

## Debra Thompson

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**From:** Mary Catherine Cronlund <meggie@aptalaska.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 20, 2020 12:56 PM  
**To:** Assembly  
**Subject:** emergency plan

To the Members of the Petersburg Borough Assembly:

When considering the issues of the day, a bit of historical perspective may sometimes be useful.

During World War II, my mother was living and teaching in Seattle. I grew up listening to her recount the events of her life in the big city during wartime. From her oral histories I gleaned a few ideas which may be applicable to current events and decisions.

1. Seattle residents did not believe that since no bombs were falling on Seattle, the whole thing was overblown. They didn't say, "We're not Hawaii."
2. They did not feel directives mandating that heavy curtains must be placed over all windows violated their Constitutional rights, their freedoms, convenience, or personal preference.
3. They did not assert that taking part in emergency actions for the *Greater Good* was a bad thing.
4. They did not feel that the Civil Defense personnel in charge of implementing emergency measures were out for personal power grabs, nor did they cast aspersions upon the character and motives of these individuals.
5. Seattle residents complied with these and other emergency regulations for four long years until the war was over. "I did not see the sunset over Elliot Bay through my apartment window for four years", my mother recalled. They kept calm and courageously carried on.

Moving forward in time:

I grew up in Oregon's McKenzie River Valley, so I have been closely following the tragic and unprecedented fires taking place there. I have yet to run across any complaints that there is too much coordination of the efforts by various agencies dealing with this ongoing unfolding disaster. Prepared overall direction is essential.

The Assembly has been presented with a well researched and carefully considered plan for Petersburg's emergencies and disasters. We need to have this plan waiting and ready to use when future unpleasant events beset us. Please support the plan currently under consideration.

Sincerely,

Cathy Cronlund

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