

State of California
Seismic Safety Commission

Memo

To: Commissioners

From: Richard McCarthy
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Date: 6/29/12

Subject: Revision of California Earthquake Loss Reduction Plan

Background

At the March meeting, the Commission authorized Dr. Guna Selvaduray from San Jose State University to begin updates to the "California Earthquake Loss Reduction Plan." Dr. Selvaduray will present the attached materials on the Plan's reorganization and request direction from the Commission. Staff will work with the Commission to assign individual commissioners the lead for each of the 12 elements.

Recommendations

Staff recommends that the Commission listen to Dr. Selvaduray's presentation and be prepared to have a discussion on the policy directions that it wishes to be included in the revised document. This will be the first of several working sessions by the Commission on this project.



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CALIFORNIA EARTHQUAKE LOSS REDUCTION PLAN UPDATE

Suggestions for Revisions

July 12, 2012

Guna Selvaduray

Current Plan



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- 2007 Edition
- Truly multi-faceted
 - Takes into account physical environment as well as sociological aspects
- Comprehensive approach
 - No equivalent Loss Reduction Plan in other many other US and countries
- Emphasis is on the built environment
- Does not include private sector and the general public (residents) sufficiently
- Has 146 initiatives – can be overwhelming

Motivation for Updating

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- Living document
- Update as we continue learning from:
 - Earthquakes world-wide
 - Changes in domestic socio-economic-political climate
- Develop an “enabling” document rather than one that appears to present insurmountable barriers and/or unattainable objectives
- Comprehensible to a broad audience – not just experts
- Address both near-term and long-term issues

Some realizations

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- Effects of disasters are now global in nature
 - Especially disasters that occur in industrialized regions
- Private sector economic recovery is crucial
- Agriculture and Animal Husbandry is a major sector of most economies
 - California's largest industry/business sector
- Low probability of lengthy documents actually being read and understood by a broader audience
- Earthquakes have “unintended consequences”
 - Fire, hazmat releases, tsunami

Suggestions for the Update - 1

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- Approximately 20 pages
- Understandable language
- 3 ~ 5 initiatives per element
 - Doable in a reasonable length of time
- Change “Economics” to “Economic Recovery”
- New element on “Agriculture & Animal Husbandry”
- 1 page on Global Effects of earthquakes in introductory text; include case studies
- Education & Information element: include universities
- Change “citizens” to “residents”

Suggestions for the Update - 2

- Update Tables and text to reflect effect of recent earthquakes
- Address fires, hazmat releases and tsunamis in Emergency Response element
- Eliminate “prioritization” of initiatives and “time to accomplish”
- Appendix 1: California’s Earthquake Loss Reduction Legislation Table
- Appendix 2: Loss Reduction elements and initiatives contained in 2007-2011 Edition

Moving forward

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- Need input from Commissioners on most important initiatives in each element

- Target completion date: Dec 31, 2012

Thank you

Questions ?

Comments?