



**CITY OF
PORTLAND, OREGON**

**OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
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NEWS ADVISORY

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FEMA Approves Oregon's Request for Disaster Assistance with Winter Storm Costs

Portland, OR -- Following President Obama's issuance of a Disaster Declaration for Oregon on March 2, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) approved Oregon's request for major disaster assistance stemming from the December 2008 winter storms, which commanded significant increase in services, resources and financial burden for several Portland bureaus.

To initiate the process, FEMA representatives will meet with officials from several of the City's bureaus which incurred high costs during the unusually long winter storm, particularly during the period between December 20 – 26, 2008.

The Federal share of assistance is 75% of the eligible cost for emergency measures and permanent restoration.

"The city of Portland appreciates the federal government's support, especially during trying economic times," said Mayor Sam Adams. "City employees rose to the challenges presented by the winter storm, and delivered critical services with utmost professionalism. This federal financial assistance helps ensure the City can maintain our high levels of delivery."

The initial meeting will address application procedures, administrative requirements, funding and program eligibility criteria for the participating City of Portland bureaus, including Portland Bureau of Transportation, Portland Fire and Rescue, Portland Water Bureau, and Bureau of Housing and Community Development.

For more information on this Declaration (D1824), you may visit FEMA's website directly at <http://www.fema.gov/news/event.fema?id=11189>.

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Established under the Mayor's Office, in July of 2003, the Portland Office of Emergency Management (POEM) provides planning, training, exercises and educational outreach programs to assist and prepare citizens, government agencies, and private/nonprofit organizations prior to, during and after local emergencies and disasters. POEM provides leadership in emergency preparedness, disaster risk reduction, response and recovery to protect lives and property.

Please notify the City of Portland no less than five (5) business days prior to our event for ADA accommodations at 503-823-4375, by the City's TTY at [503-823-6868](tel:503-823-6868), or by the Oregon Relay Service at 1-800-735-2900