



MULTNOMAH COUNTY AGENDA PLACEMENT REQUEST

(Revised: 1/11/2016)

Board Clerk Use Only

Meeting Date:	<u>12/11/18</u>
Agenda Item #:	<u>B.2</u>
Est. Start Time:	<u>10:45 a.m.</u>
Date Submitted:	<u>12/4/18</u>

Agenda Title: **Informational Board Briefing on Levee Ready Columbia**

Note: Title should not be more than 2 lines but be sufficient to describe the action requested.

Requested Meeting Date:	<u>December 11, 2018</u>	Time Needed:	<u>45 minutes</u>		
Department:	<u>Community Services</u>	Division:	<u>Transportation</u>		
Contact(s):	<u>Allison Boyd</u>				
Phone:	<u>503-988-7195</u>	Ext.:	<u>98195</u>	I/O Address:	<u>425</u>
Presenter Name(s) & Title(s):	<u>Kim Peoples, DCS Director; Tom Hansell, DCS Finance Manager; Reed Wagner, MCDD Director; Colin Rowan, Levee Ready Columbia Program Manager; Allison Boyd, Levee Project Manager</u>				

General Information

1. What are you requesting from the Board?

Time to present a progress update on the Levee Ready Columbia project including next steps in continuing the partnership and future governance.

2. Please provide sufficient background information for the Board and the public to understand this issue. Please note which Program Offer(s) this action affects and how it impacts the results.

The County has been actively engaged in the Levee Ready Columbia partnership to improve the levee systems within the County since 2015 (Program Offer #91014). In 2015, the Board of County Commissioners agreed to support the Levee Ready Columbia partnership to certify and maintain accreditation for the Columbia River levee systems within Multnomah County (Resolution 2015-122). The intergovernmental agreements that were executed by the partners of Levee Ready Columbia provided funding for engineering analysis contracts and project management, communications, and facilitation required for implementing the program.

Levee Ready Columbia has completed engineering investigations of the systems and is preparing to enter the next phase of the project. There are several project accomplishments and new opportunities to update the Board on, including:

- The Sauvie Island levee system is nearing completion of its certification process and is preparing to submit documentation for maintaining accreditation with the National Flood Insurance Program in the coming year.
- The Columbia Corridor levee districts have recently entered into an agreement with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for a New Start Feasibility Study to develop project alternatives for modernization of the system.

- A draft bill is being considered for the 2019 Session of the Oregon Legislature to create a new flood safety and water quality district that would replace the 4 drainage districts in the Columbia Corridor.

3. Explain the fiscal impact (current year and ongoing).

An intergovernmental agreement with financial commitments will be presented to the Board at a later date requesting support towards the project for five years starting in the next fiscal year.

4. Explain any legal and/or policy issues involved.

Failure to achieve recertification and maintain accreditation of the levees may result in a re-mapping of flood prone areas behind the levees as a “Significant Flood Hazard Area”. Such a designation would severely impact the economic value and economic viability of protected properties, potentially decreasing property tax revenues and the level of services that the County would be able to provide. Continuing the partnership and working towards a new governance model will help ensure recertification and accreditation in the future.

5. Explain any citizen and/or other government participation that has or will take place.

Levee Ready Columbia is a partnership of over 20 organizations in the region including Multnomah County; the Cities of Fairview, Gresham, Portland, Troutdale, and Wood Village; Metro; Port of Portland; five drainage districts; State of Oregon; Federal Emergency Management Agency; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; and several businesses, neighborhood associations, and non-governmental organizations. These partners have been actively involved in funding and decision-making of all activities of Levee Ready Columbia over the past three years and are preparing to commit to an additional five years of participation. The Levee Ready Columbia program has conducted and will continue to conduct, pending future funding commitments, public and stakeholder outreach to raise awareness of flood risk and importance of the levee systems. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is also providing stakeholder and public input opportunities at specific milestones as part of the New Start Feasibility Study.

Required Signature

**Elected Official or
Department/**

Agency Director: Kim Peoples /s/ **Date:** December 4, 2018

Note: Please submit electronically. Insert names of your approvers followed by /s/ - we no longer use actual signatures. Please insert date approved for submittal.