

My Internship at NCTPA

Danny Rubin



What is NCTPA?

Napa

County

Transportation

and

Planning

Agency

NCTPA Background

- Founded in 1988
- Designated Congestion Management Agency and Transit Provider for Napa County
- Responsible for developing transportation plans and programs for Napa County
- Offers variety of public transportation services for residents of the county
- Works closely with federal, state, regional, and local agencies

NCTPA Jurisdiction

- The NCTPA serves the five cities of Napa County
 - Napa
 - American Canyon
 - Yountville
 - St. Helena
 - Calistoga
- It also serves the unincorporated areas (areas not in a city) within the county

Some of NCTPA's Major Projects for the Last 12 Months

- Began Construction on the Soscol Gateway Transit Center
- Constructed the Redwood/Solano Park and Ride lot
- Launched marketing campaigns for the VINE 29 Commuter Express
- Added four brand new hybrid buses to the Vine fleet
- Worked with MTC on updating the Regional Transportation Plan
- Secured funding for Safe Routes to School
- Concluded work on the Countywide Climate Protection Action Framework

NCTPA and Me

- My direct supervisor is Eliot Hurwitz
 - Program Manager for Transportation, Land Use and Climate
- He and I are working together on updating the **Napa Countywide Bicycle Plan**

The Napa Countywide Bicycle Plan

- Main goal: Increase bicycle transportation in the county
- Maps out all the bike routes in the county
- Proposes construction projects that will make bicycling safer and easier.
- Last updated in 2003
- Scheduled to be completed by January, 2012

The Napa Countywide Bicycle Plan and Me

- One major element of the process of updating the bicycle plan is public input.
- To obtain this, there will be a Countywide Bike Summit that will unveil the first draft of the plan to the community.
- My main project for the summer is organizing this summit.

My Tasks regarding the Summit

- Finding a date that doesn't conflict with other community events
- Finding and booking a venue
- Securing financial sponsors
- Securing food and wine sponsors
- Creating an ad campaign
- Arranging bicycle parking

An example of my work:
Rough draft (very, very, rough) of event flyer

Napa County Bicycle Summit

You're invited to review the latest draft of the Napa Countywide Bicycle Plan

September 24, 2011, 9AM - Noon
at
New Technology High School



Sponsor Logos here

NC TPA Napa County Transportation & Planning Agency

For more information:
Eliot Hurwitz 707-455-8284 ehurwitz@nctpa.net

Tasks not related to Bike Summit

- Scanning the entire NCTPA Library onto it's network.
- Performing inventory on the NCTPA's marketing materials
 - When you performed your site visit to NCTPA, I was working on this
- Updating a data spreadsheet on county transportation statistics
- Updating database of Vine Paratransit Go users
- Filing documents for various staff members

What I learned from my internship:

1. There is a ton of bureaucracy in transportation
2. One of the main goals of the country's transportation departments is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions
3. The public plays a massive role in the workings of local government
4. Planning a community event is not something you can procrastinate on
5. If you aren't organized, you can easily lose track of what you are working on
6. Cooperation is key

The End

Note: I really enjoyed my internship, and because of this experience, I am strongly considering a career in local government. Thank you so much for this wonderful opportunity. 😊