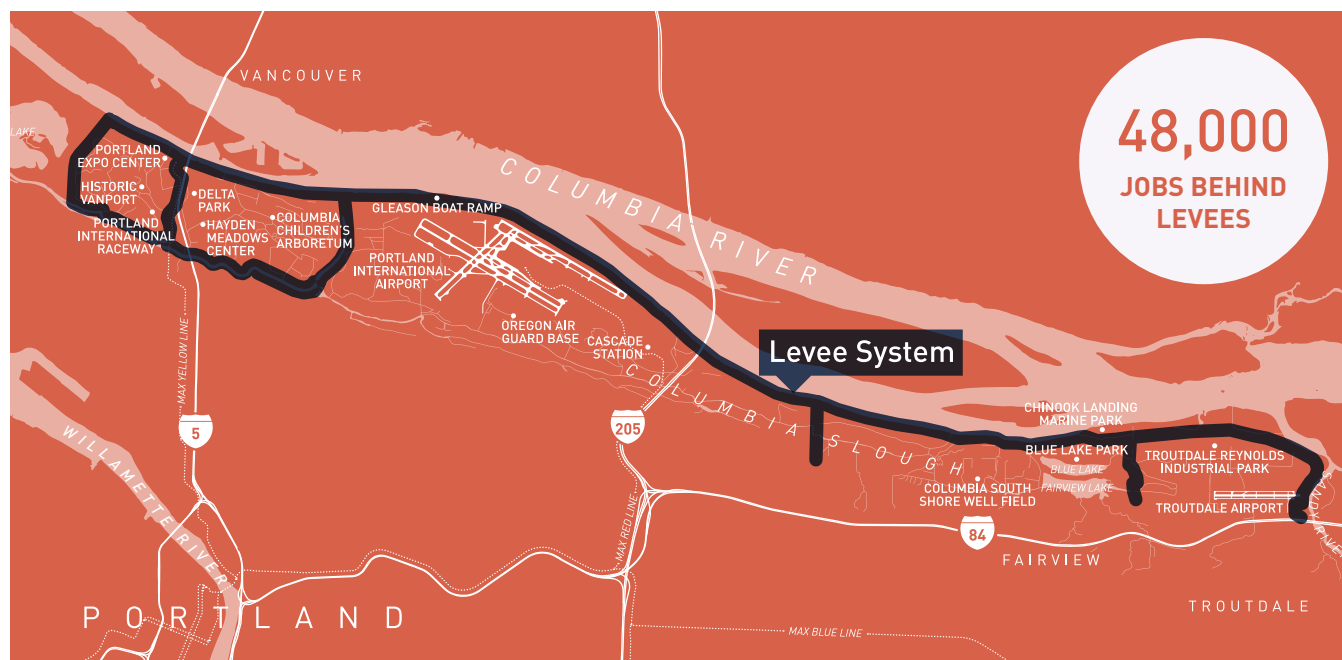


WHAT'S AT RISK

THE RISK OF FLOODING ON THE LOWER COLUMBIA RIVER IS REAL



Jobs & Economy



\$16 billion
ECONOMIC ACTIVITY
Annually



50%
Region's manufacturing
& warehouse jobs



18.4 million
PASSENGERS
Annually at PDX



3 INTERSTATES
2 MAX LINES
2 RAILROADS
2 AIRPORTS



\$7.3 billion
PROPERTY VALUE

Drinking Water



#2 LARGEST SOURCE
OF DRINKING
WATER IN OREGON
#1- Bull Run Reservoir

Nature & Habitat



Western Painted Turtle
Western Pond Turtle
Beaver
Nutria
Carp and Bass



175 SPECIES
Birds in the watershed



1.4 million
TREES AND SHRUBS
Planted along entire
slough by City of
Portland and Troutdale

Recreation & Culture



OVER
2,000 ACRES
Parks, open spaces, and
recreational areas



17 MILES
Marine Drive
multi-use
path



7,500
Residents served



15 MILES
Water trails for
canoes and kayaks



Ikea
Walmart
Target
Lowes
HomeDepot

FLOOD RISK ON THE COLUMBIA RIVER

The risk of flooding on the Lower Columbia River is real. In 1948, the Vanport flood decimated what was then the state's second-largest and most racially integrated community. The Christmas floods of 1964 are regarded as one of the worst natural disasters in state history. Since 1894, four 100-year and two 500-year flood events have been measured at the confluence of the Willamette and Columbia Rivers. There is no question that the Columbia Corridor area will confront floods in the future. The only question is whether we will be ready.

FEDERAL ACCREDITATION MATTERS

For naturally flood-prone areas surrounded by levees, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will "accredit" the levee system if certain requirements are met. Accreditation has several benefits:

- Lower-cost flood insurance
- No flood insurance mandate
- Fewer development restrictions

CONFRONTING GOVERNANCE CHALLENGES

The current multi-jurisdictional structure for managing flood risks is not a viable model for the future.

Federal accreditation: No single agency currently has the capability to ensure that the levee system remains accredited in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

Benefits and burdens: The status quo does not equitably allocate costs of flood risk management in the Columbia Corridor to the many beneficiaries of the system.

Fragmented responsibility: Responsibility and authority for vital functions are fragmented across several jurisdictions. No single entity is responsible for reducing flood risks.

Insufficient revenue: The existing four drainage districts collectively have assessment revenue of \$4.8 million in FY 2017. Revenues will need to be approximately triple to support the system.

BOTTOM LINE: THE STATUS QUO IS NOT AN OPTION

Levee Ready Columbia (LRC) was created as a temporary solution to an urgent challenge: maintaining accreditation. It is not a permanent institution and may not be capable for funding needed infrastructure improvements. LRC is considering new models for managing flood risk which could involve changes at the local, county, or regional scale.

GET ENGAGED

October 4
Levee Ready
Columbia
will consider
governance
alternatives

**October–
December 2017**
Inform partners
and seek input

**January–
February 2018**
Levee Ready
Columbia will
recommend a new
governance model

CONTACT

Joel Schoening, Community Affairs
manager,
jschoening@mccd.org

Henry Burton, Governance Project
Manager,
hburton@mccd.org

(503) 281-5675