

Great Oregon Shakeout: Preparing for the 'full rip'

January 26, 1700, approximately 9 p.m. — the earth ruptures, coming unzipped along 600 miles of coastline from what is now British Columbia into what is now northern California.

The whole world shakes, and it seems like it will never end. Massive sections of forested coastline nearly instantly drop three to six feet, leaving giant trees embedded in salt water to die and leave ghost forests that will stand sentinel in the sand three centuries later.

A tsunami will roll across the ocean, taking nine hours to reach Japan. Scribes will leave record of this "orphan tsunami" that arrived from thousands of miles across the ocean without anyone in Japan feeling the quake that heralded it.

The quake must have been a magnitude 9 — one of the most powerful in history.

It will happen again. It could happen at any time. Scientists estimate that there is a one-in-three chance of a megaquake hitting in the next 50 years.

The potentially catastrophic effects of a "full rip" Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake are highlighted in the Great Oregon Shakeout, part of the International ShakeOut Day (always the third Thursday of October).

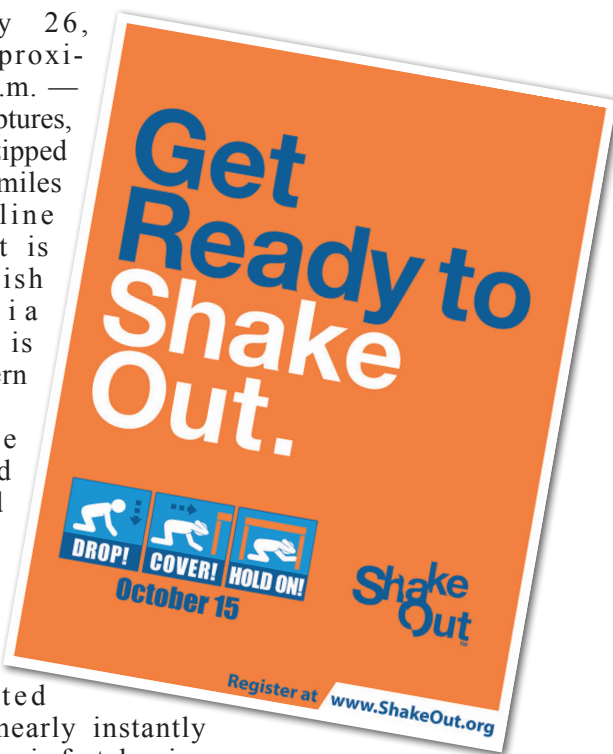
The effects, as can be imagined, would be catastrophic on the coast, with massive damage from the shaking and from a likely tsunami, which would probably inundate many low-lying areas.

Effects would be felt far inland, with significant damage in the Willamette Valley. Depending on the time of year, a megaquake could trigger multiple major landslides that could cut off highways through the Coast Range and the Cascades.

And many of the state's highway bridges would be rendered unusable — either heavily damaged or collapsed.

For Central Oregon, it is this disruption of transportation and the ripple effects of damage elsewhere that will be the most significant effect of a full-scale Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake.

Direct damage from shaking is likely to be minor. But



the people of Sisters Country are not insulated from the effects.

"All of the things we take for granted will be impacted for a significant period of time," said Jack McGowan, a long-time preparedness advocate who serves on the Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District Board of Directors.

That includes groceries and fuel supplies, and power may be cut off.

If the quake happens in the middle of winter, as the 1700 quake did, that could leave many local residents without their main source of heat. And electrical power is vital to keeping water supplies flowing, too.

The Sisters-Camp

See **SHAKEOUT** on page 11

City of Sisters bulletin

By Cory Misley
City Manager

The City of Sisters is responsible for a variety of infrastructure systems and services that support our community. To ensure we reflect and align with who we serve, boards and committees that provide a direct link with community members are critical to maintaining dialogue. These groups inform and advise the City Council and City staff on several topics.

Whether it is wastewater and water infrastructure, streets, parks, land use and community development, tourism and economic development, or law enforcement, we rely on community input to shape where we are going and how we get there. Every year, across all aspects of the City, we are at some phase in a cycle of analysis, planning, project development, and implementation. We rinse and repeat this year after year to be both proactive in addressing growth and reactive to shifting community needs.

Volunteers — who above all else have the best interest of the community — are essential to informing and guiding our year-after-year journey together. The relationship between City staff and those who serve on City boards and committees is crucial for seeing a positive, productive cycle continue its momentum. We are all in public service together, and it is very rewarding work.

The City is accepting applications for the following openings:

- **Planning Commission (PC):** Three openings, all in-City positions, and appointed to four-year terms.

- **Budget Committee:** Four openings, all in-City positions, and appointed to 3-year terms.

- **Housing Policy Advisory Board (HPAB):** Two openings, both in-City positions and appointed to three-year terms.

- **Urban Forestry Board (UFB):** One opening, in-City position, and appointed to a 3-year term.

- **City Parks Advisory Board (CPAB):** Two openings, both in-City positions, one position is for a three-year term, and one position is for a one-year term.

- **Public Works Advisory Board (PWAB):** This is a new board with five positions. Three must be in-City, and two may be outside the City limits. Three positions will be appointed to a three-year term, and two positions

will be appointed to a two-year term.

Generally, meetings occur monthly (or at a minimum quarterly) and last for an hour or two. Since the COVID-19 pandemic began — and for the foreseeable future — these meetings are occurring through video-conference. For the most part, staff prepare agendas, research, compile background materials to support each agenda item, and present on the topics to inform the discussion by the board members and staff.

The deadline to apply for these open positions is November 6 at 5 p.m. Interviews for open positions will occur in late November, and appointments will happen at the first City Council meeting in December. Each appointee's new term will begin in January of 2021.

Please visit www.ci.sisters.or.us to learn more or reach out to Kerry Prosser at kprosser@ci.sisters.or.us if you would like to discuss these opportunities.

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Thursday, October 29th: BETH PIATOTE, (*The Beadworkers*) in conversation with SAMEER PANDYA, (*Members Only*)

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