

## **Western States Seismic Policy Council 2014 Lifetime Achievement Award in Earthquake Risk Reduction**

***Ron Lynn, Director/Building & Fire Official  
Clark County Department of Building & Fire Prevention Bureau***



Nevada's Ron Lynn has been a champion of earthquake safety throughout his career. Educated as a geologist at the University of Nevada at Las Vegas, his professional endeavors have followed a path that has kept him continually trumpeting the cause of earthquake safety. Participating in the development of codes and standards for over 30 years – many directly impacting the seismic resilience of buildings and structures using the Uniform and International Building Codes – Mr. Lynn was one of the first to submit code language addressing soils/building interaction, leading to an awareness within the code that soils are a critical component for the performance of buildings in an earthquake. His ability to collaborate with scientists, engineers, building owners, businesses, and the public have enabled a more efficient dissemination of seismic standards in our communities.

Mr. Lynn has been with the Clark County Department of Development Services since 1981. As Director of the Department of Building & Fire Prevention Bureau, he was one of the first local government jurisdictions to join as an affiliate member of WSSPC. He has been a member of the WSSPC Engineering, Construction and Building Codes Committee since 1999, and currently serves as committee chair. In 2002, his department was recognized with an Award in Excellence for mitigation efforts for the Mitigation of Fault Related Hazards – shared with the Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology (NBMG) – for implementing regulations that established “special geotechnical consideration areas” within 2,000 feet of NBMG mapped faults, and required setbacks from faults. Most recently, his department was one of the first government entities in the State of Nevada to support the Great Nevada Shake Out by providing training as well as public service announcements to stimulate participation in seismic safety awareness.

Mr. Lynn has lectured in New Zealand, Australia, Mexico and Canada – as well as throughout the United States – on the importance of securing the built environment from natural and manmade disasters. His knowledge and professionalism has helped bring success in the passage of important legislation on seismic issues for statewide benefits, and his involvement with the Nevada Organization of Building Officials allowed him a platform to promote earthquake code changes to those charged with implication and management of building codes throughout Nevada. He has received numerous awards and wide recognition for his work, including: the Ronald H. Brown Award by the U.S. Planning Committee of World Standards Day; the Associated General Contractors 2002 Government Person of the Year; recognition in 2009 by the U.S. Congress for his contributions in building safety; the 2009 Superior Technical Achievement Award from Fiatech; a 2010 Senatorial Commendation for his commitment to building safety, energy conservation, and emergency response; and a proclamation by the Governor of Nevada declaring December 9, 2010, as Ronald L. Lynn Day.

Mr. Lynn has served on a variety of local, state and national committees during his career: he is past President of the International Code Council; past member of the Board of Directors of the International Accreditation Service; first Chairman of the Board of International Professional Standards for ICC; past chair of the ICBO Special Inspections Committee and Immediate Past Chairman of the Nevada Organization of Building Officials. He is currently Chairman for the Nevada Earthquake Safety Council and the ICC Major Jurisdictions Committee; a member of the National Institute of Building Sciences Building Seismic Safety Council's Board of Direction, the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program's Advisory Committee on Earthquake Hazards Reduction, the Nevada State Hazard Mitigation Planning Steering Committee, and the Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology Advisory Committee.