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From: Leonard A. Rydell, PE, PLS, WRE <Larydell@teleport.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 26, 2026 4:12 PM
To: Oregon Department of Aviation
Cc: Sara Absher; lhipps@co.tillamook.or.us; Melissa Jenck
Subject: Pacific City State Airport
Attachments: Letter to ODA (26 August 2026).pdf

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Dear ODA,

As a pilot who learned to fly in Pacific City from an original airport donor, attached are my concerns regarding the future of the Pacific City State Airport.

I request that you continue keeping it available to the flying community as it is one of a kind non replaceable asset for the community.

Please contact me should you have any questions.

Thank you.

Leonard

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26 August 2026

Oregon Department of Aviation
3040 25th Street SE
Salem, Oregon 97302-1125

Re: Future of the Pacific City Airport

Dear Oregon Department of Aviation Board,

I am writing regarding my concerns about the future of the Pacific City State Airport.

I am a private pilot, plane owner, and own a lot and a second home in Pacific City. I have been visiting Pacific City since the 1950's through to the present, beginning with frequent camping with my family and the Boy Scouts, the construction of a second home in 1994, and now enjoying regular weekends in my second home. I took flying lessons from Harvey Henderson, one of the original donors of the Pacific City airport property, then an owner of two planes and a hanger on the airport, and flew my Cessna 150 from Newberg to Pacific City for regular visits.

Also, in my professional capacity as a Civil Engineer and Professional Land Surveyor licensed in Oregon, I have volunteered a significant amount of time locating corners, performing a topographic survey and mapping of the airport grounds, and updating recommendations to the Tillamook County Planning Department. I am one of the original founding members of the Friends of the Pacific City State Airport, have served on the Board of Directors, and volunteer time and equipment to help maintain the airport grounds.

The Pacific City State Airport is unique in the state of Oregon. It is the only airport in Oregon from which one can walk to a coastal beach in ten to fifteen minutes. Several restaurants are within a five to ten minute walk from the airport, one being just across the street from the North end of the runway. This is an unique opportunity for pilots to have a "go to" place where they can actually enjoy spending time by just walking or bicycling. The Friends of the Pacific City State Airport and donors have made bicycles available for free use to pilots and their passengers.

The Pacific City State Airport is located along one of the most beautiful segments of the Oregon Coast, with the Nestucca River, Haystack Rock and Cape Kiwanda within walking distance. Cascade Head is close by to the South, Sand Lake and Cape Lookout to the North, and many recreational areas accessible by local trolley and bus service. Pacific City is known for its Dory boats that launch off the nearby beach at Cape Kiwanda.

This airport is used by the U. S. Coast Guard helicopters and aircraft as a safe landing place when needed during rescue operations. Pacific City State Airport serves as a vital

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landing and staging area for emergency medical transports, including Life Flight Network, supporting remote coastal responses where ground transit is slow. Air medical teams transfer severely injured or ill patients from the rural Pacific City area to advance regional hospitals. Local fire departments, EMS and volunteers coordinate with flight crews for rapid patient handoffs.

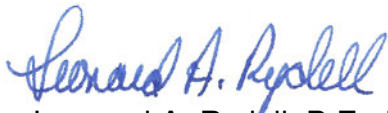
Having served on various land use committees in Pacific City, I am well aware that residents there support the continued operation of the airport. It makes Pacific City special and unique.

I am appreciative and thankful for the Oregon Department of Aviation that has allowed, assisted and helped make clean up days at the airport a success in the past. This is the way that government should work. I wish that more state agencies would follow your example.

Pacific City land owners donated the land for an airport. Please honor their contributions by keeping the Pacific City State Airport open for present and future generations. It is truly special and unique to Pacific City residents and the flying community.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,



Leonard A. Rydell, P.E., P.L.S., C.W.R.E., M.A.S.C.E.
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cc: Friends of Pacific City Airport
Tillamook County Planning Department