We’re Looking for Speakers for Building Innovation 2022!

The National Institute of Building Sciences has opened the call for speaker abstracts for Building Innovation.

The meeting will take place in-person at the historic Mayflower Hotel in Washington, DC, September 26-28.

Building Innovation convenes those who impact the built environment to meet, explore challenges, share lessons learned, and unveil the latest tools and groundbreaking strategies that affect the building community.

This year’s conference will focus on mitigation, technology, building performance, and sustainability. BI2022 will tackle improved coordination of these critical elements, ultimately leading to improved building performance and sustainability.
We are looking for speakers to cover the following topics:

- Building information modeling
- Digital twins
- Affordable housing
- Sustainability
- Carbon neutral construction
- Net zero building design
- Climate change
- Building enclosure commissioning
- Cyber and data security
- Electric vehicles and robotics

Industry leaders with valuable insights, case studies, and best practices are encouraged to share their knowledge and experiences by submitting an abstract no later than June 1, 2022.

For more information, visit Building Innovation 2022.

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**BSSC NEHRP SERIES**

Building Seismic Safety Council Hosts Webinar Series on Earthquake Design

The NIBS Building Seismic Safety Council is nearly halfway through an 11-webinar series on seismic design.

The 2020 National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program (NEHRP) Recommended Seismic Provisions: Design Examples, Training Materials, and Design Flow Chart (FEMA P-2192) were developed by BSSC for the Federal Emergency Management Agency to illustrate and explain some of the new changes in the 2020 NEHRP Provisions, ASCE/SEI 7-22, and the material design standards referenced.

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**U.S. Seismic Code Development and Role of the NEHRP Provisions**

1927 UBC (Uniform Building Code) Included first seismic provisions, with non-mandatory appendix

1933: Field Act and Riley Act, the first mandatory statewide adoption of seismic requirements

1959 Blue Book Developed by SEAOE, incorporated by UBC, adopted by the Western US

1977: Passage of National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act (NEHRP)

1978 ATC 3-06 Project Funded by NSF and NIST, developed advanced seismic analysis and design methods

1900
1930
1950
1970
1980

1906 San Francisco Earthquake: stimulated research and education efforts in the U.S., but seismic building code regulations were not adopted

1933 Long Beach Earthquake: the extensive damage to schools and other buildings was the impetus for the first statewide seismic code regulations

1971 San Fernando Earthquake: Damage to modern construction conforming to UBC regulations motivated a fresh look at seismic regulations

Seismic Regulation Initiation with a California-Centric Effort

From FEMA P-2156
The three-volume resource document primarily was developed for design practitioners. It also will be helpful to college students learning about earthquake engineering and engineers and architects studying for their licensing exam or designing in regions of moderate and high seismicity.

NIBS already has hosted five of the 11 webinars, covering an introduction to the 2020 NEHRP Recommended Seismic Provisions: Design Examples, fundamentals of earthquake engineering, diaphragm seismic design, and reinforced concrete ductile coupled shear walls.

What’s Next in the Series
The next two webinars will be a two-part feature on non-structural components – fundamentals and design examples. They take place April 21 and April 28.

Speaker Bret Lizundia, principal with Rutherford + Chekene in San Francisco, will cover the parameters influencing nonstructural response, the new seismic design force equation, how equipment support structures and platforms and distribution system supports are addressed, and other nonstructural provision code changes.

Register now or catch the webinars on Facebook Live. You also can watch the recorded video after the event on Facebook.

For more information, visit the BSSC NEHRP Webinar Series.
NIBS Launches Infrastructure 2022 Webinar Series

There has been a lot of movement, talk, and news coverage around infrastructure.

In January, the National Institute of Building Sciences Consultative Council launched Infrastructure 2022, a quarterly webinar series around key infrastructure topics.

The first webinar, held February 16, covered transportation infrastructure and details within H.R.3684 – the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) or the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, which ensures daily commutes across metropolitan cities and small towns will be improved.

Specifically, our expert panel discussed the status of the nation’s infrastructure, fundamentals of upcoming projects, and how the new law will affect our commutes. The panel included Tatjana Kunz, Special Assistant for Policy and Implementation, U.S. Department of Transportation; Katelyn Walker Mooney, Policy Advisor, U.S. Department of Labor; and Caroline Sevier, Director of Government Relations, American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE). The webinar was moderated by NIBS Interim CEO Stephen T. Ayers, FAIA.

“Infrastructure is the thread that holds together the built environment,” said Ayers, in a release. “Our government is placing much-needed funds to maintain, upgrade, and solidify our nation’s foundation. This series comes at a critical time for our communities.”

IIJA Transportation funding allocation

- **Background**
  - The Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act (IIJA) directs over half of its new investments toward **improving and modernizing** transportation infrastructure
  - $284 billion directly towards infrastructure reserves for highways, roads, bridges, etc.
  - $266 billion for other infrastructure sectors

IIJA New Transportation Funds

- **Safety** $17B
- **Transit** $35B
- **Reconnecting Communities** $19B
- **RV-Chargers** $7.08B
- **RV/Unicist** $7.4B
- **Ports & Waterways** $17B
- **Airports** $25B
- **Rail** $60B
- **410B**

*52% of IIJA investments
Total of $284 billion for baseline transportation spending
NIBS Hosts Second Annual Leadership Retreat and Board of Directors Meeting

The volunteer leadership of NIBS met January 12-14, in San Diego, for the second annual Leadership Retreat and Board Meeting. NIBS board members and council and vice chairs all were invited to attend the retreat. The event was kicked-off with dinner on the evening of January 12. The group met January 13 to discuss the upcoming strategic planning process. This also gave the councils the opportunity to update the board on what they have been working on the past year and what they hope to accomplish in the coming year. Those unable to attend in-person were able to join the team virtually. The board of directors conducted its business meeting on the morning of January 14, before departing sunny southern California.

From Goods and Supply Chain Challenges to Lifelines and High-Speed Networks

The next webinar in the series takes place April 19. It will cover how goods and materials are transported.

IIJA has earmarked $25 billion for airports, $66 billion for railways, and $100 billion in competitive grants for projects focused on moving freight. These grants will help unblock delivery channels and clear bottlenecked supply chains. Electric vehicle charging infrastructure will also be addressed with $7.5 billion in funding. Additionally, $5 billion is allocated for electric school buses and cleaner alternatives.

Our expert panel will discuss how the funds from IIJA will address the current and future infrastructure needs for Americans, our goods, and the ability to travel.

The NIBS Consultative Council assembles high-level building community representatives to make recommendations directly to the executive and legislative branches of government to improve the nation’s buildings and infrastructure.

Each year, the council publishes the Moving Forward Report to investigate key issues, offering solutions to overcoming these challenges. Last year, the Moving Forward Report examined the critical area of “Ensuring Healthy Buildings: How Buildings Can Protect and Promote Public Health.”
The National Institute of Building Sciences bade farewell to an important team member in February. Vice President of Government Operations Drew N. Rouland, PMP, CSM, left the organization to pursue an exciting, new chapter with Under Armour. NIBS wishes Drew well!

BIM Hearing: The State of Digital Delivery in the Age of Information Privacy and Cyber Security

This summer, the NIBS Building Information Management (BIM) Council will host a three-part hearing entitled, The State of Digital Delivery in the Age of Information Privacy and Cyber Security. This series will convene a group of experts within the built environment to discuss the impacts of security regulations on the drive toward BIM-enabled project delivery and operations. As we face challenges to cybersecurity and real threats to the built environment caused by cyberterrorism and security breaches, we are grappling with the increasing desire and practical demand for more efficient collaborative digital delivery.

Part I is a June 1 virtual event open to all industry leaders and the public. It will highlight the factors at the intersection of information privacy, cybersecurity requirements and the collaborative delivery of projects in the building and infrastructure industries. Part II is an in-person, invitation-only limited event in Washington, DC. This June 7 workshop will provide a forum for practical exploration and communication between expert representatives of the industry.

Part III takes place during NIBS’ Building Innovation 2022 Conference in September. This session will recap the workshop and identify the next tangible steps for the BIM Program to positively impact the industry’s technology implementation and adoption. For more information, visit the BIM Council.

John Hooper to Lead Development of the 2026 NEHRP Provisions

“John helped shape professional practice, codes and standards for earthquake design in the United States and globally. He’s the perfect leader for the 2026 NEHRP update, and will ensure the state-of-the-art on seismic design and construction informs the development of our future codes and standards.”

Anne Ellis, P.E., Hon.M.ACI, F.ASCE, M.N.A.C., NIBS Board Chair
National Institute of Building Sciences Partners with New York Build

NIBS this year entered into a partnership with New York Build, one of the largest construction exhibitions in the world.

New York Build took place March 2-3, at the Javits Center. This year, the show featured more than 300 top industry speakers, 250+ exhibitors, and networking events, including Women in Construction, Diversity in Construction, and New York’s Festival of Construction.

NIBS Senior Director of Information Technology Bob Payn took the stage at New York Build to discuss our work with natural hazard mitigation and BIM. Payn also shared information about our webinars, including the Building Seismic Safety Council’s NEHRP series and Infrastructure 2022, which is sponsored by the Consultative Council.

NIBS Annual Report – Coming Soon

NIBS Staff are working hard to produce the 2021 Annual Report to the President of the United States. This year’s annual report will feature industry solutions sections on mitigation, technology and strategies to create efficiency, and workforce. New to the annual report this year will be several spotlights of NIBS membership organizations. Stay tuned!

National BIM Standard v4 Progressing in Workgroups

The National BIM Standard v4 is progressing in the workgroups. Each workgroup has a draft of their module content and continue to work to refine the modules, coordinate across the standard, and are working to align with ISO 19650, SPC224, and other partners. We will update the Terms and Definitions and start to ballot proposals in workgroups and in the Planning Committee this spring.

NIBS Speaking Engagements

Roger Grant, NIBS Executive Director of Building Information Management participated in the GBP Building Information Modeling for Infrastructure study that documents how six BIM-mature nations and their public agencies use BIM to better deliver transportation projects, manage assets, and provide related services.

A three-part webinar series aims to disseminate key findings from the recently completed BIM Global Benchmarking study and provide first-person perspectives from study tour hosts on their BIM implementation activities.

The first webinar – Introduction to BIM for Infrastructure Global Benchmarking Practices Study – was held March 10. The webinar introduced the study methodology and
how each agency was evaluated on its BIM maturity using four critical success factors. The webinar emphasized key observations and lessons learned from the tour that have specific application to U.S. transportation agencies. Grant spoke on the findings on capacity building and tools and technologies in the study countries.

Webinar 2 on Design to Construction Data Exchanges will take place April 22. Webinar 3 on Asset Management Data Exchange is planned for June.

In other news, the AASHTO Technical Committee on Electronic Engineering Standards (JTCEES) held its 8th webinar in the BIM for Infrastructure series – U.S. National BIM Program Steering Committee on March 16. Grant was joined by Microsoft’s Salla Eckhardt, chair of NIBS BIM Program Steering Committee, and Mike Kennerly, with Iowa DOT and member of the NIBS BIM Program Steering Committee to provide an overview of the committee’s efforts in developing the launch plan for the U.S. National BIM Program.

BSSC forms the 2026 PUC with 28 voting members and NEHRP agency liaisons

“The 2026 BSSC Provisions Update Committee (PUC) takes charge of more than 40 years of progress on making all of us safer when earthquakes strike. We look forward to the contributions they will make going forward.”

Charles Carter, BSSC Board Chair and President, AISC

2026 BSSC Provisions Update Committee (PUC)

John Hooper, Magnuson Riemensic Associates, Chair
Robert Pekalski, Degenkolb Engineers, Vice Chair
Kelly Cohee, Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc., Voting Member
Daniel Delen, Washington State University, Voting Member
S.K. Gosh, S. K. Gosh Associates LLC, Voting Member
Emily Guglielma, Martin/Martin Consulting Engineers, Voting Member
James Harris, J. R. Harris & Company, Voting Member
Joe Heintz, Applied Technology Council, Voting Member
John Hochwalt, KPFF Consulting Engineers, Voting Member
Sandy Hofmaner, Degenkolb Engineers, Voting Member
Gyimah Kasali, RUTHERFORD + CHEKENE, Voting Member
Dominic Kelly, Simpson Gumpertz & Heger Inc., Voting Member
Ryan Kersting, BUILDER, Voting Member
Charlie Kirscher, Kirscher & Associates, Voting Member
Abbie Liet, University of Colorado Boulder, Voting Member
Philip Line, American Wood Council, Voting Member
Bret Lizardo, RUTHERFORD + CHEKENE, Voting Member
Bonnie Marlay, American Iron and Steel Institute, Voting Member
Farzad Nasimi, FARZAD NAREIN INC., Voting Member
Jim Malley, Degenkolb Engineers, Voting Member
Debra Murphy, Santa Geotechnical Consultants, Voting Member
Amit Varma, Purdue University, Voting Member
Rafael Sabella, Walter P. Moore, Voting Member
John Silva, Hilti North America, Voting Member
Greg Soules, CM&J Storage Solutions, Voting Member
Jonathan Stewart, University of California, Los Angeles, Voting Member
Paul Summers, Simpson Gumpertz & Heger Inc., Voting Member
Reed Zimmerman, KPFF Consulting Engineers, Voting Member
Mal Mikes, Tong, Federal Emergency Management Agency, FEMA Project Officer and Liaison
Robert Hanson, Federal Emergency Management Agency, FEMA Technical Advisor
Christina Aromaa, Federal Emergency Management Agency, FEMA Liaison
Nicolas Luco, U.S. Geological Survey, USGS Liaison
Sanaz Rezaei, U.S. Geological Survey, USGS Liaison
Andrew Makdisi, U.S. Geological Survey, USGS Liaison
Steven McCabe, National Institute of Standards and Technology, NIST Liaison
Jipil (JJ) Yuan, National Institute of Building Sciences, BSSC Executive Director

nibs.org
How Has Covid-19 Impacted our Economy?

In this interview, News-Medical talks to Professor Adam Rose and his research team about how direct behavioral responses to COVID-19 have impacted the US economy. READ MORE>>

NIBS Building Seismic Safety Council to Launch Earthquake Design Webinar Series


The Design Examples have been developed by BSSC for the Federal Emergency Management Agency to illustrate and explain new changes in the 2020 NEHRP Provisions, ASCE/SEI 7-22, and the material design standards referenced in design applications. READ MORE>>

2022 National Disaster Resilience Conference Call for Presentations Now Open

The nonprofit Federal Alliance for Safe Homes (FLASH) announced that the next National Disaster Resilience Conference (NDRC22) will take place in Clearwater Beach, Florida, from November 7 through 10, 2022. The theme, Strong Homes and Safe Families Happen Here, reflects the conference’s focus on resilient residential construction and family safety. READ MORE>>

‘We’re Dealing With a New Reality’: How Minnesotans Are Creating Infrastructure With Climate Change in Mind

As the sun sets over Lake Superior, there is a new dawn for Duluth’s Lakewalk that clings to its coast — a renovation not out of want but need. Mike LeBeau, construction project manager for the city, remembers the trio of powerful storms in late 2017 to 2018 tore up the shoreline with speeds of over 100 miles per hour and waves cresting at 25 feet. READ MORE>>
BOSTON REAL ESTATE TIMES
National Institute of Building Sciences Partners With New York Build

The National Institute of Building Sciences has entered into a partnership with New York Build, one of the largest and best construction exhibitions in the world. New York Build takes place March 2-3, at the Javits Center. This year, the show features more than 300 top industry speakers, 250+ exhibitors, and networking events, including Women in Construction, Diversity in Construction, and New York’s Festival of Construction. [READ MORE]>

DESERET NEWS
Opinion: The Right Public Policies Can Ensure Wildfires Are Not The New Normal

Wildfires continue to wreak havoc on the western United States with more than 54,350 wildfires burning 6,802,729 acres across the region in 2021. These fires, in addition to devastating the states, make the affected areas more prone to future burning and other natural catastrophes. In Utah, one of the most wildfire-prone states, between 800 and 1,000 fires a year can cost the state more than $12 million a year, and air pollution from wildfires in California and Oregon impacts residents’ health. [READ MORE]->
April: World Landscape Architecture Month

April: National Volunteer Month

April 19: Transportation Infrastructure: Goods and Travel

April 21: Nonstructural Components: Fundamentals and Design Examples – Part 1

April 22: Earth Day

April 28: Nonstructural Components: Fundamentals and Design Examples – Part 2

April 30: National Rebuilding Day

May: Building Safety Month

May: National Electrical Safety Month

May: National Water Safety Month

May 2-6: Construction Safety Week

May 19: Fundamentals and Evolution of U.S. Seismic Design Values and the 2018 Update of the USGS National Seismic Hazard Model

June: National Safety Month

June 2: New Multi-Period Response Spectra and Ground Motion Requirements, Additional Revisions to Ground-Motion Provisions, and Dissection of Example Changes to the MCER Ground Motion Values

June 5-11: National Roofing Week

June 23: Cross-Laminated Timber (CLT) Shear Walls
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF BUILDING SCIENCES TO LAUNCH INFRASTRUCTURE 2022 SERIES
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BUILDING RESILIENT COMMUNITIES BY INCENTIVIZING INVESTMENTS
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NIBS BUILDING SEISMIC SAFETY COUNCIL TO LAUNCH EARTHQUAKE DESIGN WEBINAR SERIES
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WEBINAR: INTRODUCTION TO THE 2020 NEHRP RECOMMENDED SEISMIC PROVISIONS: DESIGN EXAMPLES
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WEBINAR: FUNDAMENTALS OF EARTHQUAKE ENGINEERING
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NIBS OPENS CALL FOR SPEAKER ABSTRACTS FOR BUILDING INNOVATION 2022
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BSI Group joined NIBS in May 2021 and has since engaged at an extraordinary level across the many layers of our organization. BSI's purpose — to inspire trust for a more resilient world — aligns significantly with that of NIBS. BSI offered expert-led webinar content as part of NIBS' Resilience 2021 webinar series, focusing on Building Resilience Through BIM, and provided one of the Building Innovation 2021's most popular breakout sessions entitled, The Story of BIM and the New World of Digital Construction. As BIM, resilience and sustainability experts, we look forward to aligning our efforts more with BSI Group as we work to shape projects of the NIBS BIM Council in 2022 and beyond. We look forward to strengthening this partnership with BSI Group.

Stephen T. Ayers, Interim CEO, NIBS