

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON**

**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

Resolution confirming Multnomah County's commitment to the importance of flood protection, community resiliency, and participation in Levee Ready Columbia.

**The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Finds:**

- a. Multnomah County is committed to planning for community resiliency and is a critical partner in emergency preparedness efforts in the region.
- b. Multnomah County contains 45 miles of levees designed and maintained to reduce the flood risk along the south shore of the Columbia River. The levees form five distinct systems: Sauvie Island Drainage Improvement Company, Peninsula Drainage District No.1, Peninsula Drainage District No. 2, Multnomah County Drainage District No. 1, and Sandy Drainage Improvement Company.
- c. The area's flood history provides a dramatic reminder of the levee systems' significance in protecting properties and lives. Prominent levee infrastructure failures necessitate assessment of levee system maintenance and repairs through an equity lens.
- d. For the areas within Multnomah County's planning jurisdiction, Multnomah County is the entity responsible for applying to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for participation in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). In addition, given the County's mission, maintaining the levee system in compliance with US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) standards aligns with Multnomah County's interests.
- e. Failure to meet FEMA accreditation standards would result in areas behind the levee being re-mapped as special flood hazard areas, which would impact affected property owners through imposition of flood insurance mandates and floodplain development regulations. Failure to meet USACE inspection standards would result in the loss of federal rehabilitation money after a flood impacting the systems.
- f. Multnomah County has been an active participant in the Oregon Solutions Levee Ready Columbia process to date. Former Chair Marissa Madrigal and, more recently, Commissioner Jules Bailey have served as Co-Convener and County staff have held positions on the Technical Advisory Subcommittee, Finance Subcommittee, Administrative Subcommittee, Legal Subcommittee, and Communications Subcommittee. This effort has brought together public agencies, businesses, and nonprofit organizations to focus on the condition of the levee systems and taking action toward FEMA accreditation.
- g. Levee Ready Columbia has expanded the scope of work from the original study of Peninsula Drainage District No. 1 and Peninsula Drainage District No. 2 to include Sauvie Island Drainage Improvement Company, Multnomah County Drainage District No. 1, and Sandy Drainage Improvement Company. The expansion to include these districts could bring system-wide cost savings and other benefits to the project. Expansion of the regional effort to include these districts ensures that areas of primary concern and responsibility of Multnomah County are now firmly in the scope of Levee Ready Columbia's collaborative effort and investigation.
- h. In the interest of successfully coordinating planning and emergency preparedness efforts regarding the levee systems on the Columbia River, it is necessary that the Sauvie Island Drainage Improvement Company, the City of Fairview, and the City of Troutdale continue to be active

participants in the project and commit to pay a significant portion of the costs allocated to them under the Oregon Solutions Levee Ready Columbia process.

**The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Resolves:**

- a. Multnomah County will continue to participate in the Oregon Solutions Levee Ready Columbia process.
- b. Multnomah County Department of Community Services will house program staff (~1 FTE) to manage Multnomah County's involvement, including but not limited to, technical and project management responsibilities.
- c. Multnomah County will continue to engage the State of Oregon and regional partners in pursuit of Oregon Infrastructure Finance Authority loan support of the investigatory projects within the expanded scope of Levee Ready Columbia.
- d. Multnomah County will partner financially with the Sauvie Island Drainage Improvement Company, the City of Fairview, and the City of Troutdale by paying up to half of the costs allocated to them under the Oregon Solutions Levee Ready Columbia process for fiscal year 2016 in connection with the studies to be conducted on the systems protecting Sauvie Island and both cities.

**ADOPTED this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_.**

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON**

REVIEWED:  
JENNY M. MADKOUR, COUNTY ATTORNEY  
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deborah Kafoury, Chair

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Jed Tomkins, County Attorney

**SUBMITTED BY:**