



THE FLASH

An update from City Administration,
Planning, Public Works

City of Talent

April 27 , 2007 /Volume 10, Issue 4

Green-Up Clean-Up Day Volunteer Day

Join your family, friends and neighbors as we clean up the streets of Talent! The 4th Annual Green-UP and Clean-UP is happening on Saturday, May 5, 2007 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Come and join the scheduled groups at 8 a.m., 10 a.m., or 12:00 noon. Another option is to pick up bags and gloves and clean an area of your choice. This is a great way to teach our children the importance of community and city pride. Free drinks and donuts for all volunteers. In addition that day, Ashland Sanitary will offer free brush and lumber disposal at the Chuck Roberts Park parking lot from 8 a.m. to 2p.m. Tree limbs and woody brush, wood scraps and lumber (nails and screws are ok, no other hardware) will be accepted. NO TRASH!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- May 5 Talent Clean -Up & Green-Up & Brush Drop off
- May 8 Community Garden
- May 10 City Budget
- May 12 City-wide Yard Sale
- May 12 Garden Club Sale
- May 17 City Budget

ELECTION DAY

May 15, 2007

Ballot Drop Off

All City registered voters are encouraged to vote in the May 15, 2007 election. The decision on the future funding of the Jackson County Library system is on the ballot as Measure 15-75. You will receive your ballot through the mail and you can return them either by mail or by dropping them off at Talent City Hall. The City has made arrangements with the County Election Officer to have a County Ballot Box at City Hall. You will be able to drop the ballot off at City Hall between 8:30 a.m.—5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. City Hall will remain open on Election Day, May 15, until 8:00 p.m. to accept ballots only. No other City business will be transacted after 5:00 p.m. on that day.

MAY BUDGET HEARINGS

Public Hearings will be held by the City Budget Committee on May 10th and 17th to review the proposed City Budget for 2007-08. All City residents are welcome to attend these meetings to find out how the City is proposing to spend city funds in the coming fiscal year and to make comments about the proposed budget. The hearings will begin at 6:30 p.m. at the Talent Community Center.

CITY COUNCIL GOALS

The City Council has developed new Goals for the next two years; 2007-2009.

These goals will provide focus to the Council and City Staff in how City resources will be spent. Details of these goals can be accessed on the City's website www.cityoftalent.org.

The Goals are as follow: **Participate** in Economic Growth through expanding available industrial lands, workforce/affordable housing, West Valley View Development, and collaborate with Chamber of Commerce. Increasing citizen involvement on City Committees and Events by evaluating functions of City Committees, Council liaisons, expanded scope of Flash, Council outreach.

Maintaining and enhancing City facilities through work with Urban Renewal, strategic parkland acquisitions, use of GIS and developing a maintenance plan for city buildings.

Fostering greater opportunities for citizen involvement in cultural and recreational activities through summer programs, Talent library, setting priorities for the capital improvements and City parks, studying the future of the skate park, promoting public art, and coordinating the City Centennial celebration.

Addressing the challenges of growth through planning. Begin the process of expanding the Urban Growth Boundary, review City Ordinances related to annexation and other topics, and incorporate lands into City limits, addressing staffing issues.



**Official
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Talent**
204 East Main
Street,
P.O. Box 445, Talent,
Oregon 97540

*Edited by
Cheryl Nicolay*
City Website:
www.cityoftalent.org
Telephone:
(541) 535-1566
E-mail:
cheryl@cityoftalent.org

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Parks Fund Raiser

Summer recreation programs will continue this year due to the success of the Parks and Recreation Commission fund-raiser. The generous donations of auction items by the area businesses, coupled with the enthusiastic bidders who attended the event, resulted in donations of almost \$8,000.00, including a \$1,000.00 matching grant by corporate donor Wal-mart.

Special thanks goes to Commissioner Darby Stricker, and all those whose efforts resulted in such a successful event.

Summer Recreation Programs

The City will again be offering summer recreation programs in Talent. A Program Coordinator will be putting together a schedule of program offerings during the month of May and anyone who is interested in teaching a class or helping in any way is encouraged to call and speak with the City Manager at 535-1566, or the Recreation Coordinator, Tim Storfjell at 512-1418. Similar to last year, the programs will offer some positive activities for the youth of Talent during the summer months. The June issue of the FLASH will include a complete listing of the programs, when they will be scheduled and the cost. Limited scholarships will be available thanks to the donations of several generous individuals and organizations.

Skateboard Park Sculpture Project

The skateboard sculpture for Zach and Corey is one step closer to a reality. The artist/sculptor, Kevin Christman and coordinator Cheryl Lashley, met with the Talent Arts Commission to finalize the sculpture plan, and determine placement of the sculpture at the skate park. Efforts will now focus on fundraising events that will include a pancake breakfast/raffle and a rummage sale. These activities are in the planning stages. Details will follow. Donations can still be made at Umpqua Bank in Talent under the "Zach and Corey Sculpture Fund". If you are willing to help, please call Cheryl Lashley at 890-4194.

Urban Renewal News

For more information, contact Executive Director
Marla Cates, 535-6170 or
ura.talent@charterinternet.com

Next Steps For West Valley View Master Plan

The West Valley View Master Plan was approved "in concept" by the City Council last December. Since then, the Agency has spent considerable time evaluating timing and funding for the "next steps" phase of the project. These steps provide in-depth analysis of various details of the plan concept that extends Main Street and Wagner Street through to West Valley View. The first and most important step now underway is the traffic and parking analysis that studies the plan in greater detail and analyzes potential traffic flow and parking capacities. The analysis is anticipated to be completed early summer. Following that, the Agency and City Planning Department will begin a regulatory review process to ensure the Master Plan enhances rather overpowers the existing historic downtown core, including design standards, types of building uses, parking standards, permitted uses, and benefits/incentives for protection of historic buildings. In fall, the Agency hopes to survey the project area and begin detailed design studies for key intersections, the proposed roundabout, and public open spaces. Public update meetings will be held as these next steps progress. Citizens who wish to receive periodic progress reports and/or public meeting notices should contact Executive Director Marla Cates at 535-6170, and ask to be put on the "Interested Citizens List".

Budget Committee

There is still time to apply for a position on the Agency's Budget Committee, scheduled to meet May 15, 2007 Call 535-6170 for more information.

City Hall/Commons

Work is moving ahead on schedule with the new City Hall ready for occupancy in mid-August. To date, dry-wall has been installed, all asphalt is complete, park lighting in the Commons is operational, and playground and public restrooms are in the process of being competed. Painting and landscaping will begin in May followed by a myriad of interior details occurring this summer.



COP TALK By Chief Rector

Emergencies

Emergencies come in many shapes and sizes.

Day to day emergencies are routine for emergency responders like police, fire, and EMS. But when disasters strike, (floods, wildfire, earthquakes, terrorism) they quickly exceed the capacity of local resources to respond immediately.

When this occurs, citizens must help each other and help themselves. That's where CERT comes in. CERT, or Community Emergency Response Team(s) are created by everyday citizens who train and participate in emergency preparedness activities to aid their communities in times of extreme emergency.

CERT programs are formed under the national Citizen Corps program;

refer to the CERT website at <https://www.citizen corps.gov/cert/>. The City of Ashland has succeeded in training a large number of volunteers under this program, and some of those folks actually live in Talent and Phoenix. A core group of these citizens has formed in our area to focus their energies in the communities in which they live. This group has had a couple of meetings at Fire District 5 headquarters in Talent.

I urge any Talent residents interested in learning more about how they can better help themselves and their neighbors in a disaster or major emergency to contact Margaret Shockley- Gandy.

Margaret is a volunteer point-of-contact for this group and has committed to help organize area volunteers. The Talent Police Department looks forward to working closely with interested citizens to help plan, train, and coordinate the collective efforts of our community to help ourselves when that next major emergency happens. Interested persons can contact Margaret Shockley-Gandy at margaretshockley@msn.com or by phone at 535-4325.

If you have questions about the role of the Talent Police Department in emergency response, contact Chief Bob Rector at rector@cityoftalent.org or by phone at 535-1253.

For life threatening emergencies call 911. To reach the police dispatch office for non-emergencies call 776-7206.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT NEWS

PUD Ordinance Suspended

On April 4, 2007, the City Council approved the suspension of Article 8-3L.3 relating to planned unit developments. John Adam noted that this was not a moratorium on construction as other development options were available. Originally, planned unit development standards were designed to encourage the innovative use of space that would result in attractive developments, protect open spaces, provide transportation options, and facilitate the efficient use of land. Suspension of the Ordinance would allow the Planning Commission time to review the technical requirements and craft a new Ordinance that would ensure more creative and beneficial outcomes.

Planning Commission Goals

The Planning Commission set several goals for the upcoming year that are in addition to those adopted by the City Council. They include the development of criteria for drive through facilities, development of criteria to support sustainable building practices, implementation of improved annexation criteria and consideration of ways to encourage public participation in the planning processes. Planning goals adopted by the City Council focus on addressing the challenges of a growing city. While many development principals are mandated by the State of Oregon, respecting Talent's unique character is always a priority.

News on the Web

Talent's website now provides easy access to current planning projects. Access the city's home page at cityoftalent.org then click on the following categories:

- ◆ City Departments
- ◆ Planning
- ◆ Projects

Information includes updates of the West Valley View Master Plan, The Railroad District Master Plan, and the Transportation System Plan.

Spring Sale

Get your garden going by coming to the Talent Garden Club's annual Spring Sale, Saturday, May 12, 2007 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in Tark's parking lot. There will be a variety of herbs, veggie starts, perennials, ground covers and homemade baked goods for sale.

Talent's "Great Green Garden" Community Meeting

Discover the new community garden at a meeting on Wednesday, May 8, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at the garden located behind the elementary school. Those of you who are interested in renting a plot for the season or becoming involved in the garden in any capacity are encouraged to attend. Contact Sharon Anderson at 535-9055 or Kristi Rutkai 535-5040 for further information regarding either of these events.

Youth Art Program

The Talent Public Art Commission is inviting young people from kindergarten - 5th grade to submit a drawing or painting of a picture that would be shown in local businesses and then used in the preparation of a calendar that will be assembled and sold at the Harvest Festival. This is the first fund raising attempt of the Commission to advance their mission of raising awareness of the need for public art. Submittals are due by May 21, 2007 at City Hall. More information can be obtained at City Hall.

YARD SALE * YARD SALE * YARD SALE

The maps of yard sales in Talent will be available from May 5th through May 12th at the following locations:

Tark's Market * Talent Post Office
Talent Laundromat * City Hall
Community Bulletin Board.

May 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 <i>City Council</i> 6:30pm <i>Comm. Hall</i>	3	4	5 Green Up Clean Up
6	7 <i>Municipal Court</i> 3:00pm <i>Comm. Hall</i>	8 <i>Traffic</i> 3:00pm <i>Public Wks</i> <i>Harvest Fest</i> 3:30pm <i>TBD</i> <i>Ach. Review</i> 6:00pm <i>C.H.</i>	9 <i>Parks</i> 6:00pm <i>Comm. Hall</i> (recycle)	10 <i>Budget</i> 6:30pm <i>Comm. Hall</i>	11	12 City Wide Yard Sale
13	14	15 <i>Urban Renewal</i> 6:00pm <i>C.H.</i> City Hall open for ballot drop off until 8:00pm	16 <i>Safety</i> 1:30pm <i>TBD</i> <i>City Council</i> 6:30pm <i>C.H.</i>	17 <i>Budget</i> 6:30pm <i>Comm. Hall</i>	18	19
20	21	22	23 (recycle)	24 <i>Planning</i> 6:30pm <i>Comm. Hall</i>	25	26
27	28 Memorial Day (city offices closed)	29 <i>Municipal Court</i> 6:00pm <i>Comm. Hall</i>	30	31 <i>The "Flash"</i> Distributed		