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**BULLETIN: SUBMITTALS UTILIZING THE 2016 CALIFORNIA BUILDING STANDARDS CODE (TITLE 24, PARTS 1 THROUGH 12) PRIOR TO THE EFFECTIVE DATE**

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**Purpose:** The purpose of this bulletin is to announce that DSA will consider requests, on a *case-by-case* basis, to voluntarily utilize the 2016 California codes for projects submitted for plan review prior to the effective date of such codes. The effective date of the 2016 Title 24 codes is January 1, 2017.

**1. Background:** In January 2016, the California Building Standards Commission (CBSC) completed the formal adoption and approval of the 2016 California Building Standards Code, which consists of the 13 parts of Title 24, California Code of Regulations, as listed below.

**2. Scope:** This bulletin applies to K–12 public schools, community colleges, and pre-check (PC) designs under the jurisdiction of the Division of the State Architect (DSA). For other projects under DSA jurisdiction, contact the regional manager of the DSA regional office where the project will be submitted.

The scope of this Bulletin includes all parts of Title 24 except Part 2.5 (California Residential Code) including:

- Part 1 - California Administrative Code
- Part 2 - California Building Code
- Part 3 - California Electrical Code
- Part 4 - California Mechanical Code
- Part 5 - California Plumbing Code
- Part 6 – California Energy Code
- Part 7 - VACANT
- Part 8 - California Historical Building Code
- Part 9 - California Fire Code
- Part 10 – California Existing Building Code
- Part 11 – California Green Building Standards Code
- Part 12 - California Referenced Standards Code

**3. Effective Date:** The new 2016 California codes were published and made available to the public on July 1, 2016 and the effective date is January 1, 2017. The *effective date* establishes when the use of the 2016 California codes is mandatory. If an application is submitted to DSA for the approval of plans and specifications on or after the effective date of the 2016 California codes, as established by CBSC, the project must comply with the 2016 California Codes.

**4. Procedure:** Any requests to submit projects designed in accordance with the 2016 Title 24 codes **prior** to the effective date shall be made in writing to the DSA regional office where the project will be submitted. This request shall be signed by the design professional in general responsible charge. The corresponding DSA application must state that the project is being submitted using the 2016 California codes and a similar indication shall be placed on the title sheet of the construction documents, where the applicable codes that apply to the project are listed.

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The utilization of the 2016 California codes on a *voluntary* basis will only apply to submittals to DSA between November 1, 2016 and the last business day prior to the official effective date of the 2016 CBC as established by CBSC, except as noted in Section 5.3. Projects submitted to DSA utilizing the currently effective California Building Standards Code (2013 edition) will continue to be accepted until the last business day prior to the official effective date of the 2016 California codes.

Projects utilizing the 2016 California codes, and submitted to DSA *prior* to the official effective date of such codes, may receive DSA identification stamp signatures or otherwise be provided with written approval prior to the official effective date .

**5. Utilization of the 2016 California Codes: Either method within sections 5.1, 5.2 or 5.3 may be used.**

5.1. Projects utilizing the 2016 California codes prior to the official effective date of such codes shall comply with **all parts** of the relevant 2016 California Building Standards Codes (Title 24, Parts 1 through 12, as listed in Section 2 of this Bulletin).

5.2 To use portions of the 2016 California codes in a 2013 project, projects may be submitted, reviewed and approved to the 2013 California codes provided the design professional in responsible charge requests in writing to use portions of the 2016 California codes as an alternative design per Title 24, Part 2, Section 104.11. In this case, the portions of the 2016 California codes used must be for an entire discipline—Structural, Fire and Life Safety or Access Compliance. Mixing of 2013 and 2016 California code provisions within a portion is not allowed. When portions are used, the plans shall be denoted to be in compliance with the 2013 California codes for all disciplines.

5.3 For access only projects, the 2016 California code may be used at this time.

**6. Availability of the 2016 California Codes, Model Codes, and California Amendments:** The new 2016 California codes were published by the various model code organizations and made available to the public on or about July 1, 2016.

The 2016 California codes consist of the adopted model codes with California amendments. California amendments to the model codes are generally additions, deletions, or revisions to model code text.

Currently, the model codes are available from the respective model code organizations. The California amendments to the model codes form the 2016 California Codes.

**7. Contact Information:** For questions regarding this bulletin, contact the regional manager in the respective DSA regional office where the project will be submitted.

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A Bulletin is a DSA notification to its stakeholders regarding any issue intended to be directed to a broad group of external stakeholders as well as DSA staff. Bulletins are generally used to provide notification of a specific concern arising from an event or previously unknown condition, and pertaining to building code requirements.

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