

CPARB Education Working Group Report (February 2021)

Goal:

Identify training opportunities across the State specifically for alternative public works, and create a link on the website where these training opportunities are identified and connected.

The idea is to leverage our partner organizations to “broaden the pool” and create a deeper and more widespread understanding of the best practices in the industry with regard to alternative public works.

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Findings to date: There has been little activity with this working group for the past several months as attention focused on reauthorization. However, prior to that the working group was able to reach out and identified a number of existing education programs across the state. We then focused on the content of those programs, and surprisingly found very few that actually focused on the practices within alternative public works. The programs that do focus on alternative public works in a regular way are already listed on the CPARB website (AGC Education Foundation, DBIA, AIA). Strong overlap exists with members/contributors to CPARB and these programs, but a more formal coordination effort could improve the impact of these programs.

Recommended Next Steps: While the initial goal of the working group is complete, there remains a lot of potential to advocate for better practices across the industry through enhanced training. My sense is CPARB can advance this by focusing in the following areas: 1) develop best practice documents for Inclusion, GCCM, and JOC that can be used in the training programs offered by our partners to create a unifying message across all of them; 2) connect the certification process with the PRC more directly with the training programs offered by our partners to both incentivize additional training and exchange lessons learned; and 3) recruit additional partners that can expand training and/or mentorship programs across the state. Although CPARB is not resourced well enough to actually offer training and/or mentorship programs, it is in a great position to provide best practices and to work with partners to include these practices in their training programs.

Given the limited bandwidth of CPARB, it might be best to identify different groups to work on the above and to prioritize the efforts. As articulated above, the three best practices committees, the PRC, and the education group all have a role in advancing the knowledge across the industry. We are looking forward to feedback from the Board.

Respectfully submitted by:

Mike McCormick