



## OREGON SEISMIC SAFETY POLICY ADVISORY COMMISSION (OSSPAC)

### Minutes

**March 11, 2025**

#### **OSSPAC Members Present:**

Tiffany Brown, Chair	Local Government Stakeholder
Allison Pynch, Vice Chair	Public Member
Althea Rizzo	Department of Emergency Management
Jonathan Allan	Department of Geology & Mineral Industries
Todd Smith	Department of Consumer & Business Services
Matt Crall	Department of Land Conservation and Development
Christina LeClerc	Department of Transportation
Lesley Ogden	First Responder Stakeholder
Nishant Parulekar	Utilities Stakeholder
Carolina Gomez	Multifamily Housing Stakeholder
Elizabeth Safran	Public Member
Anne Castleton	Public Member

#### **OSSPAC Members Absent:**

Sen. Dick Anderson	Legislative Assembly Representative – Senate
Rep. David Gomberg	Legislative Assembly Representative - House

#### **Others in Attendance:**

Jordan Peterson	Department of Emergency Management
Lalo Guerrero	Department of Geology & Mineral Industries
Rhiannon Bezore	Department of Land Conservation and Development
Jonna Papaefthimiou	State Resilience Officer
Albert Nako	Department of Transportation
Bert Hartman	Department of Transportation
Don Pettit	Department of Environmental Quality
Mike Korten Hof	Department of Environmental Quality
Mike Harryman	Oregon Department of Human Services - OREM
Laura Hanson	Haley & Aldrich
Josh Bruce	University of Oregon
Mark Darienzo	Public Member
David Edgington	Public Member



## 1. Administrative Matters:

Roll Call & Introductions: At 9:02 a.m., Brown opened the meeting and roll call was taken.

Review & Approval of March minutes: No minutes shared ahead of meeting.

Events Notification: U of O survey: planning Science Communication for Resilient Societies – link sent to Ky (send out after meeting).

Request: U of O: Crescent – partnerships and applications workshop scheduled for June 26 & 27 (forward invite after meeting). Oregon Prepared Conference in April.

New Business: None

Next Meeting:

## 2. Reports:

**ODOT:** nothing to report

**DLCD:** Matt Crall: progress on Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan: FEMA approval every 5 years. Eligible for federal mitigation grants. September deadline. Public review period link in chat. Drafts available online with links to review. Recommended actions, but not local-specific project plans.

**OEM:** Althea Rizzo: OEM, NWS, DOGAMI coastal tour for tsunami preparedness and science. Next tour in June (if funding continues). Launching tsunami debris guidance in April at Oregon Prepared workshop. Updating volcano communication plans to start facilitating advisory committees. Althea is out of office for next meeting – contact Ky. Tsunami alerting – December 5<sup>th</sup> event showed blind spots in many local communities.

**DOGAMI:**

**DCBS:** Todd Smith: Oregon Design Criteria includes structural codes

**DEQ:** Svetlana Lazarev: DEQ team positions are filled. 16 seismic vulnerability assessments. 1 facility phasing out oil storage instead of going through vulnerability assessment.

**Legislative Assembly:**

**State Resilience Officer:**

## 3. Public Comment: None.



#### 4. **Oregon Tsunami Policy History:** Presented by Jonathan Allan (DOGAMI)

Oregon Tsunami Modeling and Regulatory History:

- 1995: first tsunami inundation maps for the Oregon coast
- 1995: SB 379 tsunami regulatory line adopts Prist maps – limits construction of new essential facilities and special occupancy structures in tsunami flooding zones
- 1997-2007: first generation detailed tsunami maps produced for 12 communities
- 2009: second generation mapping. Pilot study at Cannon Beach and Bandon. State adopts 5 local CSZ sources and 2 distant
- 2010-2013: second gen mapping completed
- 2017: Tsunami loads chapter – tsunami design guidance for various risk category buildings adopted 2,475-yr tsunami design zone for the five western states
- 2020: repeals SB 379
- 2021: HB 2605 passed: BCD adopts ASCE TDZ and tsunami design guidance. BCD makes it optional for communities to enforce tsunami design requirements
- 2024-2028: New Cascadia PTHA developed (adoption in 2028); collaboration between NTHMP, USGS, and DOGAMI. DOGAMI is tasked with doing new 2,475-year tsunami modeling
- Concerns with modeling done in 2016 because it excluded a large number of geoscientists from the PNW region.
- SB 379 (1996-2019): limited or prohibited construction of certain types of new essential facilities, hazardous facilities, major structures and special occupancy structures in the regulated tsunami inundation zone
  - Hospitals, schools, police, fire stations, emergency communication centers, jails – prohibited in statute. DOGAMI Governing Board could grant exceptions to the restrictions
  - SB 379 was repealed by HB 3309 in the 2019 legislative session
- HB 3309 (effective Jan 2020): DOGAMI establishes parameters of expected tsunami inundation, redefines essential, hazardous, and special occupancy structures. Prohibited uses become consultation uses.
  - DCBS consult with OSSPAC and DOGAMI prior to adopting rules. Adopt and amend rules for state building codes: new essential facilities, hazardous facilities, major structures and special occupancy structures to be evaluated on a site-specific basis
- HB 3309 Local Government Role
  - Coastal jurisdictions that adopted their own Tsunami Hazard Overlay Zones, corresponding maps, and comprehensive plan policies, continue to apply regardless of changes specified in HB 3309. Jurisdictions without tsunami specific regulations in their land use programs, the changes in HB 3309 will be administered through building codes



- HB 2605 (Jan 2022): ASCE Tsunami loads and effects design standards for Risk Category III and IV buildings in the tsunami zone
  - The focus of consultation is on the impacts of potential tsunami on the proposed building. The department is to provide best available scientific evidence of potential impacts. Determine the impacts and recommend any design or other changes to mitigate the impacts.
  - BCD developed rules: amends definition of essential facilities, adds design and construction requirements of Tsunami Risk Category III and IV buildings and other structures
  - Section 101.2.1 makes these provisions optional for local adoption – adopted by a municipality’s local ordinance to be binding

Liz Safran: Is 2028 when the new regulation will be legally binding?

Allan: All that changes will be the maps – the design requirements are binding right now, but optional. There’s a lot of controversy and confusion – the language in the various revisions of the bills makes it more complex.

## **5. Member Retreat Recap: Presented by Allison Pyrch**

Additional actions we can take – polled priorities to refine goals before legislative session

Code/Zoning Requirements: tsunami code, retrofits, etc.

Life Safety Concerns

Education and Culture

Messaging

Funding

Equity and Inclusion – brought up in every topic, is a piece of everything

EQ Insurance – statewide program, education

2021 OSSPAC Report – Tsunami Resilience on the Oregon Coast

- Support and strengthen use of tsunami overlay zones and evacuation planning by coastal communities
- Continue to improve tsunami maps
- Establish statewide structural load standards for designing critical buildings
- Assist local communities with moving critical facilities out of the tsunami evacuation zone

Natasha Fox: Thank you for noting that equity and inclusion is not its own separate topic, but goes throughout each and every thing OSSPAC does

## **6. Tsunami & Building Codes: Smith (BCD)**



Minimum-maximum: minimum qualifications to build = maximum requirements a local government can enforce

2025 code: update on 3-year cycle

Section 615 of structural code: no option for locals. In base code but amended out. ASCE 7 language in conjunction with the structural code.

Optional use by municipality: section 1615.1, 1615.2 modifications to take out local adoption

Liz Safran: design codes are adopted by state, therefore apply to all local jurisdictions, therefore, if anyone builds inside the tsunami inundation zone, it must adhere to this code (ASCE 7 is adopted statewide)

Allison Pyrch: above and beyond in code – what is the appetite to accept exceptions?

Allan: there is a local amendment request process: zero currently. Looking for legislative action or policy, local criteria that you're addressing that's different than the rest of the state? The bar is relatively high, there's been a lot of legislation. If the legislature has weighed in, the agency doesn't want to overstep their position.

Jonna: if local government wants retrofits, would they need permission from building codes division?

Allan: no, different for seismic retrofit than statewide

Todd to send out code section standards.

## **7. Legislative Discussion:**

Supporting seismic related legislation

HB 2151: seismic risk mitigation fund expanding use.

HB 2152: 2022 Energy Security Plan

NOAA: tsunami work

Allison: ORSAP passed – State Fire Marshall Legal department isn't able to issue badges, but OEM can?

Jonna: OSFM's legal is DOJ (rule followers)

Anne Castleton: if you can't badge, there's no system.

Anna Castleton: CEI Hub

Jay Raskin: Oregon Resilience Plan, Mass Care and Displacement Report observation – schools are naturally used as shelters. Beaverton school district now meets all the standards – 1.5% of construction costs. HB 3707 funds building costs – not read in legislature this session.



- Jonna: State grant to schools – pass bond, plus-up funds for school districts to design large assembly spaces. Trying to get heard in the next 2 weeks.

Jonna: HB 3492 toxic inhalation hazards storage – models what would happen in an earthquake. Right to redact for terrorism and privacy. Moves to DOGAMI. Hearing on Thursday 3/13.

Liz Safran: changes to school bill – funding makes it more palatable but also weakens bill unless funding is widely applied. Is this much better than what we currently have (nothing) or if we as a group would like to see something stronger

Jay Raskin: most districts go through this program for school construction projects – doesn't weaken the bill very much. Support from school districts hinged on funding – big step forward. Directs SRO to meet with stakeholders to work through issues of schools being used as shelters. Local communities must provide shelter, usually run by nonprofits, but makes it difficult to create shelters in the state – standalone buildings can't be used for much else.

Alex Haislip: Education Department – several schools have issues passing bonds. 1-5% can and does have an impact on those projects. Encourage community collaboration.

Seiji: Written legislation and testimony: state agency policy applies to boards and commissions. Engaging with the legislature needs to go through the formal process with the Governor's Office. If an individual testifies or engages in legislation, it needs to be clear that they are doing so on behalf of the commission or as an individual. If on behalf of the commission, need to go through proper channels.

Jonna: Gov's office would like to be informed if OSSPAC intends to take a position on something before approaching the legislature. Budget matters are where it gets dicey with grant funding and the Governor's office.

Tiffany: Explore and vote on initiatives, convene a legislative work group, find members for each issue – write letter, draft, propose to the group.

- Set up a doodle poll to schedule a time for Legislative Work Group Meeting

## **8. Oregon Resilience Plan & Plan for Resilient Oregon: OSSPAC & SRO**

Jonna: Plan for Resilient Oregon Overview

- All hazards plan: people-centered approach to adapt and thrive in the face of climate change and other disasters
- Reflecting the priorities and interests of communities already recovering from climate impacts and working to build resilience
- Focus areas: landscape resilience, infrastructure and the built environment, small business and workforce, social resilience and community networks



- Define resilience for the state, identify the risks/hazards we must plan for, build resilience strategies that cut across regions, agencies, and disciplines, identify existing programs that support resilience, acknowledge gaps and find ways to fill them, identify key partners, identify funding to support new work
- Project Manager and Program Coordinator positions to help with the projects – filled in April
- Concise published plan, extensive references, interactive storymap of resilience, statewide convenings
- Publish/present the resilience plan in July 2026

ORP drills down on seismic, PRO is an all-hazards approach.

Planned integration – ORP acknowledges the areas it could've gone deeper into (communities, personal resiliency, all hazards).

Tiffany: Oregon Prepared breakout session

- Updates to recommendations, talking points
- Create visuals throughout the room with stations for feedback on recommendations
  - Reach out to find staffers for the stations and facilitate discussions

## 9. May Election of Officers

Annual Election of Officers: Chair and Vice Chair

- Tandem positions to prepare agenda – presenters, themes, questions (2-3 hours before each meeting)
- State Resiliency Officer meetings regularly – checking in and ensuring side-by-side work (monthly meeting)
- Coordinate legislative efforts

State agency representation as chair discussion

Vice-chair to chair pipeline: not a rule, but it has happened organically in the past

## 10. Additional Discussion:

Legislative Work Group invitation to be sent after meeting – written testimony can be submitted 24 hours after hearing

**Adjourned:** Brown adjourned the meeting at 11:33 a.m.

**Next Meeting:** May 13, 2025 | 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.