

**City of Oregon City Floodplain Management Plan  
Annual Progress Report (Activity 510)**

Date this Report was Prepared:	October 9, 2020
Name of Community:	Oregon City, Oregon
Name of Plan:	Clackamas County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan Volume II, City of Oregon City Addendum
Date of Plan Adoption:	Clackamas County Plan: updated March 2019 City of Oregon City Addenda: updated September 4, 2019
5 Year CRS Expiration Date:	October 15, 2022

**Introduction**

The National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) provides federally supported flood insurance in communities that regulate development in floodplains. The Community Rating System (CRS) grades the various Community Floodplain Management Programs and reduces flood insurance premiums in those communities that meet certain requirements.

This Progress Report documents the current status of the Clackamas County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan implementation regarding flood program management. This report also summarizes the City's action plan to minimize the effects of flood events within the City, and lists emergency preparedness events staff continue to be involved in throughout the year.

**2019 Clackamas County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (NHMP) and City of Oregon City Addendum**

In order to reduce the potential for personal/property losses in hazard classifications, Clackamas County developed a Multi-Jurisdictional Hazards Mitigation Plan (NHMP) in 2002. It was updated in 2007, and again in 2012. The latest update was in 2019.

The Oregon City Addendum to the NHMP was adopted by City Commission on September 4, 2019, through Resolution 19-30, in conjunction with the 2019 NHMP update. The City Commission hearing was open to the community and the media. The 2019 Oregon City Addendum to the NHMP has been accepted by FEMA as of September 25, 2019.

From October 16, 2019 to the date of this report, the current CRS annual recertification period, there have been no updates to the NHMP or the Oregon City Addendum.

### **Summary of City of Oregon City 2019 Addendum to the NHMP**

The 2019 City addendum to the Clackamas County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazards Mitigation Plan (NHMP) with respect to flood management discusses the following.

- The City of Oregon City was rated high for probability of flooding, and moderate for vulnerability to flooding
  - The City has not had the resources to assess vulnerability to flooding
- Portions of Oregon City are within the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) – along the Willamette River, Clackamas River, and Abernethy Creek
- Several reaches of creeks are still in or near their natural state
  - Flooding of these areas causes no damage to human development, and may help riparian habitat
- The City has been proactive in mitigating flood hazards by purchasing floodplain properties
- Recent significant rainfall/runoff events that caused flooding are discussed
- 38 National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) policies were in effect as of July 2018
  - (There are 43 NFIP policies in effect as of September 2020)
  - Other City NFIP statistics are listed
- Mitigation activities include:
  - Upholding development code, policies, standards, and master plans
  - Onsite stormwater flow attenuation systems for new developments are standard in part to help reduce flooding
  - The City Public Works Operation Division regularly inspects and maintains public stormwater facilities
  - City or interest group riverbank stabilization efforts continue to take place

A copy of this report is also being sent to Oregon's NFIP Coordinating Official.

#### **1. How can I obtain a copy of the Original Plan or area analysis report:**

All the documents mentioned above can be found online at the following links:

Oregon City 2019 Addendum to the Clackamas County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan	<a href="https://www.orcity.org/publicworks/natural-hazards-mitigation-plan">https://www.orcity.org/publicworks/natural-hazards-mitigation-plan</a>
Clackamas County 2019 Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan	<a href="https://www.clackamas.us/dm/naturalhazard.html">https://www.clackamas.us/dm/naturalhazard.html</a>

Oregon City Resolution 19-30	<a href="https://ormswd.synergydcs.com/HPRMWebDrawer/Record/7852931">https://ormswd.synergydcs.com/HPRMWebDra wer/Record/7852931</a>
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**2. Describe how this Evaluation Report was prepared and how it was submitted to the governing body, released to the media and made available to the public:**

This annual progress report was prepared utilizing the guidelines contained in the 2017 CRS Coordinator's Manual, Section 510, Floodplain Management Planning. This report will be presented to the City Commission of Oregon City at a hearing before the end of the 2020 calendar year. City Commission hearings are open to the public, publicized to the media and to the community, and they become part of the City Commission meeting record which is available to the public on the city's website at <https://www.orcity.org/meetings>.

**3. Provide a description of the implementation of each recommendation or action item in the action plan or area analysis report, including a statement on how the project was implemented or not implemented during the previous year:**

The following goals have been established to minimize the effects of flood events within Oregon City. A status of each goal's implementation is also provided below:

Mitigation Action Item	Ideas for Implementation	Status
Promote the use of naturally flood prone open space or wetlands as flood storage areas.	Develop and implement flood protection alternatives for properties within and adjacent to the 100-year floodplain considering City codes related to the floodplain.	Achievable through implementation of Oregon City Municipal Code. Existing Code includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Chapter 17.42, Flood Management Overlay District, establishes standards and restrictions for development in the floodplain</li><li>• Chapter 15.48, Grading, Filling and Excavating, requires permitting when grading will divert existing drainage courses</li><li>• Chapter 13.12, Stormwater Management, minimizes runoff rates to channels and rivers that are subject to flooding</li></ul>

Mitigation Action Item	Ideas for Implementation	Status
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stormwater and Grading Design Standards updates were finalized March 2020. The Standards are used to guide development in the City. The Manual is available online at: <a href="https://www.orcity.org/sites/default/files/fileattachments/public_works/page/4224/stormwater_standards_2020_final.pdf">https://www.orcity.org/sites/default/files/fileattachments/public_works/page/4224/stormwater_standards_2020_final.pdf</a></li> </ul> <p>Changes to the Stormwater and Grading Design Standards Manual clarified the definitions of design flood elevation and the stormwater treatment methodology that includes language about sites within the 100-year floodplain.</p> <p>Processes are ongoing</p>
Continue to implement and enhance the public education program regarding flooding.	<p>Community-wide dissemination of information through the City's newsletter (Trail News) and the City's website:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote purchase of floodplain insurance</li> <li>• Use GIS database to identify property owners in flood prone areas and target for group mailing</li> <li>• Distribute flood preparedness information</li> </ul>	<p>The City updated our pamphlet entitled Protect Life and Property from Flood Damage and mailed it to all property owners / occupants in the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) in September 2020. The pamphlet provides information about the City's CRS status, protecting life and property from floods, flood insurance, etc. The City also publishes flood-preparedness or related articles in the quarterly publication Trail News which is mailed to all postal customers in the Oregon City zip code.</p> <p>Processes are ongoing</p>

Mitigation Action Item	Ideas for Implementation	Status
Maintain and clean City stormwater conveyance systems	Regular responsibility of the Public Works Operations Department, specifically the Operations Supervisor for Stormwater Management	<p>Identify problems and conduct regular stormwater collection system maintenance, NPDES and Oregon DEQ surface water sampling, emergency erosion control, drainage ditch cleaning and mowing, pipe cleaning and repair, detention basin maintenance, creek and stream repair, catch basin cleaning and repair, leaf sweeps, and cross-connection inspections</p> <p>Processes are ongoing</p>
Clackamas County Community Emergency Notifications System (CENS)	System in place since August 2018 to send voice, text, and email alerts to community members.	<p>Citizens can take part via this website:</p> <p><a href="https://www.clackamas.us/dm/publicalerts">https://www.clackamas.us/dm/publicalerts</a></p>
Continue participating in the National Flood Insurance Program and develop strategies to reduce property damage and related financial impacts due to flooding.	<p>Continue to develop strategies to improve the city's current rating in the National Flood Insurance Program's Community Rating System and Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan Addendum 47 for Oregon City</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to analyze each property in the floodplain;</li> <li>• Identify appropriate mitigation activities for repetitive flood properties;</li> <li>• Explore options for incentives to encourage property owners to engage in mitigation.</li> </ul>	<p>The City's Land Development Regulations prohibit new construction in the SFHA.</p> <p>Oregon City has one remaining repetitive flood loss property within its jurisdiction. It is a business that continues to operate successfully. A letter is sent annually to this property and its neighbors advising them how to prepare for floods. In addition, we advise property owners to check for water entry points, advise them how to avoid sewer backups, advise them of opportunities to retrofit their buildings and to elevate their homes / businesses above base flood level elevations, and advise them that if they don't already have flood insurance to consider acquiring it.</p> <p>Processes are ongoing</p>

**4. Discuss why any objectives were not reached or why implementation is behind schedule:**

Not applicable/ongoing processes

**5. What are recommendations for New Projects or Other Recommendations?**

In addition to the Oregon City Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan Addendum, other activities that Oregon City staff and leadership do encourage effective floodplain education and management. Some of these are listed below.

- Oregon City staff participate in the Regional Disaster Preparedness Organization (RDPO), regional group focused on strategic and coordinated planning, training and exercising, investment in technology and specialized equipment in preparation for disaster preparedness throughout the Portland Metropolitan Region. Public Works staff represent the City for the group and monitor group activities. For more information, see:  
<https://rdpo.net/>
- Attend stormwater conference – Mid-Willamette Erosion Control & Stormwater Management Summit 2020 – which regarded the latest BMPs and technology in part to effect better flood control as influenced by stormwater conveyance system design and maintenance and integrated watershed planning.
- City staff are active with and attend the regularly-scheduled Cities Emergency Manager's meetings and the Regional Emergency Management Group. Staff have attended at least five meeting within the last CRS annual recertification cycle.
- City staff participate in Oregon Association of Clean Water Agencies activities quarterly
- Staff regularly participate in the Emergency Preparedness Committee of the Regional Water Providers Consortium. This group is more focused on water supply but flooding and water supply very much overlap. This same group mobilizes because they focus on river levels and impacts to water intake structures.
- Portland Area Capabilities Exercise – City participation in-process (exercise delayed due to COVID-19)