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

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**2014-2015
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**Press Release
For Immediate Release – December 8, 2014**

The Structural Engineers Association of Southern California (SEAOSC), representing the local structural engineering community, greatly commends Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti and his office for the leadership shown in working with Dr. Lucy Jones and in partnering with building owners to improve the city's disaster resilience through the implementation of new mandatory earthquake building retrofit programs. With a history rich in assisting governing officials develop city building ordinances and state and national codes; SEAOSC was pleased to respond to the Mayor's request to have SEAOSC add their expertise to Los Angeles's resiliency conversation. The new programs put forth by the Mayor will improve the performance of some of Los Angeles's more vulnerable buildings that could collapse during a major earthquake. We congratulate the Mayor's office for taking the stance that Los Angeles will be the first city in the nation to rate the anticipated seismic performance of publicly owned buildings. Once rated and publicly posted, the ratings will help Angelinos and the surrounding communities understand the City's commitment to safe public buildings. This commitment and the implementation of retrofit programs to enhance earthquake performance and increase public awareness is critical to the resiliency and sustainability of the greater Los Angeles community.

SEAOSC also commends the wide community of building owners for working with the City of Los Angeles to develop best processes to implement earthquake retrofitting programs for Soft-Story Wood Framed Buildings and Non-Ductile Concrete Buildings. Without building owner's continued support for building safety this would not be possible. These two building types are considered to have significant vulnerability and the potential for collapse during an earthquake. However, regardless of building type, SEAOSC encourages all building owners to follow the city's lead and have their buildings evaluated for earthquake performance and publicly post the rating on their building. It is the association's belief that this display of the owner's commitment to better building performance can enhance the financial position of their investment through an increased safety awareness of their tenants and the public at large. This increased performance awareness is the beginning of a truly resilient community; one that is capable of withstanding the economic impact of a severe natural disaster and recover more quickly from a major earthquake event.