Technology, Economic Development, and Veterans Committee

Update on Disaster Resilience Actions

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December 5, 2025

Why Disaster Resilience Matters Now

- Disaster risk is increasing while support for disaster assistance is shrinking.
- Disproportionate impacts on rural areas and vulnerable populations.
- Every **$1 in mitigation saves $6 in recovery costs**.



Disaster Resilience Unit Actions 2024-2025

- Supported **164+ mitigation grants** totaling **$258M** in risk-reduction projects for earthquakes, wildfires, tsunamis, floods.
- Conducted **300+ outreach events**, reaching **120,000 residents**.
- Launched the update of the **State Enhanced Hazard Mitigation Plan**, maintaining eligibility for **$1.5B** in federal funding.
- Strengthened statewide coordination across **state, local, tribal, and private partners**.





Challenges and Emerging Threats

- Cancellation and delays of federal grants
- State-level fiscal constraints; **DRU funding cut by 50%**
- Critical positions at risk
- Increasing risks due to climate change and aging infrastructure.







2026 Work Plan: Sustaining Resilience with Existing Resources

- Maximize impact of existing staff and resources; maintain critical services.
- Expand partnerships to improve customer service and consistency statewide.
- Support communities with existing technical assistance.
- Continue collaboration with agencies (Ecology, Commerce, DNR, OIC) on climate resilience and SEHMP update.



Future Work Plans

- Strengthen state investment in hazard mitigation and resilient infrastructure
- Expand resilience planning and technical assistance
- Enhance public education, outreach, and equity
- Build coastal and maritime resilience
- Develop a statewide disaster resilience strategy
- Improve data integration and decision-making tools

