CITY OF COOS BAY CITY COUNCIL Agenda Staff Report

MEETING DATE November 18, 2014	AGENDA ITEM NUMBER
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TO: Mayor Shoji and City Councilors

FROM: Rodger Craddock, City Manager

ISSUE: Boardwalk Flags

BACKGROUND:

In late 1991, twenty-one flag poles were installed between the Coos Bay City Board Walk and Bayshore Drive. At the time, the decision was made to display flags from the various countries whose ship utilized the Coos Bay as a port of call. The idea of this colorful display of flags came from "...an informal group of Coos Bay residents, led by Terri Whitty, [which] came up with the idea after a brainstorming session focused on ways to "spruce up" the city..." (The World, 01/30/1992).

The flags from other countries continued to be displayed until July 2009 when, by resolution, the Council declared "...that the United States flags shall be continually displayed on all flag poles along the Coos Bay City Board Walk until such time as all United State Military personnel are withdrawn from Iraq and Afghanistan..." (Resolution 09-21).

During the June 3, 2014 Council meeting, Mayor Shoji noted troops were scheduled to be withdrawn and a Council Flag Committee was established to discuss changing out the flags. Mayor Shoji and Councilors Vaughan and Leahy volunteered for the committee positions. In an effort to aid the committee, Mayor Shoji requested input from the public on what flags they would like to see flown near the Coos Bay City Board Walk. As you will see from the attached copies of public comments received, a number of citizens submitted comments which resulted in a variety of suggestions.

The Council Flag Committee met on several occasions resulting in a consensus to utilize both the board walk flag poles along with the flag poles on Central Avenue to display various flags including the American flags, state flags, tribal flags, and various international flags. Attached you will find a proposal drafted by Mayor Shoji for your consideration.

ACTION REQUESTED:

If it pleases the Council, provide staff some direction in this matter.

Flag Display Proposal – The Crossroads of Coos Bay

DRAFT prepared by Shoji, November 12, 2014

Council Committee and Staff: Vaughan, Leahy, Shoji, Craddock

Intent

The City of Coos Bay's Boardwalk flag display and the flags on Central Avenue will depict the crossroads of time and place that are the heritage of our community. A brochure explaining the *Intent* and *Crossroads of Influence* will be developed as part of the flag project to be placed in waterproof displays on the Boardwalk and at the Visitor Center.

Crossroads of Influence Criteria and Description

- **The City of Coos Bay:** The City of Coos Bay (formerly Marshfield, Eastside, Empire, and Englewood) lies along the Coos Bay Estuary where salt water from the Pacific Ocean mixes with freshwater from the land. Emerald forested hillsides surround the Bay which has provided succulent seafood tidewater transportation, and connections for local communities for generations. Indigenous tribes lived around the Bay for thousands of years. This Bay has been proclaimed the *Tall Ship Port of Oregon*.
- North and South: Highway 101 links us with neighbors to the north and south. Highway 101 has been our land transportation route connecting people, communities and regions for approximately 100 years. Bridges over estuaries and tidal areas are prominent features.
- West: Trading partners and residents from across the vast Pacific Ocean have shaped the community's economy and provided cultural connections. Coos Bay has enjoyed many cultural exchanges with Choshi Japan, its sister city on the Pacific Rim.
- East: The Coos Bay community connects with inland Oregon communities and other areas of the United States by air, rail and highways. Coos Bay is known for national innovation in the logging industry, artistic endeavors in jazz, maritime art and community theater, and native sons and daughters who have excelled in sports, science, theater, journalism and writing.

American flags should be included on the	City of Coos Bay flag (available?)
Boardwalk as bookends with all ends to the	City of North Bend flag (available?)
North and South and along the entrance in the	Tall Ship Port of Oregon flag
middle.	Oregon flag
	Coquille Tribal flag
American flags along Central Avenue on the	Coos Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Tribal flag
existing flag poles will lead to City Hall.	Other
North and South and Highway 101	Across the Pacific
Alaskan flag	Japanese flag
California flag	Chinese flag
Washington flag	Korean (south) flag
Canadian flag	Philippine flag
Mexican flag	Australian flag
	Hawaiian flag
	There are also a number of Protectorates
	Other

Flags Suggested for Display

From:	Allen <owlhoot6@yahoo.com></owlhoot6@yahoo.com>
Sent:	Friday, August 08, 2014 12:53 PM
То:	mayor
Subject:	Flags

I have been a resident of the Bay Area for the majority of my 65 years and do enjoy seeing the flags on the boardwalk. There was a time when there were flags from assorted countries and, I'll admit, they were pretty. However, when the USA flags reappeared, I was overjoyed. We are America. Personally, I believe it would be great to see the American flags in duplicate, with the addition of the Oregon state flag. It's our country. Let's own it!

From:	Cindy Ball <cindycooshead@gmail.com></cindycooshead@gmail.com>
Sent:	Saturday, August 09, 2014 2:06 PM
То:	mayor
Subject:	Waterfront Flags
Follow Up Flag:	Follow up
Flag Status:	Flagged

Honorable Mayor Crystal Shoji

Thank you for inviting individuals to have input regarding the flags on the waterfront. First I would like to state that there is no wrong answer whether it be the US or International flags which are flown, however I personally have a preference.

To me the number of flag poles and the flags flying make a huge impression and make me proud and smile even though I drive by them daily. I believe flying the United States flags is the best choice. It reminds local people and makes a statement to visitors that the community definitely is patriotic. When they are at half mast it shows our hearts are with the loved ones who have been hit with tragedy. The flags show that we honor and support our veterans and their families who have given so much to this country and the freedoms that we often take for grant. When natural disasters hit a community these people are their immediately to help and serve. It is impossible to honor them too much. The flags also symbolize that we honor others who serve, police, firemen, volunteers, and many more.

Our county is the most giving country in the world in respect to the donation of dollars and time and this too is something that all should be proud of. We are not perfect nor is any country, however we should show respect and pride whenever possible.

Cynthia Ball Coos Bay Resident

From: Sent: To: Subject: Patrick Ball <patcooshead@icloud.com> Sunday, August 10, 2014 4:42 PM mayor Flags

I think that we should continue with the US flags.

Thanks!

From:	Bobbie Black <bobbieb40@frontier.com></bobbieb40@frontier.com>
Sent:	Tuesday, August 12, 2014 8:45 PM
То:	mayor
Subject:	boardwalk flags

Dear Mayor and Council,

It's great that the council has raised the issue of returning the international flags to our boardwalk. My family has deep roots here and for many years I've wanted to see the international flags returned to their original locations. The one large American flag would be appropriate and the north end.

Currently and historically we have been an international port, hosting ships from many different countries. The display has been enjoyed by visitors and local residents. It could also be an educational opportunity for all. Perhaps an interactive activity to match the country with its flag, similar to the display of local trees in the nearby building on the boardwalk.

We are an international port within an international World!

Sincerely, Bobbie Black

From: Sent: To: Subject: don canavan <doncanavan2000@yahoo.com> Friday, August 08, 2014 9:43 AM mayor flag suggestion

Since this is an international port, I think flags of any nations that come here should be displayed and noted. Don Canavan Coos Bay Oregon

It is man s pretense that because he has choice, he is free. K.

From:	Linda Clem <cleml@msn.com></cleml@msn.com>
Sent:	Sunday, August 10, 2014 4:36 PM
То:	mayor
Subject:	Flags input

Hi Crystal,

Our waterfront and the flags are a welcoming feature. The mention of Flags at Capital including the Tribal Flags, also truly impressive. I feel giving the cost that changes would make is a detail to mention so as to be considered when a change is suggested. The condition of our streets, needing repairs, the higher cost of water & improving sewer is also an area of concern, especially for us on fixed incomes. A more beautiful city waterfront for us is a nice idea to tell the story of our area, but to give an affirmative answer, I would want to know the cost..especially on days I see my water bill, or travel our streets needing repairs, or gas prices rising. If we have enough United States flags, I'd say use them. We used to have welcoming into the port of Coos Bay at a Seaman's center. Haven't heard if we still do or not. I trust your judgment, and always glad I voted for you. Thank you for your service to our community. Thanks for asking for input. Linda Clem

Sent from my Windows Phone

From:	Nathan Crook <nathan1915@gmail.com> on behalf of Nathan Crook <ncinsurancellc@gmail.com></ncinsurancellc@gmail.com></nathan1915@gmail.com>
Sent:	Sunday, August 10, 2014 10:50 PM
То:	mayor
Subject:	Flags on the boardwalk

Dear Mayor Shoji,

I read on KCBY's website that the port's flags are up for debate. For whatever it's worth, as a Coos Bay resident I would like to see the international flags back again on the boardwalk.

The crews of the international ships and tourists alike feel welcome to see their native flag displayed among the others when visiting from overseas. As an international port on the pacific rim it seems only proper for good business and diplomacy.

Sincerely,

Nathan Crook

Nathan Crook Insurance, LLC Pony Village Mall, Suite 209 North Bend, Or 97459 Office: 541-266-0634 Mobile: 541-404-3151 Info@NCInsuranceLLC.com

"Savings without Compromise"

From:	Augie D. <augidog@netzero.com></augidog@netzero.com>
Sent:	Friday, August 08, 2014 1:59 PM
То:	mayor
Subject:	Boardwalk Flags: my proposal/input

you already have the tall flagpole donated by the veterans, and I think it would be nice for the city to donate a POW flag to enhance /complete it...

the tall pole and USA/POW flags would definitely be prominent and would surely assuage everyone? Use the arrangement on the walk to include Oregon, Coos Bay City, all Relevant Tribal Flags, all States Coos Bay trades with, all Countries Coos Bay trades with.

Augie Deabler Motor Assisted Bicyclist

NetZero now offers 4G mobile broadband. Sign up now.

From:	NinaForanGee <napc3@earthlink.net></napc3@earthlink.net>
Sent:	Wednesday, August 13, 2014 2:03 PM
То:	mayor
Subject:	Flags

Dear Mayor and Council,

It's great that the council has raised the issue of returning the international flags to our boardwalk. I've wanted to see the international flags returned to their original locations. The one large American flag would be appropriate at the north end.

Currently and historically we have been an international port, hosting ships from many different countries. The display has been enjoyed by visitors and local residents. It could also be an educational opportunity for all; perhaps an interactive activity to match the country with its flag, similar to the display of local trees in the nearby building on the boardwalk.

We are an international port within an international World!

Sincerely, Nina Foran Gee

From: Sent: To: Subject: mjholms37 <mjholms37@gmail.com> Friday, August 08, 2014 9:27 AM mayor American flag.

All American flags. All poles.

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy STM III, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone

From:	Bonnie Joyce <bonniejoyce42@gmail.com></bonniejoyce42@gmail.com>
Sent:	Friday, August 08, 2014 7:20 PM
To:	mayor
Subject:	Flags
Follow Up Flag:	Follow up
Flag Status:	Flagged

Dear Mayor Shoji, Thank you for taking input on the matter of boardwalk flags. I for one would love to see the international flags fly. It gives Coos Bay class. To recognize and honor other countries of the world reminds us to think of ourselves as citizens of the Earth, not just the United States. This is an international port, after all. And then flying all US flags on national holidays or events would be special, and a show of national pride, rather then the same old thing we see every day.

I wish you would consider something: flying flags with the famous NASA photo of planet Earth on Earth Day. This would be an expense, but I think it would send a powerful and needed message to our area. The message being: This is our home, it is finite, it is one gorgeous and life-supporting planet. Let's honor that fact, and not forget it, and keep it a wonderful place for future generations to flourish as we have. If I were rich, I would buy those flags, and start a campaign...

Thanks for listening (reading), Yours, Bonnie Joyce

From: Sent: To: Subject: Amy Levin <yogamyjo@yahoo.com> Thursday, August 07, 2014 7:05 PM mayor flag suggestion

Since our port is in international port I feel we should go back to having flags from different countries. Amy

From:	rafikifinley@juno.com
Sent:	Monday, August 18, 2014 11:29 AM
То:	mayor
Subject:	Flags on the CB Boardwalk

Dear Mayor Shoji,

As a Coos Bay resident I think it would be wonderful to have both a return to flying international flags, as well as the U.S. flag on the CB Boardwalk.

Having the U.S. flags flown during holidays, like Independence and Memorial Days, and then international flags flown at other times would give a good balance and representation of our past and present, and of both influences on our local community.

I personally have met residents who have come from the Philippines, Peru, Kenya,

Chile, England, Panama, Puerto Rico and Japan, to name just a few countries. And residents have also come here from all over the U.S. Our community continues to be enriched by all who live and work together to make Coos Bay a wonderful place to live, whether they were born here or not.

Respectfully, Cecelia Metz

Virginia Drivers: (Aug 2014): New "Rule" Leaves Virginia Drivers Furious! YourInsuranceDiscount.org

From: Sent: To: Subject: STEVE MILLER <SLMILLER@CHARTER.NET> Friday, August 08, 2014 7:20 PM mayor flags on the Boardwalk

Dear Mayor Shoji,

I deeply appreciate the American flag and being an American, but our city also proudly claims to be the home of the Oregon International Port of Coos Bay. That broad, expansive, inclusive spirit is needed as our economic challenges continue and while it is a worthy sentiment to fly a country's flag while at war, it seems these days that America's warmaking never really ends and the troops never quite all come home. So, setting forth a welcoming tone for our community with an array of other nations' flags, while on those special American occasions reserving Boardwalk flagpoles for the American flag, seems a wiser and more forward-looking policy for Coos Bay today. Thanks for reading my letter and for your service as our mayor.

Steve Miller 1556 N. 20th St. Coos Bay

Urgent FOR_ 4:15pm 8-7-54 TIME DATE */TOTA nna Marie O a M__ TELEPHONED OF. CAME TO SEE YOU RETURNED YOUR CALL PHONE ____ PLEASE CALL CELL FAX WILL CALL AGAIN Message WANTS TO SEE YOU A-97 SIGNED T-300

Agenda Item #7

From:Pam PattonSent:Friday, August 08, 2014 7:48 AMTo:mayorSubject:August City News - "Tell Us What You Think"

Dear Mayor Shoji:

I read the August addition of the City News with great interest. I've been fortunate to of made our home in Coos County for 37 years. I take pride in driving by the boardwalk daily and seeing the American flag flown tall. In my opinion I would like them to remain. I believe in today's society we are losing our identity as a nation and also, flags are at a great expense to our City's budget.

If I may boldly suggest an idea to make an addition in utilizing our boardwalk: Bring back our waterfront history. With our community heavily dependent upon the tourist, why not appeal to the families of homeschooled children. Make our destination one that will contribute to their education. I had no idea until I worked for Georgia Pacific how many families of homeschoolers would stop and ask for a tour of the plant. Why not share our heritage through pictures, website, Chamber of Commerce and written word. Advertisement and signage at our Welcome to Coos Bay signs welcoming our young people and adults. I so love the pictures that are on display in City Hall. Many people stop and study the detail of the wooden roads, the store fronts, logging to mention a few. I have attached a few pictures that I thought may lend itself to ideas.

Thank you for giving us an opportunity to share our thoughts and opinions.

Respectfully, Pamela Patton

emaíl: <u>ppatton@coosbay.org</u> t: 541.269.1181 x2207 / f: 541.269.8916

City of Coos Bay Department of Public Works 500 Central Avenue Coos Bay OR 97420

RECEIVED AUG 0 8 2014 **City of Coos Bay** To the MAYOR: Hi, my name is Brad Perkins. I'm a disabled VeT, U.S. MARINE Corps. My thoughts of the Flag Change at the Boardwark: FIRST flag in line (from the south to the north) since the board walk is one way, heading north. Put the flag of 13 stars representing the original 13 colonies. If it were not for the 13 colonies, we may not be bese today! And since the Boardwalk is a tocal point on occasions, especially military functions, there should be (in the order in which they were created) honor each military Army (1775) Marme Corp (1775) Navy etc. Next in line: Have a Pow flag Next - Have an american Flag with the number of Stars____ when Oregon became a State (1859) with the Oregon tag on the same pole. I do believe, because of all the military organizations represented in our whole communities, the formations of all these flags would look great and be more appropriate instead of going back to the 50 states flags. Mank you for your consideration of my idea. Brad Verkins (USMC) 3410 Kine ST North Bend, OR 97459 541,260,3430 Agenda Item #7

From:	shell3744@addthis.com on behalf of shell3744@charter.net
Sent:	Friday, August 08, 2014 9:03 AM
То:	mayor
Subject:	Flagpole feedback: Should we change the flags? shell3744@charter.net has shared something with you

DO NOT change the flags! I am a 8 year veteran and I want all American flags on American soil. Most of the other counties do not respect our flag or us. Plus the fact that we do not have that many other counties ships coming in to Coos Bay.

Phil

 $\label{eq:http://theworldlink.com/news/local/flagpole-feedback-should-we-change-the-flags/article_14801934-1e56-11e4-b2b2-001a4bcf887a.html#.U-T0s1RyUSw.email$

To stop receiving any emails from AddThis, please visit: <u>http://www.addthis.com/privacy/email-opt-out?e=hqfc88j9w_Ly3f7B89PonP7A9g</u>

The city council was asking for citizen input about the Boardwalk Flags. I don't remember the exact year but I do remember that Jim Watson was City Manager. The Coos County Veterans Organization ask him if it would be possible to have the American Flag fly along the Boardwalk for our three celebrations, 1. Memorial Day May 31st, to honor our fallen herores. 2. Flag Day June 14th the birthdate of our National Emblem and 3. July 4th America's birthday. The Vets offered to buy the flags, if it was a possibility. Jim must have taken it to the Council as shortly after that the flags began to fly on thoes celebrations, and the city must have picked up the cost of the flags. The tradition went on for a number of years and then stopped. When Alita Pittman passed, the Coos County Vets ask it the flags could be flown especially for Memorial Day as Alita and Cecil Pittman had been instrumental participants in the Memorial Day Parade. The City resumed the tradition for awhile and then Gene Melton ask the council to keep the American flags flying until we were free of wars!

Each time I drive past the Boardwalk I feel a sense of pride to see thoes flags flying, whipping or just hanging. That American flag is know around the world, it is both loved and hated by many, but when I think of the men and women who gave their lives and fought to keep us free I think 'Thank You'. Couldn't Coos Bay be know as An All American Ciity?

By the way everytime we have had the Miliitary Order of the Purple Heart Conventions here the out of town people have commented on how nice the flag display is.

Sincerely, Jeanne Rugh

senne

From: Sent: To: Subject: David Tilton <davidtilton@590lawoffices.com> Friday, August 08, 2014 1:22 PM mayor Flags

Dear Mayor Shoji,

I like the idea of continuing to fly the taller, lighted United States flag across the street from the Purple Heart Memorial at all times and flying the International flags on the 22 flag poles on the bay front. I also think that it would be a good idea to fly the U.S. flags on Patriotic holidays such as Memorial Day, Independence Day and Veterans Day.

Dave Tilton Attorney at Law

CITY OF COOS BAY

Resolution 09-21

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF COOS BAY, COOS COUNTY, OREGON, DECLAIRING CONTINUAL DISPLAY OF THE UNITED STATES FLAG ON ALL COOS **BAY BOARD WALK FLAG POLES**

WHEREAS, on July 7, 2009 the Coos Bay City Council, recognizing that the members of the Oregon National Guard play an essential role in safeguarding the rights and freedoms of Americans and unceasingly provide a vital public service to Oregon citizens, did adopt a proclamation recognizing July 2009 as Oregon National Guard Month; and

WHEREAS, the Oregon National Guard has consistently demonstrated its value to our state and our nation; and

WHEREAS, our all United States military personnel face urgent and perilous duties associated with their responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, Coos Bay residents and City Council desire to demonstrate their continued support for and recognition of the sacrifices made by all our military personnel, their families and loved ones; and

WHEREAS, the Coos Bay City Council desires to fly United States flags on all flag poles along the Coos Bay City Board Walk to demonstrate their continued support and recognition of all our military personnel, their families and loved ones.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Coos Bay declares that United States flags shall be continually displayed on all flag poles along the Coos Bay City Board Walk until such time as all United States military personnel are withdrawn from Iraq and Afghanistan and do recognize that the United States flag flying at the southwest corner of Commercial Avenue and Bayshore Drive shall be flown at half staff, when required, in lieu of the flags along the Board Walk

The foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the City Council of the City of Coos Bay. Oregon this 21st day of July 2009.

<u>II + - III.</u> Veff McKeown, Mayor

ATTEST:

Rae Lea Cousens, City Recorder

ags put color on CB landscape

following ord Sweden Japan Netherlands

France Great Britain Australia Italy Bahamas

Spain Spain Papua New Guinea Malaysia Panuma Desunark China Taiwan South Korea Mexico Norway

- Norway - Canada - United States

Greece

Spain Thailand Portugal Panama France

New Zealand mmark - Oregon - United State - Global Flag

Simple project proves immediately popular

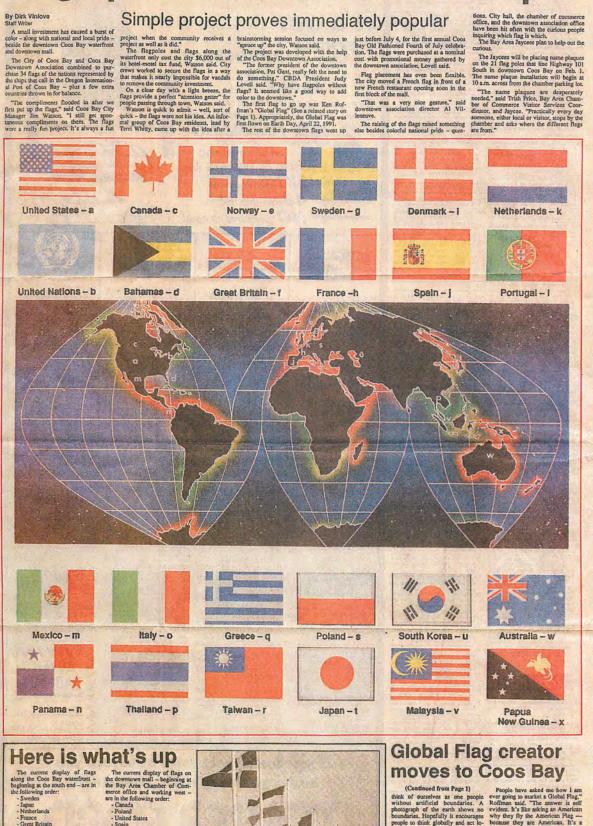
just before July 4, for the first annual Coos Bay Old Fashioned Fourth of July celebra-tion. The flags were purchased at a nominal cost with promotional money gathered by the downtown association, Lovell said.

Flag placement has even been flexible. The city moved a French flag in front of a new French restaurant opening soon in the first block of the mall.

tions. City hall, the chamber of commerce office, and the downtown association office have been hit often with the curlous people inquiring which flag is which. The Bay Area Jaycees plan to help out the curlous

curious. The Jaycees will be placing name plaques on the 21 flag poles that line Highway 101 South in downtown Coos Bay on Feb. 1. The name plaque installation will begin at 10 a.m. across from the chamber parking loc.

new French restaurant opening soon in the first block of the mall. "The name plaques are deportably needed," said Trish Price, Bay Area Cham-downtown association director Al Vil-leneuve. The rame genue, "said downtown association director Al Vil-teneuve. The rame genue, "said Trish Price, Bay Area Cham-downtown association director Al Vil-teneuve. The rame genue, "said Trish Price, Bay Area Cham-ter of Commerce Visitor Services Com-someone, either local or visitor, asops by the else besides colorful national pride - ques-are from."



moves to Coos Bay <section-header><section-header><text><text><text><text><text>

1 Million

The flags on the waterfront are being labeled Saturday.

Agenda Item #7