

Ferry Building Seawall and Substructure Earthquake Reliability Project



About the Project

The Ferry Building is both a beloved historic and iconic waterfront structure and the most important location for post-earthquake water transit, which is essential for bringing in first responders and evacuating thousands to their homes across the Bay. Since the Port began outreach on waterfront resilience in 2017, the Ferry Building has consistently been identified as a key community-prioritized asset. The Port’s Multi-Hazard Risk Assessment found this area to have high earthquake risk from seawall instability and lateral spreading as well as high flood risk. Ground conditions are extremely challenging and include 100-foot-thick Bay Mud and deep bedrock, which precludes shoreline stabilization as an early strategy. This project is a first step for improving earthquake safety and disaster response by retrofitting the Seawall and substructure to limit earthquake damage despite shoreline movements. There is potential to strengthen the foundation for raising the structure in the future. A state-of-the-art engineering model will be built to test strengthening concepts and longer-range adaptation strategies. A separate project will develop interim flood defenses.

Project Benefits	Project Details	Responds to Community Feedback
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Earthquake Safety <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Disaster Response Improvement <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Coastal Flood Defense <input type="checkbox"/> Public Space Enhancement <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic Preservation <input type="checkbox"/> Bay Habitat 	<p>Status: Pre-Design</p> <p>Cost: \$60M to \$230M*</p> <p>Duration: 4 to 7 years*</p> <p>Complexity: High</p> <p><i>*cost & duration are planning level estimates and include all costs</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Prioritizes life safety and emergency response. ✓ Ensures public access to the waterfront and an inviting waterfront for all. ✓ Protects and preserves historic and maritime resources. ✓ Supports an adaptable and equitable waterfront. ✓ Enhances and sustains economic opportunities.