

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS FOR  
1991 EARTHQUAKE LEGISLATION

to be considered by the

UTAH EARTHQUAKE TASK FORCE COMMITTEE ON  
EXISTING AND FUTURE DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH

General

1. Establish a seismic safety commission to oversee and coordinate the state earthquake program. Make the commission a line item in the budget.
2. Earthquake Instrumentation:
  - a. Modernize seismic network instrumentation
  - b. Strong motion instrumentation for earthquake engineering
  - c. Portable seismographs for strategic data collection
  - d. Communication systems for information transfer
  - e. Earthquake deformation monitoring from global positioning satellite measurements
3. Update the 1976 earthquake loss estimation for the Wasatch Front. Needed to assess appropriate preparedness activities.

Future Development

- group* {
1. Building codes and new buildings - ensure reliable plan checks.
  2. Address implementation and enforcement of Utah's building codes for earthquake safety.
  3. State authorization for municipal building codes to be more restrictive than UBC.
  4. Review of school building plans by independent engineers to assure design is in compliance with seismic and structural codes.
  5. Hazards ordinances:  
May require land use planning. State set general requirements with input from local government for ordinances. Include earthquake safety elements in General Plans for areas in Earthquake Hazard Zone as defined by the state. Require geologic reviews.
  6. Disclosure of geologic hazards in real estate transactions.
  7. Mandatory site investigations of critical government facilities. Provided at no charge by UGMS.
- delete*
- has to be separate because of different authority.*

## Existing Development

1. Assess seismic vulnerability of buildings (contents and structure) and other structures, including lifelines, and develop a plan to address unsafe structures, both public and private:
  - Inventory of buildings/structures
  - Disclosure of unsafe buildings/structures
  - Retrofit ordinances/incentives
2. Assessments of seismic safety of Wasatch Front schools and establish a State fund to match funds provided by districts to retrofit buildings.
3. Assessment of seismic safety of municipal fire stations and funding of seismic retrofit program.
4. Disclosure of geologic hazards in real estate transactions.
5. Identification and evaluation of hazardous materials storage and disposal sites.