



CITY OF PORT ORFORD

◆ 555 W. 20th St. ◆ P.O. Box 310, Port Orford, OR 97465 ◆ Ph: 541-366-4568 ◆ Fx: 877-281-5307 ◆

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 9, 2019

CITY OF PORT ORFORD TO HOLD DAY OF ACTION TO INCREASE TSUNAMI AWARENESS AND PREPAREDNESS

Volunteers will be going door-to-door on Saturday January 26th, as part of a state and local joint effort to Beat the Wave

Port Orford, Ore. – (January 9, 2019) – State agencies are working with cities along the coast to update tsunami evacuation routes. These “Beat the Wave” maps will be available in Port Orford later this year. In preparation for the release of the more detailed evacuation route maps, the City is hosting a day of action to inform residents of their vulnerability to tsunamis, and gauge their level of preparedness.

According to the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI), “When the next great Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake and tsunami occur, coastal residents and visitors will have 10 to 30 minutes to reach safety. Evacuation on foot will be the only means possible. To be prepared, people will need answers to questions:

- What are the most efficient roads and trails to take to reach safety?
- How fast will people have to travel to beat the wave to safety?
- Will the earthquake cause bridges to become impassable or activate a landslide that blocks an escape route?
- If safe evacuation isn't feasible, what other preparations can be taken?

To help answer these questions, DOGAMI is undertaking detailed evacuation modeling in order to determine the best routes to beat the wave. Beat the Wave maps show areas of expected tsunami inundation, the most efficient routes to reach safety, and how fast one must travel to get there.”

Volunteers will be going door-to-door in Port Orford, asking residents and business owners to complete a brief, 6-question survey about their existing evacuations plans. They will also be inviting residents to the upcoming Beat the Wave mapping presentation (date TBD), where the Beat the Wave tsunami evacuation routes will be presented to the public.

The event will take place on Saturday, January 26th, 2019 from 10:00am to 1:00pm, at the Port Orford City Hall, 555 20th St, Port Orford, OR 97465. For more information or to RSVP, please email hailey@shojiplanning.com or call (541) 968-4686.

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For more information on Beat the Wave, please visit

<https://www.oregongeology.org/tsuclearinghouse/beatthewave.htm>. Funding for this project is made possible through a grant from the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)’s Office for Coastal Management.

Media Contact:

Hailey Sheldon
Planning Technician
Shoji Planning
(541) 968-4686
hailey@shojiplanning.com