



Tillamook County Board of Commissioners

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CAPE KIWANDA PARKING LOT FULL STEAM AHEAD!

Intermittent Closures Still Occur to Meet Schedule and be Operational by July 2024

(TILLAMOOK, OR. April, 2024) New views from the Cape Kiwanda Parking Lot! Visitors and community residents alike can agree that each time a trip to the Cape occurs, the parking lot and adjacent areas look drastically different. One day, large diameter stormwater management pipes line the bottom of the dug-open lot, with a sand pile the size of a mini-dune resting beside. The next day, aggregate rock flattens the new shapes of future parking stalls, contrasting the deep pours of curbing and sidewalk that outline the future pedestrian friendly pathways to the beach. The new, open-air bathrooms form an elegant fore drop to Dorymen's Way, maintaining the color scheme of the cherished rock ahead as well as the Dorymen's Memorial Wall of honored fishermen and boats just beyond. All of these amenities and improvements are meant to serve the community; add safety for friends and families traveling by car, foot, or other mode of transportation; and provide connection to the beach, local businesses, and other natural areas.

The parking lot reconstruction is the first phase of Tillamook County's Kiwanda Corridor Project (KCP) to be built. It also incorporates infrastructure for future wayfinding connections to the five other project elements of the KCP. For more information on the overall KCP please visit the project website:

<https://tillamookcoast.com/southcounty/kiwanda-corridor/>

The new and improved Cape Kiwanda Parking Lot includes:

- **New parking spaces and connection to future project phases** – Priority was given to reconfiguration of existing stalls for public safety, closer connections to restrooms and refuse, and improved access to the beach. Nine new stalls were created at the Cape Kiwanda Parking Lot, for a total of 135 parking spaces. Although not a large increase, it is part of a multi-phase project that nets 191 additional spots across four parking lots.
- **Equitable access to the beach** – The newly graded Dorymen's Way has been improved to reduce water run-off and provide stable and predictable ADA access to the beach, while concurrently allowing daily fishing and recreational activities to occur. The pathways are clearly demarcated throughout the lot and connect to the restrooms and footwash station.
- **New stormwater management system** – The new system collects water run-off from the parking lot, filters it in a below-grade vault, and infiltrates into the underlying sandy soils. Excess runoff from larger storm events will outfall through a new portion of the bulwark on the south side of the existing boat ramp. This will mitigate water run-off down Dorymen's Way and the boat ramp that was contributing to the erosion on the west side of the ramp.

- **Bollards provide safe, low light access to the beach** – The bollards are specifically placed along the new pedestrian path and in-between parking and the new civic overlook. These bollards are dressed with low lighting (pointing down on the ground instead of overhead lighting that would illuminate the whole lot).
- **Upgraded refuse collection** – Smaller receptacles will be placed throughout the parking lot to ensure it remains tidy and clean. The county has created a new maintenance position, dedicated solely to serving Pacific City and the Cape Kiwanda Parking Lot.
- **Sand clearing and maintenance** – Spacing of the bollards, curbing of the sidewalks, and the new civic overlook were all designed with sand clearing and maintenance in mind. Even though sand won't go away, maintenance vehicles and equipment will continue to be able to clear sand after the new lot is operational.

Big changes and intermittent closures at the lot are underway. The county is working closely with Visit Tillamook Coast, other Pacific Northwest Destination Management Organizations, Pacific City Nestucca Valley Chamber, and local government agencies to ensure this closure is communicated and other areas for parking and beach access are known and publicized.

During Lot closure, all efforts are being made to continue safe beach access:

- All public access to the beach will continue to be maintained. Including boat launching activities via Doryman's Way.
- **Thanks to Pelican Brewing and Visit Tillamook Coast**, more than 50% of lost parking due to the Cape Kiwanda Lot closure has been recuperated by opening a private lot behind Doryman's Pizza. **Free to the public!**
- Additional parking will become available by May as the north side of the lot is completed. Free to park until the lot is fully operational.
- Safe pedestrian access to the beach is encouraged along the Pelican Brewing sidewalk.
- Additional signage and "Getting Around" resource maps have been placed throughout the area.

Where else can you park?

- **Free Public Parking Lot** (86 parking stalls behind Doryman's Pizza and only a 2-minute walk to Cape Kiwanda)
- Nestucca Valley Community Alliance Skatepark (55 parking stalls and only a 5-minute walk to Cape Kiwanda)
- Pacific City Boat Launch (60 parking stalls including space for large motorized vehicles).
- Bob Straub State Park (60 parking stalls with direct access to the beach)
- Pacific City Turnaround (20 parking stalls and a quaint walk across the Beachy Bridge to local shops and food)
- Kiawanda Community Center (47 parking stalls). Free to the public on weekdays but no overnight parking.

The Kiwanda Corridor Project connects multiple county properties and supports the development of other public spaces with a thoughtfully programmed design that disperses crowds, creates opportunities for equitable outdoor play and education, and promotes stewardship of Pacific City, our beloved Cape Kiwanda and natural resources as a whole.

The six project elements include:

1. Cape Kiwanda Parking Lot
2. Jensen Property
3. Nestucca Valley Community Alliance Park
4. Multi-Use Path
5. Webb Park
6. Shorepine Village Boardwalk

The KCP's values are:

- **Place:** Honor the natural and built heritage of Pacific City

- **People:** Enhance the experience for the diverse range of people in Pacific City
- **Natural Environment:** Prioritize sound ecological decisions and support sustainability
- **Fiscal Responsibility:** Make efficient and responsible financial decisions and maintain affordability
- **Connectivity:** Support and integrate multi-modal connectivity in and around Pacific City while prioritizing accessibility
- **Safety:** Prioritize everyday safety alongside emergency management

The project is being funded by county transient lodging taxes, day-use revenues from Pacific City parking lots, and grants from state agencies. For more information, please contact Rachel Hagerty, Tillamook County Chief of Staff, at rachel.hagerty@tillamookcounty.gov.



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