



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

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November 21, 2017

Governor Kate Brown
900 Court St. NE RM 160
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Actions to support resilience of coastal communities

Dear Governor Brown,

In 2016, Oregon's Ocean Policy Advisory Council (OPAC) prioritized four issue areas, one of which was resilience. An OPAC Resilience Working Group was formed to explore the issue, and the group ultimately developed a project with Oregon State University's (OSU) public policy program that asked the program to research state policies related to ocean and coastal community and ecosystem resilience in Oregon and provide recommendations to the Working Group.

At a meeting on November 1, 2017, OPAC heard a report from the Resilience Working Group on its activities. The Working Group presented recommendations from their deliberations, which included consideration of OSU's final report entitled *Achieving a Resilient Oregon Ocean & Coast – state guidance, local action and enhanced coordination* (attached for reference).

The following recommendations are being submitted to you on behalf of OPAC and incorporate issues that are focused on resilience for Oregon's coastal communities and ecosystems and are greater than the specific purview of OPAC.

- Consider resilience broadly, allowing for the discussion to expand beyond the anticipated Cascadia event.
 - We recommend that communications, planning, and actions originating from the Chief Resilience Officer should be not be limited to the Cascadia event, but also include other factors impacting resilience, such as natural, social, and economic changes due to climate change impacts and changing ocean conditions, which are presently occurring.
 - Actions that broadly approach resilience will also benefit planning for the Cascadia event and other priorities for the Governor's office.
- Promote coordination among state and local agencies regarding resilience (broadly defined, as noted above) and increase accessibility of information for local governments.
 - We recommend the Chief Resilience Officer consider implementing an information clearinghouse to provide access to

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resources for local planning and action; and supporting and encouraging the incorporation of resilience into Oregon's Regional Solutions priorities and planning activities.

- Examine state-wide planning goals for opportunities or barriers to promoting coastal resilience.
 - We encourage the Chief Resilience Officer to work with the Department of Land Conservation and Development and other pertinent agencies to examine the state-wide planning goals and address any barriers to ocean and coastal community and ecosystem resilience.

Oregon's Ocean Policy Advisory Council encourages the State of Oregon to consider these recommendations and pursue continued opportunities for increasing resilience of our coastal communities and ecosystems.

Respectfully,



Jena Carter
Chair

Enc.: *Achieving a Resilient Oregon Ocean and Coast*

cc: Mike Harryman