Press Release

Curry County Board of Commissioners and Tourism Promotions Committee Approve TLT Funding to Local Independence Day Events

Gold Beach, OR February 9, 2022: The Curry County Board of Commissioners recently moved to support the unanimous vote made by the Tourism Promotions Committee in funding local Independence Day events.

The <u>Tourism Promotions Committee</u> was presented a vision for TLT funding of July 4th events, by the south County fireworks fundraising group, <u>Love Your 4th</u>. In that effort, the Committee identified the need to support the firework fundraising work also underway by volunteer groups in north and central Curry County. With that, a commitment of \$10,000.00 for each Independence Day event was determined.

Tourism Promotions Committee Chair, Leslie Wilkinson commented "Harnessing a sense of community is important and what better way than supporting each of the community July 4th events on our nation's birthday. The Tourism Promotions Committee was happy to recommend the Board of Commissioners move forward with needed TLT funding, offering our coastal visitors a bang-up 4th experience." Port Orford Jubilee President, Teri Hughes said "Port Orford Jubilee is elated to receive this donation. It will be a fantastic foundation for this year's celebration and for celebrations to come."

Historically, celebration of Independence Day in Southern Oregon Coast communities, more specifically, the ports, has drawn record numbers of visitors. It has long been a means of securing the grass roots sustainability of culture in our respective communities. North County hosts the Port Orford Jubilee, modeling that small town experience visitors crave. The Gold Beach Fireworks Fund is facilitated in great part, by local volunteer fighters who are also certified in pyrotechnics, made possible with the City of Gold Beach. As introduced during the Tourism Promotions Committee meeting, Sam Waller, board member and Gold Beach volunteer firefighter offered the potential of offsetting costs of pyrotechnics services for the other two fireworks groups, with cross training those certifications for neighboring districts.

Transitioning events and life in general during the pandemic has been a challenge. Our county, cities, residents, and valued volunteers, continue to model how critical community is as the foundation of economic stability.

For more information, visit <u>TravelCurryCoast.com</u>

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