

Business Advisory Council Member Spends Retirement Working to Change Lives

For nearly 50 years, he worked on major infrastructure projects in Southern California. Today, Linden Nishinaga claims he's retired but maintains a busy schedule volunteering and improving the lives of millions of people.

Nishinaga, a civil, structural and earthquake engineer, sits on the Authority's Business Advisory Council (BAC) where he represents the Asian American Architects/Engineers Association of Southern California (AAa/e). "I was one of the original members when the BAC started in 2012," Nishinaga said. "I know about the benefits of high-speed rail because I've traveled on high-speed rail in Japan."

He explained that AAa/e has been around 40 years and is committed to promoting business opportunities and

education programs for Asian American professionals in the field of design, engineering, architecture and construction. The organization also provides scholarships for local college students interested in careers as professional engineers and architects.

Nishinaga said, "Engineering is needed, very lucrative and there's a shortage of highly educated qualified professionals, who can put their stamp on plans for important projects."

Nishinaga also obtained his Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Accredited Professional credential from the U.S. Green Building Council. He uses knowledge about sustainability in his work with the American Society of Civil Engineers' Sustainability Committee and the City of Torrance Water Commission where he's

serving a second four-year term. "I'm pushing our (water commission) department staff to get going on planned underground well water, desalination and recycled water projects. Along with conservation, they can help reduce the need for imported water," he said. Nishinaga also strongly encourages using captured rain fall and reusing grey-water -- water from bathroom sinks, tubs, and washing machines that hasn't come in contact with fecal matter.

Before retiring in 2012, Nishinaga worked on major innovative design projects. He was with the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power in 1971 when the Sylmar Earthquake heavily damaged the DWP Sylmar Converter Station. Using new earthquake design methods, Nishinaga helped retrofit the facility, which feeds



Linden Nishinaga was a project manager on a massive expansion plans for the Port of Los Angeles. The work included constructing an artificial island that now houses harbor terminals on Pier 400.