

Best Practices trip to Japan in 2017

Japan's Resiliency After the 2011 Tohoku Earthquake

1. Video of comments made by participants traveling on one of the buses:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eEsrlxd71M>

2. Comments made at the debrief of participants, held several days after the group returned from Japan. (Identification has been removed.):

Focus on "what do we do?" rather than what we learned

Prepare at home, then work.

"It's likely going to be more challenging than you'd like." In an emergency. Long term construction planning should include a focus on seismic

Sendai airport didn't break a window. Sheltered 1,700 people for days. Flights were up and running in 4 days. Passenger service in 30.

Metro council focused/invest more on a business continuity plan. Don't expect more than 50% workforce capacity.

There are 6 key state airports to shore up. Need assessments from FEMA that terrain is safe. Oregon coastal caucus is well organized in the legislature.

There is no incentive to build above "life safety" requirements. Should encourage to build on safe terrain. SB311 is about seismic retrofits. Supports PPS bond. Emphasized personal preparedness.

Preparedness book was very helpful. Should we look into getting copyright ok to reproduce?

Focus on regional communications and hardening infrastructure. Investing in issues of life safety. "It's all about protecting lives, it wasn't about property." Japan thought process. There they insure buildings for 30 years then scrape and rebuild. But then how do we preserve historic buildings?

Coast should be thinking about evacuation 2.0. Put the tsunami wave level on the outside of buildings. There's difficulty in changing human behavior.

History of Cascadia isn't well known. "People will realize this is a reality." Run reunification drills. Find 5 people that live close to your child's school that can pick them up. Make sure they know it might not be you for a while. Has trouble reaching less affluent, Latino residents. "How do we get at the population who doesn't even know this is a risk?"

Federal supplies will flow into Redmond airport, Spokane air force base and feds push from there. No one will know what is coming or what to do with it. Get the feds to tell us what is coming/available.

Need to make use of federal resources. 100,000 responders in first 10 days. Then how to downsize large federal loads to make it to small communities.

Coastal area has forgotten the history; became complacent

Left and landed back on NA plate, but Japan has 4 plates. Long collective memory there of natural disasters. Whole region will be impacted, not just Oregon.

Oregon higher ed should promote tsunami culture. "Fake it till we make it" Guiding principle for higher ed. "Let's get the whole community engaged now." Not just scientists and municipalities, but artists and creatives. Also, it's not guaranteed to be a 9. Not always worst case.

Resiliency is more than just safety, it's banking, money, business continuity plan, etc.

Local company might not have any remote operations options. Someone to sign in an emergency.

"I meet earthquake deniers daily". Need a small earthquake to raise awareness.

Mapping out scenarios from best to worst, if we do nothing vs put in all the hard work.

Transportation, health care "It's all part of resilience." "Underestimated my own personal preparedness."

Bottom up awareness model: No one is paying attention.

Top down: People are too busy.

In Japan, businesses have an expectation to be able to keep employees with food/water for 3 days.