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GRAND OPENING PLANNED FOR GARDEN OF SURGING WAVES

Astoria, Oregon — The Astoria City Council announces the grand opening to mark completion of the Garden of Surging Waves will be held Saturday, May 17 at the corner of Duane and 11th Streets in downtown Astoria.

"I look forward to commemorating the completion of the Garden of Surging Waves," said Mayor Willis L. Van Dusen. "For whatever reason, the true history of the many contributions from Chinese pioneers was not properly included in Astoria's history. This wonderful park will forever tell the important stories, benefits, and projects provided by the Chinese community. The Garden of Surging Waves is the legacy gift to the City of Astoria from our Bicentennial in 2011."

Ground was broken at the park site in April 2012 as part of a larger event at Heritage Square—the block bound by Duane, Exchange, 11th and 12th Streets. Construction of the Garden began on the northwest corner of the block in the spring of 2013, and continued into early 2014. The park was opened to the public in February of this year when the construction fence was removed from the site.

At press time, almost all of the Garden's artwork and features are in place. Any remaining elements are planned for installation prior to the grand opening event.

Completion of the park has been a community effort, as conceptual and financial support for the project gained momentum over the last several years. The park was financed by a combination of public and private funds, including grants and individual contributions.

Private gifts have been received from donors as far away as China, Germany, Serbia and other foreign countries, though the majority of contributions have come from U.S. donors. The park also represents countless hours contributed in-kind by businesses, volunteers, and other project supporters.

Further details on the grand opening event will be released as they are available.