



CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS STAFF REPORT

Meeting Date: September 15, 2009
To: Honorable Mayor & City Council
From: Pamela Mottice Muller, Director Office of Emergency Management
Subject: Great California Shakeout Drill on October 15, 2009
Attachments: 1. Handout

INTRODUCTION

On October 15, 2009 at 10:15 a.m., the City of Beverly Hills will join the State of California and the County of Los Angeles, and many stakeholders in participating in the Great California Shakeout drill. On that date, the City, the BHUSD and various businesses and residents will stop what they are doing and react as if an earthquake has occurred; responding by dropping to the ground, taking cover under something sturdy, and holding on: DROP, COVER and HOLD.

DISCUSSION

We all must become better prepared for major earthquakes, and also practice how to protect ourselves when they occur. The purpose of the earthquake drill, is to help people and organizations do both. Compared to the rest of the country, California is considered a high earthquake risk. As with anything, to react quickly you must practice often. We may only have seconds to protect ourselves, before strong shaking knocks us down or drops something on us. The idea is, if we practice now, then when an earthquake actually occurs, we will take the correct action by automatically dropping to the ground, taking cover and holding on. On October 15, 2009 at 10:15 a.m., City staff will join millions of others by participating in the Shakeout Drill. All employees in all City facilities and in the field will stop and react accordingly. Customers visiting City buildings during the drill, will be directed to take the same action. The City hopes residents and businesses will do the same. Information on how to prepare and how to join the City and millions of others is found at www.shakeout.org.

Drill goals for all City departments are as follows:



- practice
- practice the activation of the EERT (Employee Emergency Response Team)

- practice the initial reporting and compiling of information on City facility damage, city injuries, and department status.

The initial drill will last two minutes, but the remaining drill may last up to one hour. Customer Service to the Public will only be disrupted for a short amount of time.

FISCAL IMPACT

None

RECOMMENDATION

City Council is asked to go to www.shakeout.org and sign up to participate as well as encourage residents and businesses to do the same. City Council members are welcome to observe and participate in the drill at any City facility.

Pamela Mottice Muller



The Great California ShakeOut

Annual Statewide Earthquake Drill

Individuals and Families

Get Ready to ShakeOut!

At 10:15 a.m. on October 15, 2009, millions of Californians will "Drop, Cover, and Hold On" in *The Great California ShakeOut*, the largest earthquake drill ever! Everyone is encouraged to participate in the drill wherever you are at 10:15 a.m. on 10/15!

Major earthquakes may happen anywhere you work, live, or travel in California. The ShakeOut is our chance to practice how to protect ourselves, and for everyone to become prepared. The goal is to prevent disasters from becoming catastrophes.

Why is a "Drop, Cover, and Hold On" drill important? As with anything, to act quickly you must practice often. You may only have seconds to protect yourself in an earthquake before strong shaking knocks you down, or something falls on you.



Nearly 5.5 million Southern Californians participated in the 2008 ShakeOut. Now statewide, the *Great California ShakeOut* will be held on the third Thursday of October each year.

Everyone can participate! Individuals, families, businesses, schools, government agencies and organizations are all invited to register.

Register today at ShakeOut.org

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

Here are simple things individuals and families can do to participate in the ShakeOut. Instructions and resources can be found at ShakeOut.org/individuals.

- Plan Your Drill:**
- Register at www.ShakeOut.org/register to be counted in the ShakeOut Drill, get email updates, and more.
 - Have a "Drop, Cover, and Hold On" drill at 10:15 a.m. on October 15.
 - Discuss what you learned and make improvements.

- Get Prepared for Earthquakes:**
- Do a "hazard hunt" for items that might fall during earthquakes and secure them.
 - Create a personal or family disaster plan.
 - Organize or refresh your emergency supply kits.
 - Identify and correct any issues in your home's structure.
 - Other actions are at www.earthquakecountry.org.

- Share the ShakeOut:**
- Invite everyone who matters to you to register.
 - Have a neighborhood party to discuss preparedness, and register for the ShakeOut.
 - Encourage your community, employer, or other groups you are involved with to participate.
 - Share your experience at www.shakeout.org/drill.



As a registered ShakeOut participant you will:

- Learn what you can do to get prepared
- Be counted in the largest earthquake drill ever!
- Receive ShakeOut news and other earthquake information
- Set an example that motivates others to participate