

Oregon's Seismic Rehabilitation Grant Program (SRGP): *An Underappreciated Overachiever*

Presented to School Facilities
Capital Planning Task force
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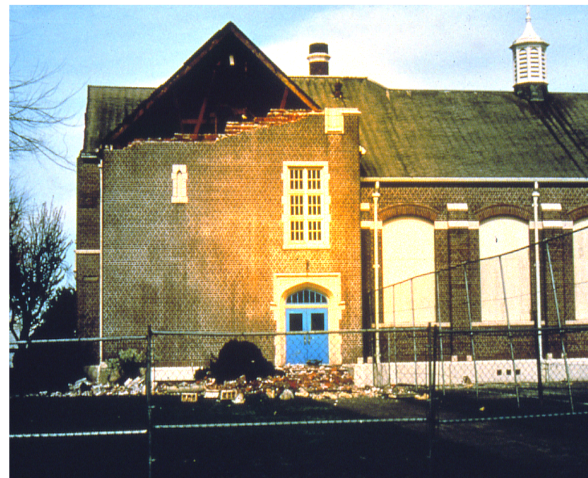
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In 2013, Oregon's legislators authorized the following capital investments in school facilities:

- ✓ Higher Education (OUS): \$130 million
- ✓ Community Colleges (DCCW): \$125 million
- ✓ K-12 (seismic grants): \$ 15 million

✧ *Share to K-12 schools – 5.5%*

What's That \$15M About?



Photos: Molalla High School, Spring Break Quake (M5.6), March 1993

- Molalla High School damaged beyond repair
- Other schools damaged and replaced: Columbus Elementary (McMinnville), St. Mary's Elementary (Mt. Angel)
- Oregon State Capitol damaged

Overview of Seismic Grant Program

2009: Program initiated by 75th Legislative Assembly

2010: 12 K-12 schools in 7 school districts awarded grants

- ✓ \$5.6 million funded improvements protecting more than 4,600 students

2011: 3 K-12 schools in 3 school districts awarded grants

- ✓ \$3.8 million funded improvements protecting more than 1,600 students

2012: 7 K-12 schools in 7 school districts awarded grants

- ✓ \$7.5 million funded improvements protecting more than 2,300 students (projects completed during summer 2013)
- ✓ Governor's Recommended Budget for 2013-2015 proposes \$15M for XI-M Program

The Long Road to the SRGP

- 2001** *ORS 455.400* mandates retrofit of educational facilities to life safety performance by 2032 “*subject to available funding*”
- 2002** Referral to voters establishes XI-M program
- 2005** Flurry of laws: Senate Bills 2, 3, 4, 5 request assessment, establish grant program, authorize Treasurer to issue bonds
- 2007** DOGAMI assessment released
- 2009** Legislature authorizes first XI-M bonds, \$15M
- 2010** Authorization partially rescinded by governor
- 2011** Program restored with new authorization, \$7.5 M
- 2012** First rounds of projects completed
- 2013** New authorization, \$15M; program moved from OEM
- 2014** BusinessOregon(OBDD) initiates outreach

Performance: Oregon's SRGP program *is equitable*

2010-2012 seismic grant recipient districts are:

- *geographically* diverse – locations from North Clackamas to Lakeview
- *economically* diverse – districts from Tigard-Tualatin to Myrtle Point
- projects include 14 elementary, 5 middle, and 3 high schools

Performance: Oregon's SRGP program supports
good family-wage jobs

- Seismic upgrades support jobs that represent full range of construction trades
- Roughly \$0.60 of every dollar in a seismic retrofit project is spent on payroll wages
- Each \$1 million invested supports ~15 jobs
- Creates jobs in small towns and rural districts, not just metro areas

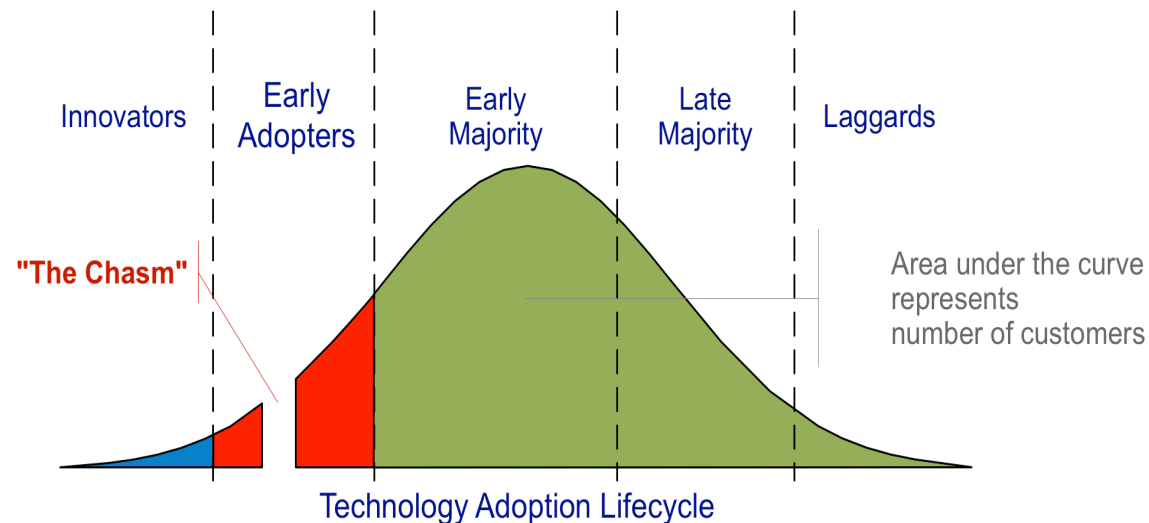
Performance: Oregon's SRGP is *unique in the nation*

- No other state has a *web-based statewide inventory* of public education buildings rated for seismic risk
- No other state has a *voter-authorized, funded grant program* to finance seismic upgrades of public schools on a risk-prioritized basis
- In 2013, SRGP received an *Overall Award In Excellence* from Western States Seismic Policy Council

Key Lessons

- Priority-centered assessment process: essential when scope of need exceeds resources available
- Risk: “start small” may mean “stay small” in the absence of a long-term plan
- A secure “agency home” is important when state indebtedness is involved
- Marketing and outreach have been weak
- True partnership with school districts (and ODE) has not yet been tested
- Safety improved, but “life safety” objective remains elusive

Is Oregon's SRGP ready to "*cross the chasm*"?



To cross the chasm, Oregon's SRGP needs:

1. *Secure, sustained funding*
 - a. recognition as a top capital investment priority
 - b. innovative financing beyond GO bonds
2. *Effective outreach strategy*
 - a. turn 15 "early adopters" into "sales force"
 - b. reach all 197 Oregon school districts

Why SRGP? Oregon Schools and Children at Risk

Construction Type	Number of Schools	Enrollment ('05-'06)
Unreinforced Masonry	86	34,100
Pre-Cast Concrete (PC1, PC2)	55	40,200
Very High Collapse Risk (~ 100%)	131	57,104
High Collapse Risk (> 10%)	377	175,369
Tsunami Zone (high & mod. risk)	(10)	(3,056) ¹
<i>Totals</i>	649	306,773

¹ Note: Tsunami Zone schools excluded from schools and enrollment totals to avoid double-counting. Several of these schools are also in high-collapse-risk categories.

Source: Statewide Seismic Needs Assessment, <http://www.oregongeology.com/sub/projects/rvs/>

How Does the Oregon University System (OUS) Address This Risk?

- **Seismic Mitigation**

- Oregon faces a serious statewide risk from earthquake hazards. Not only does Oregon have the Cascadia Subduction Zone fault that looms offshore along the entire state coastline, but most of the buildings in Oregon were built long before a 1993 statewide building code revision that specifically mandated seismic (earthquake) design standards.
- To address this risk, OUS has partnered with the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI) to assess our exposure to seismic hazards at each of our seven campuses. Using a proprietary, enhanced, low-cost screening methodology— [Enhanced Rapid Visual Screening \(E-RVS\)](#), OUS campuses can identify and prioritize buildings at risk of significant structural deficiencies during the next earthquake.
 - (from <http://www.ous.edu/dept/capcon/construction>, accessed 2/10/14)