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To: [Kelly Bacon \(CD\)](#); [CDS User](#)
Subject: Vantage Project
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Hi there,

My name is Allie Merrill, and I am writing concerning the North Jetty Cove permit application.

We travel across the state frequently, and Vantage is one of our favorite places to stop along the way. It has previously had great access to the water for swimming, boating, and picnicking, and we have always loved being able to access the Columbia River safely and easily. There are very few other options along the route to access the river (or really any other body of water), and removing the access options will only make it more unsafe and undesirable for people to enjoy.

The goal of a public project should be to serve the community best and find ways that enhance the community's experience rather than diminish it. The proposed project is removing public access, removing lighting (which is vital for boat and human safety), and removing the infrastructure to keep a small lawn for everyone to enjoy. This makes zero sense to me and does not seem to align with the goal of serving the community. Keeping, maintaining, and improving the area would be a much better use of funds than removing so much that has been built over the years. You can tell that area is cared for by members of the community and it would be devastating to see that change.

I hope you will take these requests seriously from everyone who writes in, and know that there are many more of us who would be opposed to it if they knew this small haven was at risk.

Thank you for your consideration, and I hope you decide to improve, not downgrade, this area and help the small town of Vantage enjoy the park for decades to come.

Best,
Allie Merrill