



Oregon

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TO: Land Conservation and Development Commission
FROM: Dave Perry, South Coast Regional Representative
SUBJECT: **Agenda Item 6, March 10-11, 2016, LCDC Meeting**

INTEGRATING AND APPLYING NATURAL HAZARDS DATA IN CURRY COUNTY (RISK MAP PROJECT)

I. AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

The Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) recently launched an effort to work with Curry County and state and federal partners to compile the GIS data portions of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Risk Mapping Assessment and Planning program (Risk MAP), the updated Hazards Mitigation Plan, and other natural hazard data sources and then work with the county to integrate this data into meaningful ordinances, inventory updates and comprehensive plan policies.

For additional information about this report, please contact Dave Perry, South Coast Regional Representative at 541-574-1584, or dave.perry@state.or.us.

II. BACKGROUND – HAZARDS DATA

There are several state and federal programs that have been developing new data, reports, and guides that can contribute to the resilience of Curry County. One of the programs is FEMA's Risk MAP program, where DLCD and the Department of Geology and Mineral Industry (DOGAMI) have been coordinating with FEMA to generate a new Flood Insurance Study, Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs), and a Multi-Hazard Risk Report. The Risk MAP project includes mapping and re-mapping riverine flooding sources as well as multi-hazard non-regulatory mapping and reporting. Also, the Curry County Multi-Jurisdictional Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan has been updated by the Oregon Partnership for Disaster Resilience. In 2014, DLCD published a land use guide for coastal communities: [Preparing for a Cascadia Subduction Zone Tsunami: A Land Use Guide for Oregon Coastal Communities](#). The guide will be used to craft land use code changes to address tsunami readiness from a land use standpoint. And last year, DOGAMI published the [Landslide inventory of coastal Curry County, Oregon](#) (Open-File report O-14-10), a new study reveals a significantly greater number of landslides in the area, compared to past documentation. These new reports and data will provide a good foundation for County plan and code updates.

III. CURRENT PROJECT – APPLYING THE DATA

In 2015 DLCD applied to FEMA for additional funding through Risk MAP to bridge the gap between hazards data and county policies and regulation. FEMA approved the application, and this current project started in late 2015. It is expected to finish by early 2017.

DLCD staff is working with county staff to compile existing data on natural hazards into maps that explain the risks, and can be adopted as comprehensive plan maps or zoning maps. DLCD staff will also be working with county staff to draft policies and regulations that reduce risks associated with natural hazards. The proposed development regulations will likely be based on DLCD model codes (i.e., tsunami land use guide, chronic coastal erosion guide), and other information and guidance developed during the process. DLCD staff working with the county on this project includes Steve Lucker, Laren Woolley, Matt Spangler and Dave Perry.

A project management team made up of local staff and officials provides guidance to DLCD staff. A project advisory committee, represented by special districts, businesses, local governments, will host open houses and provide feedback. DLCD will work with county staff to identify options and alternatives and to address issues that arise in the discussion process so that the proposed plan and development code updates garner local support for adoption by the county board.

DLCD will seek funding from the FEMA Risk MAP program for similar projects along the coast, and eventually inland. In addition, this project can be a model that other local governments would use to bridge the gap between data and policy, regardless of whether federal or state funding is available.