

West Seattle Hubs – Unique Features

Geographic Situation

- Loss of bridges would mean long drives in and out, but we wouldn't be totally isolated. If limited to south end access, Burien other communities to the south of us may not have the resources for an influx of people from West Seattle.
- Access to medical services big concern, none on West Seattle peninsula (Highline Hospital in Burien next closest).
- High potential for damage along entire shoreline, due to liquefaction and slide areas, at least 9 miles long. Shoreline is heavily populated.
- One of our hubs is located in the tsunami and liquefaction zone, need to establish a backup location.

Multiple Neighborhood Groups Situation.

- West Seattle has over 13 formal community groups and 2 business related organizations.
- The Southwest and Delridge Neighborhoods District Councils meet monthly to share information and have WS wide presentations, but they do not comprise a working group to implement WS wide projects such as this.
- Not all community groups are robust or stable enough to create and sustain a full Hub & Preparedness plan effort, so current efforts are scaled to be Hub only.
- While spread somewhat evenly across the WS area, the Hubs are really quite far apart. We will welcome new Hubs and will add them to help fill in the coverage.

Getting the word out about the Hubs

- West Seattle Blog is a unique resource for getting the word out in advance, and is a partner in the Hub network (complete with radio) as they may be able to collect information via off site resources and relay to us.
- West Seattle has more varied demographics than QA/Magnolia and Wallingford, with a wide variety of people with different cultural and economic situations, as well as many non-English speaking groups. Communication with those groups has not yet begun.
- Communicating with people who do not have computers is a challenge, somewhat alleviated by using the West Seattle Herald for occasional outreach, but more needs to be done.

Started with Function, next is Resource Planning

- First Hubs established were through interested citizens, and fortunately it mostly aligned with existing neighborhood groups. One exception is the Hub at Ercolini, it covers the west side of the business district, which doesn't have a formal group.
- To be fully prepared, we would like to do something similar the to resource plan done by QA/Magnolia. But each neighborhood group would need to sponsor such an effort and maintain the information (and tailor as they see fit)
- We can provide the model and the advice, but full implementation may take time.