

THE *FLASH* OF TALENT

December 26, 2001

An update from City Administration, Planning, Public Works, and Police Departments.
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**TAP Project Nearing
Completion**

On December 26, 2001, Mario Serra, Inspection Engineer for Montgomery Watson Harza, updated the City on the status of the TAP (Talent Ashland Phoenix) project. He stated, "We are still waiting on the instrumentation. The pipeline is complete and both (Phoenix and Talent) reservoirs are finished. The landscaping at the reservoir sites are complete as well and, when the weather gets warmer, we'll be putting the last finishing coat on both tanks."

There is a TAP meeting scheduled for January 8, 2002, at 5:30 p.m. at Talent's Community Center. This is a public meeting and anyone interested is invited to attend. The building moratorium will be discussed by Talent's City Council at their second meeting in January (Wednesday, January 16, 2002) at 6:45 p.m. At this meeting an ordinance will also be presented to Council pertaining to the lifting of the moratorium.

If you would like more information, please contact the City Administrator at 535-1566.

Spreading Holiday Cheer

At the beginning of each holiday season, Talent's Court Clerk Coleen Bradley locates families for the City to adopt for Christmas. This year, she found four families in need of some holiday cheer. In conjunction with Jackson County Fire District No. 5 and with help from Talent residents, the City was able to provide Christmas dinner and gifts from Santa for each family. Santa usually stops by City Hall first before making his deliveries. This year was no exception. His sleigh (the fire truck) was loaded with gifts, toys and food baskets and were delivered on a day when the weather was close to that of the North Pole. But despite the cold weather, warm wishes for a happy holiday spread throughout the city.

We would like send huge thanks to Coleen Bradley who, once again, organized and coordinated this entire event. We would also like to thank Santa and his helpers for making Christmas dreams come true.

News from the Planning Department

Approved Applications

The City Planner approved the following applications:

- Two Minor Partitions both on Talent Avenue
- Site Plan Review for Little League expansion of storage facility

Application Pending

The following application is pending before the Planning Commission:

Conditional Use Permit for espresso drive thru at Wal-Mart – Public Hearing before Planning Commission on January 10, 2002, at 6:30 p.m.

Adopted Policies

The City Council adopted the following policies in December:

Article 13 - Historic Preservation and the proposed Old Town Design Standards in the Old Town District. Both policies help implement the vision identified by the Downtown Plan and encourage the preservation of historic resources.

Large Retail Design standards for new commercial development over 30,000 SF.

Strategic Plan Update: City Council adopted an updated version of the Strategic Plan that was originally developed in 1998 with a grant from the US Forest Service. The update reflects changes in policies since the original adoption and acknowledgement of completed projects.

Article 27 – Establishes new procedures for processing land use applications.

Article 25 – Establishes new standards for variances from the Talent Zoning Ordinance (TZO).

Fee Schedule establishes new fees for processing land use applications (the fees were last updated in 1996).

Policies Under Review

The following policies are under review:

Planning Commission will be reviewing proposed changes to Article 22 of the TZO, which addresses home occupations or businesses conducted within a home and in a residentially zoned property.

City Council will be reviewing the Public Facilities Strategy as the TAP (Talent Ashland Phoenix) Project nears completion.

City Council will hold a public hearing on an amendment to the Transportation System Plan (TSP), which adds alleys as an allowable street under certain conditions, and an option for a narrow street standard.

In addition to new applications, the City Planner will be reviewing the sign ordinance and preparing an "Introduction" to the recently adopted Comprehensive Plan.

If you would like more information or have any questions, please contact Kevin Cronin, City Planner, at 535-7401 or e-mail kevin@cityoftalent.org.

"Cop Talk"

By Officer Shane Wilson

Well, it's that time of year again. Winter is upon us and kids are out of school on winter break. Because of the increased activity, I would like to remind drivers to *slow down!* Please give yourself some extra time to reach your destination and, remember to be courteous to other drivers.

Almost every morning I see drivers racing around town, hurrying to get to work, getting the kids to school, etc. It's these same drivers who fail to stop at stop signs or other traffic control devices. If you don't already know, NOT obeying a traffic control device will not get you to your destination any sooner, especially if you're stopped by an officer. The citation for this offense is \$175 and goes up if the offense caused an accident. In addition to adverse weather conditions, roads have been a little more slick in the mornings, so please be careful.

On a lighter note, the Talent Police Department is now conducting *free* security consultations of homes or businesses. Once you schedule an appointment, I or another police officer will come to your home or business and perform a complete security check. We will review possible security problems with doors, windows, locks, alarms, shrubs, etc. We will then complete a detailed checklist and attach comments and suggestions for your records. To schedule an appointment, please call me, Officer Wilson, at the Talent Police Department at 535-1253.

If you have any questions, please write or e-mail me. My address is Officer Wilson, c/o Talent Police Department, P. O. Box 445, Talent, OR 97540. My e-mail address is wilsontpd@hotmail.com.

Plans for the Downtown Park

A revised master plan for the Downtown Park has been approved by the Talent City Council, Parks and Recreation Commission, and the Urban Renewal Agency. The new plan includes provisions for restrooms, landscaping, and areas for walking, sitting, and viewing. Cheryl Nadler-Voss, Parks Commission Chair, said the naming of the park will take place some time in the future. She said all efforts now are concentrated on completing this project with hopes it will soon be enjoyed by the entire community.

In January, the revised plan will be available for review at City Hall, 204 E. Main Street.

Christmas Tree Recycle Day

Scout Troop 535 will be assisting again this year in the pick-up of Christmas trees in Talent. The trees will be chipped and the chipped material will then be used on park trails and as mulch for plants. Troop 535 asks Talent residents to set out their trees near the curb on Friday, January 4th to be picked up on Saturday, January 5th beginning at 9 a.m. Please note that trees placed curbside *after* 9 a.m. will **not** be picked up.

Donations for this community service activity will be accepted and are greatly appreciated. If you would like more information, please contact Gary Galligan at 535-7581 or Tonya Noon-Toldeo at 535-2582.

From all of us at the City of Talent, we would like to extend warm wishes for a bright and beautiful new year!