



The 19th Annual Municipal Green Building Conference & Expo: JOIN VIRTUALLY, Aug. 21-22 - for Pros & Community

Two Days feature LA Region Sustainability Leaders on Current State of Climate Plans, Industry Sessions, Civic Awards, and Practical Workshops, Demos & Virtual Tours for Anyone

LOS ANGELES (August 11, 2020) Can an intangible like empathy really make that much difference in the design of today? Do you wake up wondering what are our utilities' green teams' priorities, or how greater electrification will affect our kitchen life? And don't you wish for that *one* 'power panel' that goes deep on how we maintain (or accelerate) momentum on sustainability goals in a post COVID reality, while emphasizing social equity? The [U.S. Green Building-Los Angeles Chapter's](#) (USGBC-LA) **19th Municipal Green Building (Virtual) Conference and Expo** (MGBCE) will address these questions and more on August 21-22. (For Agenda, Speakers & Registration, please visit www.mgbce.online.)

This year's theme of Equity will be weaved throughout presentations across both days. MGBCE will feature its annual AEC industry-focused day, on Friday, August 21, called *Municipal Green*. Then on Saturday, August 22, MGBCE will debut its first *Community Green* day, welcoming the general public along with the green building industry, to experience premier speakers, presentations, demos, workshops, civic awards, networking, tours and entertainment. Both days are open to anyone. Friday is free to USGBC-LA members, \$75 for non-members; Saturday's Community Green day is free.

Both days will also feature an *interactive EXHIBIT HALL*, featuring businesses such as Allsteel, Chargepoint, Solatube and Verdical Group; industry organizations such as American Institute of Steel Construction, International WELL Building Institute, and Assn. of Women Architects & Designers; and community groups such as Building Skills Partnership, Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance, Slate-Z and TreePeople. The Expo Hall will also feature many of the 2nd [cohort companies](#) from USGBC-LA's Net Zero Accelerator to experience for the first time.

"In the midst of a challenging year and at a time when all of us are looking for answers, I am incredibly proud of the content we've put together for MGBCE this year. Not only does it speak to the issues at the heart of our architecture and engineering community right now, but it also highlights the voices of our frontline building workers and focuses our dialogue on

how we make equity a priority in sustainability going forward,” states USGBC-LA Executive Director Ben Stapleton.

The longest-running and largest gathering of leading sustainability and green building advocates within the public and private sectors in Southern California, MGBCE expects to attract over 1,000 *online* attendees from across the 88 Southern California-area municipalities, along with professionals elsewhere who are curious about SoCal’s thought leadership and planning. At a time when people are figuring out how to re-enter & re-engage with all kinds of spaces in a post COVID world, MGBCE’s 2020 programming is created for those striving to integrate sustainability into municipal action, as well as office and home.

Day 1 / Municipal Green (Aug. 21):

The annual lunchtime Power Panel, titled “Sustainability Leaders of Our Region,” will be moderated by [KCRW’s Frances Anderton](#), and feature **Gary Gero**, Chief Sustainability Officer, County of Los Angeles; **Lauren Faber O’Connor**, Chief Sustainability Officer, City of Los Angeles; **Dr. Cris B. Liban, P.E.**, Chief Sustainability Officer, LA Metro; and **Nancy Sutley**, Senior Assistant General Manager of External and Regulatory Affairs and Chief Sustainability Officer, LADWP. They will dive into how, in this post-COVID reality, and with social and racial equity at the forefront, how do we see the path of sustainability forward? Bottom line: if we don’t address climate change, we don’t address equity.

A special **Climate Action Plan workshop** (10:00a), led by Gary Gero and directed especially at municipalities, will focus on local government climate action plans, including a discussion of the core elements of such plans.

For the first time, MGBCE will host the annual **Gathering of the Green Teams** (1:30p). Open to any attendee, the panel of utility representatives will review the who/what/why of their green team, and the status of their priorities.

Three tracks of sessions (Buildings, Cities, Communities) will occur, once in the morning and twice in the afternoon:

- **Buildings** - Roadmap to a Net Zero Carbon Building (AM); Maintaining Local Momentum Toward CA’s Strategic Climate Goals: How Reach Codes Accelerate Clean Construction (PM); Beyond Energy - Building Resiliency through Social Space in Affordable Housing & Green Affordable Housing (PM)
- **Cities** - Resilience in Australia: Lessons From Down Under (inc. real-time guests from Australia)(AM); People+Planet+Profit: Priorities for Net Zero Cities (PM); Resiliency Opportunities through LEED for Cities in the Wake of COVID-19 (PM)
- **Communities** - Building a Compassionate Community: Empathy as a Core Principle of Design Practice (AM); Bringing ‘Passivehaus’ to the US and the Case for its Adoption in Cities Like L.A. (PM); LACCD’s Clean Energy and Sustainability Resolution: Policies to Protect Frontline Communities (PM)

The day will close with a Happy Hour, preceded by a presentation of the **Elected Official Award to Assemblymember Laura Friedman**, and a musical performance, live from Austin, TX, of LA's own blues singer-songwriter, [The Reverend Shawn Amos](#).

Day 2 / Community Green (Aug. 22):

From electrification of cooking and protecting your home, to career training and the service industry's health at work and home, the day's workshops include something for everyone:

- Centering the Voices of Frontline Workers in the Property Service Industry: Green Janitors and Public Health
- Harness Nature to Improve Health and Wellness
- Getting Started with Electric Vehicles
- Careers by Design (part of Mayor Garcetti's Green New Deal, working with LATTC)
- Electric Kitchens Have Arrived! Myth Busting & Great Cooking on Induction (and more) with Chef Rachelle Boucher
- Firewise Fact & Fiction
- LA EcoVillage: A 2050 Model for Urban Sustainable Communities
- The 2020 USGBC-LA Legacy Project
- VIRTUAL TOURS: Certified Passive House projects in LA; and LADWP's La Kretz Innovation Campus - Case Study Home and Sustainable Exhibits

The keynote speakers ([announced](#) prior)—Kat Taylor / Beneficial State Bank, Dr. Denise Fairchild / Emerald Cities Collaborative, Cheryl Durst / IIDA, architect and author Eric Corey Freed, Kimberly Lewis / U.S. Green Building Council, and Gabrielle Bullock / Perkins&Will—will offer strong foundation for both days.

USGBC-LA Board Member and MGBCE Event Chair Steve Baule states, "We are excited to host the first MGBCE Community Day which will focus on how we can all promote sustainability in our own homes, our daily lives and in our communities."

MGBCE's programming addresses solutions at the building, city and regional scale as city administrators and community leaders seek innovative, tangible ways to create an inclusive path forward, especially at the local level, and across topics that include Health, Technology & Data, Diversity & Inclusion, Energy & Environment, Housing, Education, Infrastructure, Budgets, Public Safety and Economic Development.

The conference attracts a wide variety of building industry disciplines, including municipalities, utilities, public agencies, architects, engineers, building owners, contractors, non-profits, and manufacturers. All of these groups are working together to create connected cities that succeed in the three E's: Economic, Environmental, and Equity solutions.

USGBC-LA thanks MGBCE Gold sponsors [Southern California Edison](#) and [SoCalGas](#), Silver sponsor [LADWP](#), and Bronze sponsors Metropolitan Water District and the Clean Power Alliance.

For MGBCE **schedule** and **general information**, please visit mgbce.online or contact Fernanda Zuin at fernanda@usgbc-la.org. For **Sponsorship & Exhibitor** information, please contact Ben Stapleton at ben@usgbc-la.org.

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)

About Municipal Green Building Conference and Expo (MGBCE)

Since its inception in 2001, MGBCE has become the longest-running and largest gathering of leading sustainability and green building advocates within both the public and private sectors in Southern California. This annual conference and trade show provides cutting-edge thought leadership, education, and networking opportunities to inform local government agencies, building industry professionals, and the general public about the principles, practices, and products associated with green building. (<https://usgbc-la.org/programs/mgbce/>)

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