



CITY OF NORTH BEND, OR PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the United States Coast Guard, one of the six branches of the United States Armed Forces, has been a cornerstone of maritime safety and security since its founding in 1790, playing a crucial role in protecting our nation's interests and ensuring the safety of those at sea; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Coast Guard Air Station North Bend was commissioned on September 28, 1974, co-located with the North Bend Municipal Airport, a former Naval Auxiliary Air Station, situated along the scenic shores of Coos Bay; and

WHEREAS, before the establishment of the Air Station, rescue operations on the Oregon Coast required aircraft to be dispatched from Astoria, leaving a significant gap in response time for mariners in distress; and

WHEREAS, over the past 50 years, the original Coast Guard Group North Bend has grown to include an Air Facility in Newport, six Motor Lifeboat Stations, two additional search and rescue detachments, an Aids to Navigation Team responsible for maintaining five lighthouses, and 181 minor aids to navigation, all dedicated to ensuring the safety and security of the Southern Oregon coast; and

WHEREAS, the Air Station, which initially housed three HH-52 helicopters, has since upgraded its fleet to five HH-65A Dolphin helicopters, reflecting the growing demands for search and rescue, law enforcement, and environmental protection missions along the 220 miles of coastline from Pacific City, Oregon, to the California border; and

WHEREAS, Coast Guard Air Station North Bend has been pivotal in saving countless lives, not only at sea but also by assisting with inland search and rescue operations, including medical evacuations for injured loggers and other emergencies; and

WHEREAS, the brave men and women of the Coast Guard stationed at North Bend have shown unwavering dedication, exemplified by their heroic actions, such as the January 2003 rescue of five fishermen from the crab boat Jeanette Marrie, and their response to countless other emergencies over the decades; and

WHEREAS, the partnership between the City of North Bend and the United States Coast Guard has been one of mutual respect and collaboration, enhancing the safety and resilience of our community and the region at large; and

WHEREAS, this 50th anniversary marks a significant milestone in the history of Air Station North Bend and offers a moment to honor the service and sacrifice of all those who have served here, past and present, and to reaffirm our commitment to supporting the Coast Guard's vital mission;

WHEREAS, I, Jessica Engelke, Mayor of the City of North Bend, Oregon, do hereby proclaim September 28, 2024, as

United States Coast Guard Air Station North Bend Day

in the City of North Bend, and call upon all citizens to join in celebrating the 50th Anniversary of this esteemed institution, recognizing the indispensable contributions of the United States Coast Guard to our community, our state, and our nation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of North Bend to be affixed this 10th day of September 2024.

Jessica L. Engelke, Mayor

Attest: Maycie Jaehnig, City Recorder