

Draft letter of support (and collaboration?)

The Alfred E. Alquist Seismic Safety Commission is pleased to endorse the University of California's research proposal to NSF, "The Value of Earthquake Early Warning: Evaluating the Engineering, Business, Legal and Societal Aspects and Benefits of Broad Adoption". Earthquake risk is an ongoing and major concern in California. It is important to determine the benefits of Earthquake Early Warning to society, in terms both of the use of a few seconds or even minutes of alert to protect the public, and in terms of mitigating earthquake affects and improving resilience for California businesses and organizations.

The Seismic Safety Commission was established in 1975 to advise the Governor, Legislature, and state and local governments on ways to reduce earthquake risk. It investigates earthquakes, researches earthquake-related issues and provides reports and recommendations to publicize its findings.

The research described in this proposal will be both important to document the cost/benefit of earthquake early warning systems to California, and to other States. It will help to document which procedures should be put into place to most benefit from such warnings, and provide a path toward integrating it with response capacities from the firms, agencies, and first responders

The Commission will be happy to collaborate with the UC team by providing input from Commissioners, who are taken from various areas of expertise in which mitigating and responding to earthquakes can improve Californina's resilience.

We are excited about collaborating with and supporting the researchers at the University of California Berkeley and Humboldt State University in their execution of this important project.