

CITY OF  
GEARHART

**Staff Report**

For City Council Meeting - 07/11/2018

***Subject - Visitors - Randy Anderson - Beach Wheelchair***

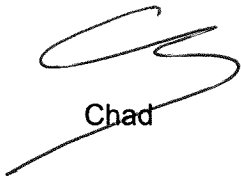
**Synopsis:** Randy is a Clatsop County resident who has pioneered wheelchair access to the beaches in both Seaside and Cannon Beach. The program has been very successful and he would like to see if Gearhart would be interested in a similar program. Basically it is having a wheelchair in the city that can be loaned out for a specific amount of time for those folks in need to be able to go to the beach. Randy has already spoken to Paul Tice at Gearhart By the Sea about having them house and facilitate the process since the 10th street access is probably the easiest. Randy would like to speak at the visitors section for 5-10 minutes to present his proposal. The city would be responsible for insurance similar to Cannon Beach which is around \$13 per month he said.

**Recommended Motion:** None

**Legal Analysis:** None

**Financial Analysis:** Approximately \$13 / Mo increase in insurance costs.

Respectfully submitted,



Chad

June 29, 2018

## **PRESS RELEASE**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# **Sunset Empire Park & Recreation District to Manage Beach Wheelchair Program for Citizens and Visitors**

SEASIDE, OR. – The Sunset Empire Park & Recreation District (SEPRD) announced this week it will be providing two complimentary beach accessible wheelchairs starting on July 7 for use by the public.

These wheelchairs create new opportunities for those with mobility issues. Outfitted with large, wide tires, the wheel chairs make it much easier for mobility impaired persons to go on the sand.

Manzanita was the first community on the Oregon Coast to provide beach wheelchairs and Cannon Beach followed in their footsteps last year. Seaside joins the two in providing beach wheelchair access to the public.

Randy Anderson, a local painter and advocate for disabled individuals, was one of the driving forces behind this program. Anderson has resided in Seaside since 1990 and wanted to provide beach accessible wheelchairs in this community for the thousands of residents and guests that visit each year.

The program was also activated by Denise and Patrick Duhachek, owners of Wheel Fun Rentals in Seaside. Wheel Fun Rentals donated two beach wheelchairs from their inventory to the program with the hopes that SEPRD can provide year-round access. Additionally, Anderson will be providing an extra beach wheelchair to meet the demand that is anticipated.

The program will kick off on July 7 and reservations, which are encouraged, can be made by calling the Bob Chisholm Community Center staff at 503-738-7393. Reservations are completely free and will be made on a first-come, first-served basis for a maximum of four hours.