

Seismic Functional Recovery: A Shift in Code Philosophy



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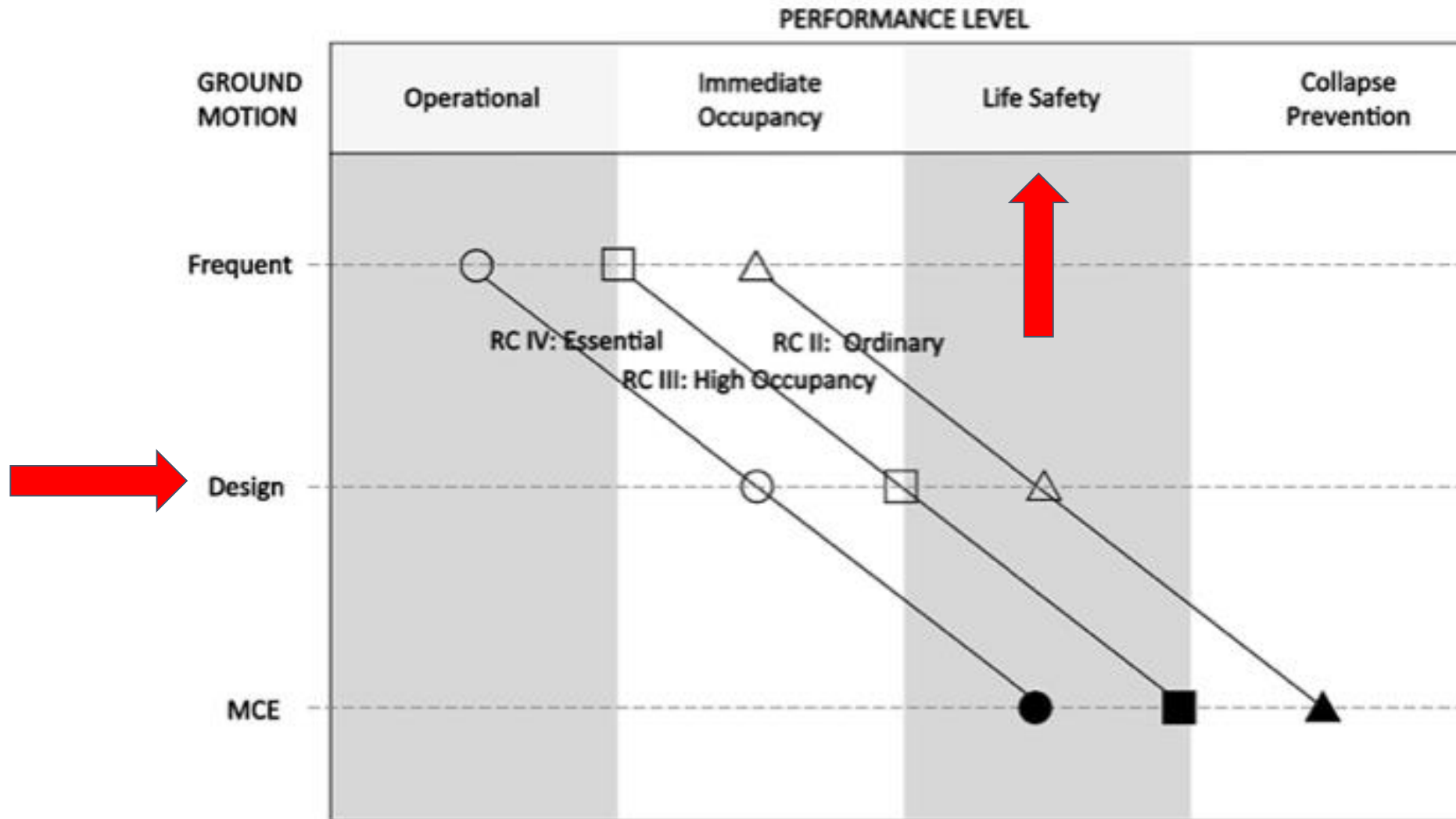
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Session Agenda

1. Definitions and Justification for Functional Recovery
2. Key moments in the history of Functional Recovery
3. California Assembly Bill 1329
4. Additional Discussion
5. Closing Comments

What is the philosophy of the current code?



Why do we need to shift from Life Safety?

- Impact of Downtime on Communities
- Recommended by U.S. Congress



The public want and expect our Communities to be Resilient



S.1768 - National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program Reauthorization Act of 2018

115th Congress (2017-2018)

LAW Hide Overview X

Sponsor: [Sen. Feinstein, Dianne \[D-CA\]](#) (Introduced 09/06/2017)

Committees: Senate - Commerce, Science, and Transportation | House - Science, Space, and Technology; Natural Resources; Transportation and Infrastructure

Committee Reports: [S. Rept. 115-336](#)

Latest Action: 12/11/2018 Became Public Law No: 115-307. ([TXT](#) | [PDF](#)) ([All Actions](#))

Tracker:

Introduced > Passed Senate > Passed House > To President > **Became Law**



What is NEHRP?

National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program

- coordinates work of four federal government agencies: NIST, FEMA, NSF and USGS
- by regular “reauthorization process” Congress directs these agencies and invests in earthquake risk reduction activities



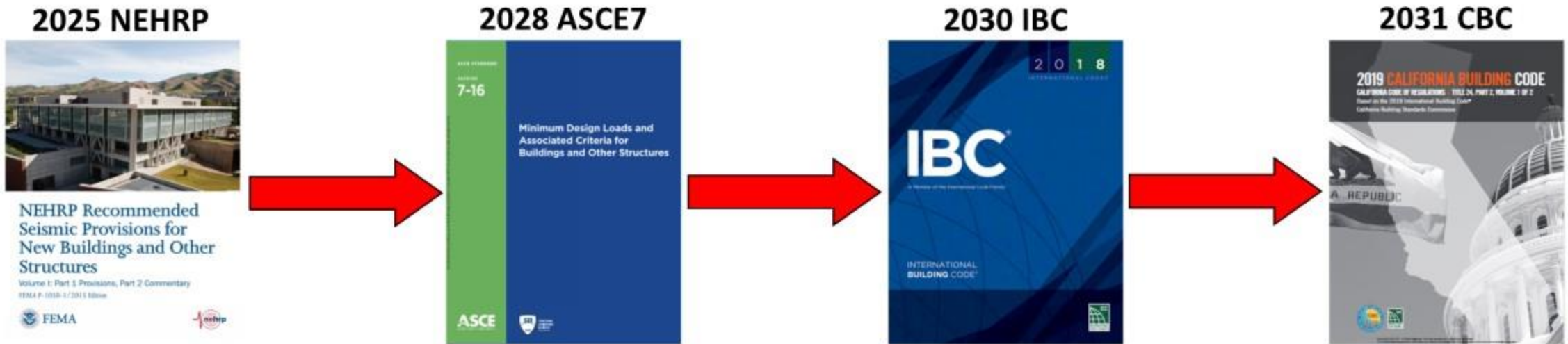
NEHRP Recommended Seismic Provisions for New Buildings and Other Structures

Volume I: Part 1 Provisions, Part 2 Commentary
FEMA P-2082-1 / September 2020



NEHRP and its relation to Codes

- NEHRP Recommended Seismic Provisions
- National Seismic Hazard Maps



NEHRP Reauthorization 2018

Adds focus on community resilience:

“It is the purpose of the Congress in this chapter to reduce the risks of life and property from future earthquakes **and increase the resilience of communities** in the United States through the establishment and maintenance of an effective earthquake hazards reduction program.”

– 42 U.S. Code § 7702. Congressional statement of purpose

Requires functional recovery study:

NIST and FEMA to “jointly convene a committee of experts...to assess and recommend options for improving the built environment and critical infrastructure to reflect performance goals stated in terms of post-earthquake reoccupancy and **functional recovery** time.”

– 42 U.S. Code § 7705b. Seismic standards

The missing link for Community Resilience



credit: Scott Blake

design, construction, retrofit of
individual buildings
and lifeline infrastructure
systems

two new
performance
states:

Reoccupancy

and

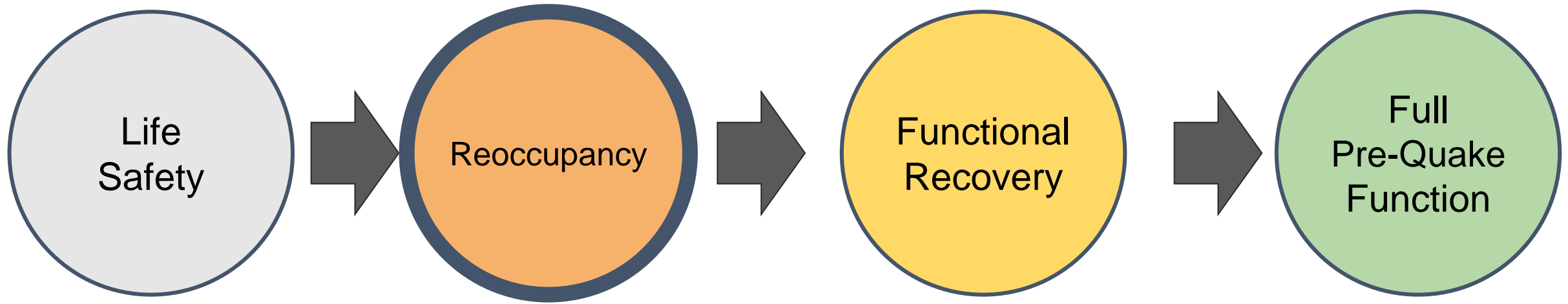
Functional
Recovery



Resilient Community

has the ability to prepare and
plan for, absorb, recover from,
and more successfully adapt to
adverse seismic events. [S.1768]

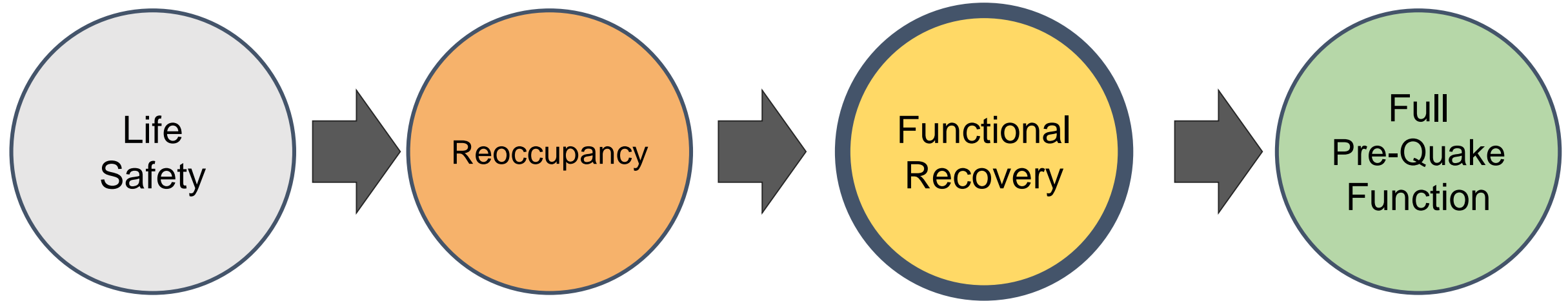
Reoccupancy



Reoccupancy is a post-earthquake performance state in which a building is maintained, or restored, to allow safe re-entry for the purposes of providing shelter or protecting building contents.

– FEMA P-2090/NIST SP-1254

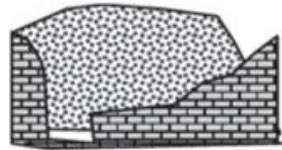
Functional Recovery



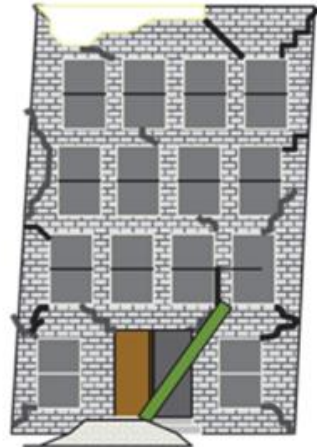
Functional recovery is a post-earthquake performance state in which a building (or lifeline infrastructure system) is maintained, or restored, to safely and adequately support the basic intended functions associated with the pre-earthquake use or occupancy of a building(, or the pre-earthquake service level of a lifeline infrastructure system).

– FEMA P-2090/NIST SP-1254

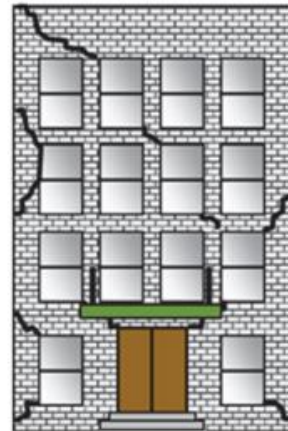
The importance of TIME



Collapse



Safety



Reoccupancy



Functional Recovery



Full Functionality



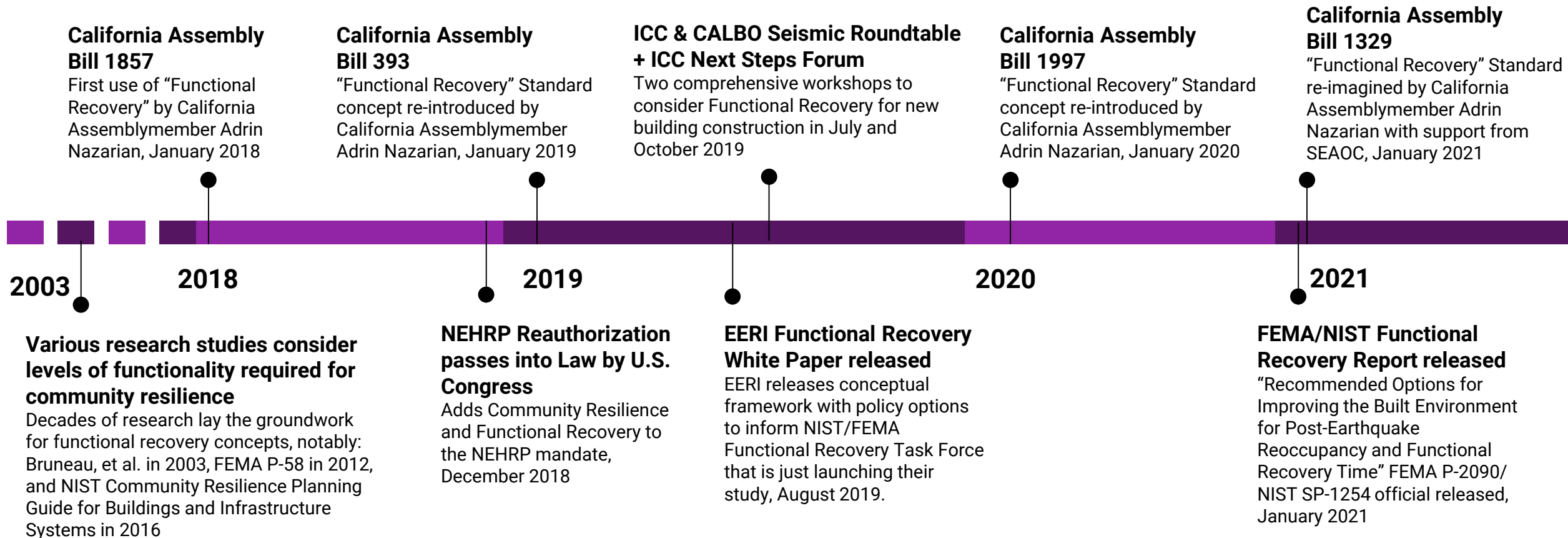
Image source: FEMA P-2090/NIST SP-1254

Question Break

Any questions so far?

Where did these concepts come from?

Many years of research, technical reports, and policy efforts



EERI White Paper



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a nonprofit corporation

Functional Recovery: A Conceptual Framework with Policy Options

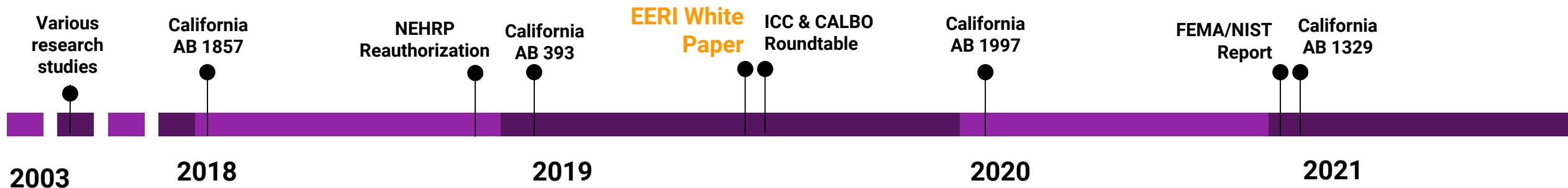
A white paper of the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute

December 6, 2019

Executive Summary

Earthquake-resistant design, especially as required by building codes, has always been primarily about safety. Over the last few years, policymakers and advocates have begun calling for “better than code” seismic design (Federal Register, 2016; San Francisco, 2016; NIST, 2017).

A productive way to think about this goal is to envision codes and standards written to achieve not only safety, but also acceptable recovery times. The recent NEHRP reauthorization, which EERI supported and helped to draft, does this. It calls for FEMA and NIST to convene experts to recommend “options for



Key Concepts: EERI White Paper

- Drafted definitions for buildings and lifelines
- Explored state of current practice
- Identified four **Issue Areas** for concurrent development:
 - a. **Definitional** – What needs to be functional?
 - b. **Policy** – What is an *acceptable* time?
 - c. **Technical** – What strategies/criteria will achieve functional recovery?
 - d. **Implementation** – How will current practices need to change?
- Identified four Functional Recovery Policy Options

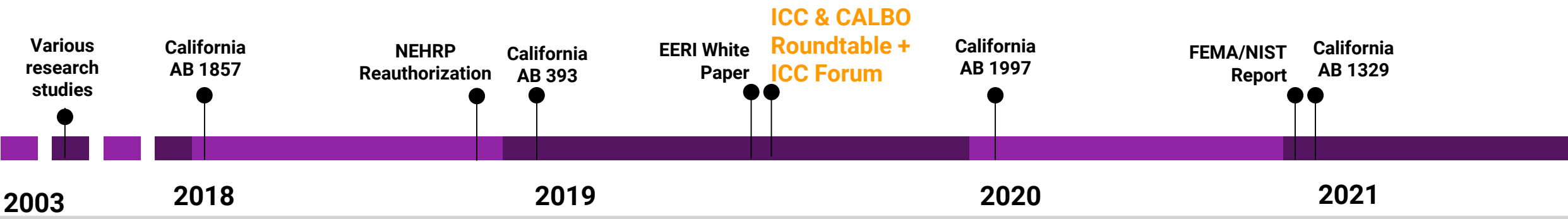
Seismic Roundtable



People Helping People Build a Safer World™

A National Approach to Seismic Functional Recovery for New Construction

A roundtable discussion convened by the International Code Council and California Building Officials



Next Steps Forum

ICC Annual Conference
Las Vegas, Oct 2019

Seismic Functional Recovery Portal

ICC AAA

Your "one-stop" for information regarding seismic functional recovery for new construction

The Code Council is pleased to provide this portal of information regarding seismic functional recovery.

The term "seismic functional recovery" means that buildings are not only designed and constructed for life safety, but also to support the basic intended functions of the building's pre-earthquake use and occupancy within a maximum acceptable time.

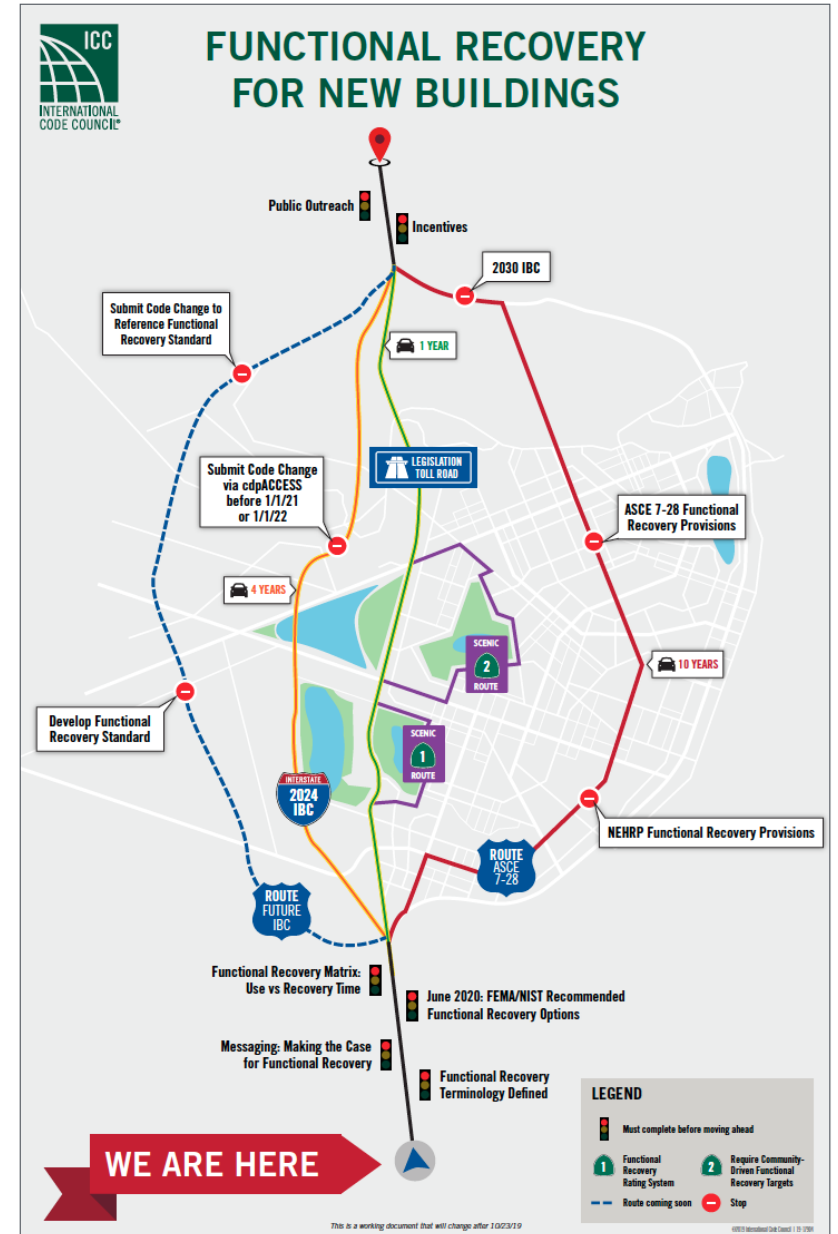
If you would like to submit information to be posted, please click [here](#).

Click below for links to past and upcoming events addressing seismic functional recovery.

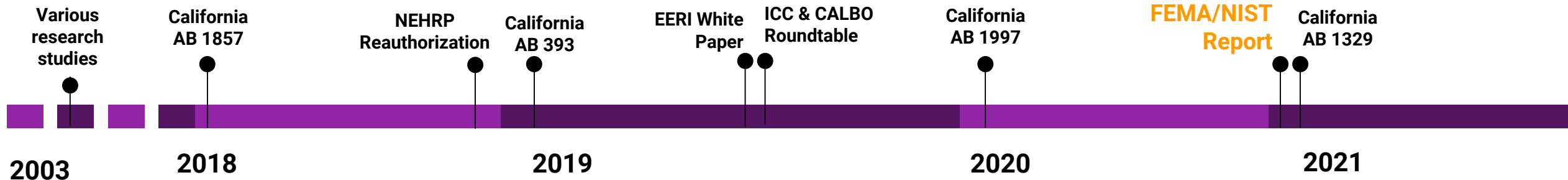
📅 Events

Click below for links to committees working on seismic functional recovery and documents addressing the topic.

📄 Resources

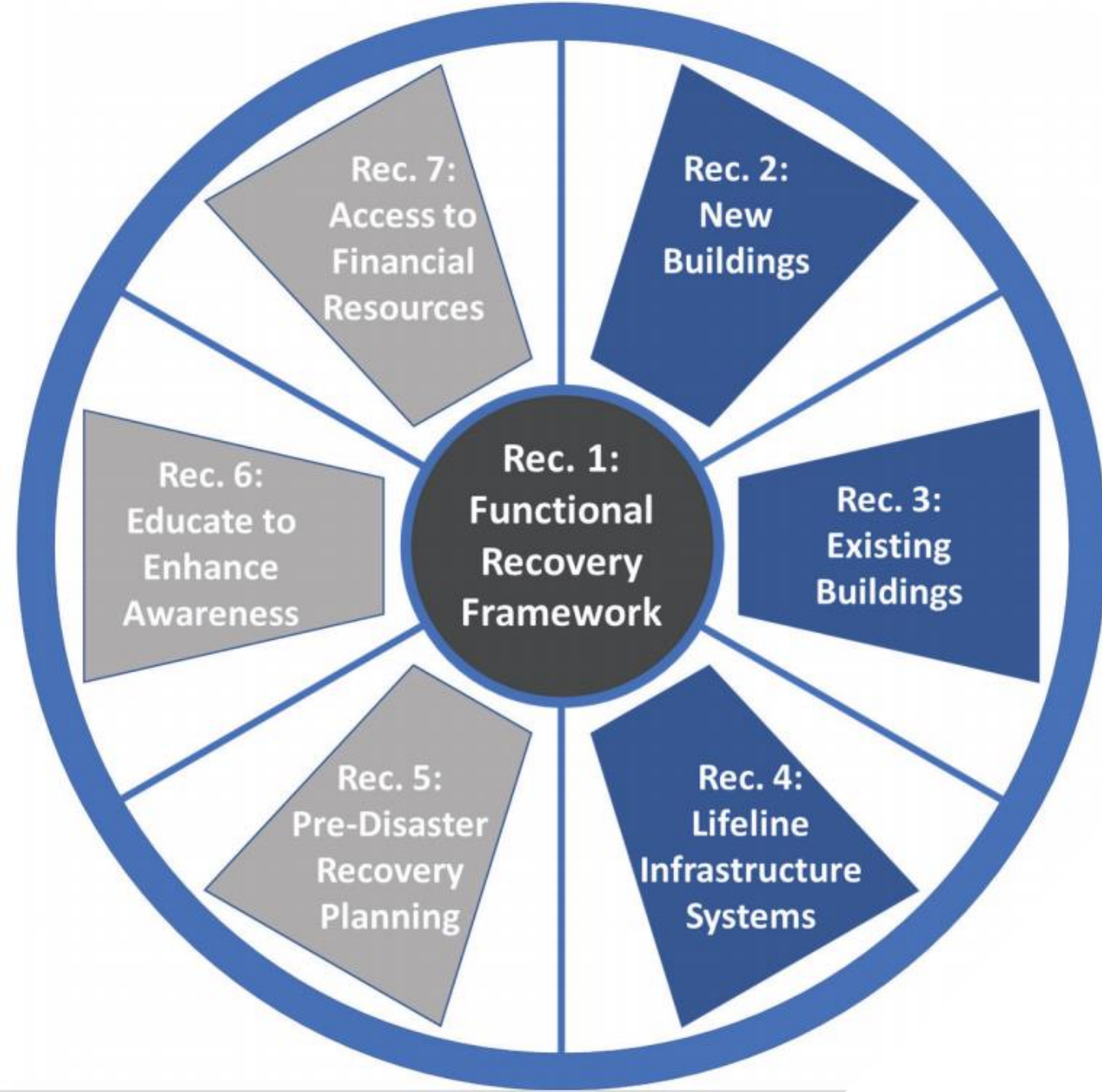


FEMA / NIST Report



Key Concepts: FEMA/NIST Report

- Comprehensive development process by diverse Project Technical Panel with five stakeholder input workshops
- Provides clear definitions
- 7 main categories of recommendations with subtasks and alternatives
- Clear and pressing Call to Action:
 - “To protect U.S. communities and taxpayers against future losses on the scale of those ...predicted in earthquake scenario studies, a change in building codes, building practices, and societal values is needed.”

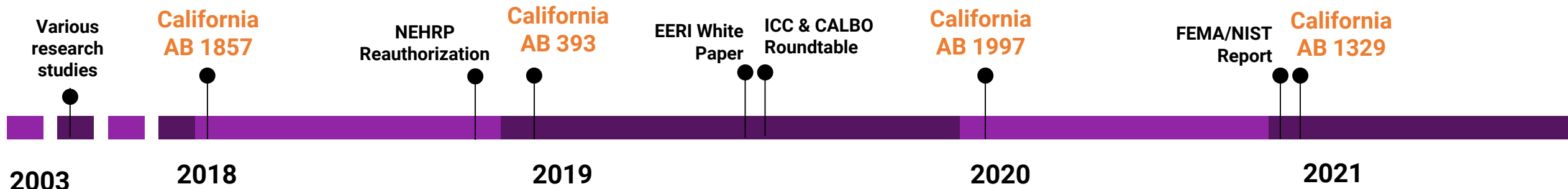


The Report: Recommendations

Community resilience and successful recovery after the next major earthquake will require collaborative and comprehensive planning involving all stakeholders and that work should begin now.

California Assembly Bill Evolution

- **Many iterations**, with continued improvements and revisions since 2018
- **Assembly Member Adrin Nazarian** is a **champion for seismic issues** and has welcomed input from **many technical experts and stakeholders**
- persistence has been necessary
 - *if plan A doesn't work there are 25 other letters in the alphabet!*



Question Break

Any questions so far?

California Assembly Bill 1329

- Active Legislation
- Introduced by:
Adrin Nazarian
- Sponsored by:
SEAOC
- Supported by:



AB-1329 Building codes: earthquakes: functional recovery standard. (2021-2022)

Text	Votes	History	Bill Analysis	Today's Law As Amended	Compare Versions	Status	Comments To Author
<p>Senate: _____</p> <p>Assembly: Int 1st Cmt 2nd Cmt</p>							
Bill Status							
Measure:	AB-1329						
Lead Authors:	Nazarian (A)						
Principal Coauthors:	-						
Coauthors:	-						
Topic:	Building codes: earthquakes: functional recovery standard.						
31st Day in Print:	03/22/21						
Title:	An act to amend Sections 18941 and 18941.5 of, and to add Section 18941.11 to, the Health and Safety Code, relating to building codes, and to amend the Building Code, relating to building codes, and to amend the Building Code, relating to building codes.						
House Location:	Assembly						
Last Amended Date:	05/04/21						
Committee Location:	Asm Appropriations						
Committee Hearing Date:	05/12/21						

What will AB 1329 do?

1. Add functional recovery target to CA code:

It clarifies that our building code should support recovery as well as safety, to protect livelihoods as well as lives.

2. Facilitate Local Amendment:

It allows cities and counties to amend the state code to address recovery as a local priority.

3. Set minimum statewide requirements:

It charges the California Building Standards Commission (CBSC) to set minimum statewide requirements related to post-earthquake recovery.

What is meant by “functional recovery ~~standard~~” provisions in the context of this bill?

a set of **enforceable building code provisions and regulations** that provide specific design and construction requirements intended to result in a post-event performance state in which a **building’s structural and nonstructural capacity are maintained or can be restored** to support the basic intended functions associated with the building’s pre-event use and occupancy **within an acceptable time**, where the acceptable time might differ for various uses or occupancies.

What might functional recovery provisions look like, in the context of California's building codes?

1. **SIMPLE:** The simple approach takes maximum advantage of concepts, design strategies, and regulations already in place and familiar to the Commission and to the design and construction communities.

...or a intermediate blending of these two extremes...

2. **COMPREHENSIVE:** The comprehensive approach envisions an entirely new design standard based on recent and ongoing research and vetted by expert committees. It is estimated that this approach would take 10+ years

all cases expected to be a **prescriptive approach** with structural and nonstructural considerations

What could the simple approach look like?

1. Rely on occupancies already defined in the CBC
2. Maintain current CBC design scope
3. Use the current design earthquake hazard
4. Presume recovery times for current CBC Risk Categories
5. Set recovery goals by stakeholder input & consensus judgment
6. Use Risk Category criteria as proxies for Functional Recovery criteria
7. Assign occupancies to higher Risk Category if quicker recovery needed
8. Implement within current design-review-build-inspect processes

Plain language simple, interim approach...

**Where current code does not provide adequate recovery time -
Consider assigning more occupancy types to Risk Category IV
to get the best recovery times currently available for those
buildings that are determined to be critical to recovery**

Do we know how to design, review, build, and inspect for recovery?

YES!

We do this now for structures classified as Risk Category IV

Example:

Emergency Operations Centers,
Fire Stations,
etc.



What types of buildings and occupancies will this apply to?

To be determined...

Two key questions:

1. What recovery times do we want/need for which occupancies/services?
2. What design criteria will achieve these recovery time goals?

Examples: Grocery stores, pharmacies, etc.



Photos by [NeONBRAND](#) on [Unsplash](#)

What will be needed in different regions of the state to meet recovery provisions?

To be determined...

The timeframe for recovery is likely common statewide based upon occupancy, but regions with higher hazard may require adjusted design criteria to meet performance targets where regions with lower hazard might meet performance goals using current code criteria.

Example: Central Valley vs. Coastal CA

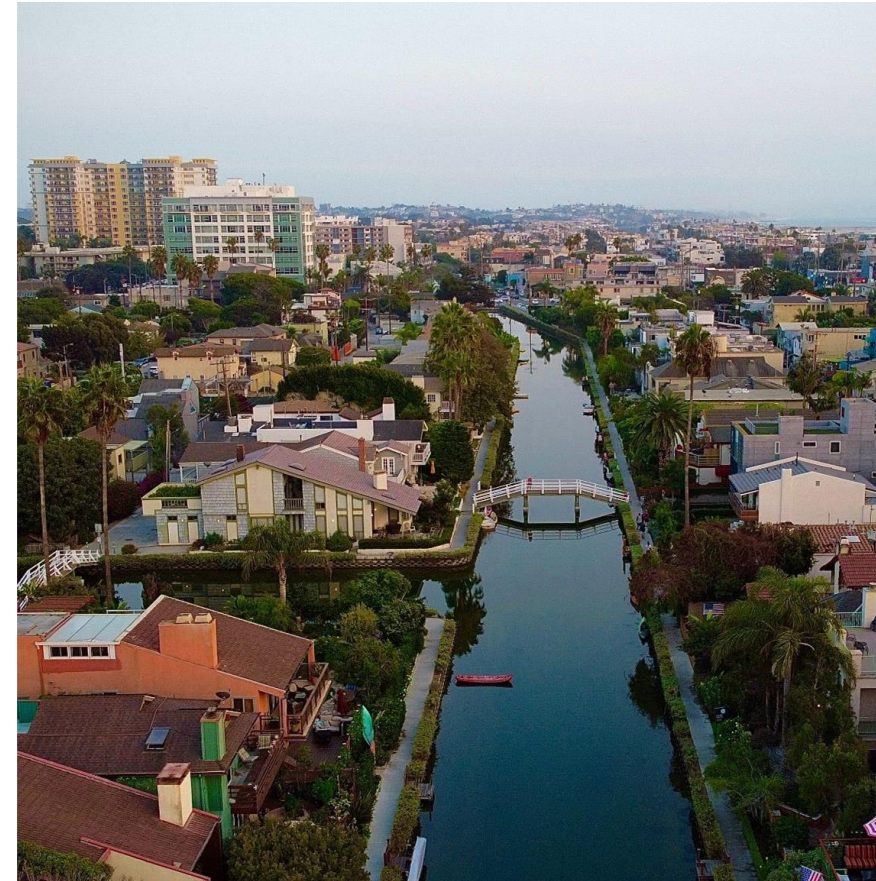


Photo by [Adam Acosta](#) on [Unsplash](#)

What about housing?

Will want to understand the performance difference (if any) between...

- California Building Code vs. California Residential Code
- Multi-family housing vs. 1-2 family dwellings



What is the timeline for development?

- **Fall 2021:** AB 1329 is chaptered.
- **Early 2022:** Commission determines methods of drafting and stakeholder consultation
- **Mid-2022:** Commission hires staff/consultants as needed.
- **Fall 2023 – early 2024:** Commission holds workshops on the functional recovery standard, as part of the 2024 Triennial Code Adoption Cycle
- **Mid-2024:** Commission publishes the proposed functional recovery standard as Express Terms and Initial Statement of Reasons, starting the public review process.
- **End of 2024:** Commission adopts and approves the functional recovery standard as amendments in the 2025 CBC and CRC.
- **July 2025:** The 2025 CBC and CRC are published with **effective dates of January 1, 2026.**

What resources will help us get there?

- **FEMA-NIST Report to Congress on Functional Recovery** discusses shortcomings of current code provisions in terms of recovery, the use of Risk Category IV as an interim approach to improve recovery time, and future development of functional recovery categories and associated design criteria
 - References FEMA P-58 reports for performance data
 - Supplemental studies being conducted by FEMA (ATC 138)
- **NIST Community Resilience Planning Guide** discusses what services are needed in what phase of recovery



What else can we do together?

- Collaborate between professionals and industry organizations
 - SEAOC, EERI, ICC, CALBO, AIA, Builders/Developers, etc.
- Seek to understand what our communities need for resilience
- Develop ways for buildings to be designed, reviewed, built, and inspected to achieve improved recovery time
- Supplement with fact sheets, design tools, review checklists, training and other resources to make implementation smooth

The opportunity is here and the time is now!

- California has more lives, more property, more investment, more innovation, and more community vitality at risk from earthquakes than any other state.
- Public expectations, federal prioritization, and political momentum within California (state and local jurisdictions) pushing for community resilience (and functional recovery).
- We know how to do better and have the resources to get us there. We achieve these goals by working together.

Discussion

Have more questions? **Contact us!**

- **Ryan Kersting:** rkersting@buehlerengineering.com
- **Susan Dowty:** sdowty@iccsafe.org
- **Heidi Tremayne:** heidi@eeri.org
- **Sharon Goei:** sgoei@ci.milpitas.ca.gov
- **Victor Cuevas:** victor.cuevas@lacity.org

Resources & Links

- California Assembly Bill 1329: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB1329
- SEAOC AB 1329 Resources: www.seaoc.org or contact seaoc@seaoc.org
- FEMA P-2090/NIST SP-1254: https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/documents/fema_p-2090_nist_sp-1254_functional-recovery_01-01-2021.pdf
- ICC Seismic Functional Recovery Portal: <https://www.iccsafe.org/advocacy/seismic-functional-recovery/>
- EERI Functional Recovery White Paper, Dec 2019 <https://eeri.org/images/policy/EERI-Functional-Recovery-Conceptual-Framework-White-Paper-201912.pdf>
- ICC Paper *A National Approach to Seismic Functional Recovery for New Construction* http://media.iccsafe.org/2019_MarComm/Misc/19-17983_COMM_Seismic_RT_Report_FINAL_MIDrez.pdf
- NIST, 2016, Community Resilience Planning Guide for Buildings and Infrastructure Systems, Volume I & II, NIST Special Publication 1190, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, Maryland.
- Bruneau, M., Chang, S.E., Eguchi, R.T., Lee, G.C., O'Rourke, T.D., Reinhorn, A.M., Shinozuka, M., Tierney, K., Wallace, W.A., and von Winterfeldt, D., 2003, "A Framework to Quantitatively Assess and Enhance the Seismic Resilience of Communities," *Earthquake Spectra*, Vol. 19, No. 4, pp. 733-752.