

ECONOMIC RECOVERY SUB-COMMITTEE

Report Outline – May 24, 2019

PART ONE: BUSINESS PREPAREDNESS¹

I. Systems & Plan Evaluation

1. Defining the Issue
 - i. What are the primary risks to local businesses due to wildfire?
 - ii. Direct (e.g., property damage, forced closure due to evacuation/area closure) vs. indirect (lost customer base, seasonal impact, long-term shifts in customer behavior)
 - iii. Other Considerations
2. Inventory of Current Systems
 - i. Programs/efforts to encourage business to better prepare for disaster and/or wildfire and its impacts.
 - ii. Technical assistance to make preparations/continuity of operations plans.
 - iii. Federal, state, local, tribal
 - iv. Delivery mechanisms
3. Funding Mechanisms: How are these programs funded? Implemented?
 - i. Description
 - ii. Recent Trends
 - iii. Commentary on Adequacy of Funding
4. Evaluation of Current Performance
 - i. Key Performance Metrics
 1. Particularly market penetration
 - ii. Benchmarks for Success
 - iii. Recent Performance
 - iv. Rating / Gap Assessment?
5. Evaluation of Readiness for Future
 - i. Key Assumptions of Current Systems
 - ii. Existing and Potential Changes to Key Assumptions

¹ Community preparedness efforts cross-cut with all subject areas of interest to the Council, particularly including all sub-sections of Adaptation & Recovery. Ideally and practically, community planning efforts are multi-disciplinary and function at community (at most regional) scales. These efforts take place in the context of general Natural Hazard Mitigation Plans. More specific community planning efforts include Community Wildfire Protection Plans (largely parallel to the Suppression and Mitigation Committee work) and Fire Adapted Community efforts, which typically cross-cut all facets of wildfire preparation. Review of the completeness and effectiveness (and possible duplication/overlap) of these efforts stretches well beyond the scope of the Economic Recovery sub-committee work. It could be handled at the level of the full Adaptation & Recovery Committee, or even as a fourth stool outside the committee structure. This work could perhaps be funded and staffed (in part) by the Oregon Partnership for Disaster Resilience at U. of Oregon. (They have a place-holder in their work plan, which has support from US EDA, for this type of work.)

- iii. Areas of Opportunity and Vulnerability
- iv. Stress Tests (i.e., current systems are adequate until wildfire incidence reaches x level, etc.)

II. Recommendations

- 1. Long-Term Direction
 - i. What are the key elements of an achievable 5-year plan to build adequate systems to mitigate the business risks of wildfire?
 - ii. State v Local v tribal
- 2. 2019-20
 - i. What are the near-term priorities, including prospective legislative recommendations?
 - ii. State v Local v tribal

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PART TWO: EMERGENCY RESPONSE & RECOVERY

I. Systems & Plan Evaluation

1. Defining the Issue
 - i. Many small businesses & communities do not have the capacity (financial, technical, manpower) to recover
 - ii. Magnitude of economic impacts at the regional/community level are often difficult to assess in real time
 - iii. Disasters that don't reach the level of a Federal Disaster Declaration (AKA Stafford act Declaration) don't have access to FEMA recovery funding
 1. No Wildfire in recent years in Oregon has triggered Federal Disaster Declaration
 - iv. Other Considerations
2. Inventory of Current Systems
 - i. State has an adopted Recovery Plan
https://www.oregon.gov/oem/Documents/OR_RECOVERY_PLAN_MARCH_2018.pdf
 - ii. How does fire response relate to other emergency response systems?
 - iii. What economic recovery systems/programs are currently in place to proactively respond to business loss associated with fire?
 - i. Federal, state, local
 - ii. Challenging fundamental policy issue: the most impacted businesses are often those with poor preparation and/or marginal financial positions. To what extent do you develop tools to assist such businesses? With limited resources, it can be difficult to identify businesses "worthy" of subsidy.
 - iv. What recovery systems/programs are currently in place to assist communities recover from infrastructure and other impacts associated with fire?
 - iii. Federal, state, local
3. Funding Mechanisms: how is emergency response funded?
 - i. Description
 - ii. Recent Trends
 - iii. Commentary on Adequacy of Funding
4. Evaluation of Current Performance
 - i. Key Performance Metrics
 - ii. Benchmarks for Success
 - iii. Recent Performance
 - iv. Rating / Gap Assessment? [Given large # of programs that are relevant here, a gap analysis may be more feasible in the short-term rather than an in-depth evaluation of performance of individual program adequacy.]
5. Evaluation of Readiness for Future

- i. Key Assumptions of Current Systems
- ii. Existing and Potential Changes to Key Assumptions
- iii. Areas of Opportunity and Vulnerability
- iv. Stress Tests (i.e., current systems are adequate until wildfire incidence reaches x level, etc.)

II. Recommendations

- 1. Long-Term Direction
 - i. What are the key elements of an achievable 5-year plan?
 - ii. State v Local v tribal
- 2. 2019-20
 - i. What are the near-term priorities, including prospective legislative recommendations?
 - ii. State v Local v tribal

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