



THE FLASH

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

City of Talent

NEW CITY HALL— October 20, 2005 Discussion

Please plan to attend a public discussion of the proposal and costs to build a new city hall in Talent. The discussion will take place on **Thursday, October 20, 2005 at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Center.** After the bond vote held in 2004 for a new civic center was defeated, the City Council began working to find an alternative means to build this project. As Mayor Telerski had indicated in her 'state of the city' message, the problem of the inadequacies at City Hall will not go away and the council will have to find alternatives.

The Council has asked the Talent Urban Renewal Agency to fund the Civic Center at a much-reduced scope. A single project has now been broken down to three phases. Phase one is the development of the "Commons Area" which will focus around the new library to be built by Jackson County in 2006; the second phase will include a new City Hall and parking area that should be underway in 2007; and, the third phase is the renovation of the Police Station on Talent Avenue. The Police Station will require voter approval, but it will be at a cost that hopefully all the citizens can support.

Please mark your calendar and plan to attend the October 20th meeting to review these revisions and hear about the costs and funding strategies. Your understanding and input to this revised plan would be most helpful to both the Civic Center Committee and the City Council.

HARVEST FESTIVAL THANK YOU'S

I would like to thank the Talent Harvest Festival Committee (Fire Chief Dan Marshall, Police Chief Bob Rector, Mayor-Marian Telerski, City Councilor Dawn Watson, Citizen Volunteers Joe Dunbar, Greg Goebelt, Jesse Hodgdon, Darryl Nicolay and Cara Gombiski for their dedication to the planning, organizing and implementing of this year's festival. The day of the actual event puts our coordinating to the test, but I am always so impressed with the outcome. I have many people to thank for making this happen: the Talent Police Department, Sergeant Freeman and the Talent Police Reserves, Farrien Jensen and Talent Public Works, City Manager Betty Wheeler, and Jackson County Fire District No. 5. What a team! A special thank you to those local businesses that generously (continued on page 2)



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Harvest Festival continued.....

donated their time and/or money to help make this year even better than last year!

I would also like to thank those who attended this year's festival— it is my hope you had a good time.

Harvest Festival Race—

Among many of the successful events at the Harvest Festival was the Harvest Festival Run that netted the Parks and Recreation Programs \$850. With the help of the Southern Oregon Sizzlers and Felicia Hazel, 5K and 10K events were held the morning of the Festival. Winners of the 10K were Kelly Miller (women's) and Ric Sayre (men's). Jordi Hurd won the 5K women's and Tyler Davis won the men's event. Local businesses contributed to the success by their donations. Thanks to Ron Ridgeway of Tark's Market, Check Whitely, Fly Wheel Bike Shop, Camelot Theater, Caffe Café, Talent Car Wash, Wild Goose Café and the Holiday Inn Express/Medford.

Plan on this event next year!

Water Meter Reads

During the summer months many water customers questioned the accuracy of the readings of their meters since the consumption and resulting costs were high. In each instance when a Public Works employee went out to the re-read the meter the original reading was found to be accurate. While the City does not want to discontinue this re-read service, since there is always the possibility that something might be wrong at a particular residence, it is very costly to citizens to have so much of the departments time taken up with these re-reads particularly when a re-read only verifies that the original reading was correct and the billing is accurate. Now that all users are on the touch read system the meters are all being read electronically and the data is entered into the billing software electronically. The margin of error has been reduced considerably. Before making such a request, customers are asked to reflect on their usage for the previous 4-week period – Has there been a leak? Have there been extra visitors? Has there been more than customary watering of gardens

Each of these activities will result in higher consumptions than what is average and will result in a higher water bill.

SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT CHARGES

All of the new construction taking place in Talent is being assessed a System Development Charge. These fees are intended for use in making improvements to the City's infrastructure to accommodate that new growth. They are based on identified capital improvement projects specified by the City. Under state law the City is only allowed to charge these system development charges for Water, Streets, Storm Water, and Parks. In addition, in Talent both the Medford Water Commission and the Rogue Valley Sewer Service also assess a System Development Charge. Currently if a single-family house is built the developer would be charged \$8,806 for these various systems.

During the spring/summer the City has been working with a consultant to develop the methodology to update the charges for parks, streets and storm water system charges to reflect the City's current capital improvement plan. Last year the water system development charges were adjusted. Based on the identified capital improvements needed by the City of Talent infrastructure to accommodate the new growth the total charge for a single-family house built after the first of the year would be \$11,903.98. The largest single increase is in Transportation SDCs.

The City Council will consider the proposed increase in fees at their October 5, 2005 meeting. Medford Water Commission is also proposing an increase at that time as well. If the council approves these increases they will become effective January 1, 2006. This will give contractors and developers time to adjust for these increases. More information on this topic is available at City Hall.

CONSTRUCTION SIGNS

Construction signs have been posted along Highway 99 and Valley View for your safety. Please observe the signs and allow the contractors to do their jobs without worrying about a citizen in a construction zone. The access to the Greenway and Lynn Newbry Park is closed. The reason it is not physically closed off is due to the fact the contract workers must have a place to park and access to Mountain View Paving must be kept open. Please respect the signs.

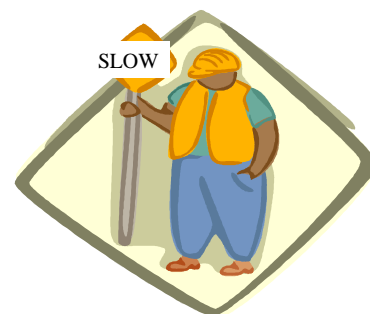


COP TALK By Officer Shane Wilson

This month again I would like to address some highway construction issues. As you can see, we are actively in a construction period just about anywhere you look. This is going to continue for a while until the projects are complete. We have been taking numerous traffic complaints in the construction areas. We have had a number of minor fender bender crashes. Most of these are occurring because drivers are following too close and not paying attention. Fines for following too close are \$237.00 and

increased when in a construction zone or crash. We are still seeing vehicles exceeding the speed limit through these construction zones. Remember that the fines are increased in a construction zone. We will be taking an active role in the enforcement of speeding violations. Other things we are seeing are vehicles, trying to take a shortcut through business parking lots or private property. This is creating problems for business owners and customers. We understand that the construction slows us down and can be a bit hectic at times. Please be patient, leave a little earlier to get to your destination, and most of

all, be vigilant and make sure to follow the instructions of the flagger's.



On a side

note, Lynn Newbry Park is closed until the construction on the bridge is complete. We're seeing people continue to access the park. Please respect the park closure and do not attempt access or move barricades.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT NEWS

Call for Commissioners and Advisors

The Planning Commission needs volunteers. Be a part of the planning process in Talent and help shape the future. Coming up: code changes relating to flag lot development, planned unit developments and setback rules. Applications are available at City Hall.

Code Amendment

Staff has drafted a set of rules for flag lot divisions, which the City has been lacking for far too long. The intent of flag lots is to permit limited

infill on lots that are too narrow for straightforward divisions, but have enough square footage to meet the minimum lot size standards. There have been some less-than-ideal flag partitions in the past; planning staff hopes to make future partitions work better in existing neighborhoods.

Items of interest

On August 25 the Planning Commission approved the *detailed plan* for Clearview, a mixed-use development on 10 acres next to Anjou Club containing 55 homes, live-work buildings, and six retail/office buildings

comprising nearly 21,000 square feet.

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.

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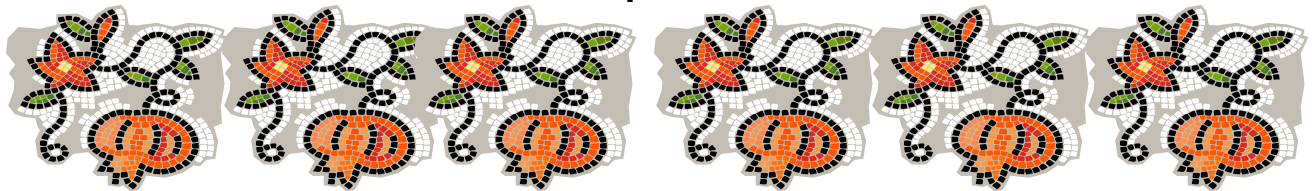


SKATEPARK

The city continues to experience excessive vandalism at the skate park. Vandals have managed to destroy picnic tables and benches that were purchased just a year ago. If anyone has information regarding this it would be helpful for the City to try and recover some of the costs. Repairs or replacements would have to be paid for from the Parks Fund, which has the least amount of money of any of the City Funds. When damage like this takes place the City does not have resources to go out and immediately replace the damaged equipment. It would be extremely helpful if anyone observing anything that could not be viewed as reasonable use of this facility or any other city park would contact the Police Department at 535-1253 or City Hall at 535-1566.

Emergency Preparedness

In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina and the many issues related to local, state, and federal government's preparedness, Talent City staff together with the Fire District #5 will be reviewing roles and responsibilities in activating the City of Talent Emergency Management Plan. This Plan was adopted in December 2003 and all agree that it is important to make sure it works and everyone understands his or her individual roles. Initially the district and city staff will be reviewing each of the aspects of the plan, then there will be a follow up review with City Council and the Mayor of their roles, and once that is established then a mock event will be scheduled to test the system. The response of the region as a whole is also being discussed. Citizens interested in being involved or who want more information about the plan are urged to contact the City Manager.



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	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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2		3 <i>Municipal Court</i> 3:00pm <i>Comm Hall</i>	4 <i>Harvest Fest. Committee</i> 2:00 pm	5 <i>City Council</i> 6:30pm <i>Comm Hall</i>	6	7	8
9		10 <i>Civic Center</i> 5:30pm <i>Comm. Hall</i>	11 <i>Arts</i> 5:30pm <i>Com Hall</i> <i>Arch. Review</i> 7:00pm	12 <i>Parks</i> 6:00pm <i>Comm. Hall</i> <i>Recycle</i>	13 <i>Planning</i> 6:30pm <i>Comm. Hall</i>	14	15 <i>Arch Review</i> <i>Walk</i> 9:00am <i>Hist. Dist.</i>
16		17 <i>Municipal Court</i> 6:00pm <i>Comm. Hall</i>	18 <i>Urban Renew</i> 6:00pm <i>Comm. Hall</i>	19 <i>Safety</i> 4:30pm <i>Comm Hall</i> <i>City Council</i> 6:30pm <i>Comm. Hall</i>	20 <i>New City Hall</i> <i>Community</i> <i>Discussion</i> 6:00pm <i>Comm. Hall</i>	21	22
23		24	25	26 <i>Economic</i> 3:30pm <i>Comm. Hall</i>	27 "Flash" <i>Planning</i> 6:30pm <i>Comm. Hall</i>	28	29
30		31 					