

**Polk County**  
**Pre-Disaster Mitigation Planning**  
**PRESS RELEASE**

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**DATE:** April 9, 2024

**TO:** City of Falls City

**FROM:** City Manager AJ Foscoli

**SUBJECT:** Press Release for City of Falls City addendum to the Polk County Multi-Jurisdictional Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan Update – Notice and Opportunity for Public Comment

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*For Immediate Release*

**City of Falls City seeks additional public input on  
their update to the Polk County Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan**

City of Falls City, OR) – City of Falls City is in the process of updating their existing Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan (NHMP). This work is being performed in cooperation with the University of Oregon’s Institute for Policy Research and Engagement - Oregon Partnership for Disaster Resilience and the Oregon Department of Emergency Management (OEM) utilizing funds obtained from the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. With re-adoption of the plan, City of Falls City will maintain its eligibility to apply for federal funding towards natural hazard mitigation projects. This local planning process includes a wide range of representatives from city, special districts, and county government, emergency management personnel, and outreach to members of the public.

A natural hazards mitigation plan provides communities with a set of goals, action items, and resources designed to reduce risk from future natural disaster events. Engaging in mitigation activities provides jurisdictions with a number of benefits, including reduced loss of life, property, essential services, critical facilities, and economic hardship; reduced short-term and long-term recovery and reconstruction costs; increased cooperation and communication within the community through the planning process; and increased potential for state and federal funding for recovery and reconstruction projects.

An electronic version of the updated draft City of Falls City NHMP addendum will be available for formal public comment beginning **April 9, 2024**. To view the draft please visit:

<https://www.polkconhmp2023.com/2024-plan>

If you have any questions regarding the City of Falls City NHMP addendum or the update process in general, please contact: Jeremy Teal, City Recorder at 50.787.3631 • [www.fallscityoregon.gov](http://www.fallscityoregon.gov); or Michael Howard, Director for the Oregon Partnership for Disaster Resilience at (541) 346-8413 or [mrhoward@uoregon.edu](mailto:mrhoward@uoregon.edu).