

## CBSC Action Log

### Berkeley Balcony Collapse

- **July 21, 2015 – CBSC received a letter (dated July 16, 2015) from the City of Berkeley**  
Regarding Code amendments requiring high standards for weather-exposed balconies and similar elements
- **July 28, 2015 – CBSC received an urgency ordinance (dated July 23, 2015) to supplement the City of Berkeley’s ordinance for the 2013 California Building Standards Codes**  
CBSC acknowledged receipt of the supplemental Ordinance No. 7,430-N.S. adopting additional local conditions and findings adopted by the City Council on July 14, 2015.
- **July 30, 2015 – CBSC replied to City of Berkeley**  
Acknowledging the receipt of the July 16, 2015 letter and indicating that the Commission will discuss this at its scheduled October, 2015 Commission meeting.
- **August 13, 2015 – CBSC called City of Berkeley Planning Dept.**
  - All info was turned over to Alameda Co. DA’s office for criminal/civil/product defect investigation.
  - The City convened a working group of building officials, structural engineers to provide recommendations.
  - The City may send a representative to October CBSC Meeting.
  - Emailed scanned copy of CBSC response to City of Berkeley 8/13/2015
- **August 13, 2015 – CBSC called Alameda County District Attorney’s Office**  
There is no additional forensic info/reports available at this time.
- **September 3, 2015 – ICC emailed CBSC**  
International Code Council (ICC) and Structural Engineers Association of California (SEAOC) committees have been discussing whether or not national model code changes are necessary (see email for details).
- **September 18, 2015 – CBSC emailed City of Berkeley**  
Informed City of Berkeley of CBSC October meeting date change
- **October 6, 2015 – CBSC emailed City of Berkeley October 21, 2015 CBSC Meeting Notice/Agenda**
- **October 16, 2015 – CBSC called Alameda County District Attorney’s Office**  
No additional forensic info/reports available at this time.
- **October 21, 2015 – CBSC meeting was held where Berkeley’s July 16, 2015 request letter was discussed as an agenda item.** Assistant Deputy Director of HCD’s Division of Codes and Standards testified HCD would take steps to investigate the issues surrounding the degradation of wood structures and how to protect against such

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degradation including convening a stakeholder (task force) meeting at the conclusion of the 2015 Triennial Code Adoption Cycle (January 2016). Additionally, the Commission unanimously voted to form an Ad Hoc Committee of subject matter experts in a future agenda but agreed further information was needed regarding the investigation before proceeding.

- **November 23, 2015 – CBSC was copied on HCD’s response to Deputy City Clerk for the City of Berkeley letter** requesting more restrictive building standards for weather-exposed wood structures.
- **November 24, 2015 – CBSC received an additional ordinance (dated October 27, 2015) to supplement the City of Berkeley’s ordinance filed in July, 2015. This ordinance contained the same code amendments as the July 23, 2015 urgent ordinance.**  
CBSC acknowledged the receipt of the supplemental Ordinance No. 7,433-N.S. adopting additional local conditions and findings.
- **January 5, 2016 – CBSC provided information to Alameda County DA’s Office – Consumer, Environmental & Worker Protection Division**, per their request dated Dec. 15, 2015, on the state’s response to the City of Berkeley’s letter/request to CBSC and general info about the building standard code adoption process.
- **February 22, 2016 (est) – HCD contacted City of Berkeley** to request all relevant info obtained during the forensic investigation reports concerning the Berkeley balcony collapse at 2020 Kittredge St.
- **March 4, 2016 – City of Berkeley emailed HCD hyperlinks to documents posted on the City of Berkeley’s website regarding the tragedy:** (<http://www.cityofberkeley.info/2016-2020KittredgeStreet/>) It appears this was the first time HCD was aware of the availability of these documents.
- **March 17, 2016 – HCD submitted an Application for Duplicate Plans of 2020 Kittredge St. to the City of Berkeley and copied CBSC on the email.** Additionally, this email contained the hyperlink (mentioned above) to documents posted on the City of Berkeley’s website. It was not until this date (March 17) that CBSC became aware these documents were available.

In summary, CBSC will need time to preliminarily review the planning and development records for 2020 Kittredge St. made available on the City of Berkeley’s website. Once the Ad Hoc Committee has been formed (as discussed in the Oct. 21, 2015 Commission Meeting), and at the Commission’s discretion, all relevant documents to the Berkeley balcony collapse made available will likely be reviewed in greater detail by the Committee’s subject matter experts. Currently, CBSC is unaware of any determinations made by the local authorities resulting from the investigation and will need more information prior to taking further action.