



# ICC LA BASIN CHAPTER STRUCTURAL CODE COMMITTEE



## MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, July 31, 2007  
1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
L.A. County Annex Building  
1st Floor Conference Room  
900 S. Fremont Avenue, Alhambra

### ATTENDEES:

#### Chairpersons Present:

Philip Yin

#### Committee Members Present:

Steve Lam, Forest Nishiyoka, Ben Yousefi,  
Jameson Lee, Ed Alexanians, Les Cho,  
Mazen Dudar

#### ICC Board Members Present:

Hassan Alameddine

### STAKEHOLDERS IN AUDIENCE:

#### SEAOSC Committee Members Present:

James Lai (Seismology)  
Mehran Pourzanjani (Seismology)

#### Structural Engineers Present:

Mikhail Gershfeld (APA)  
Timothy Koutsouros (VCA)

#### Other:

Rich Meary

### DOCUMENT HANDOUTS:

- 2002 LARUCP Recommendation on Existing Amendments (updated 7/30/07)
- 2007 LARUCP Recommendation on New Amendments (updated 7/30/07)
- 2007 LARUCP Tentative Meeting Schedule (updated 7/30/07)
- City of Los Angeles Building Code Adoption Ordinance (draft July 17, 2007)

### MEETING AGENDA

1. Introduce new member(s) not in attendance in previous meeting(s).
2. Approval of minutes of previous meeting.
3. Assign a lead person(s) to material chapters not yet selected.
  - Chap 17, 20 and 21 remain unassigned
4. Discuss existing business from previous meeting.
  - Truong will present the tentative schedule of when certain remaining material chapters are to be discussed and reviewed.
5. Review existing LARUCP amendments related to Chapter 23 Wood thru Chapter 25.



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- Discuss remaining LARUCP 23-2, 23-3, 23-13, 23-16 thru 18 and make recommendation to keep or delete existing amendments.
  - Discuss LARUCP 25-1 and 25-2.
6. Open discussion of any new business.
    - Various emails with proposed amendments by Ben Y, James L and Ben S.
  7. Establish tasks to complete for the next scheduled meeting.
  8. Determine next meeting time and location.

### DISCUSSION/COMMENTS:

1. Introduce new member(s) not in attendance in previous meeting(s).
  - No new members presented.
2. Approval of minutes of previous meeting.
  - Philip asked the members present to approve previous meeting minutes. Jameson Lee made a motion to approve, Ben Yousefi second the motion. Motion was approved with no objection.
3. Assign a lead person(s) to material chapters not yet selected.
  - Steve Lam volunteered to be the lead person for Chap 17.
  - Lead persons for Chap 16 are Philip Yin and Jameson Lee.
  - Lead person for Chap 17 is Steve Lam.
  - Lead person for Chap 18 is Hassan Alameddine.
  - Lead persons for Chap 19 are Ben Yousefi and James Lai.
  - Lead person for Chap 22 is Truong Huynh.
  - Lead persons for Chap 23 are Ben Yousefi, Steve Lam and Tom VanDorpe.
  - Lead person for Chap 34 is Steve Ikkanda.
  - Chap 20 and 21 are still outstanding.
  - See attached email distribution list for contact information of the lead person(s).

**Action Item 1:** Any and all inputs or comments related to Chap 16, 17, 18, 19, 22, 23 and 34 should be forwarded to any of the designated lead persons who will then organize and present the materials to the committee members for discussion and/or review. Lead person should provide a quick bullet point summary of topics to be discussed and email them to either Philip or Truong for incorporation in the next meeting agenda.

4. Discuss existing business from previous meeting.
  - Philip presented a revised tentative schedule for certain remaining material chapters to be discussed and reviewed. Some committee members were concerned that the final amendment documents will not be ready before the deadline of their respective jurisdiction even if the meeting occurs weekly. Based upon the group's discussion and desire, the committee decided to meet on every Tuesday and extend meeting time from 3 hours to 5 hours starting on August 7 to



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speed up the review process. Advanced distribution via e-mail of proposed amendment is encouraged.

**Action Item 2:** Philip will revise the tentative schedule of certain remaining material chapters to be discussed and reviewed on a weekly basis and present it to the committee in the next meeting.

5. Review existing LARUCP amendments related to Chapter 23 Wood and thru Chapter 25.
  - LARUCP 23-2, 23-3, 23-13, 23-16 to 23-18 were discussed. Based on the committee's discussion, the following recommendations are summarized:
  - LARUCP 23-2: Replace old LARUCP 23-02 with new LARUCP 23-04 proposed by Steve Lam.
  - LARUCP 23-3: Review wordings under LA City 91.2306 for possible adoption as revised LARUCP 23-3 to ensure uniformity in the LA region. The general consensus is to bring this LARUCP amendment forward to the new code. In addition, committee agreed that "Wood structural panels in shear wall shall be at least 3/8 inches (0.5 mm) thick and studs spaced no more than 16 inches (406 mm) on center."
  - LARUCP 23-10: Mikhail had a discussion with APA's technical experts and gave the committee an overview of APA's opinion of 3-ply plywood as follows: APA has very limited test data on 3-ply plywood under cyclic loading to simulate the type of condition and forces induced by the Northridge earthquake. The City of LA/SEAOSC Task Force found that 3-ply plywood performed poorly during the Northridge earthquake. Mikhail also mentioned that there may also be gaps/voids in the inner ply of 3-ply plywood that could reduce its effectiveness to resist seismic load even though the shear-through-the-thickness failure of 3-ply plywood has not been observed in shearwall tests based on APA's experience. This inner void in the plywood cannot be easily detected during a visual inspection; therefore using special inspection on 3-ply plywood is not effective. James Lai also changed his previous position on allowing full allowable value from Table 2306.4.1 of the 2007 CBC. Steve Lam made a motion to keep the 200 PLF allowable values to 3-ply plywood to be consistent with the City of LA. Jameson seconded the motion.
  - LARUCP 23-13: Review wordings under LA City 91.2308.12.2 Note 5 for possible adoption and revised LARUCP 23-13.
  - LARUCP 23-16: Based on Table 2308.9.3.1(1), 2308.9.3 is applicable to SDC A, B and C only. This amendment may no longer be needed. Committee members to review LA Building Code Adoption Ordinance and decide what to do with this LARUCP Amendment in the next meeting. Final vote pending detail comparison.
  - LARUCP 23-17: Committee members agreed to carry this LARUCP forward to the new code with minor revisions. Amend 2308.9.3.1 "For one story Group U



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occupancies.” and change 3/8 to 15/32-in-nominal minimum thickness (11.9 mm). The committee will need to decide where to put it in the new code.

- LARUCP 23-18: Table 2308.9.3(1) is limited to SDC A, B and C. Table 2308.12.4 applies to SDC D, and E and has been amended by HCD 1. Pending interpretation from city attorney if the amendments by HCD 1 can be overwritten with most restrictive provisions, Committee is considering limiting application of Table 2308.12.4 to one story.
- Additional discussion on Table 2308.12.4 of the 2007 CBC: In section 2308.12.1 of the California Building Code (CBC), the state (HCD 1) amended the 2006 IBC to permit two-story high detached one and tow-family dwellings in Seismic Design Category D or E for Conventional Construction. HCD 1 also amended Table 2308.12.4 to include two-story buildings. The consensus among committee members is to remove the HCD 1 amendments so that only 1 story is allowed for Conventional Construction. Hassan mentioned that each public agency should check with their respective counsel to determine whether this can be done.

**Action Item 3:** Committee members should check with their respective counsel regarding removing the HCD 1 amendments to the 2006 IBC.

**Action Item 4:** All committee members to review LA Building Code Adoption Ordinance and compare them with proposed LARUCP amendments before the next meeting.

- LARUCP 25-1: Structural values for Gypsum were moved to Chapter 23 of CBC; therefore these amendments are no longer required in this Chapter. See 2305.4. Committee recommends not carrying this amendment forward.
  - LARUCP 25-2: Delete this amendment but review wordings under LA City 91.2306.4.5 for possible adoption and add new amendment to Chapter 23. In general, Committee agreed with LA Building Code Adoption Ordinance to reduce the allowable shear values of lath and plaster or gypsum board on Table 2306.4.5 of the CBC.
6. Open discussion of any new business.
- Mazen Dudar suggested extending the meeting time in order to go thru all chapters and meet the intended dead line.

**Action Item 7:** Philip will make the necessary revision to reflect the change in schedule and email it to the committee members for review.

7. Establish tasks to complete for the next scheduled meeting.
- The committee will continue to discuss remaining items of LARUCP Chapter 23 at the beginning of next meeting and LARUCP Chapter 19 and 17.
8. Determine next meeting time and location.
- July 31 (Tuesday), 12:30 PM to 5:00 PM at the **1st floor** of the Annex Building.



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Note: The Annex Building is a 3-story building located to the north east of the Headquarters Building within the same DPW site. Park on the east side of the parking lot and you will see it.

### **ACTION ITEMS (FOLLOW UP) AND RESPONSIBLES:**

1. Review and compare LA city amendments with proposed LARUCP amendments. Forward any comments and proposals related to Chapter 16 and 23 Wood, if any, to Philip Yin and Jameson Lee (Chapter 16), to Steven Lam, Ben Yousefi, or Tom Van Dorpe (Chapter 23) respectively,
2. Philip will present a revised tentative schedule of when certain remaining material chapters are to be discussed and reviewed.
3. Ben/ Steven will make the necessary revision to reflect the change in the amendments noted above and email it to the committee members for final review and approval.
4. All committee members to review LA city amendments before the next meeting.

### **NEXT MEETING:**

August 7 (Tuesday), 9:00 PM to 5:00 PM at the **1st floor** of the Annex Building.