

I OPPOSE [SB 679]...Oregon Coast Trail: Why isn't the Trail already completed?

***[SB 679] funding sources: The State Parks and Recreation Department, The Department of Transportation, The GENERAL FUND, and Lottery money-diverted from other State Park and Recreation projects.

I support the Oregon Coast Trail (OCT), but I scoff at the notion the OCT is a "Transportation Issue."

"No" money should be allocated to OCT at this time. There needs to be a Report as to the status of the OCT. A detailed report on what has been completed and what needs to be completed is a reasonable.

***It has been roughly six(6) years since [HB 3149 (2017)] was Enrolled and the Oregon Coast Trail is still unfinished. **Why?**

I "Oppose" the diversion of "...up to \$4 Million [taxpayer dollars] of lottery revenues designated for outdoor recreation improvement projects..." What happens now to the aforementioned "projects? Are the "projects" to be abandoned, let to "rot on the vine?" The "diversion of lottery money" is a crude "raid" on Funds dedicated for ongoing projects.

The use of GENERAL FUND money should be set aside pending a satisfactory Report mentioned above.

<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2023R1/Downloads/MeasureDocument/SB679/Introduced>

"**Summary:** Appropriates moneys from General Fund to State Parks and Recreation Department for continued development of Oregon Coast Trail. Limits direction of certain lottery revenues designated for outdoor recreation improvement projects to qualifying projects for development, maintenance or completion of Oregon Coast Trail."

The "**Text of [SB 679]**" states, "**SECTION 1.** In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropriated to the State Parks and Recreation Department, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, out of the General Fund, the amount of \$1,000,000, to continue to develop the Oregon Coast Trail..."

...**SECTION 2.** Section 28, chapter 491, Oregon Laws 2019, is amended to read: Sec. 28...

...(1) Each biennium, in cooperation with the Department of Transportation, **the State Parks and Recreation Department shall allocate**, for bicycle and pedestrian transportation projects to meet recreation and transportation needs, **up to \$4 million of lottery revenues designated for outdoor recreation improvement projects...**

...(2) **Each biennium**, the State Parks and Recreation Department **shall allocate one-half of the funding** described in subsection (1) of this section for the purpose of providing grants for bicycle and pedestrian transportation projects through local and regional grant programs.

...(3) **Each biennium**, the State Parks and Recreation Department **shall allocate one-half of the funding** described in subsection (1) of this section for the purpose of funding bicycle and pedestrian transportation projects on signature, scenic or recreation trails within the State of Oregon."

*****Oregon Schools are crumbling down and can't retain and or recruit new teachers and you folks want to spend money on bicycle and hiking trails using Lottery Funds.**

David S. Wall

Mr. Oregon Concur...Where has six(6) years of Funding gone, and for what did we get for it?

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