



# COASTAL CONNECTIONS

December 17, 2020 (only 14 more days to bid this year a hearty farewell!)

Lisa Phipps, North Coast Regional Representative for the Oregon  
Department of Land Conservation and Development

# A PROFESSIONAL CAREER PATH THROUGH ROADBLOCKS, RURAL ROUTES, DETOURS, HIGHWAYS, EXIT RAMPS AND UNEXPECTED ON- RAMPS...

- A BS in Fisheries and Wildlife from Michigan State University
  - 4 field seasons with Idaho Department of Fish Game
    - Hatchery work
      - First detour; Head Coach for High School Varsity Swim Team
    - Research (salmon, steelhead, and sturgeon)
      - First roadblock and exit ramp from field work: Blown-out ACL
- A Masters in Environmental Law and Policy with a focus on coastal zone management from Vermont Law School
  - Rural Routes: Coastal Resource Planner for rural county in Oregon (9 years)
    - Unexpected on-ramp: Appointed, then elected Mayor of small coastal city (just over 5 years)
  - Highway: Executive Director of the Tillamook Estuaries Partnership (a National Estuary Program) (9 years)
    - Appointment to two state agency governing boards
    - Appointment to numerous regional boards and committees
      - Another unexpected on-ramp: Appointed municipal judge of small coastal city (8 years)
- Which all lead to:
  - North Coast Regional Representative for the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development and housed within the Coastal Management Program
- Final Destination: only time will tell!

# LESSONS LEARNED (EVERYDAY!)

- The straight line is not always visible.
- Embrace the scary – don't be afraid to step off the road.
- Don't be afraid to reframe your life – a roadblock is not the end. It means you need to find another route.
- Don't define yourself by your job or titles. Once you start doing that, it is time to get out.
- Sometimes what you thought was the destination is simply a stopover.
- When you doubt yourself....and you will doubt yourself....take a step back and reflect on what you thought you should want or how you should be versus what you actually want or want to be.
- Don't pigeon-hole yourself. Plenty of people will do that for you. Don't be afraid to take a detour or jump off the highway and see the world from another perspective.
- It is not always going to be fun. Don't worry- you'll make it through it.



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*LIFE IS A JOURNEY TO BE EXPERIENCED, NOT A  
PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED.*

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- by the sage Winnie the Pooh



I WANT TO THANK THE COASTAL SOCIETY FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY!!

Lisa Phipps

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