



Department of Commerce

Improving Community Resilience: One Local Project at a Time

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We strengthen communities

The Department of Commerce touches every aspect of community and economic development. We work with local governments, businesses and civic leaders to strengthen communities so all residents may thrive and prosper.



Planning



Infrastructure



Community Facilities



Housing



Safety /
Crime Victims

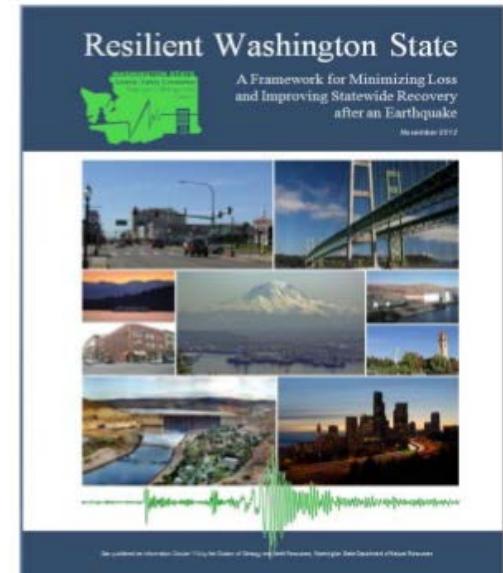


Business
Assistance



Governor's Resilient Washington Subcabinet

- Based on a recent report from the state's Seismic Safety Committee, Governor Inslee created a Subcabinet to address the recommendations developed by the Committee.
- Commerce was tasked within the Governor's Executive Order establishing the Subcabinet to: assess gaps, recommend priority actions, and identify collaboration opportunities on key issues.
- Commerce led or supported Subcabinet workgroups related to 3 of the 10 recommendations, including building performance standards, utilities, and business continuity planning efforts.
- Final report delivered and briefed the Governor in September 2017 for review.



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Commerce's Community Resilience Initiative



“Resilience is the capability to anticipate risk, limit impact, and recover through survival, adaptability, growth and evolution in the face of abrupt or chronic change.”

— WA State Department of Commerce

(adapted from Rockefeller 100 Resilient Cities)



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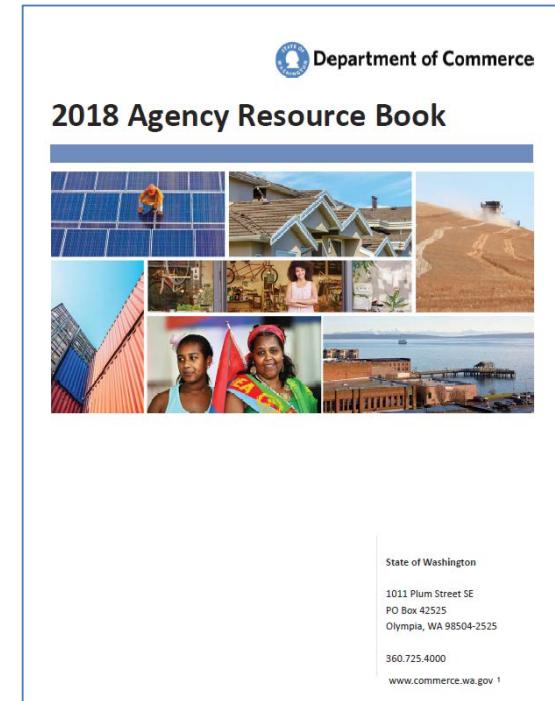
Commerce's Community Resilience Initiative

- Concurrently with the Governor's Subcabinet, Commerce's Executive Leadership Team identified 3 key areas for the agency to integrate its unique and diverse programs around in the near-term to strengthen communities:
 - Affordable housing & homelessness,
 - Rural and underserved communities, and
 - Improving community resilience.
- Our ultimate goal is to ensure that we are able to leverage the diverse array of 110+ programs housed within Commerce to help local & tribal communities achieve their resilience objectives.



Commerce Programs: Where Resilience meets the Road

- Growth Management Services
- Critical Areas Technical Assistance
- Clean Energy Revolving Loan Fund
- Community Development Block Grant
- Mobile & Manufactured Home Relocation Assistance
- Retired and Senior Volunteer Program
- Bond Cap Allocation Program
- Community Capital Facilities Program
- Community Economic Revitalization Board
- Public Works Board
- Many more in our Agency Resource Book:
www.commerce.wa.gov/about-us



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Resilience in Action at Commerce

- Community Economic and Revitalization Board (CERB) supported the Quileute Tribe's planning efforts for relocation of their village out of the tsunami hazard zone and areas affected by erosion and climate change to higher ground.
- Commerce's Clean Energy Fund supported the installation of new battery storage technology, which is designed to help make the grid smarter and keep the lights on when the power goes out.
- New standards for affordable housing projects managed by our Housing Trust Fund require project developers to create emergency plans in order to protect life safety, property, and public/private investments.
- New Capital Budget funding to conduct a study of earthquake-vulnerable unreinforced masonry (URM) buildings within Washington



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