

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

In the Matter of Determining the Ability )  
of County-owned Structures to Withstand ) RESOLUTION  
Potential Seismic Activity ) 92-121

WHEREAS, new research by the State and Federal governments has indicated that the possibility of seismic activity in the Pacific Northwest, including the Portland Metropolitan area, is greater than was previously believed; and

WHEREAS, the County owns a number of structures which might be susceptible to damage if significant seismic activity occurred; and

WHEREAS, the County has started to develop information about the extent of the potential for seismic activity, the effect of such activity on County buildings, and the cost of structural remediation; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners wants to ensure that funds spent on seismic remediation are used effectively; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners is providing funds for structural engineering studies of two County buildings in its 1992-93 budget; and

WHEREAS, the County has limited resources with which to fund a broad range of programs important to the public and structural earthquake preparedness is one of many competing priorities; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners is charged with the responsibility of allocating limited resources through its annual budget.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

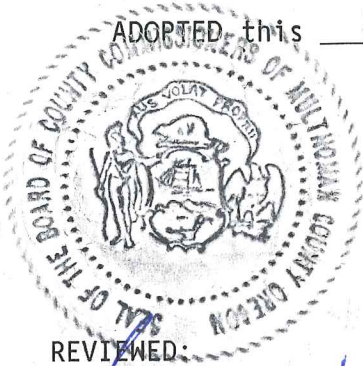
1. The Board of County Commissioners is committed to assessing the vulnerability of County-owned structures to seismic activity and the costs of remediation. Facilities Management, Transportation Division, and Risk Management staff should continue to conduct this assessment.

2. The Board of County Commissioners instructs staff to use seismic mitigation strategies in any new construction in the 1992-93 budget year.

3. The Board must take into account the fiscal constraints imposed by Measure 5 and many competing priorities for limited funds when it sets policy with respect to earthquake mitigation. The information available as a result of structural engineering studies of two buildings on upgrading to withstand earthquake damage indicates the cost would be many millions of dollars. Having considered these factors, and having weighed the available information

and competing budgetary and policy considerations, the Board concludes that the actions and plans described above represent the appropriate response. The response will be reconsidered when and if new information is developed.

ADOPTED this 30th day of June, 1992.



By

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MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

REVIEWED:

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