WNA Emergency Preparedness Area/Street coordinators' meeting minutes

October 21, 7 pm, Our Saviors' Lutheran Church

Michael Weiber representing NW Seismic LLC presented information on Seismic retrofitting, or earthquake retrofitting for homes and buildings. We learned that this is technical work and involves more than just foundation bolting. Seismic retrofitting, depending on the type of building construction, involves foundation anchors (or foundation bolts), shear panels, and framing connectors, which must all be installed to specific engineered standards in order to achieve the desired result. Michael has been in the construction business for over 20 years.

He shared with us that seismic retrofitting includes the roof down to the foundation of a home.

There is no inspection rule or code for house connections to sill plates nationally.

Lake Oswego & Clackamas County don't want to permit residents. Portland calls it a structural upgrade but not a retrofit code that includes it's definition.

It takes an informed consumer to know the prescriptive path to qualify for earthquake insurance. A prescriptive path involves an engineer design using a calculator based on the pounds above the foundation. An average would be 30,000lb+ 50,000 lb roof = 80,000 lb.

13% + force of house gravity minus 25% for a magnitude 6-7 earthquake.

What we should do is try to prevent damage & not failure. Roof is not going to fail.

Must consider ground substance on where your house is located, Look on hazard map for potential risks on whether to consider earthquake insurance.

Retrofit work includes below main floor diaphragm and reinforcing the cripple walls with plywood.

Michael showed example of a side plate that is 1" off set.

Forces that we contend with is shear load rather than vertical loads.

Check the Oregon Insurance Commission

Supple hardware

For sill repair, NW Seismic doesn't use pressure treated lumber because sulfate will corrode screws and peel stick membrane.