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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DLCD awards \$259,240 to 10 communities on Oregon Coast

SALEM - The Department of Land Conservation and Development awarded \$259,240 in construction and land acquisition grants to 10 coastal communities on Tuesday. The funds, in combination with funding from the local governments, state agencies and other sources, will be used to improve public recreational access to the ocean, estuaries and other coastal natural resources, and to revitalize urban waterfronts.

“These funds will support almost \$717,000 in local construction and land acquisition projects, which will improve local recreational opportunities in coastal waters as well as tourism opportunities on our coast,” said Bob Bailey, manager of the department’s Ocean-Coastal Management Program.

The funding comes from Section 306A of the federal Coastal Zone Management Act and is available to Oregon because the state has a federally approved program for managing the state’s ocean and coastal resources.

The 10 communities receiving the awards are:

- City of Florence - \$50,000 to complete the second phase of the city’s Veteran’s Memorial Plaza on the waterfront. The funds will be used to construct the Memorial Plaza on the shoreland, install all of the in-water piling for the pier and the viewing deck at the end of the pier, and construct the pier and a non-motorized watercraft-launching platform.
- City of Rockaway Beach - \$12,815 and a lot of volunteers will create a mini-ecotour in a unique 47-acre undeveloped forested wetland right in the middle of town. They will build raised wooden walkways, educational interpretive signage and protective decking and fencing around the parcel’s special natural features, such as a huge old growth cedar.
- City of Tillamook - \$19,500 will be used by the city to purchase nearly 20 acres of a tidal forested wetland within the city. The land will be included in a larger Hoquarten Slough Interpretive Trail Project. The property contains one of the areas’ few remaining tidal spruce swamps, once very common on the northern

Oregon coast, and will provide excellent opportunities for low-impact recreation and ecological education, as well as continuing to function as a crucial unobstructed floodway.

- City of Yachats through the Oregon Parks & Recreation Department - \$16,800 for improving access to the ocean shore at the state park in Yachats. This project will provide safer, long-term access for the physically challenged and other pedestrians, reduce bank erosion from 'maverick' trails, and inter-connect with the city's Village Circulation Plan and Ocean Drive Improvements.
- Port of Bandon - \$50,000 will be used to construct a portion of the port's Riverfront Pathway Project. This portion will include a 'meandering' pathway along the estuary shore that will create a safe access to the bay for pedestrians and bicyclists. It will have seating walls and benches positioned for viewing the estuary, the boat basin and charter boat operations.
- Port of Brookings Harbor - \$50,000 for two new boat basin gangways to make the gangways easier to use (less steep, improved surfaces and railings) and conform to access standards of the Americans With Disabilities Act.
- Port of Coos Bay - \$20,000 will help provide landscaping, pedestrian and bicycle pathways, parking, highway crosswalks, observation decks with interpretive signage, overhead lighting and a concrete stairway for optimum public access to a very popular clam bed in Charleston.
- Port of Newport - \$20,325 for the final phase of safety and quality improvements to the port's waterfront park in the South Beach Marina. The funds will help with increasing the height of the windbreaks around six picnic areas, and by landscaping the park area (which now is 'volunteer' grass clumps in sandy soil). Working with the local county historical society, the port will also include an interpretive sign kiosk to augment the site's recreational and educational experience.
- Port of Siuslaw - \$5,050 will allow the port to landscape a small 'pocket' park in Florence's Old Town bayfront with appropriate shrubbery, ground pavers, and benches. When completed, the park will provide another link in the chain of pocket parks providing pedestrians with waterfront access in compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act.
- Port of Toledo - \$14,750 for an estuarine viewing platform on existing piling in Depot Slough. This part of Toledo is a deteriorated former lumber industrial area, and this project is part of a larger effort to revitalize the area.

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“Oregon is an inspiration. Whether you come to it or are born to it, you become entranced by our state's beauty, the opportunities she affords and the independent spirit of her citizens.”

- Governor Tom McCall, during his address to the 1973 Oregon Legislature