

VISIONING SUCCESS AUDIT (Revised 9.11.14)

Port Orford Community Focus:

The city of Port Orford is primarily a commercial fishing and art community with a population of 1130, while the greater Port Orford has an upwards population of 2000. Although Port Orford is poor economically, the community can be described as rich in natural resources with a great respect for history.

Community Support and Initiatives:

- Port Orford has the distinction of building a new library debt free – the community passed a bond to complete construction but did not need it thanks to continued fundraising and community support.
- Ford Institute Leadership Program initiated in 2008
 - o Leadership Development Cohort 1 (2008)
 - o Effective Organizations (2009)
 - o Leadership Development Cohort 2 (2010)
 - o Community Collaborations (2011)
 - o Leadership Development Cohort 3 (2012)
 - o Leadership Development WRC-N Cohort (2014)
- Garden Club placed planters downtown and maintains them beautifully
- Rotary could upgrade Buffington Park with better lighting, ADA compliant trails, etc.
 - o Rotary's centennial project renovated the American Legion Hall w/Commercial Kitchen
- North Curry County produces a broad selection of food – cranberries, blueberries, fish, beef, lamb, and more. These products are sold at the Farmer's Market and Community Food Cooperative in 2013.
 - o Demonstration Garden established at Senior Activity Center in 2010
 - o Community Garden w/raised bed plots near Buffing Park started in 2011
 - o Farmers Market began in 2011.
 - o Port Orford citizens assisted by USDA grant launching food cooperative opened in 2013.
- POORT acquired former Home-by-the-Sea property w/grant from State of Oregon
- Port Orford Sustainable Seafood started processing fish at Port Orford in 2013 after 20 years of no seafood processing at our community. In process of changing to a Fisherman's Cooperative.
- Community Supported Agriculture
 - o Cedar Hill Farm in Port Orford for one year in 2008
 - o Valley Flora Farm in Langlois started in 2010
- Ancient redwoods, giant sequoias "archived" at Ocean Mountain Ranch by Archangel Ancient Tree Archive and promulgated throughout area.
- Battle Rock Park trails refurbished in 2014 with Recreational Trails Grant
- Savage property at Battle Rock Park acquired by Wild Rivers Coast Alliance
- Elk River Land Trust expanded to Wild Rivers Land Trust and established office in Port Orford
- Port Orford Main Street organization received grant for downtown murals.
- OSU Research Station established at POORT building shared with POSS
- Port of Port Orford received grants to assist with dredging in 2013-14
- Port of Port Orford received State of Oregon grant to replace Cannery Building
- Arts Council and Main Street working w/Art at the Port to paint the Pequoid.

POORT is the first community based fisheries management program on the west coast—brings successful triple bottom line projects to the community

Port Orford Economy:

- Port of Port Orford – unique Dolly Dock Port
- Wild Rivers Coast Alliance assisting in property acquisition in and around Battle Rock and VMEC
- Developing a Community Fishing Association to help Port Orford retain fishing jobs and access to fishing right out our front door

Environmental Successes:state

- Garrison Lake outfall and State Park established at Tseraidun
- Port Orford Community Stewardship Area
- Designation of Oregon's first Marine Reserve/MPA at Red Fish Rocks
- Copper-Salmon Wilderness Designation

Awards/Acknowledgements:

- POORT was the recipient of NOAA's 2010 Award of Excellence for Non-Governmental Organization of the Year
- POORT received the 2012 Governor's Gold Award for Contributing to the Greatness of Oregon
- Mayor Jim received 2010 Coastal Planning Award from DLDC for local government officials.
- 2012 Ocean Frontiers movie features POORT's marine reserve work, Copper Salmon Wilderness and the unique community based fisheries work happening here. Governor and First Lady, along with legislators and state officials attended the movie premiere at Port Orford.
- Port Orford Main Street Program is revitalizing downtown – gave 'spiffy' awards to downtown businesses for revitalizing their business storefronts.
- Updated City of Port Orford Comprehensive Plan to recognize Stewardship Area and vision for improving parks and VMEC
- Port Orford featured on OPB "Our Town" in "Think out Loud" radio program on November 16, 2012.
- Port Orford Main Street Revitalization Association recognized by Oregon Main Street.

Visitor Marine & Education Center Focus

2008-

1. Oregon Way Project

- Research Center
- Port Infrastructure
- Marine Interpretive Center
- Title 3 Timber Grant acquired from Curry County after Stewardship Area emphasized Land/Sea Connection to keep project moving forward - Cheryl Coon

2009

Development of an ad hoc group to brainstorm opportunities, identify next steps and identify and critical issues that needed to be addressed.

Contributors Included:

- Mayor Jim, Jim Billings, Susan Brown, Gary Robertson, Steve Roemen, Mike Murphy, Leesa Cobb, Rod Ashley

--Issues identified through the process: ODOT Right of Way, Bioswale, Retain Parking, Views & Open Space, 24 hr. Restrooms, Maximize use of Minimal Footprint in Single Structure, multiple parcels involved, some are City Streets as well as City owned lots.

2010

Parks Commission and others from the ad hoc group visit other Visitor/Interpretive Centers

- South Slough Research Reserve
- Hatfield Marine Science Center
- Umpqua Discovery Center
- and Others (Columbia River Maritime Museum, Heceta Head Lighthouse)

Met with Formations Inc.

- Learned how Port Orford can use Interpretation to tell its story and toured factory making museum displays

Worked with Rod Ashley to develop a building concept to continue to look for funding

Started looking at partnerships and funding opportunities:

- DLCD, State Parks, DSL, Travel Oregon, and others

Met with State Agency Heads in Salem, DLCD via Bob Bailey gave the City of PO a grant to develop a VMEC strategic plan. \$30,000.00

- Looked at 5 proposals in a response to City issued RFP
- Neighborhood Works Umpqua was chosen to develop the plan

2011

Began work with Neighborhood Works Umpqua

- Four Public Outreach Meetings in January (introduction of project to community), February (identification of community needs), March (Informational Meeting for Chamber of Commerce), and May (exploration of partnerships, both in and out of center)
- Began process of developing and revising the strategic plan document
- Plan adopted in Dec. 2011

2012

Began to implement the adopted strategic plan

- ODOT right-of-way acquired
- Battle Rock - private parcel acquisition (working with WRCA)
- Recreational Trails Grant to upgrade trails in Battle Rock Park
- Port Orford Interpretive Trail System (POINTS) Master Plan proposed
- ODOT Grant received for partial 5th Street Paving to Battle Rock Park
- Development of Capitol and Design Committees
- Updated Parks Master Plan

2013

- Started working w/Wild Rivers Coast Alliance on concepts for VMEC
- WRCA acquired lot in middle of Battle Rock Park that impeded further development

2014

- Working w/ODOT to acquire approximately 3 acres of property east of Battle Rock Park
- New opportunities for shared visioning between Port of Port Orford and City