

FY 2019-20 Direction to Develop

Issue Title: Disaster Resilience

Commissioner(s) Issuing Direction: Commissioner Jo Ann Hardesty

Bureau Directed: Portland Bureau of Emergency Management (PBEM)

Issue Overview and Desired Goal/Outcome(s):

There is no such thing as a natural disaster. Emergencies only happen when natural forces interact with the City's built environment. We know a lot about the hazards we face and which parts of the City are most at risk. But, what are we doing to reduce the City's risks over time?

The City's FY 2018-19 Adopted budget was \$4.2 billion, with capital project expenses at just over \$675 million. Regional government partners also invest heavily within City limits. Much of this investment has occurred in floodplains, on liquefiable soils, or at a building code standard that will render the infrastructure unusable after an earthquake. We must do better.

Concurrently, the City's natural hazard risks are increasing with climate change. In the last three years, Louisiana and Texas have experienced 1000-year floods. Portland's flood plains are mapped for a 100-year flood. The high-water season for the Columbia and Willamette rivers are converging. The water saturation in Forest Park is declining, making the area more susceptible to a fire.

In order to mitigate disaster risk citywide and within a collaborative structure, Commissioner Jo Ann Hardesty directs the Portland Bureau of Emergency Management to develop a funding proposal that will assist Council in identifying at-risk areas, and Citywide policy options and initiatives to address these risks.

Desired Funding Options: New ongoing resources

Additional Requests/Notes: none.