

## The Lessons of the Loma Prieta Earthquake

### Are We Any Better Prepared?

It was October 17, 1989. 5:04 p.m. The Oakland A's and the San Francisco Giants were about to begin game three of the World Series. Over 60,000 fans were in the stands at Candlestick Park.

As the sports announcers began the program, television coverage was cut off as a magnitude 7.1 earthquake rocked the Bay Area.

The epicenter was located nine miles northeast of Santa Cruz and 60 miles south of San Francisco, near the Loma Prieta Peak in the Santa Cruz Mountains. The quake occurred at a depth of 8.4 miles; shaking was felt in Western Nevada and as far away as San Diego.

- Reports say that there were 68 deaths and over 3,700 injuries.
- More than 23,000 homes were damaged and 1,018 homes were totally destroyed.
- The quake also damaged over 3,500 businesses and destroyed 366 more.
- The Loma Prieta Earthquake caused between \$6 billion to \$7 billion in damage. The figure grows as high as \$10 billion when business interruption is included.
- More than 7,000 aftershocks, between magnitudes of 1.0 and 5.4 were felt within one year of the quake.

Among the most catastrophic events were the collapse of the elevated portion of the Cypress Street section of Interstate-880 in Oakland, the collapse of a section (of the roadbed) of the Oakland-San Francisco Bay Bridge, the collapse of multiple buildings in San Francisco's Marina District (and following fires), and the collapse of several structures at the Pacific Garden Mall in Santa Cruz.

President Bush declared a disaster area for the seven hardest hit counties, from Monterey and San Benito in the south to Marin and Sonoma in the north.

Ten years later, the Bay Bridge is back in action but is scheduled for a seismically-safe replacement; new connections at "The Maze"



*Damage to the Marina District of San Francisco caused by the October 17, 1989, earthquake. Photograph by Charles Meyer.*

have been opened and other portions of the Cypress Structure are receiving earthquake upgrades; the city halls in Oakland and San Francisco have been retrofitted.

Although the first "urban earthquake" in a long time, Loma Prieta was miles away from our population centers. Are we prepared for a major quake further north on the San Andreas-- or on the Hayward Fault? Are YOU ready?

#### Earthquake Conference

October 14 & 15, 1999

ABAG is convening a two-day conference on earthquake preparedness and safety. Learn about risk, retrofitting, response and recovery. *See page 3 for details.*

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# ABAG POWER Clean & Green

## Cities & Counties Powered by Renewable Energy

Local governments are taking the lead in encouraging the use of "green" electric power, and ABAG POWER members are among the leaders in the state whose electricity is generated by renewable resources.

In August, ABAG POWER signed a three-year contract with Calpine Corporation of San Jose to generate the pool's electricity load, which is about 63 megawatts for 6,000 meters. The power will come from Calpine's Geysers geothermal steam field in Lake and Sonoma Counties.

The 59 members of the program include most cities and counties in the Bay Area and local governments in neighboring regions. Members, and their taxpayers, will benefit not only from the clean energy but also from its reduced costs.

The program expects to save roughly \$1 million annually in rebates

from the state's Renewable Resources Trust Fund. This fund was established to encourage renewable power production over the next three years and to provide a rebate of 1.5 cents per kilowatt hour.

"We're providing jurisdictions that want to go completely green with a way to do so economically," said Elena Schmid, the manager of ABAG POWER. "With the amount of press coverage we've received, a number of agencies has expressed interest in joining our program."

If your city or county is interested in going green and would like to participate in ABAG POWER's green energy program, the program is currently accepting new members.

*For more information, please contact Elena Schmid, program manager, at 510/464-7908 or e-mail [ElenaS@abag.ca.gov](mailto:ElenaS@abag.ca.gov).*

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## Power Conference To Shed Light on Industry

ABAG POWER, one of the largest power aggregators in the state, will host **POWER MATTERS '99**, a one-day conference on topics related to the sale and purchase of electricity and gas by businesses and local governments, on **Thursday, October 28, 1999**, at the Oakland Marriott City Center.

The evolving deregulation of California's \$20 billion energy industry provides opportunities and challenges for energy users, producers and marketers. The lessons of the first year of electric deregulation are important to anyone interested in staying competitive and informed.

Guest speakers include State Senator Debra Bowen, chair of the California Senate Energy, Utilities & Communications Committee; Richard Bilas, president of California Public Utilities

Commission; George Sladoje, chief executive officer of California Power Exchange; Commissioner William Keese of the California Energy Commission; and Richard O'Neill, Director of Policy Analysis at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

Topics of the afternoon workshops range from the changing natural gas and electric markets to new innovations and technologies.

During the conference, ABAG POWER's board of directors will hold their annual meeting to discuss current operations and program strategies for both the natural gas and electric pool programs.

*For more information or to register, call Sharon Kendrick at 510/464-7964 or e-mail [SharonK@abag.ca.gov](mailto:SharonK@abag.ca.gov).*

### ABAG Conference Looks at Earthquake Safety and Preparedness Ten Years Later

As we approach the tenth anniversary of the Loma Prieta earthquake in October, ABAG is planning a major conference to analyze the lessons learned and to review the best information on earthquake safety and preparedness.

Over 50 earthquake experts and professionals will be participating in ABAG's Fall General Assembly, **Living on Shaky Ground - Lessons of Loma Prieta**, on **October 14 and 15, 1999**, in **Oakland**.



*The parts of the Cypress Street freeway (I-880) structure that collapsed in Oakland are located in a region where seismic shaking was expected to be greater than to the south, where the elevated freeway did not collapse.*

*Photograph by Howard Wilshire.*

#### Keynote Speakers

**BRUCE BABBITT**, Secretary of the Interior has been invited to deliver the keynote address on October 14; his attendance is being confirmed as we go to press. On October 15th, the keynote speaker will be **Dr. Charles Groat**, Director of the United States Geological Survey (USGS).

#### News and Presentations

The biggest news expected from this event is the announcement by the USGS of new earthquake probabilities for the major faults in the Bay Area.

It is anticipated that **Assembly-member Ellen Corbett**, chair of the new *Assembly Select Committee on Earthquake Safety and Preparedness*, will talk about earthquake legislation to be introduced for the year 2000 legislative session. She will be joined by Pat Snyder, chairman of the California **Seismic Safety Commission**, who will present recommendations from the Commission's new report on Incentives for Earthquake Safety.

ABAG's Earthquake Preparedness Manager Jeanne Perkins will announce the results of a "housing retrofit survey" which details whether and how a sampling of homeowners in communities around the Bay have retrofitted their houses for earthquake safety. She will also summarize the impacts expected on local faults (shaking intensity, housing damage and road closures).

#### Participating Organizations

This two-day conference will bring together representatives from all the major organizations interested in earthquakes and disaster preparedness: the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the California Earthquake Authority, the Governor's Office of Emergency Services, the Seismic Safety Commission, the California Division of Mines and Geology, the American Red Cross and the USGS.

Other participants will include elected officials, earthquake consultants and researchers, engineers, and insurance and banking professionals.

#### The Local Lifeline: Utilities and Transportation

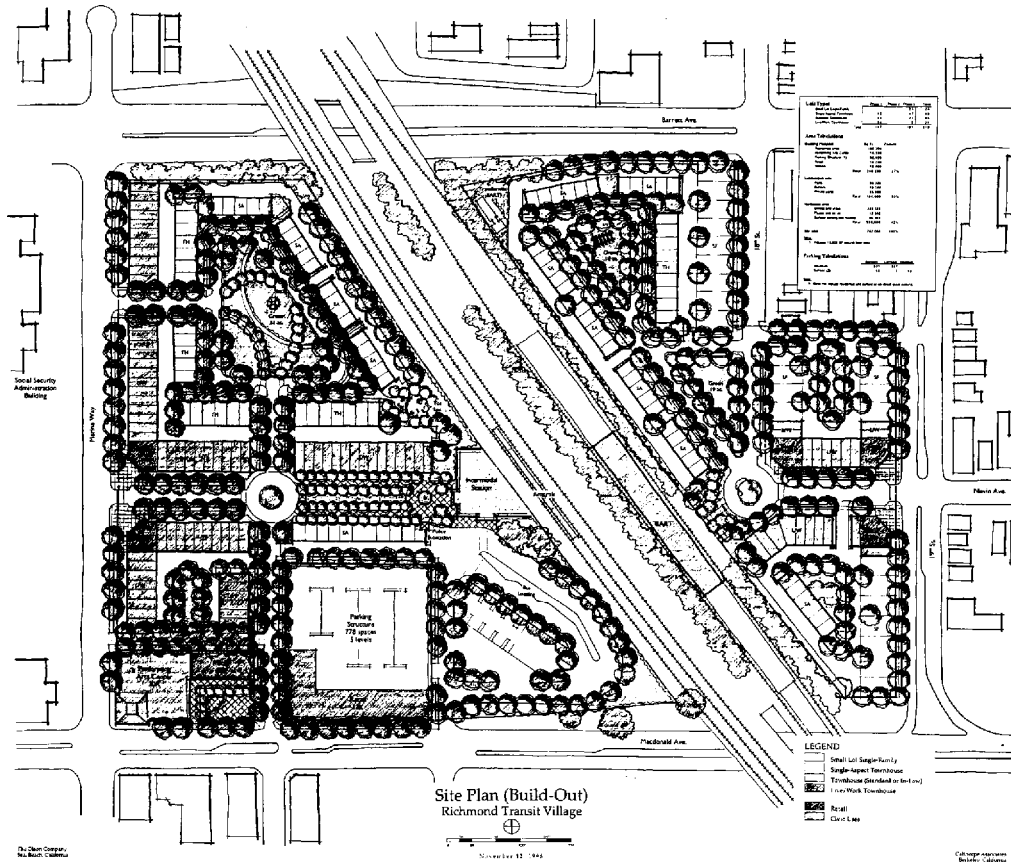
Do not miss our review of the successes and challenges in retrofitting utilities and transportation. Our speakers will be: Jose Medina, Director of the **Department of Transportation**; John Coleman, President of **EBMUD**; Dan Richard, President of **BART**; Scott Grago from **Pacific Bell** and Lloyd Cluff from **Pacific Gas & Electric**. This session will be moderated by **Contra Costa Supervisor Mark DeSaulnier**, a member of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission.

#### Interactivity

While this conference has a full agenda for both days, there will be time for questions and comments from the audience. *Be prepared to share information about earthquake retrofitting or neighborhood preparedness in your community!*

We are also incorporating electronic voting into the conference and look forward to your participation.

# It Takes a Transit Village To Revitalize Richmond's Downtown Area



*An architectural drawing of the Richmond Transit Village, with BART and Amtrak running diagonally in the center. The adjacent mixed use development will include affordable housing and 15,000 square feet of retail space, a performing arts center, a parking garage and an intermodal transit connection. For more information on the Richmond Transit Village, please contact Alan Wolken, development project manager for the Richmond Redevelopment Agency, at 510/307-8145.*

The **City of Richmond** will begin construction this fall on a multi-million dollar transit village project adjacent to the Richmond BART station, intended to revive its downtown.

Transit villages are communities with mixed-used developments, such as housing and retail, which are constructed around passenger rail stations. Transit villages provide opportunities to live, work and shop near transit connections.

Jumpstarted with a \$4.5 million economic development initiative grant from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the Richmond Redevelopment Agency is spearheading the construction of the **Richmond Transit Village**, a development that will bring housing, retail and transit to the Iron Triangle neighborhood. The project is expected to take four years to complete.

The project will create 218 affordable housing units, approximately 15,000 square feet of retail space, a 30,000 square-foot Performing and Cultural Arts Facility, an Intermodal Transit Center with direct BART/Amtrak/AC Transit connections and a five-story parking garage. An estimated

420 temporary and 110 permanent jobs will be created.

Roughly 58 percent of the federal money will go toward transportation improvements, including a new Amtrak center platform that will also provide direct access to BART, a new station building to house transportation providers and the creation of the Nevin Avenue Pedestrian Plaza.

The Richmond Transit Village is truly a public-private partnership. In addition to the Redevelopment Agency, the East Bay Center for the Performing Arts, the city's Employment and Training Department and state and local transit agencies are also involved.

The master developer of the transit village is The Olson Company, and the transportation architecture is provided by VBN Architects, which also designed the Jack London Square Amtrak station and the Millbrae BART station.

The architectural designer is Calthorpe and Associates. Peter Calthorpe, the firm's principal, has been named one of 25 "innovators on the cutting edge" by *Newsweek* magazine for his work redefining the models of urban and suburban growth in America.

# Inter-Regional Partnership at the Crossroads

Eighteen months after it began, the Inter-Regional Partnership (IRP) is at a crossroads.

In early 1998, a coalition of elected officials bridging the Bay Area and Central Valley formed to work on issues that cut across jurisdictional boundaries. These issues include the disparate location of jobs and housing and the resultant traffic gridlock and air pollution. Now, after more than a year of research and discussion, the coalition is taking steps to implement the strategies it has identified to help it achieve its purpose.

## Inter-Regional Checklist

At their last meeting in July, the IRP reviewed the preliminary results of a survey sent to 15 of the 69 local jurisdictions in the five member counties: Alameda, Contra Costa, San Joaquin, Santa Clara, and Stanislaus. The "Inter-Regional Local Government Checklist" asked the cities and counties polled whether they had adopted, or would consider adopting, a variety of policies and programs. For example, the checklist asked whether the jurisdictions had:

- Studied the potential of higher housing densities on currently developed sites;
- Established and enforced urban growth boundaries;
- Modified their General Plans and zoning codes to allow higher densities within those growth boundaries;
- Formed partnerships with transit agencies to develop financing and other strategies for new development projects around stations;
- Encouraged employers to view employee parking as a subsidy and provide comparable subsidies to workers who use alternative methods to get to work.

The initial response to the checklist was positive. Many local jurisdictions had already adopted or expressed a willingness to consider many of the ideas outlined in the checklist. The survey will be sent out to the remaining 54 local jurisdictions in September. The results

will most likely be presented at the IRP's next quarterly meeting at the end of October. Depending upon the outcome of the survey, the IRP is interested in developing an incentive program to encourage local jurisdictions to adopt policies that the cities and counties identify as ones they would be most "willing to consider."

## IRP Brochure

In order to communicate their common purpose and objectives, the IRP will begin distributing a brochure describing the Partnership. The members approved the design and content of the brochure at its July meeting. The brochure describes the organization's purpose, membership, and programs. It will also be sent to elected officials and area agencies.

## CAPP Initiatives

The July meeting also included presentations on the CAPP (Citizens' Alliance for Public Planning) initiatives, a series of growth-related initiatives in Livermore, Pleasanton, San Ramon and Danville. The members of the IRP concluded that the initiatives were symptomatic of regional, inter-regional and state level issues. Consequently, they decided not to take a position on the initiative but instead invest their energy and resources tackling the larger problems. For example, the IRP intends to begin a dialogue with state legislators. "I think CAPP might be the warning sign that we should move expeditiously with our legislators," said IRP member and Contra Costa County Supervisor Mark DeSaulnier. Patterson Mayor Richard Dobbs, another member, agreed. "These initiatives are not just a wake-up call; they are a vote that we are failing," Dobbs said. "We have to get to Sacramento and get some clout."

## Legislation

In the next several months, the IRP plans to meet with legislators representing the IRP's geographic area to discuss

ideas for bills that might be introduced in the next session. The members are interested in legislation that would address the need to stabilize local revenues, create a better balance of jobs and housing, encourage economic development, and improve air quality and transportation.

## Future meetings

The IRP's next meeting is likely to be in October with state legislators. The location has yet to be determined. For more information on upcoming meetings, or the IRP, contact:

Alex Amoroso, Senior Planner, at 510/464-7955 or AlexA@abag.ca.gov or Karl Lisle, ABAG Regional Planner, at 510/464-7926 or KarlL@abag.ca.gov.

## Housing Needs Update

To begin the housing needs determination process, as mandated by the State of California, ABAG has been waiting to receive the first regional number from the Department of Housing and Community Development.

Those numbers were expected by July 1, but have not yet arrived. When they do, ABAG plans to negotiate on behalf of its city and county members for the best "regional number" possible.

Following a final regional number, some time will be needed to make the initial assignment to each community. There will be an opportunity for every jurisdiction to provide information and negotiate a number appropriate to accommodate its fair share of the region's affordable housing.

*For more information on the process, call Alex Amoroso at 510/464-7955.*

## 11 Bay Area Cities Win Community Awards

Eleven cities in the Bay Area were recognized with the 1999 Helen Putnam Awards by the League of California Cities for improvements in communities and public services.

Sharing the grand prize for public safety were the **Cities of Livermore and Pleasanton** for the consolidation of fire departments, which was judged to improve fire control while maintaining local control. In the same category, **Pacifica** won an award of excellence for its paramedic cadet program.

In the financial management and planning category, **Fairfield** won the grand prize for its community outreach campaign to promote its 10-year parks and recreation plan. **Hayward** won the grand prize in land-use and environmental quality category for its City Hall and Civic Center Plaza project.

Other awards for excellence went to **Foster City** for its free Family Fun Series, **Concord** for its executive and management compensation program, **Santa Rosa** for its workplace mediation program, **Union City** for its community resource centers, **Vallejo** for its Mare Island conversion program and **Sunnyvale** for its Youth@Work program. Livermore was also recognized for its March 1999 bond measure that raised \$150 million for a new Civic Center library, a new community center and school renovations.

For more details of the award and the winners, visit the League's website at [http://www.cacities.org/memserv/features/helen\\_putnam/Default.htm](http://www.cacities.org/memserv/features/helen_putnam/Default.htm).

## HUD Grant to Fund Richmond Cyber Village

A 23-acre brownfield on the south shoreline of the **City of Richmond** was selected by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for a \$4.5 million renovations grant. (A brownfield is an empty or abandoned site that is difficult to sell because of real or perceived contamination.)

HUD Secretary Andrew Cuomo announced that Richmond was one of 20 cities nationwide that will receive federal assistance. The city will receive \$1.5 million in Brownfields Economic Development Initiative funding and \$3 million in loan guarantees from HUD.

The abandoned site, formerly a Ford plant, will be transformed into a waterfront "cyber village." The federal money will be used to restore the historic 561,000 square-foot building designed by Albert Kahn and clean up toxic materials, including lead paint, asbestos and hydrocarbons.

Once renovated, the cyber village will include 246 live-work lofts, 17,000 square feet of high-tech offices, a World War II Homefront Museum, trendy shops, a job training facility and a ferry terminal for the Red and White Fleet which will provide commuter service to downtown San Francisco. The project is expected to generate 1,000 permanent jobs and stimulate over \$96 million in additional investments.

For more information, contact Tom Mitchell, Chief of Redevelopment Projects for Richmond Redevelopment Agency, at 510/307-8140.

## Armories Allowed to Provide Temporary Shelter for Homeless

This coming winter, cities and counties will be allowed to use National Guard armories as temporary shelter for the homeless.

The bill signed by Gov. Gray Davis will open the armories to the homeless from December 1 through March 15 every year. This temporary measure allows local governments to develop other suitable shelter arrangements. If severe weather conditions exist between November 1 through March 31, the Military Department may extend their use during that time.

This law will help 24 communities statewide, including the Bay Area Cities of **San Mateo, Gilroy, Sunnyvale, San Jose, Petaluma** and **Santa Rosa**. Although no contracts or

agreements have been signed to date, these cities will most likely rely on the armories for the needed space. The armories can accommodate about 80 adults in San Mateo, 120 adults in Santa Rosa and 300 in Santa Clara County.

Cities lobbied the governor and the legislature to keep the armories opened after former Gov. Pete Wilson closed them after last winter.

The armories are used by the military when conducting drills and other military training during the rest of the year. They are also used during emergency conditions by the Red Cross during an earthquake, fire, or other disaster.

## Power Matters '99 Conference

Opportunities and challenges for energy users, producers and marketers. The Association of Bay Area Governments, one of the largest power aggregators in California, will host a conference on the sale and purchase of electricity and natural gas by businesses and local governments. The conference will be **Thursday, October 28** at the **Oakland Marriott City Center**.

*For information on ABAG's Power Pool, please call Elena Schmid, manager of the program, at 510/464-7908 or e-mail [ElenaS@abag.ca.gov](mailto:ElenaS@abag.ca.gov). For conference registration information, please call Sharon Kendrick at 510/464-7964 or e-mail [SharonK@abag.ca.gov](mailto:SharonK@abag.ca.gov).*

## State Controller Issues SMART Report on Local Government Finance

State Controller Kathleen Connell has just released a new report with proposals for mending the ongoing dilemma with local government finances. The report, *Returning Fairness to California Municipal Finance*, was prepared by "SMART," the State Municipal Advisory Reform Team-- one of many groups or commissions analyzing the relationship between the State and local governments.

*The SMART report may be accessed on the Internet by visiting the Controller's website at <http://www.sco.ca.gov> or you may call 916/445-2636.*

## 12th Annual San Francisco Bay Decisionmakers Conference

Sponsored by the Bay Planning Coalition, the San Francisco Bay Decisionmakers Conference will tackle three major topics this year: proposed runways for the San Francisco Airport, construction of new ferry terminals and use of harbor dredged materials. The conference will be held Thursday, September 23 at the Palace Hotel in San Francisco.

*For more information, go to <http://www.bayplanningcoalition.org> or call 415/397-2293.*

## Permit Streamlining for Water-Adjacent Construction Projects

The San Francisco Estuary Project and the Regional Water Quality Control Board are convening a series of workshops on "Construction Site Planning and Management for Water Quality Protection". These workshops will include sessions on construction regulations and responsibilities, erosion and sediment control, and non-stormwater discharge prevention. Future workshops will be held September 8 in Dublin, September 23 in Pittsburg, October 7 in Vallejo and October 21 in San Mateo County.

For more information, please call the Friends of the San Francisco Estuary at 510/622-2419.

## Residency at UC Berkeley's Institute of Governmental Studies

Chief administrators employed by a California city, county, special district or regional agency are invited to apply for Stone & Youngberg's California Local Executive-in-Residence program at the Institute of Governmental Studies at UC Berkeley. Applications will be accepted through November 12, 1999, with the Local Executive slated to arrive at Berkeley during Winter/Spring 2000. Selection will be competitive, and based on applicants' merits and the worthiness of their projects.

*For more information, contact the Institute of Governmental Studies at 510/642-1474 or visit <http://www.igs.berkeley.edu:8880/admin/eirp/stone2.htm>.*

Heads **Up**

ABAG is pleased to present:

# net-gov

A workshop for  
**public agencies**

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**BUSINESS COMMUNITY**  
with  
**LOCAL GOVERNMENTS**  
through **TECHNOLOGY**

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**September 23, 1999**

**8:45 a.m. to 4 p.m.**

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**Oakland**

- \* Online Procurement
- \* Integrated Justice
- \* Transit Assistance
- \* Community Building
- \* Smart Permitting
- \* Economic Development
- \* Online Hearings

**The fee is \$60 for ABAG members; \$80 for non-members. A \$10 late fee will apply after September 15.**

*For more information, please contact Sharon Kendrick at 510/464-7964 or e-mail [SharonK@abag.ca.gov](mailto:SharonK@abag.ca.gov).*

# Living on Shaky Ground—The Lesson of Loma Prieta

A special two-day conference on earthquake safety and preparedness

**Thursday, October 14, 1999**

Oakland Marriott City Center (12th & Broadway) and

**Friday, October 15, 1999**

Metro Center Auditorium, 101-8th Street, Oakland

## SEPTEMBER

September 10-12:00 noon  
ABAG PLAN Golf Tournament  
Crystal Springs Golf Course,  
Burlingame

September 15-12:00 Noon  
ABAG POWER Executive Committee  
ABAG Lag Conference Room

September 16-5:00 p.m.  
Finance & Personnel Committee  
ABAG Lag Conference Room

September 16-7:30 p.m.  
Executive Board  
Metro Center Auditorium, Oakland

September 17-12:00 Noon  
Regional Steering Committee on  
Homelessness & Housing  
Metro Center Auditorium, Oakland

September 23-8:45 a.m.  
Net@Go Workshop  
(Internet Technologies for Local Govts.)  
Metro Center Auditorium

September 24-12:00 Noon  
Regional Airport Planning Committee  
Metro Center Auditorium

## OCTOBER

October 14 & 15-8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Fall General Assembly:  
Living on Shaky Ground  
Oakland Marriott City Center (14th) and  
Metro Center Auditorium (15th)

October 28-8:30 a.m.  
Power Matters '99 Conference  
Oakland Marriott City Center

### Invited Participants:

- \* Association of Bay Area Governments
- \* American Red Cross
- \* BART
- \* California Earthquake Authority
- \* Caltrans
- \* Division of Mines and Geology
- \* East Bay Municipal Utilities District
- \* FEMA
- \* Governor's Office of Emergency Services
- \* Seismic Safety Commission
- \* U.S. Geological Survey

### Topics:

- \* Loma Prieta: The Damage Done
- \* New Bay Area Earthquake Probabilities
- \* Earthquake Hazard Mapping
- \* Transportation and Housing Impacts
- \* Disaster-Resistant Communities
- \* Earthquake Response and Recovery
- \* Mitigation for Vulnerable Building Types
- \* Who Pays to Repair and Rebuild?
- \* State Legislative Proposals
- \* FIELD TRIP to UC Berkeley's Richmond Field Station  
to review earthquake research projects

For agenda info, call Michelle Fadelli at 510/464-7922. To register, please call 510/464-7953.



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