

IMPACT STATEMENT

Legislation title: * Authorize application to the Rockefeller Foundation for a grant to hire a Chief Resilience Officer, develop and implement a citywide resilience plan, and become a member of the 100 Resilient Cities Network. (Ordinance).

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Purpose of proposed legislation and background information:

This ordinance authorizes PBEM to apply to the Rockefeller Foundation to be a member of the 100 Resilient Cities Network. Membership in the network gives the city access to:

- Funding in the form of a grant to hire a Chief Resilience Officer;
- Technical support to develop a holistic resilience strategy;
- Access to services to support strategy development and implementation, including tools in areas such as finance, technology, infrastructure, and social resilience;
- Membership in the 100 Resilient Cities network to share knowledge and practices with other member cities.

The actual form and amount of awards is determined at the discretion of 100 Resilient Cities.

The city's application identifies Portland's most significant challenges to resilience as: earthquakes, flooding, landslides, infrastructure, lack of affordable housing, aging infrastructure, intractable homelessness, and insufficient educational infrastructure.

The proposal is framed to focus the work of the Chief Resilience Officer (CRO) on a strategy to implement existing initiatives / plans related to resilience that address multiple challenges, and supporting and connecting community groups that are doing resilience work at a very local scale.

This is the City's third time applying for the 100 Resilient Cities Grant.

Financial and budgetary impacts:

The value of the grant (package of salary, benefits, travel, and technical assistance) is estimated at \$1 million. There are no formal matching requirements. The Bureau of Emergency Management will house the CRO and provide administrative support from its general fund allocation for the term of the grant. If the CRO work demonstrates value to the City as a whole, PBEM may ask for general fund to support the work after the grant period ends.

Community impacts and community involvement:

The grant states that the CRO will assemble a diverse group of community advisors, including representatives of communities impacted by lack of affordable housing, aging infrastructure, intractable homelessness, and insufficient educational infrastructure. This group will inform resilience strategy development, prioritize projects for implementation, and assist the CRO in developing their three-year work plan.

This grant opportunity is described in PBEM's adopted three-year strategic plan, a plan that was developed with public stakeholder input. No public concerns are anticipated.

Budgetary Impact Worksheet**Does this action change appropriations?**☐ **YES:** Please complete the information below.☒ **NO:** Skip this section

Fund	Fund Center	Commitment Item	Functional Area	Funded Program	Grant	Sponsored Program	Amount



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187439

Council Item Memo

Today's Date: 10/27/2015

Council Date: 11/12/2015

Item title: * Authorize application to the Rockefeller Foundation for a grant to hire a Chief Resilience Officer, develop and implement a citywide resilience plan, and become a member of the 100 Resilient Cities Network. (Ordinance).

Council agenda section: ☐ Consent ☒ Regular ☐ Time Certain @ _____

Preparer's name & number: Jonna Papaefthimiou 503-823-3809

Manager's Signature: _____

Please note:

- A. This ordinance authorizes the City to apply for a grant to be a part of the 100 Resilient Cities Network, hire a Chief Resilience Officer (CRO), and develop a citywide resilience plan. The package of resources provided has an estimated value of \$1,000,000.

There are no formal matching requirements for this grant. However, the foundation asks that applicants support the CRO within an existing bureau and consider funding the position themselves after the grant term expires, assuming that it demonstrates value, PBEM would make these commitments.

PBEM applied for the same grant last year (we did not receive it). At that time there was some concern that the work of the Chief Resilience Officer would be abstract and divorced from the interests of ordinary Portlanders. The grant application describes that the Chief Resilience Officer will be advised by a diverse group of residents, who will assist the CRO in identifying, prioritizing, and carrying out projects that advance the interests of ordinary Portlanders--especially those contending with issues such as lack of affordable housing, chronic homelessness, and lack of resources to prepare for earthquakes.

B. *Provide three points of information that our Commissioner can use to introduce this item.*

1. An earthquake is coming! It is only a matter of time. But earthquakes are not the only hazard we face in Portland. Chronic stressors such as lack of affordable housing and aging infrastructure also diminish the City's vitality.
2. This grant will allow the City to hire a Chief Resilience Officer and test an approach to strengthening resilience by connecting multiple City programs and community groups working to address different stresses under the umbrella of resilience.
3. The Chief Resilience Officer will work to prioritize and implement actions that have multiple benefits. They will be advised by a diverse group of Portland residents.