

# THE *FLASH* OF TALENT

March 8, 2000

An update from City Administration, Planning, Public Works, and Police Departments.  
Vol. 3 No. 5

## **Good news for Highway 99**

Tim Dedrick, Public Works Director, announced at the March 1, 2000 meeting of the City Council that the City of Talent is ranked third in the Oregon Department of Transportation's entire Region 3 Modernization Projects competition. What does this mean for Talent? This means that the Highway 99 project will now be forwarded to the Rogue Valley Area Commission on Transportation (RVACT) which will recommend which projects will be forwarded to the Oregon Transportation Commission (OTC). The OTC will then decide in July and August which projects will be funded for fiscal years 2002-2005. This all means that because of its high ranking, Highway 99 is on its way to possibly being entirely funded by the state!

Tim Dedrick presented City Councilors with a benefit/cost analysis worksheet compiled by ODOT. The analysis rated the Highway 99 project at a 2.73 which was off the scale (the scale tops out at 2.1). It calculated the cost to the public for accidents on Highway 99 at \$959,867 per year!

Tim Dedrick said the total project cost is \$4,775,000 and concluded the project will pay for itself in 5 years. Stay tuned to the *FLASH* for project developments.

## **News from the Chief**

Police Chief C.W. Smith was proud to report that Lieutenant Elmer Kammel and Officer Hector Caballero participated in Talent Middle School's Career Day events. Both Lieutenant Kammel and Officer Caballero talked to students about careers in law enforcement and were pleased to be so well received.

Chief Smith also reported that Frank Falsarella and Tony Marin are doing a great job for the City's Community Service Officers Program. He said they are dedicating much of their time to handicap and general parking violations. In the mornings, you can see both Tony and Frank helping crossing guards, Betty Welburn and Pete Lundy, get children to school safely. You may also notice patrol vehicles in and around school zones. Officers have stepped up enforcement of the laws, including the speed limit in areas where children are present. Chief Smith said this will continue during the school year and he advises all drivers to approach school zones with caution.

## **Police Department in need of helmets**

The Talent Police Department has depleted their supply of bicycle helmets and are seeking donations of new or used (in good condition) helmets. If you would like to make a donation or a cash contribution, please contact the Talent Police Department at 535-1253, or stop by 604 Talent Avenue (mailing address: City of Talent, P.O. Box 445, Talent, OR 97540).

## **Community service much appreciated**

The City of Talent would like to thank Daniel Giardina, Nick Hagan, Jonathon Oxford and Garrett West for their clean-up efforts in Lynn Newbry Park. These boys had taken it upon themselves to clean up the bike trail and, in doing so, they removed 5 trash bags of garbage from the area. Great job guys – keep up the good work!

## **City Projects Update**

The Bike/Pedestrian Project is in its final design and Phase I should go to bid, and be awarded, by April 2000. The City is working in conjunction with Bear Creek Valley Sanitary Authority (BCVSA) to allow the utility to install 2,600 feet of new sewer main and laterals from Main Street at 2nd Street to Rapp Road. The two projects will run in an overlapping fashion as each entity will be constructing in the right of way on an alternating basis.

The Talent Avenue Enhancement Project has proceeded to the point where the City has signed a contract with the Oregon Department of Transportation and the project scope has been completed. A notice to proceed is forthcoming and engineering surveying will be initiated.

## **City Council Agenda Items**

March 15, 2000 – 6:45 p.m.

### **New Business:**

Request to address the Council – Jon Deason of Access, Inc.

Discussion of FLASH articles from Councilors  
Review of Resolution No. 98-510-R(A) regulating the use of the Community Hall and establishing fees

Review of Council goals – possible adoption  
**(Agenda packets are available for review at 204 East Main Street or on our website at**

**[www.cityoftalent.org](http://www.cityoftalent.org))**

### **How to get your topic on the City Council Agenda**

Talent's City Council meets regularly on the first and third Wednesdays of the month. If you would like to address the Council, please stop by City Hall to fill out a request form. If you have a lengthy or complex issue to bring to the Council, please submit it in writing for inclusion in the Council packet for prior review and consideration. If you have any questions, please call City Hall at 535-1566.