



# THE FLASH

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

# City of Talent

March 30 ,2006 /Volume 9, Issue 3

## Green-Up Clean-Up Day

The City of Talent Enhancement Committee continues to bring you activities, with the Green-Up and Clean-Up of Talent neighborhoods and businesses on **Saturday, May 13th**.

There are 3 different times for you to get involved (8 a.m., 10 a.m. and 12 pm). All groups will meet in the far corner of Tark's parking lot. Greg Goebelt, Chair of the Enhancement Committee will be leading the first group of citizens at 8 a.m. Other committee members will lead the following two shifts. Trash bags and gloves as well as hot coffee and doughnuts will be provided. For more information on how you can get involved, please contact Greg Goebelt at 840-5966. Hope to see everyone there!

## CITYWIDE



The month of May is filled with opportunities for you to become involved with the enhancement of Talent, starting on **Saturday May 6<sup>th</sup>** with the citywide yard sale happening in Talent .

For \$3.00 you can get your yard sale address added to a list and map-made available to the public. A sign up sheet will be located at Talent City Hall from now until 5:00 pm, April 27<sup>th</sup>. These maps of yard sales in Talent will be available the week prior to May 6th at the following locations —

- Talent Post Office,*
- Tark's Market,*
- Wash Around the Clock,*
- City Hall -*
- Bulletin Board.*

## DATES TO REMEMBER

**On April 10, 2006** from 6:00-9:00 p.m. at the Community Center, there will be a Parks Master Planning Workshop. Come share your ideas in the planning of current park uses and how to plan for two new City parks. The new parks include lands formerly known as Whackers Hollow adjacent to the City Public Works Facility and DeYoung Property to be acquired by the City in the future.

**On April 25, 2006 at 6:30 p.m.** the Urban Renewal consultants for the West Valley View street network will return and present the compiled results from the successful Planning Workshop held in February.

**Early May** the reconstruction of Rapp Road from Highway 99 to the railroad tracks will begin. The contractor will be LTM and it is expected that there will be some disruption as this work takes place. The contractors are expected to be mindful of public safety throughout the construction.



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## Police Department Renovations

The City is working with a consultant to develop renovation plans for the Police Station on Talent Avenue. Currently this building is inadequate to meet the needs of the department both in terms of office space and storage of records and evidence. Recent flooding has reminded the City of other maintenance problems with the building.

The City Council recently decided that due to the costs they would prefer to think in terms of a renovation project that would provide for the next 10-15 years rather than build a more costly facility that could serve many years into the future.

Current planning would be to take the bond proposal to fund this much needed project to the voters of Talent in November 2006, and include with that request the costs of the eventual demolition of City Hall and the re-grading and paving for a parking area to be used by Community Center users.

Since this renovation project will include alterations of the existing building to make it compliant with Federal American with Disability Act regulations as well as other code requirements, the Police Department will need to relocate while the renovation is underway. To reduce the relocation expenses the current plan would be to have the Police Department relocate to the old City Hall building once it has been vacated. Then, when the new station is complete, the Police will move back and the old City Hall would be torn down. This vacated area would then be developed into a small parking area for the users of the Community Center. It would also open up the Commons area from Main Street.

While the old city hall has many problems that make the building obsolete and inefficient both in terms of heating and in useable floor area, it could certainly serve as a temporary location for the Police. Such a move would greatly minimize the costs of relocating the department.

Until the final design of this renovation project is complete the City will not know exactly how much that cost will be, nor will we know the actual cost of removing the old City Hall building and the paving of that area.

Any figures that you may have heard are strictly "guesstimates" and have no documentation to substantiate the figures at this time. As soon as they are known that information will be made available to the citizens.

## Why Are Backflow Preventions Required?

Backflow events can cause contamination of the City's water supply and Federal, State and City laws require that measures be taken to ensure backflow prevention at every water service.

Cross-connections occur when water from one source is tied to plumbing from another source. For instance, pressurized, untreated TID water can be cross-connected to the Talent municipal water supply. Backflow into the Talent water will result if there is no backflow prevention device in the service line and the Talent water pressure is lower than the TID water pressure.

Sometimes pressure vacuums occur in municipal water systems. Vacuum or negative pressure occurs in the case of a sudden high demand on the water mains. Such a high demand can be caused by fire fighting activities or a broken water main. If a hose that has been used to fill a hot tub or utility sink is left attached during a vacuum episode the result can be the introduction of contaminated water into the municipal system. Again, a backflow prevention device will eliminate contamination in these instances.

Talent has decided to phase in backflow prevention. First, all city-owned connections and commercial facilities that have a high possibility of contaminating the system were mandated to have backflow prevention devices. Then properties that are connected to TID pressure lines installed backflow prevention. Eventually, all houses and businesses will be installing these devices.

The biggest challenge associated with backflow prevention devices is the need to have them checked once per year by a certified tester. The City is working to have certified testers on site so that it will not be necessary for citizens to locate and hire an outside testing agency to perform tests on the devices.



# COP TALK By Guest Contributor Chief Rector

The safety of emergency responders while protecting the public is important. Nationally, over the past two years, there were 155 police officers killed in traffic-related incidents, more than the 137 killed in shootings. In the past 30 years, shooting deaths of police declined by 36% while the number of police officers killed in traffic-related incidents has risen by 40%. These numbers point out the risks that emergency responders face while working on our roadways. At Talent PD we are currently stepping up our driver training to ensure that our officers are best prepared to do their jobs safely from behind the wheel of a patrol vehicle. At the same time we need your help with responder safety while outside of their vehicles, particularly for police

officers working in traffic stop situations. Every year officers are killed or injured by passing vehicles that strike them as they work along roadsides. Consequently, there is a state law (ORS 811.147), that requires passing motorists maintain safe distances and slow down when passing emergency vehicles stopped on the roadways.

This law defines when an offense has occurred particularly when warning lights are displayed and the person:

(A) On a highway having two or more lanes for traffic in a single direction, fails to:

(a) Make a lane change to a lane not adjacent to that of the emergency vehicle or

(b) Reduce the speed of the motor vehicle, if making a lane change is unsafe.

(B) On a two directional, two-lane highway, fails to reduce the speed of the motor vehicle.

This violation is a Class B traffic violation with a maximum fine of \$242.00. Please avoid the fine and the danger to your police officers by making yourself aware of this hazard to emergency service workers, and by observing the prudent driving practices that are necessary to reduce that hazard. Slow down when passing stopped emergency vehicles, and move out of adjacent traffic lanes if it is possible to do so. Thanks.

## PLANNING DEPARTMENT NEWS

### Arbor Week

The State of Oregon celebrates the first full week in April (2–8) as Arbor Week. Both National Arbor Day and the state’s Arbor Week are observances and appreciation of trees in Talent, in the state of Oregon, and across the nation. Talent has been identified as a “Tree City” by the National Arbor Day Foundation since 2001. On Wednesday, April 5th at noon the City will observe Arbor Week by planting a Red-Leaf Maple in Chuck Roberts Park. Public Works

personnel will do the planting, with the mayor and City Hall staffers lending a hand. All citizens are welcome to attend and to do their own tree planting in honor of this week.

### Planning Commission items

On March 9 the Commission approved the site development plan for the Civic Center Campus, which will include an expanded park, library parking lot, and new city hall. On March 23 the Commission approved the

detailed development plan for Crimson Court, an 11-lot subdivision off Talent Avenue across from Nerton Street.

On April 27 the Commission will review an application for an eight-lot subdivision off the end of Joy Drive.

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

Work recently began on aesthetic and safety improvements to the Historic Wagner Creek Bridge on Talent Avenue south of downtown. Work is expected to progress quickly and be completed near the end of April.

### Open House 'Workshop Results' -- West

The results of a recent public design process for the West Valley View area will be unveiled at an Open House on Tuesday, April 25, 6:30 p.m. in the Talent Community Center. Last month over 50 citizens participated in a public hands-on design workshop to create ideas for a street network in the downtown area between Talent Avenue and Highway 99. What was produced were 6 different design concepts for this area, including alleys, pedestrian facilities, parking, neighborhood parks, and potential sites for future residential, commercial and retail buildings. Project consultants have spent the last few weeks compiling this information into an overall conceptual map and will present that map at the Open House.

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

## Committee Volunteers

The City continues to look for volunteers to help out with the Spring Clean Up sponsored by the Enhancement Committee. If you would like to help, please contact Cheryl at City Hall 535-1566.

The Budget Committee is looking for one more member to join the group in reviewing the budget that will be presented to the committee in May of 2006. This is a job of short duration and can give you some insight as to how the City of Talent spends its money.

The Economic Development committee continues to look for new members to represent the business community.

The Recreation Coordinator hired to set up some summer recreation programs is looking for individuals who might be interested in coaching a sport event or teaching a class. Call Tim at City Hall 535-1566.

Applications to serve on any of these committees can be found on the City's website or by contacting City Hall.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 <i>Municipal Court 3:00pm Comm Hall</i>	4	5 <i>Tree Planting 12 noon Chuck Rbts / City Council 6:30pm CommHall</i>	6 <i>Enhancemt Comm. 4:00pm Fire Dist #5</i>	7	8
9	10 <i>Parks Master Plan Public Forum 6:00pm Comm Hall</i>	11 <i>Civic Center 5:30pm Comm Hall Arch. Review 7:00pm Comm Hall</i>	12 <i>Parks 6:00pm Comm Hall</i>	13 <i>Planning 6:30pm Comm Hall</i>	14 <i>Harvest Festival 1:45pm Comm Hall Traffic 3:00pm Pub. Wks</i>	15 <i>Arch Review Walk 9:00am TBD</i>
16	17 <i>Municipal Court 6:00pm Comm Hall</i>	18 <i>Urban Renewal 6:00pm Comm Hall</i>	19 <i>Chamber 8:30am TBD Safety 1:30pm TBD / City Council 6:30pm Comm Hall</i>	20 <i>Public Art 6:30pm Comm Hall</i>	21	22
23	24 <i>City Council Study Session 6:30 pm Comm Hall</i>	25 <i>West Vly View Open House 6:30 pm</i>	26 <i>recycle</i>	27 <i>The "Flash" Distributed /Planning 6:30pm Comm Hall</i>	28	29
30			<b>A P R I L</b>			