How are our communities and the larger regional and global context changing? What are the implications for transportation, business location, and residential choice? How will changes in these and related areas affect access to opportunities (jobs, housing, and education) and quality of life?

Former State Senator and California Medical Association CEO Joe Dunn will explore and discuss how these and related issues can provide an improved understanding of communities, and produce inventive, visionary planning strategies and processes to ensure a thriving future for the golden state and its metropolitan regions.

As the California Medical Association’s CEO since 2006, Joe Dunn has rebuilt the staff infrastructure of CMA, and focused on why no doctor should go without the support of CMA. In speeches to medical students, residents, and County Medical Societies, Mr. Dunn highlights that the real challenges of the profession lie outside of medicine—in law, politics, and economics. Mr. Dunn emphasizes these challenges to show that doctors must stand together and operate better in the political arena. CMA has been a key player in advocating for health reform, and Mr. Dunn has successfully refocused CMA’s mission on the multi-pronged approach of legislative, legal, and economic advocacy.

Prior to his appointment at CMA, Mr. Dunn served for eight years as a California State Senator representing the people of the 34th Senate District. As Senator, Mr. Dunn worked on behalf of children’s hospitals, emergency services, seniors, and affordable housing. In his earlier career as a litigator, Mr. Dunn played a major role in stopping tobacco companies from targeting youth in their advertising campaigns, fought industrial polluters who exposed neighborhoods to toxic chemicals, and worked to give patients better access to quality health care.