

THE ***FLASH*** OF TALENT

May 29, 2002

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

**Two City Council
Vacancies**

The City of Talent is now accepting applications to fill **two** City Councilor positions. The term of office will begin at the time of appointment and expire on December 31, 2002. Applicants must be registered voters within Talent city limits. The monthly compensation for each position is \$125.00.

Applications may be obtained at City Hall, 204 East Main Street, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Monday through Friday). Completed applications are due to Talent City Hall by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, June 4th.

Applicants will be interviewed by the City Council on Wednesday, June 5th at 5:30 p.m. The current vacant positions were held by Jodi Yap and Katrina Hill. On behalf of the citizens of Talent, the City would like to thank them both for their service on the City Council.

**Discount Day at the Transfer
Station**

Ashland Sanitary and Recycling invites you to bring your trash to the Transfer Station (3000 Valley View Road in Ashland) on Saturday, June 15th. "Discount Day" means you'll get \$3.50 off per load. And, for each customer using the Transfer Station that day, they will donate \$1.75 to the Ashland Food Bank. Discount Day starts at 7:30 a.m. until 4 p.m., so don't miss out!

For more information, contact Ashland Sanitary and Recycling at 482-1471.

Down By the Riverside - A Huge Success

On May 18, 2002, volunteers gathered at Lynn Newbry Park to participate in the 4th annual Down By the Riverside cleanup. This year's event proved to be a huge success. Volunteers from Talent and Ashland went right to work weeding, mulching, and removing trash from the park and surrounding area. Together, they picked up 100 pounds of litter, including a shopping cart, and collected 12 cubic yards of woody debris and weeds!

The City's Planning Department and Stop Oregon and Litter and Vandalism (SOLV), a statewide organization dedicated to helping Oregon communities improve neighborhoods and public spaces, has worked closely together to beautify Lynn Newbry Park, which is part of a much larger Bear Creek Greenway system and is used heavily by local and Rogue Valley residents for recreation and commuting. The Down By the Riverside event is one way the City encourages community members to become involved in neighborhood cleanup efforts.

The City wishes to thank all its volunteers who participated in the cleanup: Diane and Don Vinlove, Ellen Gardner, Ken Gosling, Tom and Lou Grauman, Cindy Harper, Kristen and Kimberly Howard, Betty Wheeler, Darcy Davis, and Kevin Cronin.

Committee and Commission Vacancies

Currently, there are two vacancies on the Planning Commission, four vacancies on the Planning Commission Advisory Board, five vacancies on the Parks and Recreation Commission Advisory Board, and two vacancies on the Urban Renewal Agency.

If you are interested in serving on any one or more of the committees or commissions listed above, please fill out an application with the City of Talent. Applications may be obtained at City Hall, 204 East Main Street, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Monday through Friday), or on our website at www.cityoftalent.org.

Planning Department News

Denied Applications:

Planned Unit Development at 1737 Lithia Way, 26 lots proposed with dedicated open space, the application of Gregg Adams was denied by City Council on May 15, 2002.

Site Plan Review of four manufactured units on four lots for individual lease, Applicant: Doug Vargas, 597 Rapp Road. The Planning Commission denied the application on April 25, 2002. Applicant is appealing to the City Council and will be heard on June 5, 2002.

Applications Under Review: These applications are pending before the City Planner and/or the Planning Commission:

A pre-application conference was held with Andy Cochrane of Cochrane Construction, LLC

of Ashland to discuss the annexation of property located at 1620 South Pacific Highway. The applicant is proposing new residential use for a property designated Low Density Residential in the Comprehensive Plan. The proposed annexation is permitted subject to approval criteria for a Type 4 application, including Statewide Planning Goals and the Comprehensive Plan.

Policies Under Review:

The City Planner has developed a draft version of a new sign ordinance. After two study sessions and a public hearing, the second draft will be presented at a second public hearing before the Planning Commission on May 30, 2002. The Architectural Review Committee reviewed the draft on May 23, 2002 and recommended approval.

Applications Under Review:

The Architectural Review Committee has reviewed and approved a design of an addition to 103 South Second Street. This house, built in 1931, is located in the Old Town District and is listed as "Contributing" in the City's Survey of Historic Resources.

“Cop Talk”

By Shane Wilson

The Talent Police Department has taken reports of “sales scams” in the area. I would like to remind citizens, especially our senior citizens, to be cautious when dealing with door-to-door salespersons. Not to say that every company selling door-to-door is out to scam you, but here are some precautions you can take:

Make sure they have a current City business license. Call City Hall (535-1566) or the Police Department (535-1253) to verify.

Check for personal identification or company photo ID.

Look in the phone book to see if the company exists.

Make sure you don't pay for anything in advance. Set an appointment, but don't pay until products or services have been received.

Bottom line, use your best judgment. Many companies are legitimate, but I hope you'll be better prepared to deal with the ones that aren't.

If you have suggestions for my next “Cop Talk” article, please call or write me. My phone number is 535-1253 and my address is Officer Wilson, c/o Talent Police Department, P. O. Box 445, Talent, OR 97540, wilsontpd@hotmail.com.

Weed Abatement

Just a friendly reminder that the City has an ordinance which prohibits the uncontrolled growth of grass, weeds or other vegetation within City limits during fire season. If the warm weather persists, the Oregon Department of Forestry could declare fire season as early as the first week of June. There will be a “blanket” inspection of the City conducted after the declaration of fire season and violators will have 10 days in which to comply with the ordinance. Inspections from there will be complaint-driven.

New Water Rates

In accordance with Ordinance No. 02-717-O, the City of Talent has increased its water rates. The new rates will be in addition to Transportation and Storm Drain Utility fees. [Click here](#) to see the new rates.