

Community enhancement through the eyes of the City Attorney's Office. A moderated panel discussion.

Moderator: Dan Hentschke, Assistant City Attorney

AUDs and ADUs – New regulations to ease provision of affordable housing explained.

Presented by: Tava Ostrenger, Assistant City Attorney

This session will discuss AUDs and ADU (to be further described at the session), two elements of Santa Barbara's ongoing effort to provide affordable housing consistent with the town's unique character, diverse population, and historic charm.

Santa Barbara City Attorney's Office new Prosecution Unit – An Introduction.

Presented by: Denny Wei, Assistant City Attorney

Denny Wei, the City's first full time prosecutor will describe the City's code enforcement program.

Parks, Picnics and Protests – How the First Amendment affects park regulations.

Presented by: Robin Lewis, Assistant City Attorney

Balancing public uses within public parks can be a difficult challenge. When activities are protected by the First Amendment regulation of those activities can be an even greater challenge.

Regulating use of streets, sidewalks, and other public places.

Presented by; John Doimas, Assistant City Attorney

This presentation will focus on new ordinances regulating sidewalk vending, vending from vehicles, storage of personal property, and other activities that impact public use of streets, sidewalks and other public places.

Dan Hentschke joined the City Attorney's Office in December 2017. Before joining the office he served as: General Counsel for the San Diego County Water Authority (1998-2015); City Attorney for the cities of Oceanside (1991-1998), San Marcos (1987-1993) and Solana Beach (1986-1998); assistant city attorney for Carlsbad (1979-1986); and as a deputy city attorney for San Diego (1977-1979). He was coaxed out of retirement to return to his home town. Dan is a product of Santa Barbara's public education system (Adams Elementary, La Cumbre Junior High, Santa Barbara High, and UCSB).

Tava Ostrenger joined the Santa Barbara City Attorney's Office in 2007. She currently serves as the legal advisor to the Community Development Department and Santa Barbara Airport. Additionally, Ms. Ostrenger advises the Planning Commission, Historic Landmarks Commission, and Architectural Board of Review. During her tenure in the City Attorney's Office she has been responsible for wide variety of matters ranging from cannabis regulations, code enforcement, and litigation. Ms. Ostrenger received her law degree from Santa Barbara College of Law and her bachelor degree in Sociology, with a minor in History, from the University of California at Santa Barbara.

Denny Wei joined the City Attorney's Office in June 2019. He is the City's first full-time prosecuting attorney. Before joining the Office he was a Senior Assistant City Attorney with the Burbank City Attorney's Office, where served as supervisor of Burbank's Criminal Prosecution Unit, and as a Deputy District Attorney in San Benito County. He has extensive experience using various code enforcement tools to abate nuisances and remediate substandard housing. Mr. Wei received his law degree from Whittier College School of Law and earned his bachelor degrees in History and Sociology from the University of California at Santa Cruz.

Robin L. Lewis joined the City Attorney's Office in 2009. She is a member of the office's litigation team and also advises the Parks and Recreation Department. Before joining the City Attorney's Office, she work Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton as special counsel and was a partner with Brownstein, Hyatt, Farber & Schreck and Hatch & Parent. Ms. Lewis received her law degree from Marquette University Law School in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Prior to graduating from law school, she was a psychotherapist for fourteen years, earning her Master of Social Work degree from the University of Nebraska-Omaha.

John Doimas joined the City Attorney's Office in 2011. He serves as the advisor to the Police, Library, Human Resources, and Building and Safety Department. He also handled code enforcement for the office. Originally from Chicago, Mr. Doimas received his law degree from Loyola University Chicago with highest honors and earned bachelor degrees in Political Science and History and a minor in Economics from DePaul University.