

From: Tiffany Brown <TBrown@co.clatsop.or.us>  
Sent: Wednesday, September 11, 2019 8:32 AM  
To: Rizzo, Althea; Soulages, Jeffrey R  
Subject:FW: OSSPAC comments

Althea,

Please include this email from Jeff Rubin in the record for yesterday's meeting.

Thanks,

Tiffany

From: Jeff Rubin <jnrubin@aya.yale.edu>  
Sent: Tuesday, September 10, 2019 8:35 AM  
To: Tiffany Brown <TBrown@co.clatsop.or.us>; Jeff Soulages <jeffrey.r.soulages@intel.com>  
Cc: 'Wilson, Jay' <JayWilson@clackamas.us>  
Subject: OSSPAC comments

I realize this is a belated response to the July 9 OSSPAC meeting. I did not have prepared remarks and most of what I'd have said then would've been echoing the comments from Jay and Chris. I agree with some of the concerns raised by members of the Coastal Caucus and local coastal officials, and forwarded to Tiffany the 2014 final report from the Governor's Task Force on Resilience Plan Implementation. In our recommendations, we called for greater flexibility with respect to urban reserves before and after a disaster, to offer more options for resilient development as well as smarter recovery. We also recommended including demolition of unsafe structures under "seismic rehabilitation" and making such costs eligible for funding, similar to the Seismic Rehabilitation Grant Program (SRGP). Our understanding was that changing the SRGP itself would require a constitutional amendment, but the focus was establishing broader funding eligibility through whatever mechanism needed.

With respect to the public comment in July I see two separate but related issues. As I will not be at

today's OSSPAC meeting, I'm providing my comments in this e-mail.

1) HB 3309 was an enormous step backward that didn't have to happen, but too many of those who now  
decry it enabled – or at least didn't impede – its passage. State Resilience Officer (SRO) Mike Harryman, speaking for Governor Brown, called its passage “a slap in the face,” but neither Mike nor anyone else in the Governor Brown's office lifted a finger to stop it, and Governor Brown's signing statement was nothing short of enthusiastic. I'm curious when the “slap” was perceived. Given the number of legislators who insisted it was “only a mining bill,” dismissing the concerns of those who tried to raise the alarm, there's ample ownership to share. Bottom line is that Rep. Gomberg, citing an undefined “economic crisis” that somehow is tied to keeping people from being killed, pushed a bad bill through but refuses to own the potential repercussions. You can't prepare yourself out of a tsunami, it's either getting out of the way or not being in the way in the first place. Rep. Gomberg, and perhaps the rest of the Coastal Caucus, seem to be betting that they'll be out of office, dead, or both when the next tsunami inundates their districts – or just that people won't remember who made it easier to put more people and resources in harm's way. “Disingenuous” is far too polite to describe the official statements on this topic.

2) Oddly enough, neither HB 3309 nor the official commentary were the most disgraceful item discussed  
in the July OSSPAC meeting. Based on previous meeting minutes and related discussions, it appears that the SRO (and by extension I assume Governor Brown) and possibly OSSPAC leadership believe that OSSPAC is supposed to serve as a rubber stamp for gubernatorial policy. There's no question that OSSPAC members serve at the discretion of the governor, but nowhere is it stated that the OSSPAC itself is supposed to offer political support. As Jay Wilson pointed out in his testimony at the July meeting, the idea that OSSPAC should support the governor's budget is appalling. OSSPAC is supposed to offer its best advice based on the collective consideration of its membership. The governor is free to accept, reject, or ignore that advice, and may discharge members without cause, but nowhere in OSSPAC's charge is there a stated responsibility for political support. I call on

OSSPAC leadership and individual non-employee members to repudiate the notion that they are there to support a specific policy or position based solely on it coming from the governor's office, or to resign from OSSPAC. I further call upon the governor's office, to repudiate this as well.

Sincerely,

JNR

---

Jeff Rubin, PhD, CEM

[jnrubin@aya.yale.edu](mailto:jnrubin@aya.yale.edu)

This message has been prepared on resources owned by Clatsop County, Oregon. It is subject to the Internet and Online Services Use Policy and Procedures of Clatsop County.