

CITY OF COOS BAY JOINT WORK SESSION

Agenda Staff Report

MEETING DATE	AGENDA ITEM NUMBER
November 25, 2025	2.a

TO: Mayor Benetti, Council President DiNovo and City Councilors

FROM: Nichole Rutherford, City Manager

THROUGH: Nichole Rutherford, City Manager

ISSUE: Discussion Regarding Defensible Space Project in John Topits Park

SUMMARY:

During the November 4, 2025 Council meeting, it was requested that this topic come back to the Council for further discussion.

ACTION REQUESTED:

Discuss the project progress to date, along with project scope, completion timeline, outcomes and next steps.

BACKGROUND:

In December 2024, the city of Coos Bay was awarded a Oregon State Fire Marshall grant in the amount of \$75,000 for creating a defensible space buffer in John Topits Park, to help to protect adjacent developed properties. The city prepared a RFP, ultimately selecting Russell Shaping and Excavating to perform the defensible space work. This work began several weeks ago, with several sections of the Park now completed with a defensible space barrier.

During the November 4, 2025 Council meeting, concerns were noted about the scope of the work, the width of the barrier, and the remaining debris, with a request to have further discussions at an upcoming work session.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:

This work is fully funded by the Oregon State Fire Marshalls grant.

ATTACHMENT(S):

- DefensibleSpace_JohnTopits_NOV2025.png
- Russell Shaping & Excavating_Executed Contract Defensible Space.pdf
- 2024-CWRR-010 COOS BAY Agreement Fully Executed (1).pdf
- PSA.pdf
- CC Draft CWPP Update.pdf