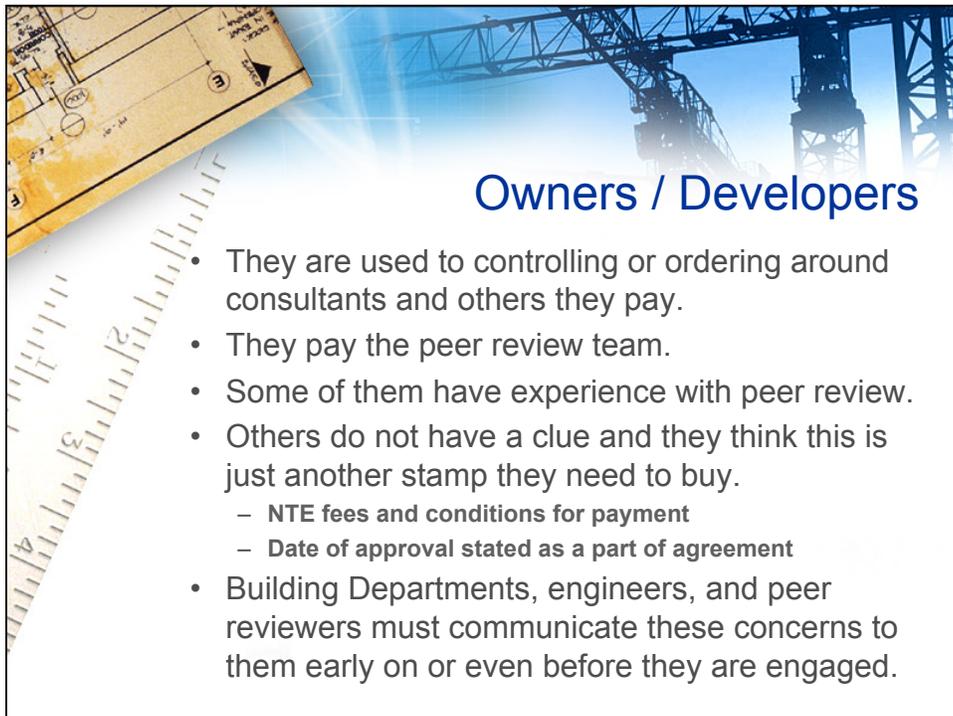


Issues with the Peer Review Process

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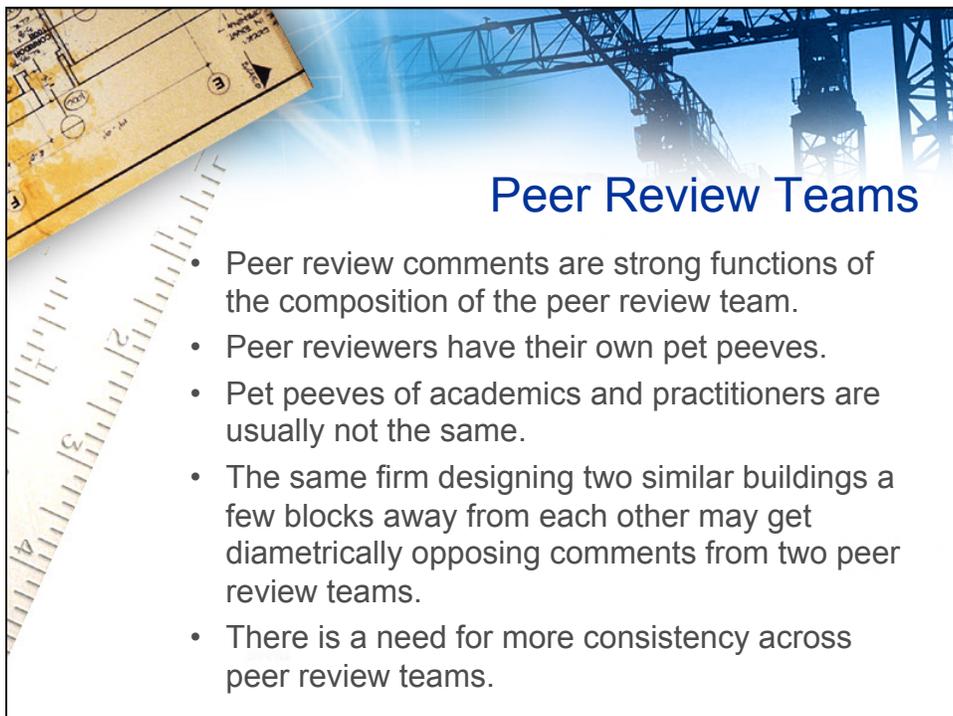
Owners / Developers

- They are used to controlling or ordering around consultants and others they pay.
- They pay the peer review team.
- Some of them have experience with peer review.
- Others do not have a clue and they think this is just another stamp they need to buy.
 - NTE fees and conditions for payment
 - Date of approval stated as a part of agreement
- Building Departments, engineers, and peer reviewers must communicate these concerns to them early on or even before they are engaged.



The Design Teams

- They come into the process with widely varying degrees of familiarity with the process, preparedness, and competence.
- Out of City teams will greatly benefit from familiarizing themselves with the standards of practice in LA beforehand.
- Some see peer review as an unnecessary hassle.
- The majority see and appreciate the value of it.
- Some make peer reviewers sacrificial lambs with respect to the schedule.



Peer Review Teams

- Peer review comments are strong functions of the composition of the peer review team.
- Peer reviewers have their own pet peeves.
- Pet peeves of academics and practitioners are usually not the same.
- The same firm designing two similar buildings a few blocks away from each other may get diametrically opposing comments from two peer review teams.
- There is a need for more consistency across peer review teams.



LADBS

- Scope of peer reviews and milestones need more consistency.
 - **Shoring permit?**
 - **Foundation Permit?**
 - **Gravity System?**
- Some owners / developers hire “expeditors” to facilitate or in other words pressure LADBS and peer reviewers to move faster and be less picky.
- There is a need for a highly respected peer review board selected to bring consistency across various projects and act as arbiter of disputes among various parties.



Thank you!

