

News and Information from Oregon International Port of Coos Bay — Charleston Marina Complex

For Immediate Release: June 12, 2008

Ford Family Foundation Provides Grant for Marina Restroom Project

The Ford Family Foundation informed Oregon International Port of Coos Bay Executive Director Jeffrey Bishop in late May 2008 of the award of a \$50,000 grant to help fund a new restroom/shower facility near the inner basin at the Charleston Marina.

Charleston Marine Facilities Manager/Harbor Master Aaron Simons and the Port's Director of Finance & Administration, Donna Nichols, collaborated on the grant application to the foundation. The Port's Board of Commissioners approved the grant agreement at their June 12 regular commission meeting.

The Port was informed in early April of a \$60,800 grant award from the Oregon State Marine Board in support of the restroom/shower project. The projected cost for the new facility is \$152,000. The Port and its local partners – Charleston Merchant's Association, Charleston Community Enhancement Corporation and the Bay Area Sportsmen's Association – are providing the remainder of the project costs through cash and in-kind contributions.

Bishop said, "Charleston Marina users will benefit from a new restroom/shower, and I want to thank Aaron and Donna for their hard work on securing funds from many sources to get this done as soon as possible so we can continue to provide good facilities and services."

Demolition of the old facility and installation of new prefabricated components will start in the fall after the heavy-traffic coastal tourism season. The new restroom/shower is identified as an immediate project in the Port's recently adopted Charleston Master Plan.

The Ford Family Foundation was established in 1957 by Kenneth W. and Hallie E. Ford. Its mission is "successful citizens and vital rural communities" in Oregon and Siskiyou County, California. The foundation is located in Roseburg, Oregon, with a scholarship office in Eugene.

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