

RESILIENCE DEFINITIONS

County CPT recommends the following proposed resilience definition from *Our County, Los Angeles Countywide Sustainability Plan*

The capacity to survive, adapt and thrive in the face of chronic stresses and acute shocks and to even transform as conditions require.

Shocks are sudden events that threaten or impact the County's immediate well-being. These can include earthquakes, fires, landslides, public health emergencies, civil unrest, terrorism, chemical emergencies, financial crises, extreme heat, flooding, infrastructure outages or disruptions, or building failures. Stresses are longer-term, chronic challenges that weaken natural, built and economic or human resources. These can include inequity, disparities in employment, health and education, crime and violence, homelessness, economic recession, lack of affordable housing, food insecurity, climate change, air pollution and heat island effect.

Resilient Los Angeles

Resilience is the capacity to survive, adapt, and grow—regardless of adversity and setbacks.

ResilientCity.org

A Resilient Community is one that has developed capacities to help absorb future shocks and stresses to its social, economic, and technical systems and infrastructures so as to still be able to maintain essentially the same functions, structures, systems, and identity.

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“the capacity of individuals, communities, institutions, businesses, and systems within a community to survive, adapt, and grow no matter what kinds of chronic stresses and acute shocks they experience.”

The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

Resilient communities are those that have the ability to absorb, recover and prepare for future shocks (economic, environmental, social & institutional). Resilient cities promote sustainable development, well-being and inclusive growth.

United Nations University Centre for Policy Research

The ability to activate protective qualities and processes at the individual, community, institutional and systems level to engage with hazards or stressors and cooperate with each other in order to maintain or recover functionality and prosper while adapting to a new equilibrium and minimizing the accumulation of preexisting or additional risks and vulnerabilities.

UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)

A resilient community is characterized by its capacity to withstand or absorb the impact of a hazard through resistance or adaptation, which enable it to maintain certain basic functions and structures during a crisis and bounce back or recover from an event.

Timon McPhearson, New York. 8 June 2014

Resilience is the capacity of a system to absorb disturbance and recognize while undergoing change so as to still retain essentially the same function, structure, and feedbacks and, therefore, identity (i.e. the capacity to change in order to maintain the same identity).

The Urban Resilience Hub, UN Habitat for a better Urban Future

The measurable ability of any urban system, with its inhabitants, to maintain continuity through all shocks and stresses, while positively adapting and transforming towards sustainability.

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Urban resilience refers to the ability of an urban system-and all its constituent socio-ecological and socio-technical networks across temporal and spatial scales-to maintain or rapidly return to desired functions in the face of a disturbance, to adapt to change, and to quickly transform systems that limit current or future adaptive capacity.