



CITY OF
PORTLAND, OREGON

Charlie Hales, Mayor
Amanda Fritz, Commissioner
Nick Fish, Commissioner
Dan Saltzman, Commissioner
Steve Novick, Commissioner

February 5, 2015

The Honorable Richard Devlin, Co-Chair
The Honorable Dan Rayfield, Co-Chair
Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Natural Resources
900 Court St NE, Room H-178, Salem, OR 97301

Dear Co-Chairs Devlin and Rayfield and Members of the Subcommittee:

We write in support of the continued stable funding for the unique and critical services provided by the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI). DOGAMI is a critical contributor to seismic resiliency preparedness and planning in Oregon and the City of Portland.

Since 2011, City of Portland staff have worked closely with DOGAMI staff on the Oregon Resilience Plan (ORP). DOGAMI's nationally-known experts helped create the preeminent analysis of policy and investment priorities to prepare Oregon for a major seismic event. Their expertise and insights in geology, seismology and potential earthquake damage from a Cascade Subduction Zone event were invaluable to creating this statewide roadmap to preparedness.

DOGAMI provides critical leadership, data collection, analysis and interpretation in a wide variety of geotechnical, geological, seismological, and geohazards information to communities across the state. Geohazards of all types do not respect political or property boundaries. As an entity with a regional and statewide focus, DOGAMI produces better data, more complete data, and more accessible data.

At the local level, the Portland Water Bureau recently executed an Intergovernmental Agreement with DOGAMI to help develop the Water Bureau's Water System Seismic Study. DOGAMI experts bring valuable experience from on-site inspection of major earthquake sites as well as Light Detection and Ranging (LIDAR) remote sensing mapping that will help inform the Study. The research and reports prepared by DOGAMI staff will help us better understand natural hazards with the potential to affect water supply for a quarter of all Oregonians.

DOGAMI provides critical services across the state that help Portland and communities throughout Oregon become more resilient. We urge your support for fully funding the DOGAMI budget so that they may continue to provide these critical services.

Sincerely,

Charlie Hales
Mayor

Amanda Fritz
Commissioner

Nick Fish
Commissioner

Dan Saltzman
Commissioner

Steve Novick
Commissioner