



Seattle Fault Earthquake Scenario

Conference

February 28, 2005



Earthquake Engineering
Research Institute



Call to Action

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Seattle Fault
Earthquake
Scenario



What Do We Do Now?

- Intent of the Scenario Study is to:
 - Increase awareness of a real threat
 - Start (or continue) a conversation
 - Have some public policy debate
 - Increased our region's preparedness
- 9 Overall Recommendations
 - 4 Priority Recommendations
 - 5 Additional Recommendations



4 Priority Recommendations

1. Establish an Independent State Seismic Safety Advisory Commission or Board.
2. Implement Risk Reduction Plans for Critical Public Facilities.
3. Retrofit High Risk Buildings.
4. Protect the Transportation Infrastructure.



1 - Establish an Independent State Seismic Safety Advisory Commission or Board

- Multi-disciplinary panel composed of experts.
- Advise legislative and administrative agencies.
- Advocate earthquake programs.
- Promote improvement to seismic safety.
- Identify seismic hazards.
- Coordinate plans and actions of responsible agencies.
- Gather, integrate, and transfer information from a wide range of sources.
- Plan for long-term implementation, review, and maintenance of seismic safety programs.



2 - Implement Risk Reduction Plans for Critical Public Facilities

- Identify critical public facilities (hospitals, police and fire stations, schools) statewide with high seismic risk.
- Adopt and utilize a consistent facility assessment methodology.
- Develop mitigation strategies to reduce earthquake losses and improve earthquake performance of critical facilities.
- Establish long-range plans to improve their seismic safety.
- Similar to the California Hospital Seismic Retrofit Program (SB 1953).



3 - Implement Mandatory Seismic Retrofit of High Risk Buildings

- Develop local and state funding and legislation for mandatory seismic retrofit of high risk buildings.
- Buildings with known seismic hazards are older unreinforced masonry (URM) and tilt-up concrete buildings.
- Over 2200 URM buildings identified in the King, Pierce, and Snohomish County study region.
- Establish long-range plans to improve their seismic safety.
- Similar to URM Loss Reduction Programs in other states.



4 - Protect the Transportation Infrastructure

- Linear network and geography – high vulnerability.
- Establish a strategy to quicken the pace of protecting seismically vulnerable critical transportation infrastructure.
- At current state funding levels, WSDOT will complete their seismic retrofit program in 2070 - this is a long time.
- The transportation network is key to response and recovery.



5 Additional Recommendations

1. Continue to improve earthquake information and mapping sources.
2. Develop financial and other incentives to improve seismic safety of public buildings and infrastructure.
3. Continue to develop programs to educate the public on earthquake risks.
4. Provide adequate funding to upgrade the region's seismograph network to enhance its capabilities.
5. Continue to fund an earthquake information clearinghouse to improve access to the best available science.



Call to Action - Summary

- Continue with effective seismic and preparedness program initiatives.
- We now have a tool to explain the technical problem in a broad and meaningful context.
- Scenario developed by a multi-disciplinary team of experts representing thousands of professionals.
- Let's have (or continue) a discussion and public debate to improve our region's earthquake resistance.
- Now is the time to act.





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Where do we go from here?

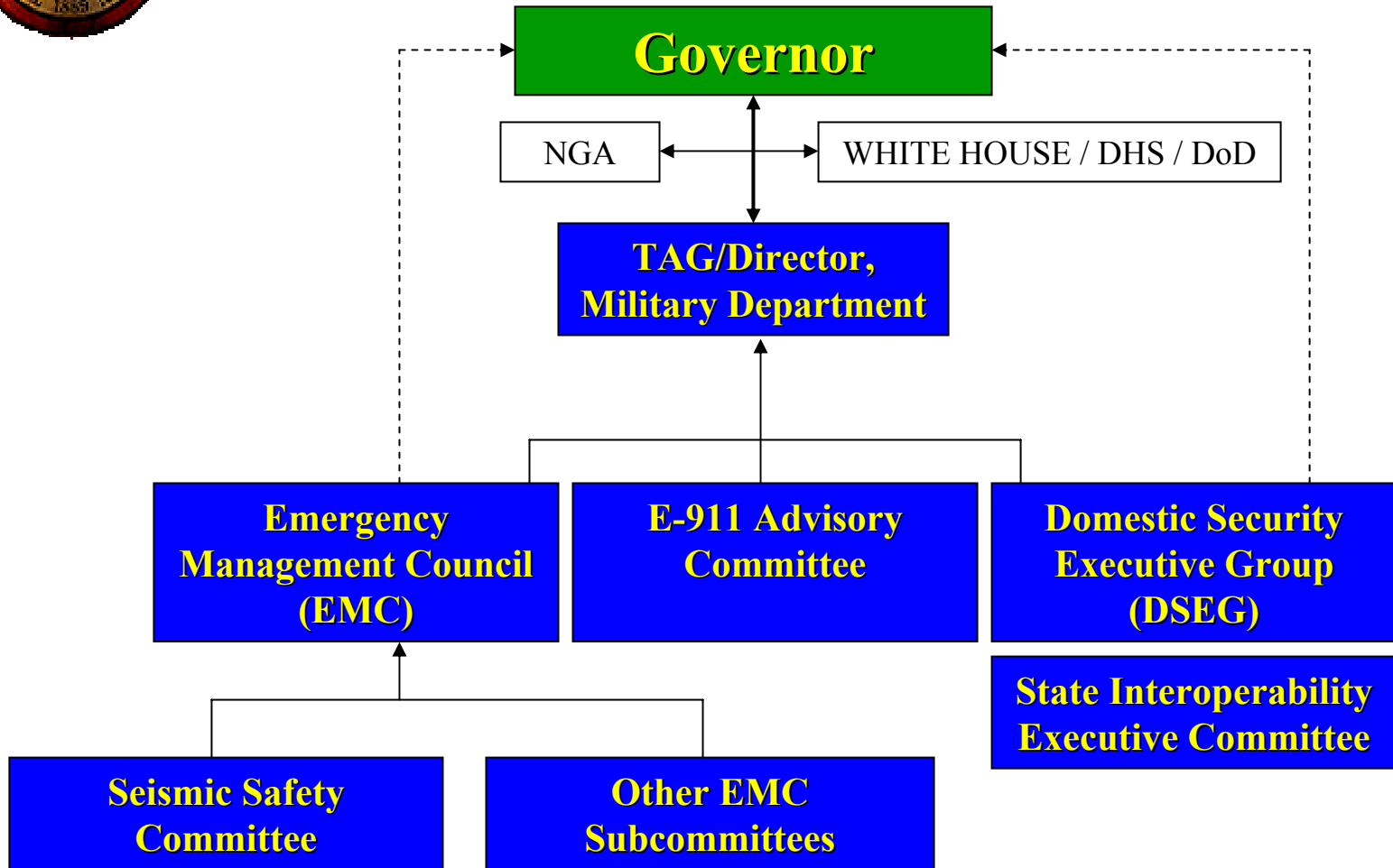
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Washington State EMD





Washington State Domestic Security Infrastructure



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Panel Discussion / Q&A

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