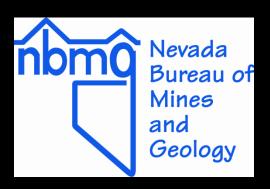
## Potential URMs in Nevada

**Presentation for the Nevada Earthquake Safety Council** 

9 November 2011

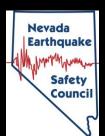
by Jonathan G. Price, Craig M. dePolo, and Gary L. Johnson Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology





Nevada Public Agency Insurance Pool – Wayne Carlson













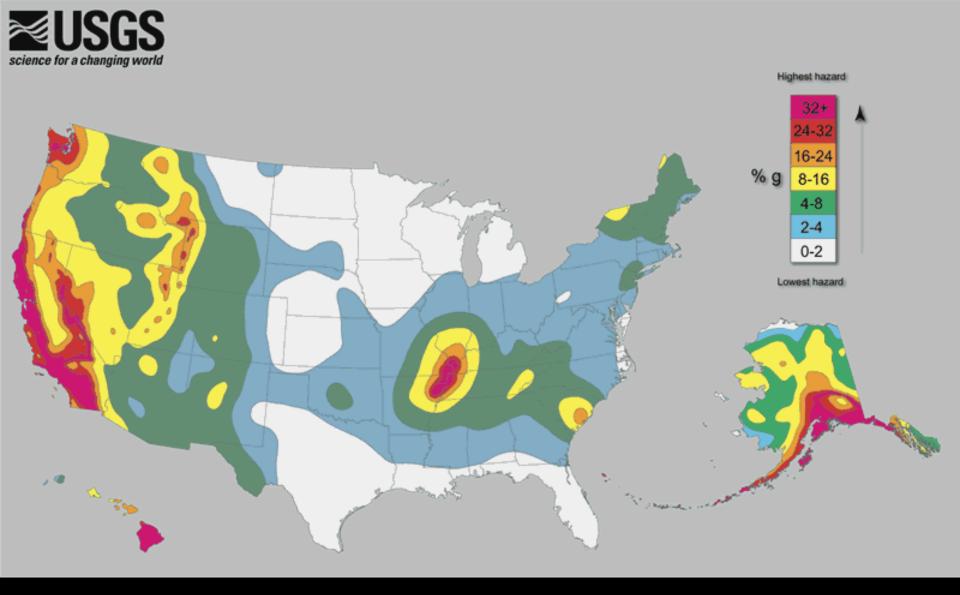


San Marin Hotel, an unreinforced masonry building (URM) that collapsed during the Wells, Nevada earthquake

before the 21 February 2008 magnitude 6.0 earthquake







**Background:** 

Nevada is one of the most earthquake-prone states.

Age of Latest Fault Rupture < 150 years (historical) < 15,000 years

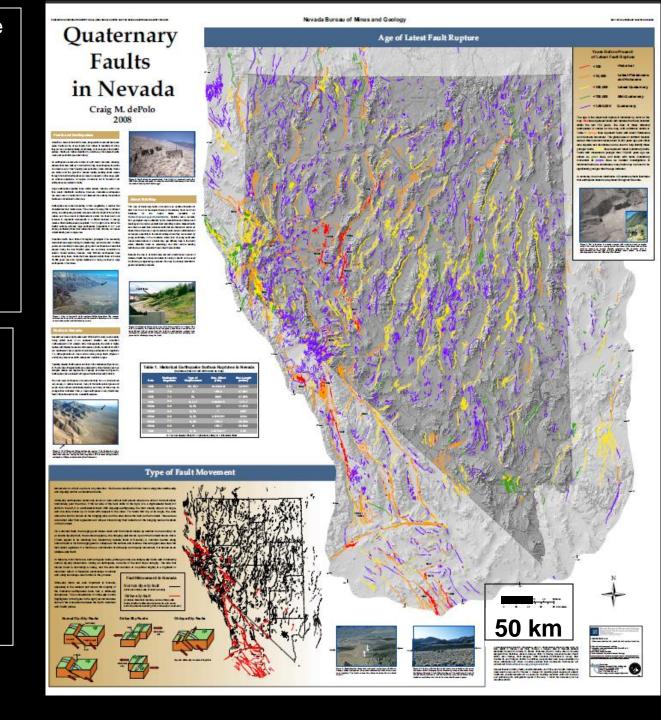
< 130,000 years

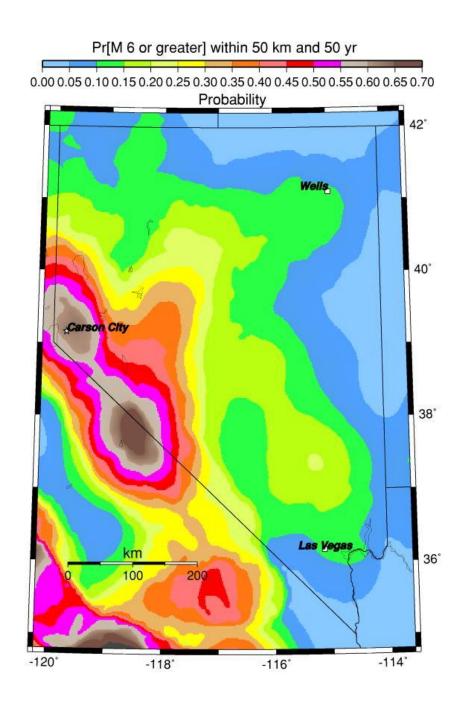
< 750,000 years

< 1,800,000 years (Quaternary)

There are active faults nearly everywhere in Nevada. A magnitude 6.0 earthquake can occur anywhere in Nevada.

www.nbmg.unr.edu





"What happens in Las Vegas stays in Las Vegas," but what happened in Wells can happen anywhere in Nevada.

Map by the USGS showing the probability of an earthquake of magnitude 6.0 (the size of the 21 February 2008 earthquake at Wells) or greater occurring within 50 kilometers (31 miles) in 50 years.

See http://www.nbmg.unr.edu/Pubs/sp/sp36/

HAZUS estimates for total economic loss from a magnitude 6.0 earthquake and probability of an earthquake of this magnitude or greater occurring within 50 years and within 50 km of the community.

Community	<b>Total Economic Loss</b>	Probability in 50 years within 50 km
Las Vegas	\$7.2 billion	12%
Reno	\$1.9 billion	<b>67%</b>
<b>Sparks</b>	\$1.8 billion	67%
<b>Incline Village</b>	\$510 million	60 to 70%
Elko	\$160 million	10 to 15%
Fallon	\$110 million	35%
Wells	\$30 million	9%

Total economic loss is from HAZUS. Probabilities are from the USGS at http://eqint.cr.usgs.gov/eqprob/2002/index.php .

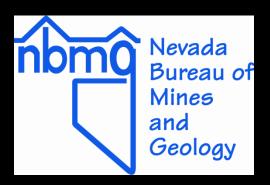
## Potential URMs in Nevada

URMs are structures that commonly collapse in large earthquakes.

This is a problem of life safety and economic loss.

There are tens of thousands of potential URMs in Nevada.

We can reduce the risks from URMs.





Nevada Public Agency Insurance Pool – Wayne Carlson















**Definition of potential unreinforced masonry (URM) buildings in Nevada:** 

buildings listed by County Assessors or State Public Works as built before 1974 with brick, stone, or block masonry structure.

Caution: This is a preliminary study based on data provided by the County Assessors and the State of Nevada. We know there are errors in the database:

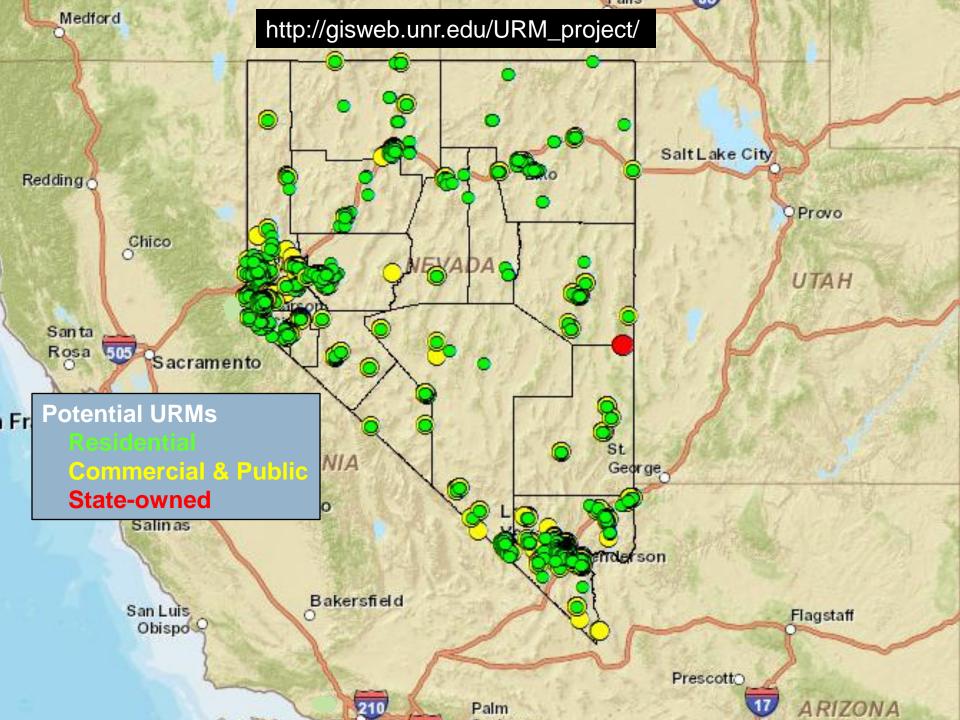
URMs missed - not recorded as masonry structures
URMs missed - ones on federal or Indian lands
URMs counted due to wrong building type in the database
Wrong locations due to poor address coding
Misidentifications due to lack of construction date
Buildings that may have been seismically retrofitted
Buildings that have been removed.

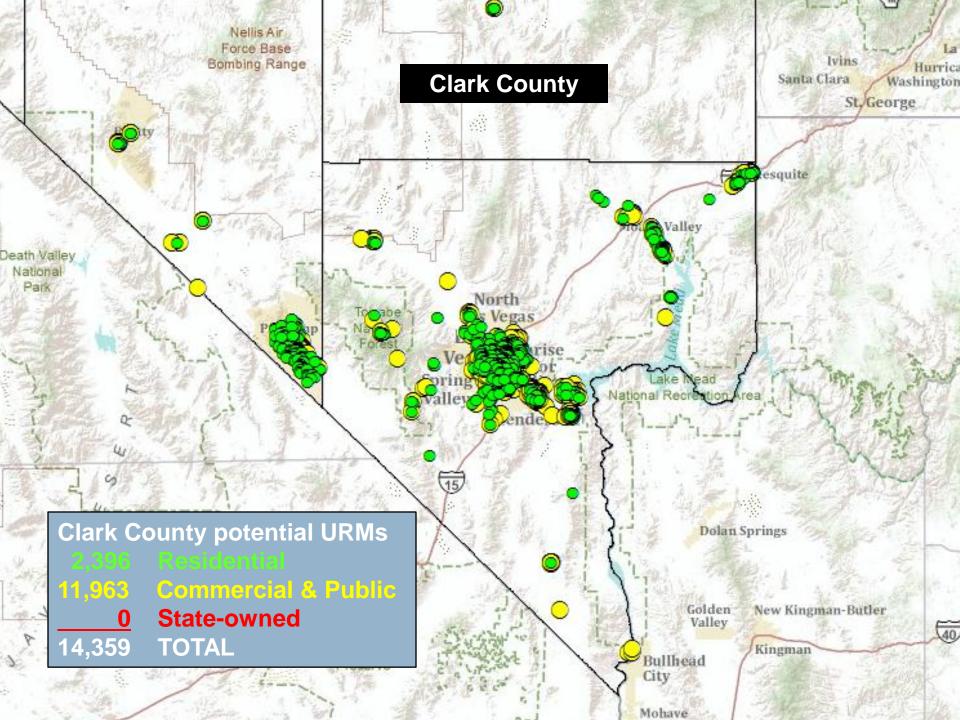
Recommendation 1 (draft): Jurisdictions (cities, counties, state) should use this County Assessors' data to follow up with on-the-ground inspections and checks of building plans. Individuals should determine if their buildings are URMs.

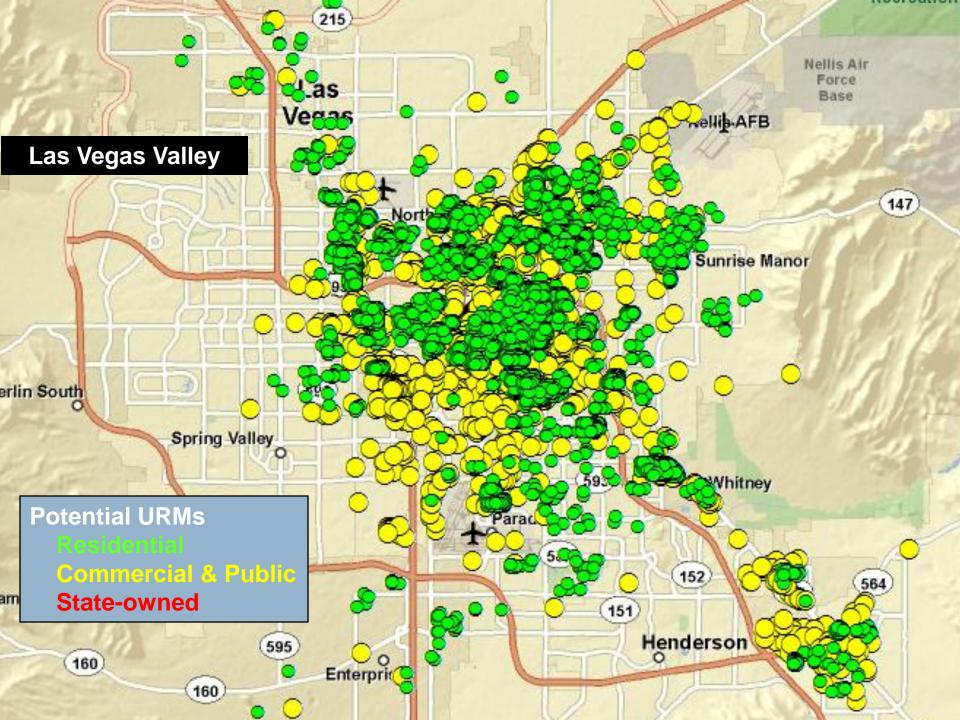
## Potential URMs in Nevada – totals\*

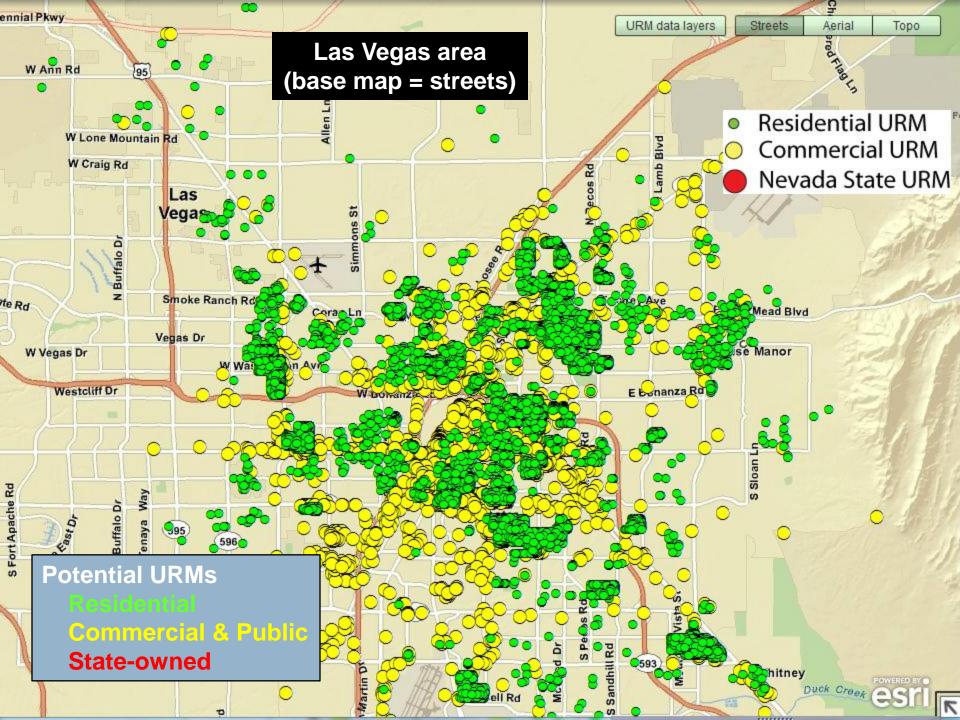
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7,354 Residential
16,145 Commercial & Public (city and county)
98 State-owned
23,597 TOTAL*
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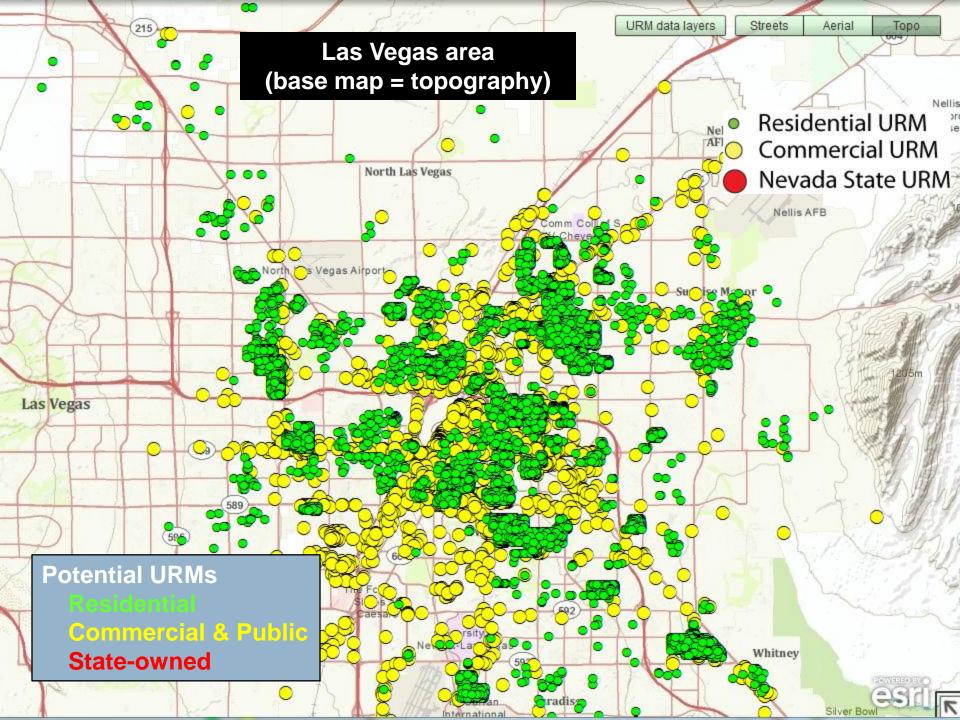
<sup>\*</sup> The total does not include buildings owned by the federal government.

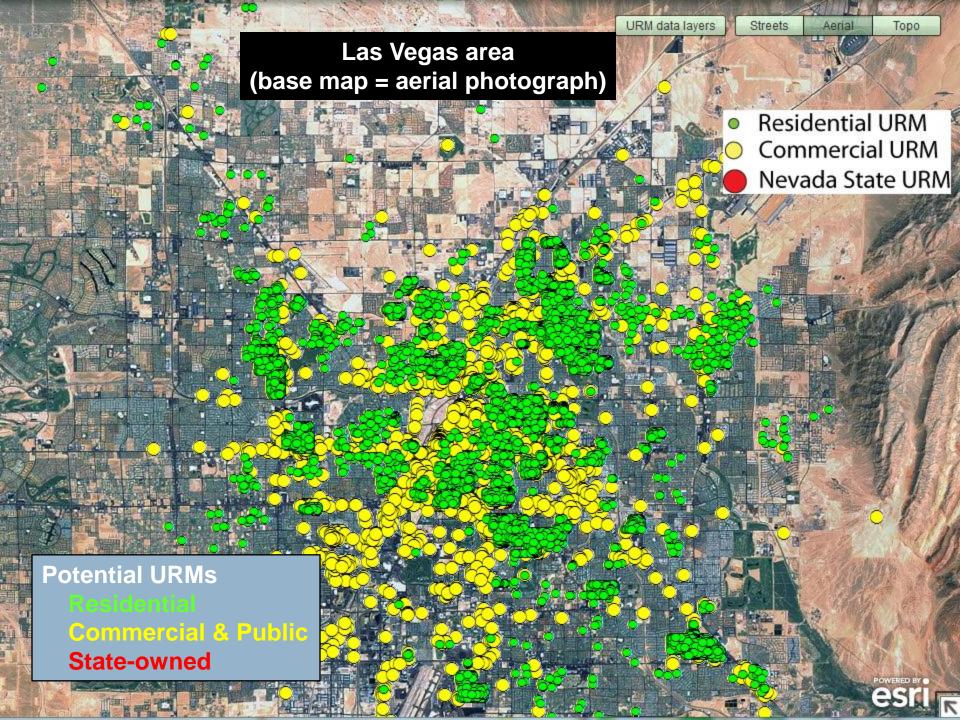


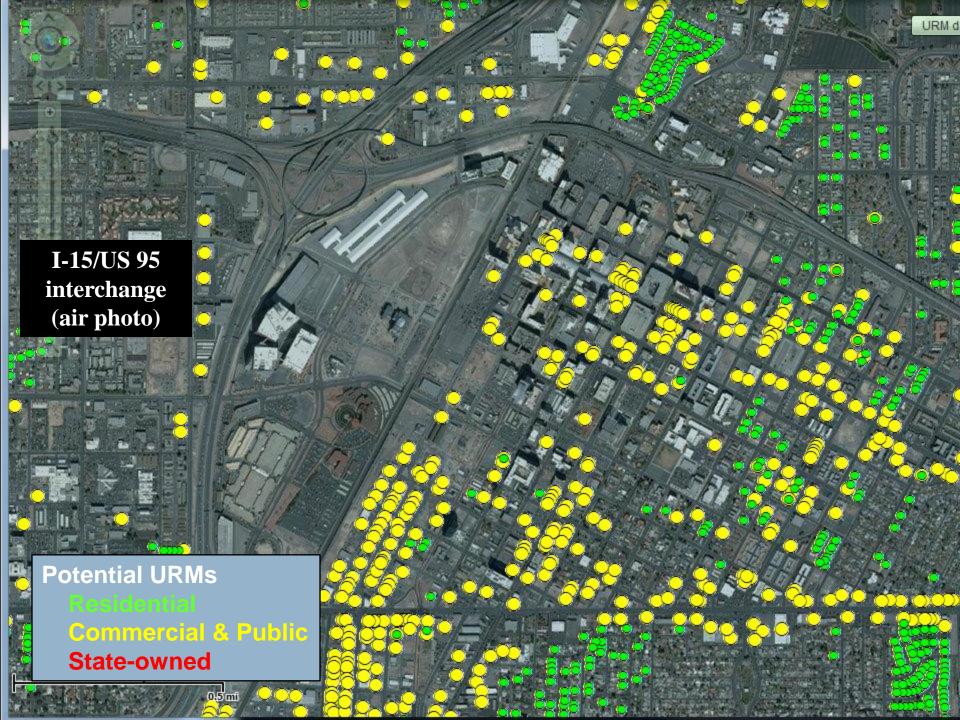


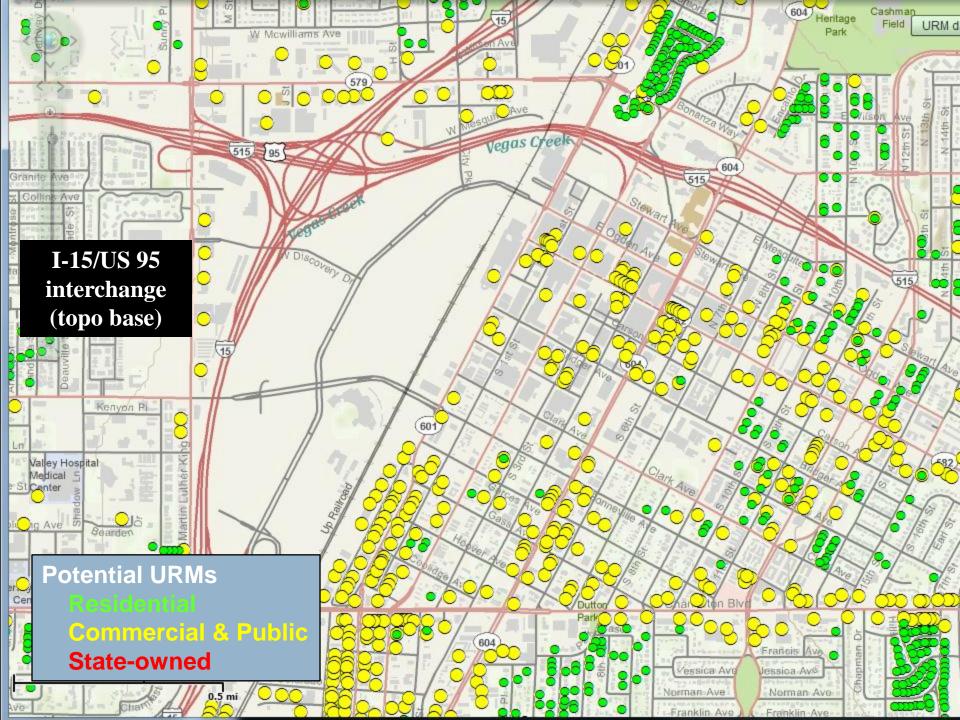


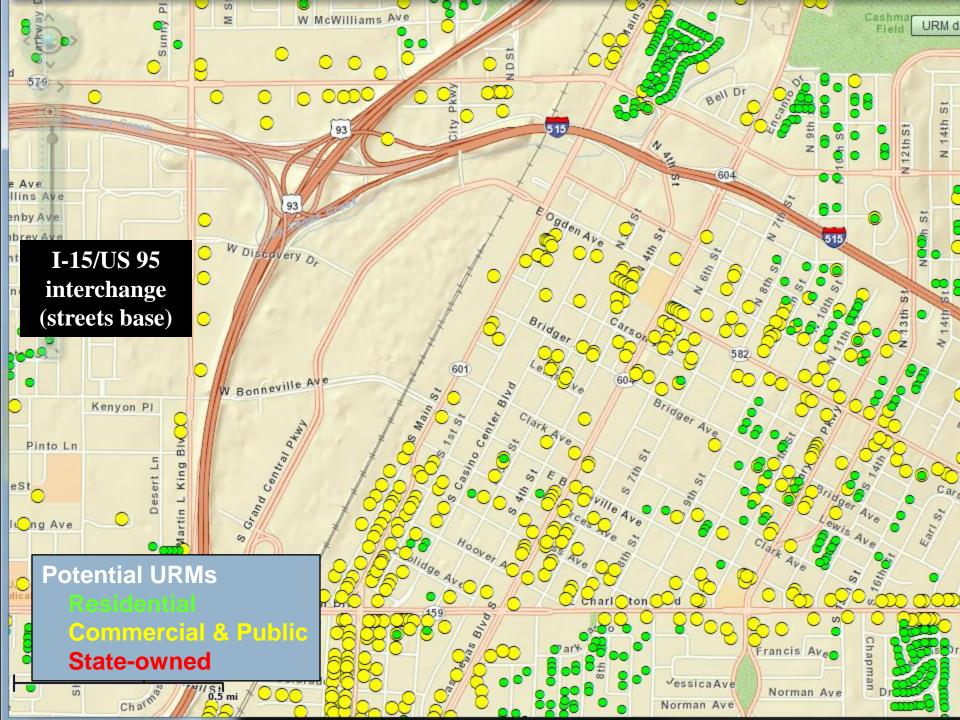


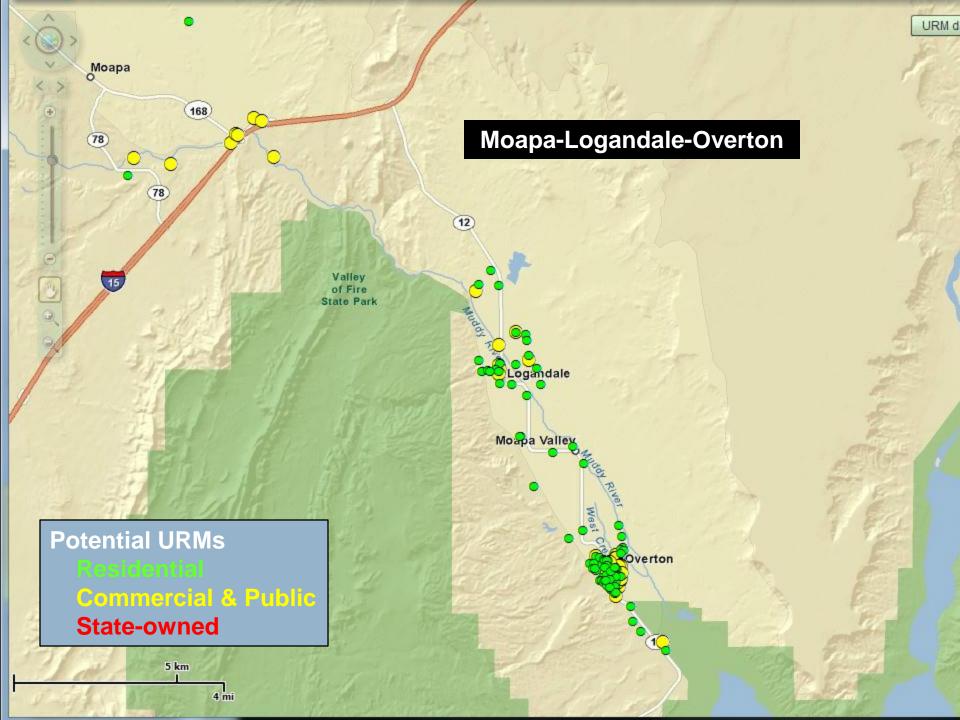


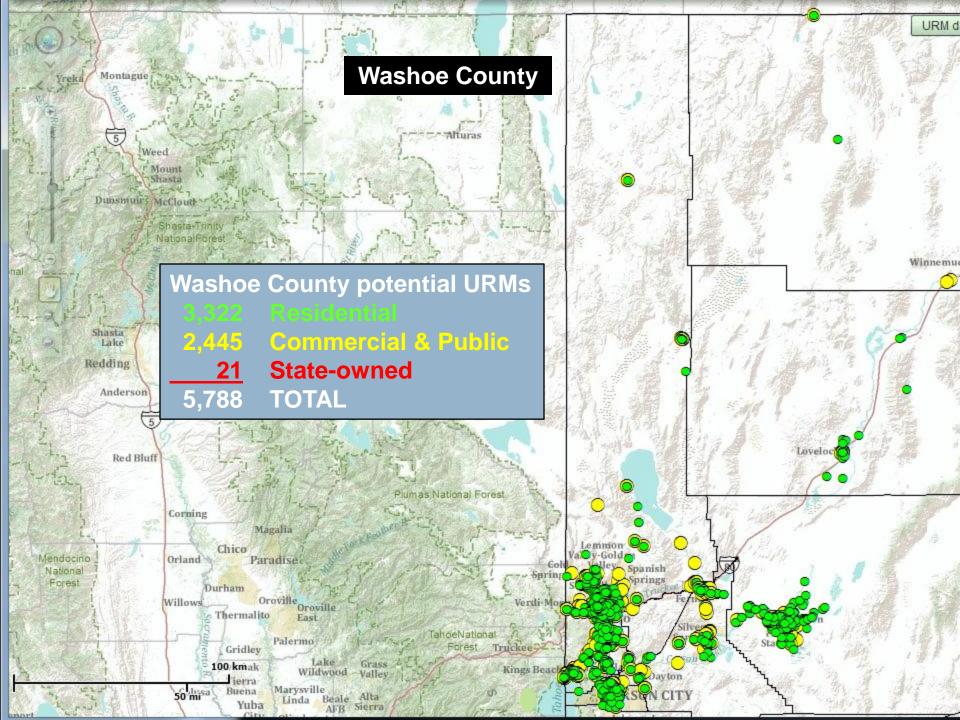


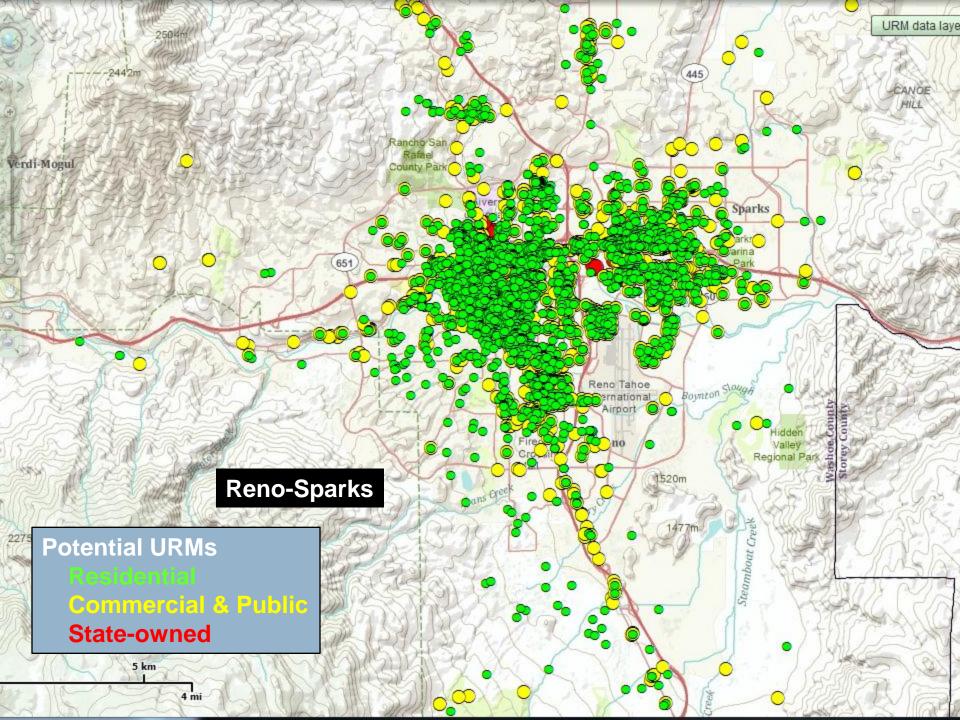












## **Observations:**

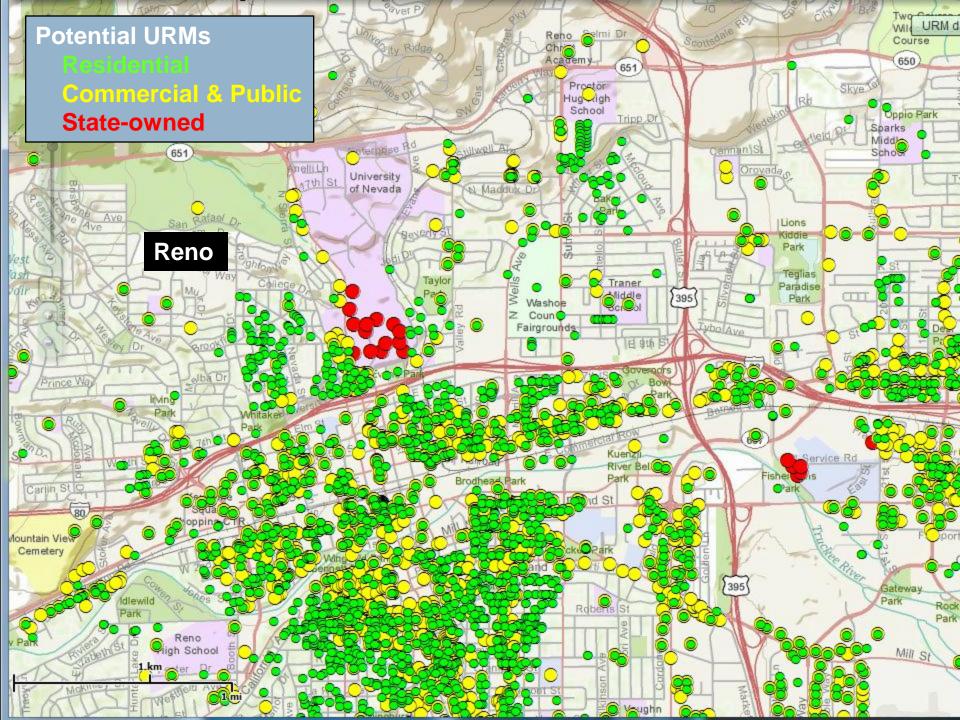
Because URMs are mostly 50+ years old, many have deteriorated and need maintenance. Some may have been damaged from shaking during previous distant or small earthquakes.

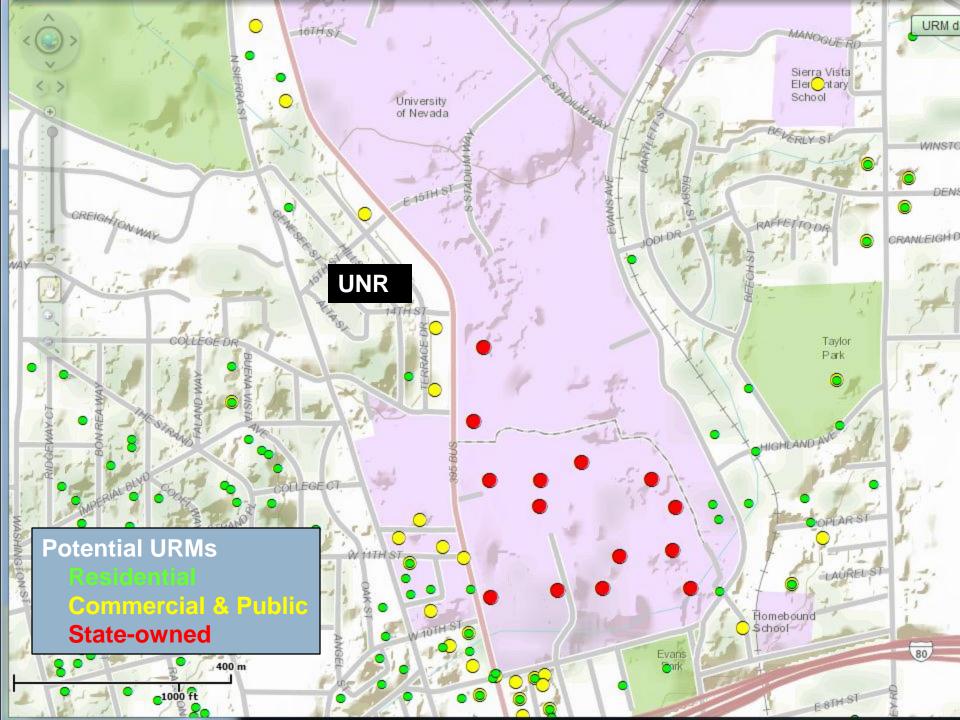


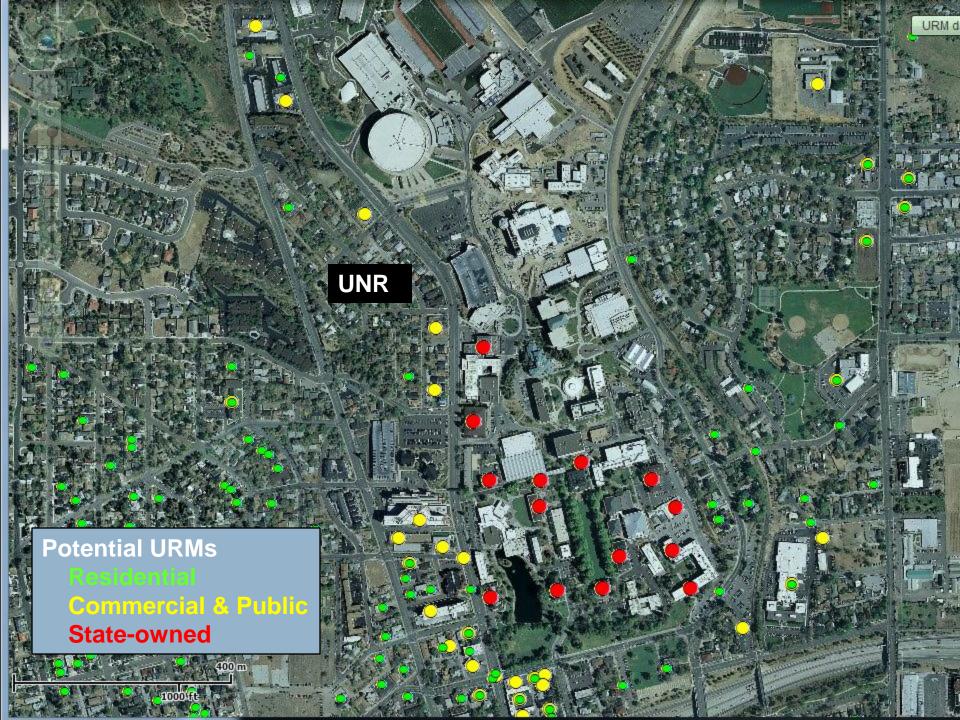


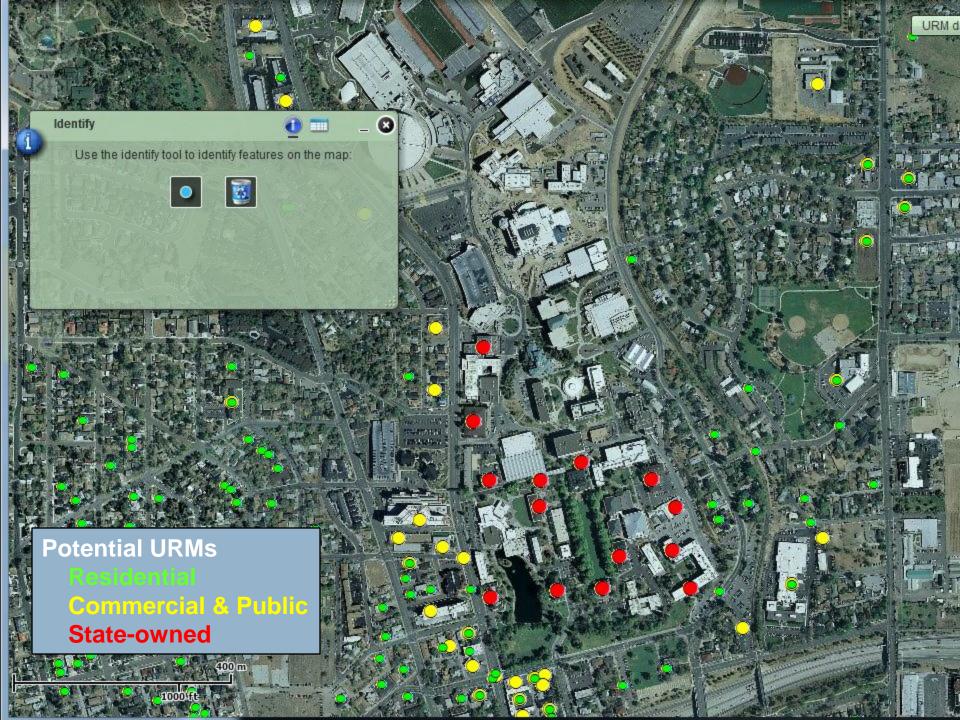


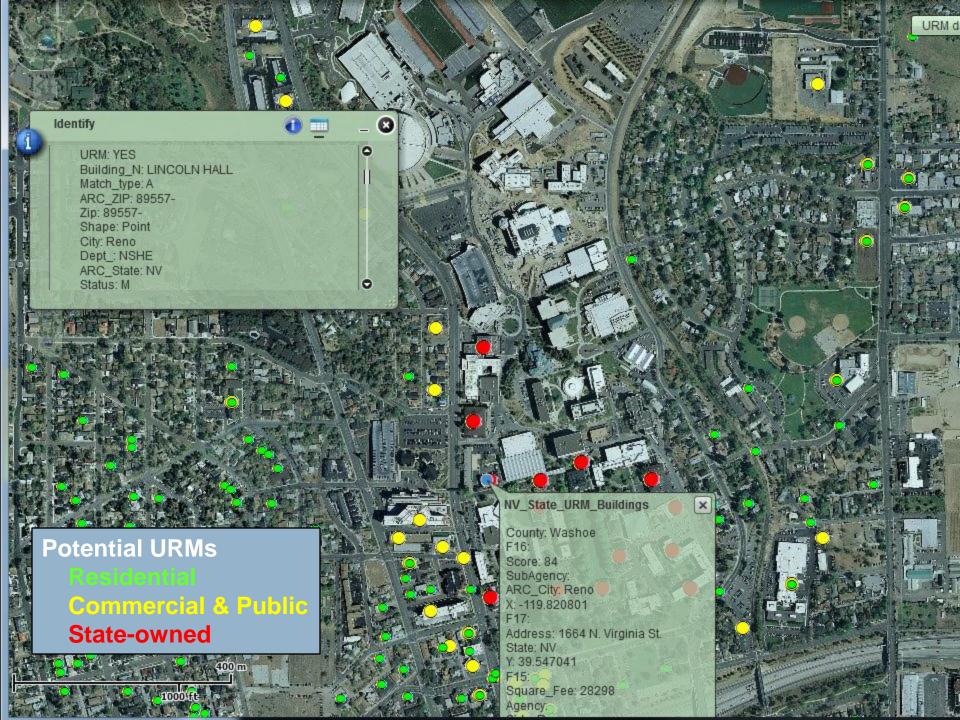


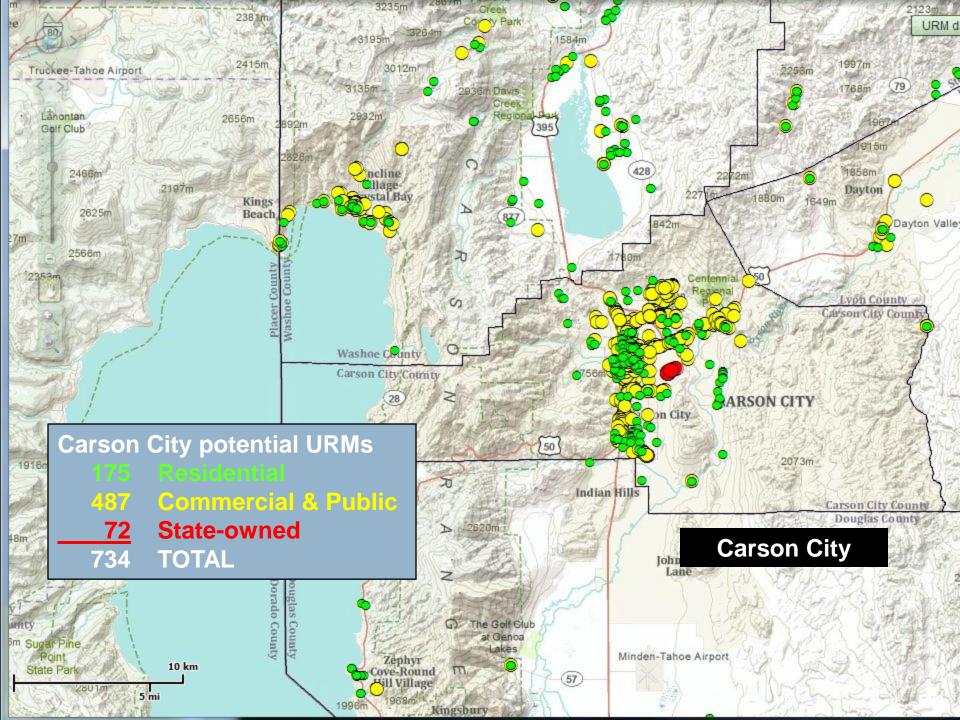


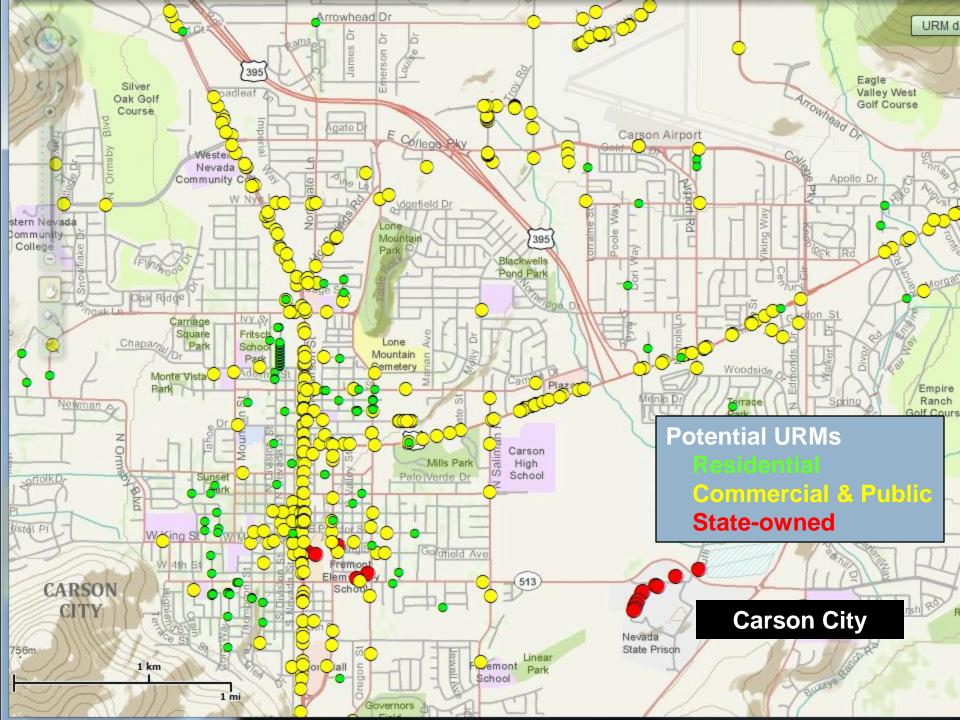


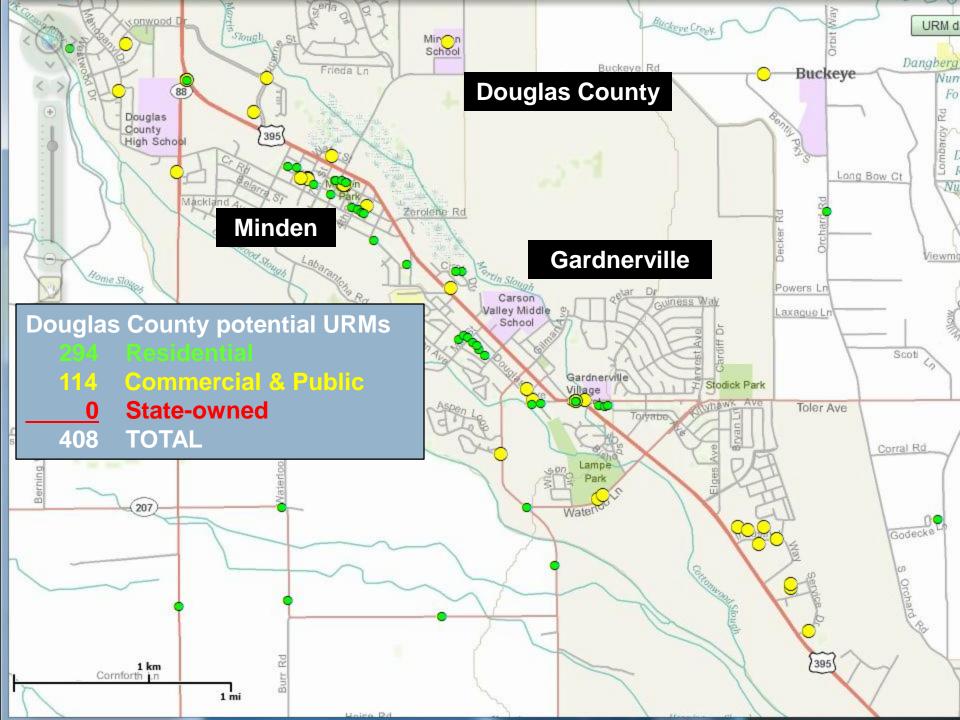


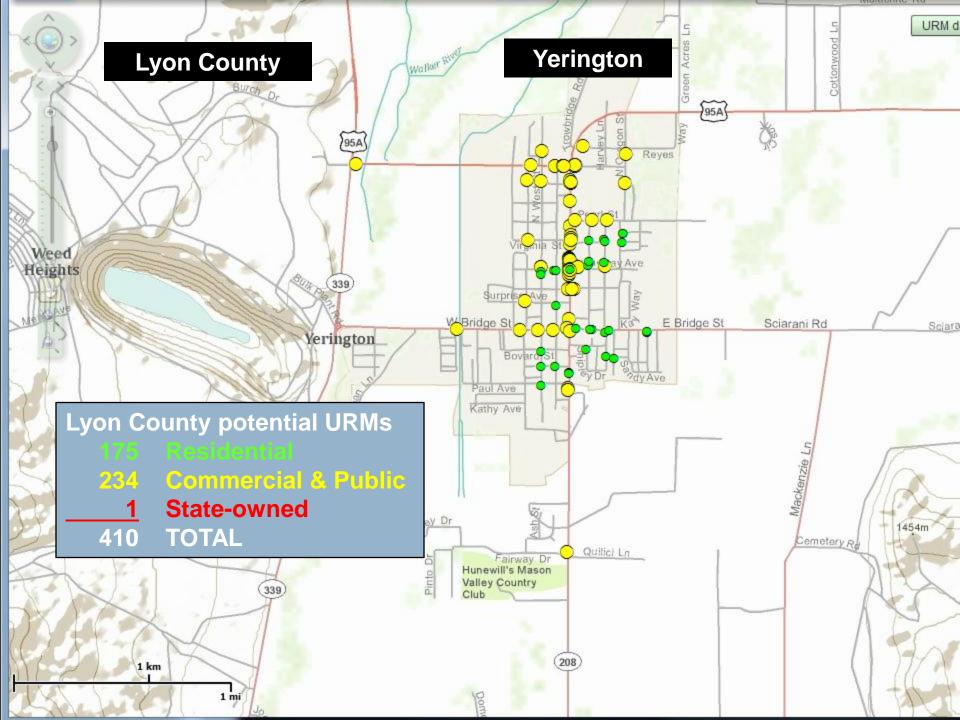


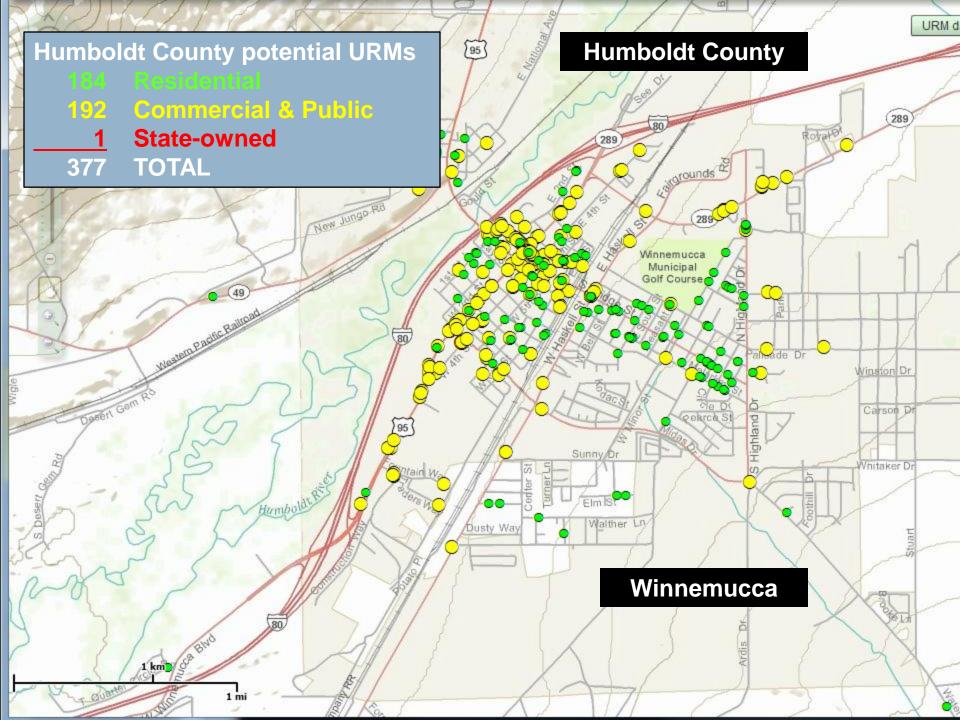


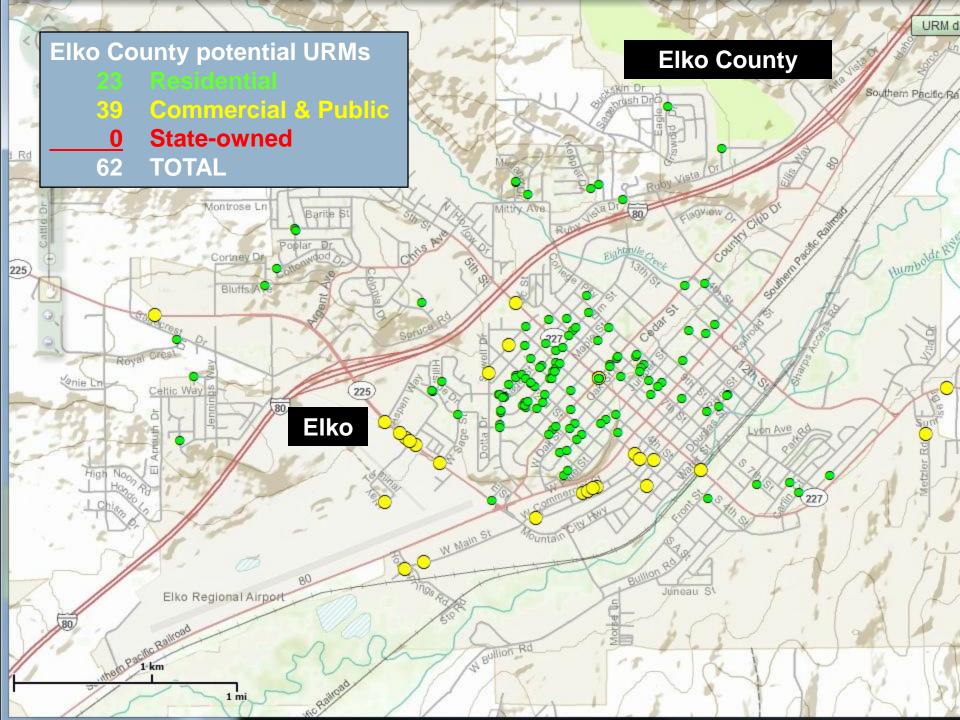


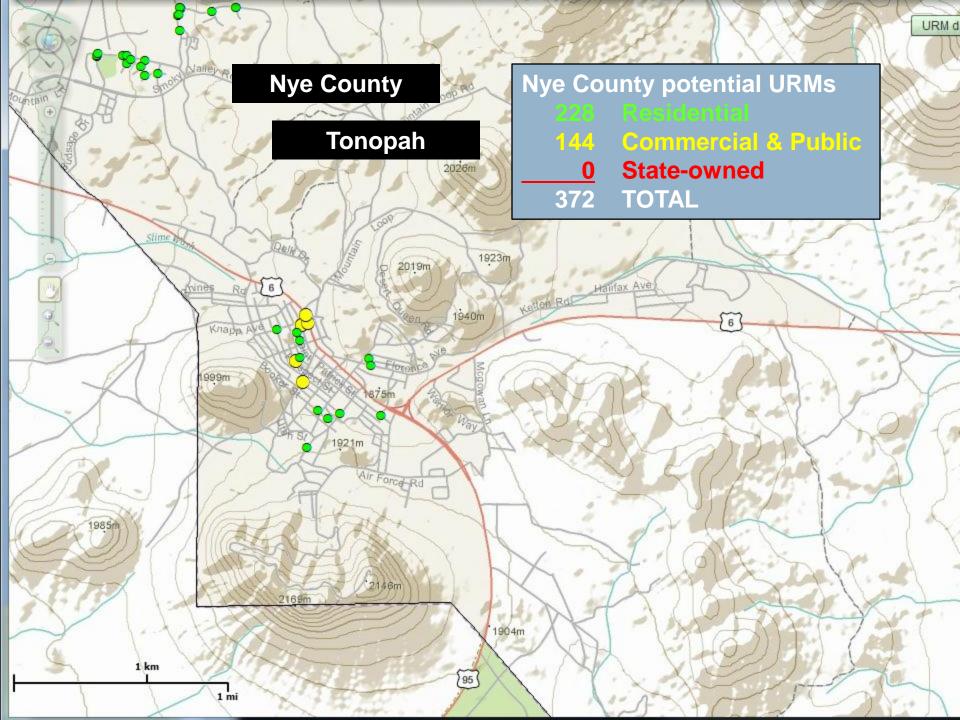


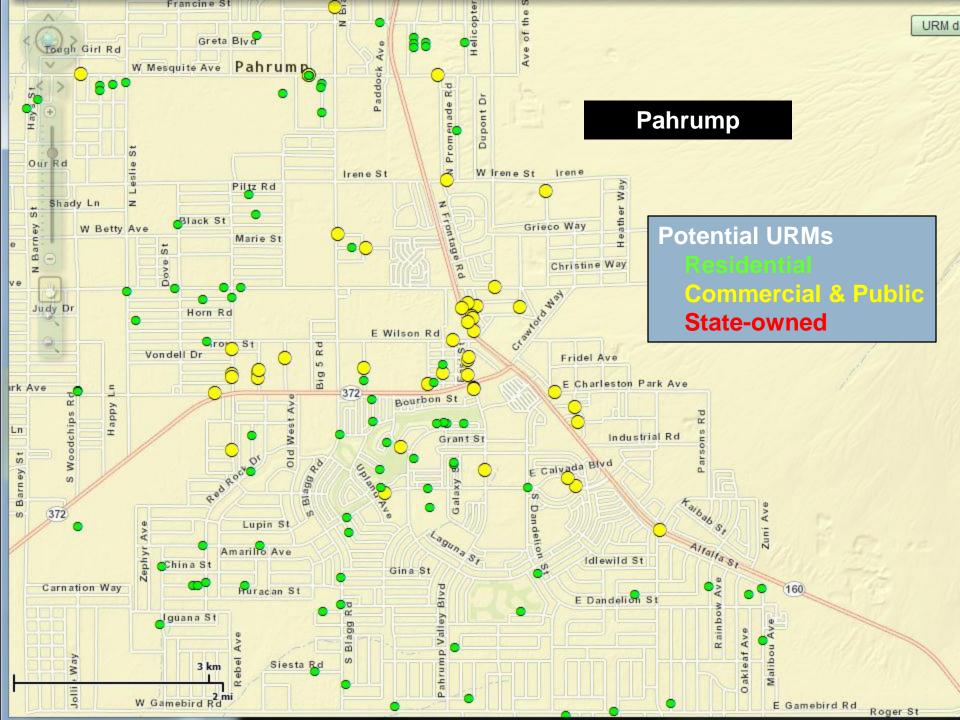












#### **Conclusions:**

There are tens of thousands of potential URMs in Nevada.

Potential URMs in Nevada – totals\*

7,354 Residential

16,145 Commercial & Public (city and county)

98 State-owned

23,597 TOTAL\*

URMs are located in every county and nearly every community in Nevada.

Many URMs are historically significant.

Many URMs are concentrated in downtown business districts and along thoroughfares.

<sup>\*</sup> The total does not include buildings owned by the federal government.

URMs are structures that commonly collapse in large earthquakes.

There are thousands of potential URMs in Nevada.

## So what? Who cares?

This is a problem of life safety and economic loss.

We can reduce the risks from URMs.

#### **Western States Seismic Policy Council:**

"Unreinforced masonry bearing-wall structures represent one of the greatest life safety threats and economic burdens to the public during a damaging earthquake. WSSPC recommends that each state, province or territory adopt a program to identify the extent of risk that unreinforced masonry structures represent in their communities and develop recommendations that will effectively address the reduction of this risk." Policy Recommendation 11-4 URMs are structures that commonly collapse in large earthquakes.

There are thousands of potential URMs in Nevada.

### So what? Who cares?

We can reduce the risks from URMs.

Recommendation 1 (draft): Jurisdictions (cities, counties, state) should use this County Assessors' data to follow up with on-the-ground inspections and checks of building plans. Individuals should determine if their buildings are URMs.

Recommendation 2 (draft): Jurisdictions should work toward seismically retrofitting URMs or removing them from human occupation. Take advantage of opportunities for federal funding for mitigation through FEMA. Bring buildings up to current code when remodeling. Learn from what other jurisdictions have done successfully. Provide incentives for individuals and businesses to retrofit URMs or to replace them with new buildings.

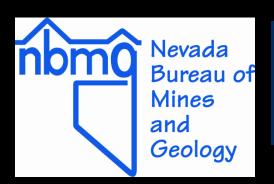
## Potential URMs in Nevada

This is a problem of life safety and economic loss.

There are tens of thousands of potential URMs in Nevada.

We can reduce the risks from URMs.

## Thank you!





Nevada Public Agency Insurance Pool – Wayne Carlson













#### **Number of potential URMs**

County	Commercial & Public*	<b>State</b>	<b>Residential</b>	Total#
<b>Carson City</b>	487	<b>72</b>	175	734
Churchill	177		192	369
Douglas	114		294	408
Elko	39		23	62
Eureka	0		35	35
Humboldt	192	1	184	377
Lander	57		67	124
Lyon	234	1	175	410
Mineral	60		57	117
Pershing	37		31	68
Storey	3		21	24
Washoe	2,445	21	3,322	5,788
White Pine	<u> 138</u>	1	93	232
Subtotal, N. Nevada	3,983	96	4,669	8,748
Clark	11,963		2,396	14,359
Esmeralda	2		14	16
Lincoln	53	2	47	102
Nye	<u> 144</u>		<b>228</b>	372
Subtotal, S. Nevada	12,162	2	2,685	14,849
All of Nevada	16,145	98	7,354	23,597

<sup>\*-</sup>Includes city and county buildings but not state or federal ones. #-Does not include federal buildings.

# The hazard: expressed in terms of probability of an earthquake of a given magnitude occurring within 50 years and within 50 km of the community.

	% Proba	bility of mag	gnitude greate	er than or ed	qual to magnitue	de
Community	5.0	5.5	6.0	6.5	7.0	
Dayton	>90	~80	70-75	50-55	12-15	
Carson City	>90	~80	70	50-55	12-15	
Reno	>90	~80	67	<b>5</b> 0	12-15	
Sparks	>90	~80	67	50	12-15	
Incline Village	>90	~80	60-70	40-50	10-12	
Stateline	>90	~80	60-70	40-50	10	
Fallon	80-90	~60	35	20-25	6-8	
Gerlach	40	~25	10-15	6-10	2-3	
Las Vegas	40-50	~30	12	4-5	< 0.5	
Elko	30-40	~25	10-15	6-8	0.5-1	
Wells	30-40	~20	9	6	0.5-1	
Laughlin	10-20	~5	2-3	0.5-1	< 0.5	

Data are from the USGS at http://eqint.cr.usgs.gov/eqprob/2002/index.php. Values for magnitude 5.5 are extrapolated between 5.0 and 6.0.

HAZUS estimates for total economic loss from a magnitude 6.0 earthquake and probability of an earthquake of this magnitude or greater occurring within 50 years and within 50 km of the community.

Community	<b>Total Economic Loss</b>	Probability in 50 years within 50 km
Las Vegas	\$7.2 billion	12%
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Total economic loss is from HAZUS. Probabilities are from the USGS at http://eqint.cr.usgs.gov/eqprob/2002/index.php.

