# **Diving Into Resistance**

# What is Resistance?

Refusal to accept or comply with a change; the attempt to prevent changing something by action or argument



What is a Resistance Manager?



## Overcoming Active Resistance

Engaging Executive Sponsorship Communicating proactively Identifying and confronting directly Equipping and enabling managers/Supervisors to address resistance Involving those resisting in project or solution design

## **Overcoming Passive Resistance**

- Communicating transparently, openly, and honestly
- Using positive peer influence and change agency networks
- Inviting participation in the solution design
- Enlisting leadership support



# Working With The Individual



- Engage with the resistant individual regularly
- Engage with managers and supervisors
- Communicate intentionally
- Coach resistant individuals
- Sincerely listen to concerns

## Can Resistance Help The Outcome?

When the root cause of resistance is identified early When data or investigation can verify resistance When resistant stakeholders are involved in project planning and execution.

## Barriers and What To Do About It

Ineffective leadership

Intensity of resistance

Unsupportive managers

Ineffective alignment with the change team

Lack of organization readiness

Start earlier

Committed and competent sponsor support

Engage mid-level managers/supervisors from the beginning

Create robust and structured resistance plans

Communicate more

# Questions?

Robin Rozene

Organizational Change Manager

Robin.Rozene@dva.wa.gov