FLASH Strengthening Homes & Safeguarding Families

FEMA *Ready Business* Heads to Seattle

Members of the Greater Seattle business, nonprofit, and emergency management community came together on August 2 for a FEMA *Ready Business* workshop at the King County Office of Emergency Management (OEM). The workshop combined two hazard toolkits, *Power Outage* & *QuakeSmart,* into one agenda—offering attendees a strong lineup of expert speakers and professionals.

Ready Business helps businesses become disaster resilient to save lives, protect property, and ensure business continuity. During the workshop, 80 businesses and organizations learned to identify risk, develop a plan, and take action to mitigate impacts using the new *Ready Business Power Outage* & *QuakeSmart Toolkits*.

Presenters from Degenkolb Engineers, FEMA Region X, FLASH, King County OEM, Pearce Global Partners, Puget Sound Energy, SAFE-T-PROOF, Simpson Strong-Tie, University of Washington, and Washington State Emergency Management addressed earthquake risks and the cascading effects, outlining steps to become disaster resilient.

According to Pacific Northwest Seismic Network Seismology Lab Coordinator, Bill Steele, "We need to build resiliency into our day-to-day operations." Deputy Director, King County OEM Jodi Miller added, "It is King County's mission to strengthen community resilience."

Workshop partners included FEMA Individual and Community Preparedness Division, FEMA Region X, Cascadia Region Earthquake Workgroup, DRB Toolkit, King County OEM, Washington Emergency Management Division, Degenkolb Engineers, Safe-T-Proof Earthquake Fasteners, and FLASH Legacy Partner Simpson Strong-Tie.

Visit www.flash.org/readybusiness to learn about upcoming workshops and free, downloadable toolkits.