Pacific City Cape Kiwanda Parking Lot Closing March 4th Intermittent closures will occur to meet construction schedule; Lot will re-open in July 2024

(Tillamook, OR. February, 2024) Tillamook County announced today that the Cape Kiwanda public parking lot at Pacific City will be closing March 4th to accommodate construction and access improvements that are part of a larger Kiwanda Corridor Project. The county plans to reopen the lot in July before the peak summer season.

While this will impact visitors and residents from parking in the main beach access area, there are multiple other options for parking, all within a short distance to the beach and businesses:

- Nestucca Valley Community Alliance Skatepark (55 parking stalls; 10-minute walk to Cape Kiwanda)
- Pacific City Boat Launch (60 parking stalls including space for large, motorized vehicles).
- Bob Straub State Park (60 parking stalls with direct access to the beach)
- Pacific City Turnaround at the south end of Kiwanda Drive at Pacific (20 parking stalls, direct access to the beach, and a short walk across the Beachy Bridge to shops and food)

In addition, starting Memorial Day weekend in May, the free shuttle trolley will be operating Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays through Labor Day weekend in September. The trolley operates all day and takes passengers as far north as Sitka Sedge State Park and Whalen Island County Park, and as far south and east as Brooten Road, where many shops and restaurants are located.

The Wave, the bus transit system operated by <u>Tillamook County Transportation District</u>, will also be available for travel to other points in Tillamook County. It also operates a route from Portland to Tillamook County. <u>Check schedules here</u>.

"If staying overnight, we suggest you remain parked at the lodging property during your stay, and walk to the various restaurants, shops and markets," said Nan Devlin, executive director of Visit Tillamook Coast. "While the alternative lots may be busy on weekends, during the week there will be plenty of available parking space."

Public access to the beach will continue to be maintained, including the boat launch area at Dorymen's Way. Limited parking at the Cape Kiwanda parking lot will be made available during spring break week in March. Parking will be free. Additional signage and "Getting Around" resource maps will be placed throughout the area.

The Kiwanda Corridor Project is a multi-stage plan to ease congestion, improve capacity for visitors, and enhance livability for Pacific City residents. Additional construction efforts have been required to stabilize portions of the existing boat ramp sidewalk and bulwark that have been significantly undermined through coastal erosion. And recent weather-related road closures on Sandlake Road increased truck routes and caused delays in materials arriving on time, pushing the parking lot timetable into peak tourism season months.

Tillamook County is working to alleviate problems as quickly as possible, while accommodating the needs of local businesses and visitors. Questions? Email Nan Devlin, <u>nan@tillamookcoast.com</u>