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# AB 835 SINGLE EXIT STAIR TASK GROUP MEETING

## Meeting Minutes – Tuesday, March 11, 2025

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### Task Group Members Present

Vickie Sakamoto (Alternate), CAL FIRE – Office of the State Fire Marshal, ASFM  
Stephan Smith, Center for Building in North America, Executive Director  
Joe Cavin (FM), California Fire Prevention Officers Associate (Cal FPO)  
Robert Raymer, California Building Industry Association  
Travis Tyler, California State University (CSU)  
Ed Mendoza (MAP Research Associate), California YIMBY  
Kyle Krause, Housing and Community Development (HCD), Deputy Director-Codes/Standards  
Ali Fattah, Ca. Building Officials, Executive Director

### Members Absent

Daniel Berlant, CAL FIRE – Office of the State Fire Marshal, SFM  
Crystal Sujeski, CAL FIRE – Office of the State Fire Marshal, CDA-DC, Chair  
Robert Marshall, Deputy Fire Chief San Mateo, Co-Chair  
Stoyan Bumbalvo, Building Standards Commission, Executive Director  
Vacant, California Fire Chiefs Associate (FM Section)  
James Dobson (FM), California Fire Chiefs Associate (FM Section)  
James Gillespie (Alt), California Fire Chiefs Associate (FM Section)  
Vacant, Fire Districts Association of California  
Brian Rice (CPF-President), California Professional Firefighters  
Melissa McDonald (Alt), California Professional Firefighters (CPF)  
Ian Hardage (Alt), California Fire Prevention Officers Associate (Cal FPO)  
Vacant, League of Cities  
Stephen Guarino, University of California (UC)  
Matt Wheeler (Alt), California Building Industry Association, Executive Director  
Tracy Rhine, Rural Countries Representatives of California (RCRC) Senior Policy Advocate  
Brian Hanlon (Alt), CEO, California YIMBY  
Christopher Ochoa (Alt), California Building Industry Association  
Mark Neuburger (Alt), California State Association of Counties (CSAC), Legislative Advocate

### CAL FIRE Staff in Attendance

Jena Garcia, CAL FIRE – OSFM, CD- DSFM III Supervisor  
Mark Springer, CAL FIRE – OSFM, Staff Counsel

### 1. CALL TO ORDER 8:10AM

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|---------------------------------------|------------------------|
| A. Welcome/Introductions              | <b>Vickie Sakamoto</b> |
| B. Roll Call/Quorum Established       | <b>Vickie Sakamoto</b> |
| C. Agenda Review (Motion Made-Passed) | <b>Vickie Sakamoto</b> |

<b>Motion:</b>	Stephan Smith Motioned to Approve / (Confirm) Seconded.
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<b>Action:</b>	Approved
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D. Meeting Minutes – February 4, 2025 Review (Motion Made-Passed) **Vickie Sakamoto**

<b>Motion:</b>	Stephan Smith Motioned to Approve / Travis Tyler Seconded.
<b>Action:</b>	Approved

## 2. NEW BUSINESS

**Vickie Sakamoto**

- A. Stephan Smith NFPA Single Exit Symposium round table discussion
  - i. Jeff Maddox – Cost impact second stair upward \$228k.
    - 1. Stephen Smith – Vertical construction, stairs, standpipe. Stairs take up 6-7% of floor area and cost being 10% seems correct.
    - 2. Jeff Maddox – This group may need more research to cost impact. Elevator considerations for secondary egress. Cost plug/play pressurization vs exhaust systems for this use.
    - 3. Ali Fattah – Not so common in Seattle as disclosed in the presentation. There needs to be a more standardized approach to this so we all on common ground. Pressurization vs exhaust systems reports need to more reflective of the construction methods in the US.
    - 4. Kyle Krause – It is very difficult for officials to justify reducing the level of safety because of cost. HCD vs SFM authority. HCD has limited statutory authority and path forward what the co-adoption would look like.
- B. Establish Sub-Workgroups – Charter update – discussed and determined that the Bagley-Keene method is not necessary for the work groups to be productive. Update charter to include work groups. Propose establishing a schedule to hit target dates and work group schedule.
  - i. Proposed - Cost Impact, Smoke control, Code Comparison (ICC, CA, International).
    - 1. Cost Impact Research – Stephen Smith (Lead), Eduardo Mendoza, Kyle Krause (HCD) recommend Robert Raymer (CBIA).
    - 2. Smoke Control – Jeff Maddox (Lead), Ali Fattah (contribute FPE), Joe Cavin (Cal FPO), Stephan Smith (CBNA)
    - 3. Code Comparison – Ali Fattah (Lead), Joe Cavin (Cal FPO), Travis Tyler (CSU), Stephan Smith (CBNA), Kyle/Mitchel (HCD), Christine Reed (ICC).

## 3. OLD BUSINESS

**Vickie Sakamoto**

- A. Stephen Smith – Particular Interest (ie smoke control/FD operations/etc.) presentation.  
<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/10Fyj72Sr-X1x5vXWJ6wSSW4Z-hckjdpIETtIIZhdBbl/edit?usp=sharing>
- B. Greg Rodgers – NFPA presentation (postponed to the next meeting due to time).

## 4. ROUNDTABLE

**Vickie Sakamoto**

- A. Ali Fattah - ICC Public comment for the E24-24 open, March 13<sup>th</sup> deadline.

**5. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Vickie Sakamoto**

A. None.

**6. UPCOMING MEETING DATE FOR 2025**

**Vickie Sakamoto**

A. First Tuesday of each month starting 8 AM and ends at 10 AM. (unless voted on by the members for a better meeting time).

i. Next Meeting – April 1, 2025, 8:00-10 AM

**7. MEETING ADJOURNED (Motion Required) 10:00 AM**

**Vickie Sakamoto**

<b>Motion:</b>	Stephan Smith Motioned to Approve / Eduardo Mendoza Seconded.
<b>Action:</b>	Approved

If you would like to watch the recording of this meeting, please visit the link below:

<https://youtu.be/CZzFu3TuXag>