


ANTONIO R. VILLARAIGOSA
MAYOR

MEMORANDUM

To: All City Departments

From: Mayor Antonio R. Villaraigosa 

Subject: The 2009 Great California ShakeOut "Duck, Cover, and Hold" Drill

Date: September 22, 2009

The City of Los Angeles is a proud supporter of the 2009 "Great California ShakeOut," the largest preplanned earthquake drill in United States history. The drill is scheduled to take place on October 15, 2009 at 10:15 a.m. The ShakeOut has been organized to inspire and prepare Californians for the next big earthquake and to prevent disasters from becoming catastrophes.

The ShakeOut drill centers on a hypothetical 7.8 magnitude earthquake. It provides a realistic portrayal of what could happen in a major earthquake on the southern end of the San Andreas Fault. Created by over 300 experts, led by Dr. Lucy Jones of the U.S. Geological Survey, this scenario outlines an earthquake originating near the Salton Sea and culminates in hundreds of miles of destruction, including our entire city and neighboring communities.

I am encouraging all City Departments and employees to participate in this exercise by going to www.ShakeOut.org/register/ and registering themselves. Registered participants will receive information on how to plan their drill, connect with other participants, and encourage a dialogue with others about earthquake preparedness. There are many ways to take part, but City employees should participate in the drill by making sure to "Drop, Cover, and Hold" at 10:15 a.m. on October 15, 2009.

The lead departments coordinating the City's effort are the Emergency Management Department (EMD) and the Department of General Services through its Building Emergency Education Program (BEEP). If you have any questions, or would like more information, please call the EMD at (213) 484-4800.

Thank you in advance for your support and participation. It is essential that all City employees are prepared for the very real threat of a major earthquake in our region.

