

THE *FLASH* OF TALENT

August 8, 2001

An update from City Administration, Planning, Public Works, and Police Departments.
Vol. 4 No. 15

Helicopter Use

In an attempt to gather more information to respond to a petition signed by 57 Talent residents, the City Council heard a presentation by representatives from the Metro Air One program and received public testimony at their meeting on August 1, 2001. After much deliberation, the City Council agreed to form a committee to further explore the issue. The committee will be made up of Talent residents and two City Councilors. The first meeting is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, August 16, 2001, at 6:45 p.m. in the Community Hall.

Due to questions being asked by the public regarding a possible vote on the City's use of the helicopter, the Council also directed staff to bring back information regarding a referendum.

The Council passed a motion to continue the current policy of restricting the Police Department's use of the helicopter to emergencies only—a decision made previously at their meeting on July 2, 2001.

Become a CSO in Talent

The Community Service Officer (CSO) program operates under the direction of the Talent Police Department. The program is designed to assist Talent's Police Department with patrols, code enforcement, liaison services, etc. This program offers work experience in law enforcement, public safety, civic affairs, and customer service. Currently, they are seeking interested individuals to apply. You do not have to be a Talent resident to become a CSO—however, you must be 18 years of age or older, a U.S. citizen and submit to a background check.

If you would like to learn more about the CSO program, please contact Frank Falsarella at 944-0243 or stop by the Talent Police Department at 604 Talent Avenue.

Fundraiser for Talent Parks & the Bear Creek Greenway

The City of Talent and the Bear Creek Greenway Foundation are hosting an event to raise funds for our city parks and the Bear Creek Greenway. Founding member of the Hamazons, Joanie McGowan will be presenting *FEAR, Our Top Ten Fears and How I Got Rid of 'Em*. This event will be held on Friday, September 14, 2001, at 7 p.m. in Ashland. Hors d'oeuvres and beverages will be served.

Tickets are available at City Hall, 204 East Main Street, for a \$20 minimum donation. Space is limited, so purchase yours today.

For more information on the event, please call Allison at 535-1566. We hope to see you there!

Fire District No. 5 moving its headquarters

The Budget Committee for Jackson County Fire District No. 5 has approved \$2.35 million for a new fire station, including administrative offices, sleeping quarters, parking bays, etc. They have just finalized acquisition of a 6.75 acre parcel of land on South Pacific Highway— one mile north of their present location. An operational facility should be in place in approximately two years. Details of the new facility will be included in the Fire District's annual newsletter, arriving to Talent residents this Fall.

City Council Agenda Items

August 15, 2001 - 6:45 p.m.

New Business:

Presentation requesting Council support for federal funding of the Rogue River Basin Feasibility Study.

Review Greenways Master Plan. Subject to adoption.

Review Public Facilities Strategy. Subject to adoption.

Review change order related to TAP project.

(Complete packets available for review at City Hall, 204 East Main Street. You can also check out our web site at www.cityoftalent.org)

Greetings from the Harvest Festival Committee

The Harvest Festival Committee would like to take this opportunity to invite everyone to the Talent Harvest Festival on Saturday, September 8th. The festival is being hosted by the City of Talent in conjunction with Jackson County Fire District No. 5. The day will be filled with food, fun, and festivities—mark your calendars and plan to attend!

If you would like to set up a booth at the Harvest Festival, space is still available. Please contact Allison at City Hall, 535-1566, for more information.

“Cop Talk”

By Officer Shane Wilson

Seatbelt violations are still the number one violation we see on the road. Not only is it good practice to wear your seatbelt, it's the law. I personally have been to several accidents where seatbelts could have prevented serious physical injury and I'm still amazed at how many people refuse to buckle up. I'm also amazed at how many people refuse to secure their children. ORS 811.210 Section 2A states, “ A person who is under 4 years of age and weighs 40 lbs or less must be properly secured with a child safety system that meets the minimum standards and specifications established by the Department of Transportation under ORS 815.055 for child safety systems designed for children weighing 40 lbs or less.” Violators of this law will receive a citation for *each* child not properly strapped in.

Something drivers should also know is that if you have a passenger in your car who is under the age of 16 and not wearing a seatbelt, *you* will be issued a citation. If you are *passenger* in a vehicle, are over 16 years of age, and are *not* wearing a seatbelt, *you* will receive the citation (ORS 811.210). There are no excuses for not wearing a seatbelt.

According to ORS 811.225, you are responsible for keeping your seatbelts in working order.

Be safe, be thoughtful, and everyone buckle up!

City Council Accomplishments

At the August 2, 2001, meeting of the City Council, the Council:

Heard from Leslie Wilkinson of SOU's Small Business Development Center who would like to extend their services to Talent area businesses.

Heard a presentation from representatives from Metro Air One and took public testimony regarding the City's participation in the regional public safety helicopter program. For more information, please read article on the front page of this issue (Helicopter Use).

Reviewed the Greenways Master Plan.

Approved an agreement between the City and the Rogue Valley Council of Governments for use of the Community Hall for the Food and Friends program.

Approved request for participation in the Jackson County Recycling Partnership.

Approved agreement with Jackson County to allow the City to participate in their fuel, maintenance and/or repair services.

Approved agreement for participation in a road fund exchange between the City and Jackson County which will yield the City approximately \$25,000 for street projects.

Approved Resolution No. 01-600-R extending the City of Talent's Workers' Compensation Coverage to volunteers of the City of Talent.

Appointed two new members to the Parks and Recreation Commission.