

THE *FLASH* OF TALENT

January 29, 2003

An update from City Administration, Planning, Public Works, and Police Departments.
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TALENT APPOINTS INTERIM POLICE CHIEF

Former Oregon State Police District Commander Edward Hanson has been appointed to serve as Talent's Interim Chief of Police. Chief Hanson comes to the City of Talent with over 34 years of experience, including 27 years with Oregon State Police, from which he retired in 1996. Since retirement, he has done investigative work for several law firms in the Rogue Valley and for the State of Oregon.

Chief Hanson has been appointed to serve from February 3, 2003 to June 30, 2003. In that time, he will be working with the City Manager to evaluate police services and work with the department to continue to provide a high level of service to the citizens of this community. Although increasing the part-time position to a full-time position will have an impact on the department budget, the extra expense will be covered by contingency funds within the City's budget.

The City will begin its search for a permanent Chief right away. It is the intent of the City to fill the position in the next fiscal year.

Bid Awarded for Rapp Road Pump Station

The bid for construction of the Rapp Road Pump Station has been awarded to Ledford Construction. The new pump station will be located on the corner of Rapp Road and Wagner Creek Road. Currently residents on Wagner Creek road receive their water from the Wagner Creek Treatment Plant. The Plant is on line to serve these customers because there is not enough pressure to deliver water from the Medford Water Commission system to this area. The purpose of the Rapp Road Pump Station will be to boost pressures on the high elevation end of the system.

The Rapp Road Pump Station should be online around March 1, 2003. The old Wagner Creek Treatment Plant will be taken off line at that time and all Talent residents on Wagner Creek will be served by this new source.

Lion's Lumberjack Breakfast

The Talent Lion's Club will be hosting a Lumberjack Breakfast on Sunday, February 16, 2003. Breakfast will be served in Talent's Community Center (206 Main Street) from 7 a.m. to 12 p.m. The cost is \$3.00 for adults and \$2.00 for children.

Planning Department News

Applications Approved

Lithia View (AP 02-03/SUB 02-02): Gregg Adams of Adams Group, LLC appealed an affirmative decision reached by the Planning Commission on July 25, 2002. The City Council held public hearings on November 6, 2002 and January 2, 2003 to consider new evidence and testimony from those with standing to appeal. The City Council deliberated on January 15, 2003, affirmed the decision of the Planning Commission, but amended the conditions of approval.

Applications Under Review: These applications are pending before the City

SDCs Increase for New Development

Last fall the City Council adopted a number of new ordinances (Ordinance No. 725, 727-731) to update the systems development charges (SDCs) on new development in Talent. Also called impact fees, SDCs help offset the cost of providing new infrastructure or capital improvements for transportation, stormwater, water, and parks. (NOTE: The State of Oregon does not allow local governments to assess SDCs for fire, police, and schools.) SDCs cannot be used for maintenance. BCVSA, which owns and maintains sanitary sewer facilities, and the Medford Water Commission, which supplies Talent's water, also assess SDCs for new development. In total there are six SDCs assessed for residential development and five for commercial. The rates for

Planner and/or the Planning Commission, and City Council:

Site Plan Review (SP 02-10):

Charlie Hamilton of Suncrest Homes, LLC has applied for a site plan review of a proposed office and apartment. The property is zoned C-2 Central Business District and is located at 207 Talent Avenue. An existing garage is proposed for the conversion with a structural addition, parking, landscaping, and shared access driveway. The City Planner will release a "Notice of Decision" on January 31, 2003.

Policies Under Review or Adopted:

The Citizens Advisory Committee, which is responsible for reviewing the zoning districts, held its fifth meeting on January 7, 2003. The next meeting will be held as a joint session between the Architectural Review Committee and the Planning Commission on February 27, 2003. PC/ARC will consider the recommendations made by the CAC to amend the zoning districts.

The Planning Commission recommended adoption of amendments to the Old Town Design Standards before a public hearing on January 23, 2003. The City Council will hold a public hearing and review the recommendations in February.

each SDC were adjusted to reflect increases in construction cost since the original figures were adopted in 1995.

If you would like more information on specific SDCs or an example of SDC fees for a single-family home, please contact the Kevin Cronin, City Planner at 535-7401 or kevin@cityoftalent.org.

Code Enforcement Beautifies Talent

The City of Talent has a code enforcement program that is coordinated by the Community Development Department and administered by the Police Department.

The City Planner and the Code Enforcement Officer (half time employee) work closely together to identify and resolve code violations and respond to complaints reported to the City. For the last two and half years the City has been actively enforcing public "nuisance" codes, such as abandoned and discarded vehicles, overgrown landscaping, right-of-way obstructions, illegal dumping, and businesses operating without a license.

The City has made great progress in cleaning up Talent neighborhoods and the downtown area.

If you have any questions about the program or would like to report a violation in your neighborhood, please contact Kevin Cronin, City Planner at 535-7401 or kevin@cityoftalent.org. It is the City's policy to keep all registered complaints confidential.

Civic Center Master Planning

A committee appointed by the City Council continues to make progress on the planning for a new Civic Center complex for Talent. After developing a clearer idea, through a public brainstorming session, of the kinds of activities that should be included the Committee has identified available lands the City should purchase. The Talent Urban Renewal Agency has agreed to make these purchases. In the next week a spatial needs assessment will begin by an architectural firm. Once the amount of square footage and number of parking spaces are identified, another public meeting will be held to develop a preliminary design of where buildings will be located and what the complex will look like.

If you would like more information, [click here](#).

Cop Talk By Officer Shane Wilson

Water Meters

The City will soon be implementing a

Recently, the Talent Police Department has acquired several lost or found items which include everything from bicycles to personal items. We are running out of room for storage. If you have lost something and would like to see if we've recovered it, please contact Officer Caballero at the Talent Police Department at 535-1253. You will need to provide proof of ownership for a lost or stolen item.

Just a reminder that the police department received a grant to enforce seatbelt violations. We will be working a seatbelt "blitz" between February 10th and February 23rd. This means that we will have extra patrol officers on duty, working overtime, to enforce seatbelt violations during these days. The fine for a seatbelt violation is \$77.00. We advise that you please buckle up and drive safe.

If you have any questions you would like me to answer in my next Cop Talk article, please contact me at the Talent Police Department at 535-1253 or e-mail wilsontpd@hotmail.com.

new, touch-read meter reading system.

The Public Works Department has installed 460 touch-read meters to date with 1100 yet to be done. In the next year and a half, all meters in the city will be replaced with touch-read meters to provide more accurate meter readings and a more cost effective system for billing customers.

Plans Finalized for Depot Construction

The plans for construction of the Depot and the landscaping of the property across from the Downtown Park have been finalized and the project is being placed out to bid now. Construction should begin as early as April of this year. Funding for this project comes from two separate grants: (1) RVTD and (2) State Housing and Community Services Department.