



COLORADO RESILIENCY FRAMEWORK



*Roadmap to
Resiliency*

The Colorado Resiliency Framework (Framework) represents the State of Colorado's commitment to a more resilient future. The Framework is informed by engagement with Coloradans, identification and analysis of risks and vulnerabilities, and ultimately the identification of concrete activities that are within the purview of the State to implement. The Framework represents a call to action and partnership and seeks to empower those with a stake in resiliency to participate in making it an ongoing priority and reality.

Roles

Governor's Office and Cabinet Level Leadership

The Framework benefits from leadership and a continued commitment to resiliency at the highest level of state government through its adoption.

Colorado Resiliency and Recovery Office (CRRO)

The CRRO will continue to coordinate the State of Colorado's resiliency efforts in partnership with all levels of government, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to:

- Convene
- Facilitate
- Communicate
- Empower

Colorado Resiliency Working Group (CRWG)

The CRWG will be chaired by the CRRO and serve as a leadership team that oversees and coordinates resiliency activity across State agencies to:

- Enhance cross-agency collaboration & communication
- Integrate resiliency into agency policies and plans
- Develop sector specific action plans
- Monitor progress
- Identify resources
- Educate partners and constituents



Communities are invited to play a role in the Framework's implementation through the following actions:

- Inform the CRWG and CRRO of local perspectives
- Provide lessons learned and best practice examples
- Utilize the Framework in the development of their own resiliency strategies
- Serve as ambassadors to expand resiliency knowledge

Colorado is not immune to disasters. Over the past decade it has experienced a nearly \$4 billion flood in 2013, wildfires in 2010, 2012, and 2013 that destroyed nearly 1250 homes, and a tornado that left a scar through multiple communities in 2008, and many others.



"On the morning of September 12, 2013, 20% of our kids lost their homes and another 60% were displaced for 3 months. We started school in a borrowed building and stayed there for 3 months. With all the adversity and suffering at many levels they persevered. The Children of Lyons taught the adults the meaning of resiliency. They ROSE ABOVE."

—Resiliency Hero Nomination

Immediately after the onset of the 2013 floods, Governor Hickenlooper made clear that Colorado would not simply recover from the floods and restore Colorado to its pre-disaster condition. Rather, "Colorado would build back stronger, better - more resilient".

"Resiliency is not simply something that Colorado wants to do. It is something that we must do - to ensure our safety, vitality and unique way of life into the future."

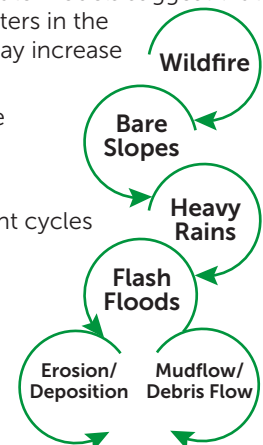
—John Hickenlooper, Governor of Colorado

The Framework was designed to address all hazards whether natural or man-made. Disease, economic recession, power outages, industrial accidents and terrorism are all potential hazards in Colorado. The Framework initiates a dialogue on how to overcome hazard challenges and strengthen systems that support Colorado's continued growth, recreation, beauty and quality of life.

Higher natural variability observed from prehistoric indicators and the trends inferred by climate models suggest that the frequency and severity of disasters in the drought/wildfire/flood cycle may increase in future due to:

- Changes in temperature
- Changes in seasonal water availability
- Intensification of drought cycles

Increased Flash-Flood Risks of Heavy Rain During or Following Drought



Colorado Resiliency Framework

Call to Action

Expand Knowledge • Build Community • Be an Advocate • Provide Flexibility

Actions

The State of Colorado will initiate the following in the first year:

- Educate and Engage
- Develop Risk and Vulnerability Assessment Tools
- Advance Local Resiliency Strategies
- Establish the Colorado Community Resiliency Partnership Fund
- Create Mapping and Land Use Tools
- Develop Statewide Resiliency Indicators
- Prepare an Annual Operating Plan and Resiliency Report
- Develop and Refine Resiliency Metrics

Resiliency Prioritization Criteria

State resiliency strategies and projects will be prioritized using the following criteria to ensure limited resources are leveraged for multiple, triple-bottom-line returns.

Co-Benefits

Address problems across multiple sectors to create maximum benefit.

High Risk and Vulnerability

Reduce risk to human well-being, physical infrastructure, and natural systems.

Economic Benefit-Cost:

Make good financial investments for both the investors and the broader community.

Social Equity

Include populations that are often most fragile and vulnerable to sudden impact.

Technical Soundness

Apply best practices that have been tested and proven to work in a similar regional context.

Innovation

Advance new approaches and techniques that maximize efforts and resources and serve as models for others in Colorado and beyond.

Adaptive Capacity

Consider future unknowns of changing climate, economic, and social conditions.

Harmonize with Existing Activity

Expand, enhance, or leverage work being done to build on existing efforts.

Long-Term and Lasting Impact

Create solutions that are replicable and sustainable, creating benefit for present and future generations.

Community Actions

Actions that communities can take to expand the impact of the Framework include:

- Plan and coordinate regionally
- Dedicate staff to resiliency
- Engage leadership
- Develop local resiliency strategies
- Prioritize and implement projects
- Invest in resiliency
- Evaluate and update local land use practices and codes
- Educate and engage community organizations and members
- Establish new or support existing networks
- Establish peer to peer relationships



Photo credit: Regis University

Looking Forward - A Resilient Colorado in 5 years

- Model projects are built and replicated by others.
- Resiliency is incorporated into local plans and resiliency officers are staff positions within local government.
- Long-term local and state budgets incorporate resiliency investments.
- Colorado Resiliency Partnership Fund is established and financing resiliency projects.
- Neighborhoods and networks utilize resiliency practices.
- Regional economic blueprints include a hazard and vulnerability assessment.
- Risk and vulnerability mapping, community inclusion mapping, and model land use codes are adopted and utilized by communities.
- Transportation and watersheds plan and design together, and repair jointly.
- Design and implementation of natural and built systems is integrated.
- Impacted residents and businesses are able to continue to live and operate in their communities after a disaster event.
- Colorado is a national model for statewide resiliency.



Photo credit: Denver Housing Authority



Photo credit: Colorado Department of Transportation

Resiliency

The ability of communities to rebound, positively adapt to, or thrive amidst changing conditions or challenges – including disasters and climate change – and maintain quality of life, healthy growth, durable systems and conservation of resources for present and future generations.

—Definition of resiliency adopted by
Colorado Resiliency Working Group (CRWG)



COLORADO

Resiliency & Recovery Office

Governor John W. Hickenlooper

www.ColoradoUnited.com