



# Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Department of Land Conservation and Development

Oregon Coastal Management Program

810 SW Alder Street, Suite B

Newport, OR 97365

[www.oregon.gov/LCD](http://www.oregon.gov/LCD)



April 30, 2019

Mayor Matt Brown  
698 Pacific Way  
PO Box 2510  
Gearhart, OR 97138

Dear Mayor Brown,

We appreciate the opportunity to submit this letter of support and commendation for the City of Gearhart's efforts to become a more resilient community. The City of Gearhart is a highly valued partner of the Oregon Coastal Management Program and a leader amongst Oregon's coastal communities in planning for a Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake and tsunami. We laud the city for its efforts to implement a robust citizen education and engagement process to elicit feedback on whether to rebuild and relocate the Gearhart fire station, not only to rebuild an essential community asset for day-to-day functionality, but also to assess its exposure to a local tsunami and build more resiliently. We look forward to continued collaboration with the city on this project, as well as other planning and community development endeavors to address natural hazard risks.

After several months of collecting community feedback on three proposed fire station locations, it is our understanding that the Highpoint location is the community choice. This location is the most tsunami-resilient location of the three and we support the city's efforts to move forward with this location. A location above 50 feet in elevation in Gearhart is above the "large" tsunami scenario as modeled by the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries. The large scenario represents 95% of the variability of the next subduction zone earthquake and tsunami event, which means that it is likely that a tsunami in Gearhart will be that level of tsunami inundation or less. We are hopeful that by building a new fire station above 50 feet in elevation, the new building will be a community resource for recovery and resiliency after such an event.

Thank you for the opportunity to be part of this important community decision. We applaud the city's efforts to understand and mitigate for local tsunami risks and will continue to partner with the city on this and other efforts moving forward.

Sincerely,

Meg Reed, Coastal Shores Specialist  
Oregon Coastal Management Program  
Department of Land Conservation and Development

## Cheryl Lund

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**From:** Carole Connell  
**Sent:** Friday, May 17, 2019 2:25 PM  
**To:** 'Cheryl Lund'; Krysti Ficker  
**Subject:** FW: Gearhart tsunami map for THOZ  
**Attachments:** GearhartTsunamiTaxlotImpacts.pdf; DLCD\_Gearhart\_supportletter.pdf

These also go in the Council packet next week, including the email explanation below.

Thanks!

Carole

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**From:** Reed, Meg [mailto:meg.reed@state.or.us]  
**Sent:** Monday, May 06, 2019 11:59 AM  
**To:** 'Chad Sweet'; 'Carole Connell'  
**Subject:** Gearhart tsunami map for THOZ

Hi Chad and Carole,

At the City Council meeting a couple of weeks ago, a few people had mentioned that they would like to see the small tsunami zone on the tax lot map we had made for the City. That is attached. The legend of this map has also been updated to show that the XL and XXL are the same zone.

Also, I just wanted to mention that I got a phone call from Stuart Schultz(?) this morning to correct me about the support letter I sent to the City last week. I had said that above 50ft would be outside of the Large tsunami scenario and that is not always the case in Gearhart. The high point station is at 62ft and that is above the large. I think generally, the sentiment of the letter is correct, but I just wanted to bring to your attention in case the issue comes up again. The high point station is above the large, but the elevation is not 50ft. I apologize for the mistake and if you want me to correct the letter I will.

Thanks,  
Meg



**Meg Reed**

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