



March 4, 2025

**Clackamas County Board of Commissioners  
Policy Position  
Relating to the Office of Resilience and Emergency Management**

**Clackamas County supports HB 2346**, which officially creates the Office of Resilience and Emergency Management (OREM) within the Oregon Department of Human Services as a necessary resource to support disaster survivors.

The OREM was established during the 2020 wildfires to address mass care, emergency evacuation, and other critical needs in Oregon's impacted communities. Pursuant to the fires, OREM provided long-term Disaster Case Managers to access and coordinate services on behalf of survivors in Clackamas County. Building on this success, OREM has supported Clackamas County on several other occasions:

- In 2022, OREM assisted with disaster case management for individuals who lost structures in the McIver Fire and Public Safety Power Shut Off. It also assisted county staff with information and outreach to vulnerable individuals dependent on medical devices.
- In 2023, OREM activated 211 information during three county fires.
- In 2024, OREM provided dynamic support during a major ice event, staffing warming shelters, delivering food and water to people without power on Mt. Hood, and providing a generator to an assisted living facility in Sandy to prevent the displacement of 60 residents.
- In 2024, OREM provided a ride share program and shelter staffing during an excessive heat event.
- In 2025, OREM activated 211 to address community inquiries regarding extended fire activity at the former Blue Heron Paper Mill in Oregon City.

Formalizing the Office of Resilience and Emergency Management under the Department of Human Services will ensure continued care and recovery for individuals impacted by a disaster. Successful recovery ensures that we will emerge from any threat or hazard stronger and positioned to meet the needs of the future.

**We urge a "YES" vote on HB 2346.**

Please contact Trent Wilson ([twilson2@clackamas.us](mailto:twilson2@clackamas.us)) for more information.