BULLETIN: APPLICABILITY OF PRE-CHECK (PC) DESIGN CRITERIA FOR NON-PC PROJECTS

PURPOSE: The purpose of this bulletin is to inform clients that the PC Design Criteria documents prepared by the Division of the State Architect (DSA) for the respective pre-check (PC) project types shall also be considered and incorporated in site-specific submittals for structures of the same project type. For instance, a modular building submitted under a site-specific application shall satisfy the requirements in the respective PC Design Criteria document, even if the modular building is not part of a PC application. This applies to any project submittal containing structures that are frequently submitted as PC projects, including but not limited to the construction types noted below:

- Relocatable buildings.
- Modular buildings.
- Modular elevator towers.
- Open fabric shade structures.
- Steel cantilevered column structures.
- Precast concrete buildings.
- Light-frame wood buildings with metal deck diaphragms.
- Freestanding signs and scoreboards.

If there is any question as to the applicability of the PC Design Criteria documents, the design professional shall contact the DSA regional office to schedule a pre-application meeting prior to submittal. In addition, if a project scope has individual design components (e.g., solar carport over garage) that have been addressed in one of the PC Design Criteria documents, the design professional is encouraged to utilize any applicable criteria within these documents as a means to demonstrate code compliance.

BACKGROUND: The PC Design Criteria documents were created by DSA to promote uniform statewide criteria for code compliance in design and in plan review of public school, community college and essential services building projects. For cases where a non-PC project submittal includes a structural system addressed in one of these documents, the documents shall be applied in the same manner as a means for the responsible engineer to demonstrate code compliance when developing and submitting construction documents for DSA review. These documents are not intended to be a checklist of all items required for a project but rather a tool to identify and highlight the code requirements that are unique, critical and/or overlooked.

CONTACT INFORMATION: Contact the DSA regional office where you intend to submit the project to obtain a current copy of DSA’s PC Design Criteria documents.