

Practical Lessons From The Loma Prieta Earthquake

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the loma prieta earthquake struck the san francisco area on october 17 1989 causing 63 deaths and 10

billion worth of damage this book reviews existing research on the loma prieta quake and draws from it practical lessons that could be applied to other earthquake prone areas of the country the volume contains seven keynote papers presented at a symposium on the earthquake and includes an overview written by the committee offering recommendations to improve seismic safety and earthquake awareness in parts of the country susceptible to earthquakes

discusses caltrans knowledge of earthquake resistant design of bridges prior to oct 17 1989 and state and federal funding needed to complete california s seismic retrofit program

the structural engineers association of california recently published reflections on the loma prieta earthquake of october 17 1989 the 184 page document features photographs graphs charts which include observations made by an ad hoc earthquake reconnaissance committee composed of members from the four local associations recommendations to improve future codes emergency response to earthquakes are given the report may be purchased from the structural engineers association of california p o box 19440 sacramento ca 95819 0440 phone 916 427 3647 price 40 00 plus 3 50 handling postage

immediately following the magnitude 7 1 loma prieta earthquake of october 17 1989 a team representing the interagency committee on seismic safety in construction surveyed the damage to buildings utilities and transportation structures this report is based primarily on the data gathered during the site survey and the results of preliminary analyses of structural failures most structures designed in accordance with modern codes and standards performed well without serious structural damage however there were many concrete and masonry buildings and highway structures in the san francisco bay area which were not designed according to modern seismic design codes and which did not perform well the majority of damaged structures had not been strengthened to increase earthquake resistance except for two deaths from landslides and one from fire the remainder of the 62 deaths from the earthquake was due to partial or total collapse of older structures this investigation provided the basis for recommendations to improve design and construction practices for buildings and lifeline structures and to mitigate damage to existing structures in future earthquakes

the loma prieta earthquake of oct 17 1989 caused 8 billion in damage throughout the san francisco bay region in santa cruz county much of the development in the san francisco bay region survived with little or no damage this is due in part to the location physical characteristics of the earthquake itself in part to deliberate actions on the part of local gov ts citizens to reduce the vulnerability of the built environment to earthquake damage various fed state regional programs have been carried out to promote local level loss reduction activities this study focused on county city mitigation efforts in the 7 counties that sustained the most earthquake damage alameda contra costa marin san mateo santa clara santa cruz san fran

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