



California Mandatory Seismic Retrofit Ordinances: How It Started and How It's Going

Conrad Paulson, PE, SE, Principal

Kari Klaboe, PE, SE, Senior Associate

Robert Kraus, PE, SE, Unit Manager and Senior Associate

Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates

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For registration, please visit:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUpc-qvrzgsGtLFNsHjPxQ2wk8TYQToMDht>

Abstract: This presentation will examine not only the current-generation of mandatory seismic retrofit ordinances in both Southern and Northern California, but also will review “legacy” or “mature” retrofit ordinances that came about more than 25 years ago (“what is old is new again”), and will take a look at possible future retrofit ordinances that are currently being proposed or are under development. Aspects of these ordinances related to both structural engineering provisions and administrative requirements will be overviewed. Mandatory timelines to compliance will also be examined. The focus of this seminar is on California, where the resurgence of mandatory seismic retrofit ordinances is taking place.

Biographies:

Conrad Paulson has been with WJE for more than 40 years and was first bit by the “seismic bug” while performing structural analyses related to post-Loma Prieta earthquake damage assessments. Over the years, he has been involved with pre- and post-earthquake assessments, and seismic repair and retrofit projects. Most recently, in his ongoing role as Chair of AISC’s Task Committee 7 on Evaluation and Repair, he led the TC 7 committee as it completed development and issued the first edition of the new standard AISC 342-22: Seismic Provisions for Evaluation and Retrofit of Existing Structural Steel Buildings.

Kari Klaboe is a Senior Associate with WJE and has been involved with seismic assessment and retrofit of existing concrete, masonry, and wood-framed buildings since joining WJE more than 10 years ago. Her experience includes seismic retrofit of several wood-framed soft-story structures in California and participation in the development of FEMA P-1100: Vulnerability-Based Seismic Assessment and Retrofit of One- and Two-Family Dwellings. Recently, she was a member of the ACI field reconnaissance team that assessed damaged reinforced concrete buildings following the Turkey earthquakes of February 2023.

Robert Kraus is a Unit Manager and Senior Associate with WJE. In the last 10 years, he has focused on structural design, investigation, analysis, and analytical modeling of various structures, ranging from historic buildings to modern, high-rise construction in varying stages of distress or failure. He has participated in or led damage investigation and seismic related projects, including assessing lifeline structures following the Turkey earthquakes of February 2023. He is the past chair of the SEAONC Existing Building Committee and is involved with development of proposed ordinances for non-ductile concrete and rigid-wall-flexible diaphragm buildings.