



2020

SAFER CITIES POLICY BREAKFAST RECAP

1

WHAT ISSUES HAS THE PANDEMIC REVEALED THAT NEED TO BE ADDRESSED ABOUT THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT?

TECHNOLOGY



Technology infrastructure must be robust and able to handle shocks from any source.

- Reliable, high-speed Internet is a necessity for every community.
- Multiple family members working or in school at same time puts tremendous strain on resources.
- Residents were forced to find ways to upgrade service so they can work study, & learn from home.

Question: Can this service better be addressed during Planning/Zoning stages?

HOUSING



The need for adequate and affordable housing has never been greater.

- Household Overcrowding – Communities have seen multiple families living under one roof which does not allow for ideal or effective conditions.
- Homelessness continues to be a pressing concern for communities.
- Environmental Justice – The proximity of housing to industrial plants, factories, and warehouses impacts residents more than ever when they are living, working, playing and learning from home 24/7.

WHAT WORKED WELL DURING THE PANDEMIC THAT CAN BE APPLIED TO FUTURE DISASTERS?

2



TECHNOLOGY

Communities came together in unique ways to provide or create necessary resources.

- Creation/use of mobile internet boosters (i.e. vans brought into residential communities).
- Effective adaptation to a virtual work environment, allowing continued progress.



CHANGING USE OF BUILDINGS

Rapid adoption of remote work has changed what we do where, impacting not only the use of spaces within buildings, but what services are needed where. Going forward, our communities must be able to efficiently adapt to changing conditions.

CHANGING USE OF BUILDINGS



Embracing open space and alternate building uses provides critical shelter and emergency services.

- Parking stalls become hospital rooms or restaurant tables.
- Expedited permitting and inspection.
- Adapting public spaces such as Open Street Initiatives.
- Rapid repurposing of hotels/motels into temporary housing.

The SEAOSC Safer Cities Policy Breakfast series is an ongoing collaboration between the structural engineering community and our Southern California policy makers and legislator offices.

Be part of the conversation!

Interest in learning more, or to join our January 2021 Breakfast, connect with our SEAOSC Office at seaosc@seaosc.org



Looking for more resources?

Visit <https://www.seaosc.org/Safer-Cities> for:

- 2020 Existing and New Building Fact Sheets
- 2020SEAOSC/ICC/CALBO Covid-19 to Earthquake Event Recap
- 2016 Safer Cities Survey