Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Southbound I-605, SR-91 to South Street Improvements

Los Angeles International Airport United Airlines Terminal 7 and 8

Kaiser Baldwin Park Medical Center
Infrastructure Replacement

Orange County Transportation Authority I-5 Widening

City of Los Angeles Complete Streets Program – Roscoe Boulevard
August 31, 2018

Christian Anger
Membership Director
ACEC California Office
1303 J Street, Suite 450
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: ACEC CA Los Angeles County Chapter
2017-2018 Chapter Awards Submission

Dear Mr. Anger:

The ACEC CA Los Angeles County Chapter (ACEC-LA) strives to be the most effective chapter in the state by uniting its members to help support statewide legislation, local legislation, business opportunities, emerging technologies and industry trends. Our goals for the 2017-2018 year were to strengthen our position as a trusted industry advisor and go-to organization for legislative issues and to influence and ensure the sustainability and relevancy of ACEC through increased participation by young professionals. We achieved these goals through strengthened engagement and outreach with local government agencies, member firms and the public, which resulted in increased participation in active ACEC-LA liaison committees, an invitation by Metro’s chief executive officer to speak as the lead supporter for a board motion regarding industry best practices for change order approvals and increased social media followers and attendance at young member events. Attendance at our 2018 Achievement Awards Banquet was a record-breaking 300 attendees, enabling us to share our chapter’s successes with a record number of member and non-member guests.

With 103 member firms, we remain the largest chapter in California, and we experienced solid growth for the 2017-2018 year with a 16 percent FTE growth rate. There are 24 firms represented on our local board. They are made up of a cross section of small, medium and large firms whose representatives work monthly to ensure ACEC-LA’s success.

This submittal showcases our successful results by highlighting our efforts to promote the engineering industry locally, our commitment to public outreach and improving business practices and our strong relationships with local elected and appointed officials. We are dedicated to initiating programs and activities that will secure a new level of achievement in the industry and make ACEC membership a valuable asset for existing members while also encouraging others to join.

To achieve our mission and maintain our vision, we continue to engage Kelly Asper as our executive director. She works closely with the chapter’s board of directors to ensure we execute our strategic plan and serve our member firms.

We appreciate your consideration of ACEC-LA for the 2017-2018 Chapter Award for Large Chapters. If you have any questions, please contact me, Chapter President Dev Krishnan, by phone at (213) 488-0900 or by email at dev.krishnan@kkcsworld.com.

Sincerely,

Dev Krishnan
ACEC-LA President, 2017–2018
Chapter Awards
July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018

Official Entry Form for All Chapters

DEADLINE: August 31, 2018

CHAPTER NAME: Los Angeles County

CHAPTER PRESIDENT: Armando Ramos

NUMBER OF CHAPTER FIRMS: 103

NUMBER OF CHAPTER FTE’S: 2413

SECTION 1
(ACEC California provided the information below)

1. Chapter Firms net membership change: (10 pts) 1.98%

2. Number of Chapter Individuals serving on ACEC California committees: (10 pts) 22

3. Number of committee calls attended by a Chapter representative out of total number of calls possible:
   a. Membership Development Committee: (5 pts) 6/11=55%
   b. Grassroots Committee: (5 pts) 6/9=67%
   c. Chapter Officers Calls: (5 pts) 1/3=33%

4. Number of State Directors attending ACEC California Board of Director Meetings out of total number of State Director representation possible: (20 pts) 20/32=63%

5. Number of Chapter Members attending the 2017 Strategic Summit (formerly Annual Conference): (10 pts) 9

6. Number of Chapter Members attending the State Legislative Visit Day: (10 pts) 20

7. Number of Chapter Members attending ACEC National Legislative Summit Day: (5 pts) 13

8. Percentage of Federal PAC National Goal reached by Chapter (based on prior calendar year): (10pts) 97%

9. Percentage of individual participants in National PAC donations (Individual v. Chapter FTE): (10pts) 28/2413=1.2%
Chapter Awards
July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018

SECTION 2

Please complete the section below for your chapter.

Chapter Representative Completing Application: Kelly Asper

Phone Number: (562) 439-3950 Email: office@acec-la.org

10. How did the chapter communicate and engage the membership this year? (i.e. chapter meeting programs, special events, newsletters, etc.): (15 pts) The chapter maintained positive public relations with our membership this year through our monthly luncheon series, special events, chapter committee meetings, acec-la.org website, chapter Facebook page and @ACECLosAngeles Twitter account.

11. Number of local Chapter match fundraising events for legislative candidates: (15 pts) 0

12. Does your Chapter have a scholarship program? If so, how much money was awarded to students in the last program year?: (15 pts) Yes, ACEC-LA has a scholarship program. For 2017-2018, we awarded $19,000 in scholarships to four students.

ESSAY QUESTION (45 pts)
On a separate sheet (2 pages max) please provide an essay that describes how your Chapter has addressed the following:

• Enhanced public awareness of services provided by member firms through student outreach, PR, recruitment efforts and special events.
• How your Chapter has successfully promoted the industry locally and participated in improving business practices, i.e. involvement in environmental enhancements such as Earth Day or LEED.
• How many times in the last program year your Chapter has met with local elected officials and local appointed officials.
• Does your Chapter have an independent website or maintain the Chapter’s dedicated page on the ACEC CA website? How often is your website updated?

CHAPTER CHAMPION (10 pts)
Who in your chapter has contributed most to goals and directives of ACEC California? How has this individual helped in promoting the profession, growing membership, assisting ACEC California's goals and worked to improve the design consulting profession in California and locally?

SCORING NOTES
• Q1-Q8, Q10 & Q12: Scoring is based on relativity to the highest response for each question. Highest response receives full points.
• Q3: Score is based on the total sum of the three questions.
• Q8, Federal PAC: Points are based on % of goal met
• Q11, Chapter Match Fundraising: 1 point for each event, 5 points maximum.
The ACEC CA Los Angeles County Chapter (ACEC-LA) has been successful in promoting the industry and enhancing public awareness of services. Key achievements this year include record-breaking event attendance, new opportunities for young members and the re-establishment of our chapter QBS Committee.

PROMOTING INDUSTRY LOCALLY

Monthly Luncheons. Our chapter has a thriving monthly luncheon program that brings owners together with the consulting engineering community. Owners present their upcoming capital improvement and expansion programs and contracting opportunities. This past year, we hosted eight monthly luncheon events featuring speakers from owner organizations such as the City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, the California State Transportation Agency, the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, Caltrans District 7, the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) and the Los Angeles Unified School District. We also held a panel discussion on public-private partnership (P3) projects with representatives from Los Angeles World Airports, the City of Long Beach and Metro. Additionally, our chapter established a luncheon welcome for new members—we read the new member’s firm profile and introduce the new member to event attendees.

Golf Tournament. In March, ACEC-LA held its annual charity golf tournament at the Old Ranch Country Club in Seal Beach. It was attended by more than 80 members and non-members and raised nearly $13,500 for our scholarship fund.

ENHANCED PUBLIC AWARENESS

Student Outreach
Committed to offering opportunities for the next generation of engineers and surveyors, ACEC-LA promoted student education through our provision of scholarships and participation in National Engineers Week.

National Engineers Week. With the help of our member firms, 25 presenters made presentations to more than 1,000 high school students as part of the Become an Engineer campaign—a long-standing program that has been reaching out to students for 10 years.

Scholarships. Established in 2005, our chapter’s scholarship fund rewards qualified undergraduate and graduate engineering students attending Los Angeles County colleges and universities. Each recipient demonstrates a high level of academic achievement from an accredited engineering program; participates in professional associations, programs and internships directly related to engineering; and provides commendations and endorsements from faculty. From the 11 applications received, four scholarships totaling $19,000 were awarded this year. The scholarship amounts ranged from $3,000 to $7,000.

Public Relations
ACEC-LA maintains positive public relations with our membership, the consultant community and owner agencies in the Los Angeles County area by providing opportunities for networking, professional development and relationship-building. We established a new opportunity for younger members—a successful young professionals construction site tour at the Metro Southwestern Yard. Young members received an exclusive tour of an exciting construction site and an opportunity to connect with their peers. Our Social Media Committee has established a social media presence and engaged several target audiences through public information and positive outreach via social media pages on two platforms (Twitter and Facebook). Today, our dedicated Twitter account includes nearly 150 followers, nearly 400 tweets and retweets and more than 17,900 individual impressions of shared content. Our Facebook page has had nearly 10,000 lifetime likes.

Recruitment Efforts
With outstanding membership growth and participation, our chapter’s recruiting efforts include welcoming non-members at monthly luncheons and retaining members through successful programming. Our success is evidenced by event attendance growth from 30 attendees per event in 2005 to an average of more than 110 attendees per event this year. Total attendance at our 2017-2018 luncheon events and annual banquet numbered 994, which is 35 more attendees than last year.

Special Events
Annual Banquet. Hosted by Deputy Director for the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works Rossana D’Antonio, our Annual Achievement Awards Banquet in May provided a record 300 members and guests the opportunity to enjoy an evening of networking and celebration. Awards were presented to representatives of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) for Client of the Year, Los Angeles World Airports for Innovator of the Year and Los Angeles County Department of Public Works for Champion of Small Firms.
Additional awards included Engineering Achievement and scholarships.

**IMPROVING BUSINESS PRACTICES**

**Small Business Committee**
ACEC-LA’s Small Business Committee helps our small businesses maximize the benefits of ACEC membership. This year the committee hosted a seminar on overhead rates. The discussion covered current trends, important issues that architecture and engineering firms need to address in the development of their overhead rates and actions that firms can take to enhance the quality of their overhead rates and supporting documentation.

**Qualifications-Based Selection (QBS) Committee**
ACEC California presented a Qualifications-Based Selection (QBS) Seminar in February 2018 to members of ACEC-LA that focused on how QBS laws should be applied at the federal, state and local levels and how QBS benefits design professionals and their clients. Following the seminar, the chapter restarted the QBS committee to collaborate with ACEC California for the benefit of our members and local clients. To date, the QBS Committee has met to develop an approach and outline educational discussions to have with chapter members and key local agencies on the benefits of QBS. Working with our active liaison committees, we will be initiating contact with local agencies to enhance QBS practices where needed.

**Liaison Committees**
ACEC-LA’s liaison committees provide a forum for members and owners to discuss current and future owner design and construction programs as well as other industry issues and concerns. Highlights from our liaison committees include:

- **City of Los Angeles** – This committee met quarterly with each meeting attended by 15 or more member firms who engaged with City of Los Angeles leadership from the Bureau of Engineering, Department of Transportation, Bureau of Street Lighting and Department of Building and Safety.
- **Port of Los Angeles (POLA)** – Meeting quarterly with 10 to 15 member firms in attendance, this committee engaged POLA managers from the architectural, environmental, engineering and construction management divisions to discuss upcoming design, construction and project updates, on-call opportunities, new technologies and ways ACEC-LA and its member firms can help POLA staff. Most recently, the committee presented new technology in building information modeling (BIM) to POLA staff.
- **Caltrans District 7** – This committee’s meetings are held every other month and attended by large and small member and non-member firms. Based on an August 2017 list of preferred topics prepared by meeting attendees, the committee identified presenters for the next six months to address upcoming procurement, project approval/environmental document submittals, changes in the consultant selection process, reports on statewide activities and updates on the CalSOP and CalMentor programs.
- **Metro** – Our most popular liaison committee, this committee’s meetings attract up to 50 people to each meeting held every other month. Presentations are provided by executive directors and senior staff representing Metro departments including Highways, Planning, Engineering and Procurement. Metro has also partnered with ACEC-LA on procurement practices, new policies and board agenda items.

**State and National Participation**
Our chapter members are active in ACEC state and national efforts that enhance our industry. This year, ACEC-LA member involvement with ACEC California increased substantially. Our chapter has 21 members involved at the state level holding 40 positions on 19 state committees. More than 40 chapter members have been involved at the national level as committee, coalition, Senior Executives Institute, forum, council and Pathways to Executive Leadership members.

**MEETING WITH PUBLIC OFFICIALS**
The chapter met with numerous local elected and appointed officials over the 2017-2018 year. We met with nearly 30 state legislators and their staffs on Legislative Visit Day. In January 2018, the staff of Metro Chief Executive Officer Phil Washington requested that our chapter prepare a letter and speak as lead supporter for a Metro Board motion regarding contract practices. Chapter President Dev Krishnan promptly submitted a letter and spoke to the Metro Board expressing support.

**WEBSITE MAINTENANCE**
ACEC-LA maintains a website (acec-la.org) that is updated weekly. We also have a Twitter account, @ACECLosAngeles, that provides industry information to nearly 150 followers. The account has had 396 lifetime tweets and retweets. We also have a Facebook page that has had nearly 10,000 lifetime likes.
ACEC-LA Chapter Champion

Gene Bougdanos, Los Angeles Area Program Manager at HDR and long-time ACEC-LA chapter member, is the ACEC-LA Chapter Champion for 2017-2018. He has used his more than 25 years of engineering management experience to promote both the engineering profession and ACEC at local and state levels.

Gene has been an active participant of the ACEC-LA chapter since 2002. He has given a tremendous contribution of time to the organization over the years, serving in multiple chapter and state positions. His commitment to growing ACEC-LA and promoting the profession is evidenced by five terms as Metro Liaison Committee chair, three terms on the Annual Banquet Committee (including serving as chair), two terms on the Scholarship Committee (including serving as chair) and single-year terms as the Port of Los Angeles Liaison Committee chair and the Programs Committee chair. He has held every position, from secretary to president, on the ACEC-LA Board of Directors, serving as a chapter board member from 2002-2010.

Gene’s recent work as Metro Liaison Committee chair enabled industry representatives to meet with Metro senior staff to discuss issues related to procurement, upcoming work, issues, industry challenges and more. He has also overseen a subcommittee that worked directly with Metro procurement staff to improve and resolve issues with Metro requests for proposals/requests for qualifications. The subcommittee results have been very positive, increasing trust between ACEC and Metro.

At the state level, Gene’s involvement helps to further the ACEC mission to build a better California. He is currently serving his ninth term as an ACEC California State Director and his sixth term on the ACEC CA Political Action Committee (PAC) Board of Governors. He has served as PAC chair since 2017, using his strong interpersonal and mentoring skills, problem solving abilities and business savvy to increase donations to the PAC by California firms and organize campaign contributions.

Gene’s multiple years of ACEC involvement have exemplified the ACEC California core values of character, respect, competence and problem-solving. He is an exceptional, long-standing ACEC member and deserves to be recognized as the Los Angeles Chapter Champion, as well as a champion for the entire ACEC California organization.