

## Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission

June 24, 2015

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Agenda Item: 7a Information  
Topic: Heritage Division Report  
Presented by: Chrissy Curran

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### **Oregon Heritage Conference By-the-Numbers**

In April we briefed you about the Oregon Heritage Conference, held in Coos Bay between April 22<sup>nd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. We thought a brief recap of the numbers may be of interest to the Commission. In the end, over 200 people attended the conference, representing 19 agencies and local governments and 63 heritage-related organizations.

### **Preservation Fair Took Center Stage at Capitol Mall**

On May 28th, Heritage Division hosted the 7th Annual Preservation Month Fair at the State Capitol State Park in Salem. Twenty-eight community organizations and several state agencies set up booths to highlight the history of their institutions and their work to preserve important sites related to historic events, people, and places.

Participating exhibitors included Oregon Parks and Recreation Department; friends groups from Silver Falls and Champoeg state parks; members of the Oregon Historic Trails Advisory Commission; Oregon Cultural Trust; Oregon Department of Forestry; Oregon Department of Transportation; Oregon State Capitol Foundation; Oregon State Archives; the Oregon State Library, Oregon Black Pioneers, Frank Lloyd Wright's Gordon House; and Friends of Timberline Lodge, among many others. On display at the event were an operating World War II M3A1 Stuart Light Tank and a Korean War Jeep. The Preservation Month Fair is developed by Heritage Division staff as an annual event that is free and open to the public.

### **Two Bills Target Main Street Communities for Financial Incentives**

Two bills are making their way through the legislature that would have a significant impact on Heritage Division should they pass:

SB 565 creates a tax credit for historic property rehabilitation to be administered by Heritage Division staff. Revenue from auctioned tax credits would fund payments of rebates for qualified development projects up to \$24 million per biennium.

HB 3526 as amended would establish an Oregon Main Street Revitalization grant program within OPRD to provide up to \$5 million in Lottery bonds for preservation and economic development work in those communities across the state participating in the Oregon Main Street program, which is administered by Heritage Division staff.

**Prior Action by Commission:** None

**Action Requested:** None

**Attachments:** None

**Prepared by:** Chrissy Curran — Interim Deputy SHPO and Heritage Division Manager