



GAIL FARBER, Director

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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February 10, 2010

IN REPLY PLEASE

REFER TO FILE:

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George Chavez, President
ICC LA Basin Chapter

Dear President Chavez:

SUPPORT FOR NOMINATION TO THE CALIFORNIA BUILDING OFFICIALS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

I am requesting the support of the Los Angeles Basin Chapter for my nomination to the California Building Officials Board of Directors. There are currently two vacancies on CALBO's Board and I believe it is an excellent opportunity to increase representation from Southern California. Filling these two vacancies with members of our local chapter can enhance our lines of communication with CALBO and give us an opportunity to advocate our concerns at the State level.

As you may know, I am currently the Building Official for the County of Los Angeles. I have served in this capacity for over 6 years with a total tenure of more than 25 years in the building department. Although the County of Los Angeles is one of the larger jurisdictions in the State of California, I am sensitive to the needs and challenges faced by small and moderate building departments as I also serve as Building Official for seventeen incorporated cities within the County of Los Angeles. I share CALBO's interest in promoting public health and safety in building construction.

The economic situation in our State has presented a major challenge to many jurisdictions with respect to staffing and providing the needed resources to get involved with organizations like CALBO, as well as, providing time for training and code development. It is during these difficult times that large jurisdictions need to support the mission of such organizations as the ICC LA Basin Chapter and CALBO.

This year will present a number of challenges in the adoption of the 2010 State Building Codes including the new Residential Code and Green Building Standards Code. These challenges represent an opportunity for CALBO to take the lead in providing extensive education programs for building department staff and the public at large. In addition, CALBO can play a lead role in assisting local chapters and building departments in developing and streamlining local amendments.

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As an influential organization within State code development, I am appreciative of CALBO's critical role in working with the California Building Standards Commission, California State Agencies, and the model code organizations. With an appointment to the Board, I will work closely with fellow Board members in promoting CALBO's influence in these organizations to benefit all jurisdictions and the public at large. I believe it is time for California to once again take the role as a leader in code development and feel that CALBO is the key organization to bring this status back to our State.

I will be honored to serve on CALBO and represent the interest and concerns of our communities.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Raj Patel". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

RAJ PATEL, P.E.
Building Official, County of Los Angeles

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