

Council/Agency Meeting Held: _____	City Clerk's Signature _____
Deferred/Continued to: _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Conditionally Approved <input type="checkbox"/> Denied	
Council Meeting Date:        December 20, 2004	Department ID Number:    BD2004-05

**CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH  
REQUEST FOR CITY COUNCIL ACTION**

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CITY OF  
HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA  
2004 DEC - 8 P 5: 28

**SUBMITTED TO:** HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

**SUBMITTED BY:** *Penelope Culbreth Graft*  
PENELOPE CULBRETH-GRAFT, CITY ADMINISTRATOR

**PREPARED BY:** Ross Cranmer, Director of Building and Safety *Ross Cranmer*

**SUBJECT:** Information Report Concerning FEMA Grant to Seismically Strengthen the Administration Building of City Hall

Statement of Issue, Funding Source, Recommended Action, Alternative Action(s), Analysis, Environmental Status, Attachment(s)

**Statement of Issue:**

The Administration Building of City Hall was built to the codes of the early 1970's and due to its unique tall columns and angled geometry it has structural issues that would require substantial analysis by current code standards. FEMA has a Grant Program that can provide up to 3 million dollars in matching funds for improving the seismic capacity of government buildings.

Staff hired an outside structural engineering firm to perform a preliminary seismic analysis of the Administration Building to determine if there were any obvious deficiencies that should be corrected. This analysis indicates that the structure should be strengthened to assure the building remains safe for the future. We plan on completing the application for the Grant and will be returning to Council to request approval for the matching funds that will be between 2 and 3 million dollars. If we are successful with the Grant, we then will have 5 to 6 million dollars to accomplish the strengthening program.

**Funding Source:** N/A

**Recommended Action:** Receive and File Report

**Alternative Action(s):** Direct Staff not to pursue funding.

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# REQUEST FOR ACTION

MEETING DATE: December 20, 2004

DEPARTMENT ID NUMBER:BD2004-05

## Analysis:

City Hall was designed and built to the standards that existed in the early 1970's. In fact in some respects the actual design exceeded the standards that were required at that time. The complex has performed well under a number of seismic events with no appreciable damage and there is no reason to believe that the building is unsafe to occupy.

The complex represents a substantial asset and the expectation is that the building will continue to be occupied for many years to come. In order to assure that this asset is protected, it is prudent to review its ability to sustain a probable earthquake centered close to the building as currently predicted by the scientific community. The fault that would be used in this study is the Newport/Inglewood fault since it runs very close to City Hall.

In order for the City to know the issues that should be addressed, staff contracted with a structural firm to perform a preliminary seismic performance evaluation of the Administration Building. This report does identify a number of issues that should be addressed to assure a safe building for the future. The cost for the design, construction and other issues will be between 5 and 6 million dollars. This is substantially less than replacing the building.

So that the City would not bear the full cost, staff has been pursuing government grants. One such grant that looks promising is a FEMA grant that can provide up to 3 million dollars. We plan to pursue the grant process and the application period closes the end of February. We will be returning to Council for authorization of the estimated 2 to 3 million dollars in matching funds. This would then provide 5 to 6 million dollars to accomplish the seismic strengthening of City Hall and assure that the structure would be safe well into the future.

Environmental Status: N/A

## Attachment(s):

City Clerk's Page Number	No.	Description
—	1.	None

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