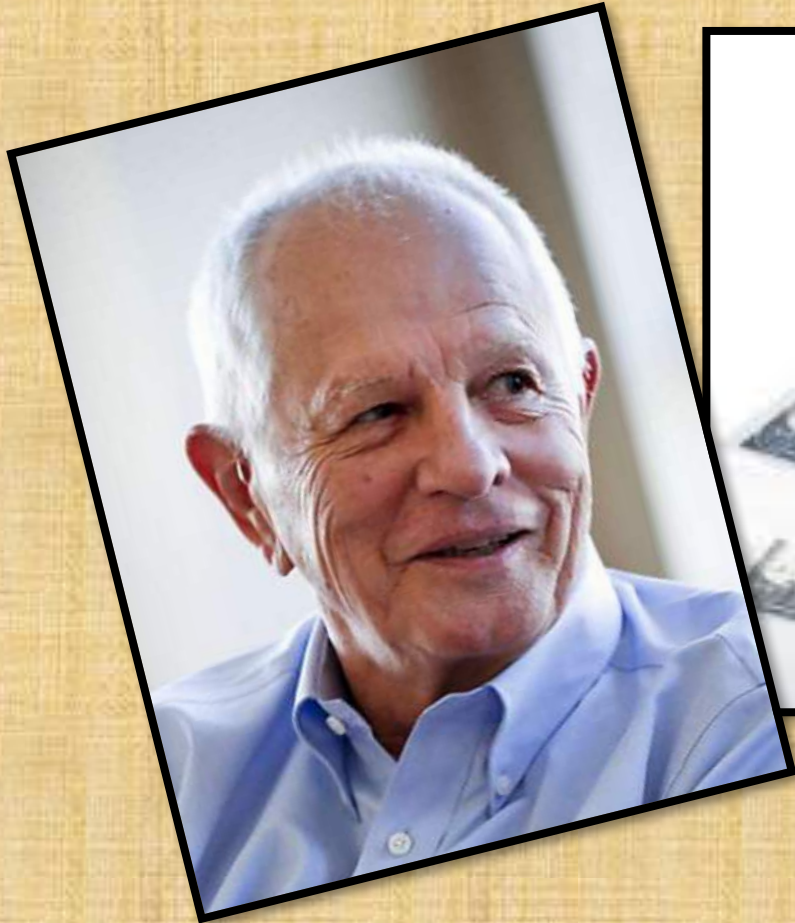
# CEQA Overview – Thresholds of Significance

- Traffic/Transportation
- Cultural Resources
- Noise
- Hazardous Materials

# Downtown Development

- UCB-City Settlement
- Downtown Area Plan
- Downtown high rise projects

# Downtown Development



# Downtown Development

city of berkeley

2012

SUSTAINABILITY

LAND USE

ACCESS

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

URBAN DESIGN

STREETSCAPES

OPEN SPACE

COMMUNITY HEALTH AND SERVICES

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

HOUSING

Illustrated Version of  
**DOWNTOWN AREA PLAN**

# Downtown Development



# Downtown Development





# Downtown Development



# Downtown Development



# Downtown Development

