Creating a resilient multimodal transportation system
THE WSDOT WAY

OUR PRIMARY FOCUS AREAS:

1 Asset Management

We’re working to identify, map and evaluate our assets and climate risks; this aids in understanding the threats to our system.

- WSDOT’s Climate Impacts Vulnerability Assessment
  This GIS map is the basis for our consideration of climate risk in planning and project design. We created an easily replicable method, tailored from FHWA’s conceptual model for determining asset vulnerability.

- Seismic Lifeline Route
  WSDOT has been working to improve our seismic resiliency for over two decades. Recently, we have focused our efforts on a specific lifeline route to enable federal support and supplies to reach Federal Staging Areas across Western Washington.

- State Ferries plan for 2040 incorporates resilience in its long-range planning for terminals and ferry operations

2 Practical Solutions

Simply stated, WSDOT views Practical Solutions as the right investment, at the right time, in the right place, using the right approach.

- By using nature-based solutions such as placing cobble instead of rip/rap along shorelines to mimic a natural beach. It absorbs wave energy while minimizing effects on adjacent shorelines.
- By using root balls along river banks, we create a more natural approach to erosion and scour, while providing habitat for fish.
- We’re using nature-based solutions such as placing cobble instead of rip/rap along shorelines to mimic a natural beach. It absorbs wave energy while minimizing effects on adjacent shorelines.

3 Project Design and Program Operations

- SR 99 Tunnel and SR 520 Floating Bridge – We considered seismic risk, storms, sea level rise and other potential disruptions as part of the project design for these large, complex projects.
- Integrated Vegetation Management – Our roadside design and management strategy restores native vegetation and allows roadside plant communities to evolve and mature over time, resulting in lowest lifecycle maintenance costs and maximum highway operation, environmental, and social values.

WSDOT SEEKS TO IMPROVE IN THESE AREAS:

Better coordination among jurisdictions:
- How we identify and address network and system vulnerabilities with transportation partners and communities.
- How to meet the needs of vulnerable communities, and improve evacuation plans for transit-dependent, low income, elderly, people with disabilities – wherever they live.

Greater engagement of resilience planning throughout the agency:
- Ways we incorporate risk of natural hazards into life cycle cost accounting, and programming.

WSDOT’S DEFINITION OF RESILIENCE

The term “resilience” means the ability to prepare for, and adapt to, changing conditions and withstand and recover rapidly from disruptions.

Adopted from:

FOR MORE INFORMATION, GO TO:
www.wsdot.wa.gov/SustainableTransportation/adapting.htm

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