Functional Recovery What is it and Why are we here?

CHRIS D POLAND SE, NAE
CO-CHAIR, EERI PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE
NIST COMMUNITY RESILIENCE FELLOW

JULY 25, 2019



What is it?

A 60+ year conversation among design professionals and occasionally their clients about when a properly designed and constructed building will be able to return to service.

- Began with an expectation of no damage in the 30's
- Evolved to a public safety focus in the 50's
- Declared usability after moderate earthquakes in the 60's
- Expanded to include usable essential facilities in the 70's and beyond
- Performance Based Design introduced in the 90's
 - VISION 2000's Operational level = Functional Recovery



Why are we here?

Katrina showed us in 2005 that we also need to consider and design for community recovery.



From the 2016 NIST Community Resilience Planning Guide ICC /CALBO Seismic Roundtable
July 25, 2019



Functional Recovery

Functional Recovery is best defined as a contributor to Community Resilience not just a measure of the resilience of individual buildings.

- Community Resilience is about quick social and economic recovery
- Functional Recovery of buildings and supporting lifeline infrastructure is part of the process
- Fully functional building performance is ideal by not practical
- Focus should be on designing for just-in-time recovery



Going forward

Adapt what we are all doing with our new building design criteria in a way that generates common public understanding and looks forward to Community Resilience Programs.

- Use common hazard levels
- Define and declare performance levels that include expected time needed for re-occupancy and functional recovery.
- Respect and support all efforts



Benefits

Coordinated and collaborative efforts will enhance public understanding and support

- Better buildings of known capability
- Better post earthquake understanding of what happened
- Better understanding of the shortcoming of existing buildings
- Will provide common benchmarks for infrastructure system performance
- Will encourage Community Resilience planning

