



# FLOODPLAIN RESILIENCE PROJECT FOCUS GROUP

June 8, 2022

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Consulting

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Central City, River and Environmental  
Planning Manager, BPS



THE BUREAU OF  
**PLANNING &  
SUSTAINABILITY**

# Welcome!

Please share:

- **Name**
- **Pronouns**
- **Access needs?**
- ***What is your favorite body of water and why?***

# Ground Rules

Mute yourself unless speaking

Share the mic

Lead with curiosity

Commit to confidentiality when applicable

Speak from your own experience

Honor every person's access needs

# Session Expectations

Turn your **camera on** (we'd love to see your face!)

Actively participate; **contribute to the discussion at least two times** during the 90-minute session

Be present during the entire session; **please do not leave and re-enter** unless you are experiencing technical difficulties

# Purpose and Goals

Introduce BPS and Floodplain Resilience Plan/Project

**Solicit your feedback** about the Plan, and potential resources to help mitigate flood risks

**Establish relationships** with community members and become a trusted partner in disaster preparedness

# Agenda

- I. Background
- II. Floodplain Resilience Plan Proposals
- III. Facilitated Discussion

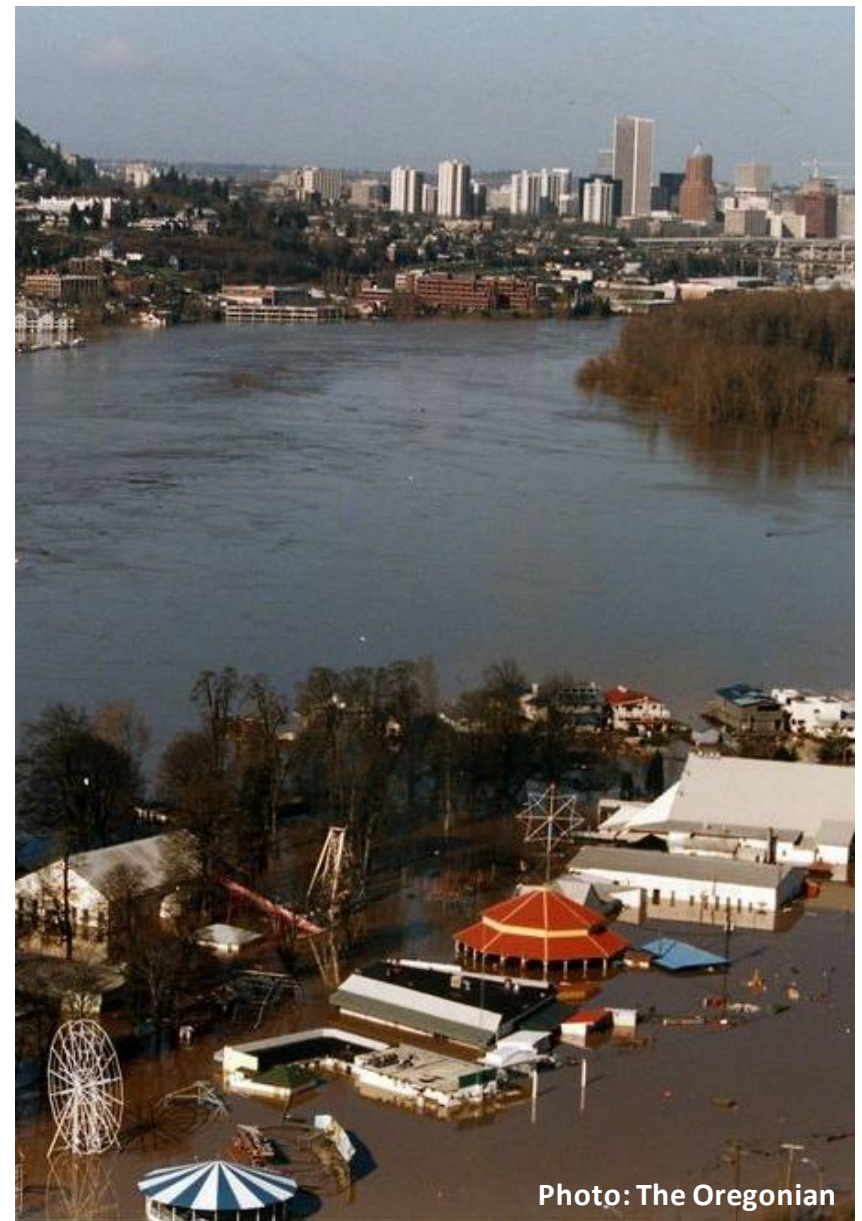
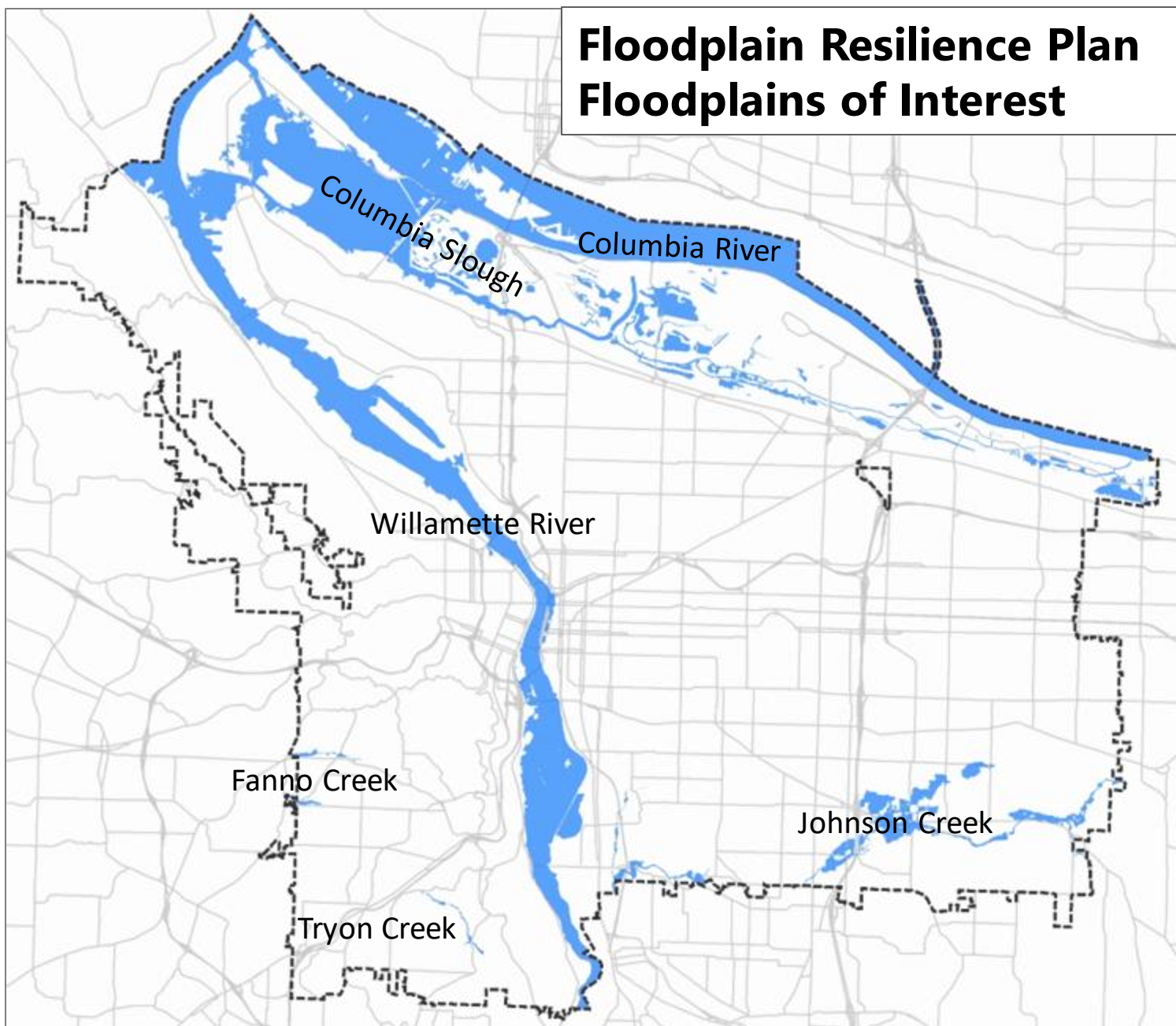


Photo: The Oregonian

# Background



# Floodplain Resilience Plan Floodplains of Interest





# FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)

- Provides flood insurance in floodplains
- Minimum requirements must be met
- Community Rating System (CRS) participation reduces insurance rates



# Biological Opinion on the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)

- Determined 16 threatened and endangered salmon and steelhead impacted
- FEMA Implementation Plan to comply with the Biological Opinion released in October 2021



# Floodplain Resilience Plan Proposals

# Project Goals

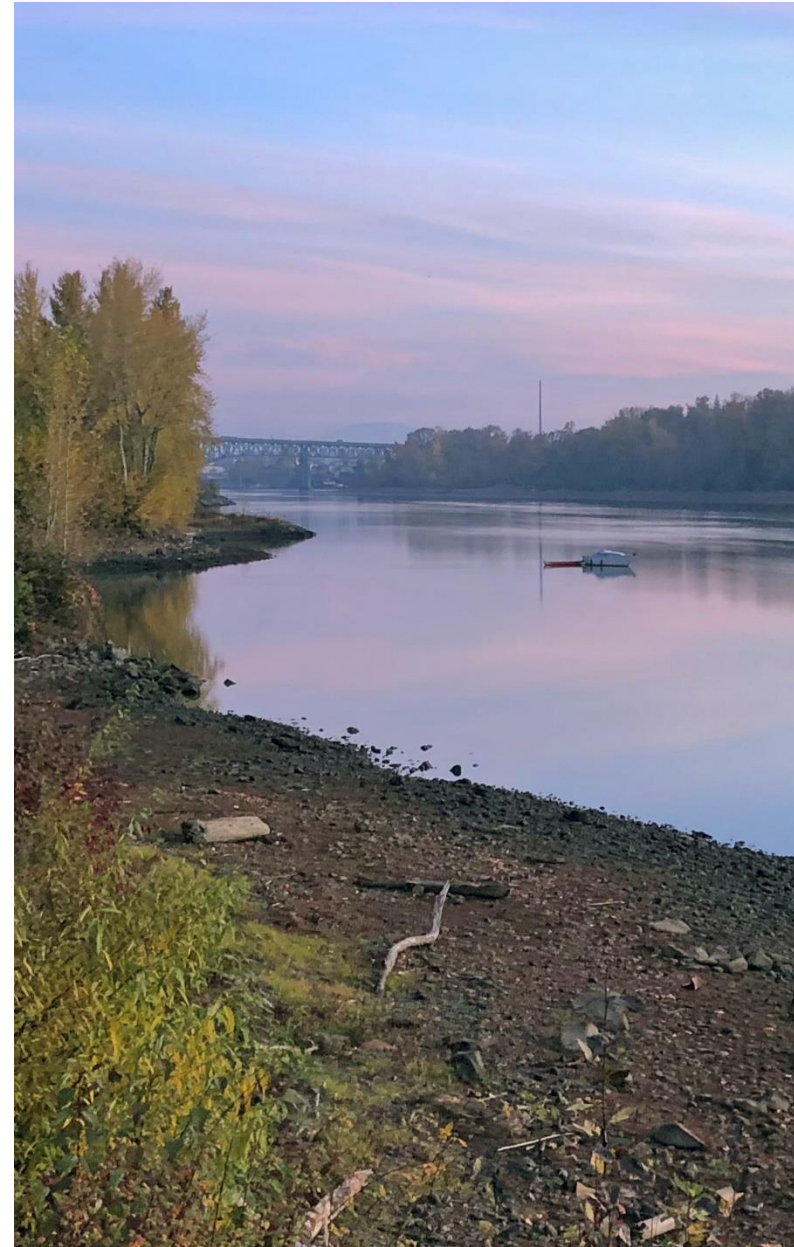
- Maintain access to floodplain insurance and disaster relief funds
- Reduce future flood risk
- Expand habitat for Portland's threatened and endangered species



# Floodplain Resilience Plan

## Proposals

- Development must avoid, minimize, then offset impacts
- Add protections of trees and vegetation in the floodplain
- Ensure new floodplain development does not reduce the area available for flood waters





# Effects of Proposed Changes on Individual Lots

Portions of houses, driveways or other structures can be maintained, repaired and in most cases, replaced. New or expanded houses typically need a permit.

Lawns, gardens, play structures and fences can be maintained, repaired and in most cases, replaced. New or expanded yards typically require a permit.

Development in floodplains is guided by building code and Zoning Code requirements.



Trees more than 3 or 6 inches in diameter in environmental overlay zones can be removed with City approval.

Wetlands store water, reduce flood risk and support fish and wildlife. New impacts to wetlands typically require a permit.

Rivers, streams and sloughs store and move water, reduce flood risk and provide habitat for fish and wildlife. New impacts to waterbodies typically require a permit.



# City of Portland Floodplain Programs

- City Bureaus (Environmental Services, Housing, & Emergency Management) help the City and its residents prepare for floods
- Floodplain restoration program
- Willing Seller Program
- Assistance with demonstrating a building is above the expected flood elevation (past City effort)



# Schedule

Nov 2021 – Discussion Draft  
Released

Summer 2022 – Proposed Draft  
(Planning & Sustainability  
Commission)

Fall/Winter 2022 – Recommended  
Draft (City Council)



# Discussion Question #1

When you think about the potential for flooding in the city, what are some concerns that you have?

If you have taken or expect to take precautions to prepare for flooding, what are they?

# Discussion Question #2

Given what you know about the proposals in the Floodplain Resilience Plan, are there concerns you have about applying additional environmental protections in the city's floodplains?

Do you anticipate the changes will impact your property or workplace? If so, how?

# Discussion Question #3

Are there programs or tools that the City should consider to address potential impacts, especially for the Indigenous community or other underrepresented people?

# Discussion Question #4

Are there other actions you think the City of Portland could do to help individuals and/or businesses better prepare for future flooding?



# Next Steps

BPS will synthesize key findings from today's focus group

BPS will share Floodplain Resilience Plan updates and forthcoming resources once available

Focus group compensation will be distributed within 5-10 business days

**Questions? Email Camille Trummer at**  
[hello@camilletrummer.com](mailto:hello@camilletrummer.com)



# THE BUREAU OF **PLANNING** & **SUSTAINABILITY**

**Jeff Caudill**

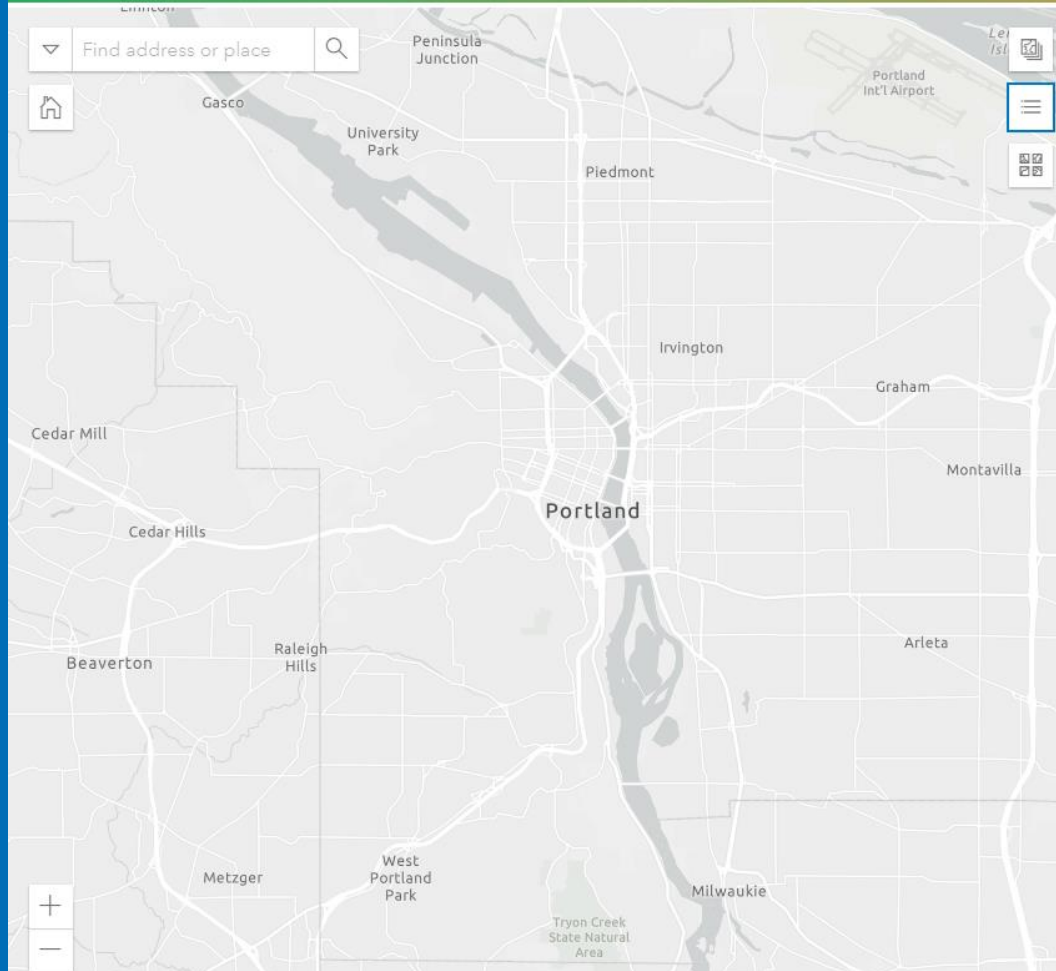
Environmental Planner

[floodplainproject@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:floodplainproject@portlandoregon.gov)

**VISIT US ONLINE** [portland.gov/bps](https://portland.gov/bps)

The City of Portland is committed to providing meaningful access. To request translation, interpretation, modifications, accommodations, or other auxiliary aids or services, contact 503-823-7700, Relay: 711.

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ອະທິບາຍ | الترجمة التحريرية أو الشفهية | [Portland.gov/bps/accommodation](https://portland.gov/bps/accommodation)



## Floodplain Resilience Plan

[Read the Discussion Draft Documents](#)

[COMMENT](#)

**Please Note:** To submit your comment in relation to a selected parcel, you must first make a selection on the map.

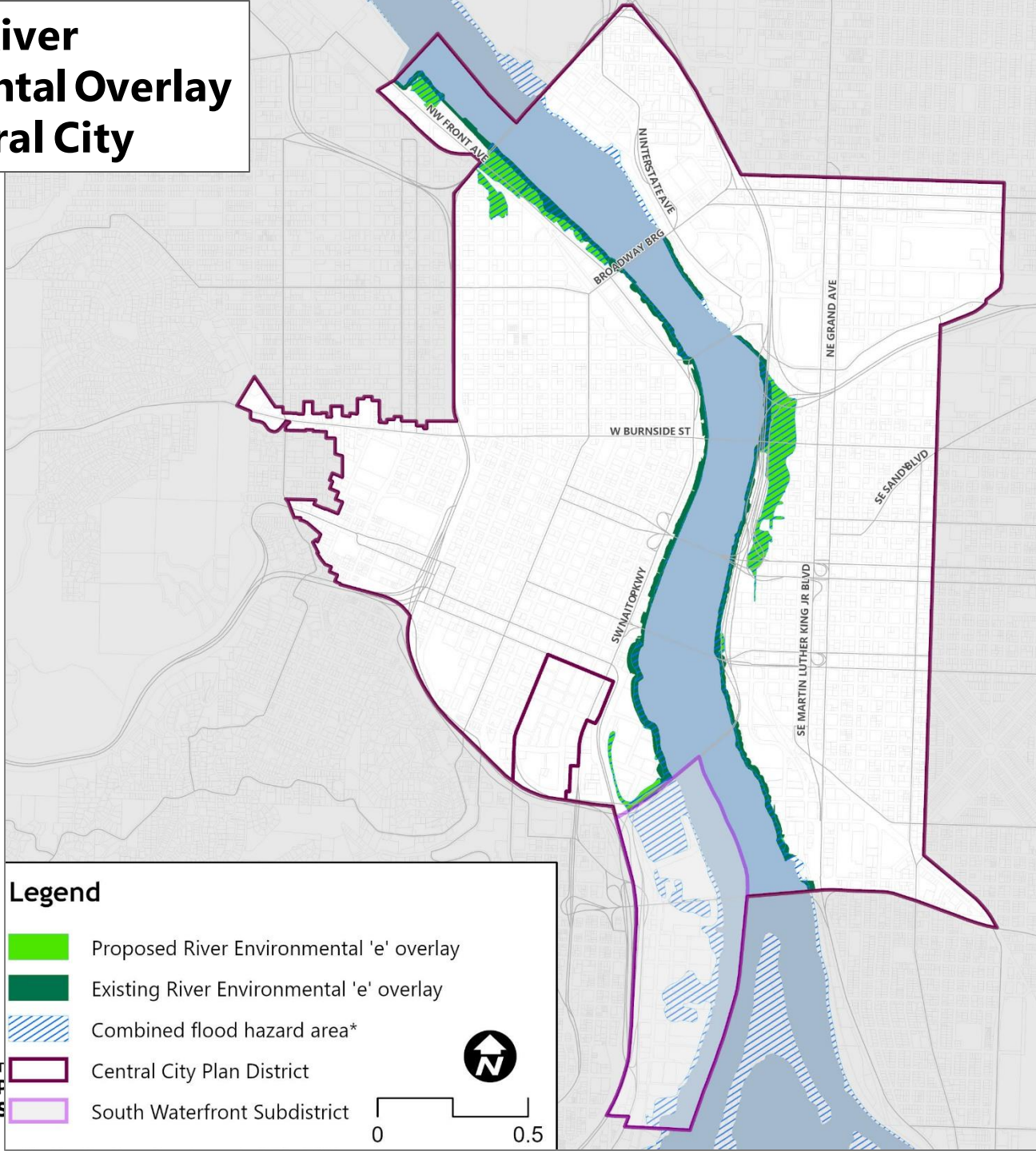
## Project Timeline

- November 10, 2021** – Discussion Draft released for public comment
- January 28, 2021** – End of the public comment period on the Discussion Draft
- Spring 2022** – Planning and Sustainability Commission public hearing(s), work sessions and recommendation
- Summer 2022** – Portland City Council public hearing(s), work sessions, and decision

The purpose of the Floodplain Resilience Plan is to protect floodplain habitat and the people

**Use the Map App to review specific proposals**  
<https://www.portlandmaps.com/bps/floodplain/>

# Proposed River Environmental Overlay in the Central City



**Legend**

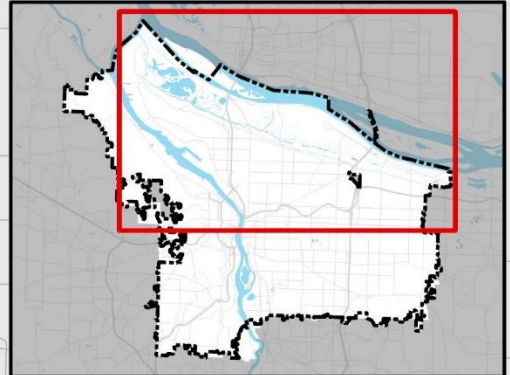
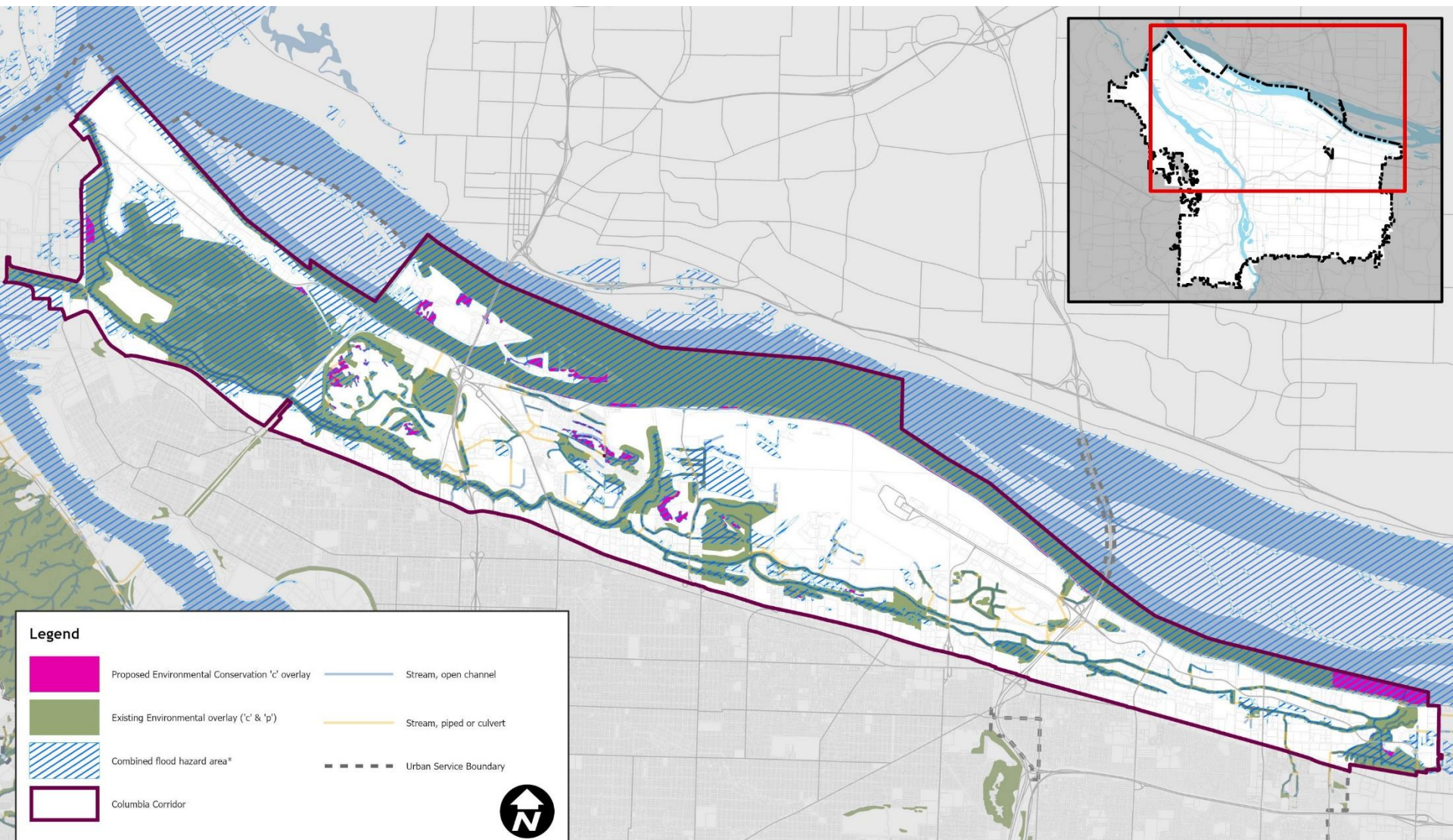
- Proposed River Environmental 'e' overlay
- Existing River Environmental 'e' overlay
- Combined flood hazard area\*
- Central City Plan District
- South Waterfront Subdistrict

0 0.5













# Proposed Environmental Conservation Overlay in the Columbia Corridor

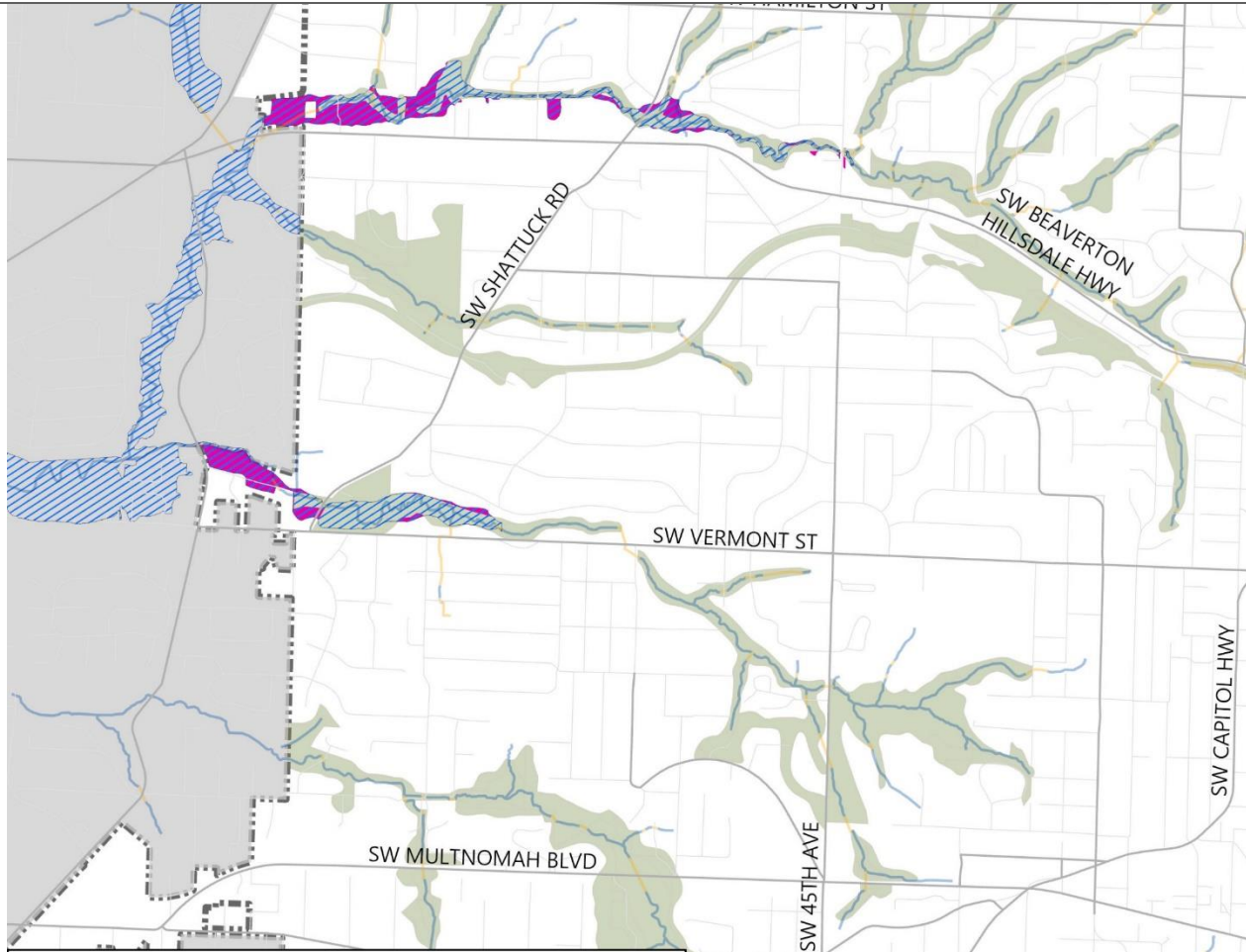


**Legend**

|  |   |   |                          |
|--|---|---|--------------------------|
|   | Proposed Environmental Conservation 'c' overlay |    | Stream, open channel     |
|  | Existing Environmental overlay ('c' & 'p')      |  | Stream, piped or culvert |
|  | Combined flood hazard area*                     |  | Urban Service Boundary   |
|  | Columbia Corridor                               |   |                          |





# Proposed Environmental Conservation Overlay Zone along Fanno Creek

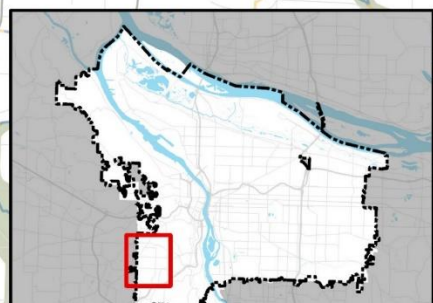


**Legend**

- Proposed Environmental Conservation 'c' overlay
- Existing Environmental overlay ('c' & 'p')
- Combined flood hazard area\*
- City Boundary
- Stream, open channel
- Stream, piped or culvert

Miles

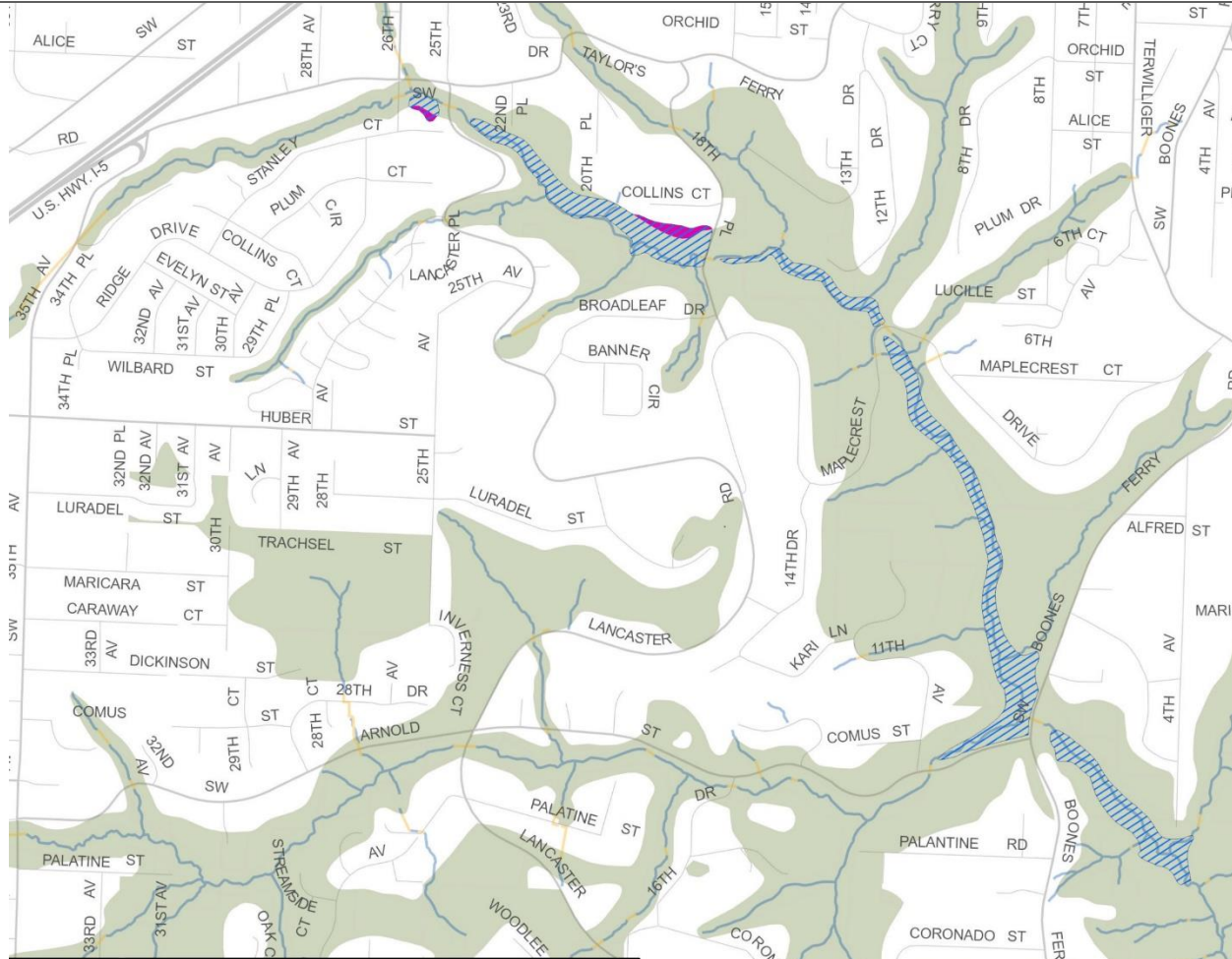


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\* Combined flood hazard area is comprised of the FEMA 100-year floodplain and the 1996 Flood Inundation Area

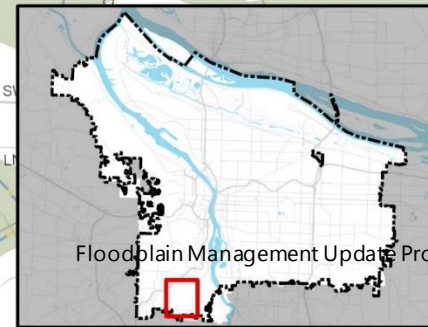
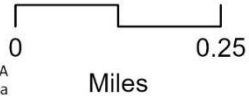


# Proposed Environmental Conservation Overlay Zone along Tryon Creek



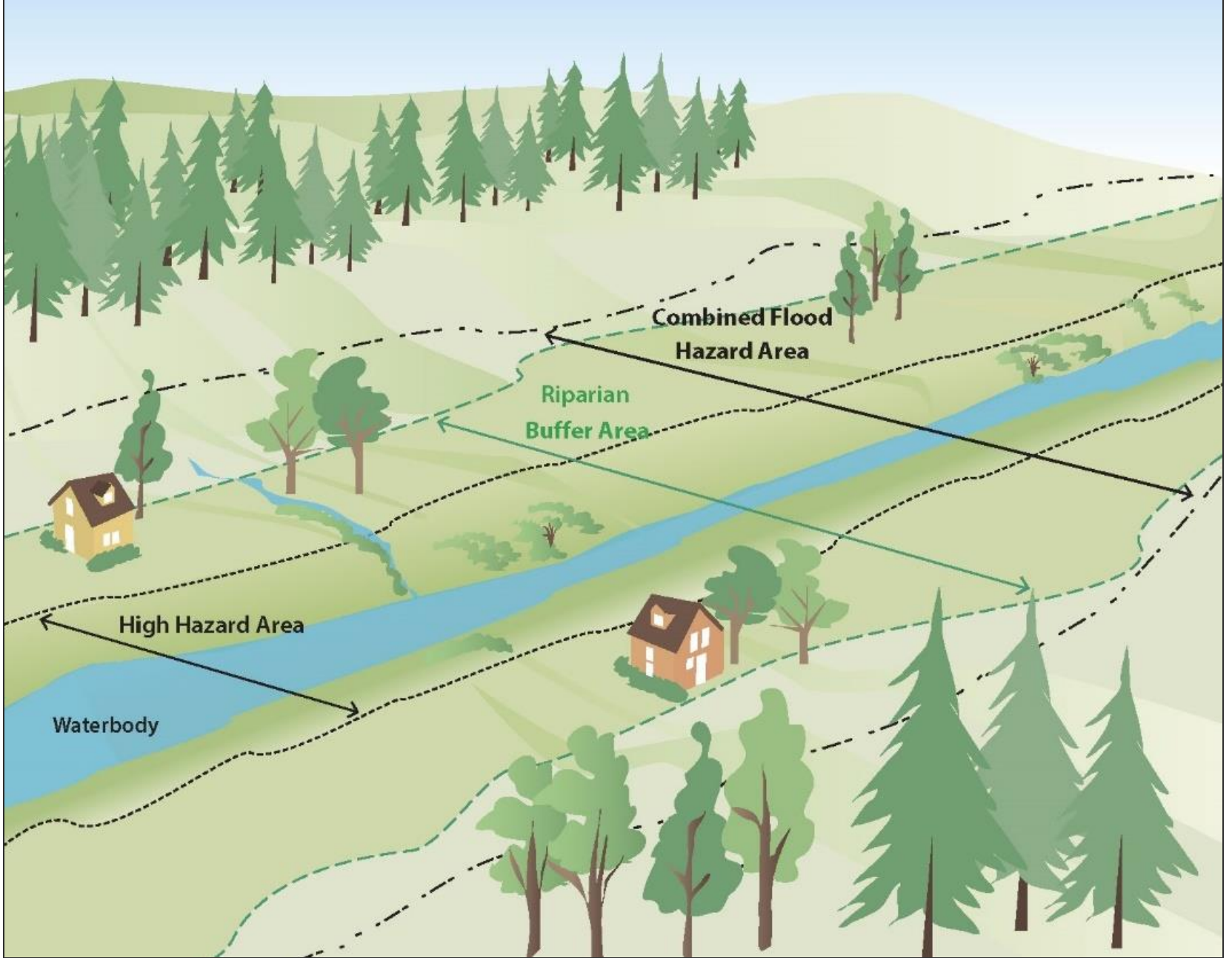
## Legend

-  Proposed Environmental Conservation 'c' overlay
-  Existing Environmental overlay ('c' & 'p')
-  Combined flood hazard area\*
-  Stream, open channel
-  Stream, piped or culvert



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\* Combined flood hazard area is comprised of the FEMA 100-year floodplain and the 1996 Flood Inundation Area





# Building Code (Title 24)

## Citywide (some exceptions)

- Increase excavation ratios
  - High hazard area (2:1)
  - Undeveloped floodplain and Riparian buffer area (1.5:1)
- Excavation required in rest of floodplain unchanged (1:1)



# Threatened and Endangered Species in Portland's Waterways

