Community News

Travel Oregon's Destination Ready awards \$913,000 to projects across the state

The Oregon Tourism Commission, dba Travel Oregon, has awarded \$913,000 for the development, enhancement and stewardship of key visitor experiences that are COVID-19 appropriate, will aid in economic recovery, enhance local livability and provide access to a diversity of explorers through the Destination Ready program. "These 'Destination

Ready' projects are crucial in ensuring visitors and Oregonians have access to safe and enjoyable experiences as we rebuild Oregon's tourism economy while navigating the pandemic," said Todd Davidson, Travel

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Oregon Tourism Oregon CEO. "Communi- and reallocated resources to ties across the state rely on increase the award amount tourism as an essential component of their economic 34 projects to be awarded fabric. These communities need visitor-ready attractions and experiences that by the agency's Destination continue to prioritize public health measures and Travel Oregon is excited to support these local initiatives that will play a significant role in the state's economic recovery."

Originally announced as a \$250,000 opportunity, Travel Oregon received more than \$4 million in requests through 135 applications. In response to this high demand, the agency reviewed internal program dollars

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\$913,000, which allowed across the state.

Projects will be managed Development team and range from direct investments to more collaborative projects, where staff will work closely with awardees through implementation.

One of the Destination Ready program awardees was the City of Florence, which received \$44,161 for additional seating areas, trash receptacles and bike racks in Historic Old Town Florence and along the Port of Siuslaw's Boardwalk. This amount is the fourth largest funded program, and the second highest going to a rural community.

Awards ranged from \$10,000 to \$50,000.

The City of Florence was awarded a grant to fund additional amenities in Historic Old Town and the Port of Siuslaw Boardwalk.

Read the full release industry.traveloregon.com/ resources/news-detail/ travel-oregons-destinationready-program-awards-913000-to-projects-acrossthe-state.

Travel Oregon works to enhance visitors' experiences by providing information, resources and trip planning tools that inspire travel and consistently convey the exceptional quality of Oregon. The commission aims to improve Oregonians' quality of life by strengthening the state's tourism economy that employs thousands of Oregonians statewide.

Visit traveloregon.com to learn more.



Hyak Awarded \$1.6M to serve outlying rural Lane County

Results were made public recently from the FCC's Rural Digital Opportunity Fund, or the RDOF, a program to help encourage the development of high-speed internet to rural parts of America. Local technology services and fiber internet provider Hyak was awarded \$1.6M to serve areas of the Siuslaw region outside of Florence and Mapleton, such as North Fork Road, Indian Creek, Swisshome, Brickerville and Sweet Creek Road. These areas are generally served by satellite only today or limited DSL that no longer meets the definition of broadband.

According to Hyak COO Neil Ecker, "This represents a significant investment in the outlying areas of Florence and Mapleton that we're

excited to make. Federal sup- a great solution for rural fordable housing and quality port of these high-cost areas means we're now able to de- nity to create opportunities liver our gigabit fiber inter- for families that live in our net to some of the most ru- outlying areas," said Rob-

America and our commu-

internet." While the RDOF program counts 554 locations in the winning areas for Hyak, it is estimated roughly 1,200 homes could have the op-

tion to connect to fiber as the

project continues. "We have quite a bit of work in front of us," Wright added. "We're looking at more than 80 miles of fiber to be deployed with requirements to be built out to 40 percent within three years and 100 percent in six years. While we'd like to expedite those timelines, some of these areas are pretty remote with some challenging as-

pects of their build." For more information, visit https://hyak.co/rdof or call the Hyak office at 541-902-



ral portions of western Lane County."

Of the 386 qualified bidders in the program, 180 entities were successful in their bids. The largest winner in the state of Oregon was SpaceX through their new StarLink satellite internet service. Other winners include Charter Spectrum, CenturyLink and Frontier.

"The RDOF program is

has become even more important with distance learning and remote work as the current pandemic continues to shape how our rural communities can operate. We want to help build a community where our kids can choose to live and work here. We can't do that without numerous factors, including af-

bie Wright, CEO of Hyak.

"Access to quality internet

Oregon Pacific Bank lobbies reopen Monday, March 8

Due to the reduction and Oregon Health Au- and on the sides of the face) mask or face covering. of new COVID-19 cas- thority. es throughout the state, bies on Monday, March 8. This includes the Florence branch, 1365 Highway 101.

All persons visiting the branch are asked to follow health and safety guidelines set forth by the Centers for Disease Control

Before entering a bank entering bank property. security reasons, to momentarily lower their mask or face covering.

All persons are asked to maintain a distance of six or more feet and use the social distancing discs on the lobby floors to help

with proper spacing. Masks (surgical masks) or face coverings (cloth, polypropylene, paper or other covering that covers the nose and the mouth and that rests snugly above the nose, below the mouth

are required for all persons

safe distance and asked, for egon Pacific Bank will probefore you enter the build-

- If you are unable to wear a mask or face covering, we will ask that you use alternative forms of banking instead. To reaccommodation, quest please give us a call at 541-
- 997-7121. recognized as providing adequate protection and are not considered an acceptable alternative to a

All areas determined to be "high touch" are regular-Oregon Pacific Bank will location, visitors will be
If you do not have a ly disinfected by assigned re-open all branch Lob- greeted at the door from a mask or face covering, Or- employees throughout the day, including desks, doorvide you a disposable mask knobs, light switches, and any other areas that experience frequent contact.

All restrooms are restricted to employees only, with no public restrooms available.

Clients are encouraged to use alternative banking methods when possible, including online and mo-• Face shields are not bile banking, drive-thru, ATM or a virtual meeting

with their local banker. To learn more, visit www.opbc.com.

SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MARCH 6	MARCH 7	MARCH 8	MARCH 9	MARCH 10	MARCH 11	MARCH 12
						*
AM Showers	AM Showers	Partly Cloudy	AM Clouds/ PM Sun	Partly Cloudy	Showers	Mostly Sunny
51°F 41°F	51°F 36°F	52°F 39°F	52°F 39°F	51°F 40°F	50°F 37°F	52°F 38°F

Health is our #1 Priority! At Shervin's we are taking extra precaution in order to ensure that our customers and staff are kept safe

and healthy during this quickly changing situation.

1 Car Sanitation - All cars are wiped down with a sanitizer before and after the service. We wipe down any areas in the interior where employees have touched, such as door handles, the steering wheel, keys, shifters and power window panels

2 Hand Sanitation - Our staff will continue to wash their hands throughout the day and change gloves

<u>3 Give Customers Options</u>- We will pick up and deliver your vehicle to your home. You may also drop your key in our secure mailbox for drop-offs to avoid or minimize contact.

4 Employee Illness is Serious- We are encouraging employees not to shake hands. We are practicing "personal distancing" and encouraging employees to stay home if they feel under the weather.

5 Wipe Down High Touch Points - We wipe/spray counters, credit card machines, door handles, phone handles, kitchen areas, and chair arms and tables in waiting area multiple times a day. We continue to be focused and committed to working with each of you to ensure we continue to meet and exceed your expecta-

tions. We are here for you. We thank you for your business and more importantly, your friendship. Please be safe and exercise extra precaution during this challenging time.





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