

CITY OF COOS BAY PARKS COMMISSION

Agenda Staff Report

MEETING DATE	AGENDA ITEM NUMBER
December 18, 2025	3.c

TO: Chair Lyons & Commissioners

FROM: Greg Hamblet, Operations Administrator

THROUGH: Jennifer Wirsing, Public Works Director

ISSUE: Park Related Projects & Grant Updates

SUMMARY:

Monthly update on park-related grants and projects provided by city staff.

ACTION REQUESTED:

No action requested at this time.

BACKGROUND:

City staff will provide a monthly update report to the Parks Commission to highlight progress on grants, capital improvements, and operations related to parks. These updates are designed to keep the Commission fully informed, support proactive decision-making, and outline both recent accomplishments and the work anticipated in the coming months.

John Topits Park – Wildfire Mitigation

- The City of Coos Bay was awarded the Community Wildfire Risk Reduction Grant for \$75,000 from the Oregon State Fire Marshals Office. The purpose of this grant is to reduce wildfire risk by removing hazardous vegetation around the perimeter of the park adjacent to residential structures.
- Action, Implementation & Mitigation (AIM) Program by Coalitions & Collaboratives Inc. (CoCo): Application submitted October 16, 2025 requesting \$225,000 to support vegetation removal and hazard-fuel mitigation efforts at John Topits Park. Status: No change since the last update. Project Update: The project is approximately two-thirds complete. The City Council has asked to review a plan moving forward for the remainder of the project at the December 16, 2025 Council Meeting. The project is on hold until Council approves the new plan.

Mingus Park Restrooms and Rewilding:

- Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (LGGP): \$343,464 awarded; total project cost \$572,441 with \$228,977 City match.
- Reser Family Foundation: the City of Coos Bay was awarded a grant for \$55,000. These funds will be used to fund a portion of the match requirements for the LGGP grant.
- Project Update:
 - Mingus Park Restroom: Installation is scheduled for January 5th, 2026. The contractor will be on-site to start the construction with an estimated 6-week timeline for completion weather dependent.
 - Mingus Ball Park Restroom: All interior and exterior components have been completed. Hot water heater installation is scheduled prior to the end of the year.
 - The interpretive sign for the rewilding area is nearing completion with installation occurring soon.

TGM (Comprehensive Bike & Ped Plan):

- Staff provided the comments from the Commission to the ODOT representative to incorporate into the Scope of Work (SOW). The Final SOW (with Commissioners comments) was approved by staff and returned to ODOT. Next steps, ODOT Planning will move forward with the consultant solicitation process. Anticipate project commencement: Summer 2026

Front Street:

- City of Coos Bay staff are working with David Evans and Associates to advance the project to final design.
- Staff have been coordinating with the Bicycle and Pedestrian Fact-Finding Committee (BPFCC) to assist with outreach to area businesses regarding the project. BPFCC members Jamie Fereday and Carmen Mathews have been communicating with local businesses to inform them of the proposed removal of 14 parking stalls, which would allow for a continuous multimodal path on the east side of Front Street.
- The Port of Coos Bay is scheduled to review the proposed project at its December 18, 2025 meeting.
- Staff will present the proposal to remove 14 parking stalls to the City of Coos Bay Council at its January 6, 2026 meeting.

Operations & Maintenance

- Trail brush clean-up at John Topits Park is complete.
- New Park Host @ John Topits Park: Isaac & Lisa Redding
- New riding Lawn Mower for the Parks.

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:

None

ATTACHMENT(S):