I spoke at your October meeting representing The Friends of Pacific City Airport nonprofit organization regarding the distribution of SOAR's funds for our airport improvement. I listened to the whole discussion and was frustrated not to be able to correct some of the information you were given regarding the project.

The Friends of Pacific City Airport takes its Public/Private partnership with ODAV seriously. Our volunteers are the eyes and the ears at the airport, making safety a top priority. Our team has been in regular contact with the Tillamook County Commissions, Sara Absher director of Tillamook County Development Department and the Tillamook County Public Works. We communicate regularly with our coastal legislators. All of these public officials are all aware of the airport repair and improvement project and the timeline next year. We collectively hold public and pilot safety as a priority, along with airport access for coastal airport connectivity and economic growth.

We would hope that the ODA sets a priority protecting and promoting small rural airports all over the state. Partnerships such as ours with ODA helps maintain State airports and provides recreational and economic resources for the communities they serve. We've raised money and used volunteer resources to install web cameras, add additional windsocks and a website for safety. Volunteers keep the grass along the airstrip mowed all year long. We have never had a fatality at this airport. Pacific City State Airport is 75 years old this year and it couldn't look better.

We look forward to completion of drainage system repair, the addition of an emergency access road, and expansion of the parking apron within the County's designated permit deadline of October 2027.

Sally Rissel, Chair
President of "Friends of Pacific City State Airport