



September 5th, 2025

To | Coburg Heritage Partners
From | Institute for Policy Research and Engagement – Heritage Resilience Project Team
SUBJECT | **HERITAGE RESOURCE DISASTER RESILIENCE – PROJECT DELIVERABLE SUMMARY**

INTRODUCTION

The following memo provides a summary of project deliverables for the Coburg Heritage Resource Disaster Resilience project. This project is a partnership between the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) Oregon Heritage Program, the Institute for Policy Research and Engagement (IPRE) at the University of Oregon (UO), the City of Coburg, and the Coburg Heritage organizations and partners. This project is part of a larger effort to create heritage disaster resilience plans for communities with a demonstrated commitment to heritage across Oregon, including Salem, Bend, Astoria, Albany, and Coos Bay. This project is funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP).

The Coburg Heritage Resource Disaster Resilience project builds from a pilot project with the All-Star Heritage Community of Cottage Grove, which occurred in 2019-2020, and shaped the Oregon Heritage Guidebook on Community Disaster Resilience Planning for Heritage Resources released in 2021. The Cottage Grove pilot and statewide guidebook have received both state and federal awards, including the Award of Excellence from the American Association of State and Local History (AASLH). Example plans from Cottage Grove, general disaster resilience resources, and the guidebook can be found at: <https://www.oregon.gov/oprd/oh/pages/disasterprep.aspx>

PROJECT DELIVERABLES

The Coburg Heritage Resource Disaster Resilience project seeks to research, inventory, and identify actions to increase the disaster resilience of heritage and cultural resources in the community of Coburg. Specific project deliverables will include:

1. Communitywide heritage resource disaster resilience plan; and
2. Technical assistance to heritage partners

Communitywide Heritage Resource Disaster Resilience Plan

A communitywide heritage resource disaster resilience plan is intended to address gaps in planning, policy, and practices related to the protection of heritage resources from natural and human-caused disasters. A community-wide models offers a chance to work together to address shared needs and mitigate strain on staff and volunteer time.

This plan is intended to document the planning process and act as a reference document for implementation as well as source material for future grant applications or technical assistance programs. Specifically, this plan has two major components:

1. **Heritage and Cultural Resource Vulnerability Assessment** which compiles a working inventory of resources in Coburg and assesses their vulnerability to natural and human-caused disasters; and
2. **A Resilience Strategy** that details the community's goals and objectives to address resource vulnerabilities.

[Appendix A](#). provides a sample plan outline for additional detail.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The IPRE project team will provide technical assistance via access to tools, including templates and resource guides on disaster preparedness, response, and recovery, and invitation to two workshop opportunities including:

- **Disaster Resilience Workshop** – (Schedule TDB) IPRE will convene project partners for a 90–120-minute workshop. Past workshop agendas have included informational sessions with local experts, local coordination, asset mapping, and disaster table-top exercises. The workshop will be scheduled at a local venue.
- **Strategic Doing Workshop** – (Nov 2025 or Jan 2026) Partners will be invited to an optional training on building collaborative work groups. This training can be used to support future implementation of the Coburg Heritage Resource Disaster Resilience Plan as well as provide general training for how to put ideas into action using a collaborative model. The workshop will include participants from across IPRE's partner network.

NEXT STEPS

Additional project questions can be directed to:

- Melissa Graciosa, IPRE Project Director, by email at mgracios@uoregon.edu
- Amanda Ferguson, IPRE Technical Advisor, afergu8@uoregon.edu, or
- Kuri Gill, Oregon Heritage Grants and Outreach Coordinator, by email at kuri.gill@opr.gov.

APPENDIX A: EXAMPLE REPORT TEMPLATE

The **Executive Summary** summarizes the key project takeaways and resilience strategy.

Chapter 1: Background describes the project purpose, includes key definitions, outlines the community importance of heritage resources, and describes why disaster resiliency planning for these resources is important.

Chapter 2: Policy & Planning Framework reviews the planning requirements for heritage resources at the federal, state, and local level. Chapter 2 also details where heritage resources are discussed in local plans, policy, or programs and to what extent these plans make connections between heritage resources and disaster resilience.

Chapter 3: Community Heritage Profile outlines the community's historic preservation program, current designations, provides a summary of known heritage and cultural organizations, and describes the types of heritage resources present in the community. This chapter may include visualizations of the resource inventory, such as maps, and findings from the community survey.

Chapter 4: Heritage Resources Vulnerability Assessment identifies natural and human-caused hazards that impact heritage resources. The chapter draws on the risk assessment included in the local Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan, engagement with the project stakeholders, and results from community engagement. Where possible, past disaster events and (potential) impacts to heritage resources are described. The chapter concludes with a discussion of heritage resource vulnerabilities. This chapter includes natural hazard maps.

Chapter 5: Resilience Strategies chapter describes the project team's resilience recommendations to partners. The recommendations are organized under plan goals, each with proposed strategies and ideas for implementation.

Chapter 6: Implementation details final recommendations and next steps to heritage resource partners on plan adoption, defining roles in collaboration, and setting up structures and processes to monitor progress on goals.

(Potential) Appendices:

- Background research on community history and current demographics
- Meeting agendas and materials
- Outreach event agendas, materials, and summary outcomes
- Interview scripts and summaries
- Community survey instrument and results