



## TOGETHER making a IMPACT for our Profession & Community!

This past year has been exciting with a strong economy and much great work by our leadership and members working to increase the visibility and value of our profession! Additionally, through our Association's efforts and the efforts of other organizations efforts, the public is increasing their knowledge and awareness of seismic risk, vulnerable buildings and resilient communities. The cities of [Santa Monica](#) and [West Hollywood](#) joined the City of L.A. by implementing mandatory seismic retrofit ordinances, with input from SEAOSC, and other cities are utilizing SEAOSCs recently formalized [Safer Cities Advisory Program](#). SEAOSC is participating with other organizations in a new City of LA initiative "[Building Forward LA](#)", seeking to improve construction practices and improve the sustainability and resilience of LA. We continue to enhance our relationships with other organizations, such as the AIA, CALBO, and BOMA of Los Angeles, to see where we can work together to improve the safety and resilience of our communities. The SEAOSC committees are working on outreach, education, membership, and code and standard efforts with dedication and zeal. An example is the Education Committee which provides excellent and timely content for dinner meetings, education events, and webinars. The past years events included:

- **September Fall Welcome Event & Committee Showcase** to kick off the year
- The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual **SEAOSC Strengthening Our Cities Summit** discussed retrofits and resilience based design and included outreach to policy makers and the public.
- 5<sup>th</sup> Annual **Membership Appreciation Event** of vineyard tours and wine tasting in the beautiful Temecula wine country.
- **SEAOSC Annual Golf Tournament and Holiday Event** were great and enjoyable times with friends and colleagues.

This year saw the publication of the excellent resources SEAOSC Design Guides for the City of L.A. Mandatory EQ Hazard Reduction in Existing NDC Buildings and in Existing Wood-Frame Buildings with Soft, Weak or Open-Front Walls (SWOF), available for purchase in our [SEAOSC store](#), developed by task groups of the Seismology and Existing Buildings Committee. Additionally, we published the pioneering [Safer Cities Survey](#) in partnership with the Dr. Lucy Jones Center for Science and Society.

It's so important to come and work TOGETHER as structural engineers to have a much greater positive IMPACT. Do we want to improve our career, our profession, the industry and our communities? If so, we need to PARTICIPATE and work to develop and implement great ideas and initiatives. If we do not, we risk others defining who we are and becoming more and more commoditized.

As our [membership flyer](#) states, the many benefits of SEAOSC membership include making a greater impact, helping in the promotion of the profession, participating in technical forums and education events to advance understanding, obtaining discounts on events and publications, ability to participate in the [customer referral program](#) at a time when there is an increase in the public awareness of the importance of seismic strengthening of structures, consideration for awards, and, of course comradery with fellow engineers. Another benefit is that you may take part in the [Professional Development Program](#), tracking your SEAOSC continuing education credits.

SEAOSC has a rich history and works to ensure member value, profession advocacy, and community safety. With your SEAOSC membership you are also a member of SEAOC and receive benefits from the NCSEA. It take financial resources to run the Association and advocate for the profession and provide member benefits and SEAOC and SEAOSC have been hesitant to raise dues. However, both Boards recognized the need to do so this year. See [SEAOC President Kamp's](#) and [2016-2017 SEAOSC President Ellis'](#) messages regarding this.

To make a greater IMPACT, sign up for a committee to lend your expertise when renewing your membership. You may renew online at [www.seaosoc.org](http://www.seaosoc.org) or by mail. Take advantage of the benefits and contribute to your profession by renewing your membership before August 31, 2017!

The membership package has your renewal form and the SEAOSC committee list. We hope you'll renew your membership and find a committee of interest. Thank you for your continued support of SEAOSC and we look forward to seeing you at our next event!

*Bob Lyons, SE,*

2017-2018 SEAOSC President

