



Planning & Development Department
Building and Safety Division

CITY OF BERKELEY
Planning and Development Department
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2120 Milvia Street
Berkeley, CA 94704

WHY BORP?

What does BORP do?

The Building Occupancy Resumption Program (BORP) allows Berkeley building owners to arrange post-disaster building inspections by individuals who are pre-certified by the Building Official to conduct emergency inspection and post legal building occupancy status in a disaster.

Is BORP for me?

If you rely on uninterrupted occupancy for your building, BORP could get you back in business sooner after a disaster.

What does BORP cost?

Cost vary widely, based on the size and complexity of the building, familiarity of the selected inspectors with the structural system, and the extent of preparation required to complete the written inspection program. The Building and Safety Division charges a review fee of \$170/hour.

Why not wait for a free inspection?

The inspections performed by the City and mutual aid volunteer inspectors usually occur 3-10 days after an earthquake, and are rapid safety evaluations. A subsequent detailed evaluation is often required to determine building condition and finalize a posting classification. If you don't need to restore occupancy or operations for several days following a disaster, BORP may not be for you.

How do I find an engineer to write my plan?

If you don't know a civil or structural engineer experienced in the design of buildings similar in size and complexity to yours, contact the Structural Engineers Association of Northern California (SEAONC) which maintains a list of licensed engineers interested in providing post-disaster inspection plans.

Why not hire an engineer after the earthquake?

If you need a structural evaluation of your building, you may have to wait many weeks for an engineer to become available due to the limited number of local licensed engineers and their prior arrangements or other commitments.

Why not have an engineer on retainer for post-disaster inspection without BORP?

Only engineers preapproved for BORP-listed buildings may post buildings with official City placards before mutual aid arrives, usually 3-5 days after a disaster.

What does the submittal include?

The package should include completed forms, emergency inspector qualifications, complete building information, and a written emergency inspection plan consistent with ATC 20 Procedures for Postearthquake Safety Evaluation of Buildings including Detailed Evaluation Procedures.

Who approves the submittal?

Documents are reviewed by staff and members of the SEAONC Disaster Emergency Services BORP subcommittee.

How do I get my building on the BORP list?

After committee review agrees that a submittal meets the BORP requirements, the building is placed on the BORP list, the owner is sent verification, and the assigned inspectors are sent City authorization and placards.

How do I keep my building on the BORP list?

Every other year, complete and submit a one page renewal form listing any changes in the building or inspectors made over the past two years.

For more information, please see www.cityofberkeley.info/BORP or
Contact Jenny McNulty at (510) 981-7451 or jmcnulty@cityofberkeley.info.