

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF GEOLOGY AND MINERAL INDUSTRIES

Vicki S. McConnell, State Geologist

Evidence of the last great subduction zone earthquake can be seen at Youngs Bay near Astoria

NEWS RELEASE: February 16, 2010

Report released on tsunami evacuation building workshop

Portland, Oregon: The Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI) has released **Open-File Report O-10-02, Tsunami Evacuation Building Workshop, September 28-29, 2009, Cannon Beach, Seaside, and Portland, Oregon.**

On September 28th and 29th, 2009, the Cascadia Region Earthquake Workgroup held the first ever regional workshop that addressed tsunami vertical evacuation as a new means to protect people and improve community recovery. This two-day workshop included participants from the Pacific Northwest, California, Hawaii and British Columbia.

Oregon Senate President Peter Courtney welcomed the workshop participants and said, "The Oregon coast has done much to prepare for a tsunami, but there are parts of the coast that lack high ground for safe evacuation. In these and other highly populated areas tsunami evacuation buildings are a critical alternative."

A policy session at the workshop included panelists from the Governor's office, congressional representatives, the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the National Weather Service, and participants agreed that vertical evacuation options should be adopted.

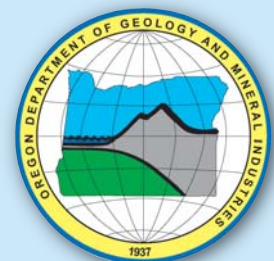
A design team for the proposed Cannon Beach City Hall Tsunami Evacuation Building unveiled a conceptual design, with the possible goal of constructing the proposed Tsunami Evacuation Building by March 2014, the 50th anniversary of the 1964 magnitude 9.2 Alaskan earthquake that claimed 5 lives in Oregon from the distant tsunami.

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Conceptual drawing of proposed City Hall and tsunami evacuation building for Cannon Beach.



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Jay Raskin, design team member, architect and former mayor of Cannon Beach said, "We need to expand the escape options to get people to safety in the event of a tsunamis, and tsunami evacuation buildings are one important option."

Identification of the need for a regional strategic tsunami evacuation building siting study along the Cascadia margin was also discussed.

Sponsors included the Cascadia Region Earthquake Workgroup, the City of Cannon Beach, the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development, the American Society of Civil Engineers, Oregon Emergency Management, the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries, and the Western States Seismic Policy Council.

Open-File Report O-10-02, Tsunami Evacuation Building Workshop, September 28-29, 2009, Cannon Beach, Seaside, and Portland, Oregon can be purchased on CD-ROM for \$15 from the Nature of the Northwest Information Center (NNW), 800 NE Oregon Street, Suite 965, Portland, Oregon, 97232. You may also call NNW at (971) 673-2331 or order online at <http://www.naturenw.org>. There is a \$4 shipping and handling charge for all mailed items.

The mission of the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries is to provide earth science information and regulation to make Oregon safe and prosperous.

Learn more about Oregon's fascinating geology by going online at: <http://www.OregonGeology.org>

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