

# Hardening Building and Infrastructure Cluster

**PROJECT A9: Cost-effective mitigation strategy development for building related earthquake risk**



**Australian Government**  
Department of Industry,  
Innovation and Science

**Business**  
Cooperative Research  
Centres Programme

[bnhcrc.com.au](http://bnhcrc.com.au)

# Project Participants

## Univ of Adelaide:

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## Univ of Melbourne:

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## Swinburne University:

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## Geoscience Australia:

M Edwards, H Ryu, M Wehner

## End Users:

WA DFES, York Shire Council, ABCB, Standards  
Australia, EMA, State/Local Governments

# **Aim:** to develop evidence base to inform decision making for earthquake risk mitigation

- ✓ **Establish seismic vulnerability classes for representative building types in Australia**
- ✓ **Survey existing retrofit techniques for known performance in recent earthquakes**
- ✓ **Develop cost-effective Australia-specific retrofit solutions**
- **Develop decision-support and earthquake risk forecasting tools to support infrastructure managers**
- **Develop economic loss models that include business interruption and casualty costs**

# End User Engagement

- WA Dept Fire & Emergency Services
- York Shire Council
- WA Dept Planning, Lands & Heritage
- Standards Australia - AS 3826
- Other indirect
  - EMA
  - State & local governments
  - Bldg Code of Australia

# YORK MAIN STREET





Out-of-plane wall bending failures in Christchurch (42 fatalities in URM buildings)

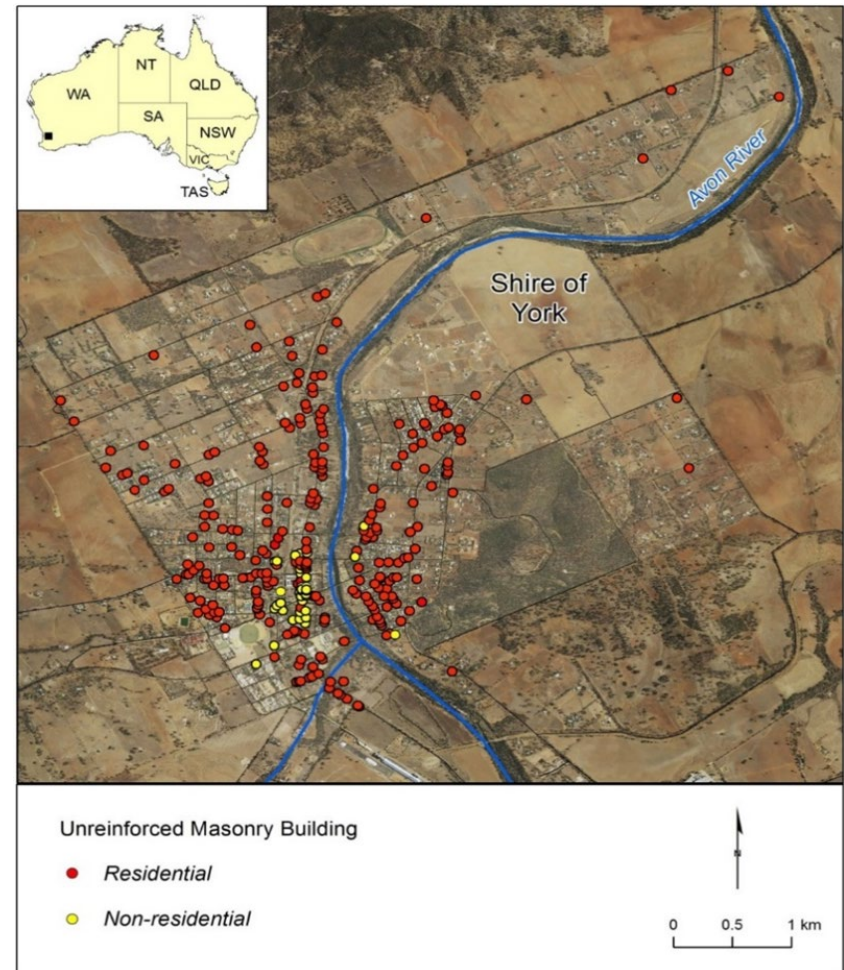
## Some statistics

- 39 of the 42 fatalities associated with unreinforced masonry buildings were ***outside*** the building
- NZ law has existed for several decades requiring 'Earthquake Prone' building owners to strengthen or demolish it.
- However, it was up to 'local authorities' to enforce it.
- Often, cost-benefit arguments were used to 'avoid' strengthening

## BUILDING SURVEY DATA CAPTURE INCLUDED:

(1463 BUILDINGS SURVEYED, 307 URM BUILDINGS IDENTIFIED)

- Building type and usage
- Building plan dimensions, # of storeys and storey heights
- Roof shape
- Presence/detail on chimneys, parapets, awnings/verandahs
- Presence/detail on existing retrofit
- Masonry wall material and bond pattern
- Separation with respect to adjacent buildings
- Presence of neighbour falling hazards





# GENERIC BUILDING TYPOLOGIES

(a) Residential



(b) Pub



Falling Hazards: chimneys, gable end walls, parapets, out-of-plane wall failures

# COMMERCIAL (ROW) BUILDINGS

(a) Single storey



Falling hazards: parapets, OOP wall failures in multi-storey bldgs.

(b) Two/three storey



# 2 STOREY INSTITUTIONAL BUILDINGS

(a) Isolated



(b) Row



Falling hazards: Parapets, chimneys, OOP wall failure

# Damage & Economic Loss Modelling

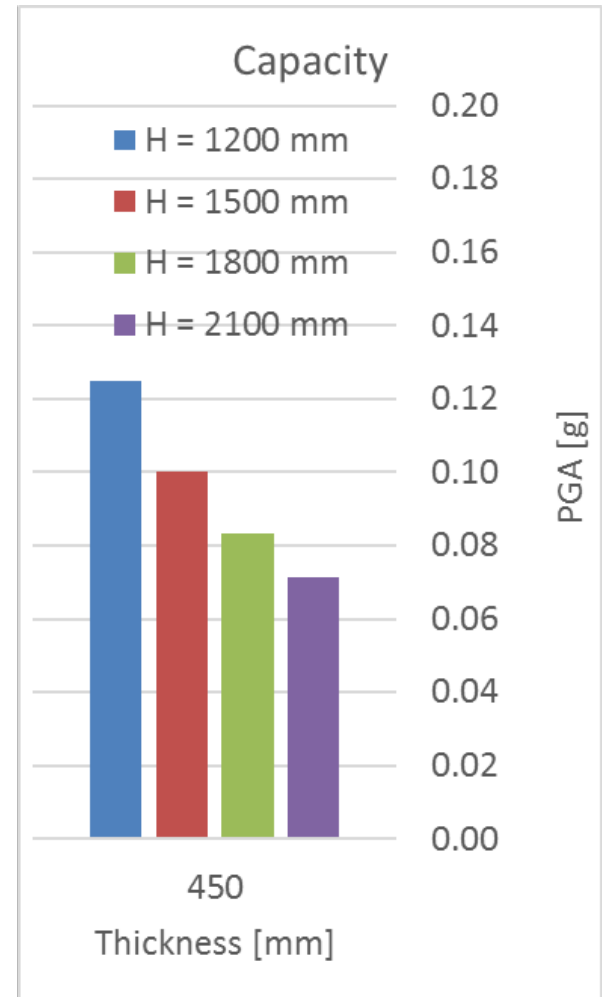
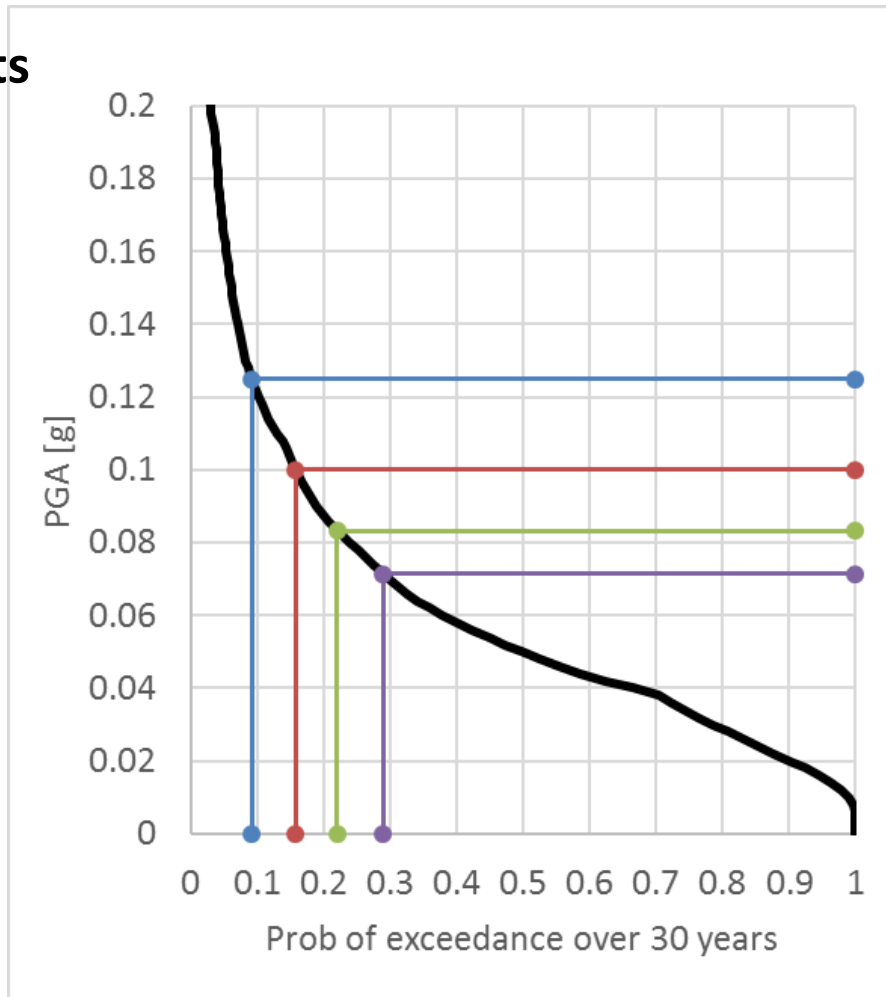
1. *Rank Vulnerability of Common Construction Types*
2. *Estimate Structural Drift for Various Magnitude Events*
3. *Develop Damage-Drift Relationships to Estimate Building Damage for unstrengthened and strengthened buildings*
4. *Develop Cost-Damage Relationships to Estimate Economic Impact\* of Natural Hazard*

❖ *costs to include fatalities & injuries, business interruption at a precinct level*

1, 2 'done'; 3 & 4 in progress

# PGA CAPACITIES AND PROBABILITY OF EXCEEDANCE OVER 30 YEAR TIME HORIZON

## Parapets



# 2010 Kalgoorlie Earthquake



Parapet/awning damage in URM buildings in M5.0 earthquake

# Closing Remarks

- WA DFES and York Shire Council end user engagement has been fantastic:
  - Community engagement has been good;
  - Seismically vulnerable buildings have been identified;
  - Seismic strengthening options being developed for typical York buildings;
  - DFES and York Shire successfully applied for a \$250,000 NDRP 2019-21 grant to expand scope across all of WA;
- Much of the assessment and retrofit solutions being developed for York will have national application
- Update of AS 3826 “Earthquake strengthening of existing buildings”