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## **GovOps Announces Mass Timber Building Competition** *GovOps will Award \$500,000 in Grants*

SAN FRANCISCO – The California Government Operations Agency (GovOps) will award \$500,000 in grants as part of the 2019 California Mass Timber Building Competition. The grants will fund mass timber product testing and permitting in two California municipalities.

The goal of the competition is to award grant funds to participants who demonstrate the successful use and durability of mass timber as a key component in construction.

“California continues to lead the way in sustainability efforts by finding innovative ways to use natural resources,” said Matt Henigan, Deputy Secretary for Sustainability. “This competition will foster forest health and new construction technology in ways that benefit all Californians.”

Grants will be awarded to design and development teams pursuing buildings that demonstrate the successful use of mass timber as a key structural component in construction. Demonstration projects, such as those resulting from the competition, are needed in California to familiarize local permitting agencies, architects and developers with this type of construction and its capability for mainstream use.

Mass timber is a growing category of wood products that can potentially support the state's climate change and green buildings objectives. Mass timber is favored as a structural material for its strength, affordability, aesthetics, durability, small carbon footprint, and ability to substitute for or work alongside concrete, steel, or masonry.

The competition is part of the Forest Management Task Force's efforts to improve the health and resilience of California's forest ecosystems. The Forest Carbon Plan and Governor Brown's Executive Order B-52-18 call for better management of overly dense forests. Putting wood generated from forest management projects to use as building materials reduces the cost of such forest management projects and makes it possible to reduce hazardous fuel loads on more acres of the state's forested landscape.

The California Mass Timber Building Competition is being hosted by GovOps and administered by WoodWorks – Wood Products Council. The competition was



announced yesterday at the WoodWorks Wood Design Symposium on Mass Timber at the Mission Bay Center in San Francisco. For more information about the 2019 California Mass Timber Building Competition, visit <https://www.govops.ca.gov/2019-california-mass-timber-building-competition/>.

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