

Know Your Coordinating Council

Anyone familiar with the California Building Standards Commission (CBSC) knows that there is an eleven (11) member commission and six (6) Standing Code Advisory Committees. Additionally, the commission may establish Special Code Advisory Committees as it deems necessary. But did you know that the CBSC also has a Coordinating Council created in law with specific responsibilities and duties?

California Health and Safety Code § [18926](#) was added by statutes of 1979 (Chapter 1152) creating the Coordinating Council within the office of the CBSC Executive Director and provides specific membership requirements, responsibilities and duties. The Coordinating Council is comprised of the CBSC Executive Director who serves as the chairperson to the council along with representatives presently appointed by the following:

- State Director of Health Services (Department of Public Health)
- Director of the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD)
- Director of Housing and Community Development (HCD)
- Director of Industrial Relations (DIR)
- State Fire Marshal (SFM)
- Executive Director of the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission (Energy Commission)
- Director of General Services (Division of the State Architect (DSA))

Currently representatives to the Coordinating Council are:

Dave Walls, Executive Director - CBSC
Glenn Takeoka - Department of Public Health
Glenn Gall - OSHPD
Doug Hensel - HCD
No appointment - DIR
Kevin Reinertson - SFM
Bill Pennington - Energy Commission
Howard "Chip" Smith & Richard Conrad – DSA (General Services)

Duties and responsibilities of the Coordinating Council carry with it significant consequence when circumstances arise necessitating convening the council as provided for in statute. Reasons for convening the council or select member(s) vary, however the decision to convene is at the discretion of the Executive Director

The Executive Director may direct the council or any member of the council to work with and assist other state departments or agencies in developing building standards. State departments or agencies considering adoption of and before preparing draft building standards, are required to advise the Executive Director in writing of such action. This assists in determining workloads and determining early in the process

whether the Executive Director need obtain assistance from the council or specific council member(s) as necessary.

The Coordinating Council serves as a venue to find resolution to building standards returned by the Commission for amendment or otherwise rejected, and one of the reasons being that a conflict with other department's or agency's existing building standards occurs. As before, the Executive Director may then acquire the assistance of the council or specific member(s) of the council believed necessary to resolve the matter.

Also, the Coordinating Council may be required to develop proposed building standards when so directed by the Commission pursuant to the requirements of California Health and Safety Code § [18933](#) . This may occur as a result of an agency or department not adopting amendment(s) to building standards submitted for approval.

Lastly, meetings held by the Coordinating Council are subject to the [Bagley-Keene](#) Open Meeting Act, which requires public notification and ensuring public participation during the meeting. Presently there are no scheduled meetings for the Coordinating Council. Meeting details and additional information concerning the Coordinating Council is available at the CBSC website www.bsc.ca.gov .