

# Building Resilience to Extreme Events in Regional Infrastructure Systems

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University of Chile August 2010



# Big Picture

- Everyone is talking about resilience, for good reasons
- Most work is retrospective, theoretical, narrative, not applied or practical
- Our approach: characterize resilience and set priorities for mitigation action
- This presentation discusses resilience and mitigation priorities for an earthquake scenario in the Greater Vancouver, Canada



# Acknowledgements

- The U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF)
- The Knowledge-building, Outreach and Awareness (KOA) program of Infrastructure Canada
- The Climate Decision Making Center at Carnegie Mellon University funded by NSF
- Team members at the University of British Columbia and University of Washington : Tim McDaniels, Stephanie Chang, Dorothy Reed, Jana Fox, Raj Dhariwal, Holly Longstaff, David Hawkins, Courtney Beaubien, & Gerard Chew

# Introduction overview

- Resilience
  - Concepts and definitions
- Infrastructure Failure Interdependencies (IFIs)
- Our approach
  - Study methods
  - Key findings
  - Publications



Flood preparations along the Fraser River  
(June 2007, New Westminster, BC)



Collapse of Shi-wei Bridge, 1999 Chi-Chi  
Taiwan earthquake (Photograph by Ian G.  
Buckle, MCEER)

# The concept of resilience

- A significant concept to many fields including psychology, materials science, economics, and environmental studies
- Many reasons to embrace the concept, but strikingly little practical efforts as to how to make decisions to apply it
- Related important concept: systemic risk (layers of systems, in which risks run across layers of governance)
- characteristics of resilience according to the resilience Alliance:
  1. “The amount of change the system can undergo and still retain the same controls on function and structure”

# Resilience defined

- While definitions of resilience differ, they concur that resilient complex systems (including ecological, engineering or even governance systems) are those that can absorb shocks while still maintaining function

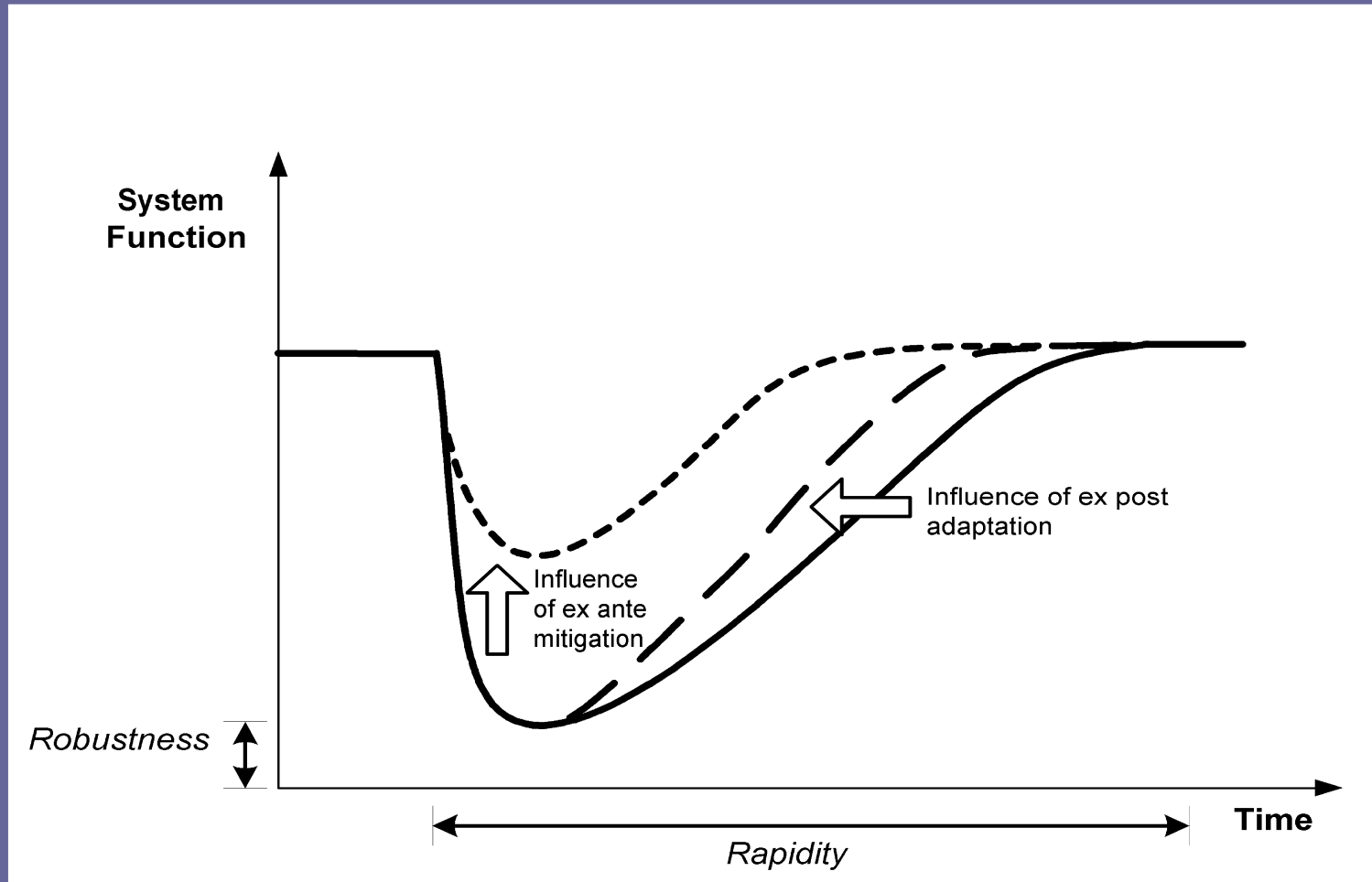


# Key properties of resilience

The MCEER framework for resilience identifies "robustness" and "rapidity" as two key properties of resilience.

- *Robustness*: "the ability... to withstand a given level of stress... without suffering degradation or loss of function"
- *Rapidity*: "the capacity to meet priorities and achieve goals in a timely manner in order to contain losses and avoid future disruption." (MCEER, 2006, p.19)

# Effects of decision-making on resilience



\* From McDaniels, Chang et al, forthcoming in Global Environmental Change



# Regional resilience

- Many researchers have called for research needed on understanding disaster resilience in the context of cities (Godschalk, 2003)
- Calls for concerted efforts aimed at making cities and interconnected urban regions more "disaster-resilient" (1999; UN ISDR, 2005; Berke and Campanella, 2006).

# Fostering infrastructure resilience

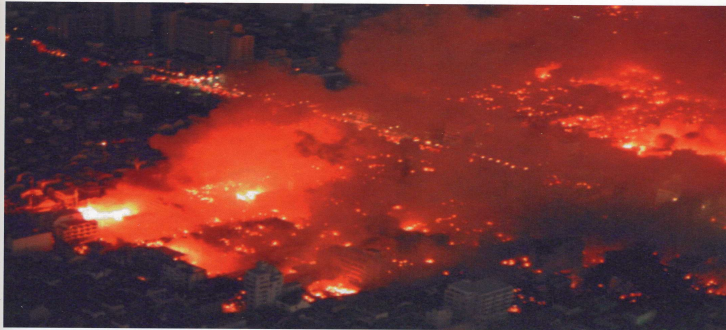
- Cross-sectoral planning for infrastructure resilience faces at least three challenges: (1) incomplete incentives, (2) partial information, & (3) few opportunities for learning.
- Hence relying only on market incentives for firms to control risk is not enough. There is a high level of “systemic risk” that arises over and above firm risk
- Our approach addresses these challenges through structured data-gathering and information-sharing in a new approach to regional infrastructure planning



# Infrastructure Failure Interdependencies

IFIs are failures in one infrastructure system that are due to failures in another infrastructure system.

## FIRE FOLLOWING EARTHQUAKE



Large fires following strong earthquakes have long been considered to be capable of producing losses comparable to those resulting from the shaking.

The risks are particularly high in Japan because of high population densities; very narrow streets and alleys, which cannot act as fire breaks; numerous old wood-frame smaller commercial and residential buildings mixed in the commercial zones of towns; unanchored or unprotected gas storage tanks or heaters; and a mix of collapse-prone old buildings in all built-up areas. These risks were most recently exhibited in the large fire that destroyed much of the town of Aomae on the island of Okushiri during the M<sub>s</sub> 7.8, July 12, 1993, Hokkaido Nansai-oki Earthquake.

Many Japanese municipalities, and particularly Tokyo, have long considered

earthquake-generated fires to be very high risks, and various risk management programs have been started in Japan. Kobe, for example, had specially constructed underground cisterns for fighting fires if parts or all of the distribution water lines failed. However, whatever measures had been taken in Kobe were overwhelmed following the January 17 earthquake.

The Kobe Fire Department (KFD) is a modern, well-trained fire response agency, organized into Prevention, Suppression, and General Affairs sections, and a Fire Academy. The city is divided into 11 wards for fire protection purposes. KFD maintains 11 fire stations and 15 branch stations, served by 1,298 uniformed personnel. Equipment includes two helicopters, two fireboats, and 196 vehicles. Other equipment includes 72 portable pumps. Fire engines carry predomi-

*Fire in central Kobe.*

EQE

73

*Power outage in Kobe led to:*

- Malfunction of traffic signals
- Loss of satellite emergency communications
- Hospital shutdowns
- Loss of water filtration plants and pump stations
- Loss of water and elevators in high-rises
- Fire ignitions (gas leaks and electricity sparks)
- Lack of heating at shelters

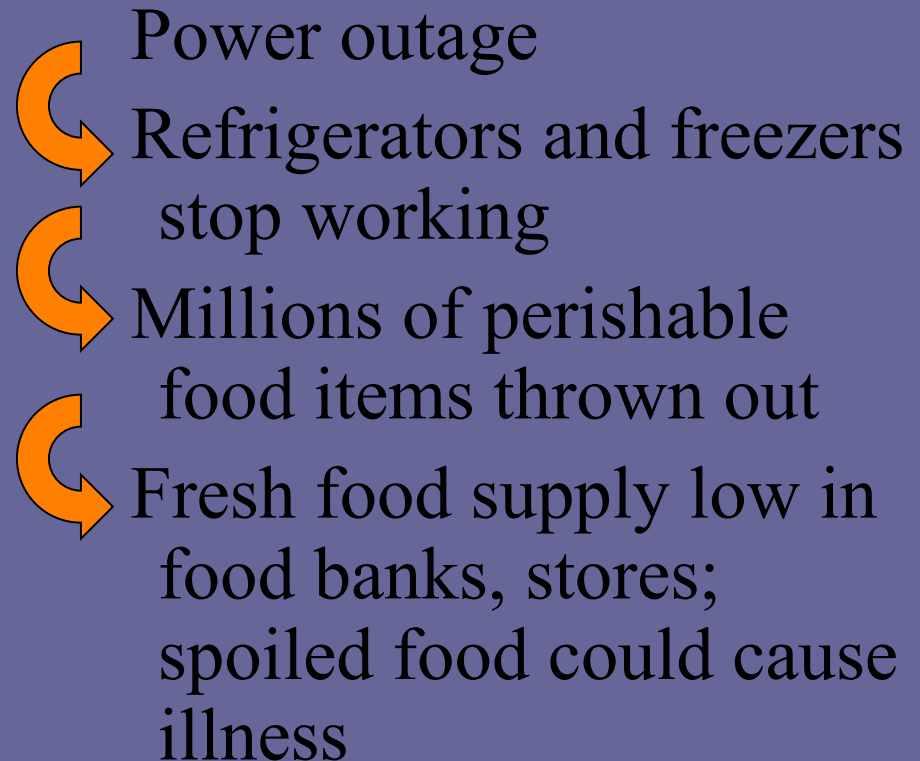
Urban fires in 1995 Kobe Earthquake  
(Nojima and Kameda, 1996)



# Database of Interdependencies and Impacts

- Initiating event
- Interdependency
  - Impacted system
- Consequence
  - Severity
  - Type
  - Spatial extent
  - No. people
  - Duration
- 10 events, 785 unique records

## EXAMPLE:



# Overall approach

- Emphasis on IFIs as major source of societal impact
- Reliance on judgments of informed participants (infrastructure system owners and operators) to characterize vulnerability, informed by historical review of experience in similar extreme events
- Also use judgments to help set priorities for regionally oriented mitigation efforts to build resilience
- Overall: vulnerability and decision process to increase resilience and overcome governance gaps

# AIDRC Approach

## Hazard Scenario & Extreme Event Database

- Develop basic hazard scenario (focusing event)
- Summarize previous experience (actual events)

## Expert Interviews

- Infrastructure disruption and recovery
- Infrastructure interdependencies
- Cross-sector expectations

## Data Synthesis

- Detailed hazard scenario
- Service disruption diagrams
- Interdependencies diagrams

## Information Sharing, Feedback & Revision

- Workshop
- Major regional concerns
- Summary reports



# Approaches to CI Interdependencies

	OUR STUDY	JELC	JIIRP	Emerald Links
Data	Empirical obs., Experts	Experts	Engineering	Experts
Focus	Systems	Critical assets	Systems	Systems
Context	Single event (scenario)	All-hazard	Single event (simulation)	Single event (scenario)
Emphasis	Societal impacts	Societal impacts	Engineering	Emergency response
Outcome	Scenario; ranked strategies	Ranked assets	Simulation tool	Response exercise
Purpose	Mitigation & preparedness	Mitigation	Emergency response	Emergency response



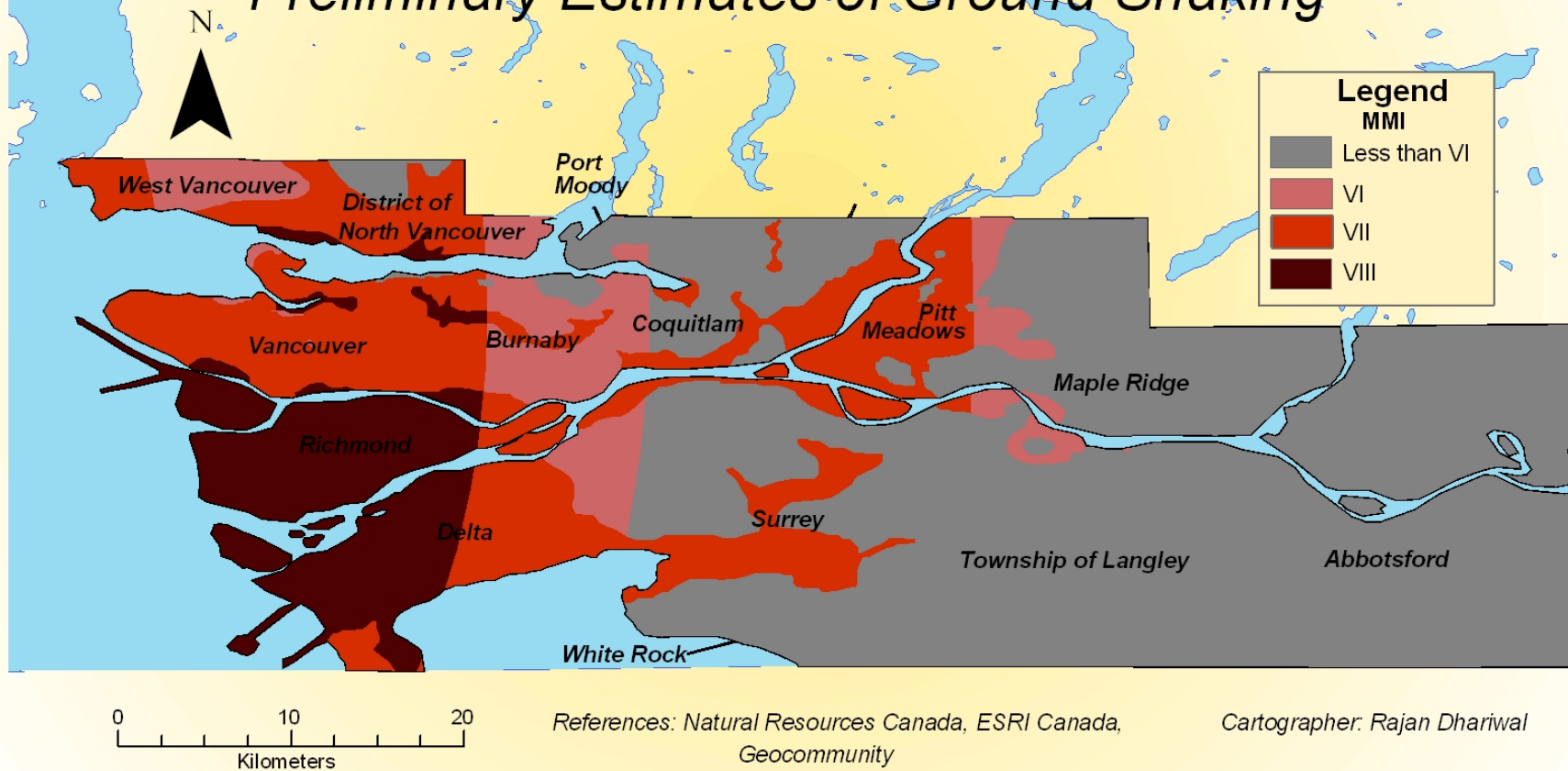
# Resilience Overview

1. Introduction:
2. Our Approach (hazard scenario and background info, expert interviews, workshop)
3. Data Synthesis: Service Disruption and Interdependencies
4. Workshop
5. Key Findings
6. Results and Conclusions

# Approach

- Examine the potential for disruption to infrastructure services caused by vulnerabilities and interdependencies
  - Creation of a regionally specific scenario for a hypothetical hazard
  - Expert interviews
  - Data synthesized into diagrams
  - Diagrams facilitate discussion at workshop

# Greater Vancouver: Earthquake Scenario Preliminary Estimates of Ground Shaking





# Infrastructures Interviewed

## Utilities

- BC Hydro
- MetroVancouver (water & wastewater)
- Terasen Gas

## Transportation

- Ministry of Transport
- Translink
- Airports (YVR and Abbotsford)
- Port of Vancouver

## Telecom

- Telus

## Health

- Fraser Valley Health Authority
- BC Children's & Women's Hospital

## Government

- BC PEP
- Coquitlam (municipality)
- JELC

Upstream

Electric Power

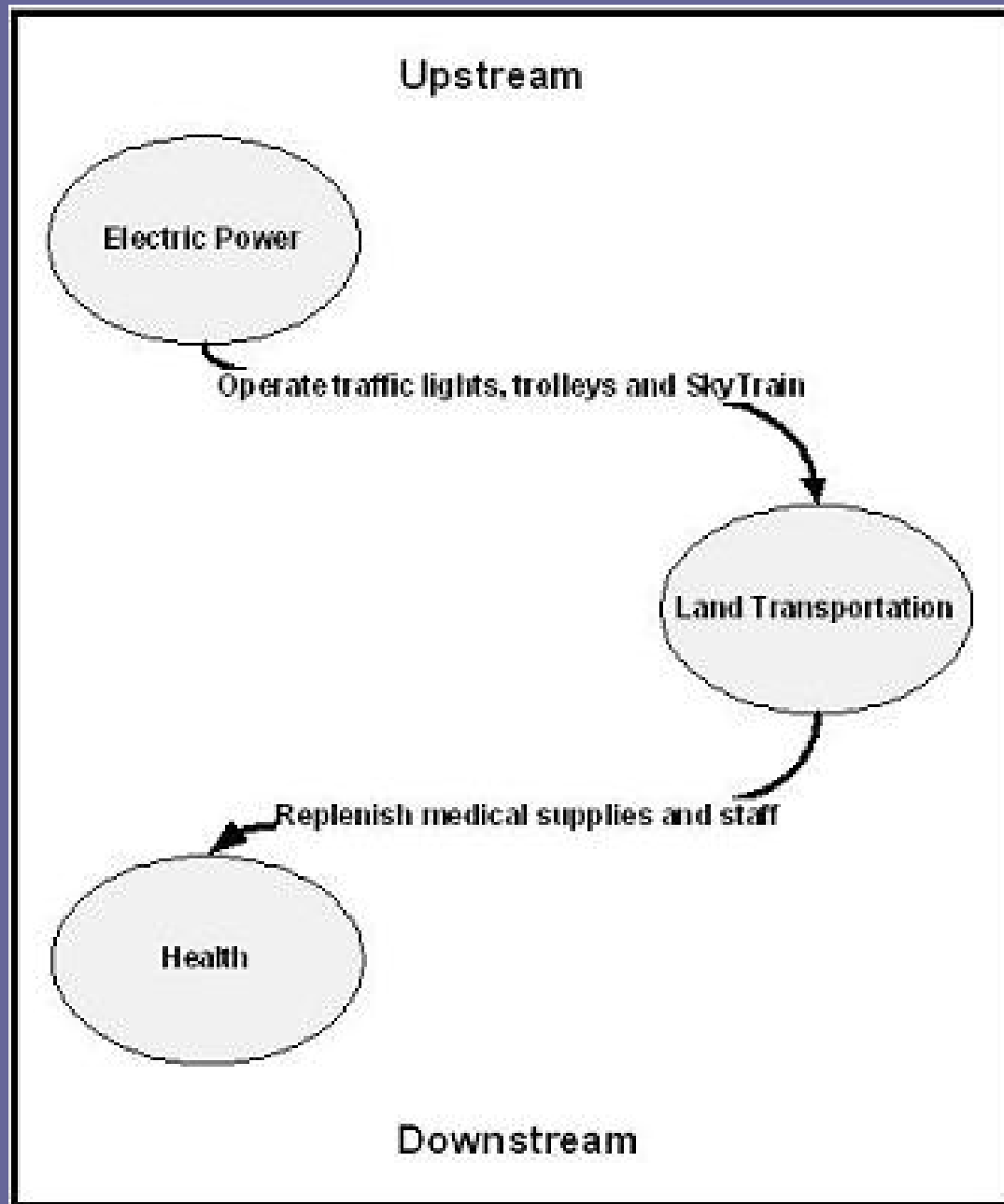
Operate traffic lights, trolleys and SkyTrain

Land Transportation

Replenish medical supplies and staff

Health

Downstream



# Interview Content

- Verification of scenario
- Upstream interdependencies
  - Which infrastructures?
  - Expectations regarding their disruption in scenario?
- Own system disruptions
  - Immediately, at 72 hours, at 2 weeks?
- Downstream interdependencies
  - Expected consequences?
  - Cross-sector planning?
- Mitigation priorities
  - Own sector?
  - Other sectors?

## Service Disruption Level

No Loss
Slight Disruption
Moderate Disruption
Severe Disruption

High Impact	High Impact
Low Extent	High Extent
Low Impact	Low Impact

# Service Disruption Scale

## Preliminary Estimates of Service Disruption Levels

Sector	Service Disruptions			Loss of Service
	0	72	2	
	Hrs	Hrs	Wks	
Power				No Loss
Communication				Slight Disruption
Water				Moderate Disruption
Transportation (Intraregional)				Severe Disruption
Transportation (Interregional)				
Healthcare				
Government				
Natural Gas				
Wastewater				

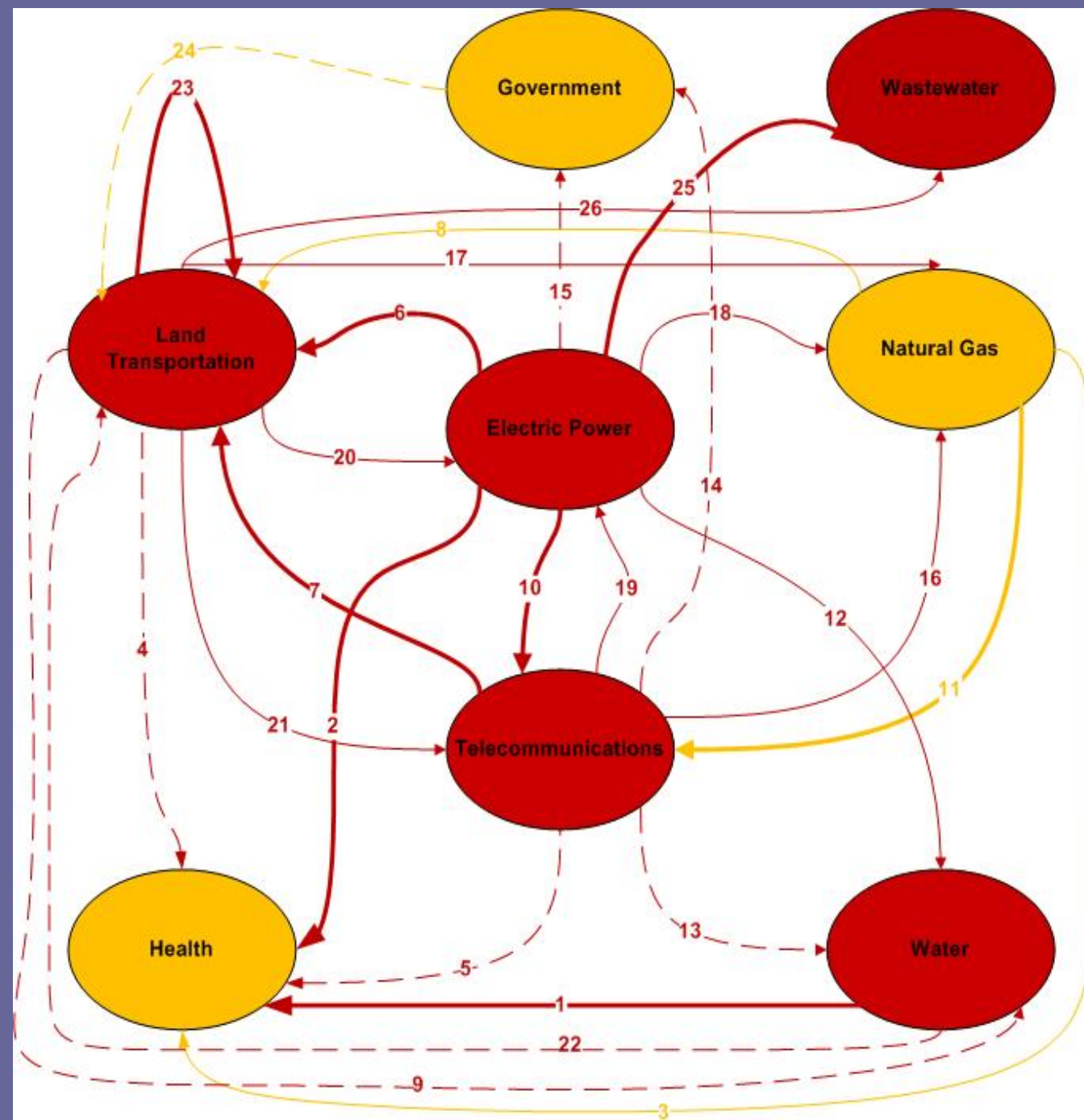
# Greater Vancouver's Infrastructure Interdependencies

*Service Disruption (Immediate Aftermath)*

*Initial working diagram*

**Legend**

- Severe service disruption
- Moderate service disruption
- Slight service disruption
- Indicates downstream dependency
- Downstream impact from severely impacted sector
- Downstream impact from moderately impacted sector
- Downstream impact from slightly impacted sector
- ➔ Significant dependency
- Moderate dependency
- - - ➔ Slight dependency





# Workshop

- Review of data and key findings
  - Using the scenario and diagrams
- Discussion
  - Allowed participants to consider, revise, and augment the findings
- Workbooks
  - Provided opportunity for diagram revisions

# Revised Estimates of Service Disruption Levels

Sector	Service Disruptions			Loss of Service
	0	72	2	
	Hrs	Hrs	Wks	
Power				Slight Disruption
Communication				
Water				
Transportation (Intraregional)				
Transportation (Interregional)				Moderate Disruption
Healthcare				
Government				Severe Disruption
Natural Gas				
Wastewater				

# Key Findings

- Variation amongst sectors for types of information sources, and for the amount of cross-sectoral discussions
  - 31% drew information from both experience-based sources and regional cross-sectoral discussion
- Service level diagrams were changed, with sectors typically increasing the level of disruption
  - Greater disruption, over longer time period
- Trend towards increase in service over time, with no sectors completely recovered (no service loss) after two weeks
- Interdependency diagrams reveal core/peripheral sector distinction
  - Electric power is most connected, followed by land transportation and telecommunication
  - Water?

# Results

- Upstream service loss expected to increase in the days and weeks after disaster
  - Backup resources depleted
- Each sector is highly interconnected with all of the others
  - Directly upstream sectors dependent on other sectors
  - High complexity
- Resolved discrepancies in expectations between sectors
  - E.g., Transportation/Healthcare's expectation on roads
- Developed or strengthened cross-sectoral contacts
- Increased practitioners' understanding of infrastructure interdependencies and their potential outcomes in disasters

# Mitigation Section Outline

- Introduction: Concepts for priority-setting
- Screening from vulnerability assessment
- Selecting decision contexts
- Priority setting decision process
- Example: fuel supply
- Results
  - Sectoral analysis
  - Appraisal of method, relative to challenges

# Concepts for mitigation priorities

- Broad question: given vulnerabilities to earthquake scenario, what steps should be encouraged to mitigate regional vulnerability, particularly in light of IFIs?
- Requires attention to who, what, where, how questions
- Recall governance structure: private and public ownership of infrastructure
- Recall challenges: partial incentives, incomplete information, need for communication

# Information needed (Ideal)

- For every sector, what are specific vulnerabilities that could be reduced?
- What are the societal and private costs of these specific activities, scaled in some way to make them comparable?
- What are the societal and private benefits of these specific activities, scaled to make them comparable?
- These information requirements are not feasible



# Practical implementation

- The task is somewhat like “risk ranking”
- What are the key priorities to help build resilience
- Screening level comparisons (no detailed studies)
- Need to select the context appropriately
  - Avoid prescriptions for avoiding impacts within privately owned systems
  - Avoid contexts in which the public role and rationale for public funding are not obvious

# Devising Strategic Alternatives

- Three areas of focus selected
  - Fuel Supply
  - Water Supply
  - Road Mobility
- Two mitigation principles adopted
  - Redundancy (diversify the vulnerable component, or the means of recovering it)
  - Hardening (make the component and its functional dependencies less vulnerable)

# Example: Fuel Supply

- Supply/Re-Supply
  - bringing fuel into the affected region
- Access
  - distributing to stations within the region, and ensuring user access to these same stations
- Facility Functionality
  - maintaining integrity of the stations (building, pumps, and the payment/fuel release mechanism)
- User Entitlement
  - determining who should be entitled access to a potentially scarce resource

# Example: Fuel Supply

- Element in Question: Access
  - Interregional Distribution & Intraregional User
- *Redundancy?*
  - **Build new** fuelling stations
- *Hardening?*
  - **Designate existing** fuelling stations
- *Other Considerations?*
  - Situate on **DRRs** or according to other **locational factors** or access routes(e.g. residential access, proximity to CI)

# Example: Fuel Supply

Strategy							
Regulate fuel supply and distribution by establishing prioritization agreements	Provincial government, fuel providers, CI sectors	24	>10	H	L	Helps maintain baseline fuel supply for CI sectors, and establishes expectations about fuel availability and needs	
a) Designate and seismically upgrade <b>existing</b> fuelling stations	Governments and commercial operators	12	>3	L	M	Helps maintain fuel supply and transportation, specifically on the emergency roadway system, and for entitled DRR users	
b) Build <b>new</b> seismically reinforced fuelling stations	Governments and commercial operators	36	>3	H	H		
a) Designate and seismically upgrade <b>existing</b> fuelling stations	Governments, commercial operators, CI sectors	24	>10	M	M	Helps maintain fuel supply and transportation, specifically for those selected according to locational factors	
b) Build <b>new</b> seismically reinforced fuelling stations	Governments, commercial operators, CI sectors	36	>10	H	H		
<u>Other Strategies</u>							

Cost: Low - \$1-5 million. Medium - \$5-10 million. High - >\$10 million.

# Findings: Methodological Analysis

- Strengths of method:
  - Worked well within time constraints
  - Shared focus and consistency
- Weaknesses of method:
  - Supply side focus (redundancy/hardening)
  - Low on detail and implementation

# Findings: Content Analysis

Strategy	Ranking
1) <b>Regulate</b> supply & distribution (prioritization agreements)	H=11 M=1 L=0
2a) <b>DRRs</b> : Upgrade <b>existing</b> stations	H=3 M=6 L=3
2b) <b>DRRs</b> : Build <b>new</b> designated stations	H=0 M=5 L=7
3a) <b>Other locations</b> : Upgrade <b>existing</b> stations	H=1 M=3 L=8
3b) <b>Other locations</b> : Build <b>new</b> designated stations	H=0 M=3 L=9
4) Demand management and public education	H=12 M=0 L=0

# Findings: Sectoral Analysis

- Strongest consensus for regulation and low cost strategies
- Consistency between emergency government agencies
- Rankings reflect sectoral interests and requirements in some cases



# Recent publications

- S.E. Chang, T.L. McDaniels, J. Mikawoz, and K. Peterson. 2006. "Infrastructure failure interactions in extreme events: the 1998 Ice Storm," *Natural Hazards*, Vol. 41, No. 2, pp. 337- 358.
- S.E. Chang, T.L. McDaniels, H. Longstaff, and S. Wilmot. "Fostering Disaster Resilience through Addressing Infrastructure Interdependencies," *Plan Canada*, Vol. 46, No. 4, pp. 33-36.
- C.E. Brown, S.E. Chang, and T.L. McDaniels. "Utility Provider Liability for Electrical Failure: Implications for Interdependent Critical Infrastructure," *The Electricity Journal*, Vol. 19, No. 5, pp. 69-81.
- S.E. Chang, T.L. McDaniels, D. Reed, and K. Peterson. "Mitigation of extreme event risks: electric power and infrastructure failure interactions," ch. 5 in Richardson, H., P. Gordon, and James E. Moore II, eds., *The Economic Impacts of Terrorist Attacks*. Northampton, MA: Edward Elgar Publishing, pp. 70-90.
- McDaniels, Timothy, Chang, Stephanie, Cole, Darren, Mikawoz, Joey and Longstaff, Holly. Forthcoming. "Fostering resilience to extreme events within infrastructure systems: characterizing decision contexts for mitigation and adaptation". *Global Environmental Change*.
- Chang, Stephanie, McDaniels, Timothy, Longstaff, Holly, Dhariwal, Rajan, Fox, Jana, Beaubian, Courtney, Hawkins, David. Submitted. "Fostering Regional Resilience to Infrastructure Failure Interdependencies in Disasters: Characterizing Vulnerability of Systems." *Journal of the American Planning Association*.

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Collapse of Shi-wei Bridge, 1999 Chi-Chi Taiwan earthquake (Photograph by Ian G. Buckle, MCEER)

## Database

### Description of Event

Any

### Impacted System

Any

### Specific System

Any

### Type of Impact

Any

### Spatial Extent of Impact

Any

### Number of People

Any

### Severity

Any

### Duration

Any

### Unique Impact?

Any

### Ranked Quadrant

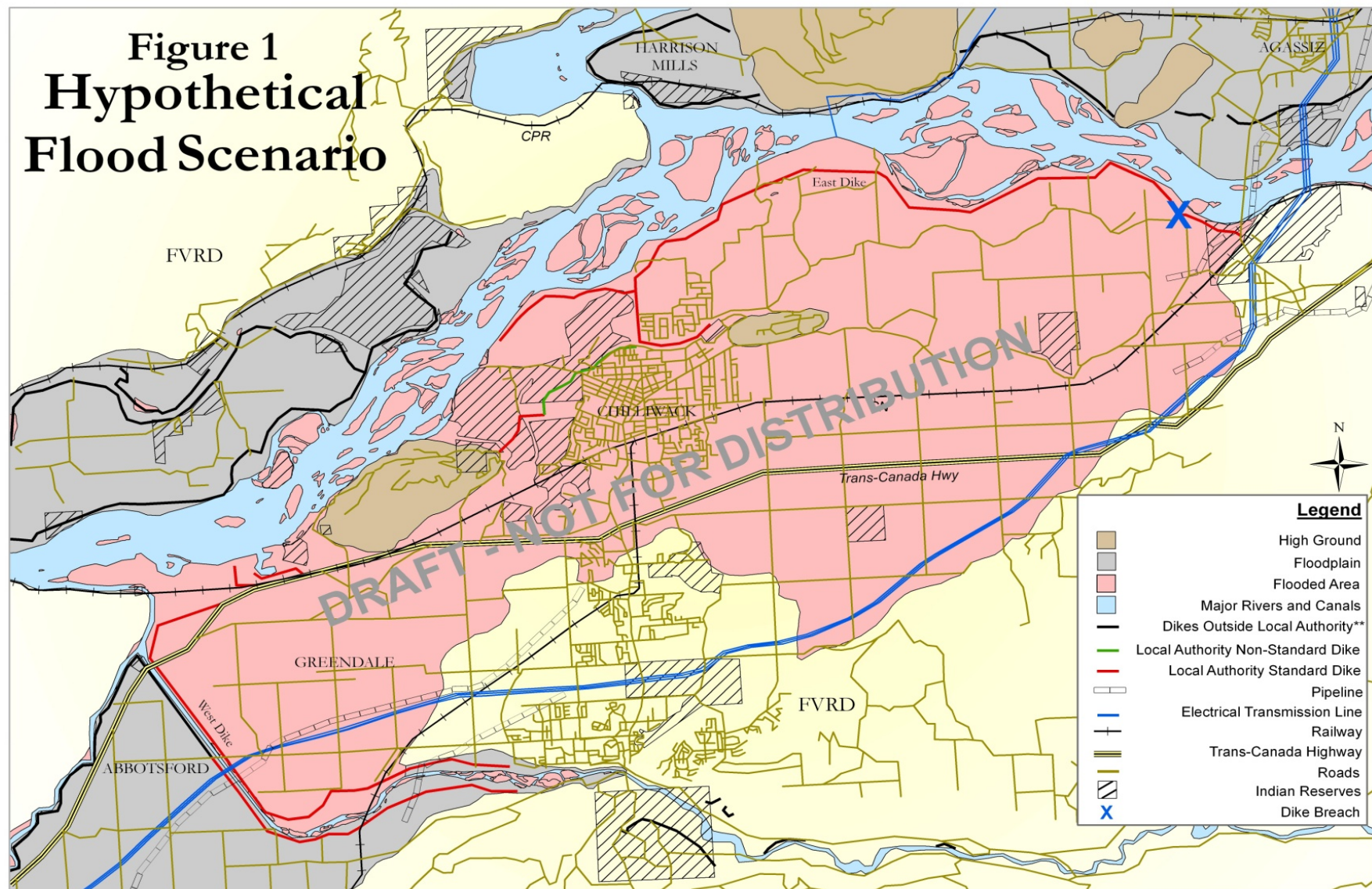
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*Questions or comments?*

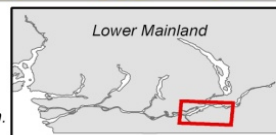
# Figure 1 Hypothetical Flood Scenario



Cartographer: Rajan Dhariwal

Data Source: Ministry of Environment

Disclaimer: The floodplain boundaries & dike information shown are not warranted by the Ministry of Environment as to their accuracy or sufficiency. Flooding may occur outside of the floodplain areas shown.



0 1 2 3 4 5 KM

\*\*City of Chilliwack serves as the local diking authority

# Flood study participants

## Interviews

- Health service regions
- Water and waste water
- Power
- Natural gas
- Transportation

## Workshop

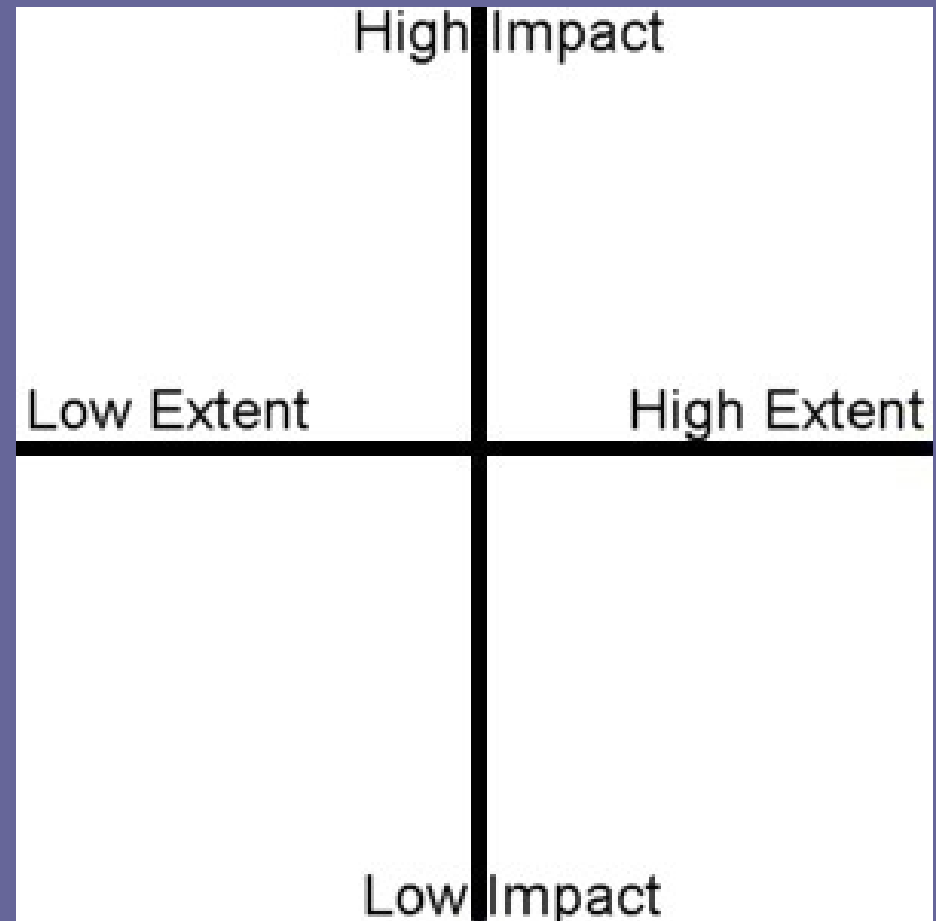
- Health regions
- Transportation
- Power
- Local/Regional Government
- Government emergency managers
- Natural Gas
- NGOs

# Service Disruption Scale



- **Extent** =  
spatial area of  
disruption

- **Impact** =  
magnitude of  
consequence



# Service Disruption Scale

Service Disruption Level
No Loss
Slight Disruption
Moderate Disruption
Severe Disruption

High Impact	
Low Extent	High Extent
Low Impact	



# Preliminary Service Disruption Estimates (Metro Vancouver)

Service Disruption Level
No loss
Slight Disruption
Moderate Disruption
Severe Disruption
Uncertain

Sector	Time After Event				
	0 hours		72 hours		2 weeks
Power					
Transportation					
Water					
Wastewater					
Natural Gas					
Healthcare					
Solid Waste					



# Inconsistencies in Expectations (Metro Vancouver)

Service Disruption Level	Sector Expectations of Disruptions (0 hours)			
	Sector	To Power	To Water	To Transportation
No loss	Power			
Slight Disruption	Transportation			
Moderate Disruption	Water			
	Wastewater			
Severe Disruption	Natural Gas			
	Fraser Health			
Uncertain	Vancouver Coastal			
	PHSA			

# Inconsistencies in Expectations – II (Metro Vancouver)

Service Disruption Level	Sector Expectations of Disruptions (0 hours)			
	Sector	To Wastewater	To Natural Gas	To Healthcare
No loss	Power			
Slight Disruption	Transportation			
Moderate Disruption	Water			
Severe Disruption	Wastewater			
Uncertain	Natural Gas			
	Fraser Health			
	Vancouver Coastal			
	PHSA			

# Selected Findings (in general)



## In interviews

- Tendency toward overestimation of possible service disruption relative to the expectations of the service provider

## In workshops

- Revisions informed by group discussion
- Value of using minor event to determine thresholds or tipping points for systems
- Usefulness of eliciting failure judgments to determine uncertainties

# Selected Findings (specific)



## Feedback

- 80% of participants suggested modifications to the figures
- Suggested revisions revealed less predicted service disruption overall but more uncertainty concerning particular assumptions (e.g., transportation)

## Value of event

- All participants agree the event was “time well spent”
- All participants reported that the workshop was either “somewhat” or “very useful” in the exit survey