

## **MEET OUR TEAM!**

ABAG's Resilience Team includes **Danielle Mieler**, Resilience Program Coordinator, **Dana Brechwald** and **Michael Germeraad**, Resilience Specialists, and our advising consultant, **Arrietta Chakos**. Feel free to contact us to ask questions or just say hi.

## **ABAG RESILIENCE PROJECTS**

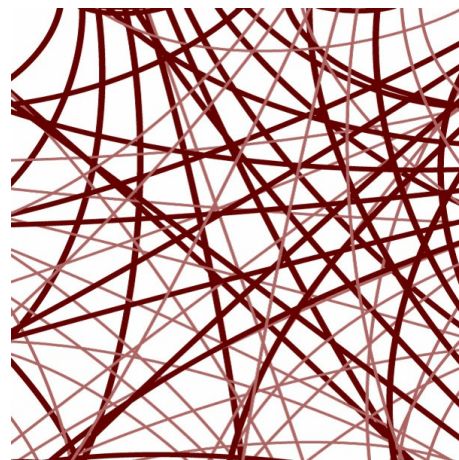
### **Hazard Mitigation and Climate Adaptation Planning Workshops**

The first workshop series for the Hazard Mitigation and Climate Adaptation Plans will begin Thursday, **March 26** in **Alameda County**, focusing on developing a community engagement strategy for your plan process. The same workshop will be repeated on **April 16** in **San Mateo County**, and **April 29** in **Napa County**. To register, [click here](#). For more information, including location, [visit our website](#).

### **Cascading Failures: Earthquake Threats to Transportation and Utilities**

Over the past 18 months the resilience team has developed an "Infrastructure Vulnerability and Interdependencies Study" for the Bay Area region. The report highlights the seismic vulnerability of the region's airports, passenger rail, highway, electric, fuel, and water systems.

The report was funded by Caltrans as part of a larger Airport study. The study also included liquefaction analysis at five Bay Area airports and a report on the role of airports in disaster recovery. The infrastructure results can be viewed in an abbreviated online format, or downloaded in full. [Read the final report here](#).





## **Stronger Housing, Safer Communities: Strategies for Seismic and Flood Risks**

ABAG's Resilience Team, along with BCDC's ART team, has recently completed an analysis of housing vulnerability to seismic and flood risks in the Bay Area.

The team identified eight common fragile housing types and ten community vulnerability characteristics that impact a household's ability to prepare for, respond to, and recover from a disaster. The housing types and community characteristics were mapped across the

region to identify high concentrations of these vulnerabilities as well as areas where they overlap.

Forty strategies were then developed to address specific patterns of vulnerability at the state, region, and local level. The project was funded by EPA, FEMA, and the Strategic Growth Council, and AECOM provided technical assistance. [Read the final report here.](#)

### **Lunchtime Webinar on the Seismic Performance of a Code-Compliant Building Stock: Monday, March 30, 12-12:50 pm**

The public generally believes that a modern, code-compliant building stock will be largely earthquake-proof. ABAG invites members to attend a 50-minute lunchtime webinar sponsored by the National Institute of Building Sciences' Multihazard Mitigation Council and the United States Geological Society on the likely performance of new, code-compliant buildings in future large but not-very-rare earthquakes. As local policymakers living in earthquake country, our awareness of the building code's objectives are important. Webinar attendees will be asked to participate in a brief anonymous survey to express their expectations and preferences. The webinar will be held on Monday, March 30 from 12:00 to 12:50 PM. To attend, please RSVP [here](#) with the subject line "ABAG webinar RSVP" to ensure that we have enough connections available. To attend, please use your web browser for video and teleconference link for sound. The call-in information is as follows.

Video link: <http://goo.gl/6TzzUp> (Important: click "enter as guest")

Teleconference link: 1-800-689-9374, code is 430588

## **CITY SPOTLIGHTS**

### **City of Benicia Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptation Plan**

With funding from the California Coastal Conservancy Climate Ready Grant program, the City of Benicia is in the process of testing the application of the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission's (BCDC's) Adapting to Rising Tides (ART) vulnerability and adaptation model, concluding July 2015. Two advisory groups were convened to provide input throughout the project: the Technical Advisory Committee and Community Advisory Group. Both groups provided detailed information about existing threats to key infrastructure, including City facilities and natural areas and helped set project goals.

The project team has also successfully engaged City Staff to launch the project and to collect feedback from managers of key City infrastructure on existing conditions and operational capacity,

and to develop evaluation criteria that is in line with Department priorities and will be used to select 10 to 15 priority adaptation strategies for future evaluation and eventually implementation. The team has also engaged Berkeley Law School to identify potential legal issues, for example, building a sea wall that impacts a private owner's land use, and to assess regulatory barriers to implementing strategies. The team will also make recommendations for changes to City codes and plans as well as state policy changes that are needed to accommodate local resiliency planning. [Read more about this.](#)

## RESILIENCE IN THE NEWS

### L.A. mayor calls for mandatory earthquake retrofitting for thousands of buildings

In December 2014 Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti on Monday proposed the most ambitious seismic safety regulations in California history that would require owners to retrofit thousands of building most at risk of collapse during a major earthquake. Garcetti's recommendations target two of the riskiest types of buildings in Los Angeles built before 1980: concrete buildings and wooden structures built atop weak first floors, such as those on top of carports and garages and supported by slender columns. [Read more about this.](#)

### Secretary Jewell Announces \$50 Million for Western Drought Response

In early February Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell announced that the Bureau of Reclamation is making \$50 million in funds available immediately for drought relief projects throughout the West -including nearly \$20 million for California's Central Valley Project. [Read more about this.](#)

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**Our mailing address is:**

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