



# THE FLASH

An update from City Administration,  
Planning, Public Works

# City of Talent

October 26 ,2006 /Volume 9, Issue 10

## Highway 99 Update

ODOT representatives report that the new signals at Rapp Road and at Colver/Suncrest should be turned on and functioning on November 2. The previous date of August 8 was pushed back for a number of reasons related to the construction zone, availability of ODOT signal engineers and other scheduling issues.

The contractor, ODOT and everyone at City Hall appreciates the patience demonstrated everyday by the citizens of Talent. There have been a number of last minute design changes, which have delayed the completion of the contract. Everything is coming together now and all construction activities on Highway 99 should be completed November.

## Library in Talent

The new Jackson County Library under construction in Talent

is right on schedule. The weather has cooperated and the contractor, Adroit Construction, has been able to get the building up and roof installed without any delays due to rain. Coordination between the Library project and the Commons project, under the control of the Talent Urban Renewal Agency, is extremely important. The Agency is responsible for building the parking lot, Home Street reconstruction and the grounds around the Library. All of which needs to be done before the public can access the new building. The coordination of these two projects has been simplified considerably since Adroit Construction is the contractor on both projects.



## Help Keep Tal- ent Clean

Join in with neighbors and other community members in an effort to help keep the streets of our city clean. As a sub committee of the City of Talent Enhancement Committee, anyone who would like to, can meet at the Downtown Coffee Shop in Talent every 2nd Monday of the month at 9:00 a.m., to help others in keeping our city clean. For more information contact Sharon at 535-9055.

Many may not know that county maps show that what would appear to be an extension of Lapree between "I" Street and Gibson is actually named "North Street". The proposal is to name this entire street, from Talent Avenue to Gibson,



## Street Name Changes

For some time the City staff has dealt with the confusion of a couple of the street names in Talent. If staff has had problems it is likely that emergency services, delivery companies and the residents themselves have also encountered some of the same issues. City Council is now considering the renaming of "I" Street. Some of you may have participated in that name selection process since there was the opportunity to express your preference at the City booth at the Harvest Festival.

Also under consideration for the November 1, 2006 City Council meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Center is a proposal to change the name of "North Street" to "Lapree Street".

**Official  
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## PARKS MASTER PLAN

At the next couple of City Council Meetings they will be reviewing and taking action to adopt the Parks Master Plan. This plan has been in development for over a year and began with a citizen survey and proceeded to include a survey of the leadership group at the Phoenix-Talent Middle School, evaluation of all city parks, public meetings of interested citizens and several meetings of the Parks Commission. The Commission worked with a consulting group from the University of Oregon, comprised of professional planners and architects as well as some students enrolled in the Master programs at the University.

The end product is a comprehensive analysis of all existing city parks and identification of existing features as well as needed improvements at these parks. Included in the Plan is the discussion of the potential for development of new parks to meet the passive and active recreational needs of the citizens. More specific plans were developed for Suncrest Park, formerly known as Whackers Hollow. This land is currently owned by the City and has been taking in a great deal of the clean fill from a number of the construction projects in Talent in the last two years. When eventually developed into a park, there will be a leveled off area for potential use as a soccer field and other recreation activities. Another area, adjacent to Suncrest Park, will someday come under City ownership. This area has been planned for passive recreation where residents can possibly fish, bird watch, or use walking trails. Eventually a pedestrian bridge could provide another access to the Bear Creek Greenway on the north side of Valley View Road.

While it is not expected that this Plan will be implemented immediately, it provides a roadmap for the City to use in planning for the future recreational needs of the residents. Funding agencies that often have grant money available like to see that the City has been thinking about plans for a while and have included their residents in the planning stages. You may view this entire plan on the City's website [www.cityoftalent.org](http://www.cityoftalent.org).



## COP TALK

By Guest  
Contributor Chief Rector

### “Traffic Changes”

I'm sure everyone has noticed the construction progress on our city streets. Most of the traffic flow has remained the same but I would like to point out a few locations around town that have changed.

The first and most important change is at the northbound S. Pacific Hwy and W. Valley View Road intersection. In the past as you traveled north on S. Pacific Hwy you could make a right onto W. Valley View Road and be funneled into a “captured” lane and you didn't have to worry about the eastbound traffic on W. Valley View Road. That intersection has now changed. The “captured” lane no longer exists and now you will notice a yield sign at the intersection instead. This was done so a left turn lane could be added on W. Valley View Road westbound. Take note that failure to pay attention to that yield sign may result in a collision.

At two other intersections you will see new traffic signal lights, S. Pacific Hwy at Rapp Road and S. Pacific Hwy at Colver Road. Additionally, the Colver Road intersection has been completely reworked at it's intersections with the highway and with Talent Avenue.

Until all the road construction is done you can still expect lane closures and small delays. Make sure you give the construction workers plenty of room to work.

Some motorists may be tempted to speed on all the new smooth pavement. Slow down, be courteous to other drivers, and watch out for pedestrians.

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## Commercial Rental Space Talent, Oregon

Commercial Office/Retail Rental Space located at 100 E. Main in downtown Talent is available. Prime location adjacent to new City Hall now under construction. The building can be rented as a single unit or as two separate spaces. Utilities will be the responsibility of the lessee. Parking available. Contact Betty Wheeler, City Manager at 541/535-1566 for more Information.

# PLANNING DEPARTMENT NEWS

## City Begins the Wagner Creek Greenway Connection Plan

The City's consultant, David Evans and Associates, Inc. and a Citizen Advisory Committee are looking at how to connect Talent's downtown to the Bear Creek Trail with a pathway along Wagner Creek. The Plan is critical for obtaining future funding to allow the City to construct the trail.

The Wagner Creek Greenway-to-Greenway Trail has been long identified by the City as an important way to connect the downtown to Bear Creek for walkers and cyclists. A part of this greenway trail has already been constructed. There is a trailhead at Talent Avenue and Creekside Way for the portion of the pathway along Wagner Creek through the Creekside development. The pathway will soon be constructed all the way to Highway 99. The Greenway Connection Plan will look at how to best continue the trail along Wagner Creek until it connects with the Bear Creek Trail. This new route could add approximately 1.5 miles to the Talent trail system.

However, there are some obstacles to the completion of the Trail, such as Highway 99 and West Valley View Road. The Wagner Creek Plan will develop options that maintain the safety of trail users. The overall objectives for the Plan are to:

- Link the trail to shopping, schools, residential areas, and other trails;
- Provide well-designed, visible, safe, and convenient trail access points and street crossings.
- Identify the community's vision for the trail design, especially abutting property owners.
- Protect the safety and security of trail users.

The City started the planning process by inviting stakeholders to join the Advisory Committee. We have had our first meeting, which included a walking tour of the potential trail alignments. It was agreed that an extension of the pathway to a proposed sports park at Suncrest Park would be highly desirable. Future development on the Breeze property might lend itself to a roadway directly across from the entrance to the Oak Valley to subdivision to facilitate crossing West Valley View. Since the meeting, the consultant has prepared

a summary of technical standards, plans, and regulations applicable to planning, permitting, and constructing the project. The consultant has also prepared a preliminary analysis of the possibilities for crossing Highway 99 and West Valley View Road.

From this technical analysis, the consultant will describe the opportunities and constraints of the area and will create three route alternatives for the Wagner Creek Trail. The Talent community will be invited to an Open House meeting to view and comment on the conceptual alternatives. The Open House will most likely be held later this fall.

Once we have heard from the community, the Wagner Creek Greenway Connection Plan document will be developed and taken through the City adoption process. The City anticipates that the Plan will be complete by next Spring. 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)

## Call for Planning Commissioners

The Commission still needs people to fill the empty chairs. Currently we have two seats available, so please do your part for City government and fill out an application form. It only works with citizens involved.

# Urban Renewal News

## City Hall/Commons:

Work is progressing quickly thanks to good weather. Curbs and gutters on Home Street should be completed near the end of October. In November, Home Street and the new library parking lot will be paved and foundation work will continue on the new City Hall. At this time, the anticipated completion date for the entire project is July 2007.

## West Valley View Master Plan -- Public Hearings Scheduled:

The Master Plan can be viewed on the bulletin boards at City Hall and Tark's Market. The full 30-page Study Draft of the Plan is available via the web ([cityoftalent.org](http://cityoftalent.org)) and can be viewed at the Talent Library and City Hall. Thirty people attended the October 9 public update meeting to see how the plan has progressed. Upcoming meetings to be held at the Community Center:

Thursday, November 2, 6:30 -- a joint study session between City Council, Planning Commission, Urban Renewal Board, and Fregonese Calthorpe Associates

Thursday, November 9, 6:30 -- Planning Commission public hearing

Wednesday, November 15, 6:30 -- City Council public hearing

Anyone wishing to provide comment may do so verbally at the two public hearings, or in writing a week prior to either hearing.

For more information, contact Executive Director Marla Cates, 535-6170, [ura.talent@charterinternet.com](mailto:ura.talent@charterinternet.com)

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<i>1 City Council 6:30pm Comm. Hall</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>5</i>	<i>6 Municipal Court 3:00pm Comm. Hall</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8 Parks 6:00pm Comm. Hall</i>	<i>9 Traffic:3:00pm Comm. Hall Planning 6:30pm Comm. Hall</i>	<i>10 Veteran's Day Observed (city offices closed)</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>12</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>14 Arch. Review 7:00pm Comm. Hall</i>	<i>15 Safety Comm 1:30pm CH City Council 6:30pm Comm. Hall</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>18 Arch Review Walk 9:00am</i>
<i>19</i>	<i>20 Municipal Court 6:00pm Comm. Hall</i>	<i>21 Urban Renewal 7:00pm Comm. Hall</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>23 Planning 6:30pm Comm. Hall  Thanks (city offices</i>	<i>24  Giving closed)</i>	<i>25</i>
<i>26</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>28</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>30 The "Flash" Distributed</i>		