



THE FLASH

An update from City Administration,
Planning, Public Works
and Police Departments

City of Talent

New Parks Surcharge Ordinance

The City Council is currently working on a Parks Surcharge Ordinance that would assess \$1/month to each property served by the City's water system. All receipts from this assessment would go towards maintaining City Parks. Since there are currently no dedicated



funds set aside specifically to maintain our City parks it is always a struggle to have enough money to maintain them properly. In recent years new

parks have been developed and will require additional money to maintain. Since all citizens use the parks this surcharge seems to be the fairest way for everyone to share equally in the cost of maintenance.

While the City has been able to receive some grants to replace the tennis and basketball courts and has also used System Development Charges for the installation of irrigation systems and park furniture, these sources of funding cannot be used for regular maintenance. In the past the parks have been maintained with property tax, which is also expected to fund a number of other city services.

You can review this draft ordinance at the City website or by stopping by City Hall. **The public hearing on this Ordinance will be held on Wednesday, December 7, 2005 at 6:30 p.m.**

Season of Giving



The annual "Lights for Life" tree

lighting will take place in Talent on Wednesday, December 7, 2005 at 6:00 p.m. in front of the Community Center. Please join the City Council in this annual event that is sponsored by the Ashland Community Hospital Foundation. Citizens can make donations to the Hospital Foundation to benefit community services for those less fortunate. Donation forms are available at City Hall.

THANK YOU TO PARTICIPATING BUSINESS

Many thanks to those businesses who took the time to complete the Business Survey for the City. The Economic Development Committee is reviewing the information gathered and determining the best way to use that information. Responses will be made to those who provided comments.



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Inside this issue:

<i>Committee Vacancies</i>	2
<i>Boy Scouts</i>	2
<i>Disaster Registry</i>	2
<i>Cop Talk</i>	3
<i>Planning News</i>	3
<i>Urban Renewal News</i>	Back Page

COMMITTEE VACANCIES

The City continues to look for volunteers to serve on the various Committees established by City Council. If you have time to serve please contact City Hall for a volunteer application or an application is available on the City website – www.cityoftalent.org.

Planning Commission - Starting in January 2006 there will be two vacancies on the Planning Commission. With all of the development occurring in Talent this is an important part of City Government and it cannot be done without citizen volunteers. The Planning Commission meets twice a month on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays.

Economic Development Committee - An individual to represent the business community is needed on this committee. The Committee meets once a month.

Traffic Safety and Transportation Commission - There are 2 openings on this Commission for an individual(s) to represent the citizens at large. The topics discussed relate to traffic safety and transportation. They meet every other month or on an as needed basis.

Enhancement Committee - After the first of the year this committee will begin to plan for the spring clean up and would like to take on other beautification projects for the community. If you would like to help improve the appearance of Talent please come and help.

Boy Scout Christmas Tree Pick Up



Talent Scout Troop 535 will be picking up discarded Christmas trees on **January 7, 2006** for all City residents. Please place the trees at the curbside by 9:00 a.m. the morning of the 7th to assure pickup.

Please make sure that ornaments and stands have been removed, since the trees will be turned into mulch that will be used on trails and for plant mulch. This is a great opportunity to dispose of your tree in an environmentally sensitive manner. Any contributions that you can make to help with programs of the Boy Scouts will be greatly appreciated. For more information, or if an out of city pick up is needed, please call 734-9583.

Disaster Registry – Is it for You?



Disaster Registry is a program designed to identify persons that would need special assistance to evacuate their homes in times of extreme emergency, such as a flood, forest fire, or other disaster.

Is this program for you? You should register, if you or someone you care for, would:

- need outside help to safely leave home during a disaster, or
- be in jeopardy if you stayed in your home, without assistance, for three days, or
- need special notification about the need for evacuation, due to impairment.

How does it work? Citizens enroll themselves into the program by completing a registry form; their information is added to a 911 Emergency Dispatch Center database, and in the event of a disaster making it necessary to evacuate the neighborhood where the citizen lives, emergency services personnel are made aware of the citizen's special needs, and coordinate to provide that assistance.

Does Registry guarantee priority assistance? There are so many needs during a disaster, that emergency responders can't help everyone at once. But if your name is in the Disaster Registry, they will know of your need for special assistance.

Will my information be kept confidential? Yes, this information is available only to those in Jackson County Emergency Management and the 911 Center, who would pass it directly to emergency responders when needed.

Where to register? The Disaster Registry forms are available at Talent City Hall, and from the Rogue Valley Council of Governments, 155 N. 1st Street, Central Point.

Questions about the program should be directed to Connie Saldana at Senior & Disability Services of Rogue Valley Council of Governments, (541) 664-6676, ext. 227.



COP TALK By Officer Shane Wilson

We would like to welcome our new full time Code Enforcement Officer “Red” Smith. Red has worked and lived in the Rogue Valley since the 1970’s. Red was a Jackson County Deputy Sheriff for 28 years, and prior to that he worked as a Paramedic. Red’s function with the Talent Police Department will be to address and enforce City Ordinance violations

(codes). Red will be visible in the community in a patrol vehicle marked “Code Enforcement “. Red will be enforcing all City Ordinance violations but will currently have a primary focus on illegally parked vehicles, along with abandoned and discarded vehicles. In addition to those duties he will also be responsible for placing and operating the City’s Speed Enforcement Radar Trailer. The Radar Trailer will be located in various locations around the

City were high speed violations are prevalent.

Red’s hours will generally be 10 am to 6 pm M-F. He can be reached at the Talent Police Department 535-1253, ext #391. Please feel free to call with questions and/or concerns regarding any City Ordinance violations. Red will address each call, but will be very busy so, please leave a message and he will return your call as promptly as possible.

Welcome Red!

PLANNING DEPARTMENT NEWS

Old Town Design District

Many people may not be aware that there is a design district overlay zone covering the downtown, original town plat and adjacent areas. Any exterior work done in the district—except for painting and general maintenance—requires review by the Architectural Review Committee (ARC) using the Old Town Talent Design Standards (Ordinance #733). The District generally encompasses the original town plat and Gibson Avenue, and extends down Talent Avenue to Rapp Road. You can view both the map and the design standards at the City’s website under “Zoning & Development.”

Remember, ARC review is required before you start siding or replacement work in the Old Town.

The Committee will also be recognizing the best restoration/rehabilitation work at next year’s Harvest Festival. If you see good rehabilitation work anywhere in town, or a respectable addition to an existing building, or compatible new construction in the Old Town District from September 2005 through August 2006, contact the planning office with your nomination. The Committee will do the judging at their September meeting in time for the Harvest



Festival on the second Saturday of September, where the winner(s) will be recognized.

Call for Planning Commission Members

Two long-time Commissioners, Carol Malcolm and Bill Cecil, are stepping down at the end of the year. Their service to the community is much appreciated and they will be deeply missed. That, of course, means the Planning Commission again needs volunteers. Be a part of the planning process in Talent and help shape the future.

If you have a specific request or need more information, please feel free to contact Planning at 535-7401 or via e-mail at john@cityoftalent.org.

URBAN RENEWAL NEWS

Phase III Street Light Retrofits:

The third phase of the Agency's street light retrofit project should be completed in the early part of December. Phase III has concentrated on John Street and Talent Avenue (south of Wagner Street), removing every other light head and sending to the manufacturer for conversion to lower wattage, pedestrian-friendly "roof optic" lighting systems. Because of manufacturer delays, Phase IV – the final phase with 100% conversion inside the urban renewal area – will not occur until spring.



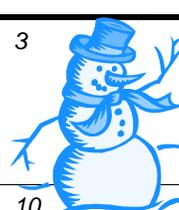
Historic Wagner Creek Bridge Improvements:



Although safety and aesthetic improvements were scheduled to be completed this winter, numerous bridge projects throughout the region have limited the availability of bridge contractors. The project will be re-bid at a later date.

West Valley View Street Network:

The Urban Renewal Agency recently purchased an abandoned building at 106 New Street, in anticipation of the site being an integral part of the proposed street network plan to be developed this winter. The consultants selected to work on the street network plan anticipate having the conceptual plan finished in spring 2006. The process will include one-on-one meetings with property owners in the West Valley View area and public input meetings. For more information, contact Marla Cates, Executive Director, 535-6170.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	DECEMBER					
4	5 <i>Municipal Court 3:00pm Comm Hall</i>	6 <i>Arch Review 7:00pm Comm Hall</i>	7 <i>City Council 6:30pm Comm Hall</i>	8 <i>Traffic 3:00pm Pub Wks Planning 6:30pm Comm Hall</i>	9	10
11	12	13	14 <i>Parks 6:00pm Comm Hall</i>	15 <i>Economic 4:30pm Comm Hall Planning 6:30pm Comm Hall</i>	16	17 <i>Arch Review Walk TBD</i>
18	19 <i>Municipal Court 6:00pm Comm Hall</i>	20 <i>Urban Renwal 6:00pm TBD</i>	21 <i>Chamber 8:30am TBD Safety Noon TBD City Cncl 6:30pm Comm Hall</i>	22	23	24
25	26 <i>City Holiday (offices closed)</i>	27	28 <i>Economic 3:30pm Comm Hall The "Flash" Distributed</i>	29	30	31 TBD = To be determined