



**Central Coast Fire & Rescue District  
Volunteer Association  
125 NW Alsea Hwy  
Waldport, OR 97394  
(541)-563-3121**

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March 9, 2023

Lincoln County School District  
Board of Directors  
PO Box 1110  
Newport, Oregon 97365

**RE:** 13-11-19-AC-07200-00 - TWNSHP 13, RNG 11, ACRES 2.41, DOC202204420 – 265 N. Bay Street in Waldport, Oregon.

To whom it may concern:

My name is Erich Knudson, and I am one of the many volunteer responders at Central Coast Fire & Rescue, I am also the Treasurer and Volunteer Coordinator of the Association. As you may be aware the City of Waldport received a grant to build Southworth Park in downtown Waldport. It is currently called the “green space” by many and is located where the location of the old Waldport High School used to be. Here is the link to the announcement on the City of Waldport website. <https://www.waldportoregon.gov/home/news/southworth-park-grant>

Although the new park is great news for the citizens of the area, it will take away a very critical area for the fire district. It is currently where we do all our training. Training is a vital part of being a first responder. It hones skills and creates muscle memory so that when we are called into service, we can do it quickly, safely, and accurately.

We are currently seeking areas to hold training and we hope to use this opportunity to make the training grounds even better. So, I write today inquiring about your property and a possible donation of the land to our association. Having a parcel of land in the association's name would open many grant opportunities to us as a 501c(3) Non-Profit Organization from Federal, State, and Private Industry. The property has many amenities already in place to enable not only our district to hold classroom training and indoor hands-on skills training but other agencies such as the other fire districts in the county, Lincoln County Sheriffs, CERT, and many others. We would be working with the Lincoln County Health Department to bring the food preparation area up to code for not only events we may hold but events that the community may hold. Making the gym, classroom, and food preparation areas also available to community groups such as Beachcomber Days, Girl Scouts, 4-H, Waldport Junior League, School Booster clubs, Library events, and so forth, would be a huge asset for the South Lincoln County area community directly as it is a much larger area than they are currently using at our facility but for the rest of the county communities indirectly.

The outdoor area is large enough that we would be able to build a training ground that would not only keep our skills up to par but aid in adding additional skill sets furthering our service ability to this community and the surrounding areas for many years. Constructing a training tower and burn rooms would give us the ability to hold some technical training we currently are not able to and increase the abilities of the existing training systems. Building scenario-based props like roof ventilation, forcible entry, confined space, and vehicle fire so that we may be able to train for real-world scenarios in a controlled environment for the safety of responders and community members. The location would enable us to not only maintain these scenarios in a controlled manner but also allow the general public to observe the training safely.



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If this is something you may be interested in talking further about, I would be more than happy to schedule a meeting or come to a board meeting to go over all that property could do for this community with the plans and hope that we would have for it. I have included my contact information below and hope to hear from you soon.

Sincerely,

Erich Knudson  
Treasurer & Volunteer Coordinator  
COCFRD Volunteer Association, Inc.  
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