



# Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

## Department of Land Conservation and Development

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February 28, 2017

The Honorable Senator Richard Devlin, Co-Chair  
The Honorable Representative Nancy Nathanson, Co-Chair  
Joint Committee on Ways and Means  
900 Court Street NE  
H-178 State Capitol  
Salem, OR 97301-4048

Dear Co-Chairpersons:

### **Nature of the Request:**

The Department of Land Conservation and Development requests authorization to apply for a Federal Grant of \$300,000 from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) jointly administered by NOAA's National Ocean Service and National Marine Fisheries Service. The grant would be up to \$300,000 for eighteen months, beginning approximately October 1, 2017 and ending approximately April 30, 2019.

The request for proposals was received on January 18, 2017, and the application is due on March 15, 2017. This grant funding requires state matching funds. Federal funds awarded under this program must be matched with nonfederal funds (recipient contributions or third party in-kind cost share) at a 2:1 ratio of federal to non-federal contributions. The department is not requesting General Fund match for this grant. Non-federal match required for this grant opportunity will be provided partially (\$75,000) through in-kind work of our local government partners participating in this project. It is likely these will be the communities of Port Orford, Newport, Lincoln City, Rockaway Beach, and Gearhart. Their participation will include workshops, public hearings, advisory committee meetings and other tasks related to tsunami resilience land use planning work. The additional match (\$84,285) will be provided by the department's regular General Fund administrative expenditures. Use of existing General Fund expenditures to count as "match" is allowable in this case under federal grant guidelines. No additional General Fund would be necessary. There is no federal requirement for maintenance of that effort.

The match will have no significant impact on budgeted services. The match will come from in-kind local government work and budgeted agency General Fund administrative expenditures as stated above. The proposed project will beneficially impact the agency's performance measures, such as helping local governments to: integrate new hazards information and data into their local planning programs; adopt new hazard map products; develop tsunami evacuation plans; utilize

model code developed by DLCD; and implement land use recommendations from natural hazard mitigation plans.

Part of the intent of the grant is to support a new partnership between DLCD and the Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI) to fund a comprehensive suite of new tsunami maps and socioeconomic (exposure) data products for high-risk coastal communities to assist in their overall tsunami preparation.

The proposed project, *Building Tsunami Resilience at the Oregon Coast through Land Use Planning Strategies*, will serve to increase resilience of Oregon's coastal communities to a Cascadia Subduction Zone tsunami by assisting five high-risk coastal local governments in the development and implementation of land use resilience measures and strategies focused on tsunami hazard. This project will be achieved through the completion of the following project objectives:

1. Develop a comprehensive suite of new tsunami maps and socioeconomic (exposure) data products for high-risk coastal communities to assist in their overall tsunami preparation (DOGAMI); and
2. Assist and support key local government land use resilience work with Oregon coastal communities through the development of comprehensive land use resilience strategies (DLCD).

The outcomes from this planning work will be the implementation of land use strategies, policies, and regulatory standards through local government land use planning programs, based on sound scientific information, that will significantly reduce tsunami risk and enhance community resilience for the five participating communities. In addition, the processes and lessons learned from this project can be applied to land use planning efforts in other tsunami-prone communities along the Oregon coast.

**Agency Action:**

The Department of Land Conservation and Development will act as the lead project manager on this proposal. The requested funding would support 1) DOGAMI's work to create tsunami data products for each of the five participating high-risk coastal communities; 2) small technical assistance grants to assist these communities in the their land use adoption process; and 3) DLCD staff time to provide assistance to these communities in the development, drafting, and adoption of comprehensive plan and development code provisions utilizing the DLCD tsunami land use planning guide<sup>1</sup>. This guidance document provides an important and comprehensive suite of approaches to assist local governments in establishing land use based resilience measures. It includes chapters on comprehensive plan provisions, development code provisions and requirements, financing and incentive concepts, tsunami evacuation facilities improvement planning, and long range community land use planning (relocation) that will be a foundation for the work proposed here.

The products DOGAMI will produce include "Beat the Wave" evacuation route and speed maps, estimated tsunami damage, and socioeconomic (exposure) analyses of each project community.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.oregon.gov/LCD/OCMP/docs/Publications/TsunamiGuide20150407.pdf>

These products are significant planning tools that the communities will use to inform the land use planning phase of this project.

In summary, the proposed project, *Building Tsunami Resilience at the Oregon Coast through Land Use Planning Strategies*, will serve to increase resilience of Oregon's coastal communities to a potentially catastrophic Cascadia Subduction Zone tsunami. This will be implemented by assisting five high-risk coastal local governments in the development and implementation of land use resilience measures and strategies focused on tsunami hazard. To accomplish this work, staff from the Ocean and Coastal Services Division of DLCD will utilize a suite of comprehensive tsunami maps and socioeconomic exposure data products produced by DOGAMI, as well as DLCD's Tsunami Land Use Guidance.

This proposed project fits in with the agency's mission to protect and improve the built and natural systems of our local coastal communities to provide a high quality of life. It also fits into the agency's goals of protecting natural resources; developing sustainable, vibrant, resilient communities; providing integrated and efficient professional services; and cultivating strong local and regional partnerships.

In addition, this project supports specific recommendations within the Oregon Resilience Plan (ORP)<sup>2</sup>. Specifically, the products from this effort will allow local governments to implement or otherwise directly address the following selected Oregon Resilience Plan recommendations:

- Create tsunami evacuation modeling for each coastal community as a base to estimate the likely fatality levels. Models may be used to test improvements in evacuation measures and determine whether the improvements would reduce fatality levels;
- Improve tsunami evacuation measures by further developing existing evacuation routes, creating new routes, better education and signage about evacuation routes, and creating vertical evacuation structures or buildings;
- Use tsunami resistant infrastructure for critical transportation, port facilities, and utilities;
- Encourage communities to develop a tsunami hazard overlay zone and other tsunami resilience provisions related to land use, which could be adopted and used within local land use codes.
- Support local governments to identify key community facilities which may need to be relocated to address tsunami risk. Work with communities to develop local land use policies and strategies to address future relocation of these facilities.

At the conclusion of this project, DLCD will be able to identify ways (as specified above) in which each project community is more resilient to a tsunami through its land use planning program.

No positions will be requested for this grant. The timing and staffing needs of the work in this grant is such that we will be able to redirect existing staff time without impacting other programs.

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<sup>2</sup> [http://www.oregon.gov/OMD/OEM/osspace/docs/Oregon\\_Resilience\\_Plan\\_Final.pdf](http://www.oregon.gov/OMD/OEM/osspace/docs/Oregon_Resilience_Plan_Final.pdf)

NOAA will evaluate this as a single application and award it as a single grant. This grant award will be a onetime award. If the grant is awarded, DLCD could potentially require a one-time expenditure limitation increase. The department does not foresee additional cost after the grant period is over.

**Action Requested**

DLCD requests approval to apply for the federal grant from NOAA described in this letter.

**Legislation Affected**

Chapter 333, Section 3, 2015 Oregon Laws

Sincerely,

  
Jim Rue  
DLCD Director

Cc Matt Stayner, Legislative Fiscal Office  
Cathy Connolly, Chief Financial Office