Allison M. Pyrch, PE, GE

Principal Resilience and Geotechnical Engineer

A native Oregonian, Allison has been a long-term local advocate for better resilience planning in the Pacific Northwest. Resilience means planning for any disaster. Allison chairs the Oregon Seismic Safety Policy Advosory Commission and leads the ASCE (American Society of Civil Engineers) Infrastructure Resilience Division - Disaster Reconnaissance and Recovery Committee. In order to learn more how other countries have weathered similar events, Allison travelled with ASCE to the 2010 Chile, 2011 Japan, and 2017 Mexico earthquake areas to study the aftermath and recovery efforts. Since then, Allison has given dozens of presentations to community partners and has worked with OPB and ASCE to promote seismic awareness here at home. She was featured prominently in the award-winning OPB documentary *Unprepared*, as well as the Al Jazeera program *TechKnow,* and the new 2024 documentary Rumblings – Preparing for Cascadia. She was part of the team that developed the Oregon Resilience Plan and is a certified trainer for the California Emergency Management Safety Assessment Program for building evaluations after disasters.

Education

MS, Civil (Geotechnical) Engineering, Oregon State University, 2003

BS, Civil Engineering, Oregon State University, 2002

BS, Math, Whitman College, 1999

Relevant Registrations

Professional Engineer and Geotechnical Engineer, Oregon and California

Professional Engineer, Civil, Engineering, Washington, Guam, Nevada, and Hawaii

Professional Affiliations

American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)

Society of American Military Engineers (SAME)

American Public Works Association (APWA)

Contact

To contact Allison with questions or to schedule a presentation: allison.pyrch@stantec.com

Her seismic vulnerability work has led her to study all disasters and to incorporate climate risks into her work and the need for such planning for seismic and climate conditions in the northwest . Allison’s projects work with public works, facilities managers, and emergency and risk managers to assess vulnerabilities, develop mitigation, and prioritize improvemetns for climate and seismic disasters.

As a geotechnical engineer with more than 20 years of experience, her projects can be found all over the Portland Oregon metro area as well as throughout Oregon and Washington and Hawaii. Allison was recognized as the 2014 American Society of Civil Engineer’s Oregon Young Engineer of the Year and 2018 Engineer of the Year, a 2016 Woman of Vision by the Daily Journal of Commerce, and a 2020 Woman of Influence by the Portland Business Journal. As a recognized community leader on resilience issues and frequent participant in town hall meetings and expert forums, Allison has testified to the legislature on resilience, and volunteers with community groups to encourage community preparedness. On top of all this, she finds time to indulge in her hobbies, such as racing in the Rose Festival Dragon Boat Festival every year, volunteering at a youth horse group, and enjoying the vast beauty of the Pacific Northwest landscape, including hiking, skiing, and PNW wines.