

MEDIA RELEASE

Pepperdine University to Host "Taking It Upstream: Collaboration, Consensus Building and Sustainable Development--A Green Leadership (Un)Conference" (September 25, 2009)

Pepperdine University will host "*Taking It Upstream: Collaboration, Consensus Building and Sustainable Development--A Green Leadership (Un)Conference*" on Friday, September 25, 2009 at Pepperdine University's Graziadio Conference Center. The event is being co-sponsored by the Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution, the Pepperdine School of Law, and the Palmer Center for Entrepreneurship & the Law.

Invited and confirmed speakers include Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, State Senator Fran Pavley (co-author of AB 32) and Mayor Villaraigosa, in addition to a roster of more than 30 expert panelists.

This groundbreaking event will provide a highly engaging forum for agencies, planners, architects, developers, public officials, community leaders, attorneys and mediators to explore opportunities for using collaboration and consensus building to create more sustainable communities and manage potential land use and environmental disputes.

In the morning, three 'fishbowl-style' conversation panels will frame the day in terms of 'the Big Picture,' 'the Local Perspective,' and 'Cutting Edge Collaborative Techniques.' The afternoon program will focus on implementation and solutions, and will be in the form of intimate, roundtable dialogues. There will also be a World Café Learning Exchange Lunch, a Mayor's Panel and, towards the end of the day, a 'Take-Aways' Session, 'Green Opportunities' Drawing, and Networking Reception.

The (Un)Conference is the brainchild of environmental attorney and mediator Steve Zikman, who received a Straus Fellowship to create the event.

"The morning framing sessions and afternoon roundtables will be highly interactive," he says. "No boring panels. These will be conversations designed to capture the wisdom of the room, especially regarding green building practices and the implementation of AB 32 and SB 375."

Further information (including an up-to-date agenda and a list of speakers and panelists) may be found on the conference's website at: <http://law.pepperdine.edu/news-events/events/upstream>.

Attendance is limited so register soon for what is sure to be one of the year's more timely events. The early bird rate runs until August 28th. They are offering a preferred Affiliate rate of \$125 to Allen Matkins' Green Building Update and Renewable Energy Update subscribers. There is also a special rate of \$95 for Government/Agency and Non-Profit attendees.