

CITY OF COOS BAY CITY COUNCIL
Agenda Staff Report

MEETING DATE May 19, 2015	AGENDA ITEM NUMBER
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TO: Mayor Shoji and City Councilors
FROM: Jackie Mickelson, Executive Assistant
THROUGH: Rodger Craddock, City Manager
ISSUE: **Purple Heart City Proclamation**

BACKGROUND:

Purple Heart recipients and their families approached the City requesting a proclamation in support of a Purple Heart City proclaiming out of honor for those who were injured or lost their lives while serving their country. The only other request was that they would like signs stating the City of Coos Bay is a Purple Heart City. The Purple Heart recipients would purchase the signs, and City staff would install them. There is not a current Purple Heart member count, but it is estimated there are about 35 members here.

The Purple Heart is the oldest military decoration still in present use, and it was initially created by George Washington in 1782 as the “Badge of Military Merit”. The Purple Heart was the first American Service Award made available to the common soldier, and it was awarded to any member of the United States Armed Services wounded or killed in combat with a declared enemy of the United States.

ADVANTAGES:

Honors the Purple Heart recipients in defending our freedoms, acknowledge their courage, and shows them the honor and support they have earned.

DISADVANTAGES:

None

ACTION REQUESTED:

If it pleases the City Council, please approve the Purple Heart City proclamation.



Proclamation

Whereas, the City of Coos Bay in the State of Oregon has always supported its military veteran population; and

Whereas, the Purple Heart is the oldest military decoration in present use and was initially created as a Badge of Military Merit by General George Washington in 1782; and

WHEREAS, the Purple Heart was the first American Service Award made available to the common soldier, and is awarded to any member of the United States Armed Services wounded or paid the ultimate sacrifice in combat with a declared enemy of the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Military Order of the Purple Heart is to foster an environment of goodwill among the combat-wounded veteran members and their families, promote patriotism, support legislative initiatives, and most importantly make sure we never forget; and

WHEREAS, the City of Coos Bay appreciates the sacrifices our Purple Heart recipients made in defending our freedoms and believe it is important that we acknowledge them for their courage.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, I, Crystal Shoji, Mayor of the City of Coos Bay, do hereby proclaim the City of Coos Bay as

“A PURPLE HEART CITY”

and encourage all citizens to join me in showing appreciation for the sacrifices made by the Purple Heart recipients in defending our freedoms, acknowledge their courage, and show them the honor and support they have earned.



In witness thereof, I hereunto set my hand and cause the seal of the City of Coos Bay to be affixed on this 19th day of May 2015.

Crystal Shoji, Mayor