

This paper contributes to our understanding of the climatic, socio-spatial and economic drivers of risk and resilience in a 'sustainable city'. The paper draws on regional political ecology to examine the influence of global, regional, and local factors shaping real and imagined risks to the city of Portland, Oregon. Based on in-depth-interviews with city experts (n=30) and a survey of 612 residents, I map the concerns about climate change, perceived risks to the city, preparedness for climatic extremes, and confidence in city risk management regime in the context of growing social inequality and anticipated Cascadia earthquake in the US West Coast. Findings reveal that the majority of respondents are worried about climate change and support public policy to address it. However, respondents in Northeast and Southeast Portland are unprepared to deal with expected climatic extremes and have little confidence in the city's current risk management regime. This lack of resilience is linked to climatic and regional economic transformations in wealthier Western US cities with spillover effects on Portland's demographic growth, rising property value, and housing unaffordability. By extension, there has been gentrification of poor neighborhoods of color, increase social and environmental inequality, worsening homelessness, and population expansion into risk-prone areas such as floodplains, toxic chemical sites, and industrial production districts. Furthermore, sustainability 'fixes' that seeks to reposition Portland on an ecologically viable path has attracted affluent out-of-state population with varying consequences for risk redistribution. This study therefore raises important questions about the resilience of sustainable cities. It also calls for greater interrogation into the risks that lie at the intersection of climate change, sustainability fixes, and regional economic transformation.