WHAT TENANTS CAN DO

TAKE ACTION.  BE PREPARED.

- Know multiple ways out of the building in case primary exits are blocked with debris.
- Talk with your landlord – know their coverage and emergency planning for tenants.
- Purchase earthquake insurance if you can afford it.
- Organize with your neighbors to better be able to help each other.
- Know how, when, and where to shut off gas.
- Know how to be safe (Drop, cover, and hold).
- Have a plan that identifies who you can stay with if your building is damaged.

DO YOU LIVE OR WORK IN A URM?

A URM (Unreinforced Masonry) is a brick building where the floors and roofs are not structurally connected to the walls.

SIGNS INCLUDE

- Classic Red Brick
- Arched Windows
- Row of Brick Ends

There are approximately 1000 URM in Seattle
Did you know that Seattle is in an earthquake zone?

**Seattle is at risk for the Big One**

In the next 50 years our region has an 84% chance of an earthquake of magnitude 6.8 or greater!

**What happens to a URM during an earthquake?**

- Walls pull away from floors and roofs.
- Walls partly or fully collapse, resulting in falling brick.
- A building can collapse and cause injury and destroy the building and its contents.

**UrM myths**

**Myth: It survived the last earthquake, it’s fine!**

**Truth:** Unseen damage from past earthquakes is compounded by the next one, which could be stronger.

**Myth: I’m not the owner, I can’t do anything.**

**Truth:** You can be prepared and know what to do when it happens. See the back page to learn what you should do before an earthquake.

**Myth: It won’t happen here in my lifetime.**

**Truth:** It could happen anytime - that’s the nature of earthquakes - but you can be prepared.

**Myth: The government will take care of me.**

**Truth:** Government aid doesn’t cover everything. Many businesses never reopen and residences may be uninhabitable for a long time.

**Impacts**

Beyond the visible loss of community character, quakes can have serious impacts on URMs.

- Injuries
- Closure of daily living/business disruption
- Damage to interior property
- Damage to building investment

**See how you can prepare on the next page**