



1995 Bond – Seismic Improvements

The majority of Portland Public Schools' 90-plus buildings were constructed long before the development of seismic-resistant design. Through a 1995 voter-approved capital bond, PPS upgraded schools for seismic resistance — focusing on collapse prevention and safe exits. By 2005, 55 buildings had been upgraded seismically. Re-roofing also improved seismic resistance at 18 schools as part of the bond. While significant progress has been made, much remains to be done to bring all PPS buildings up to seismic safety standards.

Walls

Many PPS schools were constructed with hollow clay-tile interior walls, which are prone to collapse during an earthquake. The district strengthened these walls at a number of schools.

Improved in the 1995 Bond: Abernethy • Arleta • Atkinson • Benson • Capitol Hill • Cesar Chávez • Chapman • Cleveland • Creston • daVinci • Fernwood • Franklin • Gregory Heights • Irvington • Jefferson • Kelly • King • Lane • Rose City Park • Mt. Tabor • Ockley Green • Rieke • Roosevelt • Sellwood • Sunnyside • Vernon • Vestal • Winterhaven • Woodlawn

Structural Systems

Building structural systems including columns, beams, walls, roofs and foundations were strengthened to resist seismic forces in an earthquake.

Improved in the 1995 Bond: Ainsworth • Astor • Atkinson • Bridger • Bridlemile • Buckman • Capitol Hill • Cesar Chávez • Cleveland • Creative Science • Creston • Franklin • Glencoe • Grant • Jefferson • Kelly • Lane • Marysville • Meek • Mt. Tabor • Ockley Green • Richmond • Rieke • Rigler • Roosevelt • Rose City Park • Sitton • Vernon • Woodlawn

Roofs

Roof structures and roof-to-wall connections were strengthened to improve the ability to transfer seismic loads.

Improved in the 1995 Bond: Binnsmead • Chapman • Gregory Heights • Kelly • Lee • Marysville • Mt. Tabor • Ockley Green • Richmond • Rieke • Rigler • Roosevelt • Rose City Park • Sitton • Sylvan • Vernon • Woodlawn

Parapets

Parapets are exterior walls that extend above the roof. A number of parapets were braced to prevent masonry from falling on exit pathways during an earthquake. Some schools' brick veneer and ornamentation was strengthened.

Improved in the 1995 Bond: Beach • Benson • Buckman • Chapman • daVinci • Fernwood • Glencoe • Jefferson • King • MLC • Portsmouth • Sunnyside • Vestal • Winterhaven • Woodlawn

Chimneys

Unreinforced masonry chimneys are at risk of collapsing during a seismic event. Chimneys were braced, reduced in height or removed at a number of schools.

Improved in the 1995 Bond: Astor • Beverly Cleary @ Hollyrood • Bridger • Buckman • Cesar Chávez • Chapman • Cleveland • Franklin • Harrison Park • Irvington • Kelly • King • Ockley Green • Roseway Heights • Sellwood • Vernon • Vestal • Winterhaven

