

# BECKER

STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS, INC.

268A-2

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Dept. of Building Inspections  
City of Portland Maine

February 8, 2010

CITY OF PORTLAND  
INSPECTIONS DIVISION  
389 Congress Street, Room #315  
Portland, ME 04101

ATTN: TAMMY MUNSON

RE: BUILDING CODE FOR PROPOSED TOYOTA/LEXUS SERVICE BAY ADDITION  
191 RIVERSIDE STREET, PORTLAND, MAINE

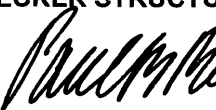
Dear Tammy:

We are formally requesting to utilize the 2006 version of the International Building Code (IBC) for the structural design of the above referenced project. We recognize that the City of Portland is currently enforcing the 2003 version of the IBC Code, but wish to provide the following justification for the use of the newer version of the Code.

The 2006 Edition of the IBC Code identifies updated seismic provisions including revised Seismic Spectral Values that are used for the seismic design of buildings. The updated values are based on the 2004 Edition of the "National Earthquake Hazard Reduction Program (NEHRP) Recommended Provisions for Seismic Regulations for New Buildings and Other Structures – Part 1", Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Document 450. This document supersedes the 1998 version of the NEHRP/FEMA document, which is the basis of the 2003 Edition of the IBC Code. We understand that the updated FEMA guidelines are based on newer, more recent data provided by the United States Geological Survey (USGS). As design professionals we are of the opinion that use of the current values are appropriate for use in design of a building as they represent the latest science and data in the structural engineering field.

If you would like to discuss the matter further, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,  
BECKER STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS, Inc.

  
Paul B Becker, P. E.  
President

