

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

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June 15, 2015

Association of Oregon Counties
ATTN: Mark Nystrom
1201 Court St NE #300
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Douglas County Planning Department comments regarding HB 2633 and SB 94.

Dear Mark,

Although these comments will be directed primarily toward the implications of HB 2633, they also apply toward SB 94 and the position coastal counties and cities may face if either of these bills were to pass.

Douglas County is concerned about the impacts coastal communities may face in relation to natural hazards involving coastal erosion, tsunamis and landslides. Unfortunately, these bills do not address how new rules adopted by DLCD would be implemented on a local level and given the budget crunch most local governments are facing, how they would be expected to pay for it.

It's hard to anticipate the cost of implementing new rules, when we don't necessarily know what the rules are going to be, but if you were to think about each component (coastal erosion, tsunami, and landslides) as individual projects in Douglas County I would estimate coastal erosion at \$10k, tsunami at \$20k and landslides at \$40k to implement.


These estimates are based on work the county would need to complete involving agency coordination, GIS mapping, comprehensive plan updates, zoning updates, Planning Advisory Committee, Planning Commission and Board of Commissioner meetings. Combine each of these three hazard items and you have a project that would cost the county approximately \$70k to implement. I believe this is a fairly conservative estimate.

Without technical grant support from DLCD, funding for these projects would have to come directly from the County. Money the County simply does not have at this point in time.

These bills present the possibility for great planning opportunities along the Oregon coast, however without a clear path for implementation, which provides available funding, Douglas County cannot support these bills.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me at 541-440-6069.

Sincerely,


Stuart Cowie
Senior Planner

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