

San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission

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July 26, 2019

TO: Commissioners and Alternates

FROM: Lawrence J. Goldzband, Executive Director (415/352-3653; larry.goldzband@bcdc.ca.gov)
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SUBJECT: Recommendation for Engineering Criteria Review Board (ECRB) Member Appointment
(For Commission consideration on August 1, 2019)

Summary and Recommendations

The staff recommends the appointment of Mr. Rod Iwashita, a Marine Structures Engineer, to the ECRB by Chair Wasserman, with the Commission's concurrence.

Staff Report

The Engineering Criteria Review Board (ECRB) advises the Commission on issues related to the safety of fills and structures on fills as prescribed in Section 10271 of BCDC's regulations. These regulations require, in part, that the ECRB be not more than 11 members, including geologists, architects, and civil engineers specializing in geotechnical and coastal engineering.

Currently, the Commission's Engineering Criteria Review Board is comprised of nine members: one geophysicist, one architect, one geologist, two geotechnical engineers, two coastal engineers, and two structural engineers. As further described below, adding an engineer specializing in marine structures would provide the Commission with a focused expertise that is not currently available.

Pursuant to the San Francisco Bay Plan policies on the Safety of Fills, the ECRB reviews and advises on matters related to the engineering design criteria of major Bay fill projects to determine the adequacy of their specific safety provisions. As required by the McAteer-Petris Act, the Commission may only authorize fill in the Bay that preserves public health, safety and welfare. Additionally, authorized fill must be constructed in accordance with sound safety standards to afford reasonable protection to persons and property against the hazards of unstable geologic or soil conditions, or of flood or storm waters.

If appointed, **Rod Iwashita** would serve as the ECRB's marine structures engineer, providing expertise ON the seismic safety of piers, wharves, and other waterfront structures. Currently, the ECRB's two structural engineers, Jack Moehle and Bill Holmes, are experts on the structural engineering characteristics of fixed land structures, while ECRB's two coastal engineers, Richard Dornhelm and Bob Battalio, specialize in coastal processes and flood safety criteria for development projects. Mr. Iwashita complements the current composition of the Board because he brings a perspective on the combined

structural and maritime aspects of in-water construction of such structures as piers, wharves, waterfront facilities, and floating structures. Mr. Iwashita's most significant achievements have occurred when the application of both fixed structures and floating structures were required to provide a larger view of system-wide response.

Mr. Iwashita is known in the Civil Engineering community as a participant on both technical and inter-agency committees such as the American Society of Civil Engineers 61 Committee, the Standards Committee on Seismic Design of Piers and Wharves. Mr. Iwashita's work on the committee of the design standard ASCE 61-14 led to advances in the state of the practice for seismic design criteria of piers and wharves and to highlight differences between marine structures and typical structures. Based on his experience with ship moorings, he served on a committee for the Oil Companies International Marine Forum to develop Mooring Equipment Guidelines (MEG4,) a foundation reference in the mooring industry.

Mr. Iwashita is also the Deputy Director/Chief Harbor Engineer of the Port of San Francisco, promoting the Port's efforts to develop a diverse portfolio of projects, many of which deal with rising sea level and the developed shoreline. His marine and seismic engineering experience and current work with nearshore flooding hazards are particularly applicable to his contributions to BCDC. His resume and letters of recommendation are available upon request.

If approved by the Commission, Mr. Iwashita's appointment would go into effect immediately.

Current Composition of BCDC's Engineering Criteria Review Board

Dr. Roger Borchardt, **Chair** (Seismologist)
Robert (Bob) Battalio, P.E. (Coastal Engineer)
Richard Dornhelm, P.E. (Coastal Engineer)
James (Jim) French, G.E. (Geotechnical Engineer)
Frank Rollo, G.E. (Geotechnical Engineer)
Professor Mary Comerio (Architect)
Dr. Lou Gilpin (Geologist)
Professor Jack Moehle (Structural Engineering)
Bill Holmes, S.E. (Structural Engineer)