

THE *FLASH* OF TALENT

An update from City Administration, Planning, Public Works and Police Departments

Talent welcomes its newest City Councilor – Tom Grauman

Tom joins Talent's City Council with the desire "to maintain the quality of life in the face of growth and make sure people's basic needs are met." He speaks fluent Spanish and is able to provide a much-needed link to the Hispanic population of Talent. He works for Jackson County as director of the Oregon Child Development Coalition which administers the migrant Head Start program and the U.S. Department of Agriculture food program. Tom has a Master's Degree in Social Work and is still involved



with a community-based development organization in Guatemala. He moved to Talent almost a year ago and says he really likes living in this community.

The City of Talent would like to extend a warm welcome to Tom Grauman.

Public Hearing on Economic Element

Talent's Planning Commission will be receiving public comment on the new draft Economic Element of the City's Comprehensive Plan. The Public Hearing will be held on Wednesday, July 26, 2000, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

The Comprehensive Plan is based on a set of 19 statewide planning goals and is the foundation of Oregon's land use planning program. The Economic Element, Goal 9, is intended to guide city policy and land use

decisions related to commercial and industrial development within the city limits and urban growth boundary of Talent.

The Economic Element provides an analysis of national, state, and local employment and economic trends. It also includes an inventory of developable land within the city limits and urban growth boundary (currently designated for commercial or industrial development) and examines future commercial/industrial land needs for the next twenty-year period. The final section outlines the City's economic goals and policies that will guide us through the next planning period.

To receive a copy of the draft Economic Element, please contact Matthew Mattia, Assistant Planner, at 535-7401.

Official newsletter of the City of Talent

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Talent Skatepark has help

The City's Public Works department and community volunteers recently erected a sun shelter at the Downtown Park and, wow, is it big! The shelter is approximately 50 x 60 feet and provides shelter from sun and rain. You'll also notice the orange construction fence that enclosed the lawn area has recently been removed and our new grass has been mowed. Thanks to the many volunteers from Rogue Federal Credit Union who helped lay almost

7,000 square feet of sod! They not only made the park nice to look at, but they created an area for the whole community to gather.

Public Works has also been working with inmate crews from Jackson County who have helped clean and maintain City parks and public right-of-ways. They will be working to continue landscaping the Downtown Park and installing a play structure for kids who ant to enjoy the park as well. Across the street, driveway approaches will be added to the depot to provide additional parking for the Downtown Park.

The work crews have really helped our Public Works department implement their summer goals. We give huge thanks to everyone on the crew – keep up the great work!

City Council Agenda Items

July 19, 2000 - 6:45 p.m.

New Business:

- Discuss participation in Pacific Power's wind power program.
- Review TAP pump station agreement.
- Review Tree Ordinance, possible adoption.
- Utility Fee Ordinance and Resolution amendments.
 (Complete agenda packets available for review at City Hall, 204 East Main Street)

Five steps to efficient cooling

Here are five tips to help you efficiently operate and maintain your home's air-conditioning system.

- 1. Use the "outside air" option only when necessary. It costs much less to recirculate and cool indoor air than to condition hot new outdoor air.
- 2. Set the air conditioner's thermostat at 78 degrees or higher, if you're still comfortable. The higher you set the thermostat, the less it will operate unnecessarily.
- 3. Reduce humidity by using bathroom fans after showers and kitchen fans while cooking, not drying wood in your basement, venting your clothes dryer outside, and keeping house plants outside during summer.
- 4. Clean filters monthly on all air conditioners.
- 5. Air-conditioning condensers should be professionally cleaned every other year, or once a year in dusty areas.

(Information in this article comes from Pacific Power's Managing Your Home's Energy Bill)



Talent's new reader board is in full swing

The Talent Police Department has received a reader board through a grant from the Oregon Department of Transportation. Community Service Officers operate the reader board in areas which are known for speeders – school zones, residential streets, and Highway 99. Police Chief

Kammel says, "The reader board's main function is to let people know how fast they are traveling. It not only makes people reduce their speed, but it makes them realize oftentimes they are traveling 10 to 15 miles over the posted speed limit."

The reader board will frequently be visible on Highway 99. Police Chief Kammel suggests, with the increase in summer traffic, that drivers use caution when traveling the highway. He asks motorists to obey the speed limit and help to make summertime a safe time for all.



Basketball Backboards

It has come to the City's attention that backboards are being left in streets and on sidewalks when not in use. We ask, for everyone's safety, that you please return backboards to your property after each use. They are not to be left in the street or on the sidewalk.

Thank you city-wide mailing volunteers!

Every year, the City of Talent is required by the State to provide its water customers with a water quality report, or as we call it, a Consumer Confidence Report. We give thanks to the following volunteers for folding and stuffing 3,620 envelopes: Danielle Wheeler, Nathan Scafani, Chris Heberlein, Robert Leonard, Linda Zigich, Steven and Christy Bradley, and Samantha Dedrick and girls – Amanda, Emily, Katelyn, and Jessica.

Keep your yard area safe for children's summer fun

- Keep all poisonous or flammable chemicals (like fertilizers, paint, gasoline) in childproof containers and out of reach.
- Keep sharp gardening or work tools, lawnmowers and ladders away from children.
- Don't leave buckets of water around.
- Remove yard debris that could injure a child.
- Keep play areas free of poisonous plants, and teach your child to recognize poison ivy, poison oak, and poison sumac.
- Teach children not to eat any plant, because some that look harmless are toxic if ingested.

Did you know Talent offers vacation checks?

That's right! If you are planning on taking a vacation, register those plans with the Talent Police Department. Officers will then know when you are leaving and when you will be returning, and they will make periodic checks on your home. There is no cost for this service and you'll have peace of mind when traveling.

Police Chief Kammel advises, "When taking an extended vacation, be sure to tell a trusted neighbor when you are leaving and when you'll be returning. Give a responsible person an extra house key and leave a radio or light on to avoid your home looking empty. Have somebody collect your newspapers and mail and even do a little yard work if necessary. Basically, have your home look like it's lived in."

If you have any questions, please contact the Talent Police Department at 535-1253, or stop by (604 Talent Avenue) to register your vacation plans.

'Tis the season for thunderstorms

Weather emergencies ranging from lightening storms to tornadoes – even natural disasters like earthquakes – can cause power outages and other electric-safety concerns. To keep your family safe, it is important to be prepared. The folks at Pacific Power suggest following these rules during emergencies:

- 1. Never touch a downed power line or anything it is resting on. Warn others to stay away also.
- 2. Call 911 and your power company to inform them of the potential hazard.
- 3. If a power line falls across your car while you are inside, drive away if possible. If you can not drive away, stay in the car until help arrives. If you step out of your car while still in contact with any metal, the current will try to pass through you to the ground to complete its circuit. Serious injury could occur. If you must leave your car, quickly jump clear of the car so you do not touch the car and the ground at the same time.
- 4. If an electrical fire occurs, make sure everyone leaves the house immediately. Call the fire department or 911 at once.
- 5. Sometimes electrical damage to your home's wiring or appliances can present the danger of shock. If this occurs, turn off the electricity and stop the danger by turning off the main circuit breaker to your house.
- 6. When someone comes in contact with electricity, don't touch the victim or the appliance causing the shock. Shut off the power by turning off the electricity at the main breaker. Call 911 and other emergency officials.
- 7. After reporting the emergency, call Pacific Power to report the problem.
- 8. If your home suffers damage, shut off the power at the main circuit breaker. If gas leaks are present, leave the power off. Do not use matches or open-flame appliances until you are sure there are no gas leaks. Do not enter your home until it is safe.

(Information in the article comes from "Maintaining Your Home's Energy Safety." For additional information, contact Pacific Power at 1-800-222-4335.)