
Exhibit A: Executive Summary

State of Oregon

ExhibitAExecutiveSummary.pdf

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Oregon's Phase 2 NDRC grant application is the first step in Oregon's long-term commitment to make coastal communities more resilient to disasters and to facilitate their economic revitalization. The two sub-county target areas – Reedsport and Brookings Harbor – have urgent unmet needs as a result of three qualifying disaster events and face very high risk for future natural hazard events. Both communities have great vulnerabilities from multiple hazards, including floods, tsunamis, earthquakes, landslides/mudslides, high winds (that can reach hurricane wind speeds), and wildland/urban interface fires. The ongoing effects of climate change including sea level rise continue to increase the risks from floods and tsunamis. For example, the impacts of climate change have already passed the tipping point into crisis for Brookings Harbor's water system which is experiencing unprecedented salt water intrusion which has made the water undrinkable for most days this year since late July. This community is on the brink of losing potable water service for months every year.

As a result of the declining timber industry and heavily restricted marine fisheries, the target areas as well as most other rural coastal communities in Oregon are economically distressed, with a high percentage of low and moderate income (LMI) people. This steady economic decline has left many municipalities with subsequently declining tax revenues unable to repair past damages from previous disasters or implement resiliency measures to protect from future catastrophic events. Because of the rugged terrain in coastal Oregon, these communities are geographically isolated from one another and do not have access to the infrastructure and disaster relief services available in larger urban areas. In fact, many coastal communities are located hours away from any inland counterpart within the same county.

Every project and program proposed in this application: 1) benefits LMI populations; 2) is designed not only to provide resilience from repeats of the qualifying disasters but also resilience in more severe events and for other hazards; 3) is based on thorough assessments of the risk from multiple natural hazards with data and analyses provided by Federal and State Agencies and subject-matter experts; and 4) provides independent utility and has very strong support from the communities. Oregon’s proposed projects and programs include the following:

Reedsport Target Area	Brookings Harbor Target Area
1. Flood Protection for Revitalization Project	1. Safe Drinking Water Resiliency Project
2. Multi-Hazard Flood Resiliency Project	2. Critical Healthcare Resiliency Project
3. Bridge Resilience for Survival Project	3. Sewer Storm Disaster Repairs Project
4. Water Tank for Long Term Sustainability Project	4. Multifamily LMI and Tsunami-Safe Housing Program
5. ReHome Reedsport Program	5. Electricity Reliability Project
6. Small Business Revitalization Program	

The resiliency projects and programs are holistic and together provide a comprehensive solution to all the major natural hazard threats facing each community. For example, the Multi-Hazard Flood Resiliency Project in Reedsport provides resiliency not only for floods but also for tsunamis and the engineering design ensures that the levees will withstand earthquakes and provide adequate protection for at least 50 years even with continuing sea level rise.

The defining hallmark of Oregon’s resilience strategy is that while one-time implementation of resilience measures will be beneficial to the target communities, a successful resilience strategy cannot be one-time only but must be sustainable and continue long term. Oregon has already made a significant and long term commitment towards this strategy with the Governor’s

creation of the State Resilience Office, starting in January 2016, and the *Rural Resilience Oregon Incubator (Rural ROI)*. The Governor's Office established the *Rural Resilience Oregon Incubator (ROI, aka return on investment)*, to guide disaster resilient planning and implementation efforts in rural areas and to create a community driven framework that aims to help solve local community problems through projects that protect lives and property, advance economic and social health, and prepare for future disasters. The *Rural ROI* is being led by the Oregon Business Development Department (OBDD), the applicant agency on this application which implements state-funded infrastructure and economic development programs throughout the state and administers the State's annual CDBG allocation.

The initial targets for Oregon's *Rural ROI* effort are small communities on the Oregon Coast, most of which, like Brookings Harbor and Reedsport, are subject to multiple natural hazards. A major objective of the long-term *Rural ROI* effort is to provide resilience for the anticipated Magnitude 9 Earthquake on the Cascadia Subduction Zone located just 30 to 60 miles off the Oregon Coast and for the massive tsunami that will follow the earthquake. This event is estimated to result in over 40,000 casualties and many tens of billion dollars of damage. Those most at risk are the populations of the numerous small rural communities that skirt the Oregon coast. These communities lack the resources necessary to put in place safeguards that will minimize the lives lost and the damage each community will sustain in a future Cascadia disaster. The CDBG-NDR program will enable the State of Oregon to implement innovative, long-term, cost-effective changes within these communities to build resilience to withstand the many natural hazards that pose severe threats to Oregon's rural communities.