

State of California
Seismic Safety Commission

Memo

To: Seismic Safety Commissioners

From: Henry Reyes, Staff Structural Engineer
Seismic Safety Commission
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Date: May 3, 2011

Subject: Pilot Program for Evaluation of the Most Seismically Vulnerable
California Public School Facilities

Background

On February 11, 2009 the Commission voted to provide funding for \$200,000 from the California Research and Assistance Fund to the Office of Public School Construction (OPSC) to develop a "Pilot Program for Evaluation of the Most Seismically Vulnerable California Public School Facilities".

The pilot program includes developing a seismic assessment template for the structural evaluation (using this template) of the school buildings in the school districts that have expressed interest in participating in the program. This intent of this program is to provide structural reports to the school districts that have public K-12 school buildings identified by the Division of the State Architect (DSA) that may be at risk during a seismic event and to develop a more systematic and cost-effective approach to determine the seismic safety status of school facilities. This information would allow the State to develop a better understanding of engineering costs that could be incorporated in future bonds. The Commission provided sole funding. No funds were leveraged but the product will enhance the release of \$199.5 million plus local funds provided by school districts.

The Commission entered into an Interagency Agreement with OPSC to conduct the pilot program on November 28, 2009. The Agreement is for a 17 month period, with a start date of December 1, 2009 and an end date of May 31, 2011. The end date has been extended to December 31, 2011 for OPSC to include more vulnerable buildings.

Progress Update and Recommendation

The template was finalized on September 30, 2010 and work on contacting and scheduling site visits to the school districts began on October 2010. Nine school districts containing 38 buildings have chosen to participate in the evaluation process, of which 20 met all qualification standards and 18 did not. Seismic evaluations have been completed for all the 20 buildings and submitted to DSA for review and approval. With the \$50,000-\$80,000 funds remaining, OPSC will make an effort to include more vulnerable buildings between the current date and December 31, 2011.

Mr. David Zian, Chief of Program Services and Mr. Alan Shoemaker, Project Manager, OPSC, will make a presentation on the enclosed Final Project Report and Seismic Evaluation Template for your final review and approval. Any changes to the report or the template from the approval date until December 8, 2011 will be submitted, by letter or addendum, to the Commission for approval at the December meeting.