



Partners in Prevention

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Earthquake Community Meets in Utah, Talks Communication and Preparedness

On April 23-26, the Utah Department of Public Safety, Utah Division of Emergency Management and the Western States Seismic Policy Council (WSSPC) hosted the 2019 National Earthquake Program Managers (NEPM) meeting. Leslie Chapman-Henderson and Director of Partnership & Development, James McGowan traveled from the National Hurricane Conference to attend the final two days of the meeting.

The NEPM meeting is an annual gathering of state earthquake program managers to exchange ideas and continue conversations about earthquakes preparedness and best practices for educating the public about risks and actions to prepare for seismic events.

On Friday, Leslie and Heidi Tremayne, Executive Director – Earthquake Engineering Research Institute (EERI) led a discussion on the 2020 National Earthquake Conference (NEC2020). The discussion featured conference planning and call to action to further plan and support NEC2020.

“The NEPM is always an excellent opportunity for all the State Program Earthquake Managers and Partners to get together in one place to exchange best practices and resources to reduce the loss of life and property around earthquake hazards,” said James McGowan. “We are looking forward to having the group as a part of next year’s National Earthquake Conference in San Diego, CA.”

The meeting also included a general session, training sessions, briefings, and breakout sessions. The training session covered [FEMA P-1100 | Vulnerability-Based Seismic Assessment and Retrofit of One- and Two- Family Dwellings](#) and the General Session included presentations on the [Great ShakeOut Campaign](#), [Fix the Bricks](#), and the [Disaster Recovery Reform Act of 2018](#).

Attendees also were taken on a tour of the Utah State Capitol retrofits, Utah State Emergency Operations Center, Gilbert Geological Park, and the University of Utah Seismograph Stations. The final two days of the conference consisted of state and territory updates, breakout sessions, subcommittee meetings, and an awards luncheon.

For more information on the upcoming NEC2020 conference, click [here](#).