



# THE FLASH

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

## City of Talent

### Parks Master Plan

The City has contracted with the University of Oregon Community Planning Workshop to assist in the update of the Parks Master Plan. As part of their work they will be conducting a household survey asking for your input on the use of City Parks and recreational interests. In January this survey will



be mailed out to a random selection of City residents. In order to encourage a higher response, the City will sponsor a drawing for all who return the survey.

This survey is a major component to providing good information on how the City plans for the future of parks in Talent. As the City grows it is expected that there will be a greater interest in the parks and the need to provide for a variety of recreational opportunities.

The consultants will also develop concept plans for underutilized land that the City owns as well as a parcel of land that the City will acquire in the future. Land adjacent to the Public Works Facility off of Suncrest was formally referred to as Wackers Hollow. For a number of years the land was leased out for a commercial use as a driving range. When that use was discontinued the City decided not to lease it but to plan for some type of recreational use of this area. Currently fill from many of the construction projects in the area is being brought to this area to level the area so that it will be more useable for ball fields or other types of recreational activities.

The other concept plan will be developed for a parcel of land that connects to the Wackers Hollow land with access off of Valley View. This land will be deeded to the City in the future by the developers of the Clear View project on Highway 99. This area is envisioned for passive recreation since there are many environmental features on this property that are important to preserve.

In addition to the survey there will be several opportunities for public involvement as this Master Plan is being developed over the next several months.

### Park Surcharge Adopted

City Council adopted a new park surcharge that will appear on your February Water Utility Bill. Revenues from this fee will be used to maintain and improve the City's parks. The amount of money generated from the assessment will serve to augment some of the other City revenues that have been used to pay for this maintenance in the past. All citizens benefit from the presence of well-maintained parks in the City and it was decided that this was the fairest way to spread the cost over the entire community.

The assessment is based on a unit and each unit represents a billing of \$1.00. All single-family dwellings, accessory dwelling units, duplexes and triplexes are treated as units. Apartments will be considered individual units based on a 95% occupancy and mobile homes will be billed as a unit, or, if within a mobile home park it would be based on 1 unit per space. For commercial and industrial customers the base rate would be "1" unit for up to 10 employees. Employers with more than 10 employees will be billed in increments of 10. (i.e., employer with 15 employees would be billed as "2 units".) If you have any questions about the ordinance or the billing please contact the City Manager.



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### COMMITTEE VACANCIES

In order to make a citizen government work the City needs to have volunteers to serve on the various Committees. The time commitment varies with each committee but the contribution that is given by citizens is important. If you have the time to serve please contact City Hall or go to the City's website – www.cityoftalent.org. for an application.

**Planning Commission** – The Planning Commission has the responsibility for reviewing developments, doing long range planning and making recommendations to the City Council for adjustments to the Zoning and Land Division Ordinances as required. They meet on the 4th Thursday of the month and the 2nd Thursday if necessary.

**Economic Development Committee** - One additional representative from the business community is needed to provide input on what the City can do to improve the business climate.

**Budget Committee** – There are two vacancies on the Budget Committee. This committee meets several times in May and June to review the proposed budget for the coming year.

**Enhancement Committee** - Many citizens have suggestions about improving the appearance of the City. This Committee is the place to share those ideas and help make them happen.

**RVMPO Public Advisory Council** - The Rogue Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization is looking for a citizen volunteer to represent Talent on the Public Advisory Council. This group advises the MPO Policy Committee on regional transportation issues. Contact Vicki Guarino at RVCOG – 664-6674

### Colver Road Waterline Improves Reliability

Thanks to a cooperative funding arrangement between the City of Talent and the Phoenix-Talent School District a waterline extension from Candlewood Mobile Home Park to the school ball fields was completed this fall.



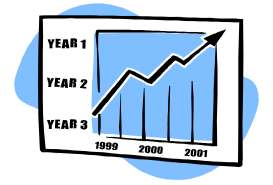
This waterline extension involved an expensive crossing of the railroad tracks where the waterline was placed in an oversized sleeve that had to be drilled under the tracks. The new line was then connected to an existing waterline on Front Street and extended to the school property to provide water for drinking fountains and irrigation. It was sized to accommodate a future school on the site.

Having the new line tie into the existing Front Street line and removing dead end lines on Front Street and Colver Road provides a significant improvement to the reliability of the water system in this area of town for fire suppression and everyday use.

The total project cost \$196,374.12. The school district provided \$122,156.00. The developer of Green Acre subdivision on Front Street provided \$17,000 for the main extension on Front Street and the tie-in to Colver Road. The City paid \$57,218.12. The contractor was Pilot Rock Excavation. The City appreciates the contributions it received to this significant improvement to the Talent water system.

## City Population Growth

Each year Portland State University updates the population estimates for every City in the state based on input from each city's planning office. As of July 1, 2005 the Talent population estimate is 6255. This represents a 21% increase since the US Census was completed in 2000 when the population was 5160.



## Creel Road Open House

The Creel Road Design Committee is ready to present plans to the public for the improvements to Creel. These street improvements will extend from Highway 99 to Talent Avenue and include sidewalks, bike lanes, curb and gutter and a turning lane at the Highway 99 intersection. Public Works Management Inc. will present these plans to the public at an **Open House on January 5, 2006 from 4:00-6:00 p.m. at the Community Center**. Please come to help set the priorities since the cost estimates exceed the funds available. This project is planned for construction in the summer of 2006.

## Wagner Street Open House

An Open House to present street design improvements for **Wagner Street will be held on January 11, 2006 from 4:00-6:00 p.m. at the Community Center**. The design has been prepared by OBEC Consulting Engineers and will be presented by the City Engineer. The project area includes Wagner Street from Front Street to Wagner Creek Road. This project is being partially funded through a grant from the Oregon Department of Transportation Bike and Pedestrian Grant program and will include sidewalks, bike lanes, curb and gutter as well as a water line replacement. Construction is planned to begin in late June of 2006.

## REMINDER.....

### 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 7<sup>th</sup> to assure pickup. For more information, or if an out of city pickup is needed, please call 734-9583.





## COP TALK By Officer Shane Wilson

This month I would like to address and clear up some details about “discarded” vehicles. Discarded vehicles are probably one of the most handled cases by Code Enforcement. Talent City Ordinance #748 addresses discarded vehicles. It’s a rather lengthy ordinance so I will try to sum it up. First, a discarded vehicle is a vehicle that is on private property, and is either not currently registered, or is in one of the following conditions: inoperative, wrecked, dismantled, partially dismantled, abandoned, or junked. Many of the vehicles we’re coming across are both unregistered and inoperative.

Section # 3 of the ordinance states that discarded vehicles are prohibited in the City of Talent, unless the vehicle is enclosed within a structure or building and

not visible from the public right-of-way. In other words, if you have a discarded vehicle on your property, you must either get in compliance by registering and repairing it, or it must be removed from view of the public and secured within an enclosed structure. If a discarded vehicle is found in violation of this ordinance, you can expect to be contacted by the Code Enforcement Officer and warned that you are not in compliance with the ordinance. You’ll be given a reasonable amount of time to comply. Failure to comply could result in the issuance of a citation and the vehicle being towed away. If the City acts to tow the vehicle, the City will charge the costs of doing so to the property owner.



Discarded vehicles are an eyesore and can affect property values. Please make sure you are in compliance with the ordinance. A copy of Ordinance #748 is available at [www.cityoftalent.org](http://www.cityoftalent.org). If you have any questions about discarded vehicles, contact Code Enforcement Officer Red Smith or Chief Bob Rector at Talent PD, 535-1253.

I also wanted to take this time to tell the readers that this will be my last Flash article for the next four months as I will be gone for a short time. I should be back in April or May and look forward to writing Cop Talk again. In the mean time, Chief Rector will be taking my place in writing the articles. I appreciate the support you give in reading these articles monthly.

## PLANNING DEPARTMENT NEWS

### Upcoming Planning Commission items

On January 12th the Commission will review an application for a nine-lot planned unit development subdivision on Talent Avenue across from the Nerton Street intersection. Through an extension of Nerton Street the development would connect Talent Avenue to Kamerin Springs Estates, the 52-lot subdivision that is now at the home-building stage.

On January 26th the Commission will review the detailed plan of Lithia View Phase 2, a 15-lot planned unit development subdivision that received concept plan approval in July 2005. On that same date the Commission may review the application for an eight-lot subdivision



at 1120 Talent Avenue, that would extend Joy Drive.

### Call for Planning Commission Members

With the departure of two long-time members, 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](mailto:john@cityoftalent.org).

# URBAN RENEWAL NEWS

## Master Plan for West Valley View Street Network:


The Agency's planning consultant, Fregonese Calthorpe Associates, has begun preliminary background research and fact finding, including informal one-on-one meetings with property owners in the West Valley View area. Design of the street network, which also incorporates alleyways, pedestrian accesses, and shared parking options, will begin with a preliminary analysis presented to the Board of Directors in late January. Several design phases follow, including an urban design workshop for the public in February where citizens participate in hands-on street plan design and select preferred streetscape visuals, and a community open house in April to showcase the final concept. After these design stages are completed, the preferred concept will be presented to the Planning Commission and to the City Council for final approval. In addition, the planning consultants will soon be activating a website where citizens can find current information on the project and view design concepts as

## Storm Water Technical Assistance Grant:

The Agency has been awarded a technical assistance grant for storm water management design for the Civic Center Campus project. The grant is funded through the state and administered by RVCOG's Natural Resources Department and is valued at approximately \$12,000. As a result, several storm water management solutions have been identified and are undergoing evaluation prior to being incorporated into the final Civic Center Campus design, which includes Home Street, a large park area called the Commons, a parking lot associated with the new County library, and the first phase of a new City Hall. The purpose of the storm water design is to provide alternative methods of managing storm water, such as natural filtration in bioswales, and to showcase these methods to the public as a demonstration.

For more information, contact Executive Director Marla Cates, 535-6170

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <i>HAPPY NEW YEAR ....</i>	2 <b>New Years Holiday</b>  (City Offices)	3	4 <i>City Council</i> 6:30 pm Comm. Hall	5 <i>Creel Rd Open House</i> 4:00 pm Comm. Hall	6	7
8	9 <i>Municipal Court</i> 3:00 pm Comm. Hall	10 <i>Arch Review</i> 7:00 pm Comm. Hall	11 <i>Wagner St. Open House</i> 4:30 pm <u>Comm. Hall</u> Parks 6:00 pm Comm. Hall	12 <i>Planning</i> 6:30 pm Comm. Hall	13	14
15	16 <b>Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday</b> (City Offices Closed)	17	18 <i>Chamber</i> 8:30a m <u>Ashland</u> Safety 1:30 pm <u>Comm. Hall</u> City Council 6:30 pm Comm. Hall	19 <i>Economic</i> 4:30 pm <u>Com. Hall</u> Urban Renewal 6:00 pm TBD	20	21 <i>Arch Review Walk</i> 9:00 am
22	23 <i>Municipal Court</i> 6:00 pm Comm. Hall	24	25	26 <i>Enhance.</i> 4:00 pm <u>Com. Hall</u> Planning 6:30 pm Comm. Hall	27	28 
29	30	31				