



City of Arts & Innovation

News Release

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Riverside Fire Captain Named Chairman of State Earthquake Commission

Tim Strack succeeds Riverside City Councilman Mike Gardner, who remains a member

RIVERSIDE, Calif. – Tim Strack, a Captain in the Riverside Fire Department, has been named chairman of the Alfred E. Alquist Seismic Safety Commission, which recommends how the state can better prepare for earthquakes and reduce the risk of injury and property damage. He succeeds Riverside City Councilman Mike Gardner, who previously served as commission chairman.

Strack has served on the commission since 2011. He has been a member of the City of Riverside Fire Department since 1995. He previously was a paid-call firefighter at the San Bernardino County Fire Department from 1987-1995 and a reserve deputy sheriff air medic for the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department Aviation Division from 1992-2002.

"It's an honor to chair a commission that deals with an issue that is of such great concern to so many Californians," Strack said. "I look forward to continuing a tradition of leadership from Riverside on this commission."

Gardner, who has been on the commission since 2010, represents Ward 1 on the Riverside City Council, having been elected in 2007 and re-elected in 2011. A 42-year Riverside resident, Gardner worked for Southern California Edison for 23 years and is a long-time volunteer with the Riverside Fire Department.

"I am proud to have chaired the seismic commission, and I know I am leaving its leadership in capable hands," Gardner said. "Tim Strack is a recognized leader statewide in the fire community and will do an excellent job as chairman of the seismic safety commission."