

City of Bandon

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Bandon by the Sea

CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC COMMENTS	DATE: 4-1-2024
SUBJECT: JOHNSON CREEK GREENWAY PARK	ITEM NO: 7.1

BACKGROUND:

The City of Bandon offers citizens the ability to comment on municipal issues not already on the agenda. The following is letter regarding Bandon's Johnson Creek Greenway Park from Darcy Grahek.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None

RECOMMENDATION:

Informational

SUBMITTED BY:

June Hinojosa, City Recorder

To: Mayor Schamerhorn and Bandon City Council members

From: Bandon and South Coast residents

Re: Johnson Creek greenway property activities

March 21, 2024

Hello City of Bandon Mayor and Councilors,

We are an informal assembly of local folks who are really dedicated to activities related to restoration of habitat in both rural and urban settings. You may have seen us outdoors at Johnson Creek greenway, planting to increase diversity in the wildlife hedgerow, or at City Park during the **Plant 100 Trees** event a few years ago. Our work has also included painting murals or hanging art related to pollinators or natural habitat. This community of people always turn out as the most extraordinary volunteers, doing what they can, planting and mulching, in the name of elevating good pollinator and songbird habitat. We have seen many projects through and are certainly very much a part of the fabric of Bandon's population.

Our cooperative group has several shared values. One is that wildlife habitat, especially for pollinators and birds, is critical to the environmental health of our city and surrounding areas. A second shared value is that humans can enjoy these same areas in ways that are low-impact for the wildlife mentioned. An important third shared value is that people interested in learning about or enjoying native species plants, including wildflowers, need somewhere to have a place to gather for educational purposes. We also believe that eco-tourism is an area of growing revenue for our region as people journey here to see birds or enjoy wildflower or native plant hikes.

We would like to present to the council, at a Council Meeting, one version of a habitat that we hope will evolve at the Johnson Creek greenway, and in fact has a pretty good start. While these habitat volunteers and participants are not visible as a formal group, they are all stakeholders in this community. Each person has a unique relation to this place called Johnson Creek Greenway along the Beach Loop drive. Nothing is being requested from the City other than permission to gather during the appropriate season and continue adding diverse native species plants to the existing hedgerow. Please invite us to present more about this at a future City Council meeting. A good contact is Darcy Grahek at 541-260-2182 or darcygrahek@gmail.com. Thank you for your consideration of our aspirations at Johnson Creek Greenway.

Sincerely,

Darcy Grahek
Donna Levridge-Campbell
Beth Dormandy
Olivia Dethlefsen
Tatiana Havill-Affatati
Nora Lyman
Malaya McLean
Mike Grahek
Pat Dressendorf
Lynn Jackson

Julia Christoferson Andrea Burke Laurie Friedman Vicki Affatati William Ferrer Samantha Stanger Mark Havill Deb Holder Allen Williams