
AB 835 SINGLE EXIT STAIR TASK GROUP MEETING

Meeting Minutes – Tuesday, February 4, 2025



Task Group Members Present

Vickie Sakamoto (Alternate), CAL FIRE – Office of the State Fire Marshal, ASFM
Crystal Sujeski, CAL FIRE – Office of the State Fire Marshal, Chair
Robert Marshall, Deputy Fire Chief San Mateo, Co-Chair
Stoyan Bumbalvo, Building Standards Commission, Executive Director
Stephan Smith, Center for Building in North America, Executive Director
James Dobson (FM), California Fire Chiefs Associate (FM Section)
James Gillespie (Alternate), California Fire Chiefs Associate (FM Section)
Joe Cavin (FM), California Fire Prevention Officers Associate (Cal FPO)
Ian Hardage (Alternate), California Fire Prevention Officers Associate (Cal FPO)
Robert Raymer, California Building Industry Association
Mark Neuburger, California State Association of Counties (CSAC), Legislative Advocate
Travis Tyler, California State University (CSU)

Members Absent

Daniel Berlant, CAL FIRE – Office of the State Fire Marshal, SFM
Vacant, California Fire Chiefs Associate (FM Section)
Vacant, Fire Districts Association of California
Brian Rice (CPF-President), California Professional Firefighters
Melissa McDonald (Alternate), California Professional Firefighters (CPF)
Ed Mendoza (MAP Research Associate), California YIMBY
Vacant, League of Cities
Stephen Guarino, University of California (UC)
Matt Wheeler, California Building Industry Association, Executive Director
Tracy Rhine, Rural Countries Representatives of California (RCRC) Senior Policy Advocate
Brian Hanlon (Alternate) CEO, California YIMBY
Christopher Ochoa (Alternate), California Building Industry Association

CAL FIRE Staff in Attendance

Kara Garrett, Deputy State Fire Marshal III Specialist
Jena Garcia, Deputy State Fire Marshal III Supervisor Analyst

1. CALL TO ORDER 8:10AM

- A. Welcome/Introductions
- B. Roll Call/Quorum Established
- C. Agenda Review (Motion Made-Passed)

Crystal Sujeski
Crystal Sujeski
Robert Marshall

Motion:	Bob Raymer Motioned to Approve/ Mark Neuburger Seconded.
Action:	Approved

2. OLD BUSINESS – N/A

3. NEW BUSINESS

Crystal Sujeski/Robert Marshall

A. Review of Charter (Motion Required-see item #5)

- i. Expand on Objective #3 – Pros/Cons [Michael Malinowski]
- ii. High-rise distinction and are high-rises part of the discussion? [James Dobson]
 - Up to the high-rise height- 75’ [Robert Marshall/Ian Hardage]
 - From what grade level for access? [James Dobson]
 - One exit and an OEE [Robert Marshall/ Ali Fattah]
 - Definition of high-rise standardized [Robert Marshall]
 - Identify why high-rise is not part of the discussion
- iii. How many stories above 3 stories are we discussing?
 - Limit to 6 stories or up to high-rise limit 75’ [Stephen Smith]
 - Occupied roof [Ali Fattah]

Motion:	Stephan Smith Motioned to Approve Bob Raymer Seconded.
Action:	Approved

iv. Recommendations addressing and including existing buildings. [Ian Hardage]

Motion:	Stephan Smith Motioned to Approve Joe Caven Seconded.
Action:	Approved

v. Final Overall Review of the entire Charter. [Robert Marshall]

Motion:	Bob Raymer Motioned to Approve James Dobson Seconded.
Action:	Approved

4. ROUNDTABLE

Crystal Sujeski

- A. Send in ideas for the agenda to Crystal Sujeski or Jena Garcia
- B. Stephen Smith – Particular Interest (ie smoke control/FD operations/etc.) presentation
- C. Greg Rodgers – NFPA presentation
- D. Christine Reed – ICC presentation

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Crystal Sujeski

- A. Definition of high-rise for buildings vs hospitals.
- B. Many other countries have single-exit stair buildings

6. UPCOMING MEETING DATE FOR 2024

Crystal Sujeski

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 – March 11, 2025, 8:00-10 AM

7. MEETING ADJOURNED (Motion Required) 9:30 AM

Crystal Sujeski

Motion:	Bob Raymer Motioned to Approve/ Joe Cavin Seconded.
Action:	Approved

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

<https://youtu.be/vOSJV2O8klw>