

CALIFORNIA'S COALITION *for* ADEQUATE SCHOOL HOUSING

Fall Conference

October 7-8, 2008

Westin South Coast Plaza

686 Anton Boulevard

Costa Mesa, California

Tuesday, October 7

10:40 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Division of the State Architect Update



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Coalition for Adequate School Housing

DSA Update

October 2008

What's New at DSA

Organizational Assessment

- DSA will be contracting with a consultant to perform an Organizational Assessment, containing two key components.
 - A fiscal analysis will be completed, examining DSA's financial situation including appropriateness of fees charged.
 - A program evaluation will be included, focusing on the organizational structure of DSA to see what changes can be made to increase productivity and efficiency.

Code Interpretations & Appeals

- DSA is implementing a new code interpretation database for internal use. The database allows plan reviewers to post code interpretations for others plan reviewers to view.
- Issues that need to be addressed repeatedly will be reviewed and an official Interpretation of Regulation (IR) will be drafted and posted for public use.
- The new database will allow DSA to ensure consistency by keeping a record of all code interpretations.

Collaborative Process

- The purpose is to ensure the continued public safety of community college and K-12 facilities through the implementation of a collaborative, consistent, and timely project development and review process in a regulatory environment.
- Strategic partnering efforts continue between DSA and LAUSD, SFUSD, LACCD and Sweetwater Union High School District.
- DSA is currently drafting procedures and regulations for the implementation of the formal Collaborative Process.

Electronic Plan Review

- Bluebeam Software is being utilized, allowing plan reviewers to make comments onto PDF documents.
- Each Regional Office is testing the use of Wacom Monitors, which allow plan reviewers to work directly on their monitor.
- As an alternative to in-person backchecks, web-conferencing is still available upon request.
- To date, over 275 projects have been reviewed electronically in 2008!

DSA Academy

Date	Class	Location
Oct 8 & 9	Access Plan Review	Los Angeles
Oct 17 & 18	Inspector Indepth-Electric	San Diego
Oct 22	Access Code	Sacramento
Oct 23	Structural Code	Sacramento
Oct 31 & Nov 1	Inspector Indepth-FLS	San Diego
Nov 7 & 8	Inspector Overview	Sacramento
Nov 18 - 20	FLS Plan Review	Sacramento
Dec 3 & 4	Structural Plan Review	San Diego
Dec 12 & 13	Inspector Indepth-Electric	Sacramento

- The DSA Academy's 2009 Course Schedule will be posted on the internet by mid-October.

Certified Access Specialist Program

- The first Certified Access Specialist (CASp) exams were administered in September.
- A list of Certified Access Specialists will be posted on DSA's website by the end of October.
- The Governor has signed SB 1608 which will require a CASp in all local regulatory offices.

Project Close-Out: Initiative

- DSA closed approximately 7,500 “backlog” projects.
- A closing manual has been drafted and will soon be implemented internally to prevent a “backlog” problem in the future.
- Significant improvements are being made to eTracker.
- Project Closeout will be a component of the DSA Academy’s Project Construction Oversight course currently under development.

Project Close-Out: Certification

- Of the 7,500 projects closed out, approximately one half were closed without certification.
- Procedures are being put in place to work with the school districts to have all projects closed *with* certification.
- Once these procedures are in place, school board members will be notified of their liability for projects that are not closed with certification.

Project Close-Out: Streamlining

- Changes are being prepared which will streamline the closeout process.
- Some of the changes will be implemented in the near future; others will require changes in regulations or statutes.
- The 20+ limited term employees hired for the close-out effort will become full time employees and continue providing close-out support.

Field Supervision Pilot

- Provides increased levels of service from DSA on projects during construction phase.
- Increases quantity and expertise of DSA field staff.
- A pilot is underway in Sacramento Regional Office and will be completed in November.
- Assuming the pilot is accepted, additional staff will be assigned in all regional offices.

AB 300/ Proposition 1D Seismic Funds

- A letter was recently sent out to all school districts requesting information updates on projects in their district which are on the original AB 300 list.
- An analysis is underway on the qualification requirements for Proposition 1D matching funds for projects on the AB 300 list.

SB 588 (Community Colleges)

- The bill allows for an alternative process for reviewing community college plans.
- The review process will be essentially the same except structural plan reviewers will review structural plans to the California Building Code without the Field Act Amendments.
- The bill will have no affect on how K-12 plans are reviewed.



Building Green Schools



Grid Neutral

We continue to work toward the goal to have all school construction include provisions for ultraclean or renewable energy generation that provides for facilities to be grid neutral (i.e., net zero energy on an annualized basis).

Our collaborative effort continues with Roy McBrayer and his Green Team, and Rob Cook (of OPSC).

Grid Neutral (continued)

- Last month DSA hosted a series of workshops, each focusing on one of the following topics:
 - Comprehensive Planning.
 - Energy Generating Technology.
 - Innovative Funding
 - Energy Efficient Design.
 - Energy Use Management.
 - Operations & Maintenance.
- A final workshop covering all of these topics is scheduled for October 20th in Sacramento.

Grid Neutral (continued)

- The workshop efforts will result in a grid neutral guidebook for board members, superintendents and other school officials.
- This guidebook will be presented at the Green Technology School Summit to be held in December in Anaheim.

DSA Update

Thank You!