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The 15th Annual Municipal Green Building Conference & Expo Returns April 21st with 'Water Resilient Cities' as Theme

Hosted Annually by USGBC-LA, SoCal Gas; Registration is Open

March 8, 2016 (LOS ANGELES, CA) The [Municipal Green Building Conference and Expo \(MGBCE\)](#) returns for its 15th year on April 21, 2016, as Southern California's longest running and largest sustainability and green building event focused on the needs and concerns of municipalities. A key annual U.S. Green Building Council-Los Angeles (USGBC-LA) event, MGBCE draws from 75 Southern California-area municipalities, all of which are striving to integrate sustainability into municipal action, especially in light of the effect of climate change on local water resources. The event takes place from 8:00am to 4:30pm at the Southern California Gas Company's (SoCal Gas) Energy Resource Center located at 9240 Firestone Blvd. in Downey. Registration is now open.

Hosted annually, for free, by SoCal Gas and the [USGBC-LA](#), this year's event will focus on *Water Resilience for Cities*. The theme reflects the recent launch of USGBC-LA's "[Building Resilience-L.A.](#)" initiative that will deliver a *Building Resilience-L.A. Guide*, along with a South Los Angeles case study, to be presented at the upcoming Greenbuild International Conference & Expo.

MGBCE will also celebrate the 'Road to Greenbuild', and all the projects, programming and opportunities leading up to USGBC-LA hosting [Greenbuild](#). MGBCE—a mini-Greenbuild—will feature topics that include climate change and resilience, sustainable design, construction, operations practices, livability, wellness and the economy for a variety of buildings and communities. The event is free, interactive and educational, attracting thought-leaders in green building, engineers, architects, municipal policy makers, students and the public who want to develop a sustainable, energy efficient building future. Please click [here](#) for the just posted day's "Schedule".

"For 15 years, MGBCE has connected sustainability professionals with each other and the resources they need to begin integrating sustainability into impactful municipal action. This conference inspired local leaders to found our Chapter and how we have grown since 2002!" states USGBC-LA Executive Director Dominique Hargreaves. "For longtime and prospective Chapter members, this is an incredible year to be involved, from MGBCE through Greenbuild...and of course beyond. Our initiatives affect everyone and consistently benefit from a wide range of insights and input."

The morning keynote, Vincent Lee, Associate Principal at Arup, will set the day's tone addressing "Blue-Green Cities for Water Resilience", which will include discussion of our water infrastructure legacy, placing water at the center of future urban design, and case studies of blue-green thinking to enable water resilience. Lee has over 17 years of experience in sustainable site development, green infrastructure and integrated water resource management, including implementation of water-resilient cities and communities across the world.



The lunchtime keynote panelists will cover the national, state and local perspective as they review the last 15 years of green building trends, and look forward to what is on the horizon. Panelists include Dan Burgoyne, Sustainability Manager for the California Dept. of General Service, and an USGBC Advisory Council member; and Nancy Sutley, Chief Sustainability and Economic Development Officer, LADWP. The moderator will be Mike Wallace, Managing Director for Brown/Flynn, and former U.S./Canada Director for the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI).

Eric Corey Freed, LEED Fellow and Founding Principal of organicARCHITECT, returns to unveil his latest humor-based keynote for the cocktail reception. An annual highlight, this year's presentation is titled "The Art of (Sustainable) Persuasion: How to Gently Hit People with a Sledgehammer." Eric is the author of 11 books and worldwide lecturer on how to transform our buildings and cities.

For the full schedule, please visit <http://usgbc-la.org/mgbce/>. Session highlights include:

Building Resilience-L.A.: Update from USGBC-LA's Resilience Initiative

USGBC-LA is leading an innovative program to make our region's buildings, organizations and communities ready for disasters in ways that make life better today. The first initiative is to develop a "Building Resilience Guide for Facilities," to be launched at Greenbuild. Meet the program's leaders and hear about the work via a roundtable discussion of underlying concepts and emerging resources that will help make our region more resilient, healthy and sustainable. They will share a update on the case study project with SCOPE, a community organization in South L.A.

City Energy Project presents the model Los Angeles Existing Building (EB) Energy and Water Efficiency Program: Existing Opportunities, Required Actions and Compliance Process Overview

Beginning with a brief background and context for the model Energy and Water Efficiency ordinance, it will be explained how existing building (EB) opportunities must be seized to meet the City's goals for 2020, 2050 and the Sustainable City pLAn. Further, what the energy/water consumption in the EB stock is, and how it's being analyzed to determine better efficiency will be presented, along with stakeholder engagement and other key issues. Finally, how the ordinance works (i.e. compliance, covered properties, reporting process) and how DWP will support the ordinance, will be discussed.

Santa Monica's Sustainable Building Advisor Debates a Developer's Representative: How Far is Too Far?

This panel will feature a competitive yet friendly debate between Santa Monica's Sustainable Building Advisor and a sustainability consultant (and former Planning Commissioner) that represents numerous local developers. Watch and join in!

For **general information** on MGBCE, please visit <http://usgbc-la.org/mgbce/> or contact Event Chair Drew Shula at drew.shula@verdicalgroup.com. For **Sponsorship & Exhibitor** information, please contact Dominique Hargreaves at dominique@usgbc-la.org.

About U.S. Green Building Council-Los Angeles



LOS ANGELES

USGBC-LA is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization committed to creating a prosperous and sustainable future within one generation. Our mission promotes sustainability in LA County's built environment by delivering access to knowledge, resources, recognition and networking. (www.usgbc-la.org)

About Municipal Green Building Conference and Expo (MGBCE)

Since its inception in 2000, MGBCE has become an important gathering of leading sustainability and green building advocates within both the public and private sectors in southern California. Hosted by the Southern California Gas Company at the ERC building in Downey, this annual Spring conference and trade show provides training, education and outreach to inform local government agencies, building industry professionals and the general public about the principles, practices and products associated with green building. (<http://usgbc-la.org/mgbce/>)

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