



**Media Contact:** Julie Du Brow, Communications  
[Julie@dubroworks.com](mailto:Julie@dubroworks.com), 310-922-1301

## **U.S. Green Building Council-L.A. (USGBC-LA) Chapter Names Sara Neff of Kilroy Realty as New Board Chair**

### **USGBC-LA Co-Chairs Announced for the 2016 Greenbuild International Conference & Expo**

Los Angeles, CA (December 2, 2015) – The [U.S. Green Building Council-Los Angeles](#) (USGBC-LA) Chapter has named Sara Neff the Chair of its Board of Directors. As Vice President of Sustainability at Kilroy Realty Corp., she is the first owner representative to be named to the USGBC-LA post, which traditionally has been held by an architect. She will serve a two-year term, which will include leading the Board as the Chapter prepares for and hosts the upcoming [Greenbuild International Conference & Expo](#), to be held in Los Angeles in October 2016. USGBC-LA has also announced its Greenbuild 2016 co-chairs.

Neff has worked in global and domestic sustainable development for seven years, including green consulting projects in South America, irrigation and soil erosion work in India, and solar work at Idealab. But her time at Kilroy has placed her at the forefront of sustainable expertise among those in the realty sector. In her first four years, Neff took Kilroy from having no sustainability program to being named the #1 real estate company across all asset classes on sustainability in North America by [real estate portfolios sustainability assessor] [GRESB](#), and in 2015 they won that honor for the second year in a row.

She oversees all of Kilroy's sustainability initiatives such as the implementation of energy and water efficiency projects throughout the portfolio, the recycling and green cleaning program, all LEED certifications, electric vehicle charging station installations, and the greening of building and construction standards.

Neff was also just [named](#) to the USGBC National's 2016 Advisory Council. As USGBC's highest-level customer engagement platform, The Advisory Council recommends policy and initiatives to the Board. It provides the visionary industry leadership and perspectives that has built USGBC's authenticity, credibility and relevance.

"I'm so thrilled to be chair of USGBC-LA as we gear up to host Greenbuild," states Neff. "Greenbuild is our chance not just to show the world why Los Angeles is at the forefront of the green building movement, but to galvanize our own community. I want this to be the impetus for us to cultivate enthusiasm, forge stronger partnerships, create better, more focused programming, and get more folks to join us in greening the Los Angeles built environment."

Working closely with Neff, the Board, and [USGBC-LA](#) Executive Director Dominique Hargreaves over the next year, the co-chairs of Greenbuild 2016 are: Annie Argento, co-Founder and

Principal at Argento/Graham, a premier green building consulting company, and Randy Britt, Director of Sustainability at Parsons, a global engineering, construction, technical, and management services firm.

Argento is a former multi-year USGBC-LA Board and Executive Committee member and longtime volunteer. She led numerous model LEED projects to completion, both during her tenure as a principal at Gaia Development where she guided the company into top U.S. markets, and as Regional Director for Brightworks Sustainability Advisors. Britt has been involved with USGBC-LA for seven years. Prior to his current role at Parsons, he created and directed the sustainability initiatives program for Los Angeles Unified School District, including developing solar photovoltaic renewable energy projects for 99 LAUSD sites. He also was Divisional VP of Engineering and Energy Management for Robinsons-May, for 86 sites across six states.

States USGBC-LA's Hargreaves, "The level of dedication and engagement from our volunteers never fails to impress me. We anticipate that over 5,000 hours will be contributed in 2016 to prepare for the [Greenbuild Conference & Expo](#). These hours are in addition to our ongoing annual activities and functions, which are supported by many of our members also volunteering their time. With Sara leading our very active Board and our Greenbuild co-chairs, 2016 holds great promise for moving L.A. forward toward our sustainable future."

Greenbuild, held in a different city each year, attracts over 30,000 global attendees and includes the largest green building expo, numerous education sessions, workshops and speakers, tours organized by the local chapter (USGBC-LA), art installations, and adjacent events. The local chapter also is responsible for creating a Legacy Project. There are many opportunities to be involved in Greenbuild for anyone interested in a sustainable built environment. For developing information, please visit [www.usgbc-la.org](http://www.usgbc-la.org), or contact Dominique Smith at [dominique@usgbc-la.org](mailto:dominique@usgbc-la.org).

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**About U.S. Green Building Council-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](http://www.usgbc-la.org))