PASADENA CITY HALL

TYPES OF ISOLATORS

High-Damping Rubber

Lead Core Rubber

Friction Pendulum

WHAT IS SEISMIC ISOLATION?

Seismic isolation is the "separation" of the building from the ground, severing the rigid structure-to-ground connection with mechanical devices located between the structure and the foundation. The isolator is designed to relieve most of the destructive earthquake movement, thus protecting the building.

WHAT WE ARE DOING TO PASADENA CITY HALL

Forell/Elsesser is currently providing structural engineering services for the seismic rehabilitation and base isolation of the historic Pasadena City Hall. The project consists of structural upgrades to the building's superstructure, as well as the installation of a base isolation system that will permit the entire building to move during a major seismic event.

The seismic isolation process consists of removal of the original basement floor slab, excavation and installation of a new foundation, placement of a new basement floor transfer system, and installation of 240 friction pendulum isolators between the foundation and basement level. Conventional shear walls are being installed on the East end of the building's wings, and the existing arcade was demolished and replaced with a new structure that ties the building's two wings together.

PROJECT TEAM

Owner: City of Pasadena
Architect: Architectural Resource Group
Structural: Forell/Elsesser Engineers, Inc.
CM: DMJM Management
Contractor: Clark Construction

FORELL/ELESSER ENGINEERS, INC.