

Welcome and thank you for  
attending!

# Private Schools Earthquake Safety Act

## Information Session



# San Francisco: Built World Snap Shot



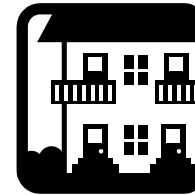
**825,863**

Total  
Population



**147,979**

Buildings in  
San Francisco



**120+**

Private (non-public)  
Schools



# Community Action Plan for Seismic Safety

ATC 52-2

## Here Today—Here Tomorrow: The Road to Earthquake Resilience in San Francisco

A Community Action Plan for Seismic Safety



**ATC** Applied Technology Council

Prepared for  
San Francisco Department of Building Inspection  
under the Community Action Plan for Seismic Safety (CAPSS) Project



**ATC**



**CAPSS**



# Community Action Plan for Seismic Safety

ATC 52-2

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Assess issues governing earthquake safety for San Francisco's non-public schools.

- **Private K-12 schools and private colleges**

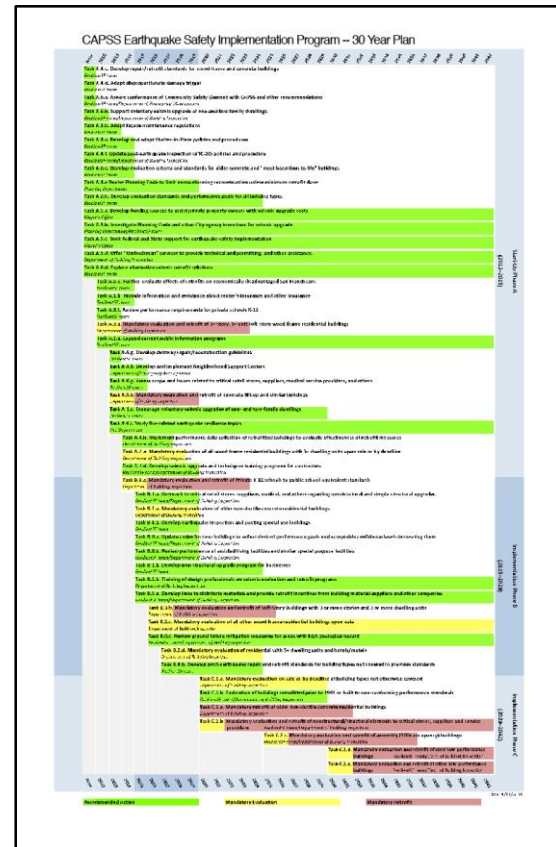
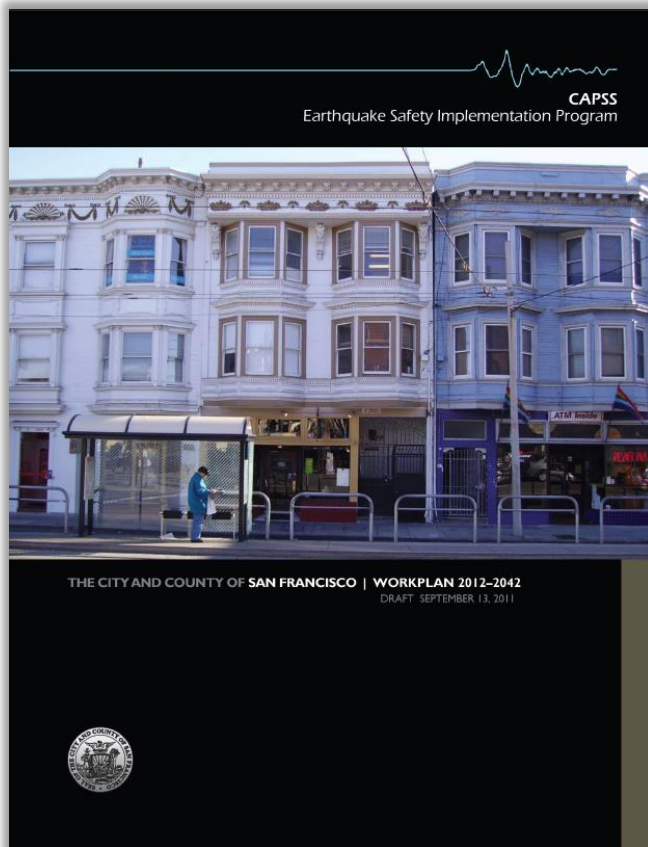
Most people assume that school buildings are safe, but most private schools are probably no safer than the general building stock. Many of San Francisco's private school buildings were constructed when building standards were much less stringent than today. Nearly one third of school children—more than 23,000—attend private schools in San Francisco, the highest rate in the entire state<sup>10</sup>. The City must ensure that all of San Francisco's children and other students attend school in buildings that meet standards equivalent to the standards for public schools<sup>11</sup>.

- **Assisted Living facilities**

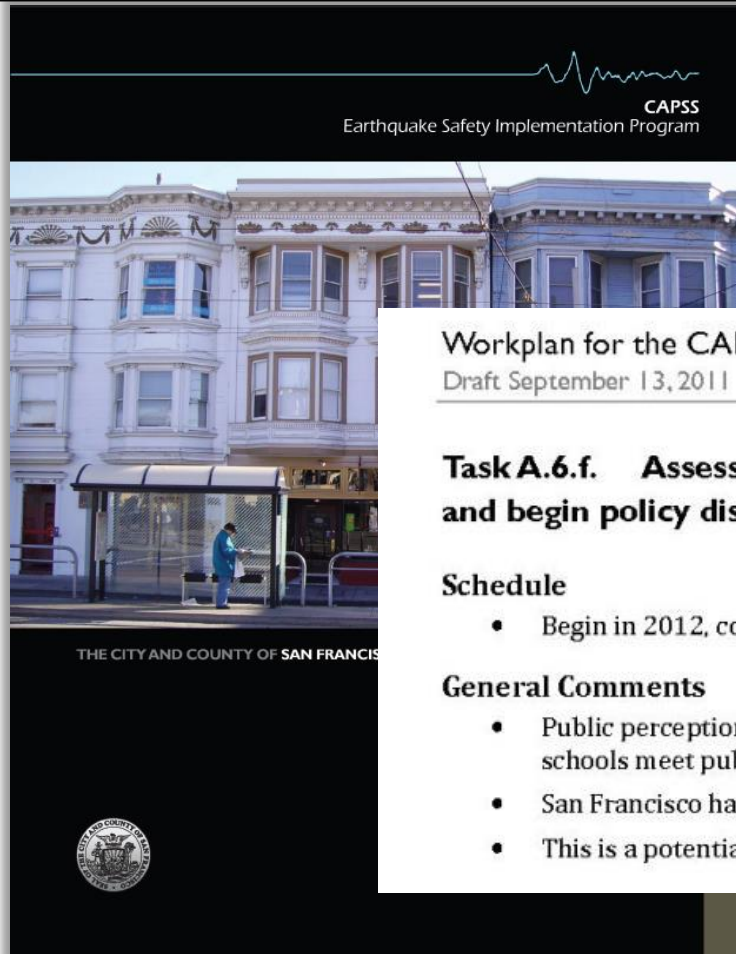
The City's elderly and other disabled persons should be in facilities that are expected to be safe and functional after future earthquakes. Relocation after an earthquake would be hardest on these residents. The City must provide assistance to these facilities serving low-income residents.



# Earthquake Safety Implementation Program



# Earthquake Safety Implementation Program



## Workplan for the CAPSS Earthquake Safety Implementation Program Draft September 13, 2011

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### **Task A.6.f. Assess scope of issues related to Private K-12 school building performance and begin policy discussion and development**

#### **Schedule**

- Begin in 2012, complete in 2014.

#### **General Comments**

- Public perceptions of intended private school performance are generally incorrect—believe that private schools meet public school safety standards. They do not.
- San Francisco has a large number of private school attendees.
- This is a potentially major issue with parents and children attending private schools.

# Private Schools



*1933 Long Beach Earthquake killed 115 people and damaged several schools leading to the passage of the Field Act.*

- Private schools are currently not required to meet the same standards as public schools
- Approximately 1/3 of SF children attend private schools
- Public expectation does not reflect reality
- Collapse or extensive damage to even a few schools can result in many deaths or injuries to children
- Schools are an essential part of the communities that make up San Francisco.



# Private Schools

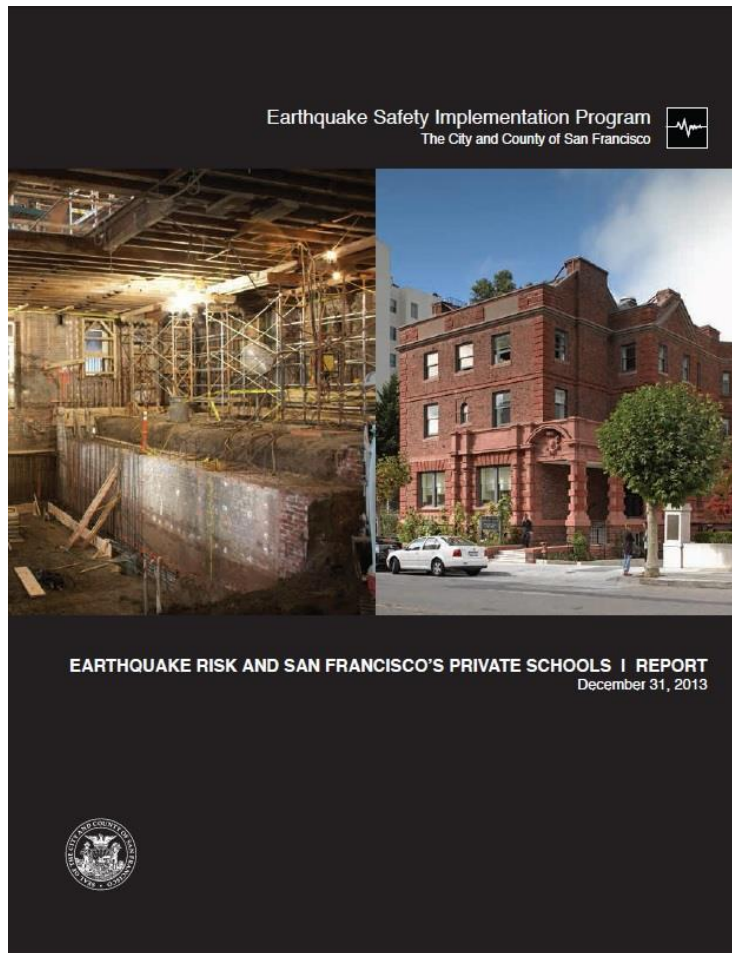


- **Policy working group established in 2012**
- **Outreach to every private school administrator for participation**
- **Examined and discussed all policy options at length**





# Private Schools



- **Final policy recommendations to Mayor Lee in December 2013**
- **Policy recommendations to require seismic evaluations of all San Francisco private schools within 3 years.**
- **Ordinance introduced by Mayor Lee with 8 co-sponsors from the Board of Supervisors in February of 2014**

## **Private School Evaluation Ordinance Facts**

- San Francisco's private schools are vital to our communities and play an essential role in educating more than 24,000 children. Currently private schools are not required to meet the same level of seismic safety as public schools.

## **Private School Evaluation Ordinance Facts**

- This ordinance requires a life-safety level of evaluation, submitted to the Department of Building Inspection within three years of the ordinance's effective date.

## **Private School Evaluation Ordinance Facts**

- The focus of this ordinance is to begin a meaningful conversation about seismic safety in our City's private schools. We must start that conversation now and with knowledge of our schools' safety. Earthquake evaluation is the first step in this process.



## **Private School Evaluation Ordinance Facts**

- Only buildings primarily used for the education and care of K-12 students or school administration that meet the State of California definition of School or “E occupancy” are required to be evaluated. All other non-educational buildings, such as churches, accessory residential buildings or similar uses, are exempt.

## **Private School Evaluation Ordinance Facts**

- This ordinance is not a retrofit requirement. Many schools may seek to improve any shortcomings found during the evaluation process. Schools will be able to complete any work necessary on their own terms—having as long as needed to raise funds and complete that work, without the demand of a time limit.

## Private School Evaluation Ordinance Facts

- Continuing our year-long outreach process, the Earthquake Safety Implementation Program will be case managing each school's individual needs during this process, from addressing concerns during the legislative process to identifying structural engineers to locating finance resources, minimizing the impact of additional non-seismic building code requirements that may be triggered as a result of voluntary improvements.

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