

Managing Disasters: Community Resilience Organization

SPUR Digital Discourse with Ana Miscolta, Thrive Alliance



Ideas + Action
for a Better City

SPUR Resilience Partnerships in San Mateo County



Advocating for commitments in building seismic resilience in San Mateo County.

- Partnered with Stanford Public Policy Course
- Building issue leadership: Burlingame, City of San Mateo, East Palo Alto, Redwood City, County-level
- *Gathering support for state funding of Multifamily Soft story Seismic Retrofit Program

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Research, advocacy, & engagement around sea level rise (SLR), groundwater rise, and compounding flood risks.

- Developing policy brief on groundwater rise local impacts
- Drinking water policy
- *Speaking with Pathways Climate Institute at the California Adaptation Forum in 2 weeks

Soft Story Estimates for San Mateo County

Source: Stanford Public Policy Report

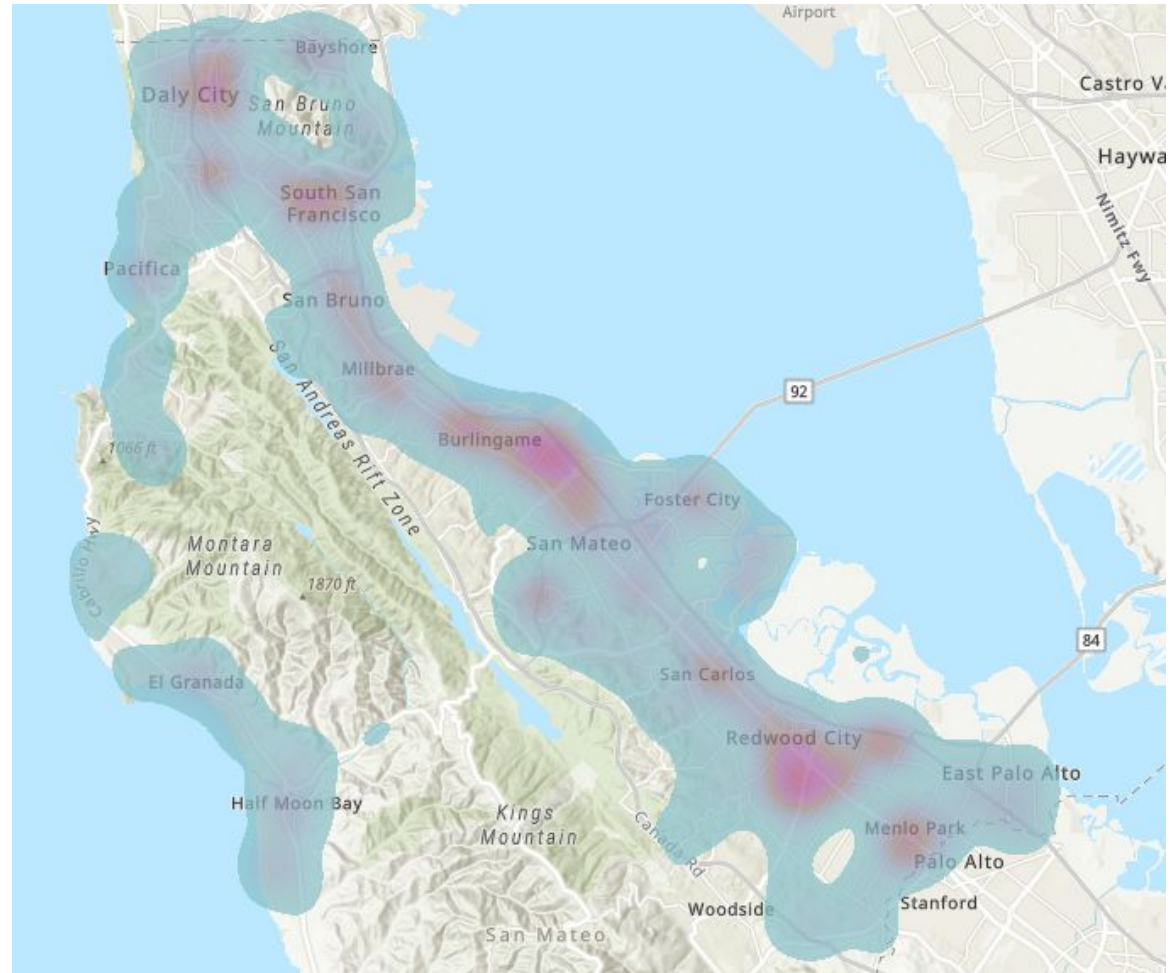
Stanford Report Findings:

Map shows concentration of buildings with soft-story characteristics:

- Built prior to 1978
- Zoned as R2/R3
- >1 building stories

12,671 buildings*
that meet this definition in
San Mateo County

*Did not disaggregate by
wood-frame construction



Disclaimer: map illustration for educational purposes only

Fixing the problem

Adding steel frames to the ground story can strengthen the building's vulnerability to collapsing.



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- Minimizes community disruption, displacement, and temporary shelter needs

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- Contributes to housing preservation—naturally occurring affordable housing
- Addresses disproportionate impact of earthquakes & hazard emergencies on low-income & socially vulnerable residents (elderly people, people with disabilities, non-english speakers, non-citizens)
- Minimizes community disruption, displacement, and temporary shelter needs
- Reduces recovery time: business continuity, job security, social services, housing

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- Reduces recovery time
- Reduces climate impact of disasters
 - Increased greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from waste management/debris removal—transport, treatment, disposal
 - Carbon footprint of new construction