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MEMO

DATE: December 29, 2015
TO: Mayor and City Council
FROM: Spencer Nebel, City Manager
SUBJECT: Status Report for the seven week period ending Friday, December 25, 2015

The past seven weeks have been an incredibly busy time period with a lot of activity in the office. These activities included preparing for three separate labor mediation sessions which resulted in obtaining contracts with Newport Employees' Association, Newport Police Association, and International Association for Fire Fighters, finalizing work on the 2016 Newport Retirement Plan Restatement, as well as the clean-up Amendments No. 1 and No. 3 to the 2009 Retirement Plan Restatement, responding to also most 40 questions regarding the Airport Operations Request for Proposals, dealing with the affordable housing issues, fluoride issues, and of course our favorite topic local marijuana regulatory issues. Good progress has been made on a number of these fronts. Furthermore, I have been dealing with a number of constituent issues (and will be playing catch-up with a number of constituent issues as well prior to the end of the year). On December 9th one of our police officers used deadly force which injured a suspect. The final issue consuming significant time was the December 17th landslide directly affecting seven houses on NE 70th Street. This greatly impacted the time that I thought I would be able to catch up on things at year's end!

HIGHLIGHTS OF ACTIVITIES:

Highlights of activities during the past seven weeks include the following:

- Tim Gross, Derrick Tokos, and I met with Susan Armstrong and Greg Morrow over specific concerns regarding survey markers for the reconstruction of Brant Street. Ms. Armstrong and Mr. Morrow have interest in property they want to develop with condominiums on the parcel. Once it was understood that the stakes were grading stakes that seemed to address the issue. Since this meeting there has been further discussion regarding the property line issues since the lot lines that were marked out by Armstrong and Morrow's surveyor were taken off of corner markers that were

inaccurate. I am not sure how this would impact their ability to develop the property in the future. The parcel in question is a very narrow parcel along Brant Street. It is my understanding that the city and property owners are now on the same page regarding the lot lines.

- Met with various staff regarding reconfiguration of the office area behind Planning. Currently this is one large open room that is used for storage and Jim Salisbury's work area. As we are moving forward with possible filling of a Senior Planner's position we will need to reconfigure this space.
- Peggy Hawker, Cindy Breves, Richard Dutton, and I met several times to finalize our purchase of agenda management software. This is an issue we have been evaluating for over a year. We requested proposals from various companies and received five separate proposals. Based on our review and interviews with the various agenda management software providers we are going to go forward with Granicus for our agenda system. As I indicated to the City Council, we will be having a work session to explore the possibility of going paperless with our agenda packets early in 2016. I believe with the ease of navigating through an agenda packet, Council members will find a paperless format quite acceptable. With Granicus we will also be able to time stamp the video of the Council meetings so that in the future anyone wanting to hear the Council discussion on a specific agenda item will be able to go directly to that agenda item and review the video for that item. The bookmarking and ease of highlighting and making notes on the agenda packet is quite intuitive. We will plan to demo the viewing of software both on a laptop computer or iPads or tablets so that the Council can determine which direction they may be interested in going. Please note that the software benefits go well beyond the possibility of going paperless.
- Mayor Roumagoux, Mark Miranda, and I participated in the Changing of Command ceremony for NOAA-MOC-P of one of NOAA research vessels. The event was held in the theater at the Hatfield Marine Science Center. As you are aware NOAA is in the process of consolidating all marine operations activities out of Newport for the Atlantic, Pacific, and South Pacific. I had a chance to talk to the overall commander of the marine operations Captain Todd Bridgeman. He indicated that the transition has been going smoothly so far. They are trying to fill a number of positions and housing has been one of their challenges in filling some of these positions. The new MOC-P commander is Brian Parker. Mayor Roumagoux and I spoke with NOAA Rear Admiral Anita Lopez and she reflected the same concern regarding workforce housing in the Newport area. Overall this was a nice event. It is important to continue to work to integrate NOAA within our community.
- I hosted the Lincoln County City Managers at City Hall for the November meeting. This is the first of our new format where we are going to move our meeting around to various locations within the County. Historically the managers have had lunch at Tidal Raves, however this is a difficult place to hold a constructive meeting. The general consensus was that the new format should work very well to foster more meaningful use of our time during this monthly meetings.
- Participated in a regular meeting of the Airport Committee.

- Lance Vanderbeck, Melissa Román, and I met to review our submittal of a Connect Oregon Grant prior to submittal. This was Lance's first attempt at writing a grant. I think he did a good job. We will see how competitive our request is from the other requests before ODOT.
- On Wednesday November 11, 2015 City Hall was closed in observance of Veteran's Day.
- Held a regular meeting with Mark Miranda on Police Department issues.
- Held a regular meeting with Rob Murphy on Fire Department issues.
- Barb James, Steve Rich, and I met several times in preparation for mediation for three separate bargaining units.
- Met with Richard Dutton to review IT issues.
- Mike Murzynsky, Randi Siller, and I participated in a conference call with the Oregon League of Cities. The League is tackling a number of issues relating to room tax on a statewide basis. Some of these issues include the collection of room tax from third party bookers such as Expedia and other similar types of organizations. There is also discussion about the ability to have more flexibility in the use of room taxes. Newport is one of six communities that have been asked to participate in this process.
- Met on a number of engineering issues.
- Held a routine meeting with Barb James on HR issues.
- Tim Gross and I toured the status of the South Beach projects. While progress is being made there are a number of land/engineering issues that have been somewhat problematic with these projects.
- Participated in a meeting with Caroline Bauman on the collaborative effort Lincoln County is pulling together to apply for assessment funding from the EPA. This a collective effort between Lincoln County, City of Toledo, The City of Newport, and the COG. If funded the grant would fund site assessments on various ground fill site including obsolete building within Lincoln County. Some funds could be used for planning new uses for any of the ground fill site as well. The cities role in the process will be assistance in identifying sites, and other limited in kind support.
- I prepared agenda items for the November 16th City Council meeting.
- Held a regular Department Head staff meeting.
- Met with Mayor Roumagoux to review the agenda for November 16th meeting.
- Tim Gross and I participated in an interview with Kara Morgan updating her listeners on a number of city issues.
- Lance Vanderbeck and I met to review operations at the Airport.
- Derrick Tokos and I met with a researcher who is studying the impacts on resilience of communities relating to climate change. Newport was one of the communities that she has selected for this study.
- Met with Melissa on a number of FAA issues relating to airport projects. We are also working to transition the FAA contacts from Melissa to Lance for the airport except for specific projects that engineering is providing for the airport.
- Peggy Hawker and I met with Peter Vince from Toledo High School regarding the videography of the City Council meetings. We had Peter get in touch with Granicus to discuss the coordination of the videography with the agenda system. It appears that the

systems will be compatible. Please note one significant advantage with Granicus is that the video streaming is provided through their own website. Toledo public school has been using a free streaming service which apparently gets interrupted with commercials and other activities and is not that reliable. Utilizing Granicus should make a substantial improvement in this types of issues. Peter also indicated that he will be retiring at the end of the school year. He would like to coordinate a meeting between the city and schools to determine whether the schools will be able to continue providing this service in the future. Peggy Hawker will be setting up a meeting with the school district to have those discussions. We have also done some preliminary review about acquiring our own permanently mounted camera system. This would greatly simplify the process of telecasting City Council meetings and make it easier to telecast other meetings and events taking place in City Council Chambers. Out of necessity this maybe something we need to pursue in the next fiscal year depending on what the school district position will be on continuing their services.

- Tim Gross and I met with Rick North, and Dr. Susan Anderson to discuss the process that will be used relating to the vote in May as to whether fluoride should be added to the city's water supply. They did request tour of the water plant which Tim and Steve Stewart have since provided.
- Held regular staff meeting with Mark Miranda, Rob Murphy, Richard Dutton, and Barb James.
- Mark Miranda, Barb James, Jason Malloy, and I met to discuss city policy regarding background checks for various positions with the city. There was concerns expressed by an employee seeking advancement regarding the process used regarding this purpose. We are reviewing our policy for the concerns expressed to determine how we want to go forward in the future.
- Tim Gross and I met with Chuck Forinash on South Street regarding the request the Chuck had to extend storm sewer beyond where he intends to at some point in the future to put in a driveway in. At this time he does not have any specific time table for doing this work it was our conclusion that a portion of the remaining ditch could be filled with covert put in place at the time a drive is constructed on Ferry Slip Road. It is our feel that it is not appropriate to do that work as part of the contract because that work was not existing.
- Participated in Yaquina Bay's Manager's meeting.
- Participated in a city/county's administrators/manager's lunch meeting hosted by the COG in Albany on Friday November 20, 2015. This is the first of those meeting that I have been able to attend. It was an opportunity to meet several other city manager's that are serving within the COG's service area. I also finally got to get together with Benton County Chief Executive Officer Dennis Aloia. It was great to see Dennis who served as Marquette County Administrator when I was serving as City of Marquette Assistant City Manager back in the late 80's early 90's. Dennis would like to talk a little more about initiatives between Newport/Lincoln County and Benton County going forward in the future especially with the expanding presence of OSU in Newport. I

concluded that there could be some good mutual benefits by closer links between Newport and Corvallis and Lincoln County and Benton County.

- Steve Rich and I had a pre-telephone conference with the mediator for both Police and Public Works contract negotiations in preparation for mediation.
- Reviewed several employee job descriptions where job function has been substantially changed with Barb James.
- Peggy Hawker, and I met with Wayne Belmont to discuss options with regards to the location of the Farmer's Market. Wayne indicated the wellness to explore the use of an outside stripe of the county parking lot for the Farmer's Market. An option was to move the Farmer's Market back a bit from 101. This would create a street closure to the West of the island with the clock in it. This is one of the options we have been exploring. Wayne also indicated that the County is seriously exploring possibility of building on the parking lot property after 2016 in order to consolidate a number of county offices. He suggested that when that activity is underway it is likely that the Farmer's Market would have to move from that location. We want to meet with the Farmer's Market organization to understand what options they have been reviewing prior to holding work session with the City Council on this matter. It is likely that the work session would be later in January or early February on the Farmer's Market.
- Steve Rich, Peggy Hawker, And I met to revise the various documents that would be part of a report to Council at the first meeting in January on the fluoride elections issue. Once we have a cleaned-up draft of those documents we will send those out for preliminary review by the Council members. If you have any suggestion on those documents please share those with Steve Rich. We will finalize those documents for formal review by City Council at the January 4th meeting. The Council needs to act on the ordinance at the January 19 meeting and the resolution referring the matter to a election needs to be acted upon at the first meeting in February.
- Met with Peggy O'Callaghan regarding expanding recognition of local senior citizens for Senior Days. The 60+ Center is exploring creating a display with photos of our local seniors that could be displayed at City Hall or some other public location. I indicated that the project committee should proceed and develop this plans further.
- Along with Mayor Roumagoux and Council President Busby, participated in Regional Airport Task Force Meeting. At this meeting the task force heard from Raince Anderson of WH Pacific Inc. regarding the evolution of the North Bend Municipal Airport from a municipal airport to an airport operated by the Port to a regional airport. The Task Force discussed the similarities and differences between the Newport Airport with the North Bend Airport to better understand what lessons might be learned from the evolution of the North Bend Airport. Raince Anderson said that one of the strongest benefits that the North Bend Airport has had been consistent and strong professional airport management over the years. This has allowed the airport to move forward on a number of significant initiatives to benefit Coos County.
- Finance Director Mike Murzynsky and I met to review the RFP for water and sewer rates study. This is issue that I had hoped would be out before now but due to other urgent comments this is moving a little slower than I would prefer. Due to before Mike and my

schedules, I am hoping we will have the RFP out in the beginning of the year with proposals coming back in February. I am still hopeful that the rate study will have information that we can utilize as part of the appropriations process later in the year.

- City Hall was closed on Thursday November 26th and Friday November 27th to observe the Thanksgiving holiday.
- Met with Kathleen Palmer, Jim Salisbury, and Barb James on review amendments to the Safety Committee bylaws.
- Tim Gross and I met with property owners in the first block of Brant Street who requested that the street be widen to where existing railroad timbers are in front of several of the homes on the east side of the street. Earlier in the year Tim and I did meet on site with property owners on widening the street from what was originally planned. The Design was changed to reflect a wider street, however the design was not quite as wide as the property owners would prefer. At the meeting Tim indicated that we could add the additional couple of feet requested. However upon checking out the work that had been done with placing the catch basins, Tim got back with the property owners and indicated that at this point we are not able to widen the road beyond what was called for in the revised plans.
- Participated in a retirement celebration for Jerry Howe. Mr. Howe was also recognized at the Annual Employee Appreciation Dinner for his 26 years of service with City of Newport.
- Along with members of the City Council and certain staff members, participated in a Town Hall meeting at Nye Beach.
- Following that meeting I spent some time following up on various issues relating to affordable housing. The specific concern that was expressed regarding the possibility of the Land Trust using the vacant land next to Don Davis Park. Overall I think the Town Hall meeting was a good exchange to help understand some of the issues that are important go forward in the Nye Beach area.
- Richard Dutton, Mike Murzynsky, Linda Brown, Cindy Breves, and I met regarding implementation of Express Bill pay for court citations. Finance is looking at initiating the ability to pay these expenses with credit cards during the month of January.
- Steve Rich, Mike Murzynsky, Barb James, and I met to review the proposed retirement restatement in preparation for the Retirement Trust meeting held later in the week.
- Participated in the meeting being organized by the Economic Development Alliance regarding the EPA Environmental Site Assessment Program for Lincoln County. This grant has subsequently been submitted for funding considerations.
- Participated in a monthly KCUP radio show.
- Mike Murzynsky, Linda Brown, and I finalized the budget schedule for the development of the 2016-17 Fiscal Year Budget.
- Along with Steve Rich, Tim Gross, Derrick Tokos, Olaf Sweetman, and Jim Salisbury, participated in a meeting with various PUD staff members to discuss a number of issues of mutual concern between the city and PUD. One of the issues is whether the PUD is required to obtain a permit before doing any construction in the right-of-way. It is the city's position that PUD like other utilities are required to obtain a permits. The PUD has

been relying on an agreement in which a blanket permit would be issued by the city. Neither the city nor the PUD are aware as to whether the PUD has ever requested a blanket permit. The PUD is going to work on this particular issue. Furthermore, there are specific concerns from the city of the PUD placing new above ground power poles for service lines in areas that have no above ground power poles now. The agreement that has been worked out between the city and the PUD seems to indicate that under service lines will be provided in these situations. This is an issue that both sides are going to review. We also talked about sharing capital outlay plans each year so that both the PUD and the city can work around and or combine projects when both the PUD and the city would mutually benefit from this activity. Finally we had a brief discussion about the upcoming renewal of the franchise agreement between the city and PUD. This is still a couple years down the road but we want to get an early start on these discussions prior to the expiration of the agreement.

- Held a regular staff meeting with Mark Miranda on Police issues.
- Met with Jim Protiva regarding a potential donation towards the pool project. We will be discussing this with Council in the near future.
- We met with ODOT regarding the Agate Beach Wayside Project. ODOT had been able to successfully work with the feds to divide the project up into separate components. One component will utilize the original federal grant with the original city match being used to cover that project. By pulling the restrooms and stairs out of the federal project it is anticipated that as a non-federal project the city will be able to receive significantly lower bids and will fund those components with funding committed previously by the city. Furthermore, ODOT has directed additional funding to make-up the difference for these projects. One of the significant cost overruns related to the bathrooms/shower facility at Agate Beach. The original design anticipated that a premanufactured facility would be built as part of this project. Due to the federal Buy America provisions, none of the manufacturers were willing to go through the process to certify that the restrooms met that specific federal requirement. By funding the restrooms separately with the city's match funding and not including it as part of the federal project, the city will be able to proceed with a restroom as was originally planned instead of having to build a custom facility at this location. With the additional funding that ODOT is steering towards this project and separating out components that will be bid as a local city project. We believe we will be able to end up with the same result that was anticipated as part of the original bid. We certainly appreciate ODOT's commitment to come to the table with additional funding and working through these sticky issues with the feds in order to make this project work. Also we appreciate Representative Gomberg's efforts supporting ODOT's involvement in resolving these issues.
- Mike Murzynsky, Linda Brown, and I met regarding various budget forms that we will be utilizing for the 2016-17 Fiscal Year Budget.
- Mayor Roumagoux and I participated in an Open House at the Ernest Bloch House located at Agate Beach. It was very interesting hearing Ernest Bloch's music being performed in the house. There is a lot of interest in moving forward with some sort of facility recognizing Bloch's contribution to classical music and developing some sort of music study program at the house and grounds.

- Mayor Roumagoux, Councilor Saelens, and I gave brief remarks during the rededication of the Visual Arts Center. A lot of work has gone on in that facility to refresh existing space and to carve out various niches for future serves. There was a good size crowd which also included Councilor Wendy Engler and Councilor Laura Swanson.
- Prepared agenda items for the December 7th City Council meeting.
- Met with Derrick Tokos to discuss the issues relating to work force housing that resulted for the Town Hall meeting regarding the property adjacent to Don Davis Park.
- Held a regular Department Head staff meeting.
- Met with Mayor Roumagoux to review the Council agenda for December 7th.
- Met with Lance to review operations at the airport.
- Participated in a monthly lunch meeting for Lincoln County Manager's held at Waldport City Hall. The managers are liking the new format of meeting in different locations and where we can have better group discussing
- Participated in an Airport Committee meeting. This meeting primarily focused on giving any potential contractors an opportunity to ask questions regarding the airport RFP and giving them a tour of airport facilities. I appreciate the efforts from Peggy Hawker and Lance Vanderbeck regarding coordinating this effort. We had two different contractors present at the meeting. The deadline for RFP responses is early in January.
- I was informed by Jason Malloy of the use of deadly force by one of our police officers on December 9th. Contacted C.I.S., the Council and prepared information for staff. I met briefly with our officers who were involved with the shooting. Oregon has a very specific protocol in these cases, all of the agencies stepped in to play their appropriate roles in investigating this matter.
- Met with Rex Capri regarding issues he would like to jointly address involving the ravine near his home in Northwest Newport. This is an issue we had talked about earlier but put on hold until he got back from fishing in Alaska. After the first of the year, I will put Rex together with Tim Gross to review his requests.
- Derrick Tokos and I met regarding filling the Senior Planning Position in his office. This was funded on a half year basis based on a review of city finances to ensure that we will be able to sustain this position in future fiscal years. Based on our relatively strong finish in 2014-15 Fiscal Year, I believe that we can sustain this position going forward. Derrick would like to hold off until spring to do the recruitment for this position since that tends to be easier time for potential employees to consider making a move to fill that position. I think that this position will help an address a number of things including staffing for committees such as Wayfinding and Bike and Pedestrian. These committees fall very much into the planning realm. Having Planning Department staff these meeting would certainly help in making the roles of these committees more meaningful in the future.
- Prepared press release regarding the City's response to the use of deadly force by the officer.
- Rob Murphy and I met to review various Fire Department issues.
- Met with Janet Wood and her husband Richard regarding a variety of issues on 35th Street in South Beach. She is not happy about the placement of curb in front of her property. In the past they had access across the entire property to move things in and

out. Based on their original complaints Tim did give them two driveways across the front of the property in order to try to facilitate this issue. I indicated that as we are building streets with curb and gutter one of the main safety issues is to limit access points to the road. The parking configuration is appropriate for that a house that is used both for a residence and for some commercial activities in an industrial zone at this location. Flooding has been an issue as well. An installation of turf drains should resolve that as part of the completion of the project. She was concerned about her street becoming a speed zone and was interested in having sidewalks put into place. Please note that sidewalks on 35th Street are a second tier project in the South Beach Urban Renewal District. In addition, she had concerns about her water bill as well. I indicated that I would get back to her on these issues.

- Met with Richard Dutton to review various IT issues.
- Peggy Hawker, Cindy Breves, Richard Dutton, and I met for the kick-off meeting with our agenda software provider on an implementation schedule. We are hoping by the first meeting in February that we will be online with the new software system, greatly streamlining the agenda process and improving the video streaming process. This will allow people to select an agenda item and watch the video for that specific agenda item. This will be handy internally for staff as well. Early in 2016 we will schedule a work session with Council to discuss paperless agendas. Overall I think with the ease of highlighting and placing notes on agenda items, going to an electronic format with the city issuing laptops or IPADs will work surprisingly well for the Council.
- Participated in a conference call with Richard Dutton regarding the extension of fiber to the home. There are a number of issues currently in the works that needed to be sorted out prior to having a more meaningful conversation on this issue. We decide to reconvene in the spring to discuss this possibility.
- Along with members of the Council and city staff, participated in the Annual Employee Appreciation Dinner. This proved to be a nice event with two employees being recognized for their service beyond their day to day jobs with the City of Newport. Kathleen Palmer and Jan Eastman were the recipients of the Elton Pier Award. In addition, employees were recognized for their years of service to the city. I am including a copy of the program. If you see any of these employees congratulate them on their award or years of service. I certainly appreciate all of Cindy's efforts at pulling this dinner together as well the employee committee that select the venue and menu for these events.
- Met with John Baker regarding facilitating discussions within the Engineering Department. This is going to be important with the hiring of a new member of the department. Jayson Buchholz will be joining the Engineering Department as Senior Project Manager January 4th.
- Prepared materials for a Special City Council meeting regarding approval of labor contracts and executive session regarding my evaluation. I certainly appreciate the support the Council has given to me during my two years of employment with the City of Newport.
- Met with David Dahle who videoed a portion of the VAC rededication ceremony earlier this month. Mr. Dahle is proposing to provide video services that includes maximizing

exposure of positive film clips on YouTube for various things happening in Newport and other communities as well. It is my understanding that in Keizer, he receives a portion of the PEG fees received from the cable company to do the videos which are placed on the community channel. He is looking at some other potential options that might work for a community like Newport. He indicated that he will touch base with us after the first of the year.

- Cindy Breves, Mike Murzynsky, and I met to discuss accounting issues with the Destination Newport Committee. The committee has done a good job of keeping records and keeping their expenditures in line with the appropriation provided by the City Council. Historically they have made financial commitments at the end of the fiscal year to utilize the remainder of funds that were appropriated by the Council in order to assure that they stay within that budgeted amount. From a GASB standpoint, expenditures need to be recognized in the fiscal year that the services are being provided. In order to correct this, Finance allocated a number of the expenses forward into the new fiscal year which then resulted in a shortfall of funds for the current fiscal year. We will be recommending that the budget be amended in order to restore the funds that were appropriate but not used in the last fiscal year in order to get Destination Newport accounting schedule in sync with the way the Finance Department is recognizing expenditures.
- Steve Rich, Peggy Hawker, and I met to review the drafts for the fluoride ordinance and resolutions for the Councils consideration. We will be giving a report at the January 4th Council meeting.
- Met with County Commissioner Bill Hall regarding the affordable housing issues with the property located next to the Don Davis Park and general operational concerns expressed by the City Council in regarding to the relationship between the Council and the Lincoln County Land Trust. I will be providing a report to the Council on this meeting and some possible alternatives that the Council can consider going forward.
- Barb James, Jim Salisbury, Tim Gross, and I met to review issues with CDL Drivers and training requirements. There are several types of CDL endorsements that are provided for CDL drivers. Jim Salisbury completed an audit of the drivers, their responsibilities, and the specific endorsement necessary for them to complete their work. As a result, we will be adjusting job descriptions to be specific as far as the required CDL endorsements that are required for that job. We will be working with employees who need additional endorsements. In the meantime we will be cognizant of the requirements for operating certain vehicles and making sure that the operators have the required CDL and endorsement to drive that particular piece of equipment.
- Met with two representatives of the Yaquina Wheels Bike Club who are interested in moving forward with the Pump Bike Track up at the Wilder Subdivision. I will be meeting with Jim Protiva who will be setting up a follow-up meeting with the Yaquina Wheels Bike Club to discuss next steps forward.
- I was out of the office on Wednesday December 16th.
- Met with Mark Miranda and Rob Murphy in regular departmental meetings.

- Participated in the Destination Newport Committee meeting to explain the issues relating to the change (from a Destination Newport Committee stand point) in how we are accounting for the advertisement commitments that are made that cross over fiscal years.
- On the evening of Thursday, December 17th I received a call from Fire Chief Rob Murphy indicating that a slide had occurred on NE 70th Drive impacting several homes. Upon receiving the call I headed up to review the situation. At the time response crews were dealing with a gas leak caused by one of the sliding homes, a water link, and concerns over a potential fire/explosion caused by the leaking gas. All utilities were shut-off for the neighborhood which then allowed a closer inspection of the damage that occurred. We did set-up our Emergency Operations Center (EOC) which was staffed by Police Chief Mark Miranda, Chris Rampley from the Fire Department, several police volunteers, and myself. This was the first we had activated the EOC for a real emergency since creating the set-up for that center in the Council Chambers. The EOC was helpful in connecting information between the Fire, Police, Public Works, and in dealing with media requests regarding the slide. On Friday morning we were able to conduct a more detailed evaluation of the slide on a structure by structure basis. Three of the houses were red tagged as uninhabitable and four houses were yellow tagged as unsafe until certain steps are taken to stabilize the structure in accordance with a geotech report. This is truly a devastating loss for the people involved.
- A meeting was held on Tuesday, December 22nd with the effected property owners. I have enclosed a copy of the agenda for you review. In this meeting we talk very specifically about the impacts of the yellow tags and red tags that were placed on individual houses, we had various construction resources available for the property owners to discuss generally what types of steps could be taken with these homes, we had the Red Cross and County Mental Health folks there talking about stress and offering any assistance that they could offer to the home owners. We had a women by the name of Gayna Flake who lost her home in Benton County in 2012 due to a landslide provide some very good comments on how these property owners should proceed with various issues. Unfortunately for many of these individuals resources are limited and these properties are not likely to have any coverage for slides for insurance purposes. Gayna Flake indicated that it is important that they make a claim to their insurance since the insurance company may conduct a geo review of the incident as part of their researching the claim. One of the truly financially challenging issues in this situation is that if these were million dollar homes, the cost to stabilize them would be a fraction of the value of the homes. Since these properties are modular homes, the values are substantially less making it less likely to have the cost of the repairs pencil out for these home owners. We are getting some pressure from a couple of home owners that want to get back into their homes. At this point, our response continues to be that the houses are not safe to occupy until such time as a qualified geotech report indicates the contrary. As time goes by this will be a more important issue for these property owners, particularly if the land behind the property stops subsiding. We are also working with several charitable organizations to coordinate an effort to raise funds for these property owners. This could help assist in getting a geotech study or other necessary steps that would identify what steps need to

be taken in order to make the property safe. This will certainly be an issue that will be impacting both the property owners and the city for the foreseeable future.

- Met with Melissa Román on the next steps to deal with tree removal from the approaches for the airport. We will be getting a survey which will identify what specific trees will be impacted by the clearance requirements as outlined by the FAA. It appears that our existing aviation easements may not provide sufficient height restrictions for the properties on the south end of the runway. Fortunately, we are primarily dealing with one property owner for most of the trees, however there are a few trees on other properties. The way we may approach this matter is to deal specifically with the trees impacting the approach at this time and then look at dealing with the easements as part of a future project Identified through the airport master planning process.
- Held several meetings regarding land slide issues.
- Met with Melissa Román and Tim Gross regarding several concerns from property owners regarding the South Beach projects.
- Prepared materials for a Special City Council meeting held on Tuesday, December 22nd in order to declare an emergency relating to the recent weather conditions that have damaged city infrastructure as well as private property.
- Met with Gary Gamer regarding a dispute on a second driveway on Brant Street for their vacation rental.
- City Hall was closed on Christmas Eve beginning at Noon and for the entire day Friday, Christmas Day.
- Met with Doug Fitts regarding his request for the Fire Department to burn 419 NW 5th Street as a practice burn. A number of Council members were contacted by a neighbor who lives across the street from this structure who opposed the burning due to the proximity of her home to this structure. Fire Chief Rob Murphy and I went on site to review the issue. It was our conclusion that it would be best to consider a practice burn of this structure in the spring when the predominate winds will be coming out of the North which would blow any smoke away from the adjacent structures. I indicated to Mr. Fitts that he can either proceed to demolish the structure with the contractor at this time or wait until spring when we will consider the possibility of burning the structure at that time. Mr. Fitts was not happy with the response, however he did seem to accept it. While practice burns are beneficial to the department. I believe there is a valid concern for the city to protect neighboring structures from unnecessary exposure to heavy smoke during this process.
- Had a conversation with Joe Bishop at NOAA who wanted to let the city know that in January NOAA is hosting approximately 65 staff members from across the country here in Newport. I indicated that if he would like any greeting from the Mayor or city involvement to let me know. He indicated that there schedule is very tight so he appreciated the offer but primarily just wanted me to know and to share with the City Council that NOAA is bringing people to Newport for these types of meetings from time to time.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- I am anticipating being on vacation on Thursday, December 31st
- City Hall will be closed in recognition of the New Year's holiday on Friday, January 1st.
- Angela and I are planning on being on vacation Friday, January 8th through Friday, January 15th. We will be back in town by Sunday and back to work on Monday, January 18th.
- Goal Setting Session, Monday, February 8, 2016 from 10 A.M. to 3 P.M.
- May 17, 2016 Election Day
- League of Oregon Cities Annual Conference at the Salem Convention Center September 29, 2016 – October 1, 2016
- November 8, 2016 Election Day

ATTACHMENTS:

- ❖ Attached is an aerial photo of the homes impacted by the December 17th slide. The structures at 380, 384, and 392 have been red tagged. The structures at 394, 396, 398, and 410 have been yellow tagged indicating that they are in danger of sliding. Please note that 70th Drive is city right of way and the property located on the backside of these homes is also owner by the city. I have also included a map showing the topography of the area for your reference.
- ❖ Attached is a copy of the agenda for the landowners located on NE 70th Drive impacted.
- ❖ Attached is a response to an email from Nyla Jebousek regarding her request to review our earlier determination regarding a petition that was submitted requesting 15 mph signs, pedestrian signage, and dog waste receptacles and bags on San Bay-o Circle. I have indicated to Nyla that if she wishes she can pursue this matter with the City Council. Over the last year we have done a number of things to this to address her concerns including installation of new outlets signs as well as 90 degree turn signs at the end of San Bay-o Circle. In reviewing this latest request, we do not believe they are justified based on traffic studies and other analysis done by the Police and Public Works departments.
- ❖ Attached is an email from Jeff Berk regarding the production of Deadliest Catch show regarding Dungeness Crab. It is my understanding that they are working in the delay of the season into this show.
- ❖ Attached is a response to my email from ODOT Director Mathew Garrett regarding the Agate Beach Wayside project. ODOT has been working hard in order to try to address the extremely lopsided bids that were received for this project. I am cautiously optimistic that we will be able to proceed with the project as specific with the approach I outlined earlier in my report.
- ❖ Attached is a letter from the Department of Environmental Quality indicating that the city was in noncompliance with the reporting requirements for reporting sanitary sewer overflows. Tim Gross has worked with the wastewater staff to address these issues including specific public notification steps when over flows occur.
- ❖ Attached is a letter from Senator Wyden and Senator Merkley urging the inclusion of funding to continue search and rescue operation at our facility in Newport, Oregon and in Charleston, South Carolina. The Oregon delegation was successful in ensuring funding through 2018 for the Newport air station.

- ❖ Attached is a sample of news outlets that covered the Newport, OR Facebook posts of the raccoons that invaded a local Bayfront art gallery. The Facebook post has been viewed by more than 172,000 people by the end of November.
- ❖ Attached is additional information regarding the EPA Assessment Grant that is being applied for by Lincoln County including the PowerPoint presentation provided by Stantec who is the consultant working with COG on obtaining these funds. Funding obtained would be primarily for specific site assessment and planning for the reuse of these sites.
- ❖ Attached is a report from the Oregon Task Force on School Safety as commissioned by the Oregon State Legislature.
- ❖ Attached is a communication from Salmon for Oregon outlining their efforts to secure funding to create a Salmon fishery in May in both Coos Bay and Yaquina Bay.
- ❖ Attached is an informational flyer provided by PERS at a meeting held in the Council Chambers this past month.
- ❖ Attached are two articles from OregonLive outlining the various issues regarding the PERS costs in 2017 and beyond.
- ❖ Attached is an article of the DailyAstorian indicating that Newport surpassed Astoria as the top commercial fishing port on the West Coast (excluding Alaska).
- ❖ I also attached the poundage and dollar value for the catch from Newport as compiled by NOAA back to 1981. 2013 was the top year in all the years listed both by millions of pounds seafood landed in the Port of Newport and in the dollar value of this catch.
- ❖ Attached is an article from OregonLive regarding the City of La Pine taxation of medical marijuana.
- ❖ Attached is an article from OregonLive regarding Vancouver, Washington's efforts to accommodate camping by homeless individuals. This program was quickly ended due to the problems reported by neighboring citizens.
- ❖ Attached is an article from OregonLive discussing the affordable housing problem on the Oregon Coast.

2015 has been a very robust year for the City Council, city staff, and for me in moving the City of Newport in a positive direction to best serve our citizens in the long term future. I appreciate everyone's efforts throughout the organization to try to best serve our citizens with the resources we have available. I look forward to working with the Mayor and Council as well as city staff in continuing this progress in 2016. I hope that everyone has a happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year!

Respectfully submitted.



Spencer R. Nebel
City Manager
cc: Department Heads



**City of Newport
Engineering Department**

169 SW Coast Highway
Newport, OR 97365

Phone: 1.541.574.3366
Fax: 1.541.265.3301

**NE 70TH STREET
CITY OF NEWPORT, OR**

75 37.5 0 75 Feet



This map is for informational use only and has not been prepared for, nor is it suitable for legal, engineering, or surveying purposes. It includes data from multiple sources. The City of Newport assumes no responsibility for its compilation or use and users of this information are cautioned to verify all information with the City of Newport Engineering Department.



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Meeting with NE 70th Street Property Owners Directly Impacted by the Slide
Tuesday, December 22, 2015 – 4 P.M.
Council Chambers

- I. Introductory Remarks - Sandra Roumagoux, Mayor
- II. Review of the Response to the Slide – Spencer Nebel, City Manager
- III. Evaluation of Impacted Houses – Joseph Lease, Building Official
- IV. Evaluation of Public Infrastructure – Tim Gross, Public Works Director
- V. Resources in Evaluating Properties – Conditions – Tim Gross Public Works Director
 - a. Review of Geotech reports
 - b. Contractor Resources
- VI. Property Taxes – Terry Shawn Wylie, Chief Appraiser Lincoln County Assessor Office
- VII. Emergency Declarations – Virginia Demaris, Lincoln County Emergency Manager
- VIII. Counseling Services - Ashley Berg, Lincoln County Adult Mental Health Office
- IX. Red Cross – Mark Chism
- X. Survivor of Benton County Slide – Gayna Flake
- XI. Other Issues
- XII. Question and Comments from Property Owners

Spencer Nebel

From: Spencer Nebel
Sent: Saturday, December 19, 2015 5:08 PM
To: 'Nyla Jebousek'
Cc: Steve Rich; Tim Gross; Mark Miranda
Subject: RE: Re: Request for Review of Previous Determination

Dear Nyla:

You have forwarded a request through City Attorney Steve Rich for a review of my earlier determination regarding a petition that was submitted earlier this year regarding a request for 15MPH signs and pedestrian signage to provide traffic control and dog waste receptacle on San Bay-o Circle. I provided a written response to you in July regarding the various requests.

As you are aware, in response to your earlier concerns, Public Works placed a "No Outlet" sign and a signs showing a 90 degree turn where San Bay-O makes the bend at your house. I had the Police Department and Public Works Department review the addition requests for pedestrian signs and a 15 MPH sign on this street. In reviewing this request, it was their determination that the additional signage was not justified at this time. I indicated to you in my July email that I did not support the placement of signage beyond what was already put in place on this street in response to your earlier concerns.

Furthermore, I was unable to support the request for dog bag waste receptacle on San Bay-O. We have nearly 100 miles of streets serving neighborhoods throughout the City. The City is not in a position to place these types of receptacles and maintain them in residential areas. It is the responsibility of dog owners to collect this waste and properly dispose of animal waste. Also, please note that the placement of these units does not necessarily mean they would be used by all dog owners. If there are any problems with specific dog owners, I indicated that it would be best to contact our ordinance officer in the Police Department.

I indicated in July that you could appeal this decision to the City Council.

In response to your request from this past October for me to reconsider my earlier response, I did meet with the Police Department and Public Works to re-evaluate my original decision on this request. Public Works indicated that a traffic study indicated that speeding was not a problem at this location. You have previously indicated that the No Outlet sign had reduced the amount of lost drivers that made it back to your neighborhood.

In reviewing the request for additional signage beyond what we have already put in place, the City has to be able to act consistently with other similar requests in other residential areas in the City. We have many miles of narrow and curvy City Streets throughout Newport due to our unique geography. Based on the problems that you initially outlined to me, it was appropriate to improve signage to indicate that your street does not have an outlet. In addition, at your request arrow signs were put in place to indicate the 90 degree turns at the end of the street. These were requests that we would also support on other similar residential streets in the city where the need could be demonstrated as you demonstrated on San-Bay-O.

I cannot, however, agree to the additional request for the City to add further signage at this location from a consistency standpoint and it is also my opinion that additional signage would have negligible impact on traffic speeds at this location.

Furthermore, my position remains the same about placing a dog bag dispensary/receptacle on a residential street. We are not in a position to maintain and support these units outside of heavy dog walking areas such as parks.

I am sorry that our re-review of this matter leads me to the same conclusion as I shared with you in July regarding this request. If you would like to proceed by addressing this matter with the City Council, I can place this petition on a future City Council agenda for their review. The next meeting that this could be considered by the Council would be January 4th. We could also schedule this at a later meeting as well if you wish to pursue this. (the next meetings are 1/18/16, 2/7/16 or 2/21/16. Please let me know the Tuesday prior to any of these dates if you would like to have this matter on one of these Council Agendas.

Again, I apologize for the delay in getting this response to you.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

On another note, I hope that the ivy removal project across from your house was successful. It will be interesting to see how long this type of removal process will last. Hopefully the removal will assist the trees in maintaining their vitality to continue stabilizing the slope across from San-Bay-O. Thank you for bringing this to our attention!

Wishing you the best for a happy and healthy 2016!

Spencer R. Nebel

City Manager
City of Newport, Oregon 97365
541-574-0601
s.nebel@newportoregon.gov

From: Nyla Jebousek [mailto:nljebousek@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, December 09, 2015 10:47 AM
To: Spencer Nebel <S.Nebel@NewportOregon.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Re: Request for Review of Previous Determination

2nd request

----- Forwarded message -----
From: "Nyla Jebousek" <nljebousek@gmail.com>
Date: Oct 16, 2015 11:01 AM
Subject: Re: Request for Review of Previous Determination
To: "Spencer Nebel" <S.Nebel@newportoregon.gov>
Cc:

Spencer

Thank you for your response.

This is a decision that concerns public safety, foreseeability of the dangerous conditions and the City's potential liability. Mr. Gross is not qualified to advise regarding these issues. That is why I sent the appropriate statute I got from ODOT to Mr. Rich. Mr. Gross is also biased, as I mentioned to you in the past. He asked me if I had seen all the signs in Newport and then announced that he was not putting up any more signs. He also expressed his belief that people don't read signs. I am a constant reader of signs and would guess I am not alone.

Almost everyone who signed the petition had a story about how they had almost been hit at one of the back corners. If I remember correctly, all but 6 of the signatures were 1 signature per household. You can look at

the addresses. For those of us who live on the inside of the circle, we have to cross the street to get our mail every day. This is especially dangerous for seniors. In addition to trying to prevent a tragedy, as a citizen of Newport I don't want us to have to pay a liability claim.

I Googled the cost of the signs. \$20 each for the 15 mph and pedestrian signs. When I told Mr. Gross these figures he told me I am mistaken. You can look it up yourself. The poles are already installed. We have no sidewalks and the City does next to nothing with the City lot where I am asking that the doggie bag dispenser and can be installed. (Mowed annually most years.). Providing the bags and can would encourage people to walk there with their dogs, which is the only safe pedestrian area on the narrow stretch of the circle. Thompsons drive laps around here every Tuesday. They could easily do a pick up.

This is a modest request to mitigate a dangerous environment. When I think of the amount of taxes this neighborhood pays it is fair for you to provide these cost effective services. The people who have lived here the longest (some as long as 50 years signed the petition) and the youngest in the neighborhood are most at risk.

Please reconsider your decision. I don't want to have to fight about this.

NJ

Spencer Nebel

From: Peggy Hawker
Sent: Friday, November 27, 2015 7:40 PM
To: Spencer Nebel; dvr.snr@charter.net
Subject: Fwd: NOTICE: Aerials for Deadliest Catch: Dungeness Crab 12/11 - 12/14

FYI

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Jeff Berk <jberk@origprod.com>
Date: November 27, 2015 at 2:03:28 PM PST
To: Peggy Hawker <p.hawker@newportoregon.gov>
Cc: Cara Freeman <cfreeman@origprod.com>, Leah Sadallah <lsadallah@origprod.com>, Johnny Beechler <jbeechler@origprod.com>, "Jeffrey Frost" <jfrost@origprod.com>
Subject: **Re: NOTICE: Aerials for Deadliest Catch: Dungeness Crab 12/11 - 12/14**

Hi Peggy:

DATES ARE FOR **DECEMBER** 11 - 14 (not October). Sorry about that.

Thanks,

jb

On Nov 27, 2015, at 1:43 PM, Jeff Berk <jberk@origprod.com> wrote:

Peggy Hawker
City of Newport
169 SW Coast Highway
Newport, OR 97365

Dear Ms. Hawker:

I hope you enjoyed Thanksgiving and wish you well during the long holiday weekend!

I wanted to quickly make you, the City of Newport and local authorities aware of our aerial filming.

Assuming that the start of the Dungeness crab season is December 15, 2015 and that "Dump Day" is December 12, Original Productions "Deadliest Catch: Dungeness Crab" plans to film (helicopter) aerials in and around the Port and off the coast up to 20 miles during the crab period **October 11 - 14, 2015**.

We will have all insurance in place and will abide by all FAA rules and regulations. We will reach out to the Port as well to make them aware of this activity. Would you kindly advise the local authorities, including Police, on our behalf?

As discussed, the Production Team and I will be on site at Embarcadero Resort. We have brought in an aerial coordinator as well to help with planning - Cara Freeman, copied herein, who will be Original's logistics point person. Cara's call is (405) 820-1118. I believe you have Leah and my cell numbers and encourage anyone who has concern / issue with aerials to contact us during filming. Our Production Coordinator in Los Angeles, Jeff Frost can also be reached at his office 818-295-6966 x4121 if you are not able to reach us in Newport during aerial filming.

We plan to have our helicopter base at Newport Municipal Airport during this schedule and are in touch with Lance Vanderbeck and John Matherly there regarding fuel and support.

I appreciate your time and thank you again for helping make our filming in Newport run very safely and smoothly.

Kind regards,

Jeffrey Berk
Line Producer
"Deadliest Catch: Dungeness Crab"

Original Productions
308 W. Verdugo Ave.
Burbank, CA 91502

Location Office:
Embarcadero Resort
1000 Southeast Bay Blvd.
Newport, OR 97365

818-295-6966 x3366 office
818-688-3292 fax
818-822-6807 cell

Spencer Nebel

From: GARRETT Matthew L * ODOT <Matthew.L.GARRETT@odot.state.or.us>
Sent: Monday, November 09, 2015 8:38 PM
To: Spencer Nebel
Cc: NELL Lisa D; CHICKERING Sonny P
Subject: RE: Agate Beach Wayside

Mr. Nebel,

Thank you for your correspondence regarding the Agate Beach Wayside project. First, I would like to re-affirm ODOT's commitment to partnering with the City of Newport to complete this project that is so important to your community. I also see this as an opportunity to continue to strengthen our intergovernmental relationship.

Although we have faced some challenges delivering this project, I understand that ODOT and the City of Newport have been collaborating on solutions for a successful outcome. For instance, Region 2 has agreed to cover all the Preliminary Engineering and Construction Engineering overruns incurred by ODOT staff. I am also aware that the City has substantially overmatched this project with City funds to meet the estimated construction budget. Additionally, ODOT and the City have worked together to ensure that the project met the bid let date and ensure that Federal Scenic Byway Funds were obligated for the construction of this project.

The most recent challenge is the current project budget is not sufficient to award the project to the lowest bidder as advertised a few weeks ago. Apparently some of the items (restroom facility, beach access stairway, storm water facilities) bid much higher than estimated. To address this issue, ODOT staff contacted the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) about the project and confirmed that there are no additional National Scenic Byway funds to contribute to the project. However, FHWA is willing to allow the project to be re-scoped to meet the current budget and keep the federal funds obligated to the project.

The strategy being encouraged by FHWA to re-scope the project is a logical approach. I understand that City staff believes that certain elements of the project could be delivered much more cost effectively if the project were not required to meet FHWA regulations. FHWA has made it clear that they want to see a re-scoping effort to fund those elements contributing to the transportation safety improvements rather than making it a priority to fund other project elements such as the restroom facility and the stairway for beach access. Therefore, one option being explored is eliminating the restroom facility and stairway access to the beach, understanding that the remaining transportation project safety elements may be eligible for other transportation funding programs. Any additional funds contributed toward the re-scoped project could serve to offset the City's committed project funds which could then be used in a separate City project to deliver the restroom facility and the stairway beach access at a greatly reduced cost to the public.

I support this approach to continue to partner and find a way to successfully deliver this project at a reduced cost through a re-scoping effort. It is my understanding that the ODOT staff and City staff have a meeting scheduled for Tuesday, November 10th, to review the project in detail and develop a solution that meets FHWA's re-scoping requirements while meeting the City's commitment to the community. I have every confidence in the professional staff of both our agencies to find the right solutions.

In closing, I want to add that ODOT has a history of working collaboratively with the City to deliver transportation projects despite the many challenges inherent in the process, not the least of which is the ever changing funding landscape. I expect that we will prevail in this situation and it will serve to strengthen our relationship and level of trust.

Matt

Sent with Good (www.good.com)

-----Original Message-----

From: Spencer Nebel [S.Nebel@NewportOregon.gov]

Sent: Thursday, November 05, 2015 08:30 AM Pacific Standard Time

To: GARRETT Matthew L * ODOT

Subject: Agate Beach Wayside

Dear Director Garrett:

As you are aware, after working through a number of hurdles to appropriate substantial significant additional funding from the City of Newport for the Agate beach Wayside project (and we had even built in, what we thought, was a significant buffer), we end up in an unbelievable situation with the bidding for this project. How could ODOT and ODOT's consultant be so far off the mark? This puts the City of Newport in a very difficult and unfair situation. If we cancel the project we eat the substantial costs for proceeding with this project and get nothing, or we need to come up with huge additional dollars to move forward that we don't have.

I appreciated your earlier involvement with working through these issues in good faith, but I think that ODOT has a responsibility to address the costs that are in excess of the substantial additional funding that we committed earlier this year. I know that John Huestis is working with the Feds on options on moving forward with the project as well. I also know that due to ODOT staffing issues, this project was left right up to the deadline of using the federal funding for this project which is forcing some very quick decisions now.

This is an important project for the Coast and we need to find the pathway forward on this project.

Spencer R. Nebel

City Manager

City of Newport, Oregon 97365

541-574-0601

s.nebel@newportoregon.gov



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Department of Environmental Quality
Western Region Coos Bay Office
381 N Second Street
Coos Bay, OR 97420
(541) 269-2721
FAX (541) 269-7984
TTY 711

November 10, 2015

Tim Gross, Public Works Director
City of Newport
810 SW Alder Street
Newport, OR 97365

RE: Pre-Enforcement Notice
WQ - Lincoln County - City of Newport
2015 - PEN-1175
WQ File 111142- NPDES Permit 102497 - EPA ID # OR-004457-1

Dear Mr. Gross:

On August 31, 2015 at 10:55 AM, Ed McCoy with the City of Newport (City) orally reported a sanitary sewer overflow (SSO) to the Oregon Emergency Response System (OERS). On September 10, 2015, DEQ received an SSO Reporting Form signed on September 3, 2015 by John Ritchey with the City. Schedule F, Section D.5 of your NPDES Permit requires the City report SSOs orally to OERS within 24 hours and submit a completed SSO reporting form to DEQ within 5 days of becoming aware of an SSO. Schedule F, Section D.5 requires the reporting form include a description of the sewage overflow and its cause, the period of the sewage overflow, as well as the public notification steps taken.

The City's SSO reporting form described a 3000 gallon release of raw sewage from the Big Creek Pump Station beginning about 8:30 AM on August 29, 2015 and ending approximately five hours later. Therefore, the City did not report the SSO orally to OERS within 24 hours, nor submit a completed SSO reporting form to DEQ within 5 days per Schedule F, Section D.5 of your NPDES Permit.

The City's SSO Reporting Form also described the public notification steps taken such as notifying the Newport News – Times of the raw sewage discharge. On October 7, 2015, Dennis Lilly stated the Newport News – Times was never notified of the sewage overflow. On October 28, 2015, John Ritchey admitted he falsely reported on the SSO Reporting Form that the City had notified the Newport News – Times when they had not.

DEQ has determined the following violations occurred based on the above evidence:

VIOLATIONS:

- Violation 1: By failing to report a noncompliance that may endanger health or the environment orally (by telephone) to OERS within 24 hours, the City violated Schedule F, Section D.5 of its NPDES permit. Violating the requirement to report within 24 hours noncompliance that may endanger human health or the environment is a Class I violation.
- Violation 2: By failing to submit a written report within 5 days of becoming aware of the SSO, the City violated Schedule F, Section D.5 of its NPDES permit. Violating the requirement to submit a written report within 5 days noncompliance that may endanger human health or the environment is a Class II violation

- Violation 3: By making false statements and representations on the SSO Reporting Form, which is required by Schedule F, Section D.5 of your NPDES permit, the City violated OAR 340-045-0015(5)(d). Making a false statement on a required report is a Class I violation.

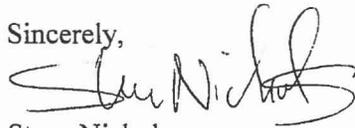
Class I violations are considered to be the most serious violations; Class III violations are the least serious.

This case is being referred to the Department's Office of Compliance and Enforcement (OCE) for a formal enforcement action. Formal enforcement actions may result in assessment of civil penalties and/or a DEQ order. A civil penalty may be assessed for each day of violation.

If you believe any of the facts in this Pre-Enforcement Notice are in error, you may provide information to me at 381 N. Second Street, Coos Bay, Oregon 97420. The Department will consider new information you submit and take appropriate action.

DEQ endeavors to assist you in your compliance efforts. Should you have any questions about the content of this letter, please feel free to contact me at 541-269-2721, ext. 223.

Sincerely,



Steve Nichols
Water Quality Permitting and Compliance
ODEQ Western Region, Coos Bay Office

ecc: Ranei Nomura, Western Region Water Quality Manager, Salem office
Jon Gasik, Water Quality Compliance & Enforcement Lead, Medford office
Deb Nesbit, Office of Compliance and Enforcement, DEQ Headquarters
John Koestler, Water Quality Office of Information Services, DEQ Headquarters

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

October 27, 2015

The Honorable Shaun Donovan
Director
Office of Management and Budget
725 17th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Director Donovan:

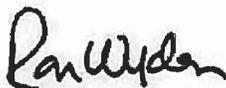
As you prepare the Fiscal Year 2017 budget for the United States Coast Guard we urge you to include funding to continue critical search and rescue operations at air facilities in Newport, Oregon and Charleston, South Carolina.

We are extremely concerned about efforts to close Coast Guard air facilities in Newport, Oregon and Charleston, South Carolina. Both facilities are located in important, high-use ports in our states. Newport is one of Oregon's three deep-draft ports and is home to the state's largest commercial fishing fleet. Charleston is one of America's top cargo ports and also boasts important tourism and fishing industries.

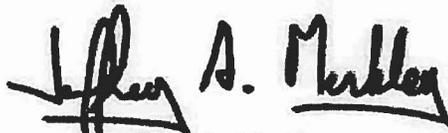
We understand all too well the financial pressures facing the Coast Guard and other agencies and departments, particularly as the result of sequestration and Congress' stop-and-go budgeting. We're doing our part to secure scarce resources through the congressional appropriations process for these vital air stations. Indeed, our efforts this year on a bipartisan, bicameral basis led the Appropriations Committees in both the Senate and House of Representatives to include full funding in their reports to accompany the FY16 homeland security appropriations bills.

Including these facilities in the Coast Guard's budget would send a strong message that the Obama administration understands the value of these assets and intends to work with Congress to preserve them. As you put together the Coast Guard budget for Fiscal Year 2017, we therefore urge you to include funding to keep the Newport and Charleston air facilities open and to maintain their critical search and rescue missions. Thank you for your consideration of this request and we look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Ron Wyden
United States Senator



Jeffrey A. Merkley
United States Senator

NEWPORT POLICE DEPARTMENT MASKED BANDITS FACEBOOK POST

November 11, 2015

Carried by approximately 165,00 media outlets

UPI	New York	Toshiba.com	Tokyo, Japan
Associated Press	New York	WDSU	New Orleans, LA
USA Today	New York	FOX23	Tulsa, OK
Daily Mail	London	Shreveport Times	Shreveport, LA
The Art Newspaper	London	Green Bay Press Gazette	Green Bay, WI
Huffington Post	New York	Austin360	Austin, TX
CNN	New York	Kentucky.com	Lexington, KY
AOL	New York	Cincinnati.com	Cincinnati, OH
MSN	Redmond, WA	News United	Washington, DC
Yahoo	Sunnyvale, CA	Washington Times	Washington, DC
KGW	Portland	Poughkeepsie Journal	Poughkeepsie, NY
KATU	Portland	The Tennessean	Nashville, TN
KPTV	Portland	Explore Jefferson, PA	Jefferson, PA
KOIN	Portland	Detroit News Times	Detroit, MI
KIRO	Seattle	KCAU	Sioux City, IA
KVAL	Eugene	KMBC	Kansas City, MO
WSB TV	Atlanta, GA	KPFX	Fargo, ND
KTVL	Medford	WOKV	Jacksonville, FL
KPRC	Houston, TX	Palm Beach Post	Palm Beach, FL
Statesman Journal	Salem	KTLA	Los Angeles, CA
JD Journal	Pasadena, CA	WXII	Winston-Salem, NC
WFTV	Orlando, FL		

The above media outlets are just a sampling of those which covered NPD's Facebook post. A Google search of the words '*masked bandits newport oregon*' will garner more than 20 pages of results, and show approximately 165,000 results. The day after our Facebook post, Huffington Post was the first major media outlet to contact us and ask for additional photos. KGW immediately followed with a phone call asking for the same. KPTV sent a news crew to Newport to interview the art gallery owner. The Facebook post has been viewed by more than 172,500 people, and shared by 1,963 thus far.



Spencer Nebel

From: Caroline Bauman <ecdev@orcoast.com>
Sent: Friday, November 20, 2015 10:17 AM
To: Martin, Stacia; Maryann Bozza; Matt Updenkelder; Maxine Centala; murray@cityofdepoebay.org; Onno Husing; Peggy Hawker; Pam Barlow-Lind; Patrick Wingard; psmud@yahoo.com; Rep. David Gomberg; Rich Richmond; Sandra Roumagoux; Shatkin Rosie; Sheryl simmons; Spencer Nebel; Stewart Lamerdin; Terry Thompson; Toledo Chamber; Trevor Sleeman; Woody Ouderkirk; Zac Dahl
Cc: VANHUFFEL Gary * BIZ
Subject: EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant - Lincoln County
Attachments: Invite - Kick-off Mtg-LincolnCo-revised.pdf; bf-assessment-coalitions-grant-factsheet.pdf

The COG is assisting a coalition of partners in Lincoln County with an EPA Assessment Grant. A community public outreach meeting on the project will be held at the time and location listed below and will be led by the contractor the COG has chosen to work on the project, Stantec. More information on the project is contained in the attached flier. You are welcome to attend, and if you know of any other relevant stakeholders, please feel free to invite them, pass this email along to them or refer to me. Thanks.

Tuesday, Dec. 1
5:30 – 7 p.m.
Newport City Hall
169 SW Coast Hwy, Newport, OR 97365

Charlie Mitchell, CEcD
Community & Economic Development Director
cmitchell@ocwcog.org

Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments
Cascades West Economic Development District
1400 Queen Ave. SE, Suite 205
Albany, OR 97322
541-924-8458
Fax: 541-967-4651
www.ocwcog.org

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Invitation to Participate in Lincoln County's Site Reuse and Revitalization Program (US EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant) Community-Wide Kick-Off Meeting

Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments, in collaboration with the City of Newport, the City of Toledo, Lincoln County and the Economic Development Alliance of Lincoln County is currently preparing an application for up to \$600,000 in brownfield grant funding for the reuse and revitalization of properties throughout Lincoln County. The grant application will be submitted to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) in December 2015, and funding will be awarded during the spring of 2017. The coalition is soliciting community-based organizations and the general public for support and involvement in the grant application process and the development of a sustainable site revitalization program.

A revitalization opportunity site is defined broadly by the U.S. EPA as "abandoned, idled or under-used property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant." The U.S. EPA grants support five general types of activities – all of which are relevant to the Coalition's priority revitalization initiatives:

- Conducting a community-wide inventory of potential sites;
- Identifying priority opportunity sites and conducting assessment activities;
- Conducting cleanup and reuse planning;
- Community outreach; and
- Planning for revitalization of priority areas or corridors.

Additional sources of State or Federal funding will be sought for cleanup work. The goal of the U.S. EPA program is to turn underutilized sites from community blight to community benefit, restoring them to safe, viable properties that contribute to the economic wellbeing of the community.

A public meeting will be held from on **Tuesday, December 1 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at NEWPORT CITY HALL (169 Southwest Coast Highway, Newport, OR)** to provide basic information on the site reuse and revitalization program, explain the grant application process, solicit community support and initiate a discussion of priority reuse and revitalization opportunities. Typical properties that are eligible for use of this funding include (but are not limited to):

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Former gas stations• Former dry cleaners• Former automotive repair shops• Old dumps or landfills• Old salvage yards• Any type of buildings with asbestos and/or lead-based paint | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Former industrial sites• Old manufacturing plants• Old foundry companies• Former paper products manufacturing• Former battery manufacturing or recycling facilities |
|---|---|

We look forward to your participation!

For more information, please contact:

Charlie Mitchell, CECD
Community & Economic Development Director
Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments
1400 Queen Ave. SE
Albany, OR 97322
cmitchell@ocwco.org





EPA Brownfields Assessment Grants— Assessment Coalitions

EPA's Brownfields Program is designed to empower states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic redevelopment to work together in a timely manner to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield is a property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. EPA's Brownfields Program provides financial and technical assistance for brownfield revitalization, including grants for environmental assessment, cleanup, and job training.

What are EPA Brownfields Assessment Grants?

Assessment grants provide funding for a grant recipient to:

- Inventory Sites: *Compile a listing*
- Characterize Sites: *Identify past uses*
- Assess Sites: *Determine existing contamination*
- Conduct Planning for Cleanup and Redevelopment: *Scope and plan process*
- Conduct Community Involvement: *Inform and engage community*

What are Assessment Coalitions?

An Assessment Coalition is comprised of three or more eligible entities. The lead coalition member submits a Community-wide Assessment grant proposal on behalf of itself and the other members. The coalition may request up to **\$1 million** to work on a **minimum** of **five** hazardous substance and/or petroleum sites.

Who is Eligible to Apply as a Coalition for an Assessment Grant?

Eligible entities, including those with existing brownfields assessment grants, are: state, local and tribal governments, with the exception of certain Indian tribes in Alaska; general purpose units of local government, land clearance authorities, or other quasi-governmental entities; regional councils; redevelopment agencies; and government entities created by state legislatures.

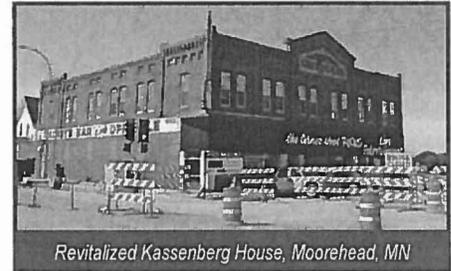
- **Coalition** members are **not** eligible to apply for individual Community-wide or Site- specific Assessment grants **in the year they apply as part of a coalition.**
- **Nonprofit** organizations are **not** eligible to apply.
- Some **properties** are **ineligible** for funding unless EPA makes a site-specific funding determination.

Why Coalition Assessments?

- Increases access to assessment resources for communities that might have limited resources to administer a brownfield grant.
- Helps a state or county to focus assessment dollars on geographical areas with the greatest need over a given time. The larger pool of funding allows the coalition to shift geographic focus to new areas as revitalization needs are identified.

Assessment Coalitions – The Basics

- The grant recipient (lead coalition member) **must** administer the grant, be accountable to EPA for proper expenditure of the funds, and be the point of contact for the other coalition members.
- Assessment Coalition grants are **Community-wide**.
- Assessment Coalitions **must** assess a minimum of five sites regardless of funding request (e.g., less than or up to \$1 million).
- Assessment Coalitions may request petroleum *and/or* hazardous substance funding as long as the request is not over \$1 million.
- A **Memorandum of Agreement (MOA)** documenting the coalition's site selection process must be in place prior to the expenditure of any funds that have been awarded to the lead coalition. It is up to the coalition to agree internally about the distribution of funds and the mechanisms for implementing the assessment work.
- A tribal community can be the lead coalition member or part of any coalition where the other coalition members are eligible entities.



Revitalized Kassenberg House, Moorehead, MN

- Assessment Coalitions can cross regional boundaries, but will be managed out of the EPA Region where the grant recipient is located.
- An eligible city entity and a redevelopment authority from the same locality can be coalition members provided the entities are separate legal entities under state and local law.
- No more than \$200,000 can be expended on a site.
- For Assessment Coalitions involving state entities:
 - *Only one eligible state entity can apply as the lead coalition member (e.g., state environmental agency, state economic development agency) or be part of a coalition. An eligible state entity cannot be a member of two or more Assessment Coalitions.*
 - *If an eligible state entity is part of a coalition that receives an Assessment grant, no additional Assessment grants can be awarded to state entities from the grant recipient's state.*

What are Some Examples of How Assessment Coalitions Work?

Example #1

A state agency applies for EPA Brownfields funding together with several smaller communities as members of a coalition. The state assumes the role of “recipient” (i.e., the entity that would administer the grant, is accountable to EPA for proper expenditure of the funds, and acts as point of contact for other coalition members). These entities have formed a coalition to target numerous sites that have become blighted and/or under-utilized along an historic highway running through the communities.

Example #2

A coalition of metro municipalities, such as one large city and several surrounding cities/towns, could apply for \$1 million. In a given year, one coalition member’s site assessment needs may be relatively minimal compared to another member’s, or the ability to assess a targeted site may be complicated by legal access issues. Priorities can

Brownfields Assessment grants do not provide resources to conduct cleanup or building demolition activities. Cleanup assistance is available under EPA’s Cleanup or Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) grants. Information on EPA’s Brownfields Cleanup and RLF grants can be found on the EPA Brownfields Web site at: www.epa.gov/brownfields.

be set each year to conduct assessments on the properties that have the most immediate need.

How Do I Apply as a Coalition for an Assessment Grant?

A single, eligible entity applies as a coalition for a Community-wide Assessment grant on behalf of itself and other eligible entities. A Community-wide proposal submitted by a coalition **must** include:

- Applicant information (e.g., describe all jurisdictions covered under the proposal, and provide their general populations).
- Applicable mandatory attachments (e.g., coalition applicants for Assessment grants must document how all coalition members are eligible entities; and all coalition members must submit a letter to the potential grant recipient in which they agree to be part of the coalition).
- Responses to evaluation criteria.

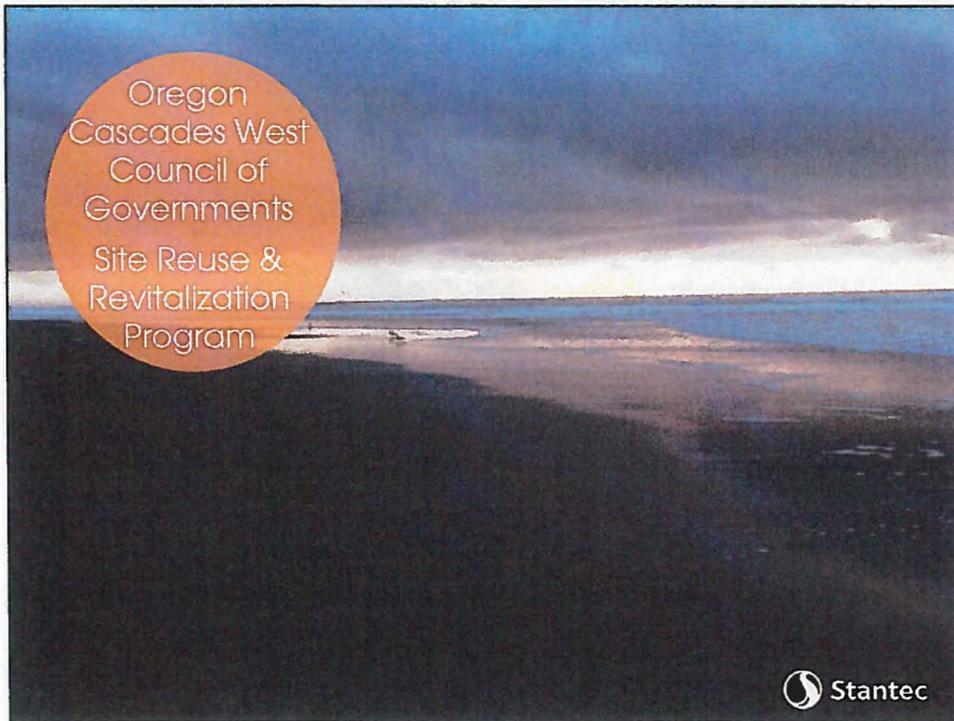
How Long is the Performance Period for an Assessment Grant?

The period of performance for an Assessment grant is three years.



The Consumer Energy Headquarters Property in Jackson County, Michigan, before revitalization (above) and after (below).





Agenda

- 1 Introductions
- 2 Purpose/Goals
- 3 What is a Brownfield?
- 4 EPA Brownfield Grants
- 5 Use of Funding
- 6 Why Get Involved?
- 7 Discussion



Introductions

OCWCOG

Charlie Mitchell – Community and Economic Development Director

Stantec Consulting

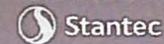
Marc Sauze, PE – Environmental Engineer

EcoNorthwest

Beth Goodman – Senior Planner

Economic Development Alliance of Lincoln County

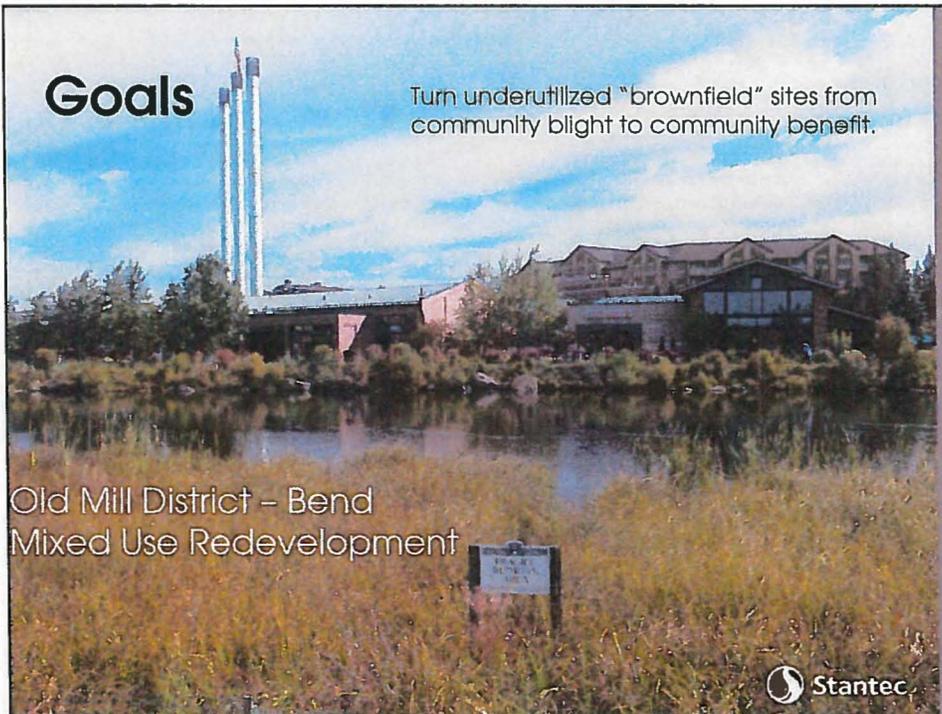
Caroline Bauman – Executive Director



Goals

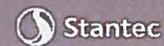
Turn underutilized "brownfield" sites from community blight to community benefit.

Old Mill District – Bend
Mixed Use Redevelopment



Goals

- Revitalization
- Job creation
- Economic development
- Protect public health
- Restore the environment

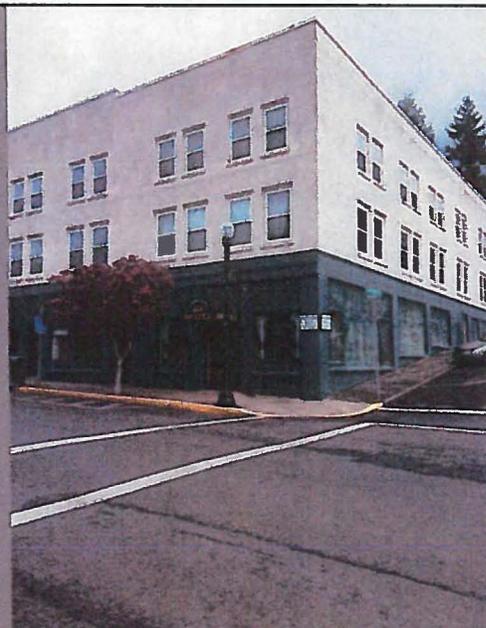


What is a Brownfield?

EPA definition:

“Brownfields are real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant.”

➔ Definition is very broad



Types of Brownfields

Petroleum

Former gas stations, bulk storage facilities, automotive repair shops, other former manufacturing/industrial sites

Hazardous substances

Dry cleaners, mills, illegal dumps, landfills, salvage yards, foundries, buildings contaminated with asbestos/lead paint, other former manufacturing/industrial site



Why are brownfields a problem?

- Direct costs for local government (response to fires, crime, illegal dumping, code enforcement, etc.)
- Loss of tax base and reduced property values
- Indirect lost opportunity costs (environmental liabilities may derail development plans)
- Blight and impacts on neighboring properties
- Threats to public health and the environment from known or undocumented contamination
- Contamination of surface and drinking water sources



EPA Community Wide Assessment Grants



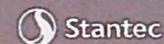
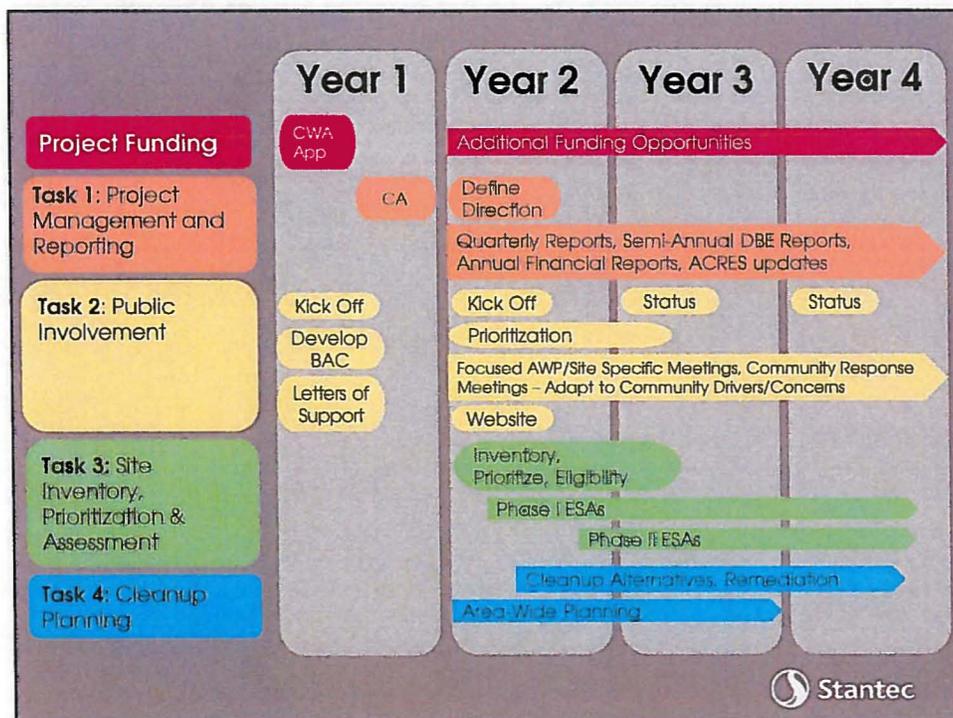
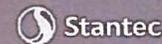
Funding

- \$600K (Coalitions)
- No matching funds
- Public and private sites can be eligible
- FY2015 applications due December 19, 2015
- Awards made in spring of 2016
- 3 Year grant term



Desired outcomes

- Identify priority sites
- Plan reuse & revitalization projects
- Produce shovel-ready parcels for redevelopment
- Create jobs, revenue & green space



Year 1 – Secure Grant Funding

Very competitive program:

- Community need
- Community support
- Ability to successfully implement grants

Years 2-4 – Project Implementation



Inventory and prioritize sites



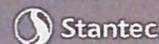
Characterize and assess sites – past uses/existing conditions (Phase I and Phase II ESAs)



Perform site-specific cleanup and restoration planning



Conduct site-specific land-use & area-wide redevelopment planning

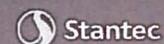
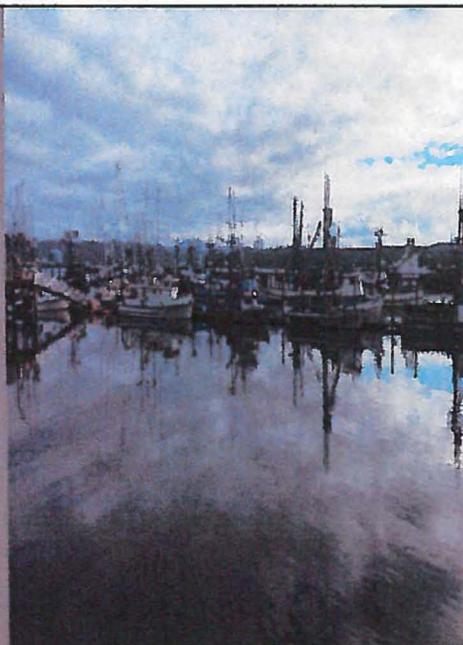


Inventory & Prioritization

- Incorporate real estate strategy/land use planning into prioritization process so that sites with greatest redevelopment potential are selected for assessment

Build initial inventory of potential re-use/revitalization sites & prioritize sites for assessment and/or cleanup/redevelopment planning.

- Review environmental databases of potentially impacted sites, historic use data sources, tax delinquent properties, etc.
- Integrate with GIS to support ongoing planning activities
- Include community input



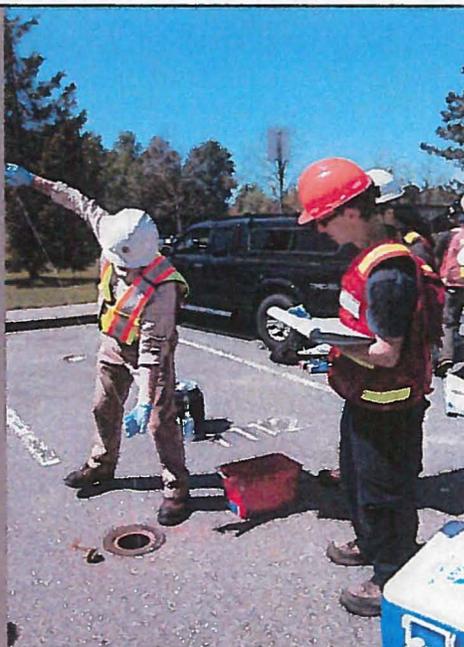
Environmental Site Assessments

Phase I ESAs

- Site-specific report that identifies historic land uses and potential issues that may impede redevelopment
- Used to facilitate property transactions

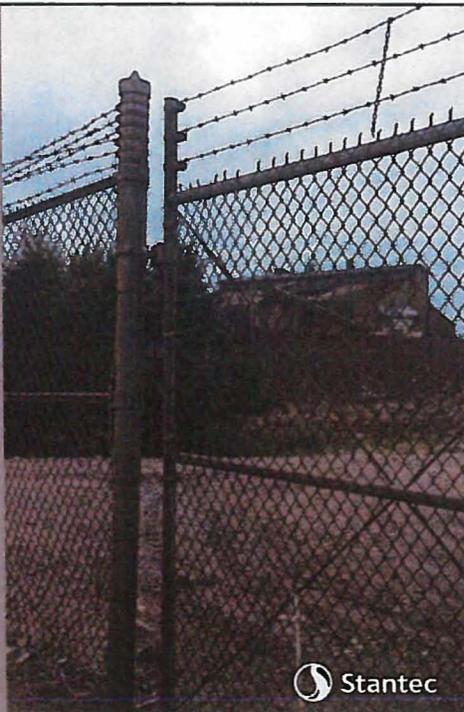
Phase II ESAs

- Testing of soil, groundwater, building materials, etc.
- Used to identify environmental impacts and develop cleanup alternatives



Cleanup & Reuse Planning

- Identify highest and best use of sites
- Perform analysis of cleanup alternatives
- Balance cleanup alternatives with reuse plans
- Implement redevelopment strategy

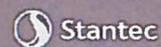


Following Assessment: EPA Brownfield Cleanup Grants



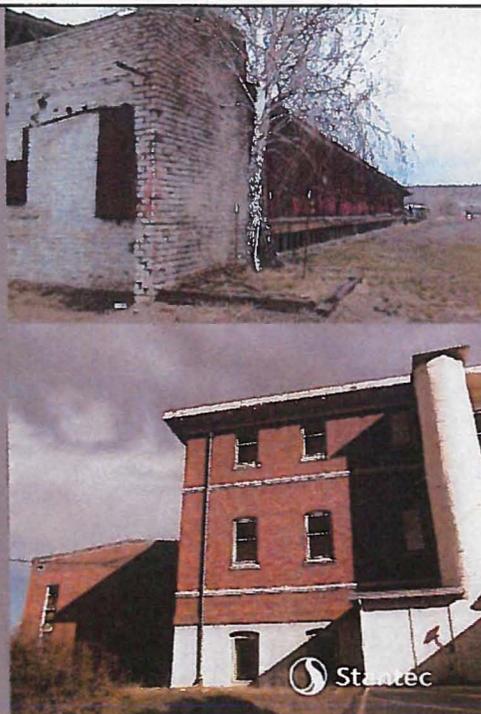
Provide direct funding for cleanup activities at specific sites

- Additional funding available for sites identified during assessment process
- Up to \$200,000 per property
- 20% cost share (money, labor, material, or services)
- Annual competition
- Applicant must be sole property owner



Why get involved?

- Brownfields affect the places we live, work & play
- Provide input on priority sites and reuse plans
- Save tax payers significant costs through reuse of existing infrastructure
- Studies show 1 job will be created for every \$13,000 - \$17,000 of public investment in brownfield redevelopment



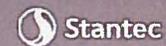
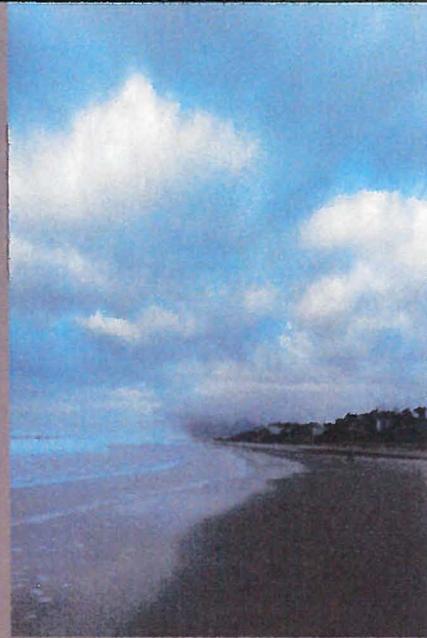
What do we need from you?

Assist with Grant Application

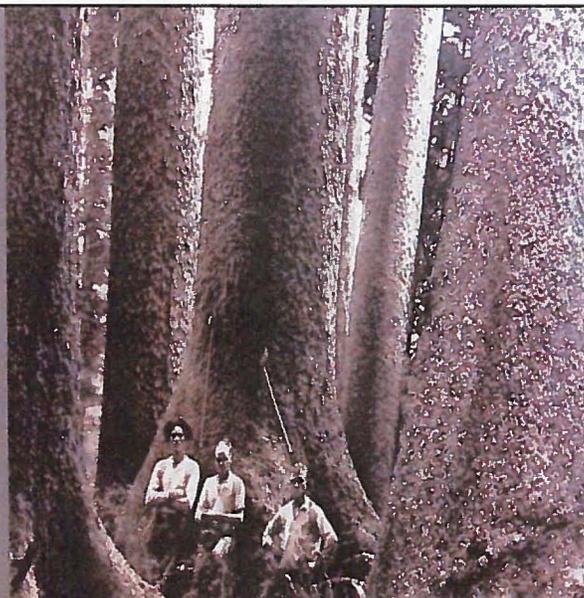
- Provide Letter of Support/Commitment
- Help identify reuse and revitalization opportunities

Participate in Implementation

- Inventory and prioritization of opportunities
- Represent member interests
- Distribute information
- Have a say in future land uses



Discussion



Thank you!





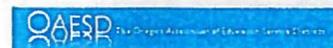
Oregon Task Force on School Safety

as established by House Bill 4087 during
the 77th Oregon Legislative Assembly

Report to the Oregon State Legislature
Fall 2015

Oregon Task Force on School Safety

Members



CHAIR

Sheriff Craig Roberts
Clackamas County Sheriff's Office,
Oregon State Sheriffs' Association

VICE-CHAIR

Superintendent Richard Evans
Oregon State Police

TASK FORCE MEMBERS

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Senate District 16

Representative Jeff Barker
House District 28

Lindsey Capps
Education Policy Advisor, Governor's Office

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Matt Utterback
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Administrators

Peggy Holstedt
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Oregon School Boards Association

Susan Graves
Safety Coordinator, Lincoln County
School District
Oregon School Employees Association

Ted Kunze
Division Chief, Molalla Fire District
Oregon Fire Chiefs Association

Chief Geoff Spalding
Beaverton Police Department
Oregon Association of Chiefs of Police

Dave Novotney, Ph.D.
Superintendent, Willamette Education
Service District
Oregon Association of Education Service
Districts

Eriks Gabliks
Director, Oregon Department of Public Safety
Standards and Training

Oregon Task Force on School Safety

as established by House Bill 4087 during
the 77th Oregon Legislative Assembly

Report to the Oregon State Legislature

Fall 2015

For more information on the Oregon Task Force on School Safety
visit the Task Force website at

www.oregon.gov/osp/Pages/Task-Force-on-School-Safety.aspx

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Executive Summary

History and Mission — House Bill 4087 (2014)

School violence has become all too common in our state and throughout the nation. Recent school attacks have created uncertainty about the safety and security of our schools. In 2014, to address this concern, the Oregon State Legislature enacted House Bill 4087, establishing the **Oregon Task Force on School Safety**, bringing together representatives from police, fire, school administration, teachers, school boards and service districts, along with the Governor's education and public safety policy advisors, and legislators. With these key stakeholders at the table the Task Force began its work on accomplishing the three objectives set forth in HB 4087:

- Develop a request for proposal to create a database of floorplans for all schools within the state, accessible to authorized users via the Internet.
- Examine models of existing education and training programs for law-enforcement officials, other first responders and school employees in the areas of school safety and incident response.
- Examine models for existing protocols for school safety and incident response and consider whether standardized statewide school safety and incident response protocols would be appropriate.

What We Learned

The Oregon Task Force on School Safety began meeting in August 2014. Within the first four months of convening, there were 10 shooting incidents at schools in the United States — in Florida, Indiana, Kentucky, Georgia, Washington, Oklahoma and Oregon, at Rosemary Anderson High in Portland. This does not include the shooting at Reynolds High in Troutdale, Oregon in June 2014. Incidents since then include the October 2015 tragedy at Umpqua Community College, which resulted in 10 dead (including the shooter). It is clear that the need for consistent, statewide school safety measures has reached a critical level.

Toward that goal, the Task Force has worked diligently to identify resources and develop recommendations to strengthen school safety.

Over the past year, we heard from a variety of sources on all aspects of school safety. During its meetings, the Task Force:

- Heard briefings regarding school facility mapping systems from Washington State, and heard separately from the Homeland Security Information Network.
- Identified the need for standard language between first responders and schools to improve communication during an emergency.
- Identified the importance of local law enforcement and schools coming together to co-develop, train, and practice emergency response measures.
- Examined emergency response lessons learned from critical incidents at Clackamas Town Center and Reynolds High School.
- Considered Lincoln and Hood River counties' existing successful emergency response models, developed collaboratively between school districts and local first responders — and learned that these models had a local champion in both law enforcement and education to drive the development and success of their systems.
- Recommended school safety information sources that could be used readily by any school — regardless of funding — as a guide and starting place for learning more about how to prepare for and respond to school emergencies. (*See Appendix A.*)
- Investigated Oregon's former tip line, and considered several presentations from successful regional and national tip lines, which led the task force to strongly recommend the reinstatement of a statewide anonymous tip line.
- Examined Oregon's Salem-Keizer threat assessment model for students in crisis and identified local existing multi-disciplinary resources to aid schools in addressing threats.

Executive Summary

Recommendations:

Creating safer schools is a collaborative effort dependent on strong partnerships with school leadership, first responders, mental-health professionals and the community. While school safety resources vary regionally, the Task Force strongly believes the recommendations will provide consistency across the state.

The Task Force identified several critical areas for improving safety in Oregon Schools:

- **Establish and fund a statewide tip line** — with text, call and web-based options — allowing students, families and others to report information about potential threats.
- **Establish and fund a statewide threat assessment system** to identify, evaluate and support students who present a potential risk for violence and self-harm.
- **Fund and develop a statewide school floorplan database** to store facility information for Oregon Schools to enhance the readiness of first responders.
- **Establish standardized terminology** for emergency response and drills for all Oregon schools.

In more detail:

Establish and fund a statewide tip line. Oregon needs a resource where students and others can anonymously report information about potential threats, including bullying, self-harm and other concerns. Youth oriented tip lines that allow multiple reporting options are successful in Colorado and Michigan.

Establish and fund a statewide threat assessment system. The Task Force learned that prevention is a critical component of school safety, and looked at ways to integrate local resources so that experts can intervene in the lives of troubled youths before they cause harm. Research shows that a student who commits an act of violence or intends to harm him- or herself has usually told someone before carrying out the plan. Threat assessment systems offer early intervention strategies that can provide students with the opportunity to get the assistance and support they need.

Fund and develop a statewide school floorplan database. State police and education staff met with local school superintendents and emergency responders from Portland, Salem, Seaside, Astoria, Pendleton, Bend, and Roseburg during January 2015 to determine 31 different features and benefits needed for a web-accessible statewide database for school floorplans. (See Appendix B.)

Establish standardized terminology. Common terminology among school districts and first responders is critical for effective, streamlined communication during emergency response. The Task Force adopted four standard emergency management terms and definitions, and recommends that all Oregon schools be required by statute to use defined standard terminology to ensure uniformity throughout the state:

- **Lockdown** — Quickly secure all school staff, students, and visitors in rooms away from immediate danger.
- **Lockout** — School's exterior doors are locked. Used in a potentially dangerous situation outside of a school.
- **Shelter in Place** — Take immediate shelter where you are and isolate your inside environment from the outside environment.
- **Evacuate** — Remove from a place of danger to a safer place.

Next Steps

The Task Force aims to support all Oregon schools by continuing to identify available resources, systems and tools to empower schools to strengthen their emergency plans and implement an early detection threat assessment system. We believe that the combination of these two measures, combined with a statewide tip line, will significantly help to provide safer environments in which our children can learn and succeed.

Oregon must prioritize funding to help make these school safety recommendations a reality. While this plan addresses K-12 schools, we recognize that there is a need for more work to be done to enhance safety in our higher education institutions. School safety is continuing to evolve, and as it does, it will be important to refine our efforts and identify areas of improvement. For that reason the Task Force will recommend to the 2016 Oregon Legislature that its research continue beyond the Task Force's currently scheduled sunset in 2017.

A copy of the full Task Force report can be found online here:

<http://www.oregon.gov/osp/Pages/Task-Force-on-School-Safety.aspx>

Letter

from Task Force Chairs

Members of the Legislature,

Since August 2014, the **Oregon Task Force on School Safety** has examined strategies to more effectively respond to school violence. While the Task Force initially focused on standardizing emergency operations between first responders and schools in active-shooter situations, we quickly realized that prevention is the first component of school safety.

In considering aspects of school safety, the Task Force heard presentations from experts on standard emergency response protocols, threat assessments, database management, floorplan mapping and tip lines, among other fields. That information directed the Task Force to focus on the following four specific recommendations as a starting point to improve the safety of Oregon schools: Establish a statewide tip line; create a statewide school-based Threat assessment system; develop a statewide school floorplan database; and require defined standard terminology for school emergency management and drills across Oregon.

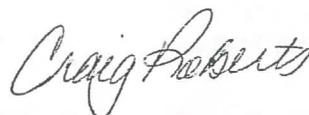
We recognize that resources available to enhance school safety vary from district to district. Even so, partnerships with school leadership, first responders, mental health professionals and other community resources are available to most. Bringing these professional disciplines together within school districts to talk about prevention and planning is a critical component of school safety. Research shows that a student who goes on to commit violence has often told someone of his or her intent to harm. If we can intervene with a multi-disciplinary team of professionals before harm is committed, lives will be saved. Prevention is a critical part of overall school safety.

We know when a child does not feel safe at school or at home, that child will suffer academically and socially. It is incumbent on us to do everything in our power to use best practices to help reduce the chance of school violence and to identify and support children in crisis. This report is not intended to be exhaustive, but a starting point to set the stage for what is possible, so that every student has a chance to succeed and feel safe.

Oregon is a great place to go to school. It is our collective responsibility to strengthen school safety. The Task Force thanks you for your leadership in establishing this important work group. We value your continued support in implementing these recommendations.



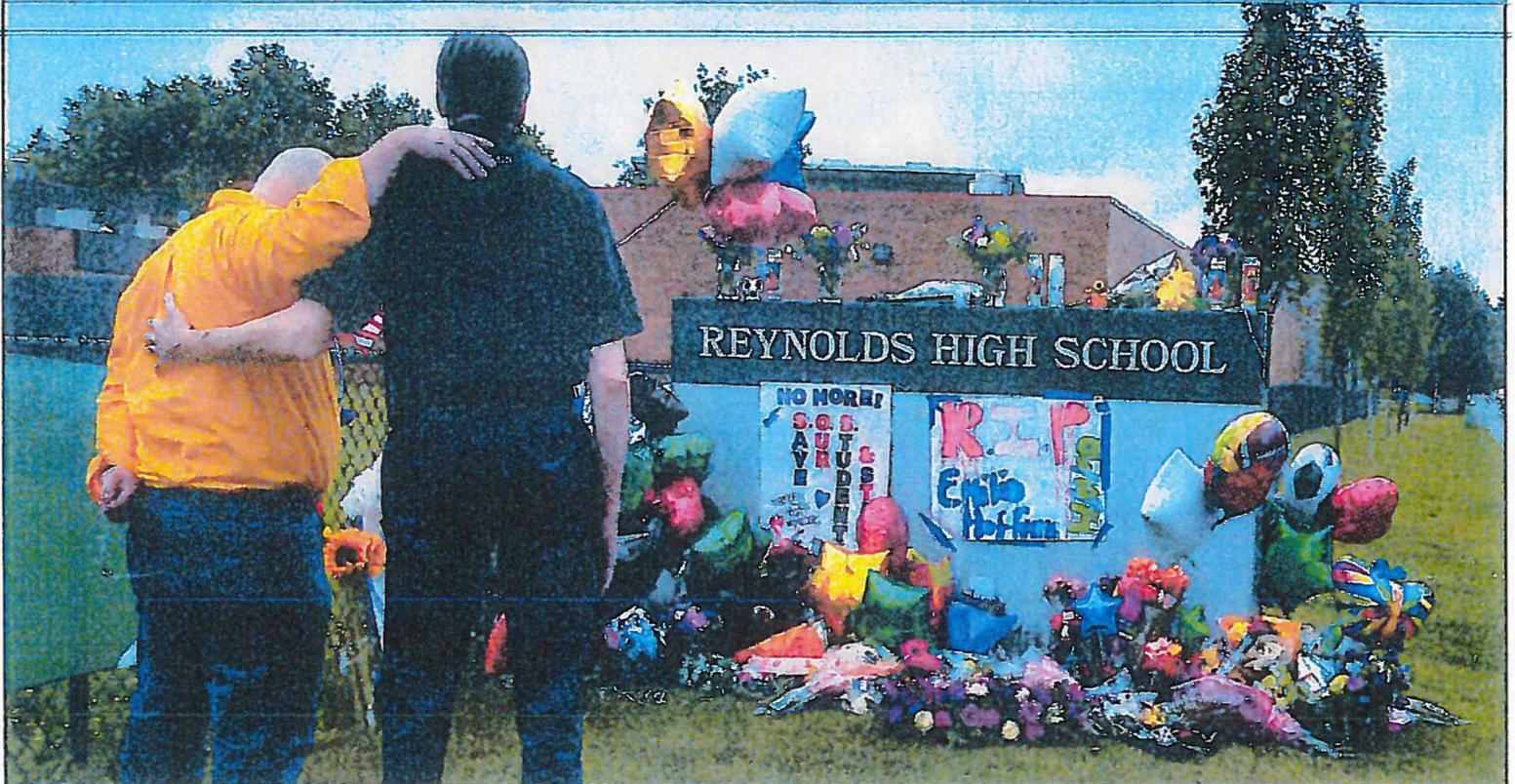
Superintendent Rich Evans
Oregon State Police



Clackamas County Sheriff Craig Roberts
Oregon State Sheriffs' Association

Introduction

Asking the Critical Questions



Physical and psychological safety are critical to a child's ability to learn in school. Most Oregon students will complete their education without being touched by peer-on-peer violence. However, school-related violence has nevertheless become an all too common issue faced by the education community. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports that:

In a nationwide survey of high-school students, about 6% reported not going to school on one or more days in the 30 days preceding the survey because they felt unsafe at school or on their way to and from school. (CDC, 2010)

The FBI reports that 39 active shooter incidents occurred in education environments nationwide between 2000 and 2013, resulting in 117 individuals killed and 120 wounded. The FBI also reports that school based attacks are occurring with increasing frequency — and account for some of the highest death tolls among all active shooter incidents during the 2000-13 time period. (FBI, 2013)

Although these incidents are rare compared to other types of violence students face in and outside of school, recent school attacks (across the nation and in Oregon) have created uncertainty about the safety and security of our schools.

Increased national attention on school violence has prompted educators, law enforcement officials, mental health professionals, legislators, parents and many others to press for answers to two central questions:

Could we have known that these attacks were being planned?

And, if so, what could we have done to prevent those attacks from occurring?



Oregon Schools by the numbers

1,240

Total number of K-12 schools (2015-16)

570,857

Total number of students (2015-16)

3,066

Total number of school buildings (2009-10)

75,912,120

Total school-building gross square footage (2009-10)

75,610

Average school-building square footage (2009-10)

Sources:
Oregon School Directory 2015-16
Innovation Partnership 2009-10 report

In 2014, the Oregon State Legislature passed House Bill 4087, establishing the **Oregon Task Force on School Safety**. The Task Force was charged with strengthening safety in Oregon schools by taking on the following assignments:

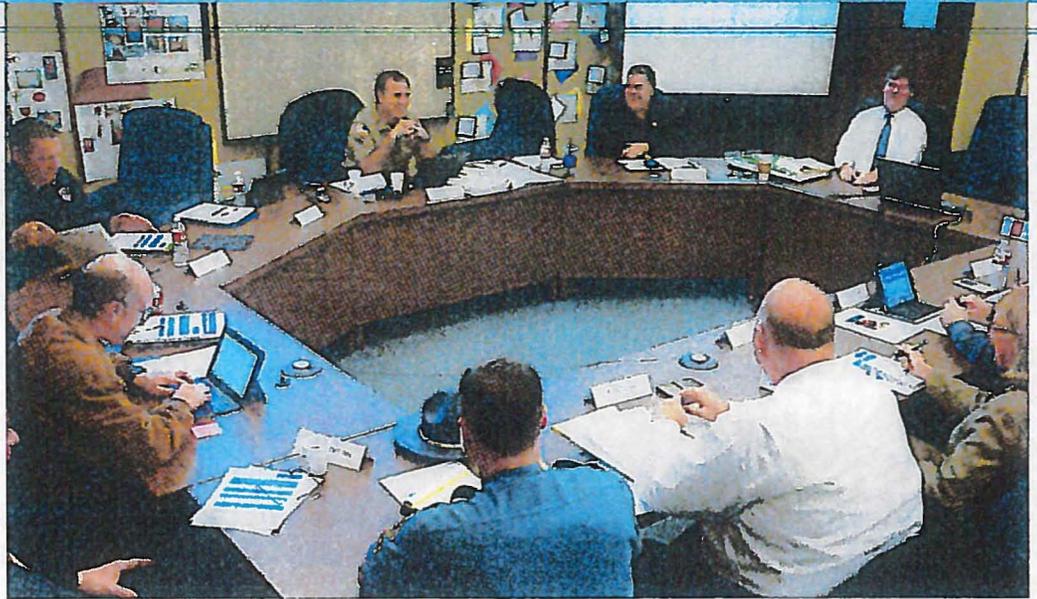
- **Develop a request for proposal to create a database of floorplans for all schools** within the state, accessible to authorized users via the Internet. Include rules governing the database.
- **Examine models of existing education and training programs** for law enforcement officials, other first responders and school employees in the areas of school safety and incident response.
- **Examine models for existing protocols for school safety and incident response** and consider whether standardized statewide school safety and incident-response protocols would be appropriate.

This report offers a summary of the accomplishments of the Oregon Task Force on School Safety. The report seeks to identify areas that may help reduce risk and improve the response to threats and hazards.

Each day, Oregon's 1,240 K-12 schools are entrusted to provide a safe and healthy learning environment for over 570,000 students. Creating and maintaining safe schools is an ongoing process — one that takes collaboration, careful planning, and critical support. Relationships, respect and connection between adults and students form the core of this process. The Oregon Task Force on School Safety report is designed to jump-start the conversation about enhancing safety in our schools.

Task Force Focus

Identifying Critical Areas for Action



The Oregon Task Force on School Safety began meeting in August 2014, and heard from experts in many areas related to school safety. The Task Force then identified several critical areas for improving safety in Oregon schools:



1. Develop a statewide school floorplan database so police and fire personnel can access floorplans before responding to life-threatening events at schools, potentially decreasing response time and improving safety for first responders, educators and students.



2. Standardize terminology for school emergency management and drills so that no matter where you live in the state, your school is following a similar protocol.



3. Establish a statewide tip line where students, parents, and others can anonymously report information on potential threats. The tip line can also serve as an avenue for youth seeking help for self-harm and other issues.

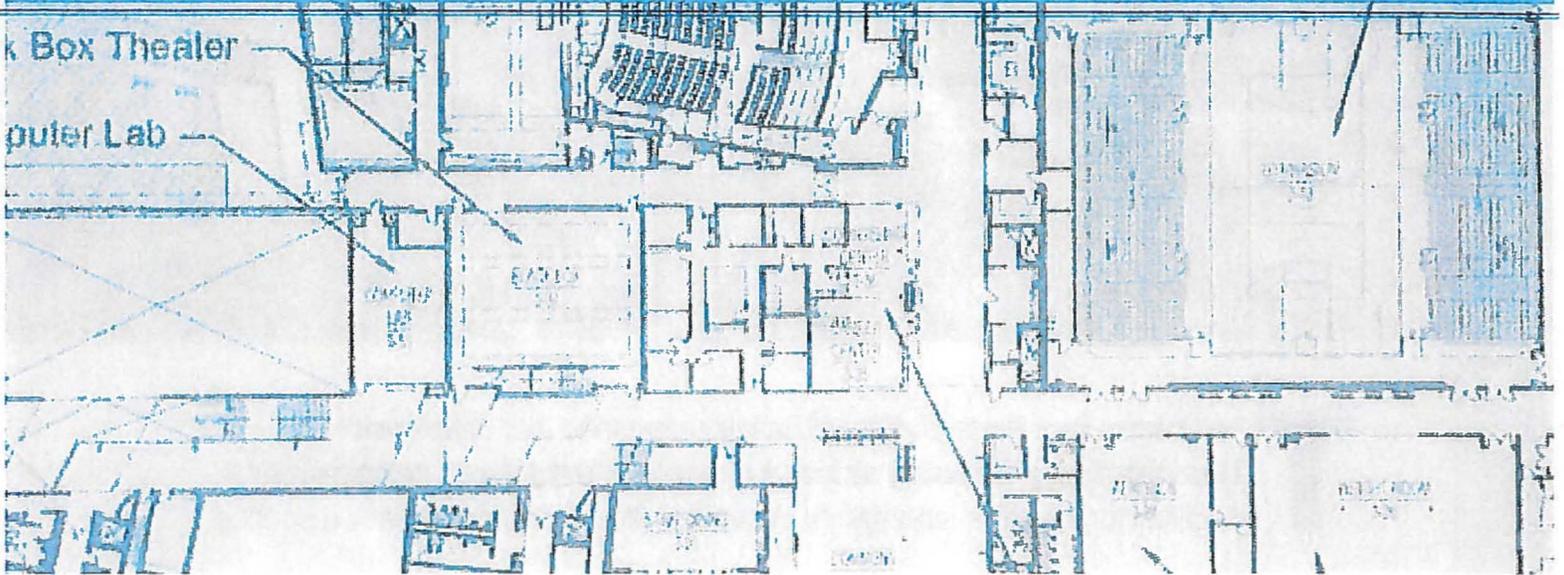


4. Create a statewide threat assessment system to provide a consistent, structured approach to identify, evaluate and support students who present a potential threat to themselves or others.

These critical areas are explored in more detail on the following pages.



1. Statewide School Floorplan Database



One of the top priorities of the Oregon Task Force on School Safety is developing a **statewide database of school floorplans**, accessible to public safety officials via the Internet.

The Task Force designated a **Database Subcommittee** to examine the value and viability of a web-accessible school floorplan database to store facility information for Oregon schools. The statewide floorplan database will assist first responders in knowing the layout of a building before entering it during an emergency and improving communication between police, fire, medical and school staff.

The Subcommittee hired a contractor to help interview educators and emergency responders statewide, establish solution parameters as indicated by the local respondents, field a Request for Information (RFI), and evaluate vendor responses. A series of five two-hour

interview panels was held with Salem-Portland, Astoria-Seaside, Pendleton, Bend, and Roseburg school superintendents and emergency response teams to ensure the Subcommittee had an accurate representation of a solution no matter what the geographical challenges might be. These panel interviews validated the initial hypothesis that a web-accessible school floorplan database would improve emergency response and communication.

The results of the RFI were presented to the Task Force on April 28, 2015. There was statewide consensus that a web-accessible database of school floorplans, including not only school buildings but also facilities on the school campus, would offer significant value in school safety.

The Task Force is currently evaluating options and costs for a school database system in Oregon before making a formal request for funding.



2. Standardized Terminology



The Oregon Task Force on School Safety determined that **common terminology among school districts and first responders** is critical for effective, streamlined communication during emergency response.

The Task Force adopted the following terminology to be used during incidents throughout Oregon:

'Lockdown'

Quickly secure all school staff, students, and visitors in rooms away from immediate danger.

'Lockout'

School's exterior doors are locked. Used in a potentially dangerous situation outside of a school. "Lockout" is a term that may be used in combination with "lockdown."

'Shelter in Place'

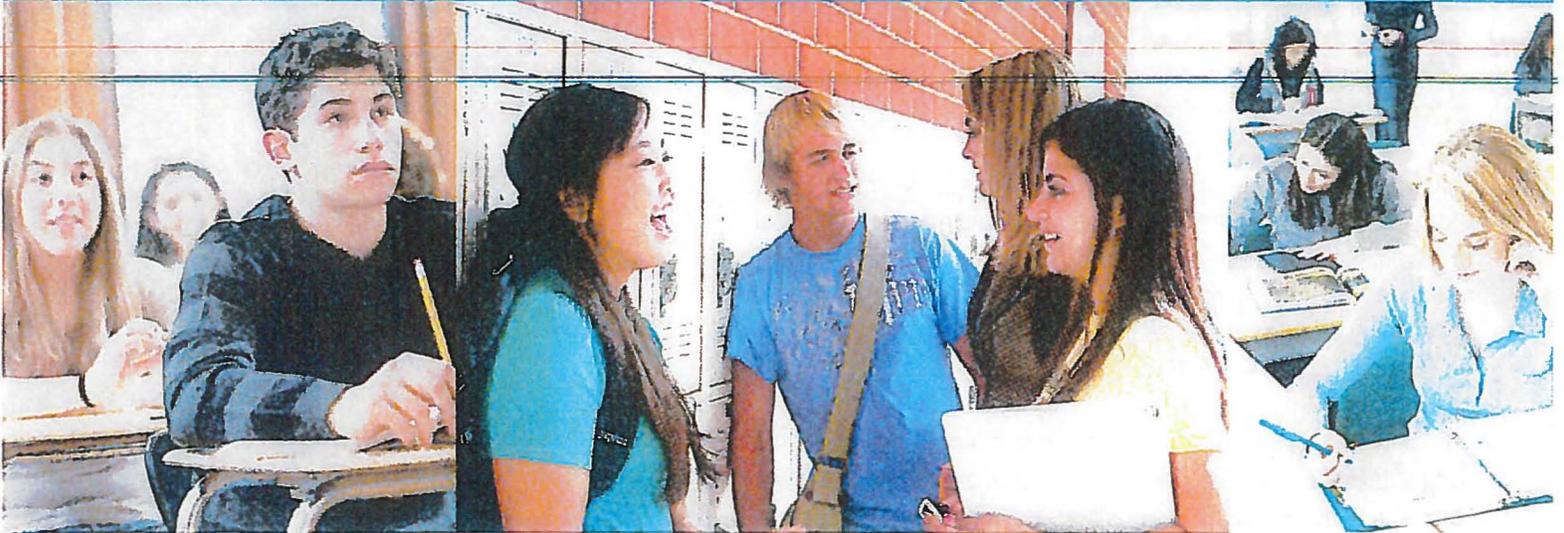
Take immediate shelter where you are and isolate your inside environment from the outside environment.

'Evacuate'

Remove from a place of danger to a safer place.



3. Statewide Tip Line



There are several key components for a successful tip line, including:

- Effective marketing of the tip line;
- A robust system for quickly processing and distributing tips;
- Excellent call counseling experience to make the most of each tip; and
- Established relationships with school systems and law enforcement throughout the state.

While some acts of violence are random, in many school shootings the shooter has told someone of his or her plans. **A statewide tip line** with voice, text and web-based options would allow students to anonymously share information about potential threats.

The Oregon Task Force on School Safety designated a **Tip Line Subcommittee** to initiate a Request for Proposal (RFP). The Oregon State Police, with the assistance of the Subcommittee, is in the process of hiring an independent contractor to write a business case and assist with the RFP.

A statewide tip line that includes voice, text and web-based tips will allow concerned persons to anonymously share information about potential threats. The information will be evaluated and shared with school officials and law enforcement when threats to student safety are reported.

The tip line would handle all types of reports — including bullying, violence, threats of violence, suicide, and other concerns.

The Oregon State Police has created an aggressive timeline in order to complete the RFP as well as identify a vendor solution by early 2016. Information will be gathered and presented in Oregon's 2016 Legislative Session.



4. Threat Assessment

Comprehensive threat assessment systems provide communities with an effective, evidence based process to address and support students who present a potential risk of reactive or targeted violence.

The FBI has identified "a number of potential school shootings that were prevented because students reported a threat to authorities that was investigated and determined to be serious. Based on these observations, the FBI and Secret Service both recommended that schools adopt a threat assessment approach to prevent targeted acts of violence." (O'Toole, 2000; Vossekuil, 2002)

Threat assessment continues to be one of the most effective ways school districts, law enforcement and mental health professionals can reduce the likelihood of an active shooter situation in a school environment.

The student threat assessment model is an investigative, fact and community based analytical approach that requires a team to work collaboratively.

The threat assessment protocol follows a leveled approach, based on the severity of the threat, and determines appropriate interventions and supervision:

- **Level 1 Assessment** is a school based assessment that determines the nature of the threat, the context of the risk and school based resources for addressing the threat.
- **Level 2 Assessment** is a community based assessment completed through a collaborative effort by a multi-agency, multi-disciplinary team. A Level 2 Assessment occurs when a school-based team requests assistance, due to a perceived high risk, a need for further investigation or a lack of resources. The assessment team will assist in management and intervention planning and ensure there is a safety plan in place.

Threat assessment is a proven method of early intervention that can help prevent acts of violence in the school environment. While some acts of violence are random in nature, studies show most active shooters pre-plan their acts of violence and have told their plans to someone within their peer group.

The Oregon School Safety Task Force is evaluating recommendations to form a regional statewide threat assessment system.

The proposed system will help Oregon schools:

- **Train key school staff in Level 1 Assessment** — which utilizes a school based threat assessment process of students or situations of concern.
- **Support the development and training of school and community based threat assessment teams.**
- **Provide trained multi-disciplinary threat assessment teams to schools needing support in conducting Level 2 Assessments.**

Next Steps



It will take a collective commitment and ongoing funding to implement these important school safety strategies. The Oregon Task Force on School Safety recommends the following:

1. Establish and fund a statewide tip line with voice, text and web-based options, allowing students, families and others to report information about potential threats. The information will be evaluated and shared with school officials and law enforcement when threats to student safety are reported. The tip line would handle all types of tips, including bullying, violence, threats of violence and suicide, among other concerns.

2. Establish and fund a statewide threat assessment system to identify, evaluate and support students who present a potential threat to themselves or others.

3. Fund and develop a statewide school floorplan database to store facility information for Oregon schools. The database will assist first responders in knowing the layout of a building before entering it during an emergency and improve communication between police, fire and school personnel.

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APPENDIX A

Recommended School Resources



The Oregon Task Force on School Safety learned about several resources and websites to help with training and information about school safety. These websites cover emergency-management resources available for first responders, schools, and community organizations. These recommendations are not a mandate, but a resource guide to serve as a starting place for learning more about how to prepare for and respond to school emergencies. The Task Force approved and adopted the following resources and websites:

Emergency Management Institute – FEMA
training.fema.gov/emi

Energetic Materials Research and Testing Center
emrtc.nmt.edu

Guide for Developing High Quality School Emergency Operations Plans
rems.ed.gov/docs/REMS_k-12_Guide_508.pdf

I Love U Guys Foundation
iloveuguy.org

Do the Drill — Office of State Fire Marshal
www.oregon.gov/osp/SFM/docs/yfpi/do_the_drill_2011.pdf

Oregon Dept. of Education
www.ode.state.or.us/search/results/?id=372

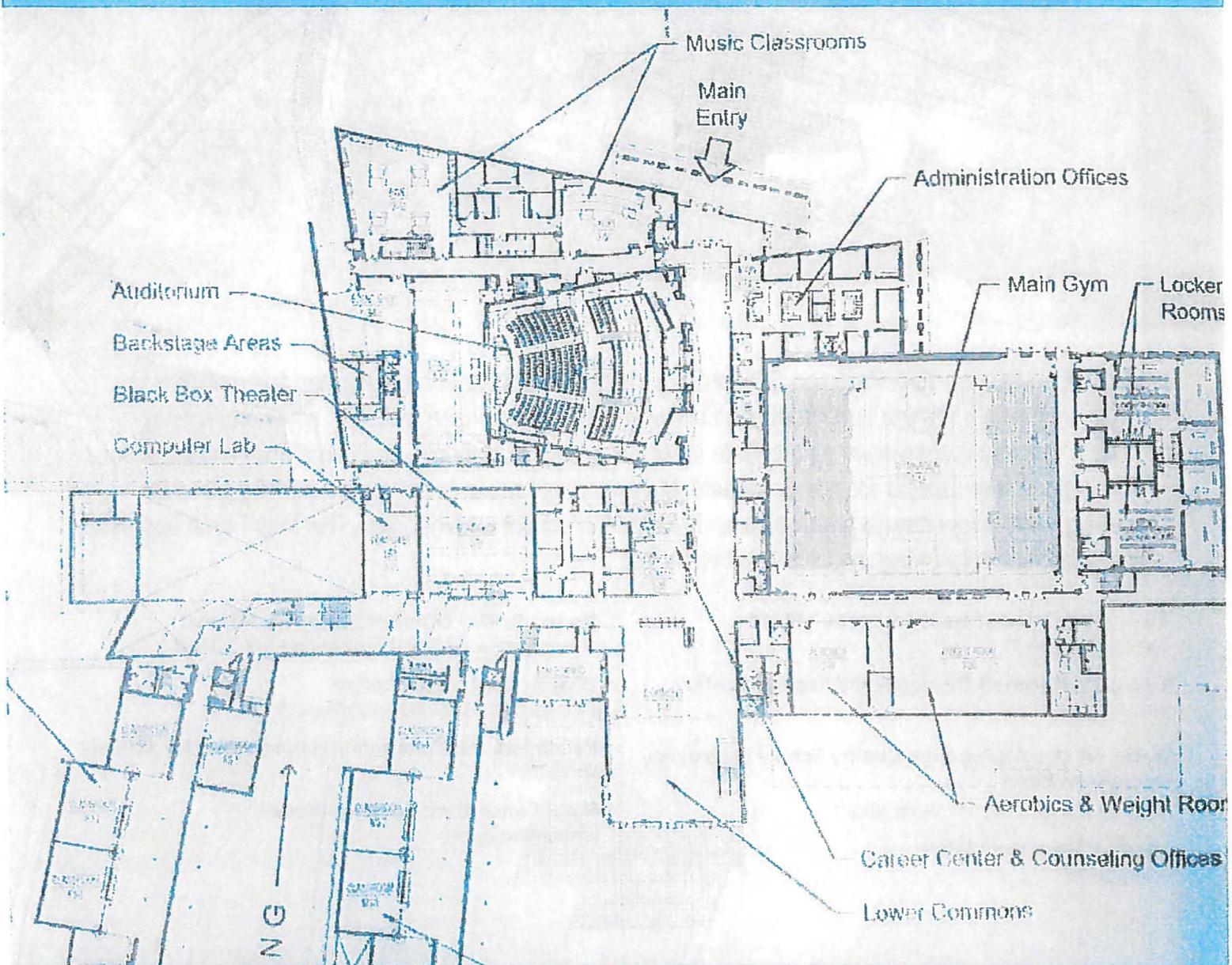
Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools
rems.ed.gov

Rural Consortium Training Center
www.ruraltraining.org

APPENDIX B

School Floorplan Database Needs Analysis

Presented at the Feb. 5, 2015 Task Force meeting



School Floorplan Database Needs Analysis



HB 4087 Task Force on School Safety Needs Analysis

Executive Summary

This document describes the features and benefits identified by local school safety personnel for the utility of a web-accessible statewide database for school floor plans and related facilities information as ordered by HB 4087. The findings established a list of 31 features needed to support the four responses that schools have to emergencies: “seal everyone in the school, seal everyone out of the school, evacuate the area, and provide emergency shelter.”

Needs Analysis Methodology

State police and education staff met with local schools superintendents, their designees, and emergency responders (“customers”) from Portland, Salem, Seaside, Astoria, Pendleton, Bend, and Roseburg during January 2015. In five two-hour sessions, customers identified benefits they expected, and features that would be needed. State presenters described HB 4087 walked through a draft list of features to start discussion. The following table lists validated features proposed or approved by the regional representatives.

Feature	Benefit to Customer
System solution with school details enables any emergency responder in any building-level or community-level emergency to get your facility's details	Saves time for fire, medical, and police responders searching for entrances, exits, shut-off valves, and other key information--as fast as the web can deliver it
Web access via multiple electronic methods	Common access to common information, not dependent on one particular platform. Reduces response time in emergency. Enables information sharing among emergency responders
Visual information, such as maps, floor plans, diagrams, and plans about your facility can be stored by you and retrieved by emergency responders and others	Helps emergency responders assess the magnitude of damage, plan the tactical response, interpret the scene at the school, and navigate to people needing help

School Floorplan Database Needs Analysis

Feature	Benefit to Customer
Visual information about your facility can be stored and retrieved by emergency responders or other authorized users	Shows the actual spaces and clearances for your facility. Helps you and others direct evacuations or moves, clarifies live descriptions of where problems or aid can be found
Standard and easily understood naming conventions define the data	Enables you to retrieve information by a tag
Indexing enables ability to assign tags for data retrieval according to emergency respondent's specific need and location	Enables you to assign a tag for information that you need in real-time, enables sorting by another attribute than file type or document name
Visual information about your facility can be stored and retrieved by emergency responders and others	Supports rapid understanding of facility navigation and possibility of using a picture as a common tactical planning aid
Database contains all school safety plans based upon with standardized data as defined by a template	Ensures all safety plans are navigable and understandable by anyone that uses the system solution
Database contains all school safety plans	Ensures that all safety plans and protocols for a given school facility can be found online in one place
Database contains all the options for approved school safety plans	Schools that do not have plans and protocols in place can choose a pre-approved plan for facility-wide emergency plans
The system solution shall contain all the templates for school safety plans	You can find and use the template for the safety plans you need to file
High availability, redundancy, and disaster recovery	Even if some components or communication paths are down due to weather or other conditions, web-enabled access makes it unlikely that all paths will go down at once
Off-the-shelf system or enhancement to existing systems, or application development to assure a standard platform configured for school safety needs	Standard application programming interfaces to web services simplify setup and configuration
Standard training is available right out of the box and options are also available	Minimal training time; training doesn't require additional expense by the school and can be done on-the-job
User interface will help novice users and enable shortcuts as novices become expert users	Easy-to-use system doesn't require training before use. Novices can get routine updates done without books and classes and discover only those features they're authorized to use
Role-based security	Only people with need-to-know can access specific information. Solution accommodates whatever structure government takes in a given locality and supports multiple roles. Absorbs routine, frequently needed, or critical data, enabling school safety staff to focus on problems requiring personal attention and discretionary judgment
The system solution shall include data-driven triggers when a plan reaches its expiration date	You'll get notifications when a plan is about to expire
Affordable	<i>Handled in introduction: local schools are not expected to pay for this as an unfunded mandate.</i>
Ability to manage updates to the system solution	Technical updates for maintenance can be scheduled well in advance
Ability to manage updates to the data in the system solution	Facility updates—new construction and other changes—can be made when you want them. A statewide content management system enables consistency in the data and opportunity to review rate of change in the data, enabling a statewide profiling of school safety efforts
User-configurable options	You can see the information you are most likely to need
Ability to shut down all or part of the system	If compromised, you don't have to shut down all of the system, only the affected sections
Ability to block access by a specific device	If a user's device is lost or stolen, it cannot be used to access the system as a trusted device—part of a multi-layered security model
Solution can be adopted in stages or all-at-once	Enables progressive buildout as users are ready and funds are available

School Floorplan Database Needs Analysis

Feature	Benefit to Customer
Solution supports communications outreach to external stakeholders	Media messages and parent outreach help control panic, focus attention, and constrain irresponsible reporting and social media-driven dynamics
Solution enables possibility of reduced insurance premium from PACE	Efforts to reduce risk to life and property with enhanced safety enable reassessment of risk and less stress on school budgets
Local autonomy balanced by domain consistency	Local people remain in charge of their schools, and have opportunities to learn, review, and adopt each other's best practices as they see fit.
Subject-matter experts in school safety can share information without having to personally tell or train others	Reduces or eliminates single point of failure for data, especially in understaffed areas or rural districts
Supports more variety, comprehensiveness, consistency, and usage of safety training and drills	Enables support and accountability for schools that do not have all four types of emergency response drills in place. Reinforces protocol consistency, so transfers and substitute teachers and other staff have a common operating knowledge of what to do in an emergency
Enables hardcopy or download of information to mobile devices	Enables immediate personal access of information for emergency responder if it appears that communications connections may be lost
Solution accommodates school safety-related data for all possible emergencies, not just one or two	Solution provides data for decision support throughout the life cycle of the emergency

Top-of-Mind: the Six Most Obvious Needs

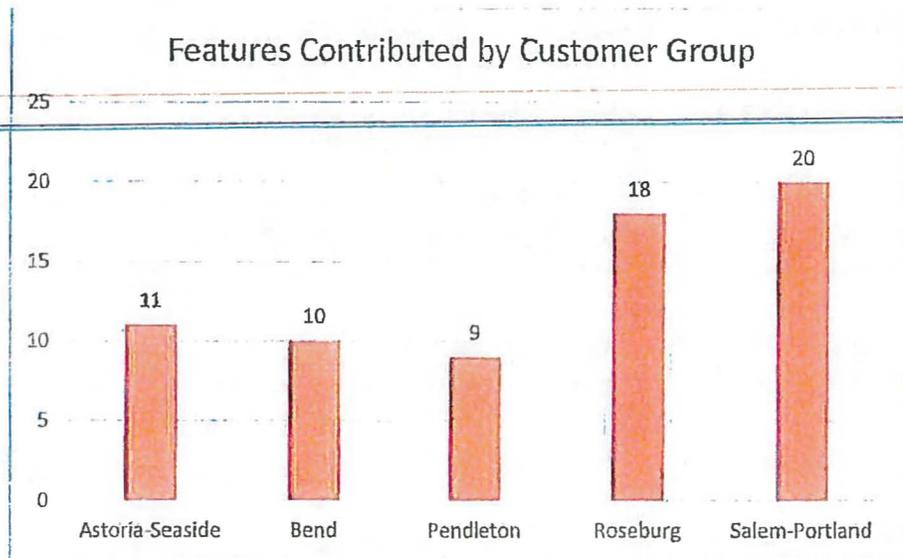
The following features were universally top-of-mind, meaning that at least four of five meetings introduced them or discussed them. This behavior shows these elements are top-of-mind, although it does not suggest priority or significance as much as “obviousness.”

- Standard and easily understood naming conventions define the data
- Standard training is available right out of the box and [training] options are also available
- Database contains all the options for approved school safety plans
- Role-based security
- Ability to manage updates to the system solution (technical infrastructure)
- Ability to manage updates to the data in the system solution (local content updates)

Customer-Driven Data: Customer Contributions are a Significant Percentage of the Features List

Customer influence on the feature list reflected population density, with the most features being introduced or commented on by the densest regional populations. The following chart shows the number of features explicitly proposed or discussed as a priority by each regional group. While there is significant overlap, it cannot be said that the two largest groups include all the features discussed by the smaller groups.

School Floorplan Database Needs Analysis



For this reason, we do not conclude that the number of features can be reduced. No one wanted to drop any feature, because the associated benefits were meaningful to the customers. Needs were different enough among the regions that the group of 31 features identified in this document appear to be comprehensive without being redundant.

Spencer Nebel

From: Salmon for Oregon Association, Inc. <info@salmonfororegon.org>
Sent: Wednesday, December 09, 2015 11:20 AM
To: Spencer Nebel
Subject: December 2015



Dear Friends of Salmon For Oregon,

This email is coming to you as we conclude our 4th year of existence as a salmon enhancement and restoration non-profit organization. It has been quite a journey. January of 2015 will begin our 5th year and we are making plans to expand our focus beyond spring Chinook on the central Oregon coast. But more on that in a minute.

As many of you know who have followed our work in Salem and on the Coast, here's just a little on the last legislative session that concluded in July. SB-803 was the bill to fund the project startup with the sponsorship of Senator Roblan and the Coastal Caucus.... and it really came down to the last few days of the session before we knew it wasn't going to make it to law.

So we begin a new short session early next year and we are already at work, with legislators and other stakeholders to determine the most effective way to proceed with a bill in the new session, and possibly other options. Without going into too much detail, there are a couple of paths forward that we are pursuing. We are hopeful that the new session brings new opportunity to fund the startup of these two projects, in Coos Bay and Yaquina Bay. "A springer in the bay brings salmon fishing in May" What a great blessing these two projects will be to the spring economies of these regions once implemented.

As we wrap up our 4th year, we want to thank many who have supported our efforts along the way. My first meeting as Executive Director was with the Longview Hills Fishing Club in Newport, a great bunch of people. Shortly

there after that, the U Da Man fishing group, and it has grown from there. This has truly been a grassroots efforts.

Others who have supported us along the way... Coos County, Lincoln County, City of Newport, YBEF, Englund Marine, Starker Forests, Oregon Coast Bank, the Reynolds Family, Parry & Associates, Bob Jacobson, David Landkamer, Mike Samples, Rich Hale Family and friends, and many many others, family and friends, who wish to remain anonymous.

We want to acknowledge and thank Ted Freres and also the Freres Foundation for their recent generous donations.

It has been a year and a half since we lost our friend Rich Hale. His son David provided me the link to a YouTube video he produced of some of his fishing exploits before he passed away. I am providing the link here. I watched it today again and had to laugh out loud a few times. Rich was a real sportsman and had quite a sense of humor. I invite you to view his video. If you ever decide to produce your own, please let us know. We will post it.

We are hopeful for the new year and the prospects that will present themselves. The organization will expand in 2016 to include a new extensive web site with lots of features, and a focus on education and information. That is another subject that I will tell you more about as things develop. We are very excited about this and have gathered a team to assist in development. Efforts are underway in the background to move those efforts forward.

Finally, we thank the leadership of Board President John Brenneman. He keeps trying to be retired and I keep interrupting him. I called him the other day and asked him how he was doing, he said he was trying to forget me.. I had to laugh, that is John at his best. He has been steady hand. Great advice and mentoring from Cam Parry, David Landkamer, Jon Englund, Dean Fleck, and Bob Jacobson has helped move the organization forward. A special thanks to Tom Becker Sr., the late Dr. Bill McNeil, and Dick Severson who were the founding board officers and launched this ship.

So I am going a bit long here, but I must end with a call to action. The next short session is the next best chance to fund these two projects. There are no salaries being paid for our work, just expenses to keep the effort going. If you are still trying to decide where to make that charitable donation to wrap up the

year, think of Salmon For Oregon. We'll provide you with the proper receipt for your taxes...

Until next time, fish on...

James F Wright
Executive Director
Salmon For Oregon Association, Inc.

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On the Oregon Coast, affordable housing doesn't pencil out



[\[http://connect.oregonlive.com/staff/hammily-l/index.html\]](http://connect.oregonlive.com/staff/hammily-l/index.html) By **Luke Hammill** | [The Oregonian/OregonLive](http://connect.oregonlive.com/staff/hammily-l/posts.html)
[\[http://connect.oregonlive.com/staff/hammily-l/posts.html\]](http://connect.oregonlive.com/staff/hammily-l/posts.html)
Email the author | Follow on Twitter [\[https://twitter.com/lucashammill\]](https://twitter.com/lucashammill)
on December 20, 2015 at 5:00 AM, updated December 20, 2015 at 3:18 PM

TILLAMOOK — Mike Cohen has, by Tillamook County standards, what he considers to be "a pretty high-paying job."

Cohen, 60, moved from Chicago to the Oregon Coast less than a year ago to take a job as director of the Tillamook Economic and Small Business Development Center. He's renting a home in the unincorporated town of Oceanside, but has already been told the landlord intends to sell the property soon.

Although the rental market is by no means overflowing in Chicago, Cohen said someone with a good job can reasonably expect to find an apartment there. In Tillamook, on the other hand, it's nearly impossible to find a quality rental no matter who you are. (Though Cohen acknowledges that it's worse the less money you make.)

"It's not very comforting, living somewhere where you could get a phone call tomorrow" and be evicted, said Cohen, who is new to the community and not ready to buy a home yet. "If, right now, I'd have to find a place to live within 60 days, I would be completely panicked."

Civic leaders in Tillamook County and elsewhere on the coast have known for years that housing was a growing problem. But unlike in urban areas, the rural county lacks a dedicated housing agency, coastal development often doesn't pencil out and the cash-strapped county government has the resources for "only the very most basic functions," said Erin Skaar, executive director at the Tillamook nonprofit Community Action Resource Enterprises.

"We end up choosing between law enforcement and housing," Skaar said.

Still, the situation has grown dire enough that the county has created a housing task force — including Skaar, Cohen and other community leaders — to come up with solutions.

Jim Tierney is the executive director of another nonprofit, the Community Action Team, which serves Tillamook, Clatsop and Columbia counties. He said many coastal cities are small enough that any increase in supply is significant.

New numbers from the U.S. Census Bureau show that from 2010 through 2014, Tillamook County built only 46 housing units. More populous Clatsop and Lincoln counties didn't build much either — 197 and 178 new units, respectively, over the same period.

"The market hasn't responded in our area to the demand, including the demand from people who are perfectly capable of buying a house somewhere else," Tierney said.

There's a host of reasons for that. One is that there are physical barriers to development on the coast that might not be present in other markets. There isn't much developable land to begin with, and the land that is buildable often presents challenging terrain and risks such as flooding, landslides and even tsunamis.

Cohen was reminded of that last week, when he was **trapped for two days** [\[http://www.oregonlive.com/pacific-northwest-news/index.ssf/2015/12/oceanside_residents_trapped_af.html\]](http://www.oregonlive.com/pacific-northwest-news/index.ssf/2015/12/oceanside_residents_trapped_af.html) in Oceanside because of flooding.

Costs are often higher to build on the coast, also. There isn't the same built-in development environment — with a steady supply of contractors, subcontractors, materials and laborers — in Tillamook or Newport as there is in the Portland area.

"All those costs are going to stack up higher there, because [the materials] have to be transported over the mountains," Tierney

OUTSTATE

On the Oregon Coast, affordable housing doesn't pencil out
[\[http://www.oregonlive.com/front-porch/index.ssf/2015/12/housing\]](http://www.oregonlive.com/front-porch/index.ssf/2015/12/housing)

Boardman is already a jobs center. Now it needs housing
[\[http://www.oregonlive.com/front-porch/index.ssf/2015/11/boardma\]](http://www.oregonlive.com/front-porch/index.ssf/2015/11/boardma)

Hood River, dealing with housing affordability issues, takes on short-term rentals
[\[http://www.oregonlive.com/front-porch/index.ssf/2015/11/hood_riv\]](http://www.oregonlive.com/front-porch/index.ssf/2015/11/hood_riv)

Bend becoming unaffordable as hot-and-cold housing market rises again
[\[http://www.oregonlive.com/front-porch/index.ssf/2015/10/bend_be\]](http://www.oregonlive.com/front-porch/index.ssf/2015/10/bend_be)

All Stories

[\[http://topics.oregonlive.com/tag/outsta\]](http://topics.oregonlive.com/tag/outsta)

Outstate
This is the last in an occasional series [\[http://topics.oregonlive.com\]](http://topics.oregonlive.com) looking at housing trends outside the Portland area.

said.

And at the low end of the market, development simply doesn't pencil out in many coastal communities, even with the assistance of tax breaks. The federal Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program provides incentives for developers to rent affordable units to people who make less than 60 percent of the area's median income.

The per-capita incomes in Clatsop, Lincoln and Tillamook counties from 2010 through 2014, according to the census, were all below \$26,300, with Tillamook the lowest at \$22,417. That's significantly lower than the per-capita income of more than \$31,000 in Multnomah County.

"It's not easy to fit low-income housing into the business model of the coast," said nonprofit director Erin Skaar.

With lower incomes in coastal communities, the rents that affordable projects could yield might not even be enough to cover operating costs, let alone pay down construction debt.

"It's not easy to fit low-income housing into the business model of the coast," Skaar said.

In the single-family market, the northern part of the coast tends to lag behind the southern part, Lynn Brigham, a principal broker with Windermere Stellar, who works out of Gearhart and Cannon Beach.

[http://www.facebook.com/sharer.php?u=http://www.oregonlive.com/front-porch/index.ssf/2015/12/housing-on-the-oregon-coast-city-mulls-regulation/]

It's longer to come out of the...slump," Brigham said. "But it also took quite a bit longer for us to go into the slump, so when Portland was tanking in 2008, we were still kind of riding along out here."

On the northern coast, Brigham said, stands at 5.9 months, reflecting a balanced market – the measure estimates the amount of time it would take for all current listings to sell. But he predicted that as the market continues to pick up – the Regional Multiple Listing Service found that November saw a 42.5 percent year-over-year increase in prices will rise and inventory will evaporate, as it has in Portland [http://www.oregonlive.com/front-porch/index.ssf/2015/12/portland-area_housing_market_r.html].

and that we're seeing, eventually it's going to outstrip our supply and eventually we'll see some increases in prices," Brigham said.

Brigham said he deals primarily in three markets: retirement homes, second homes and permanent homes. The latter category, he said, lies "often times east of the highway, up in the hills."

There are many people, Brigham said, who are still working in urban areas and buy homes on the coast, renting them out for now with plans to move in after retirement.

That is perhaps one element that has contributed to the rise of short-term rentals and the sometimes-resentful reaction they get in cities like Gearhart, which was considering going in the direction of Hood River [http://www.oregonlive.com/front-porch/index.ssf/2015/11/hood_river_dealing_with_housin.html] and putting limits on them [http://www.oregonlive.com/front-porch/index.ssf/2015/10/oregon_coast_city_mulls_regula.html]. Communities across the nation have debated the extent to which vacation rentals impact vacancy rates for permanent rentals.

Bonnie Saxton, a Newport-based principal broker with Advantage Real Estate, sells single-family homes, but she said that hasn't stopped people from mistakenly walking into her office every day and asking about rentals.

"I've been told by the property managers that our rental inventory vacancy rate is under 1 percent," Saxton said.

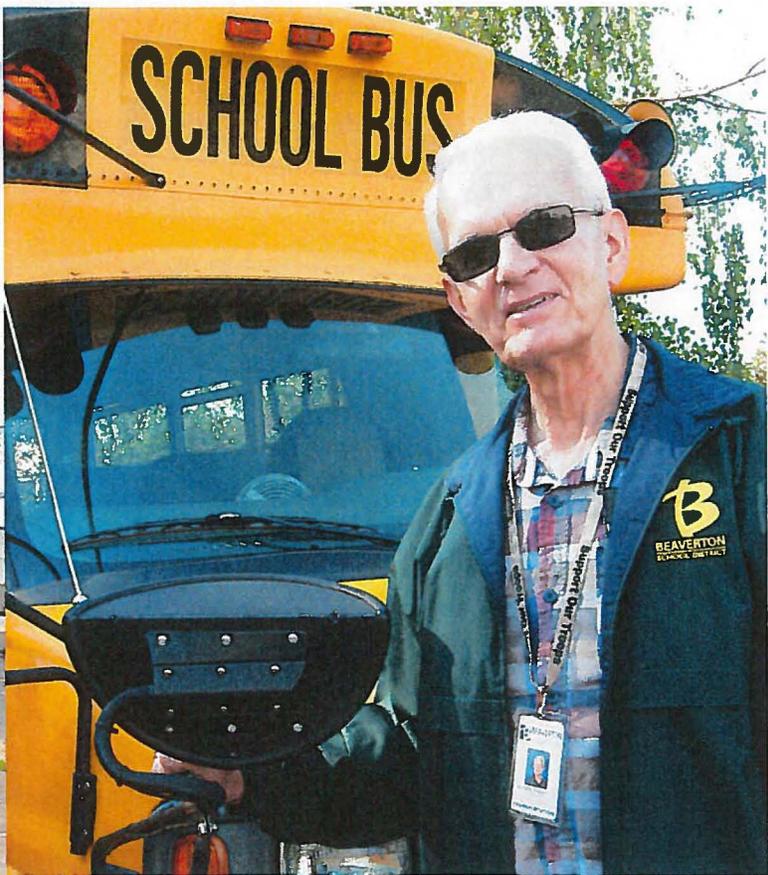
Lincoln County needs more affordable housing in both the rental and single-family markets, according to Saxton. There is still some inventory left at the high end, she said, but anything under \$400,000 gets snapped up quickly. A good chunk of the market consists of second homes and investment homes in Newport, too, Saxton said.

"It's hard with the development costs, anymore, to get a developer to do [affordable housing]," Saxton said. "Especially in a small area like Newport."

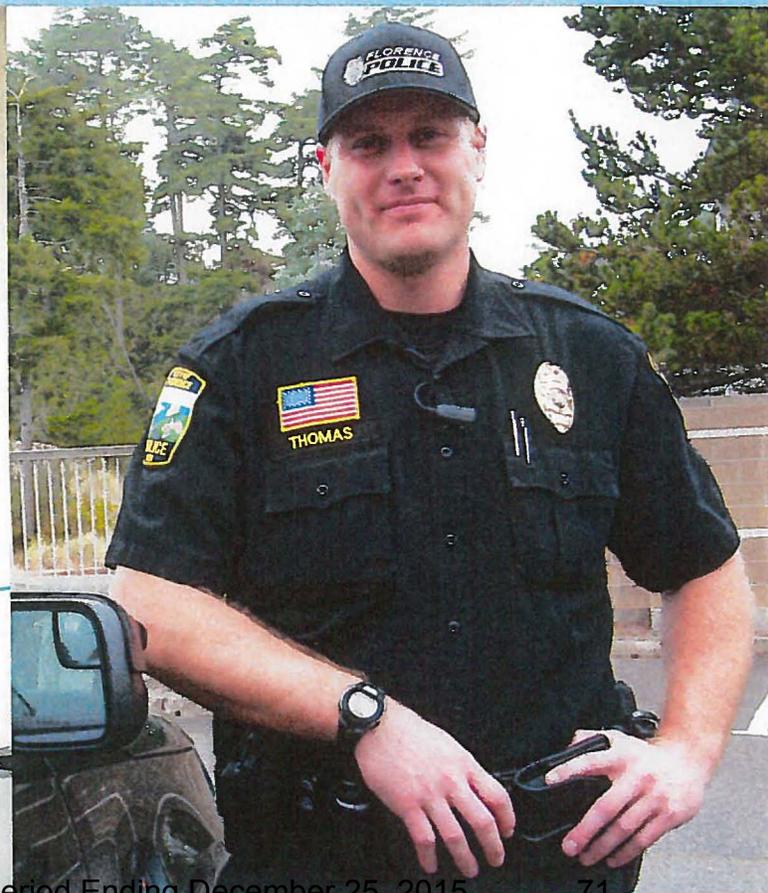
Tara Parry, vice president for human resources at the Tillamook County Creamery Association (best known for the Tillamook Cheese), said the lack of housing "absolutely" threatens the long-term viability of the company. About 500 of its 779 employees are in the Tillamook area, she said. The business provided \$50,000 of the county housing task force's \$90,000 budget, with the Meyer Memorial Trust making up the rest.

"Our current employees struggle with not being able to find affordable housing. ... We can't complain about the problem if we're not willing to help," Parry said.

Nonprofit director



Information for PERS Employers



What is the PERS funding equation?

$$B = C + E$$

BENEFITS = CONTRIBUTIONS + EARNINGS

Present value of
earned benefits

Employer funds to
pay those benefits

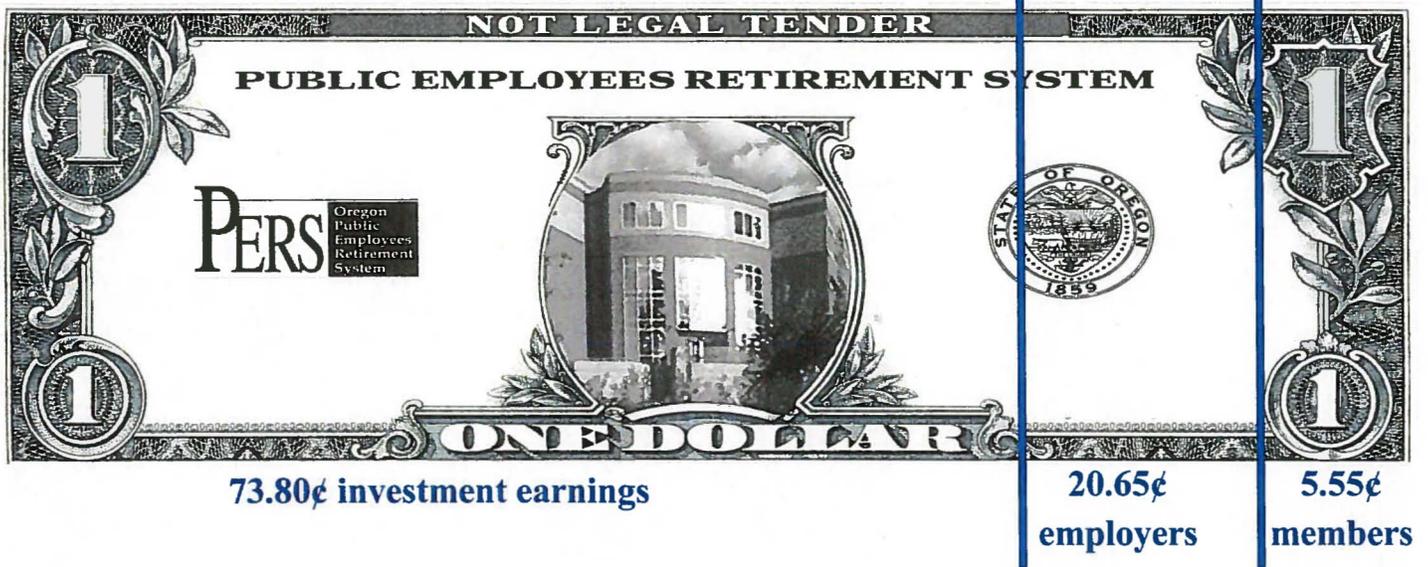
Future returns on
invested funds

Set by:
Oregon Legislature

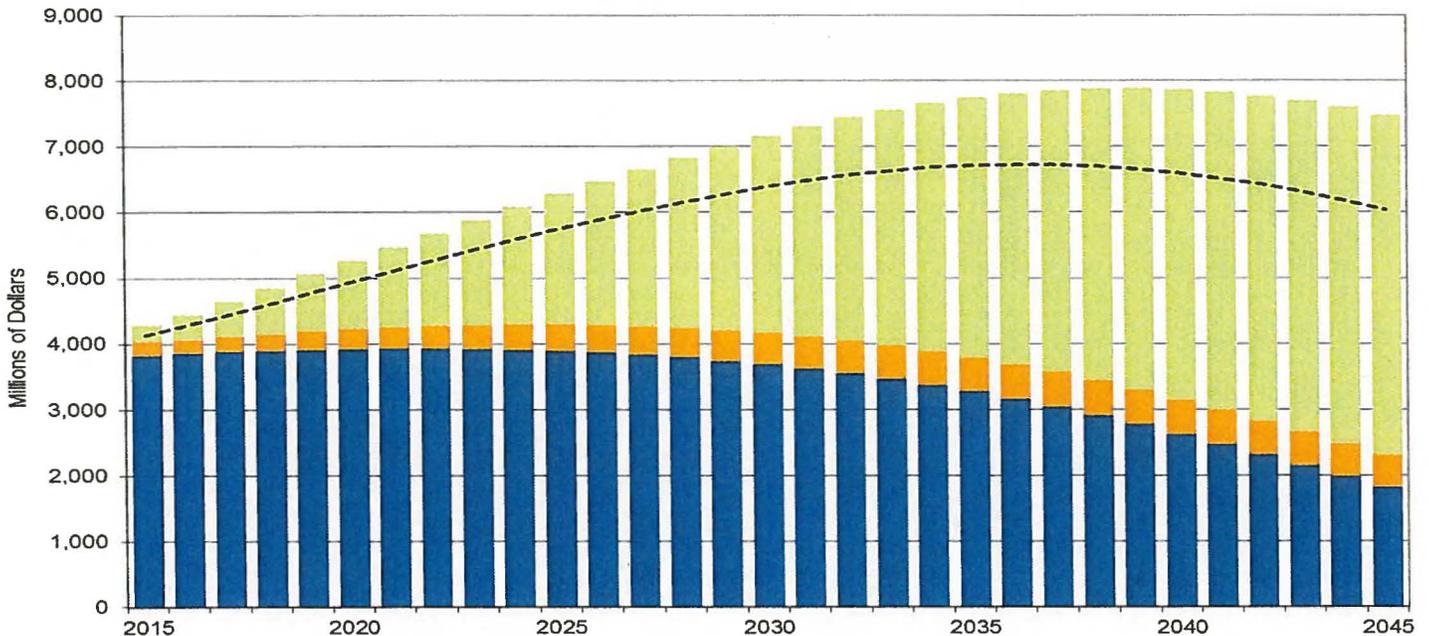
Set by:
PERS Board

Managed by:
Oregon Investment Council

Where does the money to pay for benefits come from? (1970-2014)



What are PERS' projected estimated benefit payments?



What are the projected* 2017-19 system wide employer payroll and contribution rate increases?

(\$ millions)	Projected 2015-17 Payroll*	(A) Projected 2015-17 Contribution	Projected 2017-19 Payroll**	(B) Projected 2017-19 Contribution	(B) - (A) Projected Contribution Increase
State Agencies	\$5,580	\$575	\$5,980	\$800	\$225
School Districts	\$5,950	\$560	\$6,370	\$850	\$290
All Others	\$7,350	\$870	\$7,870	\$1,155	\$285
Total	\$18,880	\$2,005	\$20,220	\$2,805	\$800

* Projections do not reflect effects of actual 2015 investment returns.

** Assumes payroll growth at 3.5% annually based on December 31, 2014 active member census, reflecting proportional payroll composition (Tier One/Tier Two vs. OPSRP) as of December 31, 2014.

Funded status and unfunded actuarial liability (UAL)

(\$ billions)	System wide		As of 12/31/14	
	12/31/13	12/31/14	SLGRP*	School Districts
Actuarial liability	\$62.6	\$73.5	\$37.2	\$27.1
Assets (excluding side accounts)	\$54.1	\$55.5	\$28.5	\$20.3
UAL (excluding side accounts)	\$8.5	\$18.0	\$8.7	\$6.8
Funded status (excluding side accounts)	86%	76%	77%	75%
Side account assets	\$5.9	\$5.9	\$2.7	\$3.1
UAL (including side accounts)	\$2.6	\$12.1	\$6.0	\$3.7
Funded status (including side accounts)	96%	84%	84%	86%

* State and Local Government Rate Pool

Sources of 2014 UAL increase	UAL Increase (\$ billions)
Expected UAL increase/(decrease) during 2014	\$0.2
2014 investment performance below assumption	\$0.2
Moro adjustment to projected benefits	\$5.1
Decrease in assumed rate of return to 7.5%	\$1.7
Update to mortality assumption	\$1.8
All other assumption changes and actual experience	\$0.5
Total	\$9.5

What is the employer contribution rate setting cycle?

Actuarial valuations are conducted annually, but alternate between “advisory” and “rate setting” valuations: e.g., the December 31, 2014, valuation results project what employer rates might become, and the December 31, 2015, valuation will be used to set actual rates. Once employer rates are adopted by the PERS Board (in the fall of the even-numbered year), they become effective the following July 1 of the odd-numbered year (18 months after the valuation date).

Valuation Date	Employer Contribution Rates
December 31, 2013	→ July 2015 - June 2017
December 31, 2015	→ July 2017 - June 2019
December 31, 2017	→ July 2019 - June 2021

Problem: benefits (B) and contributions & earnings (C+E) don't align

Obligations (B)	Amount	Resources (C&E)	Amount
Retired members	\$46.4	Tier One/Two benefits in force reserve	\$23.8
Inactive members	\$4.9		
Tier One - active members	\$13.0	Tier One/Two member accounts	\$6.9
Tier Two - active members	\$6.4	Tier One/Two employer reserves	\$22.8
OPSRP - active members	\$2.8	OPSRP employer pool	\$2.0
		Assets:	\$55.5
Present value of future (PVOF) normal cost - actives	\$7.5	PVOF normal cost - actives	\$7.5
		PVOF unfunded actuarial liability contributions	\$18.0
Total obligations:	\$81.0	Total resources:	\$81.0

Economic Benefit of PERS

Oregon PERS paid approximately \$3.3 billion* in benefits to PERS retired members living in Oregon in 2014. Funding for these benefits came mostly from investment earnings on contributions previously paid by members and public employers.

- The \$3.3 billion in annual benefit payments multiply to \$3.9 billion in economic value to Oregon when the full financial impact of these dollars spent in local communities is considered.
- These benefit payments sustain an estimated 36,000 Oregon jobs, and add approximately \$1.1 billion** in wages to Oregon's economy.
- Additionally, the state of Oregon collected an estimated \$171.7 million in income taxes on PERS retired member benefits during 2014.

* Additional benefit payments from the Individual Account Program (IAP) were not used in this study.

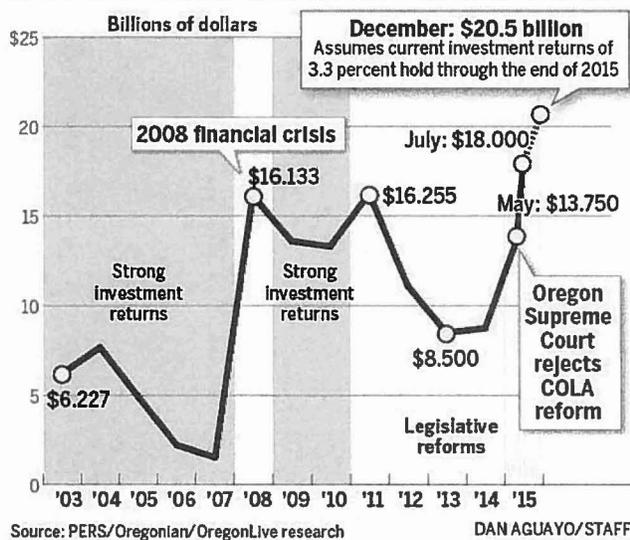
** The \$1.1 billion in wages is included as a component of the \$3.9 billion in economic activity.

Public Employees Retirement System
11410 SW 68th Parkway
Tigard, Oregon 97223

Contact your PERS representative directly or call the general employer line: 888-320-7377
Employer website: <http://www.oregon.gov/pers/EMP/pages/index.aspx>

PERS: Five things to know about Oregon's pension problem

PERS unfunded liability



(The Oregonian/Dan Aguayo)



<http://connect.oregonlive.com/staff/tsicking/index.html> By Ted Sickinger | The Oregonian/OregonLive

<http://connect.oregonlive.com/staff/tsicking/posts.html>

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on December 01, 2015 at 5:00 AM, updated December 01, 2015 at 5:05 AM

Oregon's public pension funding problem is back with a vengeance. The state's public pension deficit doubled this year, and public employers – as well as taxpayers – will see the bill come due starting in 2017.

PERS REFORMS

PERS costs to soar in 2017 and beyond, clobbering Oregon
<http://www.oregonlive.com/politi>

PERS: Oregon's public pension price tag is looking big in 2017
<http://www.oregonlive.com/politi>

PERS reform: What's next? (video)
<http://www.oregonlive.com/politi>

Pension reform: Frustrated Oregon leaders lose their appetite for change
<http://www.oregonlive.com/politi>

Kate Brown demands answers on PERS ruling by next week
<http://www.oregonlive.com/politi>

All Stories
<http://topics.oregonlive.com/tag/p-reforms/posts.html>

It's an enormous tab, with implications for everyone in the state. You can read about it in the **[detailed story that ran this weekend](http://www.oregonlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2015/11/pers_costs_to_soar_in_2017_and.html)** [http://www.oregonlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2015/11/pers_costs_to_soar_in_2017_and.html] in the Oregonian/OregonLive. Alternatively, here are five things you need to know about this looming fiscal mess:

I don't know from pensions. What's the problem?

Government employers have far less money set aside than they will need to pay future retirement benefits to employees covered by the Public Employees Retirement System. Think of the deficit as a \$18 billion credit card bill, with interest accruing at 7.5 percent annually. As it stands, public employers aren't even making the minimum payment, so the bill is getting bigger.

Public employers are required to pay off the shortfall over the next 20 years. So cities, schools, and public agencies are about to see their required pension payments spike. They'll need to tap public budgets for billions of extra dollars over the next two decades.

Why is this newsworthy now?

The pension deficit more than doubled this year due to the **[Oregon Supreme Court's partial rejection](http://www.oregonlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2015/04/oregon_supreme_court_overturns.html)** [http://www.oregonlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2015/04/oregon_supreme_court_overturns.html] of lawmakers' 2013 pension reforms, weak investment returns, and a new set of **[economic assumptions adopted by the PERS Board](http://www.oregonlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2015/07/pers_board_lowers_investment_r.html)** [http://www.oregonlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2015/07/pers_board_lowers_investment_r.html]. Together, they added \$9.5 billion to the bill.

The pension system's actuary has been **[crunching the numbers](http://www.oregon.gov/pers/docs/financial_modeling_11-20-15.pdf)** [http://www.oregon.gov/pers/docs/financial_modeling_11-20-15.pdf] to determine the financial implications. Ten days ago, the PERS Board released estimated payments that public employers will have to start making in July 2017. That's still 19 months off, but it's an \$800 million hit next biennium, guaranteed, followed by even larger increases forecast in 2019 and 2021. The idea is to get the numbers on the table now, to help agencies budget accordingly.

How does that affect me?

Every extra dollar that goes for pensions is one that government doesn't have to spend on services, whether it's education, elder care, prisons, police and fire, etc. School districts alone will have to come up with an extra \$145 million a year starting in 2017. That's the equivalent of 1,450 teachers statewide, or almost 7 school days.

What are lawmakers doing to solve the problem?

Right now, not much. The Legislature took no action after the Supreme Court's decision in May. Democratic leaders says there's nothing on their agenda for the upcoming session. State Sen. Tim Knopp, R-Bend, says he's drafting a bill that offers a number of money saving options, but in the runup to an election, it's not clear Democrats will give his idea a hearing.

What can be done?

Pray for a massive and sustained rally in financial markets, producing profits that can pay more of the pension tab. But the numbers already assume that pension investments generate healthy returns.

If returns can't save the day, two main options remain: raise taxes or cut public employees' pay or benefits.

Unions are backing a ballot measure to raise taxes on large corporations that they claim could raise \$2.5 billion a year. That's enough to pay the pension bill and then some.

Others, like Knopp, would like to see the Legislature have another run at cutting benefits. One big money option is to raise employees' share of the payments. Unlike in virtually every other state, employees pay nothing to support the fund today. Rather, their required 6 percent retirement contributions go into a separate individual account that belongs to the employee. Redirecting some or all those contributions to support the pension fund could raise as much as \$1.2 billion per biennium. But it's a pay cut for public employees, one they'd likely fight in collective bargaining.

- Ted Sickinger

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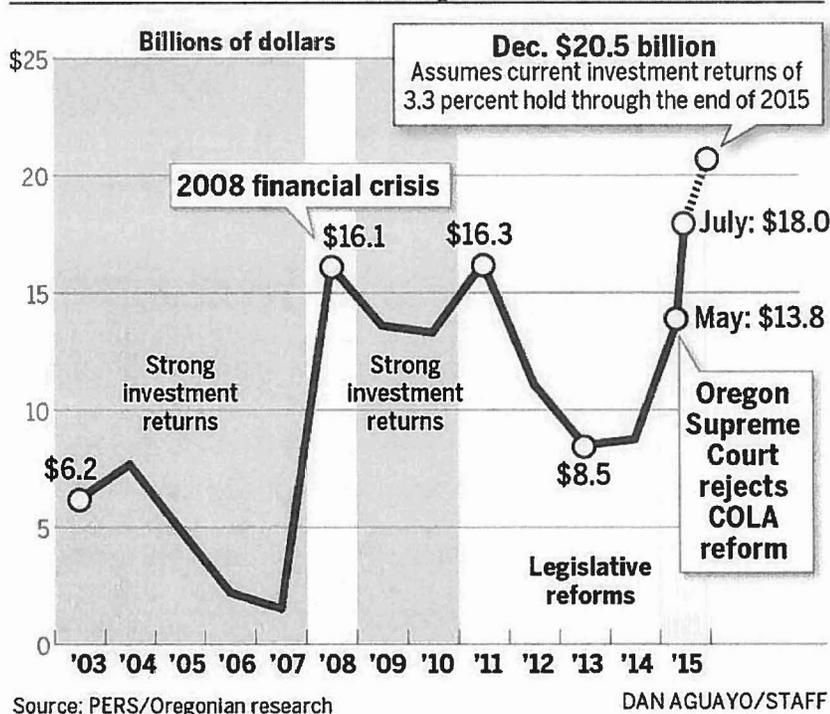
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PERS costs to soar in 2017 and beyond, clobbering Oregon

PERS unfunded liability



(The Oregonian/Dan Aguayo)

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 Email the author | Follow on Twitter [\[https://twitter.com/tedsickinger\]](https://twitter.com/tedsickinger)
 on November 28, 2015 at 7:00 AM, updated November 28, 2015 at 10:44 AM

State public pension officials are holding town hall meetings around the state to warn schools, cities and public agencies that they will be clobbered by an unprecedented string of pension cost increases starting in 2017.

That is expected to be followed by persistently high contribution rates that will strap public budgets for at least a decade.

Blame the Oregon Supreme Court's rejection

[\[http://www.oregonlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2015/04/oregon_supreme_court_overturns.html\]](http://www.oregonlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2015/04/oregon_supreme_court_overturns.html) of lawmakers' 2013 pension reforms, investment returns that have lagged expectations in the last two years, and a number of **changes in the system's economic assumptions** [\[http://www.oregonlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2015/07/pers_board_lowers_investment_r.html\]](http://www.oregonlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2015/07/pers_board_lowers_investment_r.html) .

The result is that the unfunded liability in Oregon's Public Employees Retirement System has more than doubled in the last year and now hovers at its highest-ever level. The last official estimate was \$18 billion. But if current investment returns hold through year end, the deficit will exceed \$20 billion.

In order to bail out, PERS will **need to raise public employers' contributions**

[http://www.oregon.gov/pers/docs/financial_modeling_11-20-15.pdf] to the system by about 4 percent of their payrolls in each of the next three budget cycles. And that implies public employers will need to tap their budgets for an extra \$800 million per biennium starting in July 2017, another \$860 million in 2019 and an additional \$930 million in 2021.

Those rate increases are based on the assumption that the pension fund's investments deliver healthy returns of 7.5 percent annually. But even if the fund generates returns of 10.5 percent annually for the next four years, the initial rate increases "are locked and loaded," said the system's actuary, Matt Larrabee of Milliman Inc.

The size of the financial hit makes it a material problem for every Oregonian. It's billions of additional dollars that will be redirected to the pension fund instead of funding teachers, school days, reduced class sizes, police, firefighters, transportation projects and so on.

Cheri Helt, a restaurant owner and member of the Bend-Lapine School Board, said the last time her district saw significant PERS cost hikes, it was forced to eliminate 100 teaching positions.

"So we're now going into a more vicious downturn and we have not even recuperated yet," she said. "We've never seen anything like what's being proposed."

All told, statewide pension costs could eventually increase by about \$2.6 billion each biennium. That comes on top of the \$2 billion employers are paying today.

"We've never seen anything like what's being proposed," said Cheri Helt of the Bend-Lapine School Board.

Katy Durant, a long-time member of the Oregon Investment Council, which oversees the pension fund's investments, listened Tuesday as PERS' executive director detailed the coming cost increases for a group of public employers so they can budget.

"It's terrifying" she said, adding that there's **no way the fund can earn its way out**

[http://www.facebook.com/sharer.php?u=http://www.oregonlive.com/politics/index.ssf/2015/04/legislatures_inaction_could_me.html]

of the deficit by swinging for the fences with its investment portfolio. "We need some help."

A sustained rally in financial markets would certainly help in the long run. But many experts believe it is more likely that investments won't be as profitable as already forecast. The system assumes annual earnings of 7.5 percent. Returns fell slightly in 2014, and they are 3.3 percent this year.

The rate increases would be far worse in 2017. But there are a number of factors holding rates artificially low. Employers' current rates reflect the money-saving benefit cuts the Legislature enacted in 2013, even though most of those reforms were tossed by the Oregon Supreme Court and member benefits have been restored. The PERS Board also has established a ceiling on its biannual rate increases to insulate public budgets from sudden shocks.

But there's no free lunch. Like skipping the minimum payment on a credit card, they have made the financial hole deeper.

Driving the cost increases is an estimated \$9.5 billion increase in the pension system's deficit. More than half of that stems from the Supreme Court's decision that PERS can't reduce annual cost-of-living adjustments on benefits that have already been earned by members. That erased the lion's share of the savings from the Legislature's 2013 "grand bargain" on pension reform.

In the meantime, the PERS Board has dialed back its assumed investment returns, increased the expected lifespan of members, and reduced assumed investment earnings fall short of expectations. The changes reflect what's actually occurring in the pension system, which leads the PERS Board to adopt more realistic assumptions that exacerbate the funding problem.

The Board has chosen not to address the problem after the Supreme Court decision. And in the run-up to an election, it's perhaps no surprise that Democratic leaders say there is no talk of addressing the matter in the 2016 session.

Sen. Tim Knapp, R-Bend, said he is drafting legislation for the upcoming session that would include several measures to reduce pension benefits and lower costs. Without Democrats' support, however, it is unlikely to gain traction.

20being%
20proposed%

"The Democrats came up with the solution that passed," Knopp said. "I didn't vote for it. I didn't believe it was constitutional and fair. Now that the grand bargain has been undone, we need a fair and sustainable PERS solution, and there are really only a few things you can do."

One is to reduce the interest rate that PERS uses to calculate members' benefits under the money match formula. Another is to create a 401k-style retirement plan for new hires, essentially a fourth tier for the system.

But the big money is in a proposal to redirect some or all of employees' retirement contributions to pay for pension costs. PERS-covered employees currently make no contribution toward their pensions. Since 2004, their 6 percent retirement contributions have gone into a supplementary account owned by the employee.

Those contributions will total about \$1.2 billion per biennium by 2017. Redirecting them could cover a big chunk of the expected increases, or give the PERS Board flexibility to increase them to help cover the funding gap. The Oregon Business Council is studying this option and will address the pension funding problem at its annual Oregon Business Summit in mid December.

But Greg Hartman, the lawyer representing the PERS public employees, said if that's the way lawmakers go, unions will push for higher regular pay to offset the reduction in total compensation. In many cases, that's an explicit part of the collective bargaining agreements already in place.

"You'd see a tremendous push to get that money back into members' pockets," Hartman said.

The other solution is new revenue. Unions are backing a ballot measure that would increase taxes on large corporations, potentially raising \$2.5 billion a year. That's enough to cover the increased pension costs and still funnel more money into schools.

Ben Unger, executive director of Our Oregon, is running the campaign and insists there is no connection between the potential new tax revenue and the looming pension problems. "New teachers, new school programs, new services. That's always been the goal," he said.

Nevertheless, the tradeoff between new revenue and pension reform has driven the Legislature's debate in the past, and is likely to be an active dynamic again.

"They can't guarantee that any of this new money will go into the classroom as the state is dealing with these other issues," said Jeremy Rogers, vice president of the Oregon Business Council. "There are things to be done (about pension costs), ways to deal with it that are legal.

"Papering over it with a terrible tax increase is not the thing to do," Rogers said.

- Ted Sickinger

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Astoria drops below Newport in commercial catch

By Derrick DePledge
The Daily Astorian

Published:
October 29, 2015 10:00AM



Crews unload a fishing boat at Bornstein Seafood Wednesday.

JOSHUA BESSEX/THE DAILY ASTORIAN

Commercial fishing landings slip in quantity, value

Astoria slipped below Newport last year as the dominant West Coast port for commercial fishing.

Newport landed 124 million pounds of commercial fish, the 11th highest mark by quantity in the nation, while Astoria netted 122 million pounds, the 12th highest.

Westport, Washington, came in at 100 million pounds, or 13th highest.

The catch figures were released today by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, which compiles an annual

◀ 1 of 2 ▶

fisheries report that includes the quantity and value of commercial fishery landings.

Astoria had been the top West Coast port by quantity — and the 10th highest in the nation — since it overtook Los Angeles in 2012.

"I think it touches every corner of Clatsop County," said Jim Knight, the executive director of the Port of Astoria. "Every part of our community is tremendously impacted because of the fishing industry."

The commercial catch in Astoria last year also declined in value. Commercial fishery landings were worth \$43 million, compared to \$50 million in 2013.

The value of the commercial catch in Astoria was the 29th highest in the nation, according to the fisheries report, down from the 21st highest in 2013.

Newport also experienced a decline in value last year. The commercial catch was worth \$53 million — 23rd highest in the nation — down from \$55 million in 2013, or 19th highest.

Westport had a higher value catch — \$64 million, 15th highest in the nation — than Newport and Astoria, and was off only slightly from a \$65 million haul in 2013.

Ilwaco-Chinook, Washington, had 27 million pounds in commercial fish landings last year, off from 37 million pounds in 2013. The value of the catch was \$25 million, down from \$30 million.

While the catch figures for Astoria are weighted toward offshore fisheries, gillnet fishermen on the Columbia River, according to Hobe Kytr, the administrator of Salmon For All, continue to be concerned about the policies put in place by former Gov. John Kitzhaber to phase out fishing on the main stem and by bird and sea lion predation and competition from sport fishermen.

The nation's top commercial fishing port by quantity for the past several years has been Dutch Harbor, Alaska. Last year, according to the fisheries report, Dutch Harbor landed 762 million pounds of commercial fish.

The highest value has come from New Bedford, Massachusetts. Last year, the commercial catch in New Bedford was worth \$329 million.

The NOAA Fisheries report found that commercial fishermen caught 9.5 billion pounds of fish in the United States last year valued at \$5.4 billion, down from 9.9 billion valued at \$5.5 billion in 2013.

commercial catch

The commercial fishing catch in Astoria declined by quantity last year and slipped below Newport as the dominant West Coast port. The catch also declined in value.

• Source: NOAA Fisheries

1 Rule of a flat stomach:
Cut down a bit of stomach fat every day by using this 1 weird old tip.

Tip



You asked to see commercial fishery landings for **Newport, OR**

NEWPORT, OR: Landings by Year

Year	Millions of Pounds	Millions of Dollars
2013	126.8	55.1
2012	80.2	37.2
2011	79.0	43.8
2010	57.0	30.6
2009	50.2	30.9
2008	57.8	32.5
2007	64.7	30.2
2006	93.6	33.0
2005	110.0	24.7
2004	111.2	29.6
2003	69.8	24.4
2002	64.2	17.5
2001	93.2	21.2
2000	102.3	24.6
1999	92.4	19.6
1998	117.6	14.1
1997	107.7	20.9
1996	115.0	25.0
1995	112.0	22.0
1994	122.2	19.0
1993	89.0	17.0
1992	24.0	22.0
1991	52.0	14.0
1990	34.0	14.7
1989	44.4	19.2
1988	38.5	24.3
1987	35.9	21.9
1986	26.7	13.5
1985	29.4	12.8
1984	25.7	9.5
1983	28.8	10.4
1982	46.7	14.5

1981	46.0	25.0
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Individual Port Summary

La Pine taxes medical marijuana, but may be on shaky ground



(AP)



[\[http://connect.oregonlive.com/staff/ncrombie/index.html\]](http://connect.oregonlive.com/staff/ncrombie/index.html) By Noelle Crombie | The Oregonian/OregonLive

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on November 20, 2015 at 9:00 AM, updated November 20, 2015 at 2:15 PM

Every month, Randy Huff, owner of a medical marijuana dispensary, writes a check for about \$500 to the city of La Pine.

Huff owns **Green Knottz** [\[https://www.facebook.com/GreenKnottzDispensary/\]](https://www.facebook.com/GreenKnottzDispensary/), one of two dispensaries in the central Oregon community where leaders last spring decided to impose a 5 percent tax on medical marijuana transactions.

"It's really expensive every month," said Huff, who this week wrote out a check for \$511.43 to pay taxes for October sales.

While many Oregon communities are expected to push for a tax on recreational cannabis next year, only a handful, including La Pine and Dundee, impose a tax on medical marijuana. Representatives with the League of Oregon Cities and the Association of Oregon Counties each said they were unaware of other cities or counties taxing medical cannabis.

MARIJUANA LEGALIZATION IN OREGON

Oregon lawmakers hear about pesticides, edible serving sizes and marijuana tracking

[\http://www.oregonlive.com/marij

Growing pot banned within Medford city limits

[\http://www.oregonlive.com/marij

New marijuana rules get tougher on pesticides in Oregon cannabis industry

[\http://www.oregonlive.com/marij

Portland to hold marijuana license workshops for industry

[\http://www.oregonlive.com/marij

Can your Oregon marijuana conviction be set aside?

[\http://www.oregonlive.com/marij

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[\[http://topics.oregonlive.com/tag/marijuana/legalization/posts.html\]](http://topics.oregonlive.com/tag/marijuana/legalization/posts.html)

Such a tax may be on shaky ground legally, **according to an opinion issued this week by the Office of Legislative Counsel** [<https://olis.leg.state.or.us/liz/201511/Downloads/CommitteeMeetingDocument/81641>]. In a letter to Sen. Floyd Prozanski, D-Eugene, attorney Mark Mayer wrote that a state law passed this year doesn't allow cities and counties to tax medical marijuana.

Local governments may, however, may pursue a tax on marijuana sold by retailers with an Oregon Liquor Control Commission license. (Medical marijuana dispensaries are regulated by the Oregon Health Authority.) Whether to impose a tax must be decided by local voters during a statewide general election.

And by law, the local tax on recreational cannabis can't exceed three percent.

"In short," wrote Mayer, "under this provision of law, a city or county is prohibited from imposing a tax or fee of any sort on a medical marijuana dispensary."

For now, recreational marijuana is sold tax-free at dispensaries, but will be subject to a 25 percent tax starting in January. That tax will end once the Oregon Liquor Control Commission launches its recreational stores late next year. Under the OLCC, marijuana will be taxed at 17 to 20 percent, depending on whether local communities opt to add the 3 percent tax.

Madras Mayor Royce Embanks said city leaders approved a tax on medical marijuana last year but later repealed it due to a range of concerns. He said officials worried that if the tax ultimately was determined to be illegal, they'd have to return the cash to businesses, which would be in the position of having to return it to customers.

And, he said, officials were concerned about the implications of taking money from businesses that deal in marijuana, which remains illegal under federal law.

La Pine City Manager Rick Allen was surprised to hear La Pine stands out for its medical marijuana tax.

He said marijuana policies, like taxation, are fluid and evolving, making it challenging for local government officials to keep up.

"People are struggling to get their arms around and elected officials are struggling to figure it out," he said. "We aren't looking to be the poster child for any movement, pro or con, on any of this. We are just trying to manage it."

Allen said the city council is expected to take up the medical marijuana tax, and review the latest opinion from the Office of Legislative Council, at its December meeting.

So far, La Pine has collected \$5,409.76 in medical marijuana taxes.

"Not knowing where this all will shake out we will not spend it on anything," he said. "It's just sitting there."

Matt Toepfer, who owns High Desert Botanicals, other dispensary in La Pine, said his monthly tax bill is one of his biggest financial obligation. He said his monthly tax bill is, on average, \$700.

"We pay way more in taxes a month to the city than we do our own rent and some of our other big bills," he said.

Toepfer said when the tax was initially imposed earlier this year, he talked with customers about how they felt paying the additional expense. He said they were so outraged by the prospect of paying taxes that he decided to pay it out of his own pocket instead.

"We are not passing that tax onto the customer," said Toepfer. "We are eating it every month."

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Our Homeless Crisis: Vancouver allows homeless camping, with ugly unintended results



[\[http://connect.oregonlive.com/staff/agriffin/index.html\]](http://connect.oregonlive.com/staff/agriffin/index.html) By [Anna Griffin](#) | [The Oregonian/OregonLive](#)
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A surprising thing happened when Vancouver leaders decided earlier this fall to lift the citywide ban on public camping:

Chaos ensued.

In just a few weeks, a residential neighborhood a 10-minute walk from the heart of downtown became host to a homeless camp that grew to 150 people. Tents lined parking strips, and sleeping bags, shopping carts, mattresses, coolers, garbage, luggage and bike frames collected on street corners. Armed volunteers showed up to keep the peace.

"As the homeless population grew in Vancouver, we'd been hearing lots of concerns about trash in the neighborhood. It would be so great to have complaints about trash now," said Amy Reynolds, director of programs for the nonprofit that runs Share House, the shelter around which the camp formed. "Now what we're hearing is, 'Somebody is defecating in my yard. People are undressing outside my house. People are having domestic disputes, getting in screaming matches and physical fights, next to my parked car.'

"It doesn't seem like it's working for the people in the tents. It's not working for neighbors. It's not working for businesses. It's not working for anyone."

It also wasn't what anyone expected. City leaders thought allowing public camping at night was a smart, quick response to signs that federal officials plan to crack down on communities – such as Portland and most of its suburbs -- that criminalize homelessness. Advocates heralded it as a step toward new understanding and a more humane, constructive approach.

Instead, they all learned a valuable lesson: Without planning and forethought, lifting a camping ban can do more harm than good.

Camping bans: A common approach

Bans on public camping are the norm in major U.S. cities. **A 2014 study** [\[http://www.nlchp.org/documents/No_Safe_Place\]](http://www.nlchp.org/documents/No_Safe_Place) by the **National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty** [\[http://www.nlchp.org/\]](http://www.nlchp.org/) found that 34 percent of 187 cities surveyed banned camping in all public places and 57 percent banned it in certain places, such as parks. The number of citywide camping bans has grown by 60 percent since 2011, as communities responded to a post-recession rise in homelessness by giving police more authority to move homeless people.

This summer, **U.S. Justice Department lawyers weighed in** [\[http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/justice-department-files-brief-address-criminalization-homelessness\]](http://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/justice-department-files-brief-address-criminalization-homelessness) on a lawsuit filed by a group of Boise homeless people convicted of violating city camping laws. Their take: If a city lacks adequate shelter space, banning camping amounts to criminalizing homelessness and violates the Eighth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

OUR HOMELESS CRISIS

That situation, **not enough shelter beds** [<http://www.oregonlive.com/portland-homeless/shelter.html>] to meet demand, is the reality in Vancouver, Portland and pretty much every other city on the West Coast. It's one reason **Portland's camping ban** [http://www.oregonlive.com/homeless/2015/06/post_1.html] goes largely unenforced, why small tent communities form each night along the Willamette Riverfront, off Interstate 5 and wooded areas along Max lines and the Springwater Corridor. Police will intervene if camps grow too large, too obvious or too unruly, but by and large, Portland officers say they have nowhere to send homeless campers. So they leave them alone.

As far as advocates are concerned, anti-camping laws are actually an obstacle to ending homelessness. Someone who spends their day worrying about finding a place to sleep or a safe place to store their stuff is less likely to find a job. Someone repeatedly ticketed for camping can amass a criminal record that makes renting an apartment, particularly in a hot real-estate market, all but impossible.

The federal government's Boise statement lacks the power of law, but resonated in many other cities as part of a broader push by the Obama administration. The **U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's** [<http://nationalhomeless.org/hud-puts-teeth-into-effort-to-stop-criminalizing-homeless-people/>] updated application for federal homelessness money now requires communities to describe steps they are taking to reduce the criminalization of homelessness.

Vancouver is the first city to allow public camping in response the Justice Department's Boise statement, but likely not the last, said Eric Tars, a senior attorney with the National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty. Anti-poverty activists in **Eugene** [<http://registerguard.com/rg/news/local/33505321-75/protesters-seek-moratorium-on-eugenes-anti-camping-law.html.csp>] have been pushing the City Council for a similar shift.

"The reason a lot of cities turn to criminalization is because it's a way to hide the problem. When the community sees visible homelessness says, 'Do something,' it's easier to criminalize than have hard conversations about building housing and expanding the mental health system," Tars said. "The federal government is now saying that if you choose that route, there will be a cost."

A well-intention policy goes wild

Vancouver leaders were worried enough about the Boise statement, and its implications for other jurisdictions, that they voted in September **to allow public camping from 9:30 p.m. to 6:30 a.m.** [<http://www.columbian.com/news/2015/sep/14/vancouver-may-allow-overnight-camping-in-public-places/>]

"Our city attorney felt it was a wise step to take," said Chad Eiken, the city's community and economic development director.

Vancouver and Clark County have seen a spike in both numbers and anecdotal evidence of homelessness in the past two years. Redevelopment along the Columbia River removed some out-of-sight camping areas. A spike in rents, part of the region-wide affordable housing crunch, has both added to the homeless population and made getting inside harder.

"Many of these folks in that tent city are on lists, they have rental vouchers or subsidies they'd like to use. But they can't find a place to rent, so they're still homeless," said Andy Silver, executive director of **Clark County's Council for the Homeless** [<http://www.councilforthehomeless.org/>]. "Given the housing crisis we're in, we needed to do more thinking about where people camping legally would go."

Federal lawyers say banning public sleeping

Laws against homelessness

Although advocates for the poor say using law enforcement to combat homelessness hides rather than solves the problem, a growing number of cities use legal measures against the homeless.

A 2014 survey by the National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty found that among 187 cities:

- **34 percent** banned camping in public citywide
- **57 percent** forbid it in certain places
- **24 percent** forbid begging citywide
- **76 percent** forbid it in certain places
- **33 percent** banned loitering citywide
- **65 percent** banned it in certain places
- **43 percent** banned sleeping in cars citywide

toilets. Drugs and alcohol are usually not allowed. The [Right 2 Dream Too](#)

Part 7: Generations of federal government decisions add up to 600,000 homeless people
[http://www.oregonlive.com/portland/homeless/feds.html#incart_story_]

Part 8: Solutions to Our Homeless Crisis
[http://www.oregonlive.com/portland/homeless/solutions.html#incart_story_]

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[http://www.oregonlive.com/portland/index.ssf/2015/02/right_2_dream_too_homeless_cam_3.html] rest area in downtown Portland has won grudging support from city leaders in large part because of its strict entrance policies.

In Vancouver, the new encampment had no clear leadership, no clear policies and no infrastructure.

"You have a lot of people there because it's closer to services than where they were camping, so in that regard it's a better situation," Silver said. "But you also have some people who are there to prey on the most vulnerable in that population."

The neighborhood around West 13th Street and Lincoln Avenue was downtrodden before the ban went away. The houses are small, faded and ramshackle, and a few are boarded up and abandoned.

The camp turned a tired-looking neighborhood into a downright ugly one. At its height in late October, dozens of tents lined the parking strips separating houses from the streets, luggage and garbage bags filled with people's belongings, cigarette butts, hypodermic needles, food wrappers, dirty clothes, bags and buckets of human waste and bikes in various stages of disrepair. The crowd tended toward young and rough looking. Police were concerned about the prospects for trouble – for sex trafficking and drug abuse in particular – even before armed volunteers began showing up to help keep the peace.

"We've always had a few homeless people, but they just took over," said Share House neighbor Greta Manning. "I looked up, and my block had been turned into a campground for bums. Who thought this was a good idea?"

The good news

Nobody. City leaders and homeless advocates say the mistake wasn't in lifting the camping ban, but not understanding that simply allowing camping wasn't enough.

"If we had to do it over again, we'd be looking a bit further ahead at what might happen and maybe taking a little bit more time to try to understand what could happen," Eiken said.

In hindsight, city officials say, they could have waited until [a new day shelter](#) [<http://www.columbian.com/news/2015/oct/12/day-center-created-to-aid-homeless-west-vancouver/>] opened – now slated for early December. They also could have worked with local churches to establish, as Seattle has, a policy that would allow faith-based organizations to designate spaces for campers. City leaders are doing that now.

Those are Band Aids, however. The long-term answer is more housing, the same obstacle to ending homelessness facing almost every other U.S. city.

"As negative as this is, it's forcing everybody to pay attention," said Adam Kravitz, who lived on the streets of Vancouver for six years and now runs the outreach group [Outsiders Inn](#) [<http://www.outsidersinn.org/>]. "We can't hide it anymore. We have to look at it and look for permanent changes in the approach."

In the short-term, a well-meaning policy choice resulted in exactly the kind of interactions police and city officials were trying to avoid. Late last week, Vancouver police began warning residents that they'd soon be clearing tents left out after 6:30 a.m. They worked with social service providers to identify campers with disabilities or unable to leave on their own, and those with outstanding arrest warrants.

"From my perspective, on the front end, the lion's share of the homeless problem has fallen on the shoulders of police," said Vancouver Chief James McElvain. "One of the best things to come out of this situation is that we're all in it together now. People in Vancouver understand that we can't expect law enforcement to solve these social-service problems alone, that it's going to take a large team."

By Wednesday, the campers were gone, and city crews driving backhoes and wearing gloves and other hazmat gear cleared away the remnants. About a dozen people received vouchers for motel rooms. Others escaped to a winter overflow shelter that opened Nov. 1.

And some simply disappeared; they went back into the woods, under bridges or to other hiding spots farther from services but also from the public eye.

-- **Anna Griffin**

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