

## **FOBPR Newsletter** **- March 2026**

### **Laura Brownfield Layout Wade Troxell Articles**

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## **Learn about Johnson Creek Wayside! Part 2**

Screenshot 2026-02-16 at 12.42.24 PM

IMG 0943

### **My title summarizes the FOBPR position on the property of Johnson Creek Greenway.**

It was also the title of a presentation given by FOBPR's Founder and first President, Christine Hall, and I in August of 2024 to our City Council. Our goal that day was to gain a vote of the City Council that would commit the City to align with our desire to keep JCG in a natural state and free of commercial development. Our objective with the presentation was to highlight the uniqueness of the JCG property and to share our vision of how this property could become a natural attraction for the city and our visitors. Unfortunately, neither our goal nor our vision has yet been achieved.

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In our last meeting (January 2025) with our current City Manager, Mr. Torrey Contreras, Christine and I discussed a short-term strategy to enhance public awareness and usage of JCG. We proposed to organize a fund-raising effort to designate Johnson Creek Greenway with road signage along Beach Loop Dr. We also offered our idea for further funding support to systematically remove the deteriorated bridges within JCG to enhance public safety. Our ideas were not supported as Mr. Contreras outlined his desire to keep JCG in a "passive recreation" state. After this meeting, as previously communicated to the FOBPR subscriber base, we stepped away from JCG to focus on other organizational priorities and community-based projects.

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Since this time, I have continued to visit Johnson Creek on a regular basis. My observations there have sparked personal conversation and correspondence with various city leaders. The city provides what they call routine maintenance at JCG typically a couple times each year. Archived monthly Public Works Reports reference “mowing at Johnson Creek”. What I have seen, however, has been more extensive work, including earth movement to dislodge and dredge sections of the various drainage canals where beavers have slowed water movement with dam construction. Through our discussions, it is evident that there are differing perspectives defining what JCG represents summarized as:



- The City of Bandon does not regard JCG as a 37-acre wet prairie habitat and has damaged emerging habitats (pond, marshland) with their efforts (my view)
- The City of Bandon are within their legal property owner rights to keep the property tended for city residents and past actions have been justified in accomplishing this (City of Bandon view)

As you can see, our viewpoints seem to be at odds.



Rumors continue to surface regarding our city’s long-term intent for this property. What I have heard repeatedly over the last several years is that JCG will be returned to a short course golf area at some point. Who knows? What I do know is that JCG is not a discussion topic often welcomed with transparency by our city leadership.

Regardless, we remain fortunate to have this property available to us for walks and nature-based immersion into an extremely diverse ecosystem. Again, I encourage you to visit JCG and experience its unique features-like nesting bald eagles. Your investment of time will pay endless dividends of inspiration.

Next month, I will complete this series with an article highlighting past and ongoing community efforts focused on keeping Johnson Creek Greenway in its natural state.

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**Our new web master, Sarah, has made some updates to our website!! Check them out and see our fresh new look.**

[FOBPR.com](http://FOBPR.com)

**Thanks to all of you who contributed your McKays receipts, these brought in over \$50 so far!!**

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IMG 0914 2

### **Bandon City Park Master Plan Update:**

A group of Bandon Resident Volunteers are working hard interviewing residents, visitors, neighbors, schools, sports teams and more to get preferences to the new 20 year Master Plan for Bandon City Park. Presentation to the city will soon be announced. If you have any ideas please reach out to us at FOBPR and we will get them to the committee.

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### **Update: FOBPR Project Work at City Park**

At our February meeting, the FOBPR board discussed the three ideas that had been submitted for City Park project consideration. We are pleased to announce that we have selected signage for the Disc Golf course as our focal point for this effort. Over the next few weeks, we will be working with local disc golf enthusiasts to determine and design the signage needed to help improve the general understanding of our course and its layout. Current thoughts on the project are centered around: new signs for each of the core 18 holes on the course, a sign outlining the Rules of the Game; and a large sign with a map of the full course. Soon, we will also be meeting with key City of Bandon staff to seek approval for adding these enhancements at City Park. Our goal is to have this project completed by June 2026.

*Samples of Disc Golf  
Signage*

Thanks again to those of you that submitted ideas to us.

We will keep you updated on our progress.

Reminder, that we are also looking for project ideas for South Jetty Park. Next time you are visiting there, look around and let us know of any ideas you may have for improvements needed for this well-used Bandon park.

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Friends of Bandon Parks and Recreation (FOBPR) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

Your donation is tax-deductible to the full extent allowable by law.

Our tax identification number is EIN 93-2761263. We are committed to sound fiscal management, accountability, and transparency.

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