

## Timber: Could create 2,500 jobs

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Winners were announced Friday by the White House.

Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo said the grants will allow communities to invest in new infrastructure, research and workforce development programs in order to create good-paying jobs. Special consideration was given to rural, tribal and low-income areas.

Oregon's mass timber proposal takes a multipronged approach to achieve these goals.

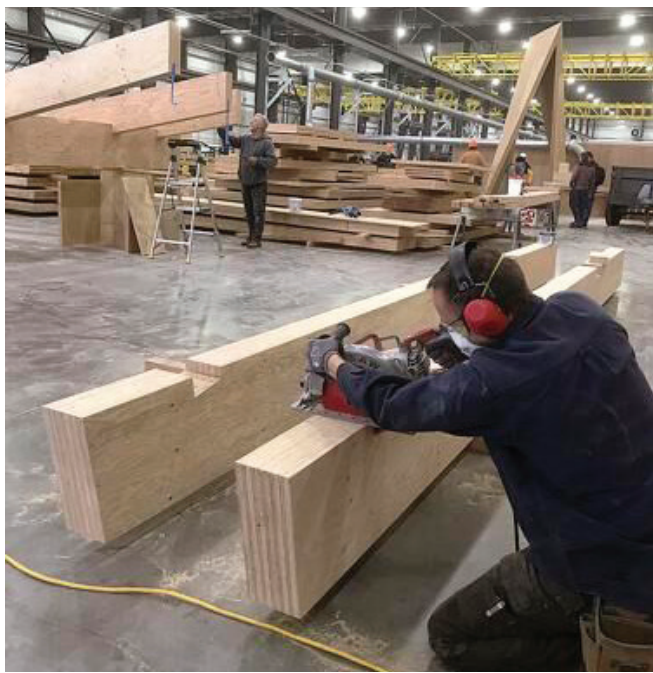
First, a portion of the grant will go toward construction of a factory at the Port of Portland dedicated to building modular homes using engineered wooden beams and panels to address the city's affordable housing crisis.

The Terminal 2 hub will also include a new lab for the University of Oregon to study acoustical design of mass timber houses. Construction is expected to break ground in 2024.

Another \$24 million in grant funds will go to further research into the structural, seismic, durability and energy performance of mass timber buildings, led by the TallWood Design Institute, a collaboration between UO and Oregon State University.

Iain Macdonald, the institute's director, said mass timber has already gained momentum in Oregon. He highlighted companies such as Freres Engineered Wood, makers of mass timber plywood panels used in buildings from the George W. Peavy Forest Science Center in Corvallis to the new roof installed last year at Portland International Airport.

In other developments, Swinerton Builders, one of the top 20 commercial construction firms in the country,



Mateusz Perkowski/Capital Press

Workers prepare mass timber structural components that are manufactured by Freres Lumber Co.

has spun off a mass timber subsidiary called Timberlab in Portland. Sauter Timber, a Tennessee-based manufacturer, is in the process of building a new fabrication facility in Estacada.

"We're seeing this expansion throughout the industry," Macdonald said. "It's not just the folks who make the panels and beams, but there are all these tertiary services."

Macdonald said mass timber can be made from small-diameter trees that wouldn't otherwise be suitable for a sawmill. Revenue from those sales could help agencies such as the state Department of Forestry fund thinning and restoration work, creating healthier and more fire-resilient forests.

Part of the federal grant will allow the Department of Forestry to study how that work can be done sustainably within the Willamette National Forest, feeding the industry with the wood it needs.

"Using wood in construction is not a threat to the forests," Macdonald said. "What is a threat is conversion of the forests to other uses like farmland or (residential) development ... Arguably, the best way to preserve forests is to provide good markets for sustainably harvested timber."

In all, the coalition estimates the project will create more than 2,500 jobs across all sectors over the next five years.

Curtis Robinhold, the Port of Portland executive director, called it "a transformational moment for Oregon."

"The project will create rural and urban jobs with products grown and manufactured right here in Oregon," Robinhold said. "The innovations will enable production of high-quality building products from low-quality wood. This will increase housing, provide jobs and promote forest health."

## Pit bull: More than 30,000 supported online petition

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"I was completely surprised," Mayer said. "... I literally stood and cried when I read that email. It was kind of unbelievable."

In June, Layla, who was staying with Mayer's girlfriend while she was working at Columbia Memorial Hospital, escaped from the house and killed a cat named Jack. Layla was found chasing another cat before being apprehended and taken to Clatsop County Animal Shelter.

Eric Halverson, the interim police chief at the time, designated Layla a level five dangerous animal. Under city code, animals at large that kill other animals are designated level five — the highest level. With some exceptions, the law also states that animals receiving that classification shall be euthanized.

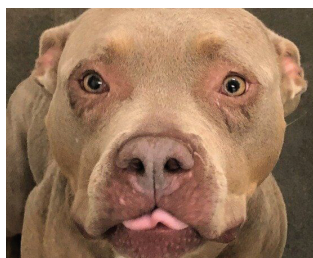
Mayer appealed the designation, but it was upheld in Municipal Court. He then appealed to Circuit Court,

where the ruling was upheld in August.

According to an email from Kelly to Mayer, the city used available discretion within the dangerous animal ordinance and Layla was reclassified from level five to level four.

The decision to reclassify, the email said, was based on evidence that Layla has suffered a history of abuse, that the owners have the desire, experience and ability to monitor the dog's activities and that Multnomah County Animal Services have approved the home where she will be kept.

Conditions of Layla's release include a secure enclosure on Mayer's property with a posted sign indicating a "potentially dangerous dog." She must be leashed and muzzled when not on his property. Layla is also permanently prohibited from entering or residing in Astoria except while being transported in a secure vehicle while passing through the city.



Layla, a pit bull that killed a cat in Astoria in June, was spared.

Kelly indicated that the cat owner supported Layla's release under the conditions.

Mayer is not completely sure why the city had a change of heart, but thinks the large number of emails that city staff and city councilors received from people voicing their support for Layla was a contributing factor. More than 30,000 people supported an online petition for Layla.

"The outpouring of support from people who were sympathetic to Layla's story is amazing and we are so grateful to the police, the city manager and the City Council for being willing to change their stance," Mayer said. "We're very grateful."

Alexis Weisend contributed to this report.

## Stein: Sells her work in Gearhart, online

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about doing paste up layout for ad work," she said.

After graduation, she went to work at Levitz Furniture in their advertising department, doing layouts for ads in The Oregonian. She later returned to school where she learned medical transcription, a career she pursued for the next 30 years.

She met and married Andrew Stein, the founder of Logotek Inc., which produces custom promotional products.

Throughout, she developed her hobby.

"My parents loved to go to the beach," she said. "My mom loved to beachcomb. So from the time I was a little kid, I got into it."

In the 1980s, she moved to California, where she began to explore her fascination with sea glass at Glass Beach in Fort Bragg.

A treasure trove can be found in Santa Cruz, she said, because a glass studio on a cliff stored unused glass behind the studio, which happened to be near a creek. In the 1970s, an overflowing creek swept glass into the ocean during a rainstorm.

"And now this glass is coming back in," she said. "It's all beautiful, multicolored."

Getting to it can be treacherous, she added. "The waves are just wicked there. And you don't typically find it on the beach. You have to get out in the water. People wear wetsuits and have elaborate basket setups," she said. "They actually market it as 'Santa Cruz glass.'"

Sea glass is sold in galleries, eBay and Etsy, she said. Stein sells her work at the Natural Nook in Gearhart.

Sea glass exists throughout the world, with examples

found from Roman times. Most of the glass on the West Coast is "newer, relatively speaking."

Pieces can be made into jewelry. Black glass, considered the oldest and used to preserve liquids before refrigeration, is called "pirate glass" because it is from buccaneer days.

The East Coast has more colors, because the glass is older and more decorative.

On the Oregon Coast, there is little opportunity to discover sea glass, with exceptions around Lincoln City and Newport, she said.

In a world of plastic pollution, sea glass is becoming more of a rarity. "We aren't throwing trash on the beach or in the water," she said. "I always say when I'm walking on the beach, and I look at all the plastic, 'If only it was sea glass, because I would just be in heaven.'"

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