

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR  
COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

In the Matter of Amending the Columbia )  
County Forest, Parks and Recreation Ordinance )     ORDINANCE NO. 2025-2

The Board of County Commissioners for Columbia County, Oregon, ordains as follows:

SECTION 1. TITLE.

This Ordinance shall be known as Ordinance No. 2025-2.

SECTION 2. AUTHORITY.

This Ordinance is adopted pursuant to ORS 203.035.

SECTION 3. PURPOSE.

The purpose of this Ordinance is to amend the Columbia County Forest, Parks and Recreation Ordinance. The amendment will change how proceeds from the fees charged for use of County forests, parks, beaches, docks, and other recreational facilities are applied.

SECTION 4. HISTORY.

The County has determined that a financial exigency exists in the County, specifically in the General Fund. For Fiscal Year 2024-2025, the General Fund has a shortfall of \$915,000. For Fiscal Year 2025-2026, the General Fund has a shortfall of \$2,800,000. In order to balance the budget as required by Oregon law, the County is forced to allocate fees for the use of forests, parks, beaches, docks, and other recreational facilities to the General Fund. The Board will revisit the need to re-allocate such funds every year.

SECTION 5. AMENDMENT.

Article I, Section 4 of the Columbia County Forest, Parks and Recreation Ordinance is amended to read, as follows (additions in **bold**; deletions ~~stricken~~):

"There is hereby established a separate County fund, kept by the County Treasurer, to be known as the Forest, Parks and Recreation Fund. Except as provided below, all proceeds from the sale of forest products from County forests, forest-parks and parks shall be placed in the Forest, Parks, and Recreation Fund. All proceeds from the fees charged for the use of County forests, parks, beaches, docks, and other recreational facilities within the Forest, Parks and Recreation System shall also be placed in the Fund. Any interest or earnings on the monies placed within the Fund shall be credited to the Fund. The Fund shall be used only for administering, operating, maintaining, developing, or acquiring property for the Columbia County Forest, Parks and Recreation System.

Notwithstanding the above, after the first \$165,000 of proceeds from the sale of forest products from Apple Valley County Forest has been paid into the Forest, Parks and Recreation Fund, proceeds from the sale forest products from Apple Valley County Forest and any interested generated from such proceeds shall be placed in the Fair Fund, as provided by the Columbia County Fair Ordinance.

~~Beginning July 1, 2012 and ending June 30, 2013, all~~ **For fiscal year 2025**, proceeds from the use of County forests, parks, beaches, docks, and other recreational facilities within the Forest, Parks and Recreation System **in the amount of \$464,000** shall be transferred to the County General Fund. **Beginning July 1, 2025, proceeds from the use of County forests, parks, beaches, docks, and other recreational facilities within the Forest, Parks and Recreation System in the amount of \$452,000 shall be transferred to the County General Fund.** ~~Beginning July 1, 2013, fees charged for the use of County forests, parks, beaches, docks and other recreational facilities within the Forest, Parks and Recreation System shall remain in the Parks Fund, unless otherwise provided by ordinance approved by the Board of County Commissioners.”~~

Section 6. SEVERABILITY.

If for any reason any court of competent jurisdiction holds any portion of this Ordinance invalid, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent portion, and any such holdings shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions thereof.

SECTION 7. EMERGENCY CLAUSE.

This Ordinance being immediately necessary to maintain the public health, safety and welfare, an emergency is declared to exist, and this ordinance shall take effect on May 14, 2025.

Dated this 14<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2025.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR COLUMBIA COUNTY OREGON

Approved as to form

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Office of County Counsel

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kellie Jo Smith, Chair

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Casey Garrett, Commissioner

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Recording Secretary

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Margaret Magruder, Commissioner

First Reading: \_\_\_\_\_  
Second Reading: \_\_\_\_\_  
Effective Date: \_\_\_\_\_