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Madrone Wall Update

**Keith K. Daellenbach, Director, Secretary/
Treasurer, Madrone Wall Preservation Committee**

Advocacy efforts earlier this year have paid off. The Clackamas County Parks Advisory Board (CCPAB) unanimously voted to move forward in the creation of Madrone Wall Park. This was possible with support from the Mazamas, Access Fund, American Alpine Club, and Madrone Wall Preservation Committee (MWPC). We sent more than 500 letters from all over the country including support from local schools, churches, scouting groups, and businesses. Each person asked the CCPAB to move the park creation forward. The importance of this unanimous vote cannot be overstated. Had the vote gone the other way, it would have been considerably harder to generate any future positive momentum towards park creation—so “Thank You!”

In June, MWPC and civil engineers performing pro bono work at T.Y. Lin International completed a set of engineering construction documents. These documents are based on the 2009 Park Concept Design created from a year-long study with public input. It also includes the conditional use permit requirements determined by Clackamas County.

MWPC volunteers provided site tours to staff from Senator Ron Wyden and Senator Jeff Merkley’s office, Clackamas County Tourism Development Council (TDC), Park Advisory Board, Access Fund, the Mazamas, and the Oregon National Guard 1249th Engineering Battalion. The Guard is evaluating a collaborative effort that would deploy Guard soldiers in a Community Assistance Project (CAP) to build the required access road and onsite parking.

The MWPC also worked with CCPAB to submit a pre-application grant packet to TDC in July which resulted in an invitation by TDC to submit a full application by mid October. A TDC grant could make it possible to match other funds that would pay for road and parking construction materials, a toilet, trailhead kiosk, and other amenities.

Many items are being worked on simultaneously including completing the full grant application to TDC, the CAP packet review by the National Guard, and discussions with Clackamas County Parks for creating an operations and maintenance plan for the future park as well as an Memorandum of Understanding between CCPAB and MWPC. Chris Winter at Crag Law Center, Adam Baylor of the Mazamas, Joe Sambataro with the Access Fund, Eddie Espinosa with the American Alpine Club, and Kelly Rice and Keith Daellenbach of MWPC have been working closely with Audubon Society of Portland to create the framework for a peregrine falcon and climbing management plan.

The Madrone Wall remains closed and we ask that the community refrain from poaching the site as it makes opening a public rock climbing park all the more challenging. Please follow new developments at www.savemadrone.org and facebook.com/madronewall.