

DATE: December 11, 2022  
TO: City of Bandon, Planning Commission  
FROM: Margaret Pounder, President/CEO  
Bandon Chamber of Commerce  
RE: Port of Bandon Building at 250 First Street SW, Bandon OR

Give people a place to go and a place to be! Give the public a chance to "hang out" in public, many times the humans no longer have a place to go to be with one another, yet they want to do just that. The reason for this requested modification is to allow for the growth of a 'Seasonal Market' into a thriving location for start-up artisans to produce and sell year-round to form a synergistic marketplace for small, independent businesses. After all, businesses are the centerpiece of downtowns, and in our case Old Town.

Along with additional businesses, there will be a greater focus on the waterfront and our ocean resources by providing an Aquarium and Aquaculture Tanks in the future. These will add to the ambiance of the space and provide access to sea life that is not typically accessible by the local resident or visitor to Bandon.

There has been a favorable response from the community, vendors and others to provide year-round opportunities at this location. Everyone loves mingling, and it's great for business and provides emotional, social, and civic benefits, why not make it available more often? Why not make this the "norm" instead of a "two days a week" event? The level of civic pride will be high. The community's sense of well-being will be high and the level of attachment people feel for their town and the waterfront will also likely be at its highest.

As cities/towns have lost their sense of identity, residents' sense of civic pride has followed suit. It becomes harder to support something that doesn't stand out, something that has no character. The Port of Bandon and its properties are special. They have character. and we want them to flourish.

The Fisheries Building is a landmark in historic Old Town Bandon, a place that provides scenic views not accessible elsewhere. Both Farm & Sea and the Seasonal Market provide for education, pleasure and the welfare of the citizens and our visitors by offering workshops, tastings, live music, and access to the waterfront. The addition of an aquarium and aquaculture tanks would provide even more education and pleasure to all.

We ask that you approve this modification and move it forward to the Bandon City Council for further and final approval.

Thank you.