

Chris Laity

Is there another County Director you can think of that you can walk into their office and talk about your individual concerns — and actually be heard?

Chris Laity is a true hero in our community. From steering the funding and development of the Cape Meares Loop Road to championing the Short Beach Trail Rebuild, his leadership and commitment to public service have touched nearly every corner of Oceanside.

Within our coalition alone, Chris has been an invaluable partner. He has advised and supported many of our Trails Team projects — from helping us memorialize community pathways, to planning and securing funding for the Short Beach Trail Rebuild, to guiding the Tire Trail Rebuild and cooperating with the upper parking lot resurfacing.

With our Shared Use Path Team, Chris has been a steady hand — convening partner meetings, advising on technical and funding issues, and helping us move from concept to real, actionable plans.

Even our Signage Team has felt his impact, with his crew assisting in flagging traffic during the installation of our gateway signs — one more example of his spirit of partnership in action.

On behalf of the Oceanside Action Partnership Board, we would like to honor Chris for his tremendous service and leadership in our community.

Chris, our hat is off to you — for your professionalism, your generosity, and the genuine care you show for the people of Oceanside. You've played a significant part in making our community stronger, safer, and more connected. Thank you for everything you do!

Brian Olle

The OAP Board would also like to honor another outstanding partner — **Brian Olle** from Tillamook County Public Works.

Brian has been with us every step of the way on the Short Beach Trail Rebuild project. He oversaw plan development and approval, officially engaged Trailkeepers of Oregon, purchased our building materials, and even provided yard space for fabrication and safekeeping.

Throughout construction, Brian stayed one step ahead — replenishing onsite materials, coordinating debris and hazardous material removal, and making sure everything ran smoothly and safely. Brian didn't just oversee — on several occasions he grabbed a bucket and joined the team, hauling rocks right alongside the volunteers.

His dedication didn't stop there. Brian has also been advising and assisting with the planning of the Tire Trail Rebuild, sharing his knowledge and steady leadership once again.

On behalf of the Oceanside Action Partnership Board, we extend our deepest thanks to Brian for his amazing commitment to our community.

Three cheers to you, Brian — for your professionalism, your hands-on spirit, and the genuine care you show for Oceanside.

Jason Elkins

The OAP Board would also like to recognize **Jason Elkins** from the Oregon Parks and Recreation District.

Jason has been an instrumental partner and collaborator in several of our community projects. His cooperation and support made the **upper parking lot resurfacing** possible — an improvement that benefits everyone who enjoys our coastline.

He also provided vital support during the **Short Beach Trail Rebuild**, helping ensure that project's success from start to finish. Jason is now spearheading funding for a major section of our **Shared Use Path project**, helping us move one step closer to connecting our community safely and beautifully.

And he continues to work closely with our **Signage Team**, contributing to the content development and design of our wayfinding signs — an important piece of Oceanside's growing identity and community branding.

Jason, your collaboration, leadership, and steady support make an enormous difference. On behalf of the Oceanside Action Partnership Board, we thank you sincerely.

We truly couldn't do it without you — join me in giving Jason a round of applause for his dedication to our community.

Ingrid Henrickson

The OAP Board would also like to honor **Ingrid Henrickson** of Trailkeepers of Oregon.

OAP first met Trailkeepers through Ingrid, and from that very first meeting, her knowledge, energy, and generosity of spirit have been invaluable. In 2023, Ingrid and David joined us to assess our local trails, providing clear direction that truly helped chart our course forward.

When the **Short Beach Trail Rebuild** launched, Ingrid was right there beside us — not just offering expertise, but rolling up her sleeves as a regular work party volunteer. She brought goodies to share, lifted spirits when the work got tough, and infused every project day with joy and teamwork.

Ingrid, you made our work lighter, our laughter louder, and our accomplishments richer. On behalf of the Oceanside Action Partnership Board, thank you for your guidance, enthusiasm, and friendship.

Please join me in thanking Ingrid — you added so much fun to our work parties and deepened the personal reward for everyone involved.

Tom Brauner

How is it even possible to properly honor **Tom Brauner**. Simply said — without Tom, this project would look nothing like it does today.

Tom serves as a volunteer **Trails Lead and Engineer for Trailkeepers of Oregon**, and he has been the backbone of the Short Beach Trail Rebuild from start to finish. He engineered the project, created the materials list, and oversaw every prep event and every work party.

And that was no small commitment — Tom made the two-hour-plus drive from Marion, Oregon, for more than **thirty-eight sessions**. His drawings were detailed and exact, but his deep experience allowed him to adapt gracefully to whatever the land presented.

Tom's **commitment to stewardship** is unwavering. Each work party began with a tribute to those who came before us. Examples of stewardship were not removing trees or damaging roots in our process, not disturbing land unnecessarily, and removing all environmentally toxic materials and disposing of them properly.

His **leadership** is inspiring. He arrived hours early to prepare each day's work, trained volunteers with patience and precision, and managed large, complex crews with calm and confidence.

Most of the specialty tools we used during construction were **custom designed and built by Tom** himself — for safety, efficiency, and problem-solving. He truly earned his trail name: "**Tool Box Tom**."

We estimate that Tom dedicated nearly **400 hours of community service** to this project alone — an incredible gift of time, talent, and heart.

Tom, on behalf of the Oceanside Action Partnership Board and every volunteer who worked beside you, we offer our deepest appreciation for your craftsmanship, your leadership, and your friendship.

Tool Box — thank you for the gift you've given our community..

Dan Haag

Our next honoree is **Dan Haag** from the Tillamook Coast Visitors Association.

Dan has been with the Oceanside Action Partnership since its very inception. He played a major role in our formation and in helping chart the course that has brought us to where we are today. His leadership is always paired with steadfast support, making him not only a guide but a true partner in every sense.

Dan has been a terrific collaborator with our **Trails Team** and **Shared Use Path Team**, helping develop specific projects and ensuring they succeed. He also uses his vast network to bring **recognition and visibility** to the work we do, while keeping us informed with valuable community information that helps us make better decisions.

Dan, without you, we would simply be less. On behalf of the OAP Board, we want you to know how much we appreciate your partnership, guidance, and unwavering support.

Please join me in thanking Dan for his extraordinary contribution to our community.

Nan Devlin

Our final honoree for today is **Nan Devlin**.

Our community owes you tremendous gratitude for what you have done to unite us in service. Your leadership in hosting our formation workshops, your guidance and support with the County Commissioners, and your steadfast availability — always ready with insightful answers to our never-ending questions — simply put, you are a gem, precious to all of us.

As we said with Tom and the Short Beach Trail project, without you, the **Oceanside Action Partnership would not exist**. None of the accomplishments we've discussed today — from trails to shared paths to community projects — would have been possible without your leadership, insight, and love of this community.

Is the OAP a masterpiece? Perhaps still a work in progress... but you are the artist who created it.

Nan, on behalf of the OAP Board and the entire community, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your vision, your guidance, and your unwavering dedication.

