



STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

A Non-Profit California Corporation

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September 16, 2020

Mr. Lukas Quach, Building Official
Building Safety Division
9770 Culver Boulevard
Culver City, California 90232-0507
lukas.quach@culvercity.org

RE: SEAOSC Safer Cities Advisory Program – Wood Soft Story Buildings

Dear Mr. Quach,

Thank you for requesting the assistance of the Structural Engineers Association of Southern California (SEAOSC). As requested in your letter dated, August 21, 2020, SEAOSC is pleased to commence review of the technical aspects of the City's draft wood soft-story (WSS) seismic retrofit design guidelines.

We understand that the City has moved forward in a prudent manner to make sure that steps taken are technically sound. SEAOSC established the Safer Cities Advisory Subcommittee and Task Group to provide expertise from our members, to further our shared goals of reasonable and effective regulations and programs towards mitigating losses from earthquakes and other hazards.

Our Safer Cities Advisory Subcommittee and Task Group are composed of members with experience in structural design and analysis, behavior of existing buildings, and code development. SEAOSC provides this service as a voluntary benefit to the community and is not providing this review for compensation or in exchange for any services. This review process is solely to allow Jurisdictions to solicit feedback from qualified members of SEAOSC who are subject matter experts and affected parties.

SEAOSC and the SEAOSC Safer Cities Advisory Subcommittee and Task Group are not drafting regulations or guidelines on the behalf of the Jurisdiction. The SEAOSC Safer Cities Advisory Subcommittee and Task Group will provide input in good faith and the best of its ability and judgement, but neither the Committees nor SEAOSC (officers, directors, leaders, agents, or participants) guarantees or represents that the input provided will be absolutely error free or fit for any particular purpose. The Culver City agrees to hold harmless and defend SEAOSC and its committees, subcommittees, or task groups from any legal and administrative action arising out of promulgation, enactment, or application of said retrofit law or guideline, provided SEAOSC provides the input described above in good faith.

It is estimated that the review of the WSS design guidelines will be completed by the early 2021. We will notify you if more time is needed.

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Please notify us of your acceptance of this Letter of Understanding as soon as possible. We want you to be successful with the implementation of your seismic safety initiative, and look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Colin Kumabe, S.E.
SEAOSC Co-Chair
Safer Cities Advisory Subcommittee
Building Codes and Standards Committee

Accepted By:

Culver City

Signature

Lukas Quach, S.E., CBO
Culver City Building Official

Name / Title

Copies:

Michael Ciorte S.E.
SEAOSC Co-Chair
Safer Cities Advisory Subcommittee
Building Codes and Standards Committee

9/25/2020

Date