

**PUBLIC TESTIMONY
SUBMITTED FOR
MAY 14, 2025
CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

From: Daniel Howlett <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, May 10, 2025 10:58 AM
To: Melissa Thompson
Cc: Laura Swanson; Scott Fisher
Subject: Politics Over Progress: Wetlands Speaker Series Defunded
Attachments: IMG_4771.jpg; Gmail - Jetty Creek Grant Funding.pdf

Hi Melissa,

Please include my public testimony for the May council meeting, including the 2 attachments.

Cheers,

Daniel

I was surprised and disappointed by the City Council's recent decision to deny grant funding for the Watershed Protection Speaker Series organized by North Coast Communities for Watershed Protection (NCCWP). The program was a clear success last year—bringing in credentialed experts and significantly increasing public awareness about wetland and watershed protection in Rockaway Beach.

Equally troubling was the process by which this decision was made. Just weeks earlier, the Planning Commission had unanimously recommended the grant application for funding, awarding it a score of 472 out of 500—the third-highest among six proposals. Yet one of the city councilors later chose to override this recommendation, citing concerns that were factually inaccurate and, in some cases, appeared to stem from personal grievances.

Notably, none of her concerns were raised during the Planning Commission meeting, which the city councilor in question attended. In fact, she spoke in support of the grant at that time and mentioned collaborating with NCCWP to help move it forward. The abrupt change in stance, without meaningful public explanation or clarification, undermines the transparency and collaborative spirit we should expect from local governance.

See below for a written transcript of the explanation, or watch the meeting here, <https://youtu.be/ULhKZVVHMAo>

After the April 9 City Workshop, I wrote directly to the city councilor in question to express my concerns and correct several misstatements she made during that meeting. I did not receive a response, but I feel it's important to share the contents of that message with the broader public.

In summary:

- **Watershed education is still critical:** She stated that funding community education about watershed protection is unnecessary because the city has already purchased the drinking watershed. While it's true that the city has made significant progress in this effort, the purchase is not fully complete—particularly in the upper watershed area, which remains outside city ownership.

Furthermore, the underground wells that serve as backup drinking water sources are currently unprotected. Rockaway Beach also has numerous wetlands and flood-prone areas that pose an ongoing risk to water quality. Education around these issues is far from redundant; to suggest otherwise is both short-sighted and misleading.

- **Open discussion about timber impacts is vital:** The city councilor expressed concern about taxpayer money being used to "talk about the timber companies," framing this as a red flag. However, as we know, timber operations—including clear-cutting and pesticide spraying—are major contributors to compromised drinking water quality in our area. Avoiding any public discourse about this reality is not only confusing, but also deeply irresponsible. Transparent community conversations are essential if we're serious about long-term watershed protection.
- **Misrepresentation of my role and views:** She identified me by name as a leader of the North Coast Communities for Watershed Protection (NCCWP) and claimed I opposed the city joining the watershed working group and purchasing the watershed—implying this as a reason to withhold grant funding.

This is completely false. I do not hold any leadership role in NCCWP, and I have never spoken against the city's watershed purchase. In fact, I've consistently supported it and am on record doing so multiple times. It is especially confusing, given that you and I worked together in 2023 to secure a \$50,000 DEQ grant to support this very initiative. See attached email correspondence as evidence.

- **Denial of Funding Based on Personal Disputes** The city councilor stated that the grant was denied because Nancy Webster did not endorse the city's application. Last year, Nancy—arguably the most qualified applicant for the Source Water Protection Committee—was rejected by the city, seemingly because her input was unwelcome during the Jetty Creek purchase process. It's unclear why her opinion is now being used as justification for denying this application.

The City Councilor ultimately suggested that NCCWP is spreading misinformation and not supporting the city. Yet the issues she raised appear to reflect personal disputes, not objective evaluations of the proposal. None of the other five applications received this level of scrutiny.

It's unfortunate that Rockaway Beach will miss out on a valuable, community-focused educational program because of what appears to be a politicized decision. I urge our elected leaders to re-center their focus on facts, fairness, and the collective wellbeing of our town.

Sincerely,

Daniel Howlett

Rockaway Beach

Transcript from the the April 9 City Council Workshop

I'll go first, because I will make a motion tonight to remove the North Coast Communities for Watershed Protection grant application and to vote on the rest of them as a block and their reasons for removing North Coast Communities for Watershed Protection grant. Um, first of all, I think our experiment of having two groups, the PC, the planning commission and the city council look at the grant applications ensures a greater chance of catching things. And I caught several things with the North Coast Communities for Watershed application that the planning commission just simply would not have been aware of because it was all information that was sent to city council. Most of it was information sent to city councilors and not to the planning commission. Um uh first of all the I want the goal of the nonprofit grants is to use City of Rockaway money to fund projects that bring direct benefit to the economy and residents within the city limits of Rockaway Beach. We can't spend money on other events in other communities. And there are several red flags with a NCCWP application. First of all, they applied to hold a community training for a project that has already been accomplished and is mostly complete and that is buying our drinking watershed. I was the one who spoke up last year and advocated for them to get the grant to bring in some speakers and this has been a huge success. Uh, the city's goal of educating

Rockaway residents about the need to buy a drinking watershed has been accomplished and we are in the process of buying the lower part of the watershed and talking with the owners of the upper watershed. The city now does our own community engagement. We formed the source water protection citizens advisory committee and we will be

forming another citizens advisory committee. We hire professional consultants to guide us the community with the watershed. We hold the city holds town halls about the drinking watershed. We've updated information on our website about the watershed and the community surveys uh the community I mean the city surveys the community to see what the residents think about the watershed. We counselors uh uh visit forest restoration and different watersheds and get information. We go to DEQ meetings. All of that being said, spending \$5,000 for something that's already been accomplished seems not the best use of the city's funds. But there's a couple there are few other red flags, too. Uh, they in their application they said they would uh bring in certain speakers and one of them is Ernie Niemi who's an economist and he talks about the economy of the private timber companies and uh and then the other one is uh a woman from Lincoln City who's a climate change activist. Those are things that are interesting and I've heard Ernie Niemi speak and I really enjoyed his speeches, but it's not necessarily something about the City of Rockaway. We I don't know that I want to spend \$5,000 on talking about the timber companies. Um and then another red flag is that uh they say in their application they will use the money to educate people in other communities about their drinking watershed and they say that multiple times and Astoria's drinking watershed is one NY's formed a offshoot group in Astoria of North Coast Communities for Watershed Protection and uh and I've spoken with Nancy Webster about this, but she insists it's important that they educate other communities. And I agree with her. It is. It's just not a place. The city is not a place to find that. Yeah. Yeah. And um they've also been putting out incorrect information about the city. I think they're a little confused about the processes of how the city works. And just as an example, uh in the LA in the Nedonna Beach uh development land use recently, a few weeks ago, Nancy put out an email that said that the city had not submitted their paperwork on time and it was going to delay the land use court's decision by a month. To be perfectly clear, the city is in compliance with LUBA, has submitted their paperwork, and I think I we got an email from the city manager one time that said we'd submitted over 1400 pages. And uh it was actually North Coast Communities for Watershed Protection who asked for more information. So, of course, the courts put back the date so that more information could be attained. And and yet they're blaming the city, saying it's the city's fault it's been delayed. Um when we first started working on buying our drinking watershed, Nancy Webster and Daniel Howlett, who's one of the leaders with his partner, uh Lyndsey Matteson in North Coast Communities for Watershed Protection, they came to the city council meeting and they spoke against the city joining

the watershed working group and negotiating for the purchase of the

watershed. Um, and my I have a list here, because I could not remember all this. Uh, North Coast Communities for Watershed Protection refused to submit a letter recently of endorsement for Rockaway to apply for grant funds to purchase the drinking water. The city asked, um, one of our planning commissioners asked and our consulting firm asked and Nancy refused and I double checked with all those people. Nancy refused to endorse the city's grant application to buy the water basis. Do we know? Just curious. It's this is often been one of the difficulties is that we've wanted the same things it seems, but it's like it's as if we're not doing what No, I I it is very confusing. Uh one of the things is instead she just refused and she has two people on uh working in her group. They're not a recognized 501c3 so that she just has a working group and uh those two people they we reached out to them and they said she didn't even tell them about it so they didn't have a choice to vote on it. And and I don't want to speak for Nancy. I know what has come down second and third hand for me from me. And um it's just simply that she doesn't to me it seems like she just doesn't trust the city to buy and manage the watershed. Does she even live in Moro? Yes, she does. Because when she used she used to be a rebel for the water for years and she was she had a friend that lived there. She was staying with them and I've heard her name many many years. Yeah. She lives in Adon. Yeah. She she actually has two homes. Yeah. And she has a home in Portland and a home here. But a couple in 2022 she changed her voter registration to Nedonna Beach. Okay. Yeah. Way back. Yeah. Um she also has um and she Nancy Webster North Coast Communities for Watershed Protection has also written letters to Oregon's Department of Geology Dami asking them to stop the city from building a new fire department and emergency management city center out of the tsunami hazardous zone up on the hill and I have talked to Nancy about that. Uh, this is just a short list of I could go on and on and on, but when I start looking at is this the best use of our \$5,000, I don't feel it is. And um, they're free to have as many meetings as they want in Rockaway and they found other people to fund them for ten years. They're a special project of Fulcrum in Nehalem. Fulcrum sponsors them. So it's not like a do or die thing If we don't sponsor them. Mostly I think my concerns are they're wanting to keep on with something that we're way past and that's buying our drinking watershed. Uh, that's engaging people about it buying our drinking watershed and uh and then the confusion and misinformation and not supporting the city, but yet wanting us to pay them to not support the city. You know, that just doesn't seem like a wise use of our money. It

seemed quite repetitive to your whole application was well, there's ways to do it. And if I make the motion to remove it from the grant application and vote on the others as a block, then that one just simply dies and it doesn't get approved. We have to do the that during the council meeting, right? Yeah. Yeah. We've got we've got the resolution public, so we can amend it downstairs in the regular session. Yeah. I would make an amendment to remove it. Yeah. So, I'm just telling you that uh I saw all those red flags when I read through the application, but

the planning commission would not have caught those red flags, because they don't have the direct contact that I have, and they don't get the emails we city councilors get. And yeah, agree. I had also and I'm glad you addressed it, Mary. But another piece of the puzzle here, we did get our large grant applications in. And without going into that tonight, um, there's going to be more requests and we have funding for anyway. So that might help you all make it make a decision. Um, if there's if there's need to reduce this list as all, um, all the money will be spent no matter what you decide tonight on programs in Rockaway Beach. So, what I'm hearing you say is this \$5,000 will easily be available and used to fund the large grants request that have come in. So, we'll do our due diligence in terms of using the community's money to uh uh to promote and foster our own our own community and and I'm not saying they that we want them to stop having community events. They but I do stress since I was one of the people helped organize North Coast Communities for Watershed Protection they have always gotten all kinds of grants to pay for things and there as I said they're a special project of uh Fulcrum it's listed on Fulcrum's website so they this is just extra money and originally they submitted the grant also for us to pay Lyndsey Matteson's salary this next year of \$4,000 and and that was removed by the planning commission, but it just seems like what what they want us to do is not an urgent thing anymore, because we have engaged the community in so many ways and we are buying the drinking watershed and the more money that we're spending with that organization and the more misinformation and I didn't read half of the things on my list. It's a lot of misinformation about the city. And I guess one of the things that bothers me about that is that the North Coast Communities for Watershed Protection steering group or whatever doesn't come to the city and say, "Let's sit down and you explain this to me. They just put out the misinformation, you know, and that's and then when I see that, then I go make an appointment and I sit down and try to explain it to them, you know. I've even looked up stuff that was thrown out and found, yeah, it's so it's concerning and then I'm concerned this will only make it worse, because if we're paying

for, no, I mean if we take it out but also then should we shouldn't be bullied into it. Not that they're bullying. I'm just trying to use an easy word to, you know, I went recently. It's disappointing that's all it is and and hopefully, you know, they will continue and that may hopefully maybe this will help them move in a direction where they are more in learning about how the city works and and how we make decisions and and and why we want why we're doing what we're doing rather than just putting out this false information. But I've heard it's a it's a ripple effect, because I've heard other people who are tangentially related doing other work that will quote something about and like even use I've heard someone give Rockaway as a, oh, sad tale or something and I went up to the person after and said that's that's actually not accurate and it it's someone I that was like, oh, I said, yeah, you know, you have to look at the data and not just what someone repeatedly tells you. And so I went on a I organized actually, uh, last, um, fall, early last

fall, a a walking tour of our drinking watershed. And there were, oh, maybe eight or nine people from Rockaway that went and Nancy asked if she could go with me. And I had to spend the whole time like interjecting, because she kept telling them wrong things about the watershed and I had to correct it. And so, like I said, it's just not a wise use of \$5,000 I feel and happy if they continue to have workshops and and and engage people just with some other grant money. Yeah. don't want don't want I I given what you've shared with us and I know some of the some story, um,uh, having our name associated with them, uh, I I don't think is in the best interest of of our city, um, actually, and I don't need to remind you, but one of their, uh, uh, people that are very engaged with the sued the city, um, and cost the city \$30,000 and staff time of 80 hours and the suit was based on not doing their homework and understanding our ordinances and our charter So, uh, to me that's a that's not a good thing. All right. Any other comments about, uh, um, NCCWP's grant application? Um, I'll just add, I think the rest of them look really good.

Transcript from the the April 9 City Council Meeting (following the workshop)

Transcript: That's Corey who is in attendance Council, President Cheek. Yes. Councilor Franken. Here. Councilor Martine. Here. Councilor McGinnis. Here. Mayor McNeilly is present.

At 1:24 minutes into this city council meeting North Coast Communities for Watershed Protection's application for a grant is discussed.

Transcript: Well, appreciate all who participated and shared their thoughts and opinions. This evening we have no old business, so we'll move on to new business consideration of resolution 2025 to 15, approving awards for the 2024 to 2025 Small Community Grant program. The Planning Commission has reviewed applications based on established grant evaluation criteria, and has made funding recommendations to the city council. The city council discussed the recommendations and applications during this evening's workshop. The public comment period is an essential part of local government meetings. Each person has 4 minutes to speak. I do have the sign up sheet. Anyone joining us remotely who wishes to provide comment can notify the meeting monitor now by clicking the raise hand icon and we will add you to the sign up sheet. Do we have anyone watching remotely wishing to comment? Alright, not the promotion. Is it fine? Yeah. I make a motion that we amend the resolution and pull out North Coast Communities for Watershed Protection grant and vote on the other grants as a block. Penny Cheek: I second the motion. A motion to remove the North Coast Communities Watershed program grant application from resolution 2025 to 15 to amend it has been moved and seconded. Do we have any discussion? Yeah, it's it's the what they applied for the grant for had some red flags. And one of them is, they want to do the same thing that that's already been accomplished. Last year, they applied for a grant, and I was the advocate for them getting the grant, and that was to engage the public around buying our drinking watershed, and that has been a huge success and has been accomplished, and we now do our own city engagement. We formed the Citizen Source Water Protection Advisory Committee, and we're forming another committee. After that one we hire professional consultants. We hold town halls with the community to inform them. We have all the information on our website. We have surveys. So we were starting from scratch last year. But as I feel like it's

a kind of a unwise use of city taxpayers money to do the same thing over again another year in addition to it already being the goal already being completed. I looked at the people they have slated to come and speak and one of them is Ernie Niemi who I have heard several times and enjoyed his talk, but I don't feel it's a fit for the city, because he talks about the economy of the private timber companies, and how their their economy and their finances are not doing as well. And that's something

interesting to hear. But it's certainly maybe not something for the city to fund and the third one is that they mentioned multiple times in their grant application that they want to educate other communities about their drinking watersheds. And I don't feel it's the wise use again of our city money to educate another city about their drinking watershed. That would be something they should pay for and then, I guess. Lastly, there just seems to be a lot of confusion from North Coast Communities for Watershed Protection, and the two people who lead with Nancy Webster, Daniel Howlett, and Daniel Howlett's partner, Lyndsey Matteson, are the three people who are leading the group they have during this last grant time they put out considerable misinformation about the city, and I'm I had a long list, but I'll just highlight a couple of them. One of them had to do with Nedonna Beach development and the appeals decision the city made, and that then North Coast Communities for Watershed Protection appealed our decision to the land use court, LUBA and North Coast Communities for Watershed Protection a few weeks ago put out a blast email to thousands of people saying that the city was causing a delay in the decision because we had not turned our paperwork in time, and that absolutely is not true. We turned in over 1400 pieces of document of paper on time in compliance. What happened was North Coast Communities for Watershed Protection asked for additional paper, and that spot delayed it. So, they were the ones who delayed it, not the city, and and that confusion keeps cropping up all the time. Nancy Webster, despite having advocated for preserving the watershed, she and Daniel Howlett came to a city council meeting and they spoke against the city joining the working group to to negotiate, to buy the watershed. And then also, when we recently asked North Coast Communities for Watershed Protection for a letter of endorsement for the grant we were applying for, Nancy Webster refused multiple times to to send that letter of endorsement, and she was asked by the city, and she was asked also by the consulting firm we're working with. She and North Coast Communities for Watershed Protection, and Nancy Webster have sent letters to Oregon's Department of Geology, DOGMI, asking them to stop the city fro building a new fire department and emergency management center out of the tsunami zone, and I could go on and on. But there just seems to be a lot of confusion about what their role is and what they can do with this money and they're putting out a lot of misinformation. And and I do want to thank the planning commission for their original evaluation of the grants, because this is not information they would have known, because this is information that comes only directly to the city council and does not get shared with the planning commission. So, for that reason, I made the motion to. For all of these reasons, and more, I'm

making the motion to pull their remove their grant from the bulk that we vote on. And again, I want to stress their events are interesting, even if sometimes not fully have all the good, the right information in them. And they were. They can be funded by somebody else, but not the city. Kelsey's any other discussion, since there's no discussion. Let's vote council. President Cheek. Yes. Councilor Franken. Yes. Councilor Konruff. Yes. Councilor Martin. Yes. Councilor McGinnis. Yes. The motion passes unanimously. The chair will now entertain a motion that Rockaway Beach City Council approve the amended resolution 2025 to 15, approving awards for the 2024, 2025 small community grant program. I move that we approve the amended resolution, 2025 to 15, approving awards for the 2024, 2025 small community grant program. I second it. It is moved and seconded that Rockaway Beach City Council approves amended resolution 2025 to 15 approving awards for the 2024, 2025 small community grant program. Is there any discussion from council? I'll just say a couple of things. First of all, this is a brand new process that was put in place, originally designed by the planning commission at direction of city council and then approve by city council. I'm very pleased with how the process worked with the scoring that was used. The results. I think we have four exceptional grants in the final resolution, and my thanks to the planning commission for the work that they did. That got us to to this point. Any other discussion? No, I see some of the grant applicants here today, so I'm sure they're anxiously waiting. All right, all right. Well, since there's no further discussion, let's vote council. President Cheek. Yes. Councilor Franken. Yes. Councilor Konruff. Yes. Councilor Martine. Yes. Councilor McGinniss. Yes. The motion passes unanimously.

CITY OF ROCKAWAY BEACH

SMALL COMMUNITY GRANT

Planning Commission Ranking (500 available points)

Tillamook County Development Disabilities

3rd Annual Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities Picnic



500

Rockaway Beach Business Association

Fundraiser projects

480

North Coast Communities for Watershed Protection

Speaker Series

472

Neah-Kah-Nie Coast Arts Music & Cultural Foundation

3rd Annual Writers Rendezvous

470

Friends of Rockaway Beach Library

Entrance railing & Square device

460

International Police Museum

Community Room furniture, displays & storage

325



Daniel Howlett <[REDACTED]>

Jetty Creek Grant Funding

8 messages

HARVEY Julie * DEQ <Julie.HARVEY@deq.oregon.gov>

Mon, Feb 6, 2023 at 9:20 AM

To: Mary McGinnis <[REDACTED]>

Cc: LEIDEL Alyssa * DEQ <Alyssa.LEIDEL@deq.oregon.gov>, Daniel Howlett <[REDACTED]>, [REDACTED]

Great Mary – thanks for the updated email address. Please let us when you are ready for additional assistance or have questions!

Julie

[Quoted text hidden]

Daniel Howlett <[REDACTED]>

Fri, Feb 3, 2023 at 6:35 AM

To: nancy webster <[REDACTED]>

Hi Nancy,

Good news, we are working with DEQ to secure federal grant funds for a drinking water study, hopefully the first step of many more to come!

Cheers,

Daniel

Daniel Howlett
Earth Advantage Broker
Premiere Property Group
1201 NE Lloyd, Suite 115
Portland, OR 97232
(503) 545-1968

Begin forwarded message:

From: Mary McGinnis <[REDACTED]>

Date: February 2, 2023 at 10:39:00 PM GMT+1

To: HARVEY Julie * DEQ <Julie.HARVEY@deq.oregon.gov>

Cc: LEIDEL Alyssa * DEQ <Alyssa.LEIDEL@deq.oregon.gov>, Daniel Howlett <[REDACTED]>, [REDACTED]

Subject: Re: Jetty Creek Grant Funding

[Quoted text hidden]

[Quoted text hidden]



Julie Harvey | Drinking Water Protection Program Coordinator

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality Water Quality Division

700 NE Multnomah St., Suite 600 Portland, OR 97232-4100

(503) 229-5664 | <http://www.oregon.gov/deq/wq/programs/Pages/DWP.aspx>

From: Daniel Howlett <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, January 31, 2023 1:56 AM
To: HARVEY Julie * DEQ <Julie.HARVEY@deq.oregon.gov>
Cc: Mary McGinnis <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Re: Jetty Creek Grant Funding

Hi Julie,

Thanks for getting back to me! I am on vacation in Barcelona at the moment, and with a 9 hour ahead time difference, it is a bit tricky to connect. If you don't mind, please call Mary McGinnis, city councilor at 573.280.2160. She is probably the best person to talk to, and she is close with Luke Shepard, city manager. Mary and I have spoken many times about this funding, and she is on board to make it happen.

Cheers,

Daniel

Daniel Howlett
Earth Advantage Broker
Premiere Property Group, LLC
Vintage Home Realty LLC
www.vintagehomerealty.com
(503) 545-1968

On Fri, Jan 27, 2023 at 12:02 AM HARVEY Julie * DEQ <Julie.HARVEY@deq.oregon.gov> wrote:

Hi Daniel – thanks for your email and for connecting me with the city representatives. I'm in meetings all day today but am free tomorrow morning until noon – would there be a good time to give you a call tomorrow (Friday) morning?

Thanks

Julie



Julie Harvey (she/her)| Drinking Water Protection Program Coordinator

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality Water Quality Division

700 NE Multnomah St., Suite 600, Portland, OR 97232-4100

[Quoted text hidden]

Mary McGinnis <[REDACTED]>

Thu, Feb 2, 2023 at 1:38 PM

To: HARVEY Julie * DEQ <Julie.HARVEY@deq.oregon.gov>

Cc: LEIDEL Alyssa * DEQ <Alyssa.LEIDEL@deq.oregon.gov>, Daniel Howlett <danielhowlett@gmail.com>, [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

Thank you for this information. I have a meeting scheduled with Rockaway's city manager and public works superintendent next week to discuss this.

Enhancing Rockaway Beach's drinking water has been a goal of mine for about 10 years. I worked with North Coast Communities for Watershed Protection to learn about watersheds and look forward to exploring what we can do in Rockaway.

A note: my city council email is: [REDACTED]

My future correspondence will come from that email.

Mary McGinnis
Rockaway Beach City Councilor

From: HARVEY Julie * DEQ <Julie.HARVEY@deq.oregon.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, January 31, 2023 6:53 PM**To:** Mary McGinnis <[REDACTED]>**Cc:** LEIDEL Alyssa * DEQ <Alyssa.LEIDEL@deq.oregon.gov>; Daniel Howlett <[REDACTED]>

[Quoted text hidden]

[Quoted text hidden]

HARVEY Julie * DEQ <Julie.HARVEY@deq.oregon.gov>

Tue, Jan 31, 2023 at 4:53 PM

To: Mary McGinnis <mary.mcginnis@hotmail.com>

Cc: LEIDEL Alyssa * DEQ <Alyssa.LEIDEL@deq.oregon.gov>, Daniel Howlett <[REDACTED]>

Mary – it was nice talking with you today. Here is the additional information I referenced during our call:

1. Rockaway Beach WD Source Water Assessment – this document has information on where the drinking water comes from and the potential risks to the water supply: https://www.deq.state.or.us/wq/dwp/docs/uswareports/USWA_00708RockawayBeach.pdf. I'd be happy to send a hard copy of this document if you need it.
2. We held two workshops for coastal communities last November – mostly focused on how water systems and their communities can enhance watersheds through land conservation. The materials are all on this website: <https://www.oregon.gov/deq/wq/programs/Pages/water-protection-workshops.aspx>. I would suggest looking at the materials for the North and Mid-Coast November 1st workshop. I think the Resources on this page could be very helpful to Rockaway Beach. Also, you may be interested in watching a short (7 min) video that was put together by the Arch Cape Community Forest group – its discussed in the Arch Cape presentation but a direct link is here: <https://vimeo.com/718107616>.

Please let me know if you have additional questions!

Julie

[Quoted text hidden]

HARVEY Julie * DEQ <Julie.HARVEY@deq.oregon.gov>

To: Daniel Howlett <[REDACTED]>, Mary McGinnis <[REDACTED]>

Cc: LEIDEL Alyssa * DEQ <Alyssa.LEIDEL@deq.oregon.gov>

Hi Daniel and Mary – Thanks for the introduction! I am working on connecting with Mary and left her a voicemail earlier today. In the meantime, I wanted you both to be aware that OHA is now accepting applications from public drinking water providers for Source Water Protection grants. Public Water Systems can apply for **grant funds of up to \$50,000** (per water system per year) or low interest loans of up to \$100,000. **“Letters of Interest” (applications) will be accepted through March 22, 2023.**

This would be a great opportunity for Rockaway Beach WD to fund drinking water protection planning or implementation activities. You can use the funding to hire a contractor or to work with local watershed partners (such as Lower Nehalem Watershed Council, Lower Nehalem Land Trust, North Coast Land Conservancy, or the Tillamook Co. Soil and Water Conservation Districts). The application process is fairly simple and no match is required for grant funds if awarded. Projects are rated on the potential to reduce risk in the delineated source areas or contribute to reduction in contaminant concentrations at the drinking water source.

For more information see <http://public.health.oregon.gov/HealthyEnvironments/DrinkingWater/SRF/Pages/spf.aspx>. Information on eligible projects and the rating criteria are found in the document titled: [DWSPF - General Information on Funding \(pdf\)](#) which is towards the bottom of the page. Alyssa Leidel (copied on this email) and I are available for questions and can assist public water systems with the application process. We can also work with you to help build relationships with local basin partners.

Please reach out and we can discuss potential strategies for Rockaway Beach WD!

Julie



Julie Harvey | Drinking Water Protection Program Coordinator

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality Water Quality Division

700 NE Multnomah St., Suite 600 Portland, OR 97232-4100

(503) 229-5664 | <http://www.oregon.gov/deq/wq/programs/Pages/DWP.aspx>

[Quoted text hidden]

Daniel Howlett <[REDACTED]>

To: HARVEY Julie * DEQ <Julie.HARVEY@deq.oregon.gov>

Cc: Mary McGinnis <[REDACTED]>

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Cheers,

Daniel

Daniel Howlett
Earth Advantage Broker
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www.vintagehomerealty.com
(503) 545-1968

[Quoted text hidden]

HARVEY Julie * DEQ <Julie.HARVEY@deq.oregon.gov>

Thu, Jan 26, 2023 at 3:01 PM

To: Daniel Howlett <[REDACTED]>

Hi Daniel – thanks for your email and for connecting me with the city representatives. I'm in meetings all day today but am free tomorrow morning until noon – would there be a good time to give you a call tomorrow (Friday) morning?

Thanks

Julie



Julie Harvey (she/her) | Drinking Water Protection Program Coordinator

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality Water Quality Division

700 NE Multnomah St., Suite 600, Portland, OR 97232-4100

(503) 229-5664 | <http://www.oregon.gov/deq/wq/programs/Pages/DWP.aspx>

[Quoted text hidden]

Daniel Howlett <danielhowlett@gmail.com>

Thu, Jan 26, 2023 at 11:44 AM

To: HARVEY Julie * DEQ <julie.harvey@deq.oregon.gov>

Cc: Mary McGinnis <[REDACTED]>, Sandra Johnson <[REDACTED]>

Hi Julie,

I wanted to follow up about the grant funding for Jetty Creek. Now that we have new leadership in Rockaway Beach, I was hoping to have you speak at a council meeting and engage the city about watershed protection and grant funding opportunities. As I recall, the deadline was March and I don't want to miss out. I've copied Mary McGinnis and Sandy Johnson from the Rockaway council and planning commission respectively. Please give me a call or email if you would for an update.

Cheers,

Daniel

Daniel Howlett
Earth Advantage Broker
Premiere Property Group, LLC
Vintage Home Realty LLC
www.vintagehomerealty.com
(503) 545-1968

CITY COUNSEL DARK SKIES PRESENTATION(Condensed) 5-14-2025

My name is Laird Heater. 43 yrs ago I purchased a couple of cabins of what was the Gold Coast motel on South 7th . Since then, I've rented the larger half of the duplex for year round local residents.

I'm now on my 3rd generation of family visiting here, and we've treasured the parades, fireworks, beach cleanups and miss the bumper cars, bowling alley and Joe in the dunk tank. As the town has grown, much of the old remains and new traditions are being established.

What we are losing, however, is our night sky. It used to be you could see unblemished galaxies on any clear night. However, that is changing. With growth has come more night lights and the sky is becoming polluted. And too many of these properties have open lights that shine on their neighbors, and many are on 7 days a week, even when the properties are vacant for weeks at a time.

My renter, who worships the beauty and solitude has to walk out to the beach front, just to get away from the worst of the glare. And this is not just Rockaway. There is an entire worldwide movement to address this light pollution. The movement is called DARK SKY. And it not only benefits residents, but is becoming a draw for tourist. I've put a comprehensive packet together, covering all aspects and includes a list of cities in Oregon, including Cannon Beach and Manzanita.

It's mainly about reducing the amount of light, and directing that light downwards & definitely not at you neighbors.

Warm white bulbs vs daylight

What about the bad guys?

Constant-on lights are ignored after a while, and the shadowed areas are more obvious vs a sudden burst of bright light which draws everyone's attention

Too bright of a light causes darker shadows that our eyes don't adapt to.

What can we do?

We have an outdated limited ordinance on our books that could be amended to bring it up to more current standards. I've also been informed that the state is adopting a standard to address all street lighting on Hwy 101 in Oregon to Dark Sky standards.

How to Implement the transition

Effective immediately (within 30 days)

Any residences, while not occupied, shall not display any outdoor lighting.

By July 1, 2025

Just change some bulbs. All exterior fixtures must have warm white, or soft white bulbs not exceeding 600 lumens (approx. 60 watt incandescent)

All motion detector and any other security lights, must be adjusted so they do not 'trespass' on to adjacent properties. This can best be achieved by pointing lights, not only down, but slightly back against structure.

By Sept 1, 2025

Fixtures that have vertical or top panels that allow light to escape up or out, must be modified by covering, painting or replacing panels.

I know the thought of buying new fixtures might be daunting, but I have a few thoughts that you should find helpful.

Motion activated lights will save money over time.

The lights will be on for mere minutes vs hours

Switching to warm LEDs will reduce the amount of watts used more than 75% for those fewer hours. Fewer watts mean fewer dollars.

LEDs have a much longer life span.

For those buying new dark sky compliant fixtures I found them from \$29 at Home Depot to a non-corrosive polycarbonate fixture for \$65.

I know this a lot to absorb in 4 minutes, so I've put together a pretty complete packet, including the actual Manzanita Ordinance. I don't believe in re-inventing the wheel. If you can find one that worksplagiarize.

And feel free to just plug Dark Sky into your computer

LED (Watts) Incandescent (Watts) Halogen (Watts) CFL (Watts) Metal Halide (Watts)

100	1-2	15	10	3-4	10-15
200	2-4	25	18	5-6	20-25
300	4-6	30	25	7-8	30-35
400	6-8	40	35	8-12	40-45
500	8-12	50	45	11-15	45-50
600	10-15	60	55	13-18	55-60

Decoding Dark Sky Ordinances: A Comprehensive Overview



Dark Sky Ordinances (DSOs) are an essential tool for preserving the night sky from the encroaching glow of artificial light. With the rapid advancement of civilization and our increasing reliance on artificial lighting, the beauty of the night sky is progressively fading. However, through the implementation of Dark Sky Ordinances, we can control light pollution and ensure the preservation of our celestial heritage for future generations. 🌌

What are Dark Sky Ordinances?

Dark Sky Ordinances are local laws enacted to manage [outdoor lighting](#). These laws aim to reduce light pollution, which is the excessive or misdirected artificial light produced by human activity. By enforcing certain restrictions on outdoor lighting, Dark Sky Ordinances help to preserve the darkness of the night sky.

Enacting such ordinances is not just an aesthetic choice but a decision grounded in environmental stewardliness and human well-being. It is a global movement, with many cities around the world adopting such laws. Dark Sky Ordinances have a significant role in protecting the environment, conserving energy, and preserving human health and wildlife.

Implementing Dark Sky Ordinances requires a comprehensive understanding of light pollution, its sources, and its impact. It also necessitates a thorough knowledge of lighting technologies, their capabilities, and their limitations.

The effectiveness of these ordinances lies in their adaptability. They should be tailored to the specific needs and characteristics of the community, considering factors like the local climate, geography, and urban development patterns.

The Importance of Dark Skies

The importance of preserving dark skies cannot be overstated. The benefits extend beyond simply maintaining our ability to stargaze. They encompass environmental protection, human health, and cultural preservation. 🌌

Impact on Wildlife

Artificial light at night can have profound effects on wildlife, disrupting their natural behaviors and cycles. Many animals, for example, rely on the natural cycle of light and darkness to regulate their activities such as feeding, breeding, and migration.

Light pollution can confuse these animals, leading to changes in their behavior that can have cascading effects on ecosystems. For example, birds that migrate at night can become disoriented by artificial light, causing them to veer off course, collide with buildings, or become vulnerable to predators.

Through the implementation of Dark Sky Ordinances, we can help to mitigate these impacts and ensure the health and survival of our wildlife.

Human Health and Well-being

There's a growing body of evidence suggesting that excessive artificial light at night can have significant health implications for humans. It disrupts our circadian rhythms—the internal biological clock that regulates our sleep-wake cycle.

Disruptions to our circadian rhythm can lead to a host of health problems, including sleep disorders, depression, obesity, and even an increased risk of certain types of cancer. By reducing light pollution through Dark Sky Ordinances, we can help to safeguard our health and well-being.

The Beauty and Wonder of the Night Sky

Lastly, preserving the dark sky allows us to maintain our connection with the cosmos. For millennia, humans have looked up at the stars for inspiration and guidance. The night sky is a source of wonder, a testament to our desire to understand the universe around us.

Without measures like Dark Sky Ordinances, the rich tapestry of the night sky could be lost to future generations. It's our responsibility to ensure that the stars continue to inspire awe and wonder for centuries to come.

Components of Dark Sky Ordinances

Dark Sky Ordinances are complex and multifaceted, covering various aspects of outdoor lighting. These laws generally focus on controlling the intensity, direction, and type of light used, to minimize its detrimental impact on the night sky. They also include provisions for exemptions and special circumstances. 🏡

Lighting Restrictions

Lighting restrictions form the backbone of any DSO. They usually include regulations on the intensity and [color temperature](#) of outdoor lighting. The goal is to limit the amount of light that can be emitted and to prefer warmer, less disruptive light colors.

Most Dark Sky Ordinances also have “shielding” requirements. This means outdoor light fixtures must be designed or placed so that light is directed downward, where it's needed, rather than upwards into the sky or horizontally into people's eyes.



Moreover, many ordinances also have “curfew” provisions, stipulating that certain types of lighting must be turned off or dimmed at certain times to further reduce light pollution.

Exemptions and Special Circumstances

Not all lights are subject to Dark Sky Ordinances. There are often exemptions for safety, security, and special events. For instance, streetlights and security lighting might be exempted, provided they meet certain criteria.

However, these exemptions do not mean a free-for-all. Even exempted lighting must be carefully considered to minimize unnecessary light pollution. For special events, temporary lighting may be allowed, but it must be used judiciously and turned off when not in use.

Implementing Dark Sky Ordinances

Implementing Dark Sky Ordinances in a community requires a multi-faceted approach. It's not enough to simply draft a law and expect compliance. Successful implementation involves community engagement, education, and enforcement. 🏡

Community Engagement and Education

Community engagement is crucial for the successful implementation of Dark Sky Ordinances. Residents, businesses, and local authorities must understand the benefits of preserving dark skies and how they can contribute.

Education is a key part of this process. It involves raising awareness about light pollution and its impacts, as well as the measures that can be taken to mitigate it. This can be done through public meetings, workshops, and educational materials.

Compliance and Enforcement

Once a Dark Sky Ordinance is in place, it's important to ensure that it's adhered to. This involves regular monitoring and enforcement. Local authorities play a crucial role in this, but community members can also contribute by reporting non-compliant lighting.

It's also important to provide support for those who need to update their lighting to comply with the ordinance. This could involve providing information on compliant lighting options or offering financial incentives for upgrades.

Challenges and Controversies Surrounding Dark Sky Ordinances

While the benefits of DSOs are clear, implementing them is not without challenges. Economic concerns and the balance between development and preservation are common issues. 📁

Economic Concerns

One of the main criticisms of DSOs is the perceived economic cost. Businesses and residents may be concerned about the expense of replacing non-compliant lighting fixtures.

However, it's important to note that many modern, compliant light fixtures are more energy-efficient and have longer lifespans than older, non-compliant ones. Thus, while the upfront cost may be higher, the long-term savings can offset this.

Additionally, DSOs can offer indirect economic benefits. For example, they can enhance tourism by creating attractive environments for stargazing and other night-time activities.

A Good resource - DarkSky advocates for policy priorities that reduce light pollution and promote quality outdoor lighting

<https://darksky.org/what-we-do/advancing-responsible-outdoor-lighting/public-policy/>

4.00 Definitions of common Dark Sky Terminology

4.1 Light fixture means any device intended to produce illumination.

4.2 “Dark Sky” fixture means any light fixture that emits its light below 90 degrees when measured from 0 to 180 degrees vertical. Dark Sky fixtures keep most of their light from reaching the night sky.

4.3 “Dark Sky Cutoff” fixture means any light fixture that emits its light below 45 degrees when measured from 0 to 180 degrees vertical. Dark Sky Cutoff fixtures keep most of their light from reaching the night sky and also minimize ground reflection and reduce light scatter beyond the property line.

4.4 “Dark Sky Shade” means anything that is used to shade a light fixture so that it behaves as a Dark Sky fixture. These include but are not limited to, for example, fixtures outfitted with caps or housings or installed under canopies, building overhangs, roof eaves or shaded by other structures, objects or devices.

4.5 “Dark Sky Shield” means anything that is used to shield a light fixture so that it behaves as a Dark Sky Cutoff fixture. These include but are not limited to, for example, fixtures Dark Sky Lighting Ordinance 2 outfitted with caps or housings or installed under canopies, building overhangs, roof eaves or shielded by other structures, objects or devices.

4.6 “Motion sensor” means any device that turns a light fixture on when it detects motion and off when motion stops.

4.7 “Switch” means any device that can be manually controlled by a person to turn a light fixture on and off. For the purpose of this ordinance, switches include motion sensors but switches do not include light sensors or timers.

4.8 “Emergency” refers to lighting as required by civil officers, agents and officials to perform their duties to maintain the public health, safety and welfare.

4.9 “Temporary” refers to lighting as required by citizens to carry out legally approved activities for durations as specified in the permits for those activities. These include but are not limited to, for example, activities such as nighttime agricultural operations, construction work lighting, and seasonal decorations, but in no case for more than a period of 3 months without an Exemption granted by the Town of Perry.

Common Dark Sky Lighting Exceptions

Emergency vehicles

Holiday lighting

City authorized Recreation and Sports events

Temporary lighting

Construction site

Lighting on wheeled farm machines

Implementation of Ordinance

Effective immediately

Any residences, while not occupied, shall not display any outdoor lighting.

By Sept 1, 2025

All exterior fixtures must have warm white, or soft white bulbs not exceeding 600 lumens (approx. 60 watt incandescent) but preferably 400 lumens (40 watts incandescent)

Fixtures that have vertical or top panels that allow light to escape up or out, must be modified by covering, painting or replacing panels.

All motion detector and any other security lights, must be adjusted so they do not 'trespass' on to adjacent properties. This can best be achieved by pointing light, not only down, but slightly back against structure.

Replacing existing fixtures

Grants -only in Australia

Work a deal thru city with supplier for one-time purchase at big discount (too complicated?)

Work a deal with a local supplier, where there is a catalog with price list where resident can order, prepay and get a healthy discount for the bulk order. Remember, the supplier should also be able to get a healthy discount from manufacturer.

Volunteer firemen help install fixtures (liability ?)

When making change over, going to LED lighting (below 3000 kelvin) will also create a long-term cost saving.



City of Manzanita

COUNCIL ORDINANCE No. 24-02

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MANZANITA, OREGON, TO INCREASE LIVABILITY AND PROTECT THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT FROM THE IMPACT OF OUTDOOR LIGHTING BY MINIMIZING LIGHT POLLUTION, GLARE, AND LIGHT TRESPASS AT NIGHT.

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that it is in the public's best interest to implement regulations to protect and preserve the environment and enhance livability in the city.

WHEREAS, reducing light pollution at night preserves and protects the natural environment; and

WHEREAS, limiting light pollution will enhance the quality of life within the City of Manzanita for humans and wildlife; and

WHEREAS, the City of Manzanita can regulate and enforce limitations to outdoor lighting to achieve these goals.

Now, Therefore, the City of Manzanita does ordain as follows:

Section 1. Definitions

The following words and phrases, as used herein, shall have the following meanings:

- A. Shielded Lighting- A lighting fixture or fixtures that has a covering or is designed to ensure that direct or indirect light rays emitted from the fixture are projected below a horizontal plane running through the lowest light-emitting point of the fixture, as the term defined in ORS 455.573 (4)
- B. Landscape Lighting- Lighting designed to illuminate walkways, trees, shrubs, ponds and other landscape features.
- B. Light Trespass- Direct light rays that fall beyond the property it is intended to illuminate.
- C. Patio Lighting- Temporary lighting including string lights, lights that may plug in, and solar powered lights.
- D. Seasonal Lighting- Temporary lighting installed and operated in connection with holidays or traditions.

Section 2. Prohibited Uses of Lighting

- A. All outdoor lighting fixtures shall be shielded.

MY NEIGHBOR'S LIGHTING

Many of us have experienced this scenario: A neighbor installs a new light fixture on their property. It's unshielded and casts a bright light that spills onto your property and perhaps even inside your home.

This is known as **light trespass**, which can cause much agony and frustration. Although DarkSky doesn't get involved in neighbor disputes, we have provided the following guidance to help you resolve your problem.

If the nuisance lighting is from streetlights, see our [street lighting](#) page.

To be fair, your neighbor may not even realize that their unshielded lighting is shining on your property, wasting energy and money, and creating a safety hazard.

Many people believe that more and brighter lighting makes us safer, but no conclusive evidence suggests that's true. In fact, glare from unshielded lights can make it difficult to see into shadowed areas, where people can hide. And [bright lighting can even make it easier for criminals to work](#).

So, how do you talk to your neighbor about this situation? We suggest taking the following steps to approach your neighbor about their lighting that is negatively affecting you. While you're at it, talk to your neighbor and your community about the value of [DarkSky lighting principles](#) implemented at home.

Practical actions

- Make friends, not enemies. Your neighbors probably don't even realize their lighting is bothersome.
- Stay positive and don't argue. Be tactful and understanding about your neighbor's right to light their property.
- Suggest alternatives to their current fixture. Ask them to move the light, shield it, or add a motion sensor, so it's activated only when needed. Offer to help get this done.
- Be informative. Talking to your neighbor is a great opportunity to be an advocate for good lighting. There are many reasons to use dark sky friendly lighting. Read up on the issues regarding [light pollution](#). DarkSky also has several [educational resources](#) that can be useful.
- It's useful to know the local costs of electricity (in the U.S., this is typically expressed as cents per kWh) and the local lighting control ordinances. This information is available on most city websites, from your regional utility company, and on your utility bill. DarkSky also has this [useful guide](#) to help you determine whether there is a lighting ordinance in your town.
- You may also want to compile a list of local businesses or homes in the neighborhood with good quality lighting as an example of effective security measures that are dark sky friendly.
- Having a list of shielded light fixtures to provide as alternatives to your neighbor's current lighting is also recommended. Use our DarkSky Approved Lighting database to [find DarkSky Approved fixtures and devices](#).
- Don't dismiss their need to feel safe. Remember that home is a place where everyone wants to feel relaxed and safe.
- Explain that light trespass is a form of light pollution, but we strongly advise that you don't threaten legal action. The idea of a lawsuit can create bad feelings in the whole neighborhood.
- Remember that everyone wants the same thing: a chance to relax in their own environment. Work together to create an atmosphere that benefits the community.
- Write a letter. You may find it useful to put your thoughts on paper. We have provided a "Sample letter to your neighbor" (download in [RTF format](#) or [DOCX format](#)) to get you started. Additionally, you can [view a recorded presentation on this subject](#) (YouTube).

FUN FACTS

Go on-line to see just how big the Dark Sky movemnet is and learn facts and myths regarding the correlation between, lighting, crime, nature and our way of life.

Antelope, Oregon was certified as an International Dark Sky Community by DarkSky International, making Antelope the first International Dark Sky Community in Oregon, and the fifth International Dark Sky Place in Oregon, joining Oregon Caves National Monument International Dark Sky Park, Oregon Outback International Dark Sky Sanctuary, Prineville Reservoir International Dark Sky Park, and Sunriver International Development of Distinction in earning this honor.

Sisters is the sixth international dark place in Oregon and the second community, or city, in Oregon to be so designated, joining Antelope.

In the future: Enjoy 7 miles of pristine beaches by day and a thousand starsaty night.

Oregon Outdoor Lighting Policies

**These are all cities that have some version or Dark Sky ordinances
(A bit dated, but you get the idea).**

ClackamaS County

- [Canby](#)
- [Sandy](#) Go to Chapter 15.30 DARK SKY ORDINANCE

Clatsop County

- [Astoria Lighting Standard \(p. 48\)](#)
- [Clatsop County Lighting Ordinance](#)
- [Cannon Beach Effective City Guide](#)
- [Seaside Latest Draft Ordinance](#)
- Manzanita

Curry County

- [Port Orford](#)

Deschutes County

- [Deschutes County](#)
 - [Deschutes Co online complaint form](#) for lighting infractions
 - [Deschutes Co recreation/grow/greenhouse lighting](#) (2016)

Washington County

- [Hillsboro](#)

Yamhill County

-

- [Bend](#)

- [Bend Code Enforcement Complaint Form](#)
- [Example approach for talking to your neighbors](#)

- [Sisters \(2023\)](#)

- [\(1997\)](#)
- [Online complaint form](#) for lighting infractions

Lane County

- [Eugene](#) (2001)

Jackson County

- [Ashland](#)
- [Medford](#) - Go to Article 10.764 "Glare"

Marion County

- [Salem](#) - Go to Section 800.060 - Exterior Lighting

Multnomah County

- [Troutdale](#)

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Multnomah County

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LIGHT FIXTURES

Many people can adapt their present fixtures by changing the light bulb to a lower wattage warm white and blocking out the vertical panels allowing the light to be projected out.

In any case you can apply a thin coat of Petroleum jelly (ideal lubricant-i.e.-Vaseline) to the metal components. Do NOT use WD-40.

Available at most hardware & light fixture stores

i.e.- Home Depot for as low as \$30



For those dealing with the salt, these two companies offer fixture made of polycarbonate, which is apparently impervious to the corrosion.

Coastal Lighting



Global Sales

<https://www.global-sales.us/products/outdoor-lighting/>

Comments regarding Rockaway Beach City Council Meetings held on April 9, 2025

During the City of Rockaway Beach City Council workshop and Council meeting on Wednesday, April 9, 2025, statements were made about North Coast Communities for Watershed Protection, as well as about several people associated with NCCWP. I would like to take this opportunity to speak publicly in order to clarify and to thank the city for their efforts to safeguard the Jetty Creek watershed.

City Statement #1 At the workshop, the following was stated: "First of all, they applied to hold a community training for a project that has already been accomplished and is mostly complete and that is buying our drinking watershed."

There is still work to be done to secure this drinking water source—particularly the upper watershed area. Also, the public needs to clearly understand that the aquifer beneath the Nedonna Beach neighborhood serves as the backup drinking water source for the City of Rockaway Beach. The undeveloped land above the aquifer remains highly vulnerable to development - a threat that could compromise this essential water supply. To date, the City has not updated its comprehensive plan to protect the land above the aquifer. Raising public awareness and fostering community engagement are vital steps toward safeguarding this resource. Protecting our drinking water is not just a matter of policy - it's a shared responsibility, and coming together to defend it is both urgent and achievable.

City Statement #2: One of the City Councillors raised concerns about using taxpayer funds to discuss timber companies, characterizing it as a "red flag."

Timber operations—such as clearcutting and pesticide application—are well-documented contributors to degraded drinking water quality in this region. What is the truth about the economics of logging? Avoiding open discussion of these impacts limits public understanding and undermines efforts to protect our watershed. Transparent, informed dialogue is essential for responsible long-term drinking water management.

City Statement #3: NCCWP caused a delay in the appeal to LUBA of the City Council decision regarding the Nedonna Wave PUD.

North Coast Communities for Watershed Protection (NCCWP) did not file the appeal to the Land Use Board of Appeals regarding the Nedonna Wave Planned Unit Development. The appeal was filed by the Oregon Shores Conservation Coalition, which is represented by the Crag Law Center. While NCCWP supports the appeal, we are not directly involved in the legal proceedings.

Furthermore, NCCWP did not request additional documentation – nor did we play any role in delaying the ruling. We have, however, remained informed throughout the process through regular updates from the attorney at Crag Law Center. According to their account, several of the delays have resulted from the City of Rockaway Beach failing to submit the appropriate records in a timely manner. Last January, the attorney representing Nedonna Wave PUD missed the deadline to intervene in the LUBA case, but later filed. LUBA reviewed his late request, but it was denied.

City Statement #4: It was stated by one of the councilors that "members of NCCWP Nancy Webster, Daniel Howlett, and Lyndsey Matteson spoke against the City joining the watershed working group and negotiating for the purchase of the watershed."

Daniel, Lyndsey, and I have each publicly and consistently voiced our support for the City acquiring its drinking water watershed. Our positions are well-documented and reflect a shared commitment to long-term drinking water security. North Coast Communities for Watershed Protection (NCCWP) is dedicated to ending clearcutting, pesticide spraying, and slash burning in drinking water source areas—regardless of who owns the land. This

shared vision is not just words: Daniel Howlett played a key role in securing a \$50,000 grant from the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality to advance this very effort.

City Statement #5: Nancy Webster refused to endorse the City's grant application to buy the watershed.

I chose not to support the grant because it included the possibility of a land trade—a provision that I believe raised serious concerns. Under this option, the timber company could potentially exchange low-value clearcut land for intact, ecologically valuable State Forest land. This scenario would undermine the goal of protecting high-quality forestland and could ultimately benefit the timber company at the expense of long-term environmental stewardship. When I was presented with the opportunity to sign on to the grant application, I believed that there was not enough detailed, well-researched information for me to make a fully-informed decision. I did reach out to SNW, NCLC, and the City of Rockaway Beach about my concerns.

City Statement #6: One of the councilors stated the following: "Nancy Webster, North Coast Communities for Watershed Protection, has also written letters to Oregon's Department of Geology, DOGAMI, asking them to stop the City from building a new fire department and emergency management city center out of the tsunami hazard zone up on the hill, and I have talked to Nancy about that."

I have never written letters to DOGAMI, nor talked with them. I did privately talk with a licensed geologist from Seaside, about my concerns. I asked him about the slide risks in this area, and all the hills behind the City, including the Jetty Creek watershed. His opinion was that the City should talk with a licensed geologist before buying any property on those slopes. I have copied various DOGAMI slide-risk maps and emailed them to the City.

City Statement #7: "NCCWP has always gotten all kinds of grants to pay for things and they're a special project of Fulcrum, its listed on their website, and this is just extra money"

NCCWP uses grants to fund events and projects. Day-to-day operations are primarily funded by ongoing citizen donations. FULCRUM Community Resources is our 501(c)3 fiscal sponsor and charges us a 5% overhead fee for any donations they receive that are directed to NCCWP.

City Statement #8: That NCCWP was putting out misinformation.

During both the City Council workshop and meeting, it was stated that "NCCWP is putting out misinformation." Our goal is to speak the truth. Information from NCCWP is vetted before being sent out. We rely on recognized and accredited scientists who volunteer to verify our information. Here are some of these individuals: Trygve Steen, Ph.D., emeritus Professor of Forest Ecology at PSU; Dr. Deke Gundersen, toxicologist and emeritus professor at Pacific University; Ernie Niemi, scientist and natural resource economist and president of Natural Resource Economics; Herb Hammond, licensed forester in British Columbia; Steve King, retired Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife biologist; Dale Timmons and Tom Horning, registered professional geologists in Oregon; Steve Pedery, Policy Coordinator for Oregon Wild; Chris Farrar, retired Federal hydrologist.

Depending on the source (and the source's motivations), one can find conflicting data regarding forestry practices, water and air quality, and toxicology. In talking with an Oregon Department of Forestry forester, I learned to, as they say, "agree to disagree," but still continue to exchange ideas in a civil manner. So, if you have questions about what NCCWP is saying, please ask. NCCWP firmly believes that safe drinking water and clean air are part of the public trust, and that we are entitled to have it.

City Statement #9: The University of Oregon assistant professor of landscape architecture who led the recent "Coastal Futures" project did not first contact the City.

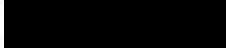
At an earlier Council meeting, a City official has stated that the City was not one of the "stakeholders" contacted regarding meeting with the landscape architecture students who did the "Coastal Futures" project. In truth, the

professor contacted three different City employees, asking them if they could find time to meet with him and his students. All three said that they could not.

Additional misrepresentations have been made against NCCWP, but in the interest of time, I will leave it at this.

NCCWP is a grassroots, volunteer-run organization, and remains committed to working/cooperating/HealthyWatershed.org.

Speak the Truth, Connect with Compassion

Thank you, Nancy Webster, President North Coast Communities for Watershed Protection
rockawaycitizen.water@gmail.com 

 **KARAOKE**

3rd annual Summer Picnic!



**Hamburgers
and**

Hot Dogs Provided!

*Join us for Karaoke, Basketball,
Raffel Prizes , Photo Booth & more!*

**COME
CELEBRATE WITH
THE PERSONS AND
FAMILIES LIVING
WITH ID/DD IN OUR**



Thursday, June 26th, 2025

11am-3pm @ Phyllis Baker City Park

Rockaway Beach

Bring Chairs & Blankets

The Arc



For safety reasons, any food brought by guests can not be shared.