

**Still Trying to Make it Work
in Berkeley:
Sustaining Local Mitigation Efforts**

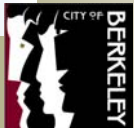
Arrietta Chakos

City of Berkeley, California

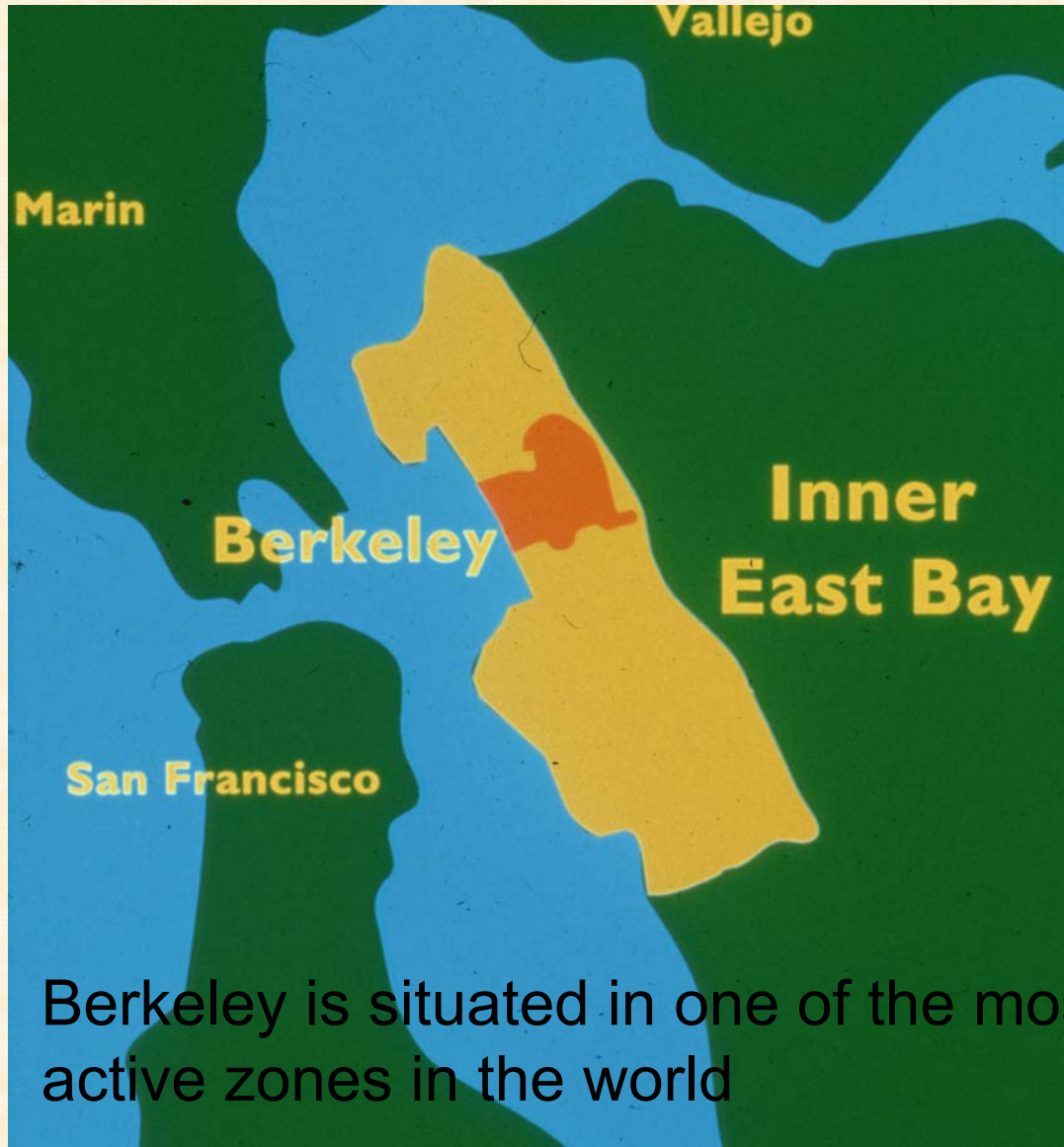
Natural Hazards Conference

University of Colorado, Boulder

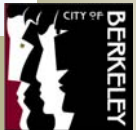
July 16, 2002



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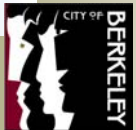
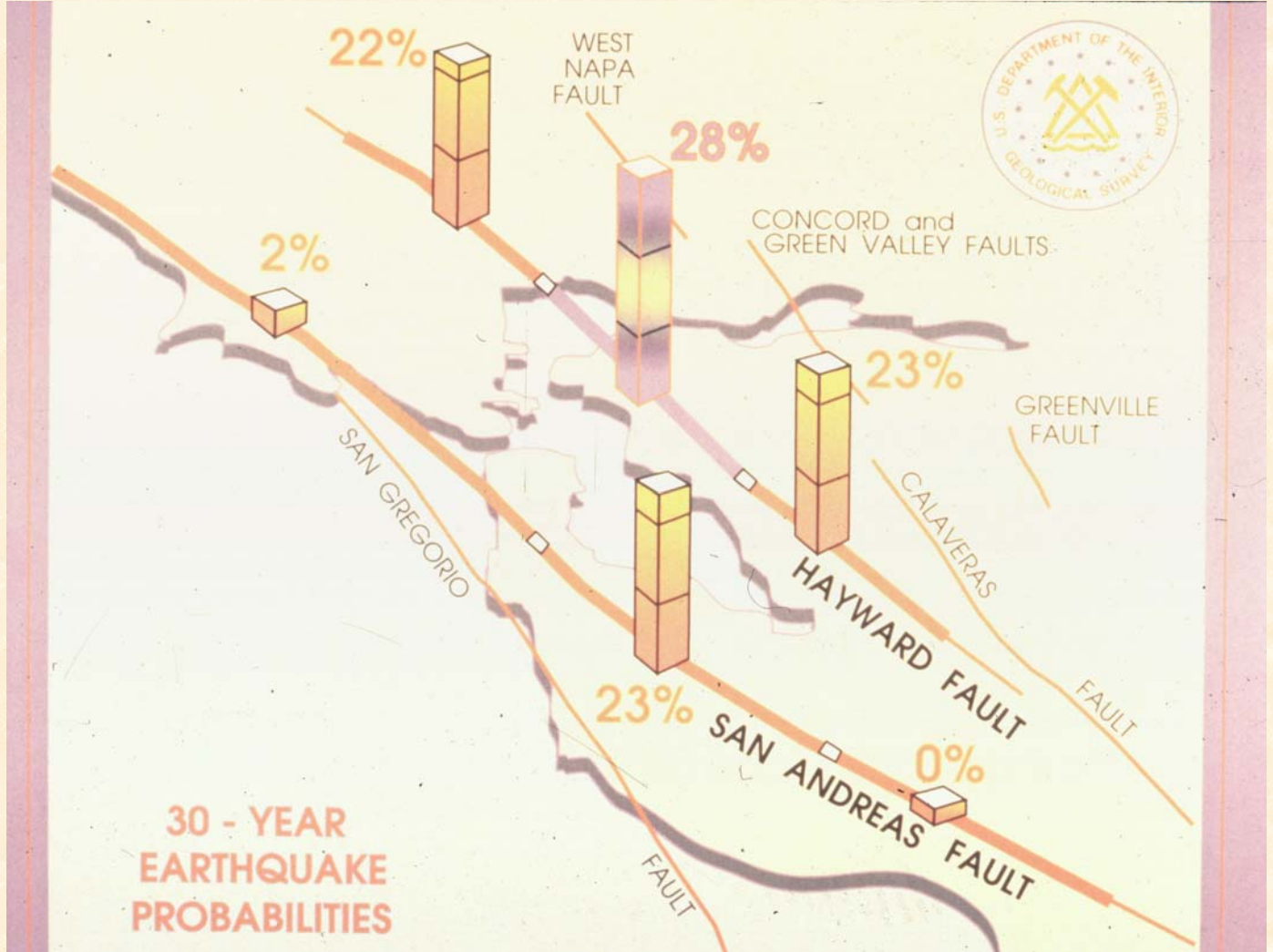


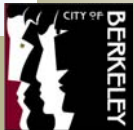
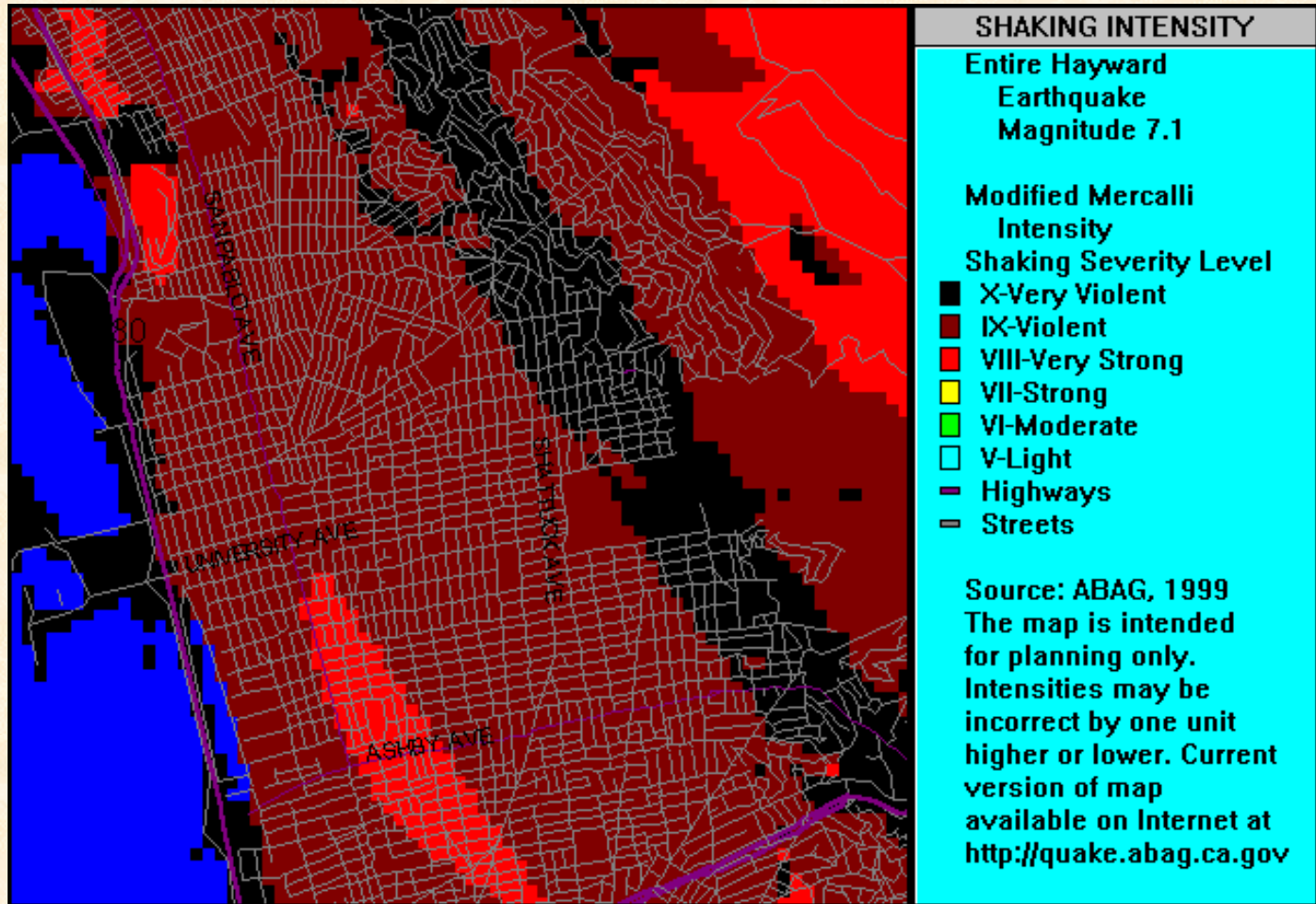
Berkeley is situated in one of the most seismically active zones in the world



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Association of Bay Area Governments Hazards Map for Berkeley, California

Berkeley's Investments in Community Sustainability

- ❖ Six special taxes dedicated to hazard mitigation
- ❖ Every public school, fire station, many City buildings now seismically resistant
- ❖ Fiscal, technical and administrative incentives for private sector retrofit – up to 40% of single family homes made safer using these programs
- ❖ On-going funding for Disaster Resistant Berkeley Program

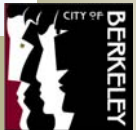
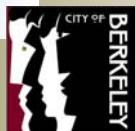


Photo of Berkeley High School



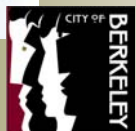
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Photo of Civic Center Building



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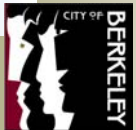
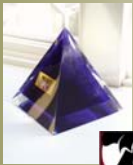
Photo of Main Library



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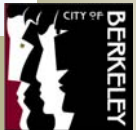
Sustainability Ain't Easy

- ❖ Sisyphus is our patron saint
- ❖ Public Awareness about safety issues a continual evolution
- ❖ Political Will to make Risk Reduction a Community Effort is Imperative
- ❖ Berkeley benefits from the combination of location, technical resource base and politically active residents



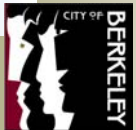
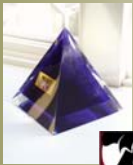
Berkeley's Resource-Rich Environment

- ❖ The necessity for partnership and multi-sector efforts
- ❖ The role of the University of California, Berkeley as a sometimes unwitting mitigation mentor
- ❖ Government godparents – FEMA and California OES catalysts for implementation
- ❖ Earthquake Engineering Research Institute and Natural Hazards Center provide technical guidance and hands-on support



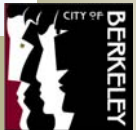
A Goal in Berkeley's Newly Adopted General Plan

“Make Berkeley a disaster-resistant community that can survive, recover from and thrive after a disaster. We see the way to making this a reality by identifying and reducing vulnerabilities; improving emergency response and preparation; and by using disaster-resistant land use planning.”

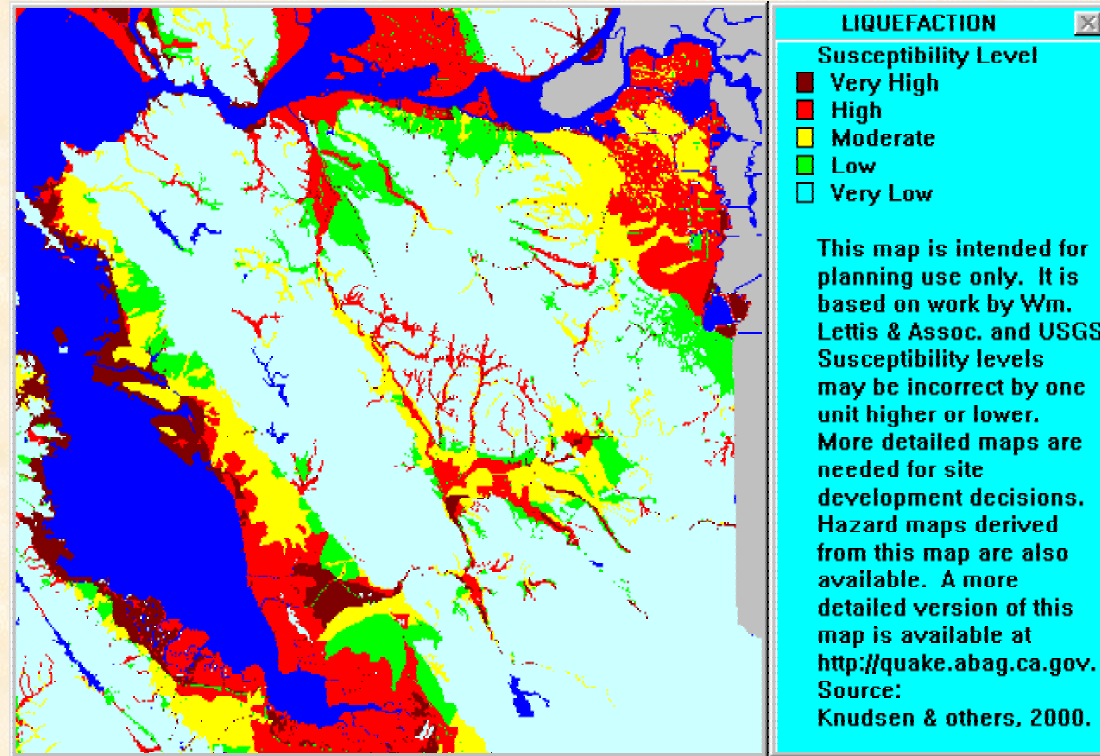


Local Level Efforts

- ❖ Hazards Mapping and Risk Assessment Efforts – California Geological Survey, U.S.G.S. and HAZUS
- ❖ Safety and Housing Elements Provide Policy Matrix for Sustainability
- ❖ Area Plans focus in at the neighborhood level to promote mitigation
- ❖ Community Preparation and Readiness integral part of the equation



Hazards Mapping



Making Public Awareness a City Priority

- ❖ Community champions – City Council and Board of Education; Alan Goldfarb; Carol Lopes; Lucille Osterweill; Disaster Council and Fire Safety Commission
- ❖ Program staff sustain safety programs – Reg Garcia; David Orth; Janet Kennedy; Joan MacQuarrie; Dan Lambert; and Jay Wilson; Technical Advisor, Jim Russell
- ❖ City's Seismic Technical Advisory Group – Professors Vitelmo Bertero, James Kelly, Mary Comerio and Tom Tobin

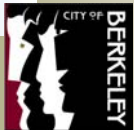
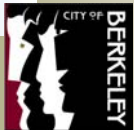
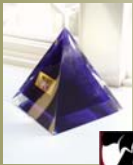


Photo of Soft Story Buildings



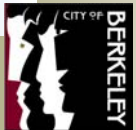
Where We Go From Here

- ❖ Soft Story Building Project – a unique collaboration among the City, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Community Members at the Dana Street Building; California Seismic Safety Commission
- ❖ November 5, 2002 Election is benchmark date for voter approval of new housing and safety ballot measure
- ❖ Presentation of Updated Seismic Codes and Standards for January, 2003 adoption
- ❖ Evaluation of Efforts to Date and Development of Comprehensive Mitigation and Recovery Plan



Disasters By Design's Comprehensive Approach

- ❖ We are moving to the holistic government framework critical to successful mitigation and recovery
- ❖ General Plan, improved approach in OES, development of comprehensive plan
- ❖ Reframed local conversation
- ❖ AmeriCorps Project and Disaster Resistant Berkeley Program
- ❖ Sustaining awareness



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