



For Immediate Release

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U.S. Green Building Council-L.A. Welcomes Ben Stapleton as New Executive Director

LOS ANGELES (January 29, 2019) Ben Stapleton has been named Executive Director of the [U.S. Green Building Council-Los Angeles Chapter](#) (USGBC-LA), the nonprofit organization committed to accelerating all aspects of sustainability in the built environment by delivering access to knowledge, resources, recognition and networking. He will step into the role on February 4, 2019.

Stapleton succeeds Dominique Hargreaves, who served as Executive Director for five years – and is now the Deputy Chief Sustainability Officer for the City of Los Angeles – and Julie Du Brow, who has served as Interim Executive Director since September, along with Interim Deputy Director Edmund Novy.

A native Angeleno, Stapleton is a recognized sustainability leader, who brings to this position extensive experience and connections across real estate, technology and innovation. He launched and managed the La Kretz Innovation Campus in Downtown Los Angeles, most recently serving as SVP, Operations & Finance for the LA Cleantech Incubator (LACI). The Campus has become an epicenter for sustainability in the region featuring events with prominent local, national and international leaders, while being home to a community of cutting-edge businesses and nonprofits. At LACI, Stapleton led major operational growth, program development, and partnerships to triple revenue for the non-profit. Simultaneously, he helped lead efforts that resulted in the La Kretz Innovation Campus becoming an iconic green building for the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power and the City of Los Angeles, with multiple certifications, as well as pilot projects targeting waste, water, and energy efficiency.

The USGBC-LA selected Stapleton after an extensive regional search led by a team of current and former Board Members. States Sara Neff, USGBC-LA Board Chair, "I have complete confidence that Ben will successfully guide this chapter to a new level of positive impact on the built environment in greater Los Angeles and the Inland Empire. His entrepreneurial spirit and proven track record of nonprofit leadership will be a boon to the chapter and we on the board are really looking forward to working with him."

Stapleton's hiring comes as the organization implements a new strategic plan that encompasses strong development and outreach; thought-leadership, inspiration and guidance in the sustainable built environment; education that empowers; groundbreaking programs along with new partnerships; and overall drive for market transformation to fight climate change.

"Green buildings are the foundation of what we need to create a truly sustainable society, and it is time for us to not only embrace but envision the future of the green building movement," states Stapleton. "The opportunity to serve this organization, its members and their communities at this critical moment is filled with the incredible potential of our collective impact in the fight against climate change. Increased collaboration is vital with those that share pieces of our mission, as well as those who are 'all in,' leading through education at our homes and workplaces as well as where we eat, worship, shop, educate, and heal."

Stapleton has held several positions that have prepared him for this new role including Managing Director of the LA Better Buildings Challenge, Vice President & Cleantech Practice Group Lead at JLL, and he has also served on the boards of LA Bioscience Hub and USGBC-LA. Representing competing schools in Los Angeles, Stapleton holds a MBA from the University of Southern California, Marshall School of Business, and a Bachelors of Arts degree in Economics from the University of California, Los Angeles.

Sustainability Program Manager Fernanda Zuin continues in her role. She holds a B.S. in Environmental Engineering, and has worked closely on USGBC-LA programs for the past three years. Du Brow will continue to serve the Chapter both as the Communications Director, as well as additional duties throughout the transition.

For more information about the USGBC-LA chapter, please contact:
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About U.S. Green Building Council-Los Angeles

Founded in 2002, USGBC-LA is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization committed to creating a prosperous and sustainable future within one generation. Our mission is to accelerate all aspects of sustainability in the built environment by delivering access to knowledge, resources, recognition and networking. *Learn, Share and Lead Green.* (www.usgbc-la.org)