Introduction & Background

- **Who:** 42 individuals from 25 unique organizations attended the meeting, with an even split between those from the private sector and those from public entities.
  - The IRSC is facilitated by the Infrastructure & Private Sector Program of the WA State Emergency Management Division (EMD).
  - Participation is composed of public and private organizations that relate to any/all of the 16 Critical Infrastructure Sectors.
    - Public: Tribal, Federal, State, County, City
    - Private:
      - Infrastructure owner/operators (that relate to the 16 Critical Infrastructure Sectors)
      - Relevant professional associations
• **What:** The IRSC is one of seven sub-committees of the Governor’s Emergency Management Council (EMC).
  o Mission/Purpose: A community to discuss critical infrastructure issues in Washington State with equal participation from the private sector and all levels of government. The focus of the group is on facilities, resources and systems that fall into any of the 16 Critical Infrastructure Sectors. Special attention is given to the “lifeline sectors” (Energy, Water/Wastewater, Communication, & Transportation). Topics relating to prevention, protection, mitigation, response and recovery are of primary importance with concern for all hazards, natural or man-made.
  o Provide input into state infrastructure planning including:
    ▪ Implementing the National Infrastructure Protection Plan (NIPP). This would include identifying priorities and inter-dependencies for the state.
    ▪ Washington State Preparedness Report (SPR)
    ▪ Washington Restoration Framework
  o Identify gaps in infrastructure preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation. Develop programs and advocate for policy to fill these gaps.
  o Communicate gaps and potential corrective actions to the Governor's Emergency Management Council (EMC).

• **When:** Meet quarterly. Remaining 2017 dates:
  o April 25, 2017
  o July 18, 2017
  o October 18, 2017

• **Where:** This first meeting took place at the State Emergency Operations Center at Camp Murray, WA, however it may be beneficial to move it around the state. The group is open to offers by participants to host the meeting.

• **Why:** Critical Infrastructure provides crucial support for response operations and its restoration is a precondition for community recovery.

**WA State Fusion Center (WSFC) Threat Briefing**

Kia Graham of the WSFC provided a briefing on current threats to infrastructure in Washington. The briefing was distributed to meeting attendees.

**Statewide Infrastructure Planning Efforts**

• There are 3 levels of infrastructure planning that takes place in Washington:
  o **Federal.** There are two DHS Protective Security Advisors who cover our state, in addition to plans that come out of FEMA Region 10.
    ▪ [Federal Interagency Operational Plans](https://www.fema.gov/federal-interagency-operational-plans): There is a plan for each mission area defined in the National Preparedness System (Protection, Mitigation, Response, Recovery,
and Prevention). There are sections relevant to Critical Infrastructure in the following plans:

- Protection Federal Interagency Operational Plan. Appendix 2 to Annex C: Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience
- Response Federal Interagency Operational Plan. Appendix 5 to Annex C: Infrastructure Systems

DHS Protective Security Advisors work with infrastructure owners to perform vulnerability assessments and provide suggested actions to mitigate gaps. This data is put into the Infrastructure Protection (IP) Gateway for use by public sector emergency planners and responders.

- **State.** The WA State Emergency Management Division (EMD) supports infrastructure planning to a limited extent under its Critical Infrastructure Program. In addition to facilitating this sub-committee, the following planning efforts are taking place at the state level:
  - **Washington Infrastructure Protection Plan (WIPP).** This document was published in 2008 and needs to be updated. Recognizing that the 2013 National Infrastructure Protection Plan (NIPP) provides an excellent framework, it is the intention of the State EMD planners to create a “Washington-specific plan to implement the NIPP.”
  - This plan will also address a framework for statewide prioritization and identification of interdependencies through the utilization of a “Prioritization and Interdependencies Survey” currently being used by Utah & Colorado. This survey is also being explored at the Washington State Fusion Center and by Spokane County.
  - State Preparedness Report. As part of the FEMA administered Emergency Management Program Grant (EMPG) process, Washington is required to analyze and plan around Infrastructure Systems in Response and Recovery “core capability frameworks”. Ideally, this sub-committee will provide input into this process to ensure that these frameworks are relevant to the infrastructure needs of Washington.
  - Washington Restoration Framework. Currently under development by the State Recovery Coordinator, this framework will include aspects of infrastructure recovery. Still in the formative stages, the State Recovery Coordinator plans to leverage the IRSC for input into this recovery framework.
- **County.** Currently, there are two counties in Washington addressing infrastructure planning
  - **Spokane County.** Spokane county is building on lessons learned from recent activations around wind storms to build a more robust public-private framework. Included in this is leveraging a “Prioritization and Interdependency Survey” to identify key focus areas for planning.
- **King County.** King county hosts a “Critical Infrastructure Working Group” that meets quarterly to address infrastructure planning issues. The group has representatives from both the public and private sector. The group has focused on developing a multi-year strategic plan and communications strategy. Based on an infrastructure survey administrated by the Pacific Northwest Economic Region’s (PNWER) Center for Disaster Resilience (CDR), the group has identified the following areas to focus on for 2017: Cyber Security, Electrical infrastructure, and crossover lessons from Cascadia Rising.

**Information Sharing for Infrastructure Resilience**

- One of the most important issues facing the infrastructure community is how to span the public-private divide with information sharing measures. Organizations from every level of government and private sector organizations from every critical infrastructure sector need a systematic way to share information with each other to strengthen planning efforts and streamline response strategies.

- Barriers to information sharing include:
  - Protection of company proprietary information (companies are hesitant to share information that is critical to their business success)
  - Protection of sensitive information relating to infrastructure vulnerabilities (safeguard information from malicious actors, state or non-state)
  - Public disclosure laws (Federal and state public disclosure laws effect the respective government’s ability to keep sensitive information secure)
  - Common information sharing platform (there are a multitude of different mediums through which information is shared and there is no commonly agreed upon platform)

- Currently, there are several platforms designed to facilitate general information sharing around critical infrastructure issues. What is missing is a framework for infrastructure owner/operators to determine which networks are best suited for their participation.
At the state level, the current strategy for facilitating infrastructure information sharing during a response is to tie infrastructure owner/operators directly into the systems used at the State Emergency Operations Center. The intention is to explore making these systems available to private sector partners and exercise their use over the next calendar year, utilizing the IRSC as the test group. These tools are:

- Washington Information Sharing Environment (WISE) (geospatial tool)
- WebEOC (Incident command tool)

**WA National Guard Cyber Vulnerability Assessments**

Lt Col Thomas Pries presented on the Washington Air National Guard’s Cyber Assessment Unit (262nd NWS). This presentation was distributed to meeting attendees.

**Setting Priorities for Next Quarter**

- Question posed to the group: How do we, as an infrastructure community, plan for response and recovery to identify:
  - critical tasks to be performed and decisions to be made
  - for each of these tasks, who are the partners who need to be in the room to make those decisions possible/successful
- Discussion of meeting “deep dives” in:
  - Infrastructure planning efforts
  - Information sharing
  - Infrastructure Prioritization and interdependency identification
  - Sector specific meetings
- The 2nd Quarter IRSC meeting will focus on:
  - Implementing the Prioritization and Interdependency Survey in Washington
  - Defining information sharing requirements and laying out a framework for developing information sharing protocol between public and private organizations statewide