

September 10, 2026

Oregon Department of Aviation Advisory Board

I have been following discussions about the future of the Pacific City State Airport at both the Tillamook County Commissioners' meeting and the ODA September Board Meeting.

My family has been part of the airport's history for over 60 years. We have homes on the north and south ends, plus an airplane hangar on the east side. Emergency response vehicles often trespass over our hangar taxiway to access the airport. We've been a good partner and have allowed this in the past to benefit our community members and visitors with medical emergencies. We watch hundreds of airplanes land each year. Planes from all over Oregon and the country. Pilots are delighted to find such a well-manicured, welcoming airport. Clean restrooms, picnic tables, bikes for use, walks to the town and beach.

I disagree with Tony Beach's evaluation of the airport safety concerns. For over 70 years, planes have been landing safely with no fatalities. These small planes land slowly. Experienced pilots know the runway length and wind conditions from the information provided by the cameras and weather station the "Friends" group has installed on private structures. We focus on keeping the airport safe. We immediately replace torn windsocks and alert pilots to seasonal flooding via our website and Facebook page. We clean storm debris off the runway after each seasonal flood.

Some of the information that Tony Beach shared at the September Board meeting was misleading. Negative comments from previous Board members were only 'cherry-picked,' and one picture of someone running across the runway happens at every airport occasionally. Tony is not a pilot, nor is he here day to day to see how enthusiastically volunteers support the airport or how many planes land safely every day. The airport is twice as wide because of brush and tree removal that was done at the September 2018 work party and every year since. Volunteers mow it regularly. Our nonprofit organization has taken a neglected airport and made it safer. Each year we add new projects to make the airport safer and more attractive to visiting pilots.

To now spotlight the surrounding buildings and houses bordering the airport as a reason to deny further improvements to the airport and the allocation of SOAR money is overreaching. These homes were built in compliance with County land use laws. It is now wrong to classify them as an encroachment.

Pacific City State Airport has had a working relationship with ODA for the past 8 years, 6 of which are defined through an MOU. Many small state airports want to form a similar partnership. ODA should promote small rural airports, not put up roadblocks, and work to understand each location's unique features and the community it serves.

Please read the letters of support you have been receiving from pilots and community members carefully, and do not rely on one person's assessment. Data and history inform decisions.

Sally Rissel

Co-founder and President, "Friends of Pacific City State Airport"

Long-time resident and airplane owner

To: Oregon Department of Aviation

Subject: Request to Preserve, Repair, and Continue Operating Pacific City Airport

Dear Oregon Department of Aviation Officials,

My name is Robert Burson, and I respectfully urge the State of Oregon to preserve, repair, and continue operating Pacific City Airport.

I first came to Pacific City in 1967, when I was nine years old. I am now a private pilot and have flown in and out of Pacific City Airport for the past 19 years. As an AIRO volunteer, I have invested substantial time and effort in supporting the airport. During the State's previous effort to close or sell the airport, I was, for several years, the only person mowing the grass.

Pacific City Airport is more than a landing strip; it is an important part of the community's history. Aircraft first began landing at this location in the 1920s, when the site was a mowed cow pasture. Eleven local families donated the land with the understanding that it would be used as an airport in perpetuity. That legacy should be honored.

For generations, Pacific City Airport has served as a valued coastal general aviation asset. Its significance has been recognized beyond the local community, including in a recent FAA Safety Briefing magazine feature that highlighted the airport as a national treasure. The airport supports pilots, visitors, local businesses, emergency access, and the broader coastal community.

For too long, however, the Oregon Department of Aviation has neglected the airport and the surrounding community. Most urgently, the airport's drainage system has been broken for decades. The resulting standing and pooling water creates a safety concern and contributes to overgrown grass and increased wildlife activity. These conditions make maintenance more difficult, increase the burden placed on volunteers, and undermine safe airport operations. Repairing the drainage system must be a priority.

The approximately \$1.375 million in SOAR funding should be dedicated to repairing the airport's drainage system and addressing the conditions that have been allowed to persist for far too long. This investment is necessary to restore safe, reliable airport operations and protect this historic public asset for future generations.

There is a committed group of local volunteers prepared to care for and support the airport if the State is unable or unwilling to provide the necessary level of ongoing maintenance.

The Pacific City community values this airport deeply and is ready to work constructively with the State to ensure it remains safe, functional, and accessible.

I respectfully ask the Oregon Department of Aviation to honor the commitment made by the families who donated this land, prioritize the drainage repairs, responsibly use the available SOAR funding, and affirm its long-term commitment to Pacific City Airport.

Sincerely,

Robert Burson and Lisa Burson

--

"For once you have tasted flight you will walk the earth with your eyes turned skywards, for there you have been and there you will long to return."Leonardo Da Vinci

Cheers...Rob



Those who beat their guns into plows, will plow for those who don't !!

Name	Robyn Holdman
Group/Organization	Friends of Pacific City State Airport
Address	Sisters, OR 97759
Email	
Phone	
Public Comment Topic	Pacific City State Airport - SOAR Funding

Public Comment

Please do not claw back the \$1.375 million in SOAR funding that you committed to Pacific City State Airport in April 2026. The Friends of Pacific City State Airport carries much of the cost and responsibility to maintain the airport at this time as per our legal agreement, an MOU, with ODAV. The agency and our nonprofit has known for years that the airport has challenges but together we can make it safer. ODAV leadership has continually assured us that our airport would be next in line for SOAR funding for Cycle 6 after we complained that our Cycle 3 funding was being withheld. The coastal legislators were assured during a December 2024 meeting with both Kenji and Tony that the airport would be funded in 2025, but it wasn't. Now we're in line for a 2027 grant. The agency and its Board repeatedly misspeak to airport stakeholders. Our communities are put at additional risk as the agency neglects the critical repairs that we cannot do as volunteers. This airport isn't just a piece of property to manage in a way that reduces risk. It is an important asset for a community and a component of a larger coastal airport system.

Please ask yourself, why are there 28 State-owned airports? Why haven't these airports been transferred to other governmental bodies? It is because other public bodies can't afford to take them on, and it is the responsibility of ODAV to make sure that these airports don't close and are safe for use. Selling or transferring a public airport to a private organization with the stipulation for public use will end in failure, as demonstrated by statistics. Perhaps you should ask yourself why you continue to spend tens of thousands of dollars and hundreds of hours of time fighting to expand Aurora State Airport when the City and the nearby housing developments don't want it. Pacific City residents want the airport and we have to fight to keep it open and safe. Clearly, this doesn't make sense to people who depend on this emergency resource. Stay true to your mission.

Please attach public comment and any supporting materials here:

<https://www.formstack.com/admin/download/file/20079244068>

Would you like to subscribe to emails about the State Aviation Board?

Yes

Name	John Dunlap
Group/Organization	Friends of Pacific city state airport
Address	Sisters , OR 97759
Email	
Phone	
Public Comment Topic	Pacific City State Airport
Public Comment	During the last board meeting a board member stated that someday someone will die at the airport in Pacific City. That could be said about every airport in this world. There have been no fatalities at KPFC since the Board of Aeronautics purchased the land in 1951. That was 75 years ago. Sunriver Airport is a privately owned NPIAS public access airport that has had 3 fatalities since opening in 1980. Fatalities happen at airports, even the large ones with lots of length and width to their runways. Perhaps KPFC will never have a fatality because the State lists it as a warning airport and pilots understand that landing there requires advanced skill. There are no aviators working on ODAV staff and no aviators serving on the board. Sarah is a private pilot but isn't flying at this time. How can you make informed decisions about GA when your knowledge is from a book or from what you are told as one person's opinion? KPFC is a safe airport now that there is a public private partnership to maintain it. Reward and compliment Friends of KPFC for stepping forward to save this airport. Stop traumatizing this community each time there is a change of ODAV leadership.
Would you like to subscribe to emails about the State Aviation Board?	Yes

From: [Fred C Smyth](#)
To: [Oregon Department of Aviation](#)
Subject: KPFC - Pacific City State Airport
Date: Saturday, September 19, 2026 6:26:33 PM

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This message was sent from outside the organization. Treat attachments, links and requests with caution. Be conscious of the information you share if you respond.

To Whom It May Concern

I am a pilot, in excess of 55 years. I now fly recreationally throughout the Northwest, primarily west of the Cascades. A favorite destination is Pacific City due to its easy vacation rentals right on the beach. As I have unhindered access to my friend's Cessna 172, we've made several trips there over the past few year. It would be a definite shame to the aviation community in general and to our friends in Pacific City if the State was to "claw back" any funds allocated to the airport. I urge you to think of the local community's support by the aviation sector and refrain from a short-sighted decision.

Thank you for your consideration.

Fred C Smyth

[REDACTED]

MORRIS Alexis

From: Kevin Lux [REDACTED] >
Sent: Saturday, September 19, 2026 9:25 PM
To: Oregon Department of Aviation
Subject: Support of KPFC

[You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

This message was sent from outside the organization. Treat attachments, links and requests with caution. Be conscious of the information you share if you respond.

To whom it may concern,

My name is Kevin Lux, Industrial Elecyrician by trade, Commercial Pilot, CFI/CFII, and airplane owner for fun based in Vancouver, WA's historic Pearson Field.

I'm writing you this evening in support of KPFC. Specifically, I support the SOAR funding to fix the broken drainage system, put in an emergency access road, and expand the airplane parking area.

I believe the local experts when they explain that this project cannot be broken up into phases because of impending FEMA rule changes that will greatly impact the ability to work on the airport after October 2027. These improvements will all be key in maintaining what's good here and making the airport even better.

The airport is important to me for a number of reasons and that drives my support here:

- 1) The very close walking distance to the beach makes this airport unlike any other on the Oregon Coast, making it very appealing.
- 2) Even at age 17, a person can earn their Private Pilot Certificate after a practical test, which requires landing on a spot, - 0' +200', and coming to a stop as fast as possible while maintaining centerline and not locking up the brakes. Now, you would be right to know that KPFC is short and narrow, but it's still PLENTY big enough for even a minor. We pilots across the PNW love KPFC and treat it with the respect it deserves so we and the airport can enjoy a long future of prosperity.
- 3) As a Certificated Flight Instructor, this is one airport I highlight with learners for a number of reasons, including the freedom we have to hop in a plane and head to the coast and skip the traffic. I tell learners about all the things I love about the airport and the town and how important it is to spend some money and thank the locals for their wonderful air strip.
- 4) Not many airports have so many great spots to eat at right next door. My wife and I love that we can secure the airplane and get a delicious meal just across the road. We're making plans soon to make a weekend of it too, all thanks to KPFC and the lovely residents who make it so inviting. Improving the field will only help the appeal!
- 5) With family close by, it's so much easier to land at KPFC than at Tillamook, although that's a fine location too. We'd rather keep going to Pacific City and enjoying the benefits.

I'm sure I'll think of some more after sending this, but I hope these thoughts will suffice to add to all the other comments in support. We all thank you for your time and attention to the airport and all of us who love it and the town around it. With that, I urge your support of the funding measures and methods and thank you.

- Kevin Lux

From: [Will Hobbs](#)
To: [Oregon Department of Aviation](#)
Subject: PFC, Pacific City airport
Date: Saturday, September 19, 2026 9:33:14 PM

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This message was sent from outside the organization. Treat attachments, links and requests with caution. Be conscious of the information you share if you respond.

I'm writing in support of continued funding for the Pacific City airport, which I frequently fly into. It provides great access to several nearby restaurants and is in a beautiful area that is a real pleasure to fly into.

On one occasion, I was delayed in departing because a Coast Guard rescue helicopter was using it as a base for a rescue of someone who had slipped down a cliff nearby. Losing this airport would make such rescues more difficult.

The airplane parking area would be better if it were enlarged, and also leveled, as pushing the plane up to its tiedowns is a bit difficult due to the slope of the blacktop.

This airport serves both the GA community and the Coast Guard, and it should be preserved and improved.

Thank you.

Will Hobbs
Private Pilot based at Twin Oaks Airpark, Hillsboro

[REDACTED]

From: [Mary Inman](#)
To: [Oregon Department of Aviation](#)
Subject: Pacific city
Date: Saturday, September 19, 2026 10:27:38 PM

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This message was sent from outside the organization. Treat attachments, links and requests with caution. Be conscious of the information you share if you respond.

Pacific City is the MOST popular coastal airport , always has been.

Please don't sell it down the river by abandoning it to a terrible fate.

It is such a jewel and a treasure as an airport and is so valued by that coastal town.

Please do what you can.

Maryann Inman
[REDACTED]

From: [kimber forrer](#)
To: [Oregon Department of Aviation](#)
Subject: airport funding
Date: Sunday, September 20, 2026 7:22:53 AM

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This message was sent from outside the organization. Treat attachments, links and requests with caution. Be conscious of the information you share if you respond.

I regards to KPFC, Pacific City State Airport.

Oregon Department of aviation Board Meeting, In support for Pacific City State Airport!!!

The ODAV Board met on September 3rd to discuss whether to claw back the \$1.375 million SOAR funding for the airport. They believe that the airport is encroached and therefore is unsafe. There has not been even one fatality at the airport for 75 years!!

At the start of the Sept Board meeting, it was reported that they had received 50 letters of support, and 3 advocates for the airport made public comments asking for funding to continue. 42 people participated in the Team virtual meeting. We sent a clear message that we want the funding to continue! However, they Board delayed the funding decision until their October 1st meeting.

I, Kimber Brandon do hereby ask for your attention on this matter.

We're asking, in this email for SOAR funding to fix the broken drainage system, put in an emergency access road, and expand the airplane parking area. This project cannot be broken up into phases because of impending FEMA rule changes that will greatly impact the ability to work on the airport after October 2027.

I am a sport pilot in training. This means I'm a student going for my license. I want the opportunity to fly to this wonderful airport to continue for my self and others around me. This airport being close to restaurants and other activities means a fun day will be had. We can walk the shores and spend the day here having fun. To get a group of pilots together to fly in for the day and have amenities close is a wonderful opportunity for a great day. Please keep this airport open and available.

Warmest regards

Kimber Brandon
[REDACTED]

mail.aviation@ODAV.oregon.gov
[Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer](#)

From: [Christian DiBenedetto](#)
To: [Oregon Department of Aviation](#)
Subject: Public comment — keep SOAR funding for Pacific City State Airport (KPFC)
Date: Sunday, September 20, 2026 12:32:01 PM

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This message was sent from outside the organization. Treat attachments, links and requests with caution. Be conscious of the information you share if you respond.

Dear Members of the State Aviation Board,

I urge you to keep the \$1.375 million in SOAR funding for Pacific City State Airport at your October 1st meeting.

My name is Christian DiBenedetto. I am a private pilot based at Twin Oaks Airpark (7S3) in Hillsboro, Oregon, flying a Van's RV-7A. I fly into Pacific City regularly, land, walk the beach, eat at local restaurants, and fly home. Every visit puts my money into Pacific City's restaurants and businesses, and I am far from the only visiting pilot doing exactly that. We are considering purchasing a second home in Pacific City because of the airport.

It is my favorite place to take people who have never been to the Pacific Ocean before. They are amazed by the proximity of the airport to the ocean. They all dip a foot or finger in the water, and they love the horseback riding on the beach.

A few points:

1. The airport's safety record speaks for itself: zero fatalities in 75 years. "Encroached and unsafe" does not match the record.
2. This project cannot be broken into phases. FEMA's new NFIP floodplain rules for Oregon, a "no net loss" standard requiring mitigation for any loss of flood storage, new pavement, or vegetation removal, take full effect in 2027. Splitting the work means later phases face far higher costs and hurdles. The drainage fix, emergency access road, and expanded airplane parking must happen now or not at all.
3. Two of the three funded items, drainage and an emergency access road, are safety improvements. Clawing back the money on safety grounds while killing the safety fixes makes little sense.
4. The land was donated in 1951 by 22 individuals and Tillamook County to the state for a public airstrip. It should stay one.

Please let the SOAR funding stand.

Respectfully,
Christian DiBenedetto
Private pilot, based 7S3
City of residence: North Plains, Oregon
[REDACTED]

From: [Scott Ervin](#)
To: [Oregon Department of Aviation](#)
Subject: Pacific City Airport
Date: Sunday, September 20, 2026 3:22:57 PM

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This message was sent from outside the organization. Treat attachments, links and requests with caution. Be conscious of the information you share if you respond.

I am writing to show my support for the Pacific City State Airport (PFC). The airport is a vital piece to not only the general aviation community, but also Pacific City. It is one of the few airports that provides a location for pilots and their friends/families to land and walk to town and the Oregon Coast without having to arrange ground transportation. This provides a stream of revenue for the surrounding restaurants, hotels, and other businesses. If anything, this airport should be seen as an asset and expanded upon. Not only is it useful in a recreational sense, it is also useful as a safety asset for medical and coast guard aircraft if the need were ever to arise. Please do not withdraw the SOAR funding for this amazing asset we have in our beautiful PNW. The perceived safety risk for this airport simply isn't supported by the facts. Incidents at this airport are no more regular than any other similar airport in the country. From my research there have been only 4 incidents in its 75 years of operation, which I think most people would agree is an impeccable safety record. If you still feel there is a safety threat for this airport, use the SOAR funding to fix what you think is a hazard and keep this airport in operation.

Scott Ervin
ATP, CFI, CFII, MEI

[REDACTED]

From: [Russ Gelfan](#)
To: [Oregon Department of Aviation](#)
Subject: Pacific City Airport
Date: Monday, September 21, 2026 8:25:14 AM

You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

This message was sent from outside the organization. Treat attachments, links and requests with caution. Be conscious of the information you share if you respond.

Dear Oregon Aviation Responsibility Owners,

I am writing to express support for keeping Pacific City Airport fully operational. The airport is a critical asset to our community for several key reasons:

- Economic Impact: It supports local businesses, creates jobs, and generates essential regional revenue.
- Connectivity: It offers vital transportation links for residents, visitors, and business travelers.
- Emergency Services: It serves as a crucial hub for medical transport, disaster response, and regional security operations.
- Community Growth: Continued operations ensure the necessary infrastructure to support ongoing development in Pacific City.

We fly in often to many places along the Oregon Coast, buy gas, go to eat, camp or stay in local rentals.

Thank you for considering these factors and the broader benefits to our community when making your decision.

Sincerely,
Russ Gelfan

[REDACTED]

From: [Jean Rouge](#)
To: [Oregon Department of Aviation](#)
Subject: Support for SOAR Funding for Pacific City State Airport
Date: Monday, September 21, 2026 10:00:21 AM

You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

This message was sent from outside the organization. Treat attachments, links and requests with caution. Be conscious of the information you share if you respond.

Dear Oregon Department of Aviation Board Members,

I'm writing to support continued SOAR funding for Pacific City State Airport (KPFC).

I have flown into KPFC quite a few times precisely because it is located right in town. I can walk from the airport to local restaurants and stay overnight at nearby hotels. This convenience makes the airport uniquely valuable and directly supports Pacific City's local businesses and economy.

Please preserve the full funding needed to repair the drainage system, establish reliable emergency access, and expand aircraft parking. Dividing or delaying the project could jeopardize its completion, especially given the anticipated FEMA rule changes after October 2027.

Thank you for supporting this important community asset.

Sincerely,

Jean

From: [Peter Bradbury](#)
To: [Oregon Department of Aviation](#)
Subject: Pacific city airport
Date: Monday, September 21, 2026 12:03:30 PM

You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

This message was sent from outside the organization. Treat attachments, links and requests with caution. Be conscious of the information you share if you respond.

I am writing to appeal to you to maintain the SOAR funding for Pacific city airport. As a private pilot, I have flown into this wonderful little airport many times. The airport occupies a historic space in the town of Pacific city and provides recreational pilots with access to local businesses and the wonderful beach.

I would also like to emphasize the airport's importance as a public safety resource for the community, being a suitable landing area for Coast Guard and medivac helicopters where they are able to meet local ambulance vehicles for patient evacuation. As we look towards the future, I envisage small airports like this being available to EVTOL transport aircraft for similar purposes.

The friends of Pacific city airport have invested a lot of time and effort in maintaining this airport and providing excellent facilities for the pilots who fly in there. Please do not allow Oregon to lose another small airport.

Peter Bradbury
[REDACTED]

Sent with [Spark](#)

From: [Jeb Butler](#)
To: [Oregon Department of Aviation](#)
Subject: Pacific City Airport
Date: Monday, September 21, 2026 1:04:49 PM

You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

This message was sent from outside the organization. Treat attachments, links and requests with caution. Be conscious of the information you share if you respond.

To whom this may concern,

We love Pacific City Airport and believe it is a great asset to the community that lives and does business there and also to the general aviation community. We love having this airport be one of the ways we access the ocean, a place we really enjoy. Please fund this project! Thank you so much for your time reading this.

Jeb and Sarah Butler
Huskey N63LM

From: [Dima Kukushkin](#)
To: [Oregon Department of Aviation](#)
Subject: In support of KPFC airport
Date: Monday, September 21, 2026 3:28:33 PM

You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

This message was sent from outside the organization. Treat attachments, links and requests with caution. Be conscious of the information you share if you respond.

To the Oregon Department of Aviation Board,

I'm writing to urge you to keep the SOAR funding in place for the repairs and safety improvements at Pacific City State Airport (KPFC).

I have been flying into KPFC from my home base at 7S3 for more than 15 years. In that time it has become one of my favorite places to fly in the state, and I am far from alone in that. Today I am a certificated flight instructor, and I regularly bring students across to Pacific City for practice — it's an excellent training environment, and the experience of flying to the coast is exactly the kind of real-world flying that turns a student into a confident, capable pilot.

KPFC also does something that few airports can: it makes people fall in love with aviation. I have taken a number of people up for their first introductory flight, and several of them got hooked on flying after we landed at Pacific City — walked to the beach, had lunch at one of the local restaurants, and saw what general aviation actually makes possible. That direct access to the beach and the town is rare. It's a big part of what makes KPFC one of the best beach airports in Oregon, and it brings pilots, students, and their spending into the local community.

I want to speak directly to the concern that the airport is "overly encroached" and unsafe. As a flight instructor who operates there regularly and brings students in, I can tell you it is safely usable. The homes around the field were built when the State's development setback was 100 feet from the centerline, and Tillamook County recognizes that pre-existing 100-foot setback. The airport shouldn't be penalized — or lose critical repair funding — because the County and the State disagree over a 100-foot versus 125-foot setback. Pulling the SOAR money over a land-use dispute punishes the pilots, the community, and the emergency and Coast Guard operations that rely on this field, none of whom created that dispute.

The proposed work — fixing the drainage system, building a proper access road so emergency vehicles no longer have to cross private property, and improving aircraft parking — directly improves safety. Delaying it also risks losing the window before FEMA flood plain rules make the work far harder and more expensive to complete.

Pacific City State Airport is a genuine transportation and emergency-response asset for a coastal community, and it is a working, well-loved airport for pilots and flight training. It is worth the investment. I respectfully ask the Board to keep the \$1.375 million in SOAR funding committed to KPFC.

Thank you for your time and for your service to Oregon aviation.

Dmitry Kukushkin CFII



Name	Dmitry Kukushkin
Group/Organization	Self
Address	Hillsboro, OR 97123
Email	[REDACTED]
Phone	[REDACTED]
Public Comment Topic	KPFC airport funding

Public Comment

To the Oregon Department of Aviation Board,
I'm writing to urge you to keep the \$1.375 million in Cycle 6 SOAR funding in place for the repairs and safety improvements at Pacific City State Airport (KPFC).

I have been flying into KPFC from my home base at 7S3 for more than 15 years. In that time it has become one of my favorite places to fly in the state, and I am far from alone in that. Today I am a certificated flight instructor, and I regularly bring students across to Pacific City for practice - it's an excellent training environment, and the experience of flying to the coast is exactly the kind of real-world flying that turns a student into a confident, capable pilot.

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The proposed work - fixing the drainage system, building a proper access road so emergency vehicles no longer have to cross private property, and improving aircraft parking - directly improves safety. Delaying it also risks losing the window before FEMA flood plain rules make the work far harder and more expensive to complete.

Pacific City State Airport is a genuine transportation and emergency-response asset for a coastal community, and it is a working, well-loved airport for pilots and flight training. It is worth the investment. I respectfully ask the Board to keep the \$1.375 million in SOAR funding committed to KPFC.

Thank you for your time and for your service to Oregon aviation.

Dmitry Kukushkin CFII



Would you like to subscribe to emails about the State Aviation Board?

No



September 17, 2026

Oregon Department of Aviation Board
3040 25th Street SE
Salem, OR 97302

Dear Chair and Members of the Oregon Department of Aviation Board:

I am writing to urge the Board to preserve the \$1.375 million in State Owned Airports Reserve funding approved in April 2026 for the Pacific City State Airport.

The planned work addresses longstanding infrastructure and safety needs, including repair of the airport's drainage system, construction of an access road for emergency vehicles, and improvements to the aircraft parking area. These needs do not disappear because the Oregon Department of Aviation and Tillamook County remain in disagreement over airport protection-zone requirements.

In fact, withholding safety-related improvements because the airport is considered encroached appears counterproductive. If ODAV believes conditions surrounding the airport raise safety concerns, delaying drainage repairs, emergency access, and aircraft parking improvements will not reduce those concerns. The land-use dispute and the airport's immediate infrastructure needs should be addressed on parallel tracks rather than making one contingent upon resolution of the other.

The Pacific City State Airport is a state-owned public asset that supports emergency access, transportation, tourism, and the local economy. Since 2018, the Friends of Pacific City State Airport has maintained a public-private partnership with ODAV and contributed significant volunteer labor, private fundraising, equipment, and grant support to the facility. That partnership has reduced the State's maintenance burden and demonstrated substantial community commitment to the airport.

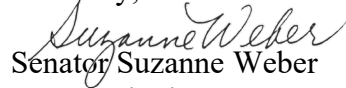
I am also concerned about the timing. The airport's Tillamook County floodplain permit reportedly expires on October 10, 2027. Further delay could jeopardize the ability to complete the approved work, increase project costs, or require the State to repeat portions of the permitting process.

The disagreement concerning the historically recognized 100-foot setback and the State's current 125-foot airport protection standard deserves a serious and focused resolution. I encourage ODAV leadership, Tillamook County, affected property owners, and community representatives to establish a defined process for resolving that issue. My office is willing to assist with those discussions and to consider whether narrowly tailored legislation is necessary if an administrative solution cannot be reached.

I respectfully request that the Board select the option that continues the full \$1.375 million commitment to the Pacific City State Airport while ODAV and Tillamook County continue working toward an appropriate land-use resolution. The airport should not lose previously approved safety and infrastructure funding because two public bodies have not yet resolved a separate regulatory disagreement.

Thank you for your consideration and your service to Oregon's aviation system.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Suzanne Weber".

Senator Suzanne Weber

Senate District 16

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Oregon Department of Aviation](#)
Subject: Support for Pacific City Airport PFC
Date: Saturday, September 19, 2026 10:43:27 PM

You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

This message was sent from outside the organization. Treat attachments, links and requests with caution. Be conscious of the information you share if you respond.

To the Board of the Oregon Department of Aviation,

As an active private pilot that regularly uses my aircraft to travel to and through Oregon. I am compelled to take my time to write to you and fully encourage the Board to fund and support the upkeep, maintenance and improvement of Pacific City airport (PFC). I fly several hundred hours a year for pleasure, personal travel and business. I visited Pacific City with my family recently specifically because of the access offered by PFC airport. It is delightful. The dining is incredibly convenient, the Recreational Aviation Foundation Bicycles and bike shed are amazing and brought my family joy. The Friends of Pacific City Airport webcams and weather information should serve as a model for other communities to encourage and welcome safe air travel to their communities. And i will continue to return there via airplane and encourage to spend my money as a recreation and vacation destination. I would not visit without the airport. I also value the safety offered as i travel the coastal route, which i regularly do. I find the PFC approach and departure safe, the runway environment and distances from buildings adequate and the airport is by far one of the jewels of Oregon Aviation. I have been informed that the board is considering cutting SOAR funding needed for multiple projects at PFC. I ask the Board not to cut this funding and rather to ensure the projects at PFC continue to be funded with no delay including drainage repairs, emergency access and parking expansion.

Kind Regards,
[REDACTED]

MORRIS Alexis

From: Bruce Nourish <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2026 9:45 AM
To: Oregon Department of Aviation
Subject: PFC SOAR funding

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Hello,

I write to show my support for SOAR funding for Pacific City State Airport. I live in Seattle and I have flown into PFC multiple times. Maintenance and improvement of this airport is important to pilots like myself and the community.

Bruce

Wednesday, September 23, 2026 3:36 PM

Subject	Pacific city airport
From	Matt Baumgartner
To	Oregon Department of Aviation
Sent	Wednesday, September 23, 2026 3:06 PM

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This message was sent from outside the organization. Treat attachments, links and requests with caution. Be conscious of the information you share if you respond.

I am also writing to show my support for the Pacific City State Airport (PFC). The airport is a vital piece to not only the general aviation community, but also Pacific City. It is one of the few airports that provides a location for pilots and their friends/families to land and walk to town and the Oregon Coast without having to arrange ground transportation. This provides a stream of revenue for the surrounding restaurants, hotels, and other businesses. If anything, this airport should be seen as an asset and expanded upon. Not only is it useful in a recreational sense, it is also useful as a safety asset for medical and coast guard aircraft if the need were ever to arise. Please do not withdraw the SOAR funding for this amazing asset we have in our beautiful PNW. The perceived safety risk for this airport simply isn't supported by the facts. Incidents at this airport are no more regular than any other similar airport in the country. From my research there have been only 4 incidents in its 75 years of operation, which I think most people would agree is an impeccable safety record. If you still feel there is a safety threat for this airport, use the SOAR funding to fix what you think is a hazard and keep this airport in operation.

I can't tell you how much I've enjoyed spending time, shopping at the local stores and chatting with the local residents has been, but it would be a loss if this airport is no longer viable.

Thank you for the consideration

Matt Baumgartner
Owner of Piper Cherokee 9031J

Sent from my iPad

Name	Sam Butler
Group/Organization	Self
Address	Independence , OR 97351
Email	
Phone	
Public Comment Topic	Pacific City airport
Public Comment	I appreciate the work ODAV does in maintaining and keeping so many wonderful airports open. I want to express my support for the Pacific City airport and my strong desire to see it maintained and open for the foreseeable future. It is such a great place to be able to enjoy the ocean as well as grab a bite to eat. It is one of my favorite places to fly into on the coast.
Would you like to subscribe to emails about the State Aviation Board?	Yes

From: [Keith DiBrino](#)
To: [Oregon Department of Aviation](#)
Subject: Support for Pacific City Airport SOAR funding
Date: Thursday, September 24, 2026 12:37:25 PM

This message was sent from outside the organization. Treat attachments, links and requests with caution. Be conscious of the information you share if you respond.

Good day,

I want it to go on record in support of continuing SOAR funding for Pacific City Airport to fix broken drainage, increased parking for transient planes, and adding an emergency access road. I personally fly into PC at least a half dozen times per year to visit local businesses for lunch, dinner, ice cream, and other shopping. Almost always, it's meeting up with other pilots who are doing the same. PC airport being central to town is perfect for this so I'm sure a popular attraction. For me, the airport is "the #1" reason for specifically visiting PC regularly over most other coastal towns. Please do not take the airport for granted or consider it a liability, as it should be considered a great asset.

Respectfully yours,

Keith DiBrino

[REDACTED]

Tualatin, OR 97062

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [Chad McDowell](#)
To: [Oregon Department of Aviation](#)
Subject: Pacific City State Airport SOAR Funding
Date: Thursday, September 24, 2026 2:33:51 PM

You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

This message was sent from outside the organization. Treat attachments, links and requests with caution. Be conscious of the information you share if you respond.

Members of the Oregon State Aviation Board,

I am writing to express my support for retaining the SOAR funding previously approved for improvements at Pacific City State Airport.

I am an Oregon pilot, owner of multiple general aviation aircraft, and an active user of Pacific City State Airport as well as Oregon's broader network of state-owned and public-use airports. From that perspective, I believe airports like Pacific City are an important part of Oregon's aviation infrastructure.

Pacific City provides useful general aviation access to the Oregon coast and is exactly the type of airport that makes the statewide system valuable to aircraft owners and pilots. I have personally used the airport and would like to continue seeing it maintained and improved for future use.

The planned drainage improvements, emergency access, and aircraft parking improvements are practical investments in the continued usability and condition of the airport. I also understand that changes to floodplain requirements expected in 2027 may make this type of work more complicated and expensive to complete in the future, which makes moving forward with the current project particularly worthwhile.

I understand that ODAV has concerns regarding encroachment and land-use issues surrounding the airport. Those concerns deserve appropriate attention, but I hope they can be addressed separately without delaying needed improvements to the airport itself.

As an aircraft owner and pilot who actually uses Oregon's airport system, I support continuing the SOAR funding for Pacific City State Airport and allowing the planned project to move forward.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Chad McDowell
Oregon Pilot and Aircraft Owner

From: [Paul King](#)
To: [Oregon Department of Aviation](#)
Subject: Pacific City Airport SOAR Funding
Date: Friday, September 25, 2026 12:43:07 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

You don't often get email from paul@amperescientific.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

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To whom it may concern

I am in support of continued SOAR funding for the Pacific City Airport. This funding is necessary to maintain airport operations and especially to fix drainage problems and to increase the parking area.

I travel to PFC about ½ dozen times a year with my travel partners to PFC. We usually travel in a group of 4-6 airplanes bringing 8-12 people at a time. We do this for breakfast trips and other reasons, bringing additional revenue in for the local restaurants and stores. PFC is an important airport in the aviation community for its local, access to local businesses and to the beach, and for its very scenic flight and approach. I know that there are always several airplanes at the airport when we arrive.

Having 4-6 airplanes fly into the airport at the same time can create a parking jam, especially when there are several other planes on the field. As a GA airport, one never knows when people will arrive and therefore, increased parking is important.

As it is Oregon, rain is ubiquitous and therefore good drainage is important. Please make sure that the drainage is updated.

Finally, I am always impressed at to how well maintained the local community keeps the airport. It is certainly a central part of their identity and their public outreach. Clearly, they are in support of the airport as well.

Please consider my comments at the next ODAV meeting on this topic as we are very interested in supporting this airport.

Thank you.

Paul E. King
President & CEO
paul@AmpereScientific.com
+1 541 666-2762 (Office)
+1 503 939-3571 (Cell)



Ampere Scientific

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Pacific City State Airport Work Party: Sept. 22, 2018

BEFORE



AFTER



Pacific City State Airport Work Party: Sept. 22, 2018

Volunteers at Work



Name	Bruce Bennett
Group/Organization	Aurora Aircraft
Address	Sherwood, OR 97140
Email	Bruce@AuroraAviation.com
Phone	
Public Comment Topic	Pacific City Airport
Public Comment	Please register my strong support for the planned improvements to be funded by SOAR. This airport KPFC is critical to the local area's economy and safety. Having personally operated a Commercial Aviation transportation business (Aurora Aviation, a FAA FAR-135 operation) for many decades, I can testify that we have flown logging businesses, vacationers, Federal and State Forestry officials, local business, and medical flights in and out of KPFC over the years since 1980. We understand that ODAV and the local KPFC user group has done a lot of work on these critical airport improvements and it would be a terrible waste and huge inefficiency not to complete the project. Like every airport in Oregon KPFC stands ready to serve as huge asset when we have a disaster and the planned improvements could make a go/no-go difference in its usability in its disaster relief capabilities. Thank you and please contact me with any questions.
Would you like to subscribe to emails about the State Aviation Board?	Yes

From: [J Weigand](#)
To: [Oregon Department of Aviation](#)
Subject: Pacific City Airport
Date: Sunday, September 27, 2026 8:10:56 PM

You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

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Hello,

I am writing to show my support for the Pacific City State Airport (PFC). The airport is a vital piece to not only the general aviation community, but also Pacific City. It is one of the view airports that provides a location for pilots and their friends/families to land and walk to town and the Oregon Coast without having to arrange ground transportation. This provides a stream of revenue for the surrounding restaurants, hotels, and other businesses. If anything, this airport should be seen as an asset and expanded upon. Not only is it useful in a recreational sense, it is also useful as a safety asset for medical and coast guard aircraft if the need were ever to arise. Please do not withdraw the SOAR funding for this amazing asset we have in our beautiful PNW. The perceived safety risk for this airport simply isn't supported by the facts. Incidents at this airport are no more regular than any other similar airport in the country. From my research there have been only 4 incidents in its 75 years of operation, which I think most people would agree is an impeccable safety record. If you still feel there is a safety threat for this airport, use the SOAR funding to fix what you think is a hazard and keep this airport in operation.

Best Regards,

Jeff Weigand

From: [Scott](#)
To: [Oregon Department of Aviation](#)
Subject: Please Preserve KPFC SOAR Safety Funding
Date: Saturday, September 26, 2026 1:26:53 PM

This message was sent from outside the organization. Treat attachments, links and requests with caution. Be conscious of the information you share if you respond.

Dear ODAV Board and Staff,

I understand ODAV is facing difficult budget decisions. However, I urge you not to divert funds designated for KPFC safety improvements to address the agency's broader budget shortfall.

KPFC's safety has long depended on a partnership between ODAV and the local aviation community. For years, ODAV provided limited routine maintenance, including mowing only once or twice annually. Since 2018, Friends of KPFC and local volunteers have worked alongside the agency to fill critical gaps.

Our volunteers have:

- Held eight annual airport work parties, beginning with 50 volunteers who removed 11 truckloads of debris and vegetation in 2018—an estimated \$50,000+ in donated labor.
- Provided and maintained webcams and weather-station equipment, including replacements when ODAV equipment failed.
- Replaced damaged windsocks when timely replacement was necessary.
- Monitored seasonal flooding and cleared drainage areas.
- Mowed the airport regularly when conditions permit.
- Monitored the airport for hazards and assisted visiting pilots.
- Provided pilots with current airport-condition information through our website and social media.

This isn't simply volunteer beautification. These efforts directly support aviation safety.

The MOU between ODAV and Friends of KPFC recognized that KPFC presents unique challenges and that keeping it safe requires a cooperative effort. Friends of KPFC has consistently honored its side of that partnership.

KPFC is a small general-aviation airport with significant limitations. There is no runway lighting or IFR weather system, and the runway cannot accommodate large aircraft. ODAV itself identifies KPFC as a warning airport and advises pilots to use caution. Those limitations make basic safety measures—windsocks, weather information, vegetation control, drainage, and hazard monitoring—all the more important.

After years of substantial community investment in KPFC, it is difficult to understand why funds intended for its safety should now be redirected elsewhere. It seems contra-indicated that given ODAV's commitment to safety that clawing back pre-approved SOAR funds designated to address safety issues makes sense. I understand the State Airport Manager has concerns about the Tillamook County zoning action creating a possible incursion to the airport but fail to see why SOAR funds would be redirected elsewhere instead of addressing the stated and recognized safety needs at KPFC. Please do not allow SOAR funds to become a bargaining chip to influence the county's zoning practice.

Past practice has demonstrated coordination between ODAV and local government entities in Pacific City. For example, there is a water pump station on the NW corner of KPFC that seems to be an incursion onto the runway.

With this in mind ODAV must have approved of this building's location. The Friends of Pacific City State Airport took the lead to address safety and runway clearance concerns posed by the fence surrounding the pump station. The Friends of KPFC get it! However, a zoning issue between ODAV and Tillamook County should not stand in the way of making KPFC as safe as possible for General Aviation.

Please preserve the funds designated for KPFC and honor the commitments made through the ODAV/Friends of KPFC partnership. This a very time-sensitive matter as I'm sure you are aware. If the SOAR designated and approved projects are not instituted before 2027, new FEMA regulations may make it impossible to move forward with these safety objectives.

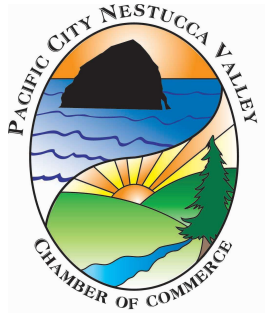
I am asking ODAV to continue working with us in a timely manner — not to abandon a partnership that has made KPFC safer and has saved the agency substantial public resources.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Scott Lane
Volunteer Coordinator
Friends of KPFC

Sent from my iPad



Pacific City~Nestucca Valley Chamber of Commerce

P.O. Box 1078 Pacific City, OR 97135

www.PCNVchamber.org

September 25, 2026

Re: Letter of Support, Friends of Pacific City State Airport

Dear Oregon Department of Aviation Board,

The Pacific City – Nestucca Valley Chamber of Commerce is an organization of businesses and individuals representing the business, economic, political and social interests of its members in Tillamook County, Oregon and throughout the region.

The Chamber was formed in January 2003 by merging the Pacific City – Woods Chamber which had been in existence since the 1950s and the Nestucca Valley Chamber, which had been in existence since the 1980s.

The adopted BY-LAWS of the organization state as its purpose “...an organization of business people, professional people and citizens working together to stimulate a prosperous business environment as well as civic, social, cultural and educational aspects for a more vibrant community.”

Our member businesses benefit greatly from the pilots and passengers that land here in Pacific City. Restaurants, motels, hotels, river and ocean charters, and other services benefit from these new arrivals and regular pilot landings. Beaches are a short walk away, and bicycles are available to ride to Cape Kiwanda and around town. Pacific City's economy is tourism-driven, supporting families and residents. The airport contributes to revenue, along with fishing, surfing, hiking, beachcombing, and vacation home rentals. The airport has brought new homebuyers to our community and encouraged them to bring friends and family here. Long-time residents enjoy seeing the variety of airplanes that land at the airport.

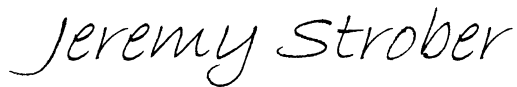
Like any well-used physical structure, the airport requires constant upkeep, ongoing maintenance, and periodic capital improvements. The partnership with the Friends of Pacific City State Airport

and the Oregon Department of Aviation seems to allow this to work smoothly. The annual June work party gets the airport ready for our busy summer travel focusing on airport safety. The nonprofit organization raised money to purchase and host four webcams and a weather station. Volunteers replace torn windsocks and remove debris after seasonal storms and flooding. A website and Facebook page are used to provide information for visiting pilots. Additionally, volunteers monitor things year-round, cleaning restrooms and removing debris after storms. The airport looks manicured and larger because local volunteers pay constant attention to it.

The pledged and committed funding for airport improvements will make it safer for pilots and emergency vehicles. Life Flight and the Coast Guard use it year-round. Aviators, citizens, and the entire region are depending on the Oregon Department of Aviation to support this Soars funding.

We hope you will continue your support of the Friends of Pacific City Airport.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeremy Strober". The script is fluid and cursive, with the first letter of each word being capitalized and larger than the others.

Jeremy Strober

President, Pacific City~Nestucca Valley Chamber of Commerce

From: [Steve Hayden](#)
To: [Oregon Department of Aviation](#)
Subject: Comments for the 10/1/26 ODAV meeting in Oakridge
Date: Tuesday, September 29, 2026 9:41:01 AM

You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

This message was sent from outside the organization. Treat attachments, links and requests with caution. Be conscious of the information you share if you respond.

Hello,

My name is Steve Hayden. I own the hangar on the Oakridge ramp. I also own property and a home alongside the runway.

I feel the airport has been underutilized for quite some time, due to the fact that there are no services available. Oakridge has a lot to offer, with Willamette Pass nearby, mountain biking and other outdoor activities. A viable airport would serve to bring in air traffic and revenue to local businesses and further the development of the City of Oakridge.

I am considering the feasibility of developing the hangar to provide aircraft services. I am a retired ATP. I am also an A&P mechanic with Inspection Authorization as well as a CFII and MEI. My vision is to offer a furnished lounge with internet for flight planning and other amenities, hangar space for transient aircraft, eventually evolving into a basic FBO with minor maintenance, flight instruction and possibly aircraft for rent. These services would benefit the current and proposed future users of the airport, specifically the Forest Service and Lane Community College.

The main hinderance to this proposal is the tendency for the airport to be closed to GA aircraft during the height of the season, for firefighting. Of course, protecting our forests and mountain communities is essential. Helicopters and fixed wing aircraft coexist at other airports without conflict. It seems they could here, as well. Procedures could be put in place to ensure the safety of all participating aircraft, retaining closure as an option in extreme circumstances.

Please consider these possibilities.

Thank you.

From: [Xtine](#)
To: [Oregon Department of Aviation](#)
Subject: Funding for KPFC State Airport
Date: Tuesday, September 29, 2026 12:57:05 PM

You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. [Learn why this is important](#)

This message was sent from outside the organization. Treat attachments, links and requests with caution. Be conscious of the information you share if you respond.

To The Oregon Department of Aviation,
RE: Funding for Pacific City State Airport Repairs and Maintenance

Thanks to KPFC State Airport, Pacific City feels like a home away from home for my husband and myself. Due to its proximity to beautiful natural areas, as well as wonderful local restaurants, KPFC has been our favorite place to fly for more than 25 years. While I was training to become a pilot, I was indescribably thrilled the first time I landed at KPFC: with the airport's unique challenges, landing there felt like a very special rite of passage. Landing at KPFC is always an exciting privilege.

So much care and attention has been given to KPFC by numerous volunteers, donors, and the surrounding community. Significant time and energy have made the airport safer and more accessible. The airport environment in many ways is the best it's been since we began flying there. However, volunteers and individual donors can not address the larger needs of KPFC without the support of ODAV funding.

I believe losing this valuable resource through neglect or permanent closure would be devastating to local communities and pilots who cherish the airport as I do. As a pilot and regular visitor to Pacific City State Airport, I humbly ask the ODAV to fulfill its commitment to support this coastal treasure through SOAR funding.

Thank you kindly for your consideration,

Christine P Duffield, Private Pilot

Photo: Christine P Duffield at KPFC in 2017, with her Van's RV12 N124XD





Hello, my name is Roy Hansen, and I am addressing the critical importance of Pacific City Airport for emergency services.

As you may recall, I had intended to speak at the September meeting, but due to my laptop configuration the moderator was not able to enable my microphone. At that time I emailed the comments that I had written out and I believe the moderator shared them with you. So you may have already seen my comments.

I am a lieutenant in the Nestucca Rural Fire Protection District. I am a firefighter/EMT and our chief drone pilot. I am also a resident of Pacific City as well as a commercial pilot and flight instructor.

I have first-hand knowledge of the importance of our airport for emergency services, because we use it to land both Life Flight and Coast Guard helicopters. We do this when our patients have critical conditions that require us to rapidly transport them to hospitals that have the resources necessary to deal with the patient's condition. These are conditions such as traumatic injuries, serious illness, stroke, and burn victims, to name but a few. This usually means hospitals in the Willamette valley, such as those in Portland.

PC airport is the absolute best place in the Pacific City area for landing helicopters, where we can quickly transfer patients from our rescue vehicles, or from the local ambulances, to the helicopter.

In addition to our daily types of calls for Life Flight, the airport also has strategic importance for all types of rescue flights in the event of a natural disaster. As I'm sure you are aware, in the event of a major earthquake and tsunami, it's expected that all of our bridges and roads will be compromised, and in the immediate aftermath the airport will likely be the only link for evacuating people in distress and bringing in supplies.

Currently to gain access to the airport with our emergency vehicles, we are required to cross private property. My understanding is that some of the funds you are discussing had been planned for building a dedicated access road to the airport. This access is a much-needed improvement, and would help us to give the best and fastest life-saving service for our patients.

The central location of the airport makes it ideal for our daily emergency calls requiring Life Flight, but the same is true for all other types of emergency access.

Thank you for listening.

Roy Hansen

Lieutenant

Nestucca Rural Fire Protection District



22285 Yellow Gate Lane, Suite 102
Aurora, Oregon 97002
Office (503) 678-4364
Fax (503) 678-4369
www.lifeflight.org

September 30, 2026

Oregon Department of Aviation
Oregon State Aviation Board

RE: Request to Delay Adoption of the Aurora State Airport Master Plan and Invitation to Visit Life Flight Network's Aurora Facilities

Dear Director Sugahara and Members of the Oregon State Aviation Board:

Life Flight Network respectfully requests that the Oregon Department of Aviation and the Oregon State Aviation Board postpone any vote on adoption of the Aurora State Airport Master Plan.

Since our prior request, Life Flight Network has continued to engage with State officials, local stakeholders, and other interested parties regarding the Master Plan and its potential impact on our operations. While those discussions have been constructive, significant concerns remain about the proposed plan's effect on Life Flight Network's ability to continue operating from Aurora. In addition to serving as our administrative headquarters, Aurora is a critical maintenance and operational hub for our entire five-state footprint housing multiple air medical teams and aircraft and supporting Oregon's emergency medical transportation and emergency response infrastructure.

Life Flight Network supports thoughtful airport development and remains committed to working collaboratively with the Department, the Board, and other stakeholders. A delay in the Board's vote on the Master Plan would provide additional time to continue these discussions and work toward solutions that appropriately balance the long-term goals of the airport with the critical public safety, healthcare, and emergency response functions supported at Aurora.

We also would like to extend an invitation to members of the Oregon State Aviation Board to visit and tour Life Flight Network's facilities at Aurora State Airport. We understand that Board members are expected to participate in a scheduled airport site visit on December 1-2, and we would welcome the opportunity to meet with you during that visit. We would also be pleased to host Board members in advance of the scheduled site visit at a mutually convenient time so that you can better understand our operations, facilities, aircraft, crews, and the vital role Aurora serves in supporting emergency medical transport throughout Oregon and the region.

Board members interested in arranging a visit may contact me directly at bclayton@lifeflight.org, copying my assistant, Natalie Stone at nstone@lifeflight.org, to coordinate a convenient date and time.

Before taking final action on a Master Plan that could significantly affect Life Flight Network's long-term ability to operate from Aurora, we believe it would be valuable for Board members to have the opportunity to observe firsthand the operational, clinical, and emergency response activities conducted from our Aurora base. We would welcome that opportunity and stand ready to accommodate Board members' schedules.

Accordingly, we respectfully request that the Department and Board postpone any vote on adoption of the Aurora State Airport Master Plan to allow these discussions and evaluations to continue and to provide Board members an opportunity to gain additional familiarity with Life Flight Network's operations at Aurora.

Thank you for your consideration and your continued commitment to serving the people of Oregon.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ben Clayton", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ben Clayton
Chief Executive Officer

Name	Michael Gorski
Group/Organization	Friends of Pacific City Aiport
Address	
Email	
Public Comment Topic	Pacific City Airport SOAR Funding Concern

Public Comment

Dear Oregon Department of Aviation,

I am writing to express my concern regarding the proposed defunding of Pacific City Airport (KPC) and, more importantly, what that decision could mean for the airport's future and the community it serves.

I am a part-time airport resident on Rueppel Avenue, a volunteer and member of the Pacific City Airport Board of Directors, an aviation professional, and a pilot in training. I have a personal investment in seeing KPC remain a safe, vibrant, and sustainable community airport, with aspirations of eventually flying my own family in and out of Pacific City.

Not long ago, we became residents of Pacific City and navigated the intricate permitting process to offer our home as a vacation rental to visiting pilots. Our goal is to help increase access to KPC to be more affordable and support the needs of visiting pilots in mind.

Living at Pacific City Airport has been a childhood dream of mine, rooted in humble beginnings as one of three siblings raised by a schoolteacher and a mother who worked in retail to provide us with the opportunity for a bright future. This airport is more than an incredible asset; it is a community hub supported by aviation enthusiasts and proactive volunteers who want to make KPC accessible for generations to come.

The airport has also become a meaningful part of my young daughter's life. At just three years old, she is already being positively influenced by the people and activities surrounding KPC. She enjoys meeting the friendly pilots who regularly visit, watching the fascinating aircraft that safely operate from the airstrip, and, perhaps most of all, listening for the sound of an inbound aircraft so she can run outside and watch it arrive. These moments illustrate how a community airport can connect children and adults alike with general aviation and create lasting interest in aviation for future generations.

I recognize that the current budget shortfall facing ODAV is serious and that difficult decisions must be made. I also appreciate ODAV's responsibility to carefully manage limited public resources. However, I respectfully ask that ODAV consider an alternative approach that does not place a disproportionate share of this financial burden on the Pacific City airport community and surrounding region.

In particular, I ask that ODAV reconsider the proposed withdrawal of the \$1.375 million in SOAR funding currently identified for KPC. These funds support time-sensitive infrastructure improvements

and permitting efforts that have already required significant coordination and commitment. ODAV and Friends of Pacific City Airport have invested considerable time and resources in advancing these efforts. Preserving the opportunity to move these projects forward, including FEMA-related infrastructure planning and approvals, would protect that investment and maintain important momentum.

The planned SOAR funding would address critical needs at KPC, including improvements to mitigate seasonal flooding that affects our house and local dory fishing professionals, apron expansion, and an emergency access road. These projects go beyond improvements to an airport facility; they directly support airport safety, operational effectiveness, emergency preparedness, and the resilience of the surrounding community. One of the critical improvements is the airport drainage system, which would help address recurring flooding and improve the reliability and resilience of the airport and surrounding properties.

I respectfully ask ODAV to remain committed to the planned SOAR investment at KPC and to work collaboratively with the Friends of Pacific City Airport Nonprofit, local residents, and regional partners to preserve these important projects. KPC is more than a runway or piece of infrastructure-it is part of the community, culture, and way of life that makes Pacific City and the Pacific Northwest unique. It brings together pilots, residents, visitors, businesses, families, and volunteers around a shared connection to aviation and the coast. Protecting KPC means preserving not only critical infrastructure and public investment, but also a living community asset that connects generations and contributes to the character and resilience of Pacific City. I hope ODAV will continue working with us to ensure that KPC remains a safe, accessible, and vibrant community airport for generations to come.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,
Mike Gorski
Pacific City Resident
Aviation Professional
Member of Friends of Pacific City Airport

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emails about the State Aviation
Board?**

No