

Transportation Consortium of South-Central States

Solving Emerging Transportation Resiliency, Sustainability, and Economic Challenges through the Use of Innovative Materials and Construction Methods: From Research to Implementation

Development of a Multi-Level Dynamic Model to Measure the Resilience Level of Transportation Infrastructure Networks

Project No. 20ITSUTA27 Lead University: The University of Texas at Arlington

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The advancement of human civilization depends on the proper functioning of critical infrastructures (CIs) like power supplies, water supplies, transportation infrastructures, etc. The transportation infrastructure serves as a lifeline after a disaster since the evacuation of residents and rendering of primary care services depend on it. Damaged transportation structures hamper the mobility of people in the affected area and increase the monetary loss caused by the disaster by prolonging the recovery of the affected community. The resources required to perform reconstruction activities are provided by either public assistance, government agencies, or insurance companies, and are limited; therefore, before allocating them, decision-makers have to be cognizant of resilience measuring dimensions. This study aims to determine the dimensions for measuring the resilience of the transportation infrastructure while developing a model that reflects the relationships between them.

A comprehensive literature review was conducted to develop a list of potential resilience measuring dimensions, and a survey was developed, based on that list. The survey was distributed electronically, and after multiple follow-up emails, 92 valid responses were collected and analyzed qualitatively and quantitatively. Approximately 73% of the participants had been involved in at least one reconstruction project during their career and 60% had worked for transportation infrastructure agencies for more than 20 years. Only 45% of the participants were familiar with the concept of resilience.

A list of 35 potential variables was developed, and statistical tests were performed to identify statistically significant variables. Using Cohen's d method, the effect size of the variables was determined. The rank-sum method was utilized to assign weight to the variables. Weighted variables were used to develop a tool to quantify the resilience of the transportation infrastructures. The developed tool will provide relative resilience to the transportation infrastructure projects. Using this tool, a comparative analysis among multiple projects can be performed and the most vulnerable transportation infrastructure segment can be identified. This will help decision-makers to make their investment decisions on resilience enhancement activities based on the vulnerability of the segment of the transportation infrastructures.

Moreover, the model was developed using the structural equation modeling (SEM) technique to identify the relationships among different factors and resilience measures. Without previous experience in reconstruction works, handling integrated assets becomes very critical. Also, such inexperience makes it difficult to handle emergency resources properly. However, issues related to integrated assets, one must try investing in locating integrated assets away from the roadways, so if a break in a railroad crossing or utility line occurs or emergency repairs are needed, the impact on the roadway operations can be minimized.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background

Human beings are dependent on critical infrastructures (CI's), and transportation infrastructures are among the most vulnerable to unpredictable and destructive natural disasters $(1, 2)$. In 2011, Hurricane Irene hit the East Coast of the U.S, damaging more than 500 miles of highways, 2000 miles of roadways, and 200 miles of railways, resulting in 56 deaths and approximately \$15.6 billion in losses (3). Hurricane Harvey in 2017 caused the destruction of houses and infrastructures worth \$190 billion in the Texas and Louisiana region (4, 5). A great monetary price is paid if the recovery of transportation infrastructures is delayed (6), as their condition is highly instrumental in determining the recovery pace of other sectors, including residential buildings and industrial plants (7). However, the recovery phase is extra critical due to the chaotic nature of the postdisaster environment (8, 9). On the other hand, a resilient system not only reduces the probability of the system failing but also reduces the amount of destruction caused by the disaster and the amount of time required for reconstruction (10, 11).

The adverse impacts of natural disasters become astounding when infrastructures are not resilient (12). Resilience is a term that has been studied for more than half a century, first by ecologists and eventually by almost all the other application domains (13) . Hence, several definitions of resilience exist in the literature (14) , but in a nutshell, the resilience of a system is its ability to bounce back to its predetermined level of performance within the shortest possible time. Hence, the definition of resilience has a static part that focuses on the desired level of performance and a dynamic part that focuses on the speed required to achieve that level (15) . A resilient system must be technically, organizationally, economically, and socially resilient. Technical resilience indicates the soundness of the physical properties of the system under the disruptive event, organizational resilience indicates the competence of the person responsible for the decision-making process, economic resilience indicates the availability of monetary resources for recovering from the disaster, and social resilience indicates the ability of the surrounding society to provide primary help to the sufferers. These four sides of resilience are collectively known as TOSE (16). This study mainly focuses on the technical resilience aspect. According to Wan et al. (3), current literature does not provide a standard definition of resilience for transportation systems. For the purpose of this study, however, the resilience of transportation infrastructures is defined as the ability to tolerate disturbance while keeping the basic structure and function intact and to recover performance deviation after the disaster within a reasonable schedule and budget.

1.2. Problem Statement

Over the last few decades, resilience has been studied vigorously to assess damages and performance of infrastructures that suffered from disturbing events like natural and/or man-made hazards (17). Researchers, governments, and agencies are interested in infrastructure resilience (18). Critical infrastructure resilience is a major objective that has been carried out by The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) for more than a decade (19). The significant task under this objective is to encourage agencies to make an effort to measure the resiliency of infrastructures to reduce risks and the possibility of damage by expanding the capacity of the system (20). Unfortunately, transportation resilience wasn't considered an independent focus of study until 2009 (3); consequently, many models and frameworks related to transportation resilience had already been developed. For example, Faturechi and Miller-Hooks (20) developed four

mathematical formulations in the context of transportation networks that focused on functionality, rapidity, recovery, and flexibility of resilient systems, and Freckleton et al. (21) developed a conceptual framework considering only the level of damage redundancy, and rapidity of resilience. However, a comprehensive model that considers all the dimensions of resiliency by measuring the organizational, economic, technical, and social aspects of transportation systems is yet to be developed (l) .

2. OBJECTIVES

This study aims to develop tool that measures the comparative resilience level of existing transportation infrastructures and suggests strategies to improve it. It identifies technologies that could increase the resilience level of infrastructure projects, reducing the probability of failures due to extreme weather catastrophes. To fulfill the aim of this project, the following objectives were formulated:

- Identify the resilience dimensions of transportation infrastructures.
- Develop a resilience measurement tool.
- Develop a model showing causal relationships of dimensions of resilience with the resilience of transportation infrastructure networks.
- Establish resilience enhancement strategies for transportation infrastructures.

3. LITERATURE REVIEW

3.1. Disaster Management

Both the rate of occurrence and intensity of the destruction of man-made, as well as natural disasters, have increased to a concerning level in recent years (22-25). Because of their age and vulnerability, active and complex critical infrastructures (CIs) such as transportation, communication, energy, water, etc. are facing more challenges than ever before as they attempt to continue functioning under the impact of disasters (26,27). Moreover, technological advancement is making construction as well as reconstruction projects even more complex and risky (28). Destruction of transportation infrastructure not only causes the direct cost of reconstruction but also causes indirect cost due to loss of mobility (10,29). Compromised transportation infrastructures also cause safety issues for community people (30). The recovery of the affected community also depends on the recovery of the transportation infrastructures (31, 32) as well as the recovery of the emergency response system (33). The interdependency characteristic of a transportation network amplifies its susceptibility to damage from a disaster, as the system must undergo four phases: mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery. The mitigation and preparedness phases occur before the disaster hits; hence the impacts only can be projected; however, they are the foundation for a timely and effective recovery (34-36). The response phase lasts until immediately after the disaster; however, the recovery is a complex phase that extends until the damage has been repaired or reconstructed and the affected community has returned to life as it was before the disaster (37) . Decisions that are made during the mitigating and preparedness phases highly impact the time and effectiveness of the response and recovery phases (38). Throughout the literature, resilience and robustness are mentioned as the most effective preparedness actions for reducing the cost and schedule of the recovery phase (20). Moreover, policymakers as well as practitioners always prioritize the fastest recovery and a resilient system ensures this requirement (39, 40). The recovery phase also provides the opportunity to build back better which eventually enhances the resilience of the infrastructure (41, 42).

Massive destruction with significant economic losses wreaked by disasters like Hurricane Katrina, Hurricane Sandy, etc. has occurred in the US (43, 44). This has forced the US to change its priority from risk-based management to resilience-based management. The risk-based management system focused on the likelihood of occurrence and level of impact of disasters, whereas resilience-based management focuses on integrating measures to improve the inherent capability of the system and to provide continuous functionality, even after a disaster (20) . Such a shift of management is necessary for all civil infrastructures, but especially for transportation infrastructures (45), because the transportation infrastructure's discontinued service will remarkably increase the indirect cost of the disaster. Moreover, timely recovery highly depends on the recovery of transportation infrastructures (46). To ensure and sustain continuous function, constant investment is made in transportation infrastructures. Incorporating the concept of resilience in every phase of the disaster for transportation infrastructures will greatly reduce the amount of economic loss, as well as the cost of recovery.

3.2. Concept of Resilience

The concept of resilience has been studied for more than five decades – since 1973, when the renowned ecologist, Holling, first conceptualized it with respect to ecological systems (47). Over the years, many sectors, including infrastructures, communities, health agencies, etc. have

incorporated the concept of resilience into their respective studies and defined it accordingly (13, 48, 49). Hence, the current literature provides a significant number of definitions of resilience for each field of study (14, 50). Dick et al. (51) defined the resilience of critical infrastructure as the inherent ability to reduce the negative impact of a disaster by establishing alternative activities and developing emergency responses. Lam et al. (52) provided a straightforward definition of resilience when they claimed that the ability of a community to recover from the damages that occur due to a disaster is the resilience of that community. Several other definitions are listed in Table 1.

Table 1. Definition of Resilience

The concept of resilience also can be explained by considering the static component, performance, as a function of the dynamic component, recovery time, for a system (15) . Figure 1 shows a system's performance level against time, including a disastrous event. Here, the Y-axis identifies the level of performance, and the X-axis identifies the time. A system with a good resilience capability will experience the minimum amount of loss from disruptions (minimal difference between p_t and p_0) and will have a faster recovery (difference between t₂ and t₃ will be reasonable).

Figure 1. Resilience concept

Throughout literature, researchers use numerous terminologies to define and interpret the concept of resilience (61). In engineering research, the level of functionality was identified as robustness and the recovery time was identified as rapidity by McDaniels (62). The terms robustness, rapidity, redundancy, and resourcefulness were also used by Zhang et al. (63) to define road-bridge networks. These four terminologies, which are commonly known as 4R, are the most commonly used in resilience research, irrespective of the field of study. Many researchers (64, 65) used 4R in their studies. With time, however, the usage of resilience has broadened into many sectors, and many more terminologies have been identified and adopted, based on the usage of the concept (66). For example, mobility, which indicates a network's ability to move vehicles or people from one place to another, is an important component of transportation infrastructure resilience. A comprehensive list of such terminologies and an explanation of them are shown in Table 2.

3.3. Dimensions of Transportation Resilience

The transportation sector began conducting independent studies on the concept of resilience in 2009. Since then, the subject has rapidly gained in popularity, and the current literature contains a significant number of related studies. Many researchers have used different definitions of resilience and different dimensions for measuring the resilience of transportation infrastructures $(1, 67, 68)$. The authors have found that the dimensions that are currently being used most often throughout the literature measure the absorptive, adaptive, and restorative capacity of transportation infrastructures (Figure 2). A transportation system with the necessary level of redundancy, efficiency, diversity, strength, adaptability, autonomous components, collaboration, mobility, safety, and rapidity can be called technically, organizationally, socially, and economically resilient.

Figure 2. Dimensions to Measure Resilience of Transportation Infrastructures, Based on Current Literature

3.4. Summary

Despite the term "resilience" being rich with numerous definitions and dimensions, the current literature does not provide a universal definition in relation to transportation infrastructures. For the purpose of this study, the resilience of transportation infrastructures is defined as the ability to tolerate disturbance while keeping the basic structure and function intact and to recover from performance deviation after the disaster within a reasonable timetable and budget.

A significant number of dimensions exist throughout the literature for measuring and quantifying resilience, yet they are not adequate for interpreting the resilience level of transportation infrastructures. The majority of these dimensions do not have a fixed meaning and countable measure; instead, they are defined and quantified based on the scope of the study. In addition, the same terminology is defined in different ways throughout the literature. Hence it is a prerequisite to prepare a list of resilience-measuring variables to quantify the level of resilience of the physical segment of transportation networks.

4. METHODOLOGY

This study followed a five-step methodology that is shown in Figure 3. Step 1 is the literature review, step 2 is the database analysis, step 3 is the data collection, step 4 is the data analysis, and step 5 is model development. In the first step, the team focused on collecting related articles to understand the current condition of the literature related to resilience study. In the second step, the collected articles were analyzed, and a list of potential variables was prepared. In the third step, a survey was developed to collect data for this study. In the fourth step, collected data were analyzed demographically and statistically. In the fifth step, a resilience measurement model was developed and validated. At the end of this step, strategies to handle most contributing factors to prolong recovery activities were proposed.

Figure 3. Project Flow Diagram

4.1. Literature Collection Process

A keyword search option was used to collect reliable related scholarly articles for conducting a comprehensive literature review. Keywords like resilience, resilience system, disaster resilience, resilience indicator, resilience index, resilience measurement, resilience measuring framework, and resilience in the transportation system were entered into popular search engines like Google Scholar, JSTOR, Web of Science, Science Direct, ProQuest, SciFinder, etc. Several other factors were considered while collecting articles. Articles from peer-reviewed sources and articles that were published from the year 2000 to the current time were given priority. The initial search

resulted in 600 articles; however, after considering their relevance to the scope of the project, only 372 articles were shortlisted for content analysis.

4.2. Content Analysis

Content analysis was performed in two stages. The first stage aimed to understand the current literature as it pertains to the current research trend of resilience. During this stage, articles were categorized based on their publication year, number of citations, discipline, geographic location, and disaster type. Information regarding the concept of resilience, including adopted definitions, characteristics, and dimensions, was collected, and data analysis was prepared. Table 3 shows the list of collected information.

The second stage of content analysis was performed for 109 articles that were related to the transportation discipline and mainly discussed the concept of resilience with respect to transportation engineering. After thoroughly reviewing each article, the authors were able to identify the major characteristics of transportation infrastructure resilience.

4.3. List of Potential Dimensions

The content analysis resulted in dimensions that might be able to indicate the transportation infrastructure's level of resilience. Since the focus of this study is primarily to determine the level of resilience of a roadway network, the 20 best-suited potential dimensions were listed. Table 4 shows the dimensions that could potentially affect the resilience of a roadway segment and provides a description of each.

Table 4. Potential Dimensions Affecting Resilience of a Roadway Segment

The dimensions were studied and elaborated into 36 variables to better understand their impact on the level of resilience of transportation infrastructures. The identified variables were placed into six categories, as shown in Figure 4.

Figure 4. Variables to Quantify Resilience of Transportation Infrastructure

4.4. Survey Administration

4.1.1. Survey Development

Experts' opinions were collected via a structured survey. A survey converted dimensions into questions. The platform QuestionPro was used to develop the survey that consisted of a total of 43 questions. To make the survey simple and organized for the participants, the questions were divided into five sections: demographic-based questions, project-based questions, the concept of resilience-based questions, resilience dimensions-based questions, and best practices-related questions. A combination of Likert-scale, continuous, and open-ended questions was used for developing the survey. An introduction was provided wherein the authors explained how to correctly complete the survey, the participants were told that completing it was voluntary and that it would require about 15 minutes to complete. Samples of the survey questions are provided in Figure 5.

Figure 5. Sample from the Survey

4.1.2. IRB Approval

After the survey was developed, it was sent to the Institutional Review Board (IRB) of the University of Texas at Arlington (UTA). IRB is the entity that crosschecks every survey/experiment conducted by the faculty, students, and staff of UTA that includes human subjects in order to make sure that their welfare is protected, and proper consent of the participants is obtained. The authors completed the required forms and submitted the documents along with the survey to IRB for approval. They also reported that the survey participants were adults and that the survey's level of risk was minimal. After making multiple modifications that were suggested by the committee members of the IRB, the survey was approved for distribution in June 2021.

4.1.3. Potential Key Participants

The research team focused primarily on experts in the field of transportation and developed a list of potential survey participants that consisted of directors and their assistants, engineers, supervisors, FEMA personnel, and others. An invitation was emailed to each potential respondent and included instructions on how to participate. All of the invitees were told that their participation was voluntary, and no compensation would be given.

4.1.4. Survey Collection

The team sent multiple email reminders to the potential survey participants resulting in 92 responses. The survey response data were downloaded from QuestionPro for further analysis.

4.5. Statistical Tests to be Performed

Since the survey had multiple types of questions (Likert-scale, continuous, and open-ended), the authors chose to perform the Kruskal-Wallis test, and two-sample t-test to identify the significant variables. Table 5 shows the assumptions and equations used to perform each particular test. Tests were performed to determine whether there was a difference between the averages of the actual observed value and the expected value.

Table 5. Statistical Tests

5. ANALYSIS AND FINDINGS

5.1. Descriptive Data Analysis

5.1.1. Based on the Organization

Keeping the scope of the study in mind, the authors contacted personnel involved with different state, national, and international transportation agencies, including state departments of transportation (DOTs), the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG), the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), etc. It was found, based on the analysis performed of the responses, that the majority (53%) of the participants were affiliated with cities and counties, 27% were associated with state DOTs, and 9% had worked with the FHWA (Figure 6).

Figure 6. Distribution of the Participants based on Organization

5.1.2. Based on Year of Experience

Demographic data regarding the respondents' years of experience working at different transportation agencies were analyzed and revealed that 41% of the participants had more than 25 years of experience working in the field of transportation, and 19% had 20 to 25 years of experience working in the field of transportation. In a nutshell, the majority of the participants had worked at state, national, and international transportation agencies for more than 20 years. (See Figure 7.)

Figure 7. Distribution of the Participants based on Organization and Years of Experience

5.1.3. Based on Responsibility

The respondents to the survey were individuals with various levels of authority and a variety of job responsibilities. Figure 8 shows that 32% of the participants' job responsibilities indicated that they had a position related to directorial and supervising positions. For example, this category consisted of directors, deputy directors, and program supervisors, and 25% and 23% of the participants had performed works related to engineering and managerial positions, respectively. A few examples of these two categories are project engineers, city engineers, city managers, project managers, program managers, etc. Those from planning, administrative, safety, and inspection departments were also participants; however, the majority of the participants had more than 20 years of working experience in positions with a high level of authority.

Figure 8. Distribution of the Participants based on Job Responsibility

5.1.4. Based on the Involvement in the Reconstruction of the Transportation Projects

Some of the survey questions related to the participant's involvement in reconstruction projects, and from Figure 9, it can be seen that 73% of the participants were involved in the reconstruction of transportation infrastructure at least once during their career.

Figure 9. Involvement in the Reconstruction of Transportation Infrastructure Projects

The reconstruction of transportation infrastructures can result from any kind of disaster, but Figure 10 shows that 50% of the reconstruction work experienced by the participants was due to disastrous

floods. The second-highest number of reconstruction works were performed after a hurricane (25%). Floods and hurricanes are the two most common disasters in the state of Texas, hence, the experience possessed by the participants is highly useful in the context of this study.

Figure 10. Distribution of the Participants based on Types of Disasters

Figure 11 shows that 66% of the reconstruction projects were roadways, 22% were highways, 10% were bridges, and the remaining 2% were ports and harbors.

Figure 11. Distribution of the Participants based on Types of Reconstruction Projects

The participants were asked to provide the approximate value of the reconstruction projects that they were involved with, and they revealed that 26% of projects had a budget of more than \$25 million (Figure 12); only 22% of the projects had a budget of less than \$1 million. In summary, the participants of the survey had been involved with reconstruction projects ranging from small to large.

Figure 12. Distribution of the Participants based on Value of the Reconstruction Projects

The survey contained questions regarding the complexity of the reconstruction projects with which the participants had experience. The survey results were analyzed and the graphical representation (Figure 13) shows that 22% of the participants had experience working with highly complex projects, 33% with moderately complex projects, and 45% with slightly complex projects.

Figure 13. Distribution of the Participants based on Level of Complexity

In a nutshell, the values of the above reconstruction projects ranged from less than \$1M (26%) to more than \$25M (26%). This indicates that the participants had experience working on simple transportation reconstruction projects with a very limited budget as well as complex projects with a significant budget.

5.1.5. Based on Familiarity with the Concept of Resilience

The concept of resilience in transportation infrastructures has gained in popularity rapidly. However, to understand this popularity in the context of practitioners, the authors included questions regarding their familiarity with the concept. It was astonishing to find that despite 60% of the participants having more than 20 years of experience in the transportation field, only 45% of them were aware of the concept of resilience, 25% were somewhat familiar with it, and 30% were completely unfamiliar with it.

Figure 14. Distribution of the Participants based on Familiarity with the Concept of Resilience

To better understand the perspectives of the participants regarding the concept of resilience, the survey asked whether they agreed with the statement "Improving resilience is better than investing in recovery." The results in Figure 15 show that only 35% of the participants agreed with the statement; 29% disagreed and believe that investing in resilience-enhancing activities instead of recovery activities is not a cost-effective decision.

Figure 15. Distribution of the Participants Based on Agreement with the Saying "Improving resilience is better than investing in recovery."

5.2. Statistical Analysis

5.2.1. Identification of significant variables

Table 6 shows the significant variables found under the criteria involvement in the reconstruction activities. After performing the Kruskal-Wallis test and two-sample t-test, seventeen variables were found to be statistically significant.

Form the category structural, six variables were found to be significant with a p-value less than 0.1. The significant variables are the total length of the disrupted roadway, length of the link, number of lanes, number of optional routes, having a railroad crossing, and distance of the link/node from the affected area.

From the category construction management, there were two significant variables namely time to start reconstruction works, ownership of integrated infrastructure assets. People experienced with reconstruction works find that start of reconstruction work will highly influence the overall recovery time and cost of the project. Also, while working in the reconstruction projects, they found that multiple ownership creates conflicts, and managing such conflicts will slower the recovery speed after a disaster.

Category	#	Variable name	P values
Structural	V٦	Total length of the disrupted roadway	$0.094*$
Structural		Length of the link	$0.055*$
Structural	V4	Number of lanes	$0.08**$

Table 6. List of Significant Variables Based on Project Complexity

"*" denotes 90% confidence level,

"**" denotes 95% confidence level

From the knowledge and experience category, there are two significant variables namely company employees' knowledge of resilience and frequency of evaluation of resilience in the project. According to the participants experienced with previous reconstruction projects, employees' knowledge of resilience and the frequency of evaluation of resilience in the project will have an impact on the level of resilience.

From the data-related category, there are two significant variables namely availability of previous disaster data for the roadway, and access to previous disaster data for the roadway. Reconstruction projects will be difficult to perform if the previous disaster data are not available for the disaster, since such data helps in predicting the cost and effectiveness of the particular activity.

Category resources have two significant variables named availability of emergency response equipment and accessibility to non-machinery resources (human and materials resources). People

with experience in the field of reconstruction view having enough emergency response equipment available as critical for faster recovery.

The funding and investment category has two significant variables namely resilience investment with new projects and frequency for investing in resilience enhancing activities. It is important to have enough monetary resources allocated for resilience enhancement activities for handling the disastrous event.

5.2.2. Development of resilience measurement tool

Weighing of Significant Variables: Different factors will make transportation infrastructure projects vulnerable at different levels. Likewise, not all variables will have the same amount of impact on the resilience of the transportation infrastructures. The team used Cohen's d method to determine the effect size of the variables. Table 7 shows the values of Cohen's d tests for the dimensions.

Ranking of the Significant Variables: Cohen's d value was normalized and based on the normalized Cohen's d value variables were ranked from the highest effect size to the lowest effect size. Results are shown in Table 8. It is found that variable 34 which is resilience investment with new projects had the highest normalized effect size of 0.086. Variable 8 which is the availability of previous disaster data for the roadway had the second highest normalized effect size of 0.075. Based on the size of the effects, variables were ranked from maximum effect size to minimum effect size, maximum being rank 1 and minimum being rank 21.

Table 8. Ranking of the Variables Based on the Normalized Effect Size

Assigning Weights for the Variables: Ranked variables were organized incrementally and the Rank-sum method was applied. In this method ranked 1 variable was given a score of 21, the second-highest ranked variable was given a score of 20, and subsequent variables were scored similarly. The last variable was given a score of 1. Universal weight was determined using the formula mentioned in the methodology section. The results of the above-mentioned calculations are shown in Table 9. Number 1 ranked variable which is resilience investment with new projects had a maximum weight of 0.09. This value illustrates that roughly 9% of the difference in resilience level will occur if the company does not practice allocating a percentage of the budget for the resilience activities while planning for a new project. Similarly, effects of other variables can be explained based on their weights.

Table 9. Assigning Weights for the Variables

Development of the Scale: To fulfill the aims of this project, ranked and weighted resilience dimensions were used to develop a decision-support tool to measure the relative resilience of the transportation infrastructure. The tool will have a comprehensive scale so that the users can choose the most appropriate option to better resonate with the level of resilience of the infrastructure.

Each dimension was scaled based on three major definitions. For example, the first variable which is resilience investment for new projects is a dimension that indicates when the resilience
investment is being authorized for new projects. Each measure was scaled in three scores, with the first measure being 1-3, the second measure being 4-6 and the third measure being 7-9. In a nutshell, each dimension was defined in three measures and scored from 1-9, with "1" being the least impact and "9" being the most impact in indicating resilience. All 21 variables were defined in such three measures and nine scores, which are shown in Table 10.

#	Dimensions	Measures		Scale points		
$\mathbf{1}$		Rarely		$\overline{2}$	3	
	Resilience investment with new projects	Often time	$\overline{4}$	5	6	
		Regular	7	8	9	
$\overline{2}$		Limited data	1	$\overline{2}$	3	
	Availability of previous disaster data	Just enough data	$\overline{4}$	5	6	
	for the roadway	Elaborate data	7	8	9	
		After a long time	1	$\overline{2}$	3	
3	Time to start reconstruction works	After a while	$\overline{4}$	5	6	
		Immediately after	7	8	9	
		Long length	1	$\overline{2}$	$\overline{3}$	
$\overline{4}$	Length of the link	Medium length	$\overline{4}$	5	6	
		Short length	7	8	9	
		Low number		$\overline{2}$	3	
5	Number of optional routes	Medium number	$\overline{4}$	5	6	
		High number	7	8	9	
	Access to previous disaster data for	Difficult to access		$\overline{2}$	3	
6		Access with permission	$\overline{4}$	5	6	
	the roadway	Easily accessible	7	8	9	
$\overline{7}$ 8		Multiple ownership	1	$\overline{2}$	3	
	Ownership of integrated infrastructure assets	Limited number of ownerships	$\overline{4}$	5	6	
		Few ownership	7	8	9	
		Few available	$\mathbf{1}$	$\overline{2}$	3	
	Availability of emergency response	Enough available	$\overline{4}$	5	6	
	equipment	Abundantly available	7	8	9	
$9 -$		Multiple crossings	$\mathbf{1}$	$\overline{2}$	3	
	Having a railroad crossing	Limited crossings	$\overline{4}$	5	6	
		Few crossings	$\overline{7}$	8	9	
		Low number		$\overline{2}$	3	
10	Number of lanes	Medium number	$\overline{4}$	5	6	
		High number	$\overline{7}$	8	9	
11		Seldom funding		$\overline{2}$	3	

Table 10. Scale for the Resilience Measurement Tool

Resilience Calculation using the Tool: This will be an excel based resilience measurement tool to quantify the resilience of the transportation infrastructures. The tool will provide output by considering the weighted impact of the resilience dimensions in the transportation infrastructure to be evaluated. It will also consider the level of impact of each dimension on resilience level by utilizing the scores provided by the user. Once the user provides scores in the level of resilience measurement matrix, each score will be multiplied by its corresponding weight which was found using the rank sum method shown in Table 9. The research team named this value the "resilience impact value". The summation of all the resilience impact values found for different variables for a project will provide the relative level of resilience of that particular project. Proper equations are provided below.

Resilience impact value of the variable $=$ Weight of the dimension $*$ Score of the dimension

Level of resilience of the transportation infrastructure $=$ \qquad Resileince impact value of the dimension Variable 21 Variable 1

Table 11 shows the output window of the developed decision-making tool. The score which will be provided by the users from the scale (Table 10) will be in the column named "Score Selection". Then the "Resilience Impact Value" will be calculated using Eq. 8. The last row shows the "Level of resilience" of the transportation infrastructure network by taking the cumulation of resilience impact values that is the last column of the table. The different projects can utilize this tool to determine the level of resilience of the project and a decision-person can make a judgment by comparing the level of resilience of the projects.

			Project 1		
#	Resilience Dimensions	Weights	Score selection from the scale	Resilience Impact Value (RIV) = Weights * Score	
	Resilience investment with projects	0.091			
$\overline{2}$	Availability of previous disaster data for the roadway	0.087			
3	Time to start reconstruction works	0.082			
$\overline{4}$	Length of the link	0.078			
5	Number of optional routes	0.074			
6	Access to previous disaster data for the roadway	0.069			
τ	Ownership of integrated infrastructure assets	0.065			
8	Availability of emergency response equipment	0.061			
9	Having a railroad crossing	0.056			
10	Number of lanes	0.052			
11	Regular funding to resilience enhancement activities	0.048			
12	Time of allocation of funding	0.043			
13	Company employees' knowledge on resilience	0.039			

Table 11. Calculation of Resilience Using the Developed Tool

Validation of the Tool: To fulfill the purpose of this study, a decision-making tool based on the resilience dimensions is developed. To validate the developed resilience measurement tool, a case study is described in this section.

Suppose there are two projects with resilience enhancement needs and there are limited available resources to be allocated. The authorities need to make an informed decision to focus on one project at a specific point in time.

Project 1 – An organization that regularly measures and monitors the resilience level of its existing roadway infrastructure has applied for funding to enhance the resilience of its two-way two-lane roadway. This roadway has multiple energy conduits running under the infrastructure with multiple ownerships. Figure 16(a) shows the layout of this project. The organization is aware of the sudden need for emergency response equipment and possesses the necessary equipment in case of an emergency. The organization also meticulously collected all the historical disaster data indicating the date and extent of damages to that particular roadway based on the event type.

Figure 16. Layouts of the Example Projects

Project 2 – An organization that mainly focuses on constructing new projects is tasked to perform resilience enhancement activities. The roadway network consists of a link, a node, and a railroad crossing. A simple layout of Project 2 is shown in Figure 16(b). However, data pertaining to the previous disasters which had damaged that particular roadway, along with related reconstruction activities and costs, were not documented. Since the organization's focus is constructing new projects, they are not much familiar with the concept of resilience.

Based on these two projects, the responsible person will select a scale point using Table 10 for comparison purposes. Other proper assumptions are made while completing the template. Table 12 highlights the resultant score selection values for each project along with the other calculations.

			Project 1		Project 2	
#	Resilience Dimensions	Weights	Score selection	Resilience $value =$ Weights * Score	Score selection	Resilience $value =$ Weights * Score
$\mathbf{1}$	Resilience investment with projects	0.091	$\overline{7}$	0.637	$\overline{2}$	0.182
$\overline{2}$	Availability of previous disaster data for the roadway	0.087	8	0.696	$\mathbf{1}$	0.087
$\overline{3}$	Time to start reconstruction works	0.082	$\overline{0}$	$\overline{0}$	$\overline{0}$	$\overline{0}$
$\overline{4}$	Length of the link	0.078	5	0.39	8	0.624
5	Number of optional routes	0.074	$\mathbf{1}$	0.074	5	0.37
6	Access to previous disaster data for the roadway	0.069	8	0.552	$\mathbf{1}$	0.069
$\overline{7}$	Ownership of integrated infrastructure assets	0.065	$\overline{2}$	0.13	$\overline{7}$	0.455
8	Availability of emergency response equipment	0.061	8	0.488	5	0.305
9	Having a railroad crossing	0.056	9	0.504	$\overline{7}$	0.392
10	Number of lanes	0.052	$\overline{3}$	0.156	$\overline{3}$	0.156
11	Regular funding to resilience enhancement activities	0.048	$\overline{7}$	0.336	1	0.048
12	Time of allocation of funding	0.043	$\overline{0}$	$\overline{0}$	$\overline{0}$	$\overline{0}$
13	Company employees' knowledge on resilience	0.039	$\overline{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$

Table 12. Example Usage of the Resilience Measurement Tool

The total row in Table 12 indicates that the roadway segment of Project 1 is more resilient compared to the roadway segment of Project 2 since the summation of resilience values for Project 1 at 4.515 is larger than the 2.907 relative resilience level for Project 2. Hence, the decision-makers may decide to focus on enhancing the resilience of the roadway segment in Project 2 beforehand.

5.2.3. Development of causal model to identify most impactful factors in transportation infrastructure resilience model

Dimensions reduction: Exploratory Factor Analysis

The significant variables were needed to be reduced for further analysis. Exploratory factor analyses were performed to reduce the factors into different groups. The process of EFA was conducted using the software SPSS. The process of EFA is explained in the following sections.

Data Suitability Check: Data were checked for suitability to perform EFA. Two types of tests, namely KMO and Bartlett's test of sphericity were conducted to check the appropriateness of the data and the existence of correlation among variables. The KMO value for this dataset was found to be 0.624 which is greater than the cut-off point of 0.5 (Table 13). Having a greater KMO value indicates the proper appropriateness of the data for performing EFA. Bartlett's test of sphericity value was <0.001 which indicates that the variables are correlated in some way to perform EFA.

Table 13. Data Suitability Check for Exploratory Factor Analysis

Authors recorded the determinant of the correlation matrix and found the determinant value as 0.041which is greater than 0.0001 (Table 14). This indicates that there is no multicollinearity in the data and the data is good to perform factor analysis.

Table 14. Determinant Value for the Factors

Component Extraction Criteria: 4 components were extracted based on eigenvalue or the amount of variance holds by the components. Total variances for this model are explained in Table 15. The first component contributes to the maximum (30.562%) of the variances compared to other three components.

Table 15. Total Variance Explained

Extracted Components: Table 16 shows the variables with the loadings. The cutoff point for the variable to be considered in the component is 0.5. Among seventeen significant variables, we have found 11 variables with loadings more than 0.5. They were divided into four groups constituting four components. The first factor had V8, V4, V7 and V13. The second components had variables V26 and V34. The third component has V16 and V21. The last component V24, V22, and V5.

Table 16. Factor Loadings

Factor 1: Integrated Assets: The most contributing variables of this components are distance of the link/node from the affected area, number of lanes, having a railroad crossing, and ownership of the integrated infrastructure assets. Collectively they are named as integrated assets. Roadway segment/networks generally possess some integrated assets like utility conduit, rail crossings, etc. especially the city roadway segment. When such roadway segments get affected by disasters, the recovery of the roadway also depends on the recovery of any integrated assets.

Factor 2: Resources and Investment: Two variables were included in this component namely accessibility to non-machinery resources and resilience investment with new projects. Collectively they are named as resources and investment. Investment with the new projects can be segmented based on necessity. For example, a percentage of investment can be directed to ensure accessibility to non-machinery resources. Having non-machinery resources like human and material during or after the disaster for response and recovery activities will help the system to regain functionality faster and better after a disaster. Such linked behavior made these two variables to be grouped together to form Factor 2.

Factor 3: Knowledge: Factor 3 holds two variables namely company employees' knowledge on resilience and availability of previous disaster data for the roadway. A well-educated employee has the potential to make a big difference when it comes to handling aftereffect of disaster. Having a comprehensive database will highly help an employee in educating himself regarding the history, resilience activities and maintenance performed on the roadway over the years. Such positive connection between these two variables helped identify these two variables in one component.

Factor 4: Response and Resources: The variables under this component are availability of emergency response equipment, access to previous disaster data for the roadway, and number of optional routes. Variables of this component makes it easier to perform immediate response activities after a disaster. For example, having a previous disaster data will not be helpful if it is not easily accessible when needed. During emergency period, responsible person will need easy and fast access to disaster data for comparing the situation and to justify whether similar handling measure will be helpful. In this scenario, making the information online and giving access to the responsible personnel beforehand will solve the problem of accessibility of the disaster data. Similarly emergency response equipment can pave the way of faster recovery activities. Such similar and dependent behavior grouped these three variables into one factor.

Model development

As the number and type of the data which could be collected in this project was not initially known, multiple modeling techniques were considered including multinomial logistic regression, stepwise regression, artificial neural network, support vector machines (SVM), and Structural Equation Modeling (SEM). In this study, the team collected different types of data for each infrastructure case study/project and data included mix of continuous, nominal, binary, and ordinal. Table 17 presents the variables and type of data collected.

Table 17. List of Variables and Collected Data Types.

Multinomial logistic regression is used when a categorical dependent variable has two or more discrete outcomes (80, 81). As the collected data included various data types, multinomial logistic regression was not the best fit for the analysis. In addition, multinomial regression modeling does not enable practitioners to rank the resilience level of their infrastructures and only categorizes the projects into multiple categories. In other words, it does not generate values to compare the resilience of two projects if they fall into the same category. Various researchers have used the stepwise regression model as an appropriate analysis only if there is a need to identify a useful subset of the predictors (82, 83). Since there were several different types of variables which were significant to measurement of resilience in this project, stepwise regression would have not resulted in yielding the most accurate result. Therefore, the team has utilized Factor Analysis to reduce the dimensions of the model. As another modeling technique, artificial neural network modeling was initially considered. However, this model was not considered the best fit as it is difficult to evaluate the influence of cluster of independent variables on dependent variable $(84, 84)$ 85). Regarding adoption of SVM, several scholars have only used this technique in their analysis when there is an understandable margin of dissociation between classes (86, 87), which was not applicable to the collected data.

Therefore, based on the type of collected data, the SEM modeling technique was chosen as the best fit, and a model was developed using SPSS AMOS to build and analyze the potential relationship among and between the components, and resilience measurement dimensions. SEM analysis not only validates hypothesized relationships but also explores new relationships. Moreover, SEM is efficient in handling complex dependencies and provides flexibility with sample numbers (88, 89). In addition, Cohen's d method, rank-sum method, and factor analysis method were also utilized. Cohen's d method was utilized to determine the effect size of the variables, the rank-sum method was used to assign weight to the variables, and factor analysis technique was used to identify latent variables which cannot be measured through direct data

collection. The schematic process which led to the model development is presented in Figure 17. The following sections explain the model in detail.

Figure 17. Schematic Process that Led to Model Development

Hypotheses for the model: Based on the components developed above and literature review four hypothesis were developed to address in the model.

- H1. Integrated assets of the roadway have an impact on rapidity.
- H2. Resources and investment of the project has impact on rapidity.
- H3. Knowledge has impact on rapidity.
- H4. Emergency resources have impact on rapidity.

Model analysis

The hypothesized relationships were introduced in the SPSS AMOS for analysis. Resilience measure rapidity was also introduced in the software. Together they built the model by showing relationships with one-sided arrow, co-relationship with two-sided arrow, observable variables with rectangles and latent variables with eclipse. The model was run and check for goodness of fit.

A good fitted structural equation model must fit into four fit indexes namely χ^2/df , RMSEA, CFI, and PNFI (89). Table 18 shows the fit indexes value along with the corresponding recommended values. For the developed model, χ^2 /df was found to be 1.722 (<3), RMSEA found to be 0.089 (≤ 0.1) , CFI found to be 0.91 (> 0.9) and PNFI found to be 0.51 (> 0.5). Such values indicate good fit for the data to explore the relationships and co-relationships.

Table 18. Comparison of Fit Indexes

Another way to check fitness of the model is through standardized residual covariances (Table 19). An absolute value of less than 3 indicates acceptable model fitness. For our model, the maximum absolute standardized residual covariance is 2.042 which is less than recommended cut off point 3.

	V16	V21	V26	V34	Rapidity	V ₅	V ₂₂	V ₂₄	V4	V7	V8
V16	.000										
V21	.000	.000									
V26	$-.704$	1.140	.000								
V34	-169	.059	.000	.000							
Rapidity	-126	.146	.229	$-.097$.000						
V ₅	$-.736$	$-.094$	$-.505$.192	.139	.000					
V ₂₂	1.207	.724	$-.761$.566	$-.850$	$-.359$.000				
V ₂₄	$-.005$	-149	$-.560$.069	.483	.283	.039	.000			
V ₄	.496	-1.009	.190	$-.450$.468	1.364	$-.581$.657	.000		
V7	$-.347$.939	$-.411$.659	-179	$-.887$.833	-1.343	$-.067$.000	
V8	$-.393$.037	$-.262$	$-.331$	$-.628$.587	1.021	-2.042	$-.238$.380	.000

Table 19. Residual Covariances for the SEM Model Developed for Simple and Complex Projects

The model was run for path coefficient and the values are recorded in Table 20. Table shows the relationships, the estimate and the level of significance of the paths. It was found that only except one path, all the other paths are statistically significant. It was found from the literature that if a model is well fitted and the parameter has an impact over other parameter, a non-significant parameter should be kept in the model (90).

		Relationships	Estimate	P
V8	\leftarrow ---	Integrated Assets	.523	***
V ₇	\leftarrow ---	Integrated Assets	.774	***
V ₄	\leftarrow ---	Integrated Assets	.748	***
V24	\leftarrow ---	Emergency Resources	.607	***
V22	\leftarrow --	Emergency Resources	.561	***
V ₅	\leftarrow ---	Emerergency Resources	.742	***
Rapidity	\leftarrow ---	Integrated Assets	$-.736$	***
Rapidity	\leftarrow ---	Emergency Ressources	.413	***
V34	\leftarrow --	Resource Investment	.506	***
V26	\leftarrow ---	Ressource Investment	.269	.118
Rapidity	\leftarrow ---	Ressource Investment	.606	.704
V ₂₁	\leftarrow ---	Knowledge	.533	***
V16	\leftarrow	Knowledge	.577	***
Rapidity	\leftarrow --	Knowledge	.239	.787

Table 20. Path Coefficients of the SEM Model Developed Based on Complexity of the Projects

The final hypothesis model is shown in Figure 18. Latent variables integrated assets, resources and investment, and emergency resources has significant impact on the resilience measure rapidity. However, latent variable knowledge has negligible and non-significant relationship with the resilience measure rapidity when it comes to involvement in the reconstruction projects. However, knowledge has a good correlation with construct integrated assets and emergency resources.

Figure 18. Testing Result of the SEM Model Showing the Impact of Variables on Rapidity Characteristics of Transportation Infrastructure Resilience under the Criteria Involvement

Discussion on Model

H1. Integrated assets of the roadway have an impact on rapidity.

Developed model confirmed the first hypothesis that the integrated asset of a roadway has impact over rapidity. In other words, presence of integrated assets in a roadway will determine the level of resilience of the network. Authors considered number of lanes as an asset of the roadway since increased number of lanes increase the capacity of the roadway. Number of lane also helps to regain functionality after a disaster by providing the opportunity to make a lane reversible to continue traffic movement from both direction if needed after a disaster. Our model also identifies benefit of this opportunity and provides a contributing factor of 0.75 as the path coefficient between variable 4 and the latent variable integrated assets. Similarly, other two observable variable under this latent variable highly impact the reconstruction time and consequently impact the level of resilience of the transportation network.

H2. Resources and investment of the project has impact on rapidity.

The predictive hypothesis of resources and investment having impact over rapidity of the damaged transportation network was not supported by our model. The variable 26 which was accessibility to non-machinery resources has an insignificant contribution to the latent variable resources and investment. However, this construct has a correlation of 0.68 with the construct integrated assets hence kept in the model.

H3. Knowledge has impact on rapidity.

The adopted hypothesis that the knowledge has an impact on the rapidity of the damaged network was not supported by our model. The latent construct knowledge had a insignificant relation with the observable variable rapidity with a path coefficient of 0.24. However, the construct knowledge has high correlation of constructs integrated assets, resource and investment, and emergency resources. Even though the company employees' knowledge on resilience and availability of previous disaster data has insignificant relation with the rapidity of the damaged network, this construct influences the usage of other construct and influence the level of resilience of the transportation infrastructure indirectly.

H4. Emergency resources have impact on rapidity.

The adopted hypothesis that the emergency resources have an impact on the rapidity of the network was supported by the developed model. Availability of emergency response equipment will highly expedite the emergency response right after a disaster. Proper emergency resources will not only directly expedite the rapidity that is recovery speed but also indirectly boost up the rapidity by reducing propagation of damage. Similarly, accessibility to disaster data for the roadway will help during immediate response phase as well as prolonged recovery phase. Having available optional routes will help in reducing delay by rerouting the traffic from the affected area. This will help in regaining functionality after a disaster hence considered in the construct emergency resources.

5.2.4. Identifying Most Critical Factors and Developing Corresponding Strategies

Most Critical Factors: Two radar plots are drawn to show the relative positions of variables based on their impacts compared to others (Figure 19). The combined impact of the variables is also recorded. Considering these two conditions, top 6 most critical factors in impacting resilience were listed and ranked from 1 through 6. 1 being the most impactful and 6 being the least impactful.

Figure 19. Radar Plots to Show Relative Impact of the Variables

Most Effective Strategies: Strategies corresponding to ranked critical factors are provided in Table 21. To avoid issues related to the first factor, one must try investing in locating integrated assets away from the roadways, so if a break in a railroad crossing or utility line occurs or emergency repairs are needed, the impact on the roadway operations can be minimized. To avoid issues related to access to previous disaster data for the roadway this study suggests investing in preparing an interactive online platform for recording and reviewing data related to disasters as well as previous resilience enhancing activities for the roadway with easy access credentials.

6. CONCLUSIONS

The aims of this study were to identify the factors that affect the resilience of transportation infrastructures and to develop models that can measure the level of resilience. To fulfill these goals, a questionnaire was developed which was supported by a comprehensive literature review. The survey was distributed among recipients with experience working on different transportation projects under different transportation agencies. After multiple reminder emails, 92 valid responses were collected and analyzed qualitatively and quantitatively. At this point, 35 variables of resilience measurement were listed, and statistical tests were performed to determine which were most significant. A resilience measurement tool was developed to quantify the level of resilience of different transportation infrastructure projects. Also, to develop the most effective strategies in increasing the recovery time and enhancing the resilience of the transportation infrastructures, a causal model was developed using the structural equation modeling technique. To avoid the problem of using too many variables, exploratory factor analysis was performed, and components were identified. Based on the concept of structural equation modeling (SEM), a nested model was drawn, using SPSS AMOS. Other variables were incorporated into the nested model, and after multiple trials and errors, a structural model was developed that showed all the hypothetical relationships under each criterion.

Based on the analysis, the following conclusions were drawn.

- 1. Even though 73% of the participants had experience working on reconstruction projects and 60% of the participants had experience working for transportation agencies for more than 20 years, only 45% of the participants were aware of the concept of resilience.
- 2. Twenty-one significant variables were identified to use to develop a resilience measurement model. This model will provide relative resilience to multiple transportation infrastructure projects. Based on the outcome of the tool, a person will be able to identify the less resilient network with the most vulnerability. Such identification will help in investing in resilience enhancement activities for the most vulnerable segment of the network.
- 3. A causal relationship model was developed using structural equation modeling to identify the most critical factors that affect the reconstruction time of transportation infrastructure reconstruction projects. This model shows the impact of four constructs namely integrated assets, resource and investment, knowledge, and emergency resource over the rapidity of the transportation infrastructure reconstruction. Collectively all the variables of the constructed integrated assets influence the rapidity of the reconstruction, however, the existence of a railroad crossing will have maximum impact. This is because a damaged railroad crossing has the potential to retard the restoration activity of the transportation network by delaying the restoration of other integrated infrastructures. Construct emergency resources has a significant direct impact on the rapidity of the transportation infrastructure reconstruction projects. This indicates that resources like emergency response equipment will lower the reconstruction time significantly. Collectively the variables under this construct will have a significant impact on rapidity but variable 5 which is the number of optional routes will have maximum impact on rapidity. This is because having available optional routes will make rerouting the traffic from the damaged area convenient and faster rerouting will ensure faster recovery of the damaged roadway.
- 4. This study also developed corresponding strategies to handle the critical factors that most contribute to prolonging the reconstruction time of the affected transportation infrastructures.

To avoid issues related to the first factor, one must try investing in locating integrated assets away from the roadways, so if a break in a railroad crossing or utility line occurs or emergency repairs are needed, the impact on the roadway operations can be minimized. To avoid issues related to access to previous disaster data for the roadway this study suggests investing in preparing an interactive online platform for recording and reviewing data related to disasters as well as previous resilience enhancing activities for the roadway with easy access credentials.

Despite all the benefits of this study, a limitation should be mentioned. Due to covid, the survey was conducted only via electronic media. Such constriction resulted in a limited number of valid responses, from which only three constructs could be developed, using exploratory factor analysis.

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APPENDIX A: INVITATION EMAIL

Email Subject:

Your Input Needed: Resilience Decision-Making in Critical Infrastructures

Email Content:

Greetings,

You are receiving this letter because we are hoping that you will help us with a very important project. Your expertise and feedback would be valuable as we work to identify and measure the resilience level of critical transportation infrastructures and develop the resilience enhancement strategies. The sponsors of this project are the US Department of Transportation (USDOT).

Your participation is voluntary and your responses to the survey will be kept confidential. If you have any questions or concerns about the study, please feel free to email the Project Principal Investigator, Dr. Sherri Kermanshachi at sharareh.kermanshachi@uta.edu.

We hope that you will take the time to answer the questions by June 30, 2021. Completing the survey should take no longer than 15 minutes. Thank you in advance for your help with this valuable study. To begin the survey, please click on the link below:

https://resiliencedimensionproject2021.questionpro.com/

APPENDIX B: QUESTIONNAIRE

i. Demographic Information

- 1. Please specify the organization you work at:
	- □ NCTCOG
	- \Box FHWA
	- TxDOT
	- FEMA
	- \Box Cities/Counties
	- \Box Private Sector
	- \Box Other (Please specify: \Box)
- 2. Which of the following best describes your working experience?
	- \square Less than 5 years
	- \Box 5 to 10 years
	- \Box 10 to 15 years
	- \Box 15 to 20 years
	- \Box 20 to 25 years
	- \Box More than 25 years
- 3. What is your job title?
	- \Box Director
	- □ Project Manager
	- \Box Project Engineer
	- \Box Field Labor
	- \Box Other (Please Specify: \Box
- 4. Have you ever involved in the reconstruction of transportation infrastructure?
	- □ Yes
	- \square No
- 5. If yes, please mark the most recent type of infrastructure reconstruction you have been involved in.
	- □ Roadway
	- \Box Highway
	- □ Bridge
	- □ Railway
	- Airport
- Other (Please specify: _____________) \Box N/A
- 6. If yes, were you involved in the investment decision making process for that particular project?
	- □ Yes
	- \Box No
- 7. Are you frequently involved in the investment decision making process for the projects in your organization?
	- □ Yes
	- \square No
- 8. Please mention the approximate value of the most recent reconstruction project you/your company have worked on.
	- \square Less than 1M
	- \Box 1M-5M
	- \Box 6M-10M
	- \Box 11M-15M
	- \Box 16M-20M
	- □ More than 20M

ii. Resilience Concept

- 9. How familiar are you with the concept of "resilience" and "build back better"?
	- \Box Not at all familiar
	- \Box Slightly familiar
	- \square Somewhat familiar
	- \Box Moderately familiar
	- □ Very familiar
- 10. How agree are you with the statement "improving resilience is better than investing in recovery?"
	- \Box Not at all agree
	- \Box Slightly agree
	- \square Somewhat agree
	- \Box Moderately agree
	- \Box Agree
- 11. Would you say project decision-making and analysis of needs for infrastructure maintenance also includes resilience considerations on a frequent and consistent basis?
	- \Box Not at all agree
	- \Box Slightly agree
	- \square Somewhat agree
	- $\hfill\Box$ Moderately agree
	- □ Agree
- 12. How does your agency distribute annual funding between new projects and resilience enhancement activities?

New Projects: $\frac{9}{6}$

Resilience Enhancement: _____%

13. Please rate the importance of the identified factors on the pace of the recovery process?

- 14. In your organization, are resilience and vulnerability considered as part of the investment decision making and prioritization processes?
	- □ Yes
	- \square No
- 15. Does your organization measure and/or quantify the resilience of infrastructures under their authority?
	- □ Yes
	- \Box No
- 16. If yes, how does your organization determine the resilience level of the existing infrastructures?
	- \Box Quantitative Assessment
	- \Box Qualitative Assessment
	- \Box Mixture of Quantitative and Qualitative Assessments
- 17. If yes, what tools/techniques are used in measuring the resilience level of the infrastructure?

Answer: ____________

- 18. How does your organization compare and prioritize the resiliency enhancement projects? Answer:
- 19. Does your agency have a database of historical resilience enhancement activities and their associated costs?
	- □ Yes
	- \Box No

iii. Resilience Dimensions

20. Please determine how agree are you with the statements based on transportation infrastructure reconstruction projects you were involved in:

Node disruptions cause more delays compared to link disruptions of the same damage severity.

The total length of disrupted roadways determines serviceability delays.

Resilience and efficiency are not necessarily correlated.

Unavailability of emergency response equipment such as snow or debris removal equipment can significantly delay the reconstruction process.

It is more difficult to reroute traffic when the affected component is the node compared to when the affected component is the roadway.

Not having the right information at the right time made the recovery process more difficult.

Rerouting traffic becomes difficult when the distance between two consecutive nodes on a network is relatively large.

Having additional lanes to turn a one-way roadway into a two-way roadway will make the rerouting of the traffic more convenient in case of emergency.

Links/nodes far away from the affected area will have fewer traffic disruptions.

Previous experience of managing a network during disastrous events accelerate the recovery process.

Having a railroad crossing on the affected roadway delays the reconstruction work.

- 21. When does your organization consider allocating funding to resilience enhancement activities and projects?
	- \Box The allocation of funding to resilience enhancement activities are performed on the regular basis.
	- \Box The allocation of funding to resilience enhancement activities are usually considered after occurrence of a disaster.
- 22. While designing and planning a transportation network, does your organization consider the availability of the emergency resources required in case of reconstruction due to a disastrous event?
	- □ Yes
	- \square No
- 23. While designing and planning a transportation network, does your company consider the accessibility of the emergency resources required in case of reconstruction due to a disastrous event?
	- □ Yes
	- \square No
- 24. How difficult is to access data from previous disruptive events for a particular roadway?
	- \Box Not at all difficult
	- \square Slightly difficult
	- \Box Somewhat difficult
	- \Box Moderately difficult
	- \Box Very difficult
- 25. How helpful would be accessing data from previous events for a particular roadway in the decision-making process for the recovery of that roadway after a new disruptive event?
	- \Box Not at all helpful
	- \square Slightly helpful
	- \square Somewhat helpful
- \Box Moderately helpful
- \Box Very helpful
- 26. Does different ownership of railroad crossings, intersecting roadways, and/or any integrated infrastructure assets (signals, intelligent transportation system apparatus, utility conduits, etc.) delay the recovery activities?
	- □ Yes
	- \square No
	- i. If yes, how?
	- ii. If yes, which one cause higher delay in recovery?

iv. Resilience Enhancement Best Practices

27. Please determine how agree are you with the suggested best practices aiming to increase the resilience of transportation networks:

With the number of available lane numbers, the resilience will increase.

Having a disaster database will help significantly with the disaster prevention enforcement plans and to cope with disaster consequences.

Ensuring the availability of resources for emergency reconstruction during the planning process of the networks will increase the resilience of that network.

Ensuring access to the emergency resources during the planning process of the networks will increase the resilience of that network.

Periodical review of storage and accessibility of the emergency resources will increase resilience.

Taking extra care of the emergency nodes (including critical emergency response facilities such as fire stations and hospitals) will improve the resiliency of the system.

28. Based on your experience and understanding, please list top best practices adopted by your organization to improve the resilience of the transportation networks.

Answer:

v. Project-based Resilience Questions

To answer the questions in this section, please select a **reconstruction project** of a transportation infrastructure that was damaged due to a disaster and you/your agency were/was involved. To select a project, please consider the following requirements:

- a. Reconstruction of transportation infrastructures due to any disaster is acceptable; and
- b. Reconstruction of any type of transportation infrastructure is acceptable (Highway, bridge, roadway, tunnel, etc.)
- 29. What type of disaster was the cause of damages to the selected reconstruction project?
	- \Box Cyclone
	- □ Hurricane
	- \Box Flood
	- \Box Thunderstorm
	- □ Tornado
	- \Box Wildfires
	- \square Earthquake
	- \Box Extreme Heat/Cold
	- \Box Other (Please specify: \Box)

30. In what year did the selected disaster happen?

Answer:

- 31. Approximately how many extra reconstruction projects were defined to address the damages due to this disaster?
	- \square Less than 5 projects
	- \Box Between 5-15 projects
	- \Box Between 15-50 projects
	- \Box Between 50-100 projects
	- \Box Over 100 Projects
- 32. What was the type of the selected reconstruction project which you were involved in?
	- □ Roadway
	- \Box Node
	- \Box Roadway network including node
	- \Box Railway crossing
	- □ Airport
	- \Box Other (Please specify: \Box)

33. What was the role of your organization in this reconstruction project?
- \Box Owner
- \Box Contractor
- \square Engineer/Designer
- \Box Subcontractor
- Other (Please specify: ______________)

34. What was the level of damages in the selected reconstruction project compared to its predisaster condition?

- \Box Less than 10%
- \Box Between 10% to 25%
- \Box Between 25% to 50%
- \Box Between 50% to 75%
- \Box Between 75% to 100%
- 35. What was the approximate cost of this reconstruction project? Reconstruction Project Cost (in Thousands):
- 36. What was the approximate duration of this reconstruction project? Reconstruction Project Duration (in Months): ___________________________________
- 37. Did your organization face any challenges in acquiring the funding needed for this reconstruction project?
	- □ Yes
	- \Box No

38. How long after the disaster was this reconstruction project initiated?

- \square Less than 2 weeks
- \Box Between 2 weeks and 1 month
- \Box Between 1 month and 2 months
- \Box Between 2 months and six months
- \Box Between six months and 1 year
- \Box More than 1 year
- 39. Please rate the complexity level of the selected reconstruction project.
	- \Box Slightly complex
	- \Box Moderately complex
	- \Box Highly Complex
- 40. How remote (distance from highly populated areas) was this reconstruction project located?
	- \square Less than 5 miles
- \Box 5-15 miles
- \Box 15-25 miles
- \Box 25-50 miles
- \Box More than 50 miles
- 41. Please rate the shortage of human resources in the selected reconstruction project.
	- \square No shortage
	- \square Slight shortage
	- \square Somewhat shortage
	- \Box Moderate shortage
	- \square Severe shortage
- 42. Please rate the shortage of material resources in the selected reconstruction project.
	- \square No shortage
	- \square Slight shortage
	- \square Somewhat shortage
	- \Box Moderate shortage
	- \square Severe shortage
- 43. Please provide the following information in order to recognize the relative improvement of the affected area due to reconstruction.

