



SEAOSC Board of Directors confirms recommendation: Mr. Janah Risha to serve as 2017-2018 SEAOC State President



The SEAOSC BOD at their March 2nd meeting voted unanimously in favor to confirm past SEAOSC president nominee Janah Risha to serve as SEAOC state president for the term 2017-2018. Janah will be assuming the position of SEAOC president-elect beginning September 2016, and will serve on the state board for three years in the capacities of president-elect, president, and immediate past president.

Janah Risha was chosen by the SEAOSC Presidential Nomination Committee which consists of past SEAOSC presidents that have served as SEAOC president. The Committee selected the next SEAOSC representative to serve as SEAOC president from the roster of past SEAOSC Presidents as they are familiar with how both SEAOSC and SEAOC are organized and generally operate. By the time an individual has completed their year as SEAOC past president, they have spent 9 years directly involved with SEAOSC and SEAOC leadership; two years as a SEAOSC board of director member, one year as SEAOSC treasurer, president-elect, president and immediate past president, and then one year as SEAOC president elect, president and immediate president. So next time when you see Janah, congratulate him on becoming the next SEAOC president, and for continuing his dedication to help advance our structural engineering profession.

Congratulations Janah, and Thank You.

Michelle Kam-Biron SE
SEAOSC president 2015-2016

Michael Cochran SE
Chair, SEAOSC nomination committee for SEAOC president

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SAVE THE DATE!

APRIL

- 6 LA Dinner Meeting
Luminarias, Monterey Park
- 20 OC Dinner Meeting
Wyndham, Irvine
- 23 Membership Appreciation Event
XLanes, Los Angeles

MAY

- 4 LA Dinner Meeting
Luminarias, Monterey Park
- 11 Tri County Dinner Meeting
- 20 & 21 Spring Education Event

JUNE

- 1 President's Dinner Meeting
Luminarias, Monterey Park



Michelle Kam-Biron, PE, SE, SECB

Has Spring sprung? Do you have Spring fever? Many of you know that I work for American Wood Council, but what you may not know, is that one of the great aspects about this position is

that I am able to interact with structural engineers throughout the nation. Some areas of the country **spring has sprung** while others are barely getting out. In Southern California we are certainly seeing a change to warmer weather and yet who knows we could have a rocking thunder storm next week! But what is even more interesting is that this interaction provides me with a different perspective of our industry. One of which is that there's a common theme in our industry throughout the nation, that we're all just trying to do the best that we can to provide structural solutions that will save lives. How cool is that? How cool is it to have peers within the structural engineering community where most of us want to save lives? I think it's awesome and maybe **structural engineers should be treated like celebrities??**

One way that SEAOSC exemplifies this thought is through the **Excellence in Structural Engineering Awards**. We know that everyone is extremely busy but this is a chance to really celebrate what structural engineers do and what better way to celebrate our coolness than through showcasing the projects that structural engineers design. **Deadline for submissions is 5:00 pm, April 29, 2016.**

Continuing the momentum from the SEAOSC Summit and our need to reach out to partner organizations to enable SEAOSC to become more visible beyond the building industry, Jeff Ellis and I met with [Building Owners and Managers Association Greater Los Angeles](#) (BOMA/GLA) Brian Plymell, Chair, Charles Hobey, Immediate Past Chairman and Martha Cox-Nitikman, Vice President, Public Policy on January 25th. BOMA/GLA have been involved in past SEAOSC Summits by helping inform their membership about the event as well as participating in the panel discussions.

We discussed how SEAOSC would like to partner with BOMA/GLA to provide technical support and to inform the membership about seismic risk and resiliency, not only for one's own building but as a

community. We also discussed pre-planning for an earthquake event and incorporating programs such as Back to Business (B2B) similar to the [City of Glendale's program](#) or the City of Thousand Oaks which SEAOSC supported and was mentioned in the [SEAOSC September Newsletter](#). In Northern California it is known as [Building Occupancy Resumption Program \(BORP\)](#). As a result of our meeting, Ken O'Dell and Michael Cochran will present, "Risk Assessment, Asset Knowledge, Using the PML study for more than funding the Property Acquisition" on behalf of SEAOSC at the [BOMA/GLA April 6th lunch meeting](#) in downtown Los Angeles. We hope to draw a big crowd!

On March 10th [ICC Los Angeles Basin Chapter](#) held their first lunch meeting for their fiscal year and I had the honor of presenting, "How New Trends in Wood Construction Comply with the Building Code," to a large audience of engineers, code officials, inspectors and building product representatives. Not only was I representing **American Wood Council** but I was also representing SEAOSC. I started the presentation off by telling a story about the change in wood structures throughout the years from a structure of tree branches, a teepee, a log cabin, etc. to midrise wood construction. How innovation plays a role in how structures improve and change throughout the years. I mentioned it takes the building owner, architect, structural engineer, code official, product manufacturers, etc. all working together as a team to incorporate innovation into the built environment to make structures better. Although some may think otherwise, it's through teamwork that great innovative ideas are created and implemented in our industry. The majority of the audience appeared to all agree. This is what SEAOSC is trying to do as well. We know that we cannot improve and evolve as an association without forming partnerships with other associations in the building industry.

To help with this effort we have BSC Management, who has now been with us for several months and have made many improvements to SEAOSC. There is a lot of behind the scenes work that goes into running SEAOSC, most of which I'm sure the membership is unaware of which is a good thing because that means that things are running smoothly. Some examples of their efforts are, they now have full control of the SEAOSC website, they've made improvements to the event registration,



the newsletter has a much improved professional look, the membership staff has helped with outreach to delinquent members, and much more. Mentioned in the [February newsletter](#), Lois Ehrlich who brings many years of experience took over the reins from Jenay Root as our Executive Director and she has been a great pleasure to work with. We're still in the "honeymoon" phase of this partnership with BSC but we are all very excited about what the future holds as we continue to learn about how each operates. Adding to the staff of people to support SEAOSC, we now have Colleen Elkins who hit the ground running and is responsible for SEAOSC sponsorship and fundraising. So when you see someone from BSC, please tell them thank you!

Most of you have received the March 11th SEAOSC eblast regarding a free tabletop exhibit at the April 7th [Mayor Garcetti's Seismic Retrofit Fair](#). This is a great opportunity for our membership, who are involved with seismic retrofit, to have exposure to the building owners of soft story buildings. The notifications from the City of Los Angeles were sent to over 13,500 building owners to inform them that their buildings will need to be evaluated and possibly seismically retrofitted per LA's seismic retrofit ordinance. Additionally, we are working with City of LA's Chief Seismic Resilience Office, Marissa Aho, on the program for the event and the possibility for SEAOSC to provide presentations as well as have a tabletop exhibit.

In my President's message for the [September Newsletter](#), I mentioned the need to support other female structural engineers. In an effort to continuing this effort, Victoria Wigle, Annie Kao, Lorena Arce, Kirsten Zeydel and I have organized a lunch seminar with a presentation by Annie titled, "Effective communication tips to elevate your conversations with clients and colleagues". The noon time event will be held at the West LA KPFF office, on March 30th with Simpson Strong-Tie hosting the lunch. The minute the email went out, we had a very positive response. So much so, that we had to change to a larger venue. If you are interested in participating in this event, please contact me.

As many of you saw in the [March Newsletter](#), the Nomination Committee announced the prestigious nominees for the 2016-17 Board as follows: Treasurer: Mehran Pourzanjani Directors: - Matt

Barnard – Sandra Biddulph – Josh Gebelien – Jackie Vinkler. Some of you may recall that I mentioned Mehran in the [September Newsletter](#), as he was part of the AdHoc Committee that developed the Re-alignment Plan. Please be aware that voting will begin in early May to affirm these nominations. We will be sad to see four of our current Directors Colin Kumabe, Edgar Plazola, Joseph Valancius, and Paul Van Benschoten and our Immediate Past-President, Kevin O'Connell rotate off, but we do look forward to the next members to join the board.

For those of you that have read my previous messages (all 2 of you :-)) this is a [quirky video](#) that for some reason, reminds me of engineers... wait for it... till about 3:10 and then he perseveres! I dare you to listen without smiling.

Have an Extraordinary Day and [Dream!](#)

Michelle Kam-Biron, PE, SE, SECB

SEAOSC President



Paul Van Benschoten

Paul Van Benschoten SE started in the building industry as a carpenter and later acquired both a California General and Electrical Contractors licenses. He field supervised numerous retail, multifamily and commercial construction projects for real estate developers in the 1980s and early 1990s. Paul enjoyed worked closely with many professional engineers and architects in all aspects of building construction. He was especially drawn to the discipline of structural engineering. After twelve years in construction, he started a Bachelor of Science degree focused on structural engineering. In 1996 Paul graduated from California State University at Northridge. The aftermath of 1994 Northridge Earthquake, in the middle of his engineering education, was the impetus for a career long desire to design and promote earthquake safe structures.

Paul's early structural experience with John A Martin & Associates and Nabih Youssef & Associates provided a strong background in large commercial, institutional, seismic retrofit and healthcare projects. He was fortunate to stand on the shoulders of many exceptional engineering mentors early in his career. Currently, Paul is the managing principal at Coffman Engineers, Los Angeles. He oversees structural design and coordinates multi-discipline engineering projects in the Los Angeles office. His structural experience consists primarily of healthcare, education, industrial, commercial, mixed-use and seismic retrofits projects although his portfolio runs the almost the full gamut of structural engineering services. Recent projects include numerous viscous damper retrofits of pre-Northridge/Kobe steel moment frame buildings, a new surgical tower in Whittier, major renovations of hospitality and commercial buildings, and new construction of private and public schools. He has co-authored technical papers on Buckling Restrained Braced Frames, Viscous Fluid Dampers and Non-Linear Push-Over Analysis found in national engineering publications.

SEAOSC has been an influential part of Paul's career development. He credits many of his specialized skills and knowledge to the training provided by SEAOC's seminars and publications.



Victoria Wigle

Victoria is a first-year board member and the board contact for the membership committee. She has been a structural engineer with Thornton Tomasetti since 2008. Her project experience includes both new construction and adaptive reuse as well as existing building evaluation. She has worked on projects locally and abroad, including a year-long stint in Christchurch, New Zealand following the Canterbury Earthquakes. Victoria completed her undergraduate studies at the University of Kansas and her graduate work at the University of Illinois – Urbana-Champaign.

She has volunteered on the steering committee for the SEAOSC Strengthening Our Cities Summit since 2013, serving as co-chair in 2014 and 2015. Outside of SEAOSC, Victoria has participated in CANstruction and the ACE Mentor Program. She has also served as a member of the Dean's Recent Grad Advisory Board for the University of Kansas School of Engineering and is a volunteer for the Bill Foundation Dog Rescue.

Victoria is very honored to serve on the board and thankful for the work that SEAOSC has done. SEAOSC and SEAOC bring together structural engineers to address issues facing our profession (both technical and non-technical) as well as to promote the structural engineering community. Victoria has found committee work particularly rewarding and encourages SEAOSC members to get involved and take advantage of the variety of opportunities SEAOSC offers.



SEAOSC EXISTING BUILDINGS COMMITTEE

Mission and Charges

SEAOSC Vision

The Structural Engineers Association of Southern California (SEAOSC) is the premier professional organization to which local Structural Engineers belong. The organization serves its members in the noble profession of structural engineering by fostering and promoting the contributions of structural engineers to society.

SEAOSC Mission

SEAOSC is a member-centric organization, where substance and image are equally promoted through fiscally responsible management and optimization of the benefits to the members. SEAOSC leadership and membership will strive to reach the ideals represented by the following five pillars of the association: Membership Value, Image & Advocacy, Codes & Standards, Education, and Legislative Participation.

SEAOSC Codes & Standards Pillar Mission

Enhance the code and standard development process with effective committee work and cooperation with our partners in the process. Lead applied research efforts to enhance the practice of structural engineering in Southern California and elsewhere. Contribute to the development of structural engineering technologies.

SEAOSC Existing Buildings Committee Mission

Contribute technical advice in the development and/or update of the existing building code and other design standards as related to existing buildings. Report the latest developments to the membership, through the Board of Directors (BOD), on existing building practices both local and state wide.

SEAOSC Existing Buildings Committee Standing Charges

Annual routine tasks performed by the committee include providing one educational seminar to the members and two webinar presentations on the latest developments in existing buildings, and participation in the planning of the annual BAR Summit. Monitor developments with ASCE 41, FEMA P-58, the IEBC, and other standards for Existing Buildings and report on changing issues to the BOD. Coordinate/support the activities of the SEAOSC Existing Buildings Committee, and other related industry partners such as the EERI Concrete Coalition, with the approval of the BOD.

SEAOSC Existing Buildings Committee Charges

Provide guidance and develop tools (e.g., design examples, design guides, white papers, Blue Book articles, instructional webinars and seminars, etc.) for our membership regarding evaluation and strengthening of existing buildings and current IBC and CBC code and standard requirements. Review the proposed City of LA soft-story wood frame and non-ductile concrete building seismic strengthening ordinances included in the Mayor's Resiliency by Design plan and report recommended revisions to the BOD. Identify key issues and develop a position paper regarding the latest developments for the City of LA Division 88 changes. Determine the status of development effort for the retrofit of single family dwellings by the California EQ Authority and advise the Board. Write a procedure (for future committee work) that enables SEAOSC to establish the number of high risk/seismically vulnerable structures that currently exist in Southern California (URM / Non-Ductile Concrete etc.). Perform tasks delegated to the committee by the SEAOSC BOD and/or the SEAOSC EBC (with SEAOSC BOD approval).



Daniel Zepeda, SEAOSC Existing Buildings Committee Chair

Daniel Zepeda has a graduate degree in Structural Engineering from the University of California, Berkeley and is currently a Licensed Structural Engineer in California and a Principal at Degenkolb Engineers. With over 12 years of experience in seismic evaluation and seismic strengthening of existing buildings, Daniel's project breadth spans large medical centers, civic buildings and privately owned structures. He is the chair of the Structural Engineers Association of Southern California (SEAOSC)'s Existing Buildings Committee and is helping Cities in the LA area, such as City of LA, Santa Monica, Beverly Hills and West Hollywood with their seismic programs. Daniel was a member of Degenkolb's post-earthquake reconnaissance team that surveyed both the 2010 Chile Earthquake and the 2010 Baja California Earthquake. He is also participating in the update of the latest version of ASCE 41.



Welcome New Members - February 2016

Associate

- Mario Hansl, mario.hansl@outlook.com, Jacobs Engineering, Orange
- Eric McNeely, emcneely@bjsce.com, Brandow & Johnston, Inc., Irvine

Young Associate

- Charlotte Insull, cinsull@walterpmoore.com, Walter P. Moore, Los Angeles
- Vickie Chiou, vickiechiou@gmail.com, Walter P. Moore, Los Angeles

Member

- Jonathon Buckalew, jbuckalew@nyase.com, Nabih Youssef Associates, Los Angeles

Student

- California State University, Los Angeles

ENCOURAGE YOUR COLLEAGUES TO JOIN SEAOSC!

The Structural Engineers Association of Southern California (SEAOSC) is a professional organization of Civil and Structural Engineers which also includes affiliated construction industry members and students. The association provides its members with the educational opportunities and the challenge to meet high standards of engineering excellence, and ethical and professional conduct in the design of structures and facilities within the broader field of civil engineering.

<http://www.seaosc.org/join-seaosc>



SEAOSC

2016 Excellence in Structural Engineering Awards

CALL FOR ENTRIES

The Structural Engineers Association of Southern California (SEAOSC) is the Southern California professional organization for Structural Engineers. Each year, through SEAOSC's Excellence in Structural Engineering Awards program, recognition is given to SEAOSC Members and Member SE's that have demonstrated outstanding achievement and excellence in structural engineering practice and project work. The awarded projects and their recipients serve as models of excellence in structural engineering representing California Structural Engineers. The SEAOSC 2016 Awards will be presented at an awards ceremony and dinner at Luminarias Restaurant in Monterey Park, CA on June 1, 2016.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the SEAOSC Excellence in Structural Engineering Awards program is to publicly acknowledge outstanding achievement in creative design, technical innovation, best practices and demonstrated contributions to the public and/or profession. Additionally, it is the intent of the SEAOSC Awards program to educate the public as to the contributions of Structural Engineers to the built environment and public safety. Founded in 1929, SEAOSC is committed to advancing the art and science of structural engineering.

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES

Entries with all supporting materials, forms and fees must be received by 5 p.m. on Friday, April 29, 2016 at the address listed below. **NO EXCEPTIONS!** Entry forms are included in this packet of information. Entry information packet and forms may also be downloaded from the SEAOSC website (www.SEAOSC.org). All entry materials should be clearly labeled as "Submission for SEAOSC 2016 Excellence in Structural Engineering Awards" and delivered to the following address:

SEAOSC 2016 Excellence in Structural Engineering Awards
c/o Robert Lyons, PE, SE
Risha Engineering
410 East Cypress Avenue
Burbank, California 91501

**View the June 3, 2015 Awards Ceremony
by clicking on the video thumbnail below!**



Learn more and apply [HERE](#)

MICHELLE KAM-BIRON
PRESIDENT

JEFF ELLIS
PRESIDENT-ELECT

ROBERT LYONS
TREASURER

LORENA ARCE
SECRETARY



**STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**
A Non-Profit California Corporation

11300 W. Olympic Blvd., Suite 600
Los Angeles, CA 90064

LOIS EHRlich
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Tel: 562-908-6131
Email: lois@seaosc.org

**2015-2016
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EDGAR PLAZOLA
JOSEPH VALANCIUS
PAUL VAN BENSCHOTEN
VICTORIA WIGLE

LA CITY SOFT STORY RETROFIT ORDINANCE STATUS UPDATE - MARCH 2016

Los Angeles City has sent out approximately 13,500 seismic retrofit compliance letters to identified building owners whose buildings are considered to have a soft story condition that may be vulnerable to collapse during an earthquake. As this seismic retrofit program is just in its beginning stages, there may be a number of questions that arise. SEAOSC will attempt to keep the membership informed of issues as they arise that could impact the structural engineering profession and professional services we offer to both our clients and the community. As information becomes available, it will be distributed through the SEAOSC newsletters and posted to the SEAOSC website, so check-in periodically for updates.

LA City Soft Story Retrofit Ordinance and Tenant Habitability Review

What SEAOSC members need to know:

SEAOSC would like to bring to the membership's attention that the LA City Soft Story Retrofit Ordinance includes sections (91.9307.1) Notification to Tenants and Occupants and (91.9307.2) Tenant Habitability Plan, that requires the development of a Tenant Habitability Plan (THP) and the building owner to notify the tenants of the work being done to the building. The method of tenant notification has to be approved by the Los Angeles Housing and Community Investment Department (HCIDLA). The THP may also have to address temporary tenant relocation requirements. The HCIDLA requires the THP to make sure the tenants are not evicted as a result of the building owner complying with the seismic retrofit ordinance.

Why should SEAOSC members care?

A prospective client, who has received the soft-story compliance letter from the Los Angeles City Department of Building and Safety, may be contacting you directly regarding hiring you or your company to provide an engineered solution for the building's existing soft story condition and then hiring a contractor to do the actual retrofit work. As part of the plan check requirement, the building owner may need to provide evidence of having fulfilled the Tenant Habitability Plan requirements noted in the ordinance or evidence as to why it doesn't apply to them. If your company is tasked with taking the retrofit design through the plan check process, the THP is something the building owner is going to need to provide to either you or the contractor to submit to HCIDLA for their approval. A flyer is available from

both LADBS and HCIDLA that explains the HCIDLA Tenant Habitability Program process. When the THP is approved by HCIDLA, they will electronically sign-off with LADBS plan check, clearing the way for the permit to be issued, assuming all other plan check corrections and clearances have been obtained.

Completion of the Tenant Habitability Program process may take longer to accomplish than the actual seismic retrofit design and structural plan check of the design. The building owner, or their representative, will need to work with the HCIDLA to come up with an acceptable THP, which the tenants will have a given number of days to review and respond to prior to obtaining sign-off from HCIDLA. Once HCIDLA signs off electronically, LADBS plan check can then issue the construction permit. The time to complete the THP and obtain tenant approval could well be several months, and impact the ability of the owner to obtain a signed fixed price contract from the contractor. The building owners will likely need to hire a contractor to help develop the THP.

Obtaining the THP on the client's behalf typically is not a service the structural engineer will be providing. But it is recommended that the structural engineer during initial client discussions about the building's seismic retrofit scheme also inform the client of this THP requirement stated in the ordinance, as the owner likely has not read the entire ordinance or understands what is required. The owner should have the THP requirements related to their building completed and signed off by the HCIDLA prior to structural plan check submission for the seismic retrofit design if possible. This will help speed up the plan check process and issuance of the permit.

The building owner can contact the Los Angeles Housing and Community Investment Department to find out more about the Tenant Habitability Program requirements at:

Main Office, 1200 West 7th Street, 1st floor, Los Angeles CA 90017

Satellite office locations can be found at this link: <http://hcidla.lacity.org/Public-Counters>

A PDF copy of the latest flyer that explains the HCIDLA Tenant Habitability Program process should be available from both the LADBS and HCIDLA websites in the near future, as well as other information related to the soft-story ordinance. A copy of the HCIDLA Tenant Habitability Program flyer, as of March 2016, is attached to this status update letter.

Seismic Retrofit Cost Recovery Program

How to apply

Applications for a cost pass-through may be obtained from the HCIDLA via our:

- Hotline at 866-557-7368
- Web site at hcidla.lacity.org
- HCIDLA public counters
- E-mail at hcidla.rso@lacity.org

Applications MUST be submitted within 12 months of completing the retrofit work. The following items will be required with the application:

- A copy of the THP
- Documentation that supports the costs, e.g. contracts, invoices, proof of payment, etc.
- Rent roll that includes tenants' move-in dates and current rents

RSO workshops are held throughout the year. Individual assistance with applications is also available the first Tuesday of every month by appointment. Call 213-928-9075 to schedule.

How the program works

- Up to 50% of total seismic retrofit costs may be passed through to tenants, if approved by HCIDLA.
- The maximum rent increase is \$38 per month for 120 months. The recovery period may be extended until the full approved amount is collected.
- Seismic retrofit costs are divided among all the units.

How cost recovery applications are processed

A Case Analyst will be assigned to review the application and guide you throughout the process.

- Landlords and tenants receive notification that the application has been filed
- HCIDLA reviews documentation and determines the correct pass-through amount.
- A final determination, including an appeal form, is mailed to landlords and tenants.
- Both landlords and tenants have the right to appeal the decision.



HCIDLA Contacts

Tenant Habitability Program Unit
(213) 252-1464
Email: hcidla.code.seismic@lacity.org

<http://hcidla.lacity.org/tenant-habitability-program>

Cost Recovery Applications & RSO Information
(866) 557-RENT (7368)
Email: hcidla.rso@lacity.org

<http://hcidla.lacity.org>

Building & Safety Contacts

Soft-Story Retrofit Unit
201 N. Figueroa St., Suite 890
(213) 482-SOFT (7638)

Email: soft-storyretrofit@lacity.org

<http://ladbs.org/soft-story>

LOS ANGELES SEISMIC RETROFIT PROGRAM

Tenant Habitability Plan & Cost Recovery Guide for Property Owners



Tenant Habitability Program

This guide summarizes the requirements of the City of Los Angeles Tenant Habitability Program, administered by the Los Angeles Housing and Community Investment Department (HCIDLA). The legal requirements are set forth in the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) Section 152.00. A copy of Section 152.00 is available on HCIDLA's web site at [www.http://hcidla.lacity.org/tenant-habitability-program](http://hcidla.lacity.org/tenant-habitability-program).

What is the Tenant Habitability Program?

The Tenant Habitability Program requires the development of a Tenant Habitability Plan (THP) in order to mitigate the impact on tenants during major construction in apartment buildings. Property owners undertaking major construction work must take steps to ensure that tenants can safely remain in place during construction or provide temporary relocation to tenants when the work makes the rental unit untenable, as defined by California Civil Code Section 1941.1.

Seismic retrofit work requires the filing of a Tenant Habitability Plan.

What do I do when I receive a seismic retrofit order?

When building owners receive a seismic retrofit order from the Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety (LADBS), they must notify tenants in writing on the form approved by HCIDLA (LAMC Sections 91.9307.1 and 91.9506.1). Owners may download tenant notification forms from HCIDLA's web site at <http://hcidla.lacity.org/tenant-habitability-program>.

When and how do I file a THP?

Building owners may file a THP application at any time before starting seismic retrofit work. The typical sequence of events is as follows:

- Building owner receives a LADBS seismic order and responds to LADBS requirements, i.e. provides a structural analysis and drawings.

If seismic retrofit work is necessary, then:

- LADBS will require the property owner to obtain HCIDLA's clearance of a THP.
- Building owner contacts HCIDLA to obtain and fill out the THP application forms.
- Building owner together with his/her contractor develops a THP, including an estimate of the duration of work and the impact to tenants, and proposes appropriate mitigation measures. When complete, owner submits the THP to the HCIDLA.
- HCIDLA accepts the THP if it adequately mitigates the retrofit work's impact on tenants.
- A copy of the accepted THP is served to the tenants.
- Tenants have 15 days to appeal the THP.
- If not appealed within 15 days, HCIDLA will clear the retrofit permit for issuance
- If appealed timely, then HCIDLA conducts a THP appeal hearing, and the outcome of the hearing will determine the next steps.



What is included in a THP?

THP applications require ownership information, property identification, and a list of the tenants that includes the amount of their rent payments.

The THP must describe the anticipated impact of the work to the apartments and common areas, and the proposed mitigation measures.

The THP must also describe the anticipated impact of the work to tenants' personal property and the proposed mitigation measures.

In addition, the THP must cover planned temporary disruptions to water, electrical, gas or sewer services. For instance, if these disruptions are necessary, then they may not occur outside of the hours of 8:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The THP must also cover accidental disruptions to these services.

A THP is required even if the owner and contractor do not anticipate any impact to the apartments or to tenants' personal property. This is because the THP also covers the contractor's work hours, the estimated duration of the work, the estimated completion date and the general construction safety requirements that are applicable to the worksite.

Avoid construction delays: Contact the program and start preparing a THP early. LADBS will not issue a retrofit permit and retrofit work may not start until HCIDLA accepts a THP and gives clearance to issue the retrofit permit.

Can program staff help me prepare a THP?

Yes. HCIDLA staff are available to assist in the preparation of a THP at (213) 252-1464 or hcidla.code.seismic@lacity.org.

At Left — Example of Soft Story Building: Popular in the 1950s and 1960s, apartment buildings with tuck-under parking are particularly vulnerable to collapse during earthquakes.

SEAOC Legislative Alert

Support SB 885 to end Duty to Defend obligation

March 7, 2016 SEAOC this spring is supporting legislation in Sacramento that would prohibit "duty to defend" clauses in public and private contracting. This would appropriately limit the liability of design professionals to their level of responsibility in legal disputes. Senate Bill 885 (Wolk), which is sponsored by our colleagues at ACEC-CA, will likely be heard in its first policy committee in April. This will be followed (we hope) with more hearings in other committees, as well as on the floors of the Senate and Assembly. SEAOC is asking that members write letters of support for the bill and submit them to the SEAOC Legislative Committee. SEAOC will then deploy the letters at the Capitol at appropriate times in the legislative process. (Going forward, we will also ask SEAOC members to call or email certain legislators in advance of specific hearings, so watch for that). For now, please review the [sample letter](#) and:

1. Adapt it to fit your own situation and practice. Please consider whether you are speaking on behalf of yourself or your firm (or both), and revise the sample language accordingly. Feel free to include any pertinent thoughts or specific experiences.
2. Please add your own signature and contact information, office or home as appropriate.
3. If appropriate, use your office letterhead.
4. Please submit your letter to the SEAOC office, dschinske@seaoc.org. We'd appreciate receiving it within the next two weeks.

That's it! Thanks for your help. We look forward to keeping you posted on the bill's progress and further opportunities to engage. Carl Josephson, SE Chair, Legislative Committee

[Download the Sample Letter \[DOCX\]](#)

Structural Engineering Survey – Improving the workplace

SEAONC is funding a survey on structural engineering which is described below. The SEAOSC Board of Directors would like to encourage our membership to participate in this survey. The survey findings will help both our membership better understand what we want as a profession, and potentially help the SEAOSC BOD to better assist our membership in achieving this goal.

Objective:

The goals of this survey study are two-fold: to understand the keys to employee engagement/retention, and to identify gender-related obstacles at various stages in a structural engineer's career. The overarching objective is to identify ways in which firms can adapt their practices to retain an engaged and productive workforce

Online Survey:

The Structural Engineers Association of Northern California (SEAONC) has funded a nationwide study of compensation, employee engagement, and career satisfaction for structural engineers. SEAOC, SEA OCC, SEAOSC and SEA OSD have also endorsed this survey effort.

A group of SEAONC members, acting as a third party, are conducting the survey; collecting and analyzing the data. All available measures are taken within the survey software to protect the anonymity of respondents. Neither SEAONC, SEAOC, SEA OCC, SEAOSC, or SEA OSD are collecting, securing or retaining individual responses.

Findings:

The aggregated findings will be presented at various Structural Engineers Association (SEA) events, and also distributed nationally to all participating SEA organizations.

Taking the Survey:

The online survey is completely voluntary and should take between 10-15 minutes to complete. As a member of SEAOC, we hope that you will participate in this important study by taking the survey and passing it along to coworkers and colleagues, especially those who have left our industry. The survey can be found at the following link:

<http://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/2599543/SE3>

If you have any questions or comments, please direct them to the SEAONC group that is administering this survey. They can be reached by e-mail at: SE3@seaonc.org

IMPORTANT MESSAGE

SEAOSC has avoided increasing the SEAOSC Dinner Meetings registration prices for several years. We are pleased with the increase in attendance this year and thank you for your support! To promote SEAOSC Membership benefits, and to adapt to rapidly changing meeting needs and trends, our dinner rate will be two-tiered and increase as of the April LA Dinner Meeting. The prices for the SEAOSC Dinner Meetings will change to the following:

Members:

Pre-registered - 6 days in advance: \$45

Pre-registered - 5 days in advance and On-site: \$55

Non-Members:

Pre-registered - 6 days in advance: \$55

Pre-registered - 5 days in advance and On-site: \$65

We look forward to seeing you at our next event!



BUILDING OFFICIAL FORUM

April 6, 2016 5:30 – 8:30 PM

at Luminarias Restaurant

3500 Ramona Blvd., Monterey Park, CA 91754

Process, Evolution & Best Practices to Facilitate Plan Check!

- Panel discussion with state agencies and building department leaders
- Learn about the adoption and enforcement of the new 2016 CBC
- Hear about the current plan check process
- Advice on best practices

PANELISTS:

Colin Kumabe, S.E.
Metro Plan Check Chief, City of Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety

David Khorram, S.E.
Superintendent of Building and Safety, City of Long Beach Department of Development Services

Douglas Humphrey, S.E.
Regional Manager, Division of the State Architect

Roy Lobo, S.E.
Principal Structural Engineer and Technical Lead, Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development

MODERATOR:

Jeff Ellis, S.E.
SEAOSC President-Elect



Social & Exhibitor Tables



5:30 – 6:30 PM

Dinner



6:30 – 7:00 PM

Panel Discussion



7:00 – 8:00 PM

REGISTER NOW!

Members \$45 Prepaid 6 days in advance, \$55 5 days in advance or at the Door. Nonmembers \$10 more. Students \$25

www.seaosc.org



APRIL 7, 2016 4 p.m. - 8 p.m.
LOS ANGELES
SEISMIC RETROFIT
RESOURCE FAIR

This event will provide information, materials, and resources for owners of soft-story buildings who must comply with new mandatory retrofits.

City Hall representatives will be available to answer questions related to the soft-story retrofit program. Experts in the financial, engineering, and construction fields will also be present to provide support and resources.



**Eric
Garcetti**
#lamayor

For More Information

<http://ladbs.org/soft-story>

<http://hcidla.lacity.org>

<http://lamayor.org/resilience-design>

Please join:

- **The Office of Mayor Eric Garcetti**
- **The Department of Building & Safety**
- **The Housing and Community Investment Department**
- **PACE financing providers**
- **Real estate investment services**
- **Engineers**
- **Contractors**
- **And more**

LOS ANGELES
CONVENTION
CENTER

Concourse Hall
1201 South Figueroa Street
Los Angeles, CA 90015

Paid parking or
take Metro (Pico Station)

Register by e-mailing
resilience@lacity.org



OC DINNER MEETING

A "Power Walk" Through the Reorganized ACI 318-14 Code (with emphasis on substantive technical changes)

April 20, 2016

Wyndham Irvine - Orange County Airport

17941 Von Karman Ave. , Irvine, CA 92614

PRICE:

Members:

Pre-registered - On or before April 15th: \$45

- Table: \$315

Registered - After April 15th and On-site: \$55

- Table: \$385

Non-Members:

Pre-registered - On or before April 15th: \$55

- Table: \$385

Registered - After April 15th and On-site: \$65

- Table: \$455

Students: \$25

AGENDA:

5:30 - 6:30:PM Social Hour/Exhibitor Tables

6:30 - 7:15PM: Dinner

7:15 - 8:30PM: Presentation

Please bring in your parking ticket to have it validated.

TOPIC

The 2014 edition of the ACI 318 Code is completely reorganized. In fact, so much has changed inside the Code that it was not realistic to use the usual typesetting indicators for insertions and deletions. This means that substantive technical changes will not be readily apparent. How do you find technical changes? Was the change substantive? This presentation will help you navigate technical changes inside the reorganized Code by providing:

- A brief overview of the re-organized structure of ACI 318-14, versus that of ACI 318-11.
- A quick look at the tools that ACI has made available for locating substantive technical changes in the Code.
- A "power-walk" through all the chapters of the Code. This includes reviews of selected substantive technical changes that may be of interest to Southern California structural engineers: new triggers for increased confinement in special seismic systems, new permissions and limitations on headed reinforcement, and punching shear in thick slabs (podium slabs), among others.
- An introduction to Chapter 26, "Construction Documents and Inspection," which requires the Licensed Design Professional to convey specific design and construction information to the contractor via the construction documents.
- A look ahead to future editions of the Code, when Grade 80 reinforcement is introduced for special seismic applications, and Grade 100 reinforcement is introduced for general applications.

PRESENTER



The presentation will be given by Conrad Paulson, Principal, Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. (WJE) and a Voting Member of ACI 318 Subcommittees B and R. As a subcommittee member of Committee 318, he has participated in the deliberations that brought about these changes, and is giving this presentation as an informal outreach effort on behalf of the committee. He is also a voting member of Task Committee TC-7 of the AISC Committee on Specifications, which is tasked with developing AISC 341.1 - *Seismic Provisions for Evaluation and Retrofit of Structural Steel Buildings*. He has been employed at WJE for the past 34 years, and has recently relocated to Southern California.

Register [HERE](#)



SEAOSC MEMBERSHIP APPRECIATION EVENT

XLanes Bowling • April 23, 2016



EVENT DETAILS

Date: Saturday, April 23, 2016

Location: Little Tokyo Galleria
333 S Alameda St #300
Los Angeles, CA 90013

Onsite Parking Available

***4 hours free with validation**

Time: 2:00pm - Check In, Food & Networking

3:00pm to 5:00pm – Bowling

While downtown, continue your night after the event and explore the Arts District!! Visit local breweries, restaurants and even a barcade!

TICKET PRICES:

SEAOSC Members: \$28
SEAOSC Student Members: \$38
Guests 21 and Over: \$38
Guests Under 21: \$28

Your Ticket Includes:

2 hours of bowling
Shoe rentals
Taco Bar and Snacks
First 2 Drinks on Us *For guests 21+
1 Hour of Game Play in the Arcade



REGISTER NOW: <http://www.cvent.com/d/xfqd7d>

Registration Deadline: Friday, April 15, 2016

Pre-registration is required. No onsite registration available.



SAVE THE DATE!



SPRING EDUCATION EVENT **May 20 & 21, 2016**

Presentations on the upcoming 2016 CBC code change including:

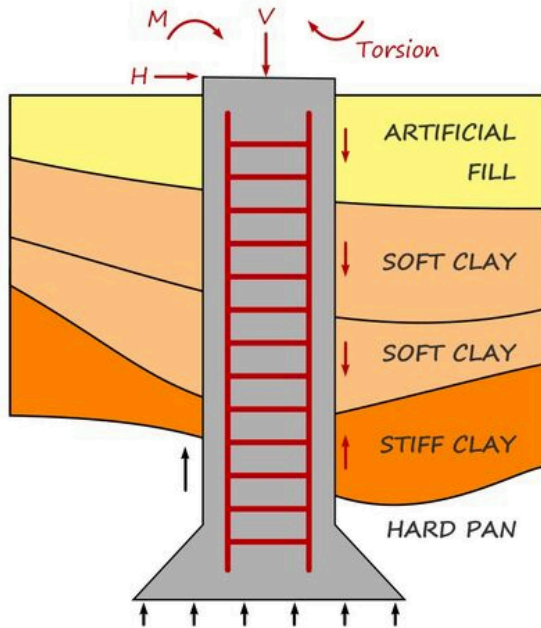
- **Seismic Design of Special Concrete Shear Walls** – SK Ghosh, Ph.D, S.K. Ghosh and Associates
- **New Diaphragm Design Requirements of ASCE 7-16** – SK Ghosh, Ph.D, S.K. Ghosh and Associates
- **Changes to Seismic Design of Nonstructural Components (Chapter 13)** – John Silva, SE, Hilti
- **OSHPD SPC-4D** – Roy Lobo, Ph.D., SE, OSHPD



More information coming soon.

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Holmes Culley is a California based structural engineering firm dedicated to providing quality service and creative design solutions. As part of the New Zealand based Holmes Group, we are an international practice with over 300 professionals in six offices, providing engineering expertise to clients along the West Coast and throughout the Pacific Region.

We are seeking structural engineers with 5+ years design experience for both our San Francisco and Los Angeles offices; M.S. degree in Structural Engineering and PE license are preferred.

Check us out at www.holmesculley.com and send your resume with cover letter to hr@holmesculley.com

Job Requirements:

- B.S. and/or M.S. Degree in Civil / Structural Engineering.
- 5+ years working in the field of structural engineering.
- Licensed Professional Engineer (PE) in the state of California.
- Seismic design experience or education.
- Verbal communication skills, including listening and questioning.
- Written communication skills, including report writing.
- Coaching/mentoring skills
- Presentation skills to contribute to team talks, and project presentations.
- Time management skills.
- Computer software skills: Intermediate MS Word, Advanced MS Excel, Intermediate ETABS, SAP, Risa (or equivalent).
- Problem-solving skills.
- Sound technical skills: understands structural engineering design principles.
- Team player: works with project team.
- Willing to travel to other locations for periods of time to undertake projects.

YOUR
AD
HERE

PLAN CHECK ENGINEER – CITY OF VISTA

SALARY: \$6,340 - \$7,705 Monthly

THE POSITION: This position is a journey-level engineer position with a structural design emphasis. The incumbent is responsible for reviewing and checking plans, designs, calculations, and specifications for complex, residential, commercial and industrial buildings and structures.

EDUCATION/EXPERIENCE: Any combination of training, education and experience that demonstrates an ability to perform the duties of the position. A typical qualifying background is a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering, Architecture or closely related field, with a structural emphasis, and three years of progressively responsible journey-level experience.

APPLY: Online at www.cityofvista.com

Structural Engineers and BIM Technicians

Buehler & Buehler Structural Engineers, Inc. (B&B) provides a wide range of structural engineering services throughout the U.S. Founded in 1946 and headquartered in Sacramento, B&B also has offices in San Francisco, Phoenix and Los Angeles. Our team has designed award-winning international airports, professional sports facilities, schools, civic, justice, corrections, hospitals, and historic rehabilitations. B&B provides an exciting and dynamic environment that facilitates the opportunity to exceed your professional and personal goals.

We are looking for Structural Engineers and BIM Technicians for immediate opportunities in all offices, and at all levels. BIM Technicians must be Revit proficient.

Please submit cover letter, resume and references to resumes@bbse.com.

Are you looking to share your talents with a collaborative, fun group of engineers working in a dynamic downtown San Francisco office on some of the most challenging and exciting structural and seismic projects in California and around the world? Do you want to be part of an exciting and thoughtful team in a work environment that actively encourages and supports individual professional growth through ongoing education, training, and mentoring? If so, **FORELL/ELSESSER** wants to hear from you! We are currently looking to add a Senior Engineer with a Masters' degree in civil/structural engineering and minimum 5 years' experience to our team. California SE required.

Find out more about us and this opportunity at www.forell.com. Interested candidates should forward their resumes and cover letter to recruiting@forell.com

KNA Consulting Engineers has an immediate opening for a Manager of our Sport Lighting Group. We provide structural engineering services on a variety of lighting systems ranging from sports fields to professional stadiums. Qualifications include a BS-ARCE or BSCE (structural) from an accredited university along with a minimum of 3 years' experience with California seismic and wind engineering in addition to proficiency with the California Building Code. Successful candidates must also have a valid California PE or SE license, excellent computer, communication and people skills, and be able to work effectively in a fast-paced environment involving our sports lighting clients. The KNA team is a dedicated group of resourceful, friendly, collaborative and hardworking professionals and we are looking for the same qualities in all qualified candidates.

PLEASE DO NOT RESPOND IF YOU DO NOT FULLY MEET THESE MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS. Qualified candidates are invited to submit their resume along with a cover letter to careers@KNAconsulting.com. Please reference Manager Sports Lighting Group in your cover letter. For more information about KNA Consulting Engineers, please visit us at www.KNAconsulting.com. NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE

Costa & Associates|STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS POSITIONS OPEN

Project Structural Engineer – The position requires an individual that has a minimum of 10 years' experience with a minimum of 5 years in projects under the CBC Code and DSA Jurisdiction. California State SE or CE licensed required. Proficiency with Ram Analysis Software is a plus. The position requires the engineer to participate in developing engineer solutions, perform analysis and design calculations, develop details and supervise the development of structural drawing plans and details, studies, reports, site visits to observe the construction effort, etc.

CAD/Revit Structural Designer – Position requires proficiency in both Revit and AutoCAD environments with a minimum of 5 years' experience in the production of structural drawings and building structures.

Submit all resumes including references to Ms. Linda Grasso (lgrasso@costaassoc.com). All resumes submitted shall be reviewed and a response will be provided within one week.



Structural Engineers Association OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

COMMITTEE LEADERS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

July 1, 2015 - June 30, 2016

The SEAOSC Board of Directors works on the behalf of our membership. If there are general or specific items you would like to see the Board of Directors address or discuss please contact any of the SEAOSC Board members.

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mkambiron@awc.org
805-498-4864

President-Elect

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jellis@strongtie.com
714-738-2029

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818-729-9777

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arce@aisc.org
562-332-0990

Todd Brown
tbrown@dalechristian.com
714-997-1145

Jeffrey Haight
jhaight@eshse.com
805-963-1210

Colin Kumabe
colin.kumabe@lacity.org
213-482-0447

Edgar Plazola
eplazola@insight-se.com
310-640-0123

Joseph Valancius
valancius@kcse.com
818-240-1919

Paul Van Benschoten
vanbenschoten@coffman.com
818-285-2650

Victoria Wigle
vwigle@thorntontomasetti.com
213-330-7000

SEAOSC Executive Director

Lois Ehrlich
lois@seaosc.org
562-908-6131 ext.173

Get involved! Members are invited to join a SEAOSC committee. Please contact the chairperson for information on current projects and meeting times, dates and locations.

Committees	*Board Contact	Phone	Email
	Chair & Vice-Chairs		
Membership	Victoria Wigle* Kerry Regan Christian Cody	213-330-7000 323-536-2363 323-907-2523	vwigle@thorntontomasetti.com kregan@bbse.com christian.cody@hilti.com
Younger Members	Todd Brown* Nathan Jo Paul St. Pierre	714-997-1145 818-441-8014 562-754-0258	tbrown@dalechristian.com nathanjo@gmail.com paulleonestpierre@gmail.com
Image & Public Relations	Paul Van Benschoten* Ken O'Dell Samuel Mengelkoch	818-285-2650 562-985-3200 310-323-9924	vanbenschoten@coffman.com kodell@mhpse.com smengelkoch@structuralfocus.com
Technology	Jenay Root* Casey Hemmatyar	310-437-0555 888-889-5643	jenay@seaosc.org ckh@psfeg.com
Education	Lorena Arce* Daniel Fox	562-332-0990 562-985-3200	arce@aisc.org dfox@mhpse.com
Professional Bus. Practices	Bob Lyons*	818-729-9777	blyons@risha.com
Building Codes & Stds.	Jeff Ellis* Carl Sramek	714-738-2029 562-799-6010	jellis@strongtie.com sramekca@aol.com
Seismology	Colin Kumabe* Jesse Karns Mikhail Gershfeld	213-482-0447 562-964-7962 253-565-6600	colin.kumabe@lacity.org jkarns@sideplate.com mikhail.gershfeld@gmail.com
Sub Cmte: Research	Ashi Dhalwala	310-828-1422	ceginc1@yahoo.com
Sub Cmte: Steel Bldgs.	Colin Kumabe	213-482-0447	colin.kumabe@lacity.org
Existing Buildings	Edgar Plazola* Daniel Zepeda	310-640-0123 213-596-5000	eplazola@insight-se.com dzepeda@degenkolb.com
Disaster Emergency Svcs.	Joseph Valancius* Doug Litchfield	818-240-1919 818-913-3558	valancius@kcse.com dlitchfield@mwwdh2o.com
Quality Assurance	Bob Lyons*	818-729-9777	blyons@risha.com
Legislative	Kevin O'Connell*	213-271-1934	kdoconnell@sgh.com
Sustainable Design	Jeff Haight*	805-963-1210	jhaight@eshse.com
EPRS Ad Hoc	Leo Torres	818-844-1969	torres@kcse.com

Please visit

<http://seaosc.org/about-structural-engineering/committees>

to view the annual committee charges and tasks.

