

# CITY OF COOS BAY PARKS COMMISSION

## Agenda Staff Report

| MEETING DATE | AGENDA ITEM NUMBER |
|--------------|--------------------|
| May 21, 2026 | 3.b                |

TO: Chair Lyons & Commissioners

FROM: Greg Hamblet, Operations Administrator

THROUGH: Jennifer Wirsing, Public Works Director

ISSUE: Request for a Memorial Bench at Mingus Park and the Boardwalk

### **SUMMARY:**

The Parks Commission will consider requests for placement of a Memorial Bench on the Coos Bay Boardwalk and in Mingus Park.

### **ACTION REQUESTED:**

If it pleases the Commission, approve the placement of a memorial bench on the Coos Bay Boardwalk and in Mingus Park.

### **BACKGROUND:**

The City has received two separate requests regarding the placement of memorial benches within City-owned properties. The first request is from Doris Jones to place a memorial bench along the Coos Bay Boardwalk (see attached GIS exhibit for the proposed location). Ms. Jones indicated that the bench would serve as a commemorative installation and would include a thoughtfully prepared plaque honoring the life of her companion of forty-six years, James Hoffmire. Mr. Hoffmire was a retired teacher at Marshfield High School, where he taught for more than 30 years. He and Doris frequently walked the Boardwalk together and greatly enjoyed spending time along the waterfront.

The second request is from Greg Brown to place a memorial bench in Mingus Park adjacent to Mingus Pond (see attached GIS exhibit for the proposed location). Mr. Brown indicated that the bench would serve as a commemorative installation and would include a thoughtfully prepared plaque honoring the life of his late mother. Mr. Brown stated that his mother was a graduate of North Bend High School and lived in the area most of her life. She frequently walked her dog around Mingus Park and greatly enjoyed spending time there.

Both of the proposed locations are appropriate, as it complements the surrounding boardwalk and park amenities while enhancing pedestrian accessibility and maintaining overall aesthetic consistency. Staff has evaluated the proposed locations for maintenance considerations and applicable design standards and is recommending the Commission approve both requests.

### **BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:**

Both donors will purchase the benches and accompanying plaques, which City staff will install.

### **ATTACHMENT(S):**

- Jones Memorial Bench - CITY GIS MAP FEB2026.pdf
- Brown Memorial Bench Location- CITY GIS MAP FEB2026.pdf