

## Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission

May 8, 2008 Meeting

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Agenda Item:	12	Information
Topic:	Oregon 150/ Youth Legacy Parks Projects	
Presented by:	James Hamrick	

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There are now two Youth Legacy Projects for the sesquicentennial. One will involve high school age youth in a visioning exercise on statewide issues that may have relevance in 2059 and will culminate in a Symposium at Willamette University in 2009

The second project, overseen by Governor Barbara Roberts, involves designating four local or county parks statewide as sesquicentennial legacy parks. The project is a collaboration between Oregon 150, OPRD, and the Oregon Recreation and Parks Association.

The four parks are to be developed or improved in two ways. One will focus on a permanent commemorative area, perhaps with a monument and vegetation. The Oregon Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects may assist in the design of that feature.

The second aspect will involve improvements that relate to the so-called Children in Nature or Kids in the Woods movement, which is geared toward getting kids outdoors and has educational, recreational, and health goals.

A special grant award process using Local Government Grant funds is being undertaken. A maximum \$200,000 is available. Factors in choosing the four parks will include need, geographic location, youth engagement, and consistency with the Children in Nature theme.

Grants will be chosen by the Local Government Advisory Committee in August. Governor Roberts, Youth Legacy Project Chair Henry Balensifer, and ORPA Executive Director Frank Jagodnik will assist in applicant evaluations.

The OPRD Commission will be asked to approve the grants at their September meeting, and we expect to roll-out the projects and the Children in Nature program at the late September annual ORPA meeting in Bend.

**Action Requested:** None

**Prior Action by Commission:** None

**Prepared by:** James Hamrick