## Oregon Disaster Housing Task Force Meeting

## Meeting Summary – Thursday October 29th at 2:30pm

# Opening Remarks

Chair Kenny LaPoint (OHCS) opened the meeting at 2:30 p.m. Kenny talked about efforts to prioritize housing placement for persons affected by the September wildfire event. He noted that this had been discussed with the Governor Brown's Disaster Recovery Cabinet (DRC).

Oregon Disaster Housing Task Force: <a href="https://www.oregon.gov/ohcs/get-involved/Pages/oregon-disaster-housing-task-force.aspx">https://www.oregon.gov/ohcs/get-involved/Pages/oregon-disaster-housing-task-force.aspx</a>

OHCS Executive Director's Message: <a href="https://www.oregon.gov/ohcs/about-10.000.0000">https://www.oregon.gov/ohcs/about-10.000.0000</a> Director to the state of the stat

<u>us/Documents/DM/10-02-2020-Directors-Message.pdf</u>

OHCS Government Relations: <a href="https://www.oregon.gov/ohcs/about-us/Ragos/government-relations-gov/">https://www.oregon.gov/ohcs/about-us/Ragos/government-relations-gov/</a>

<u>us/Pages/government-relations.aspx</u>
Wildfire Damage Housing Relief: https://www.oregon.gov/oho

Wildfire Damage Housing Relief: <a href="https://www.oregon.gov/ohcs/housing-assistance/Pages/program-wildfire-damage-housing-relief.aspx">https://www.oregon.gov/ohcs/housing-assistance/Pages/program-wildfire-damage-housing-relief.aspx</a>

OEM Damage Assessment Brief – Joseph Murray

Joseph noted that FEMA is working hard to identify and assist applicants who only needed one or two things to finish their application, which has resulted in a bunch of completed applications over the past few days.

The deadline to apply for Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA) has been extended to November 27.

The American Red Cross (ARC) continues to operate three outdoor congregate shelters with about 100 clients, and has about 1200 clients in 655 motel rooms.

FEMA has approved about \$22 million overall, comprised of approximately \$17 million in Housing Assistance (HA), and about \$5 million in Other Needs Assistance. In HA, there have been 378 maximum awards so far, a number that is sure to rise.

The SBA has approved 243 loan applications for about \$28 million – SBA loans always lag FEMA IA, but usually – in the long run – provide more total dollars of assistance.

- <u>FEMA</u> Toney Rainey gave an update on direct housing; he noted that units are rolling into
  the state now, and that FEMA is also looking for units locally within the state. Toney talked
  about the work FEMA is doing looking for sites, focused on areas that are safe from other
  hazards such as flooding and landslides. FEMA hopes to house the first family November
  19 or sooner.
- Q: Asked what this group can do or a local group can do to support that effort.
- A: Communities can identify good sites. Also, encourage people to register.
- Q: Asked about the counties not designated for a Direct Housing Mission.
- A: FEMA is looking at each county on nearly a daily basis to determine the best courses of action for each. Expects determination on Lincoln County in the next few days.

#### FEMA Individual Assistance Application: <a href="https://www.disasterassistance.gov/">https://www.disasterassistance.gov/</a>

- <u>Subject Matter Experts Briefs: DHS Short-term Shelter Strategy Ed Flick and Cathe Guptill</u> Ed and Cathe had prepared slides. Ed expressed his gratitude for what the American Red Cross (ARC) has done. Ed said we're near the end of short-term emergency response. Ed talked about changes coming during intermediate housing, including moving people closer to home and from motel rooms into places like lodges.
  - There was a question about "agricultural workers and materials available in Spanish or translation available: Cathe said that they are getting better granularity on these populations, and ARC has Spanish speaking staff
- Q: asked about people who are "falling through the cracks" outside the ARC system





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- <u>Building Codes Discussion Andrew Stolfi</u>
  - Mr. Stolfi and Alana Cox spoke about what BCD staff are hearing from the field having to do with variances from the code and site-specific issues. PowerPoint Presentation can be found **HERE**.
- Environmental and Historic Preservation FEMA
   Virginia Corbiere Presentation found HERE
- OHCS Legislative Update Nicole Stingh
   Nicole gave an update including information about \$30M Project Turnkey Wildfire Response, Emergency Board \$10M Winter Shelter resources to Community Action Agencies.

#### Next Steps

- Director Salazar announced that this is Kenny's last meeting as he is moving on to become the Executive Director for the Mid Columbia Community Action Council. She thanked Kenny for his work. She is thrilled for Kenny and for the people he'll serve in the Gorge.
- Kim Travis has been named the new Chair of the ODHTF; she'll be working 100% of her time on this effort for at least one year. They also plan to bring on a consulting firm to help out with this effort. Expect more details at the meeting on 11/12/20

#### Adjourn

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