



# Transportation Systems

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# California Roads 2014



State Highways:       ~ 15,000 miles  
                              ~ 13,500 bridges

Local Roads:           ~ 140,000 miles  
                              ~ 14,200 bridges



# Bridge Seismic Safety Program Pre-1994

- 1971 Sylmar Earthquake (M 6.6)
  - First earthquake to cause significant damage to the State Highway System
  - Generated sweeping changes to the bridge seismic design codes
  - Caltrans initiated the bridge hinge restrainer retrofit program
- 1987 Whittier Earthquake (M 6.0)
  - Revealed vulnerability of multi-column bridges
- 1989 Loma Prieta Earthquake (M 6.9)
  - Legislated (SB36x) bridge seismic retrofit program
  - Significantly increase in seismic research

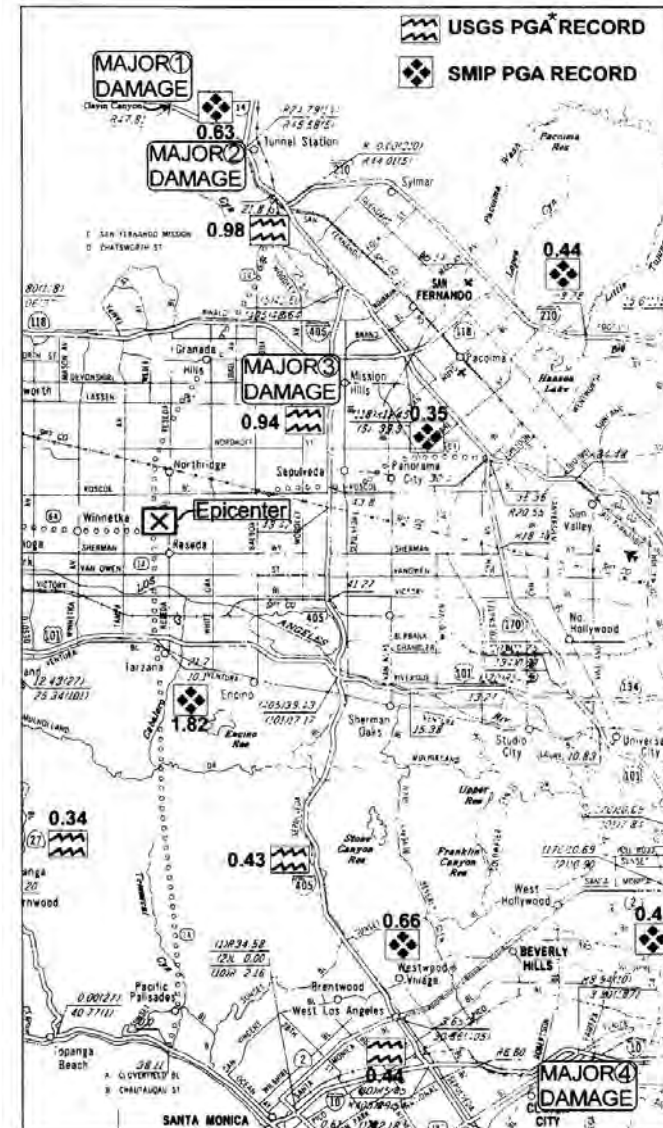
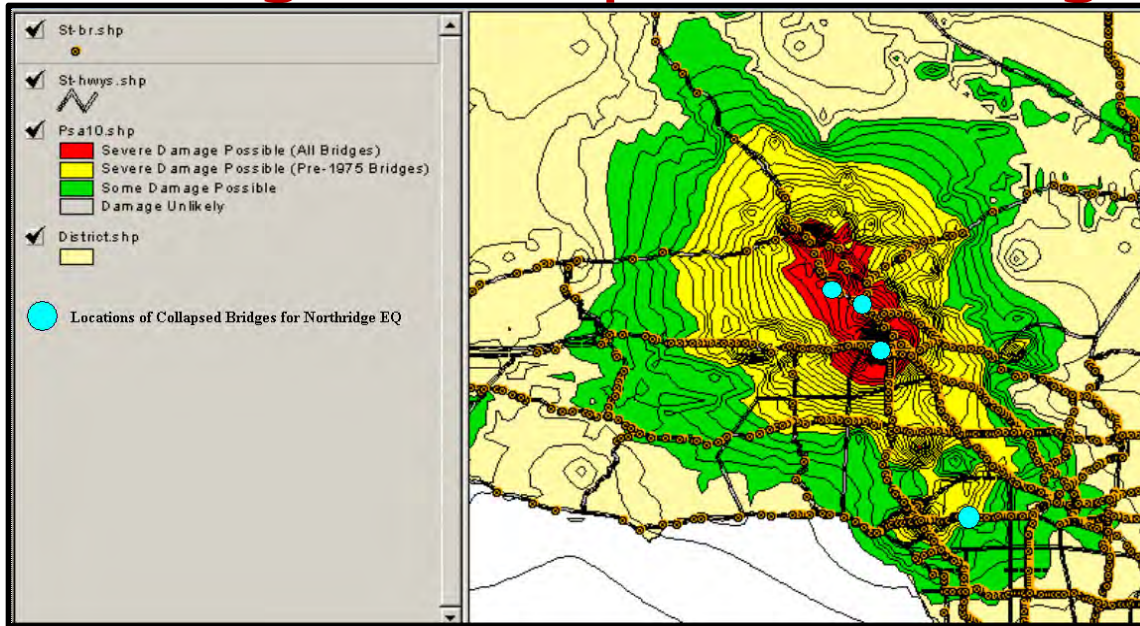
# Northridge Impacts –Transportation

Vehicle Bridge Inventory -1994		
Location	Stated Owned	Locally Owned
Statewide	12,000	12,000
Los Angeles County	2,523	1,500*/800**

\* County \*\* City

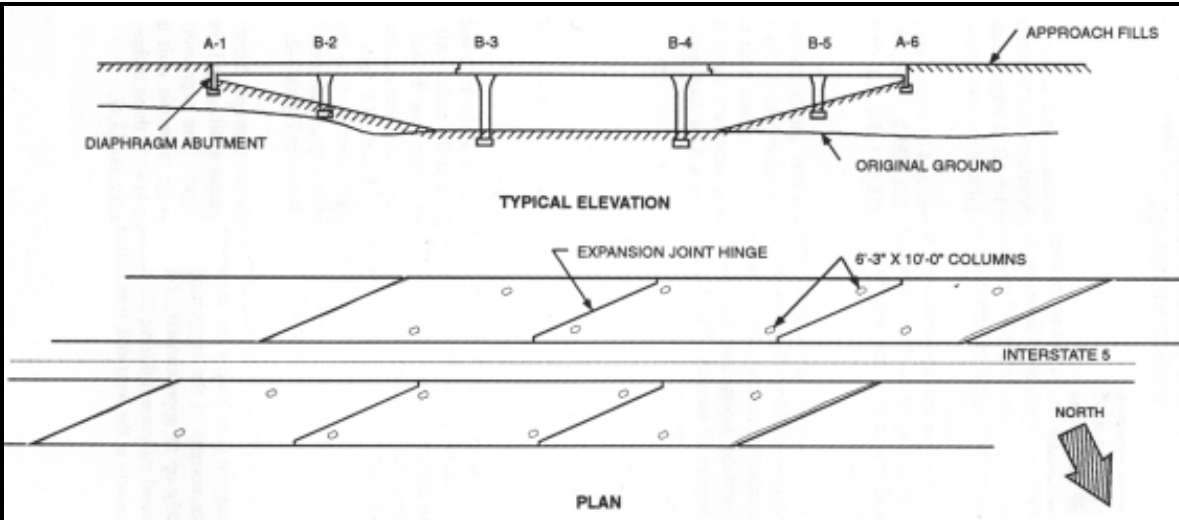
State Bridges Damaged in Northridge Earthquake	
Damage State	# of Bridges
Collapse	7
Major Damage	39
Moderate/Minor Damage	194

# Bridge Collapses During the Northridge



Bridge Location	Bridge Name	Yr. Built
Gavin Canyon (I-5)	Gavin Canyon Bridge	1967
14/5 Interchange	Rte. 14 /5 Sep. & OH North. Conn. OC	1971-1974
118 west of the 405	Mission Gothic UC Bull Creek Cyn. Ch. Br.	1976 1976
I-10 near downtown	La Cienega-Venice UC Fairfax-Washington UC	1964 1964

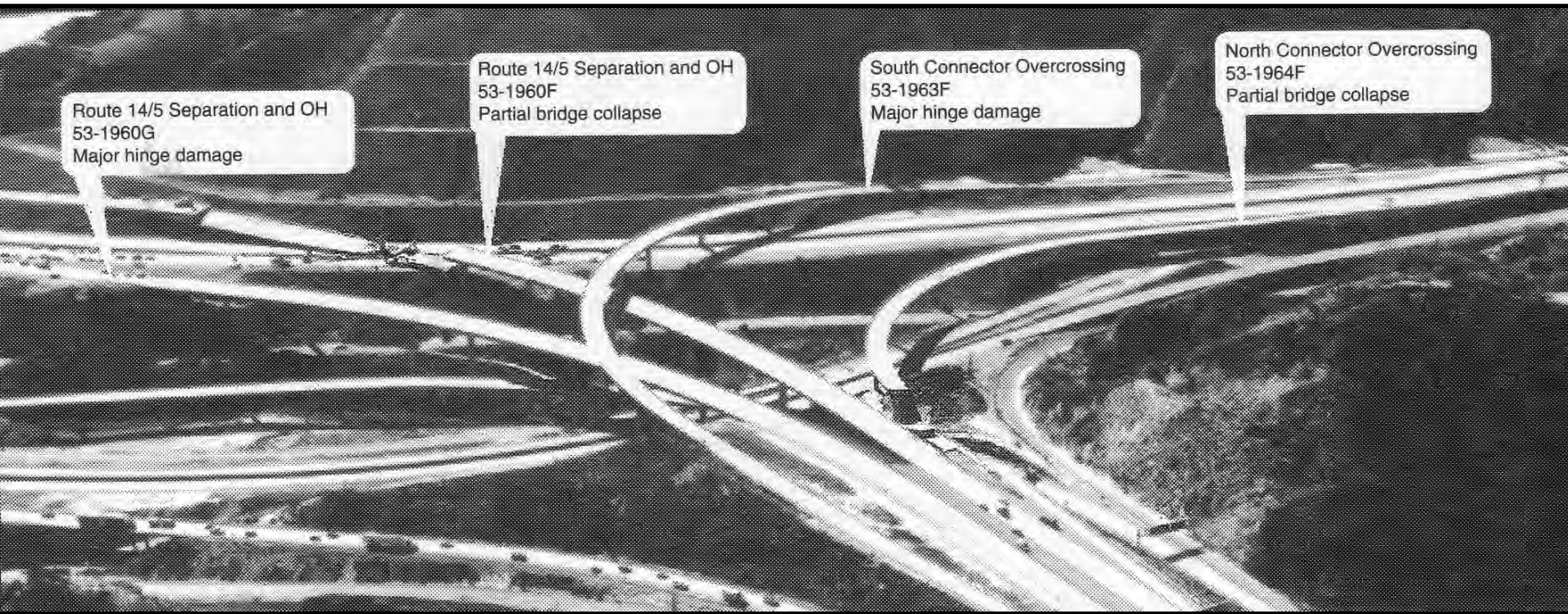
# Damage-Gavin Canyon UC



- Tall, highly skewed bridge
- Unseated on the obtuse corners during the earthquake.



# Damage-SR 14/I-5 Interchange



- The 14/5 IC was previously damaged in the 1971 Sylmar EQ
- Every connector suffered damage or collapse during Northridge EQ

- I-5/SR-14 collapse was due to lack of stiffness and mass “Balance”



Route 14/Interstate 5 Interchange  
Collapsed Connectors 53-1964F & 53-1960F



# I-5/SR-14 Separation and Overhead



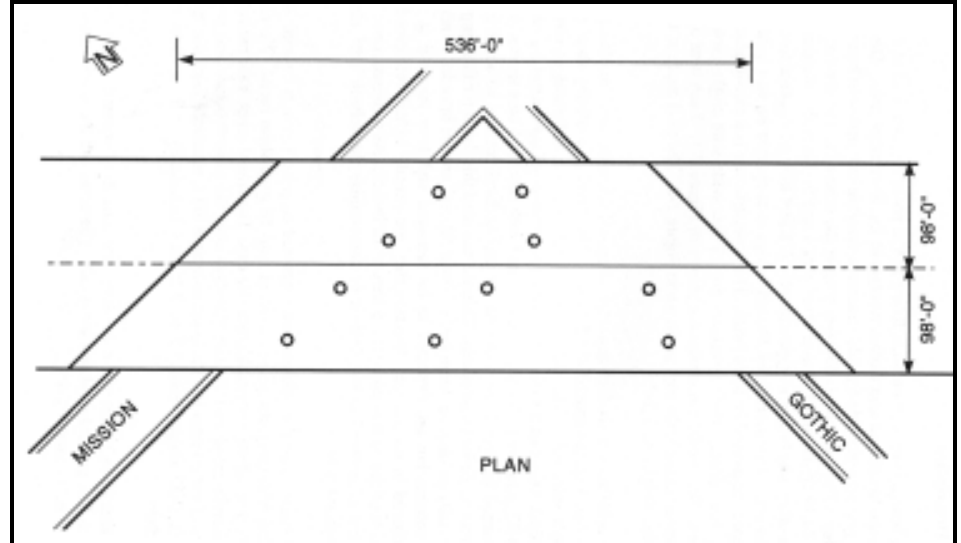
# Damage SR-118



# SR-118 Roadway Damage



# Damage SR-118 Mission-Gothic Undercrossing



- Constructed in 1976-Post Sylmar
- Large and variable skews
- Heavily reinforced column flares

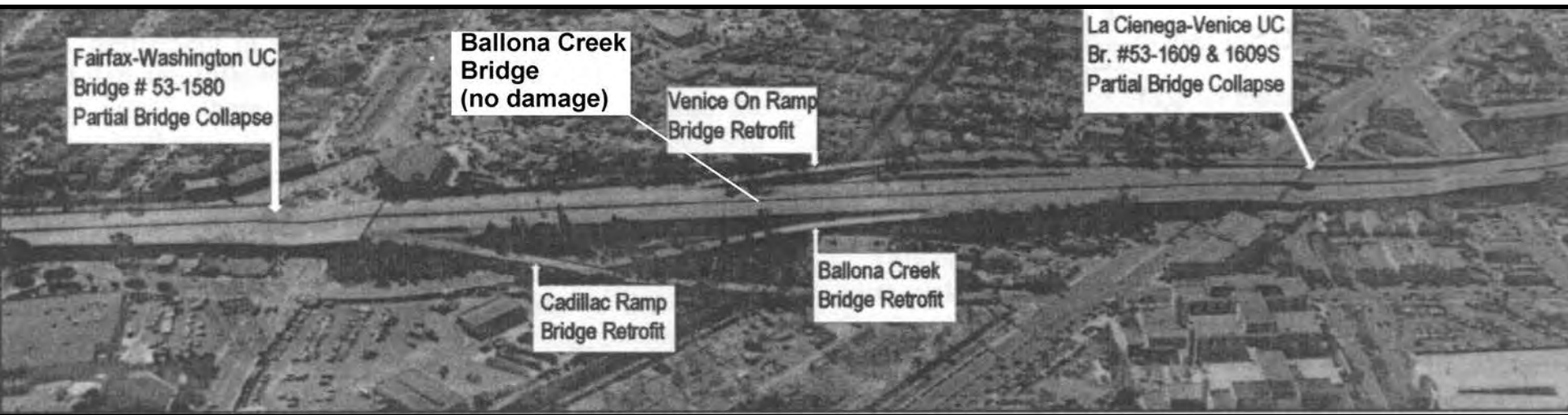
# SR-118 Mission-Gothic Undercrossing



# SR-118 Bull Creek Canyon Bridge

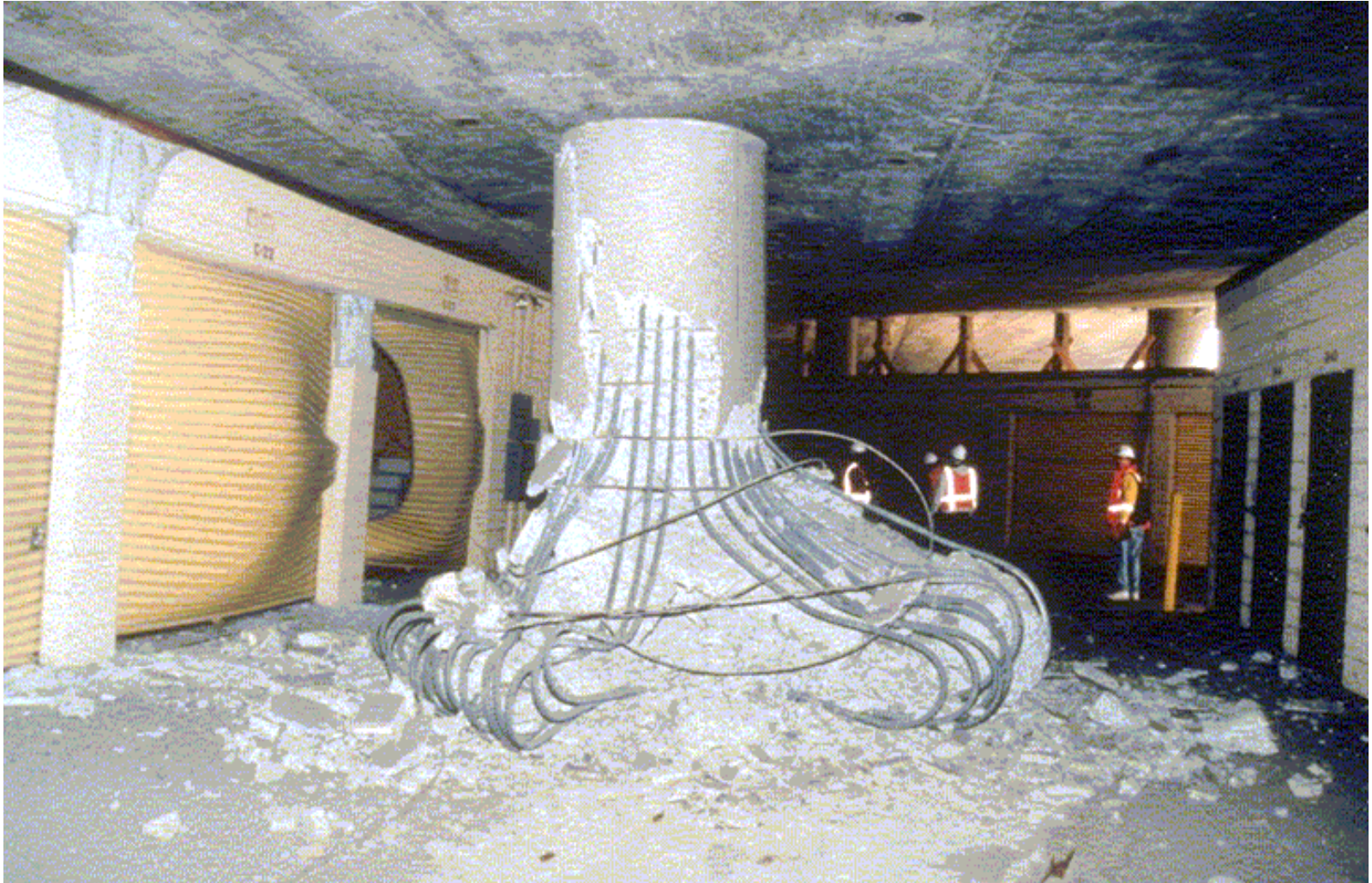


# Santa Monica (I-10) Expressway Damage



- 16 miles south of the Northridge epicenter
- This area likely experienced higher shaking because of weak soil deposits
- Retrofitted bridges between the two collapsed bridges were undamaged

# Santa Monica (I-10) La Cienega-Venice UC





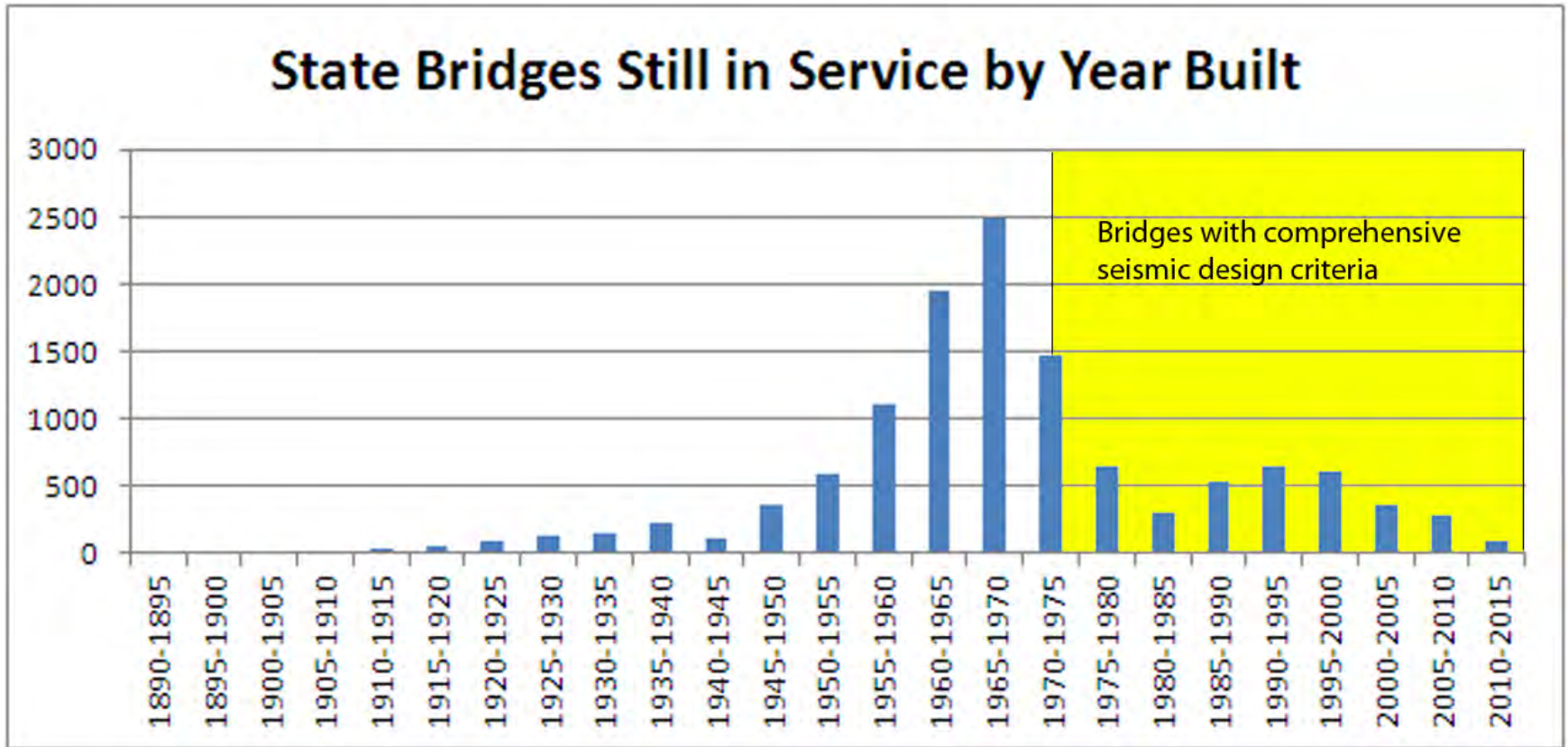
# Impacts of Northridge EQ on Traffic

Route	Location	Pre EQ ADT	2/4/94 ADT	Percent
5	South of Rte. 170	156,880	149,663	95 %
10	East of Rte. 405	267,273	113,029	42%
101	West of Rte. 405	309,049	267,371	87%
105	East of Rte. 405	171,135	186,234	109%
118	West of Rte. 405	125,279	48,532	39%
134	East of 101/170 IC	197,973	264,908	134%
170	North of the Rte. 101	78,058	76,143	98%
405	North of Rte. 10	271,940	234,834	86%
405	South of Rte. 10	321,694	298,851	93%

# Northridge Outcomes - Transportation

- Northridge provided a valuable test for the Caltrans design procedures in high intensity moderate magnitude earthquakes
  - Validated that bridges with post 1971 details performed reasonable well
  - Validated that seismically retrofitted bridges performed well
  - The post-Sylmar EQ expansion joint retrofitted bridges performed with mixed results

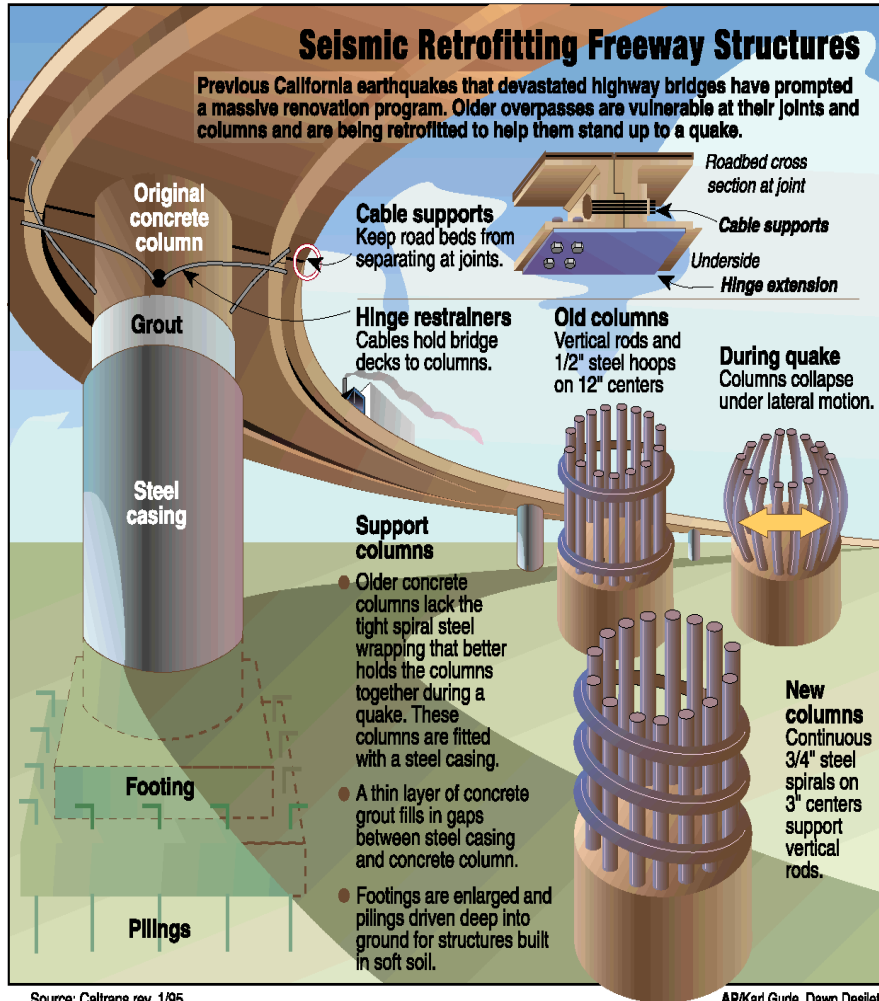
# Northridge Outcomes – Statewide



# Northridge Outcomes–Transportation

- Northridge provided the impetus for the passage of the Seismic Retrofit Bond Act of 1996 (Prop. 192)
  - The damage in Northridge demonstrated the need to expand the program to include multi-column bridges
  - Augmented the bridge seismic retrofit program initiated under emergency legislation (SB36x) after Loma Prieta
  - 1209 additional bridges were added to the program
  - Prop 192 provided \$ 2 billion to fund the State owned toll bridges and the Phase II seismic retrofit program

# State Bridge Retrofit Program



Source: Caltrans rev. 1/95

AP/Karl Gude, Dawn Desilets

## Non-Toll:

**Phase 1, 100% Complete**  
1039 bridges  
\$1.08 billion

**Phase 2, 99.99% Complete**  
1155 bridges  
\$1.35 billion

**Local: 73% complete**  
912 of 1242 bridges  
\$1.96 billion

**Toll: 100% complete**  
\$8.69 billion

# Bridge Seismic Retrofit Program

Location	Bridges	Stated Owned	Locally Owned
Statewide	Total Bridges	13,500	14,225
	Retrofitted Bridges	2,200	912
Los Angeles County	Total Bridges	2,124	2,749
	Retrofitted Bridges	555	282*

\* 19 bridges in design or const.

# Northridge Outcomes–Transportation

- Caltrans re-examined and modified its seismic screening and prioritization procedures.
- Near fault and thrust fault effects were incorporated into the seismic hazard characterization.
- New design criteria for new bridges and retrofitting bridges were adopted.
- Caltrans successfully employed incentive/disincentive based contracting methods

# Next Steps for Transportation

- Finish the Local Retrofit Program
- Continue seismic research *...in invaluable and indispensable investment...*
  - Advanced Materials
  - Multiple-Hazards
  - Earth Retaining Systems
  - Advanced Computational Techniques
- Improved Post-Earthquake Serviceability
  - Multi-Level Performance Criteria
  - Performance Based Earthquake Engineering



# Next Steps for Transportation

- Rapid Repair and Recovery
  - Accelerated Modular Bridge Construction
- Post-Earthquake Assessment
  - Integrated structural instrumentation
  - Post-event investigation (worldwide)
  - Enhance web-based notification and assessment tools

# Recommendations for Transportation

- Regularly re-assess the seismic hazard and engineering performance of the State's bridges including existing, retrofitted, and new structures.
- Regularly review and revise bridge seismic design criteria to reflect the latest seismology, geotechnical, and structural research findings.
- Continue to proactively initiate problem-focused seismic performance research for all transportation structures and systems.

# Recommendations for Transportation

- Continue to develop performance based earthquake engineering methods that looks at bridges as part of an interconnected system.
- Continue to develop and implement expedited seismic design and construction techniques that allow for faster recovery from major seismic events.

# Challenge/ Opportunity Cycle

**Challenge**

Seismic Event /  
Extreme Event

Initial Response  
“Emergency”

History of Events and  
Lessons Learned

Action Proposed

**Opportunity**

Legislative and  
Programmatic Changes

Get Prepared

Continuing Research and Advance  
State-of-the-Art Practice

**Opportunity**

National Code  
Changes

International  
Collaboration

**Continuing  
Challenge**

Stay Prepared

Competing Against Time  
(Maintain Interest)

Other Extreme  
Events



Earthquakes measure our actions, not our words.

Caltrans Seismic Advisory Board  
"Race to Seismic Safety"



# Next Steps for Transportation

- Caltrans is developing new algorithms to prioritize bridges for seismic vulnerabilities.

$$\text{Score} = (\text{Vulnerability}) \times (\text{Hazard})$$

