

QuakeSmart is “Golden” in Colorado

The FEMA [Ready Business - QuakeSmart Workshop](#) was held on September 19 in Golden, CO on the campus of the 1874 Colorado School of Mines. The pioneering school hosted 40 attendees from local business, agencies, and non-profit organizations who heard from experts on what to expect and how to prepare for earthquake activity.

Experts outlined seismic threats to the area during the workshop. Presenters included Chris Sorenson, Operations Sector Chief, Colorado Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management; Karen Berry, PG, Director and State Geologist Colorado Geological Survey; and Abbie B. Liel, Ph.D, PE, Associate Professor, University of Colorado.

"Colorado has a long history of earthquakes, including a Magnitude 6.5 near Estes Park back in 1882," said Sean McGowan, PE, Regional Earthquake Program Manager, Building Science Lead, FEMA Region VIII. "However, most Colorado residents are more keenly aware of our more frequent floods and wildfires than they are of our earthquake risk. While we don't have the same earthquake hazard seen on the West Coast, we also don't design our buildings to withstand significant earthquakes here."

The *Ready Business QuakeSmart Workshops* provide tools to know your risk, plan, take action, and become a prepared business with information and resources focused on Staff, Space, Systems, Structure, and Service.

The workshop was presented by Colorado Geological Survey, the Colorado Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, the Colorado Earthquake Hazard Mitigation Council, FEMA Region VIII, and FLASH.

For more information on *QuakeSmart* or to host a workshop in your community, please contact Mike Rimoldi at mike@flash.org.