**Financial Incentives**

Funding and financial incentives are available for building retrofit and rehabilitation at the local, state, and federal government levels. Local governments can provide financial incentives and remove disincentives through a variety of methods including:

- Reducing or waiving building permit fees
- Waivers for zoning and parking requirements
- Low interest loans
- Grants
- Tax breaks
- Special assessment districts to generate funds
- Adaptive reuse ordinances
- Business improvement districts
- Planning and zoning incentives

Owners of religious structures should note that additional funding exists through private groups that specifically support buildings of religious significance, such as Partners for Sacred Places (see “Alternative Incentives”). The state and federal incentive programs listed in this brochure are based on information available from the California Department of Parks and Recreation, Office of Historic Preservation (OHP). For more information, please visit the OHP directly via their website at [www.ohp.parks.ca.gov](http://www.ohp.parks.ca.gov) to download the brochure titled, “Incentives for Historic Preservation in California”, or contact

California Department of Parks and Recreation  
Office of Historic Preservation  
ATTN: Tax Incentives Program  
PO. Box 942896  
Sacramento, California 94296-0001  
(916) 653-6624  
(916) 653-9824 fax  
calshpo@ohp.parks.ca.gov

**Additional Resources**

Heritage Preservation Services  
National Park Service  
1849 C Street, NW (2255)  
Washington, DC 20240  
Telephone: (202) 513-7270  
NPS_HPS-info@nps.gov

**Earthquake Engineering Research Institute**  
**Northern California Chapter**

Our mission is to reduce earthquake risk. Quake ’06 is our Chapter’s leading project: a campaign to reduce earthquake risk in the San Francisco Bay Area. Quake ’06 is a volunteer effort capitalizing on the extraordinary earthquake expertise in the Bay Area. It is a partnership between the earthquake professionals in EERI-NC and the cities, institutions, agencies, and others who “own” earthquake risk—including individual citizens and building owners.

Our website, [www.quake06.org](http://www.quake06.org), has more information about our active Quake ’06 committees, including Fact Sheets about risk in the Bay Area and Best Practices for earthquake risk reduction.

**Historic Buildings Committee**

Historic buildings and monuments present special challenges—and opportunities—when it comes to earthquake risk reduction.

- Archaic materials and detailing may be especially vulnerable to earthquakes
- Some projects qualify for special building codes with relaxed requirements
- Historic features often require unique retrofit techniques
- Some buildings qualify for tax rebates, fee waivers, and other financial incentives
- “Code” level retrofits are not intended to protect historic architectural fabric
- Landmark projects influence the larger community

Our goal is to bring stakeholders and experts together in order to reduce earthquake risk while achieving stakeholder objectives. Earthquake risk reduction is hard enough when safety competes with financial constraints, but historic preservation priorities often make decisions even more complex.

**Join Us**

You can’t work with buildings in California without addressing the earthquake issue. We invite you to learn from us, and to let us learn from you. Participation in Quake ’06 is free and open to all. To get involved, or just to get on our email list, send an email to Historic Buildings Committee Chair Nancy Tennebaum at nancy@tmesf.com.
Federal Incentives

Preserve America
www.preserveamerica.gov

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
www.achp.gov/funding.html

U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development
Community Development Block Grants
http://www.hud.gov

National Park Service
20% Rehabilitation Tax Credit
10% Rehabilitation Tax Credit
Conservation Easements
Investment Tax Credit for Low Income Housing
http://www.cr.nps.gov/hps/tps/

U.S. Dept. of Transportation
The Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century
http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/tea21/

U.S. Small Business Administration
Disaster Loan Assistance
http://www.sba.gov

Americans with Disability Act
Disabled Access Tax Credit
Expenditures to Remove Architectural and Transportation Barriers
to the Handicapped and Elderly, as amended
http://www.usdoj.gov/crt/ada/taxpack.htm

State Incentives

California Cultural and Historical Endowment
California Heritage Fund – Proposition 40
http://www.library.ca.gov/CCHE/

Certified Local Government Grants
http://www.ohp.parks.ca.gov/

California Earthquake Authority
http://www.earthquakeauthority.com/

California Dept. of Insurance
Earthquake Retrofit Programs
http://www.insurance.ca.gov/

Mills Act
Property Tax Abatement Program
http://www.ohp.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=21412

California Health and Safety Code
Sections 37600 - 37693
Marks Historical Rehabilitation Act
http://www.leginfo.ca.gov

California Revenue and Taxation Code
Sections 70(d) and 74.5
Seismic Bond Act
http://www.finance.ca.gov

Center for Creative Land Recycling
http://www.cclr.org

Alternative Incentives

The J. Paul Getty Trust
Architectural Conservation Planning Grants
Architectural Conservation Implementation Grants
Campus Heritage Grants
http://www.getty.edu/grants/

National Endowment for the Arts
Grants for Arts Projects
http://www.nea.gov/grants/index.html

National Endowment for the Humanities
http://www.neh.gov/grants/index.html

The 1772 Foundation
http://www.1772foundation.org/1772/index.jsp

Save America's Treasures
http://www.saveamericastreasures.org/

National Trust for Historic Preservation
National Main Street Center
National Trust Loan Funds
Preservation Development Initiative
Tax Credit Equity Investments
Cynthia Woods Mitchell Fund
Johanna Favrot Fund
Preservation Services Fund
http://www.nationaltrust.org/

Partners for Sacred Places
http://www.sacredplaces.org/