

July 24, 2023

Yachats City Council  
PO Box 345  
Yachats, OR 97498

JUL 27 2023

Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing in support of fast-tracked construction of the boardwalk and viewing deck (known as the Bay Boardwalk), to be sited facing the beautiful Yachats Bay along Oceanview Drive.

My involvement with this project began as an OPRD employee and doing research as to which state permits might be necessary, when I was the acting Ocean Shores Coordinator back in 2021. From my viewpoint the parcel in question sits solidly above, or right off, the state beach, officially called the Ocean Shore State Recreation Area.

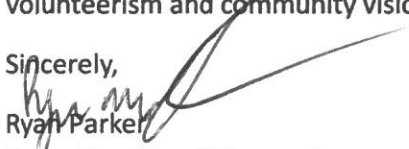
My understanding that the delay in proceeding with this project lied in the transfer of Oceanview Drive from the County to the City. Since that barrier has been resolved, the local planning jurisdiction would be the City of Yachats assigning its Public Works Department and City Council-assigned Work Group to immediately proceed with the detailed engineering, SHPO requirements, and necessary grant applications to build this structure. Having the financial support of View the Future also adds to the feasibility and success of this project's completion.

This project will shore up and vastly improve the safety for pedestrians and create an infrastructure that is already world-class in Yachats, protecting the road's right of way for future visitors and residents alike.

Under my city council hat in Newport, I find many of our pedestrian safety improvements and sidewalk/trail/bike projects stymied by ODOT and state preemption, and it seems to me you have dodged this bullet.

I urge my south county neighbors to earnestly move towards completion with the Bay Boardwalk Project, and I offer you my unbridled support. The project shines of a perfect blend of citizen volunteerism and community vision. I look forward to enjoying it upon completion.

Sincerely,

  
Ryan Parker  
Councilor, City of Newport  
541-270-6054

CC: YachatsNews.Com