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Date: 1/31/2018 3:17:44 PM
Subject: Memo - Seismic Mitigation for Private Buildings
Attachments: Memo - Seismic Mitigation for Private Buildings - 2018.01.29.pdf

Good Afternoon Mayor and Councillors,

The attached memo provides a brief update on our work to assess the seismic risk to the private building stock in Vancouver and evaluate options to address that risk. As you may recall from the Earthquake Preparedness Strategy status report you received in October 2017, risk mitigation for private buildings is a key objective identified in that strategy.

To support this work, we are convening a technical advisory group comprising representatives of the federal and provincial governments, regional partners, structural engineers, architects and community stakeholders. That group will be meeting for the first time this week.

We expect to report back to Council with recommendations in 2019. In the interim, we will keep you apprised of material developments on the project.

Please do not hesitate to contact Paul Mochrie at 604.873.7666 or Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca if you have any questions.

Best,
Sadhu

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MEMORANDUM

January 29, 2018

TO: Mayor and Council

CC: Sadhu Johnston, City Manager
Janice MacKenzie, City Clerk
Lynda Graves, Manager, Administration Services, City Manager's Office
Rena Kendall-Craden, Director, Communications
Kevin Quinlan, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office
Naveen Girn, Director of Community Relations, Mayor's Office
Katie McPherson, Chief Resilience Officer
Micah Hilt, Lead Seismic Policy Planner

FROM: Paul Mochrie, Deputy City Manager

SUBJECT: Seismic Mitigation for Private Buildings

Dear Mayor and Council,

In follow up to the status report that Council received on October 17, 2017 regarding the City's earthquake preparedness strategy, we are writing to provide an update on our work to assess seismic risks to private buildings in Vancouver and evaluate options to mitigate such risks.

The earthquake preparedness strategy, initially adopted by Council in December, 2013, sets out priorities for action across a number of dimensions, including response planning, community capacity, critical services and infrastructure and buildings. In relation to buildings, the City has embarked on a program of assessment and upgrades to civic facilities as well as Building By-law updates. In addition, the strategy identified the need for an improved understanding of seismic risk to privately-owned buildings and measures to reduce the life safety and economic consequences of a major earthquake for our residential and commercial building stock.

As noted in our October 2017 status report, a project manager with specialized expertise in this area has been hired to lead this work. In the near term, we will be convening a Seismic Policy Advisory Committee comprising City staff, regional, provincial and federal officials,

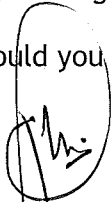
professional engineers, architects, academics and key community stakeholders, to guide and support elements of the project, including:

- a global review of policies targeting seismic risk mitigation for private buildings
- a comprehensive risk assessment of private buildings in Vancouver
- social and economic impact assessments based on projected earthquake damage
- evaluation of policy options

Key partners in this work include the Geological Society of Canada (GSC) and the Province of BC. Staff are collaborating with GSC to model earthquake risk to building infrastructure using the Global Earthquake Model (GEM). This program will also leverage knowledge, resources and solutions from the 100 Resilient Cities network.

We anticipate reporting back to Council in 2019 regarding policy options and recommendations targeting private buildings. In the interim, we will keep you apprised of key findings and community engagement as this work proceeds.

Should you have any questions at this time, please do not hesitate to contact me.



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