



## PORTLAND BUREAU OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Jo Ann Hardesty, Commissioner-in-Charge • Mike Myers, Director

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To: **William Chapman, Oregon Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC)**

The Portland Bureau of Emergency Management (PBEM) strongly supports the SWIC's proposal for the OR-ALERT project to facilitate and manage statewide public alert and warning efforts. We believe that this project will:

- Bring a more cost-effective solution for public alerting to all Oregon jurisdictions through cost-sharing and leveraging bulk purchases of licenses;
- Make it easier for state agencies such as OEM and the SIEC to communicate guidance and best practices to both local jurisdictions and the public;
- Make it simpler for the public to sign up for 'opt-in' alerts; and
- Build confidence in state and local agencies through more standardized alert and warning information and processes.

The City of Portland has been using the Everbridge system since 2015 to deliver targeted community emergency notifications in support of public safety, public health, and disaster support missions. It is capable, flexible, and robust software that has served the City well, and we believe it to be a good choice to build a statewide system upon. PBEM, on behalf of the City of Portland, would be interested in migrating to the statewide system when it is deployed, and our Operations personnel are willing to be involved as subject-matter experts, reviewers, or public advocates for this project.

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*Mike Myers*

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Mike Myers  
Director, Portland Bureau of Emergency Management  
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