Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission

April 23, 2025

Agenda Item:	**5c**	**Action**
Public Comment Allowed:	**Yes**	
Topic:	**Fort Stevens - VA Cemetery**	
Presented by:	**Ladd Whitcomb, Property Agent**	

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) National Cemetery Administration (NCA) contacted OPRD in May of 2019 to discuss a transfer of land that would allow the NCA to expand the Fort Stevens Army Post Cemetery and thereby, continue providing burial plots to current and future generations of veterans and their families.

Background from the May 2019 Informational Brief:

> "The Fort Stevens cemetery is a small and historic army cemetery that was established in 1866 and is still available for interments for service members who died on active duty or for veterans who meet the requirement of being a 20-year retiree of the armed forces. The small 1.1-acre property has space for 573 grave sites.

> "The NCA's plan for this facility is to possibly expand the area acreage immediately surrounding the cemetery to allow for more interments for veterans who reside in the north coast area. The current veteran population for the surrounding area is over 8,000 veterans and the NCA's plan to expand the site will serve the area veterans well."

OPRD and the VA identified 4.5 acres of OPRD land that is adequate for the cemetery expansion (see attachment). An appraisal valued the property at $30,000.00 and the VA is working with Clatsop County to make this 4.5 acres a legally transferrable lot. OPRD is requesting approval to transfer this land to the VA when the partition application process is complete.

Prior Action by Commission: Informational - September 2019 and November 2022

Action Requested: Approve transfer to U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and authorize the OPRD director to sign all necessary instruments effectuating the transaction.

Attachments: Attachment A - Map

Prepared by: Ladd Whitcomb

5c - Fort Stevens - VA Cemetery
Attachment A

Parcel
Location

Subject Property

State Park Boundary

NAD 1983 Oregon Statewide Lambert Feet Intl

0   100   200 Feet

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