



# THE FLASH City of Talent

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

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## PLANNING DEPARTMENT NEWS

### DEVELOPMENT CODE UPDATE: MASTER-PLANNED DEVELOPMENT

On September 25th the Planning Commission will hold its first hearing on a new development procedure. It will replace the "planned unit development" regulations in 8-3L.3 of the zoning code. This is a noteworthy change for how development works in the City. With the adoption of the new "Master-Planned Development" (or MPD) chapter, there will be a systematic, collaborative approach for the planning and development of land that is brought into the City's urban growth boundary (UGB) in the future (although portions of the MPD process may be applied to land within the existing UGB).

Essentially, the MPD chapter can be expressed as "flexibility anchored to a solid point." That point of solidity is the allowed residential density, which is expressed as dwellings per net acre. The flexibility comes from the wide range of house styles and lot sizes permitted.

For example, on a given acre let us assume the density is 6 dwelling units. The subdivider may divide the acre evenly into six 6,000-square-foot lots or into six 1,800-square-foot townhouse lots and about a half acre of leftover open space. The one number that does not change—no matter what the scenario—is the density: it will always be 6 dwelling units.

However, the vital steps for successful MPD development come earlier, when landowners want to bring their land into the City's UGB. An application for inclusion triggers a collaborative planning process that includes the landowners, City officials, other affected agencies, and volunteers citizens. The aim of the process is to map out major streets and general land-use areas, such as commercial, residential, industrial, or public. Residential use areas will be assigned their permitted densities. The completed map and other documentation are then adopted into the Comprehensive Plan at the time the area is brought into the UGB. That map will be the guide for eventual development using MPD procedures.

Following the Planning Commission hearing(s), the City Council will hold one or more hearings to adopt the new chapter.

### ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW COMMITTEE NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

This committee is a great introduction to municipal government. It meets for a couple of hours each month (on the 2nd Tuesday in the evening) and gets to review plans for compliance with design standards. It is also in the business of debating and developing new or revised design standards. Contact the planning department for more information 535-7401.

## PUBLIC SAFETY SURCHARGE

The City Council did adopt the Public Safety Surcharge at their July 16th meeting. The surcharge is \$4 and it will be added to the Utility Bill that you receive in September. The Council did include a "sunset clause" of July 1, 2010. What this means is that the council will need to review the Ordinance in 2010 prior to its sunset date and either renew it or decide on an alternative to ensure that adequate funding continue for the Police Department. The Ordinance implementing this surcharge is #08-843 and can be found on the City's website or a copy can be reviewed at City Hall. While the City did receive comments from several residents concerned about the fee the City Council did not feel that they had any viable alternative.

## VACANCY OF CITY COUNCIL

Councilor Wendy Siporen submitted her resignation from council to become effective July 31, 2008. Any registered voter living in Talent City limits is eligible to apply to serve for this short-term vacancy that will expire in December 2008. To apply for this vacancy you may fill out a volunteer application at City Hall or on the City's website. It is the responsibility of the City Council to fill any vacancies on council that occur between general elections. The process to apply is to fill out the volunteer application and then interview with the council prior to their regularly scheduled meeting at 5:30 p.m. on August 20, 2008. The appointment would become effective immediately and expire on December 31st of this year. Anyone interested in filling this position beyond December 31st will also need to take out a petition and run for this position in the General Election this November. (See November General Election Information.)

## NOVEMBER GENERAL ELECTION PETITIONS FOR CITY COUNCIL

City residents are reminded that there are three City Council positions whose terms expire in December of this year. In order to be placed on the November ballot you will need to register with the City Recorder and circulate a petition issued by the Recorder. Anyone interested in serving on the City Council is required to be a registered voter in Talent and live within the Talent City limits. Of the three positions two of the incumbents have taken out petitions to run again (E.J. McManus and Sherman Lamb). There is a third position vacated by Council Siporen who does not intend to run again. To find out more about the requirements of the position and obtain a petition please contact the City Recorder at City Hall. The final filing date for petitions in Talent is August 22, 2008. This is a good opportunity to get more involved in City government.

## SUMMER FRIDAYS IN TALENT

Summer Fridays in Talent has gotten

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off to a good start and many residents have taken advantage of the live entertainment on the Commons or the movies at the Talent Library. Remaining events to take place are: August 8th – Family Movie at the Talent Library; August 15th – Live music provided by the Monk Group (Kevin Conness, Neil Mangicaro & Aaron Reed) – Reggae/hip hop/blues; August 22nd – Family Movie at the Talent Library; August 29th – Camelot Theatre performance on the Commons. Bring lawn chairs, blankets and sunglasses for a free night of entertainment!

## INTERIM POLICE CHIEF MIKE MORAN

Please welcome Mike Moran as the Interim Police Chief for the City of Talent. The Chief will begin work on August 4th and shall take over the supervision of the Police Department until the new City Manager appoints a permanent Chief. Mike retired from the Medford Police Department as a Lieutenant in May 2006 and has subsequently worked for both the Medford Police as a background investigator and teaching for the Department of Public Safety Standards & Training. This department provides training for new and continuing police officers throughout the State. Mike graduated from Southern Oregon University in 1984 and has attended the FBI National Academy. No stranger to Talent Mike began his police career in Talent as a Reserve Officer from 1975-1976.

## WELCOME NEW CITY MANAGER

Jay Henry will begin work on August 18, 2008 as the new City Manager in Talent. While serving for the last year as City Manager in Polson, Montana, Jay is originally from Klamath Falls, Oregon. He began his career in government in 1999 working for Klamath County and served in several positions for the county before moving to Polson. After a very intensive selection process the City Council did enter into a contract agreement with Jay to serve as the City Manager. Please join the council and staff in welcoming Jay and his family to Talent.

## URBAN RENEWAL NEWS

**West Valley View Project Begins Preliminary Engineering:** The Agency has kicked off the preliminary engineering phase for this downtown project, which will eventually extend Main and Wagner streets to connect with West Valley View in a 3-way roundabout. ZCS Engineering has been hired as project engineer, and is currently creating a base map of the entire 15-acre area. Residents will see pavement markings appear and surveyors taking photographs from the public right of way as part of this process. A landscape architect will be hired in a few months to work on visual elements such as pedestrian areas and intersection aesthetics, portions of which will include public process. Construction is still a few years away. For more information contact Executive Director Marla Cates at 535-6170 or [ura.talent@charterinternet.com](mailto:ura.talent@charterinternet.com)

## COP TALK

By Detective Matt Potts

Those of us that work at Talent Police Department would like to welcome Interim Police Chief Mike Moran to the team here at Talent PD. We'd ask that all citizens help us in welcoming Chief Moran to the force.

As for recent police activity, we've been responding to various dog-related problems. These calls for service vary from dogs barking at night to dogs acting aggressively. I would like to remind the residents of Talent that there are city ordinances that cover animal issues. The first ordinance that could apply simply says no owner or person in charge shall permit animals to run at large. The ordinance allows Police Officers to impound the animal if found in violation. The second ordinance that could apply is the noise ordinance. This is when the dog or other animal is causing a disturbing noise (continuous barking.)

We also respond to calls when a dog is reported as being aggressive. We often handle these calls with the assistance of Jackson County Animal Control. If the aggressive dog is located it is often impounded and taken to the Animal Shelter. The owner or responsible person can be cited for having an aggressive dog as well.

In order to maintain safe and peaceful neighborhoods please control your pets and monitor their barking. If you have any animal issues please call us, anytime 535-1253. For an after-hours response please call our non-emergency number 776-7206.

## FAREWELL TO THE OLD CITY HALL

As part of the Civic Center Master Plan, once the old City Hall was no longer needed, it would be removed. The old City Hall, built by volunteers, has housed City government since the 1960s. Removing it will allow for improving the entrance into the Commons as well as provide for accessible parking to the Community Center. In an effort to remove this building as inexpensively as possible a donation of "crane time" made by Joe Strahl and the efforts of Public Works staff this building should be down by the time you read this article. This building initially housed a very small police department, a couple of city employees, and the City Council Chamber and municipal court. In the 1970's the Police moved to the Talent Avenue location and in the late 1990's after the Community Center was renovated the court and council moved over to this building. Working spaces continued to get tighter with a larger city staff and modern technology requirements. The building served the City well for a number of years. Having assessed the costs to make this building useable in the 21st century it was determined that the building had outlived its useful life and should come down.

## THANK YOU AND FAREWELL

It has been my pleasure to serve as your City Manager for the last six years. The timing was right when I came to the City since the moratorium had just been lifted and there were many challenges for the City and there was a Council wanting to make some changes. Improvements to the City infrastructure as well changes in how the City does its' business to accommodate the current and future demands made by the growth that occurred in that time period were needed. Working with a City Council ready to set challenging goals for the City and a City staff committed to attaining those goals has been rewarding and at the same time fun. Helping those who want to see positive change is fun! I've enjoyed working with all the many citizens who got

involved in City government and also a citizen population that was supportive of the agenda that the council wanted to achieve. City government works best when all of the citizens take it seriously. Each of you will decide at what level and when you too can step forward and volunteer to help make this a better place. Thank you for all of your support and wherever I end up I will keep in touch to see how Talent has continued to preserve the small Town "feel" while meeting the demands that the future will bring. Good Luck in achieving that goal!

-**Betty Wheeler.**

## 36TH ANNUAL HARVEST FESTIVAL

This year's festival is just around the corner. Did you know that the Harvest Festival is always the second Saturday in September, this year falling on the 13th. Everyone's invited to the Civic Center Commons for an afternoon of fun for the whole family.

The day begins at 6:00 am with a pancake breakfast in the Community Center to benefit the Lions Club. The 5-K/10-K Run/Walk begins registration at 7:00 am. Contact Felicia at 535-3406 for more information. The Main Street Parade begins at 10:00 am, followed by live stage performances immediately after the parade. Science Works will perform for the kids and live music by Jes' Groove; LAW and the Rogue Suspects, until 4:30 p.m. Kids-you won't want to miss the Science Works hands-on interactive science tents and other fun stuff in the Kid Zone.

Don't miss the many Artists/Crafters and Food booths. Balloons, face painting and pony rides for the little ones and much more... For more information, please contact Cheryl at 535-1566.

**This year's Harvest Festival is going Green and we'd like your help.**

This year's Harvest Festival is going green by focusing on reducing the amount of waste normally generated at the event. You are encouraged to bring your own reusable bags, bottles and utensils if you can. Plastic bags, bottles,

and utensils are not compostable and simply add to our landfill. We will have recycle stations throughout the area and staff available to assist you.

## REDUCE YOUR WASTE!

You can pitch in by:

- Bringing your own reusable bags
- Bringing your own beverage containers
- Using the recycle stations

We are also asking vendors to reduce their use of plastic flat-ware (cups, lids, plates, etc.)

Thanks for your participation and we look forward to seeing you at the Festival September 13th!

Brought to by the Together for Talent Committee in cooperation with the Harvest Festival Committee.

## MISSING FROM DEX

The 2008 DEX Telephone Directory omitted key City information from the Governmental Section. Please clip out this information for your own use this year.

City Hall 110 E Main St.....  
..... TLNT 97540 535-1566

City Planning Department.....  
..... TLNT 97540 535-7401

### POLICE Department

Emergency.....911

Other Police Business 604 Talent Ave..... TLNT 97540 535-1253

Public Works 200 Suncrest.....  
..... TLNT 97540 535-3828

# FREE DRAFT MOVIE IN THE PARK

SHOWN ON A THEATER SIZE SCREEN!!!

Saturday, August 23, 2008

At ChuckRoberts Park on Talent Avenue in Talent



The Talent Parks Commission, with help from the City of Medford, will be offering a free family friendly movie at the park starting at dusk (8:30PM)

Bring your blankets and lawn chairs to be comfortable while watching the classic action adventure comedy "The Princess Bride" rated PG.

**Heroes, Giants, Villains, Wizards, True Love.**

Not just your basic, average, everyday, ordinary, run of the mill, ho-hum fairy tale.

Plan to come early, bring a picnic and enjoy the park amenities. Reasonably priced popcorn and soda will be available. This evening's event is sponsored by: **SIS-Q CELLULAR** • 4150 C SOUTH PACIFIC HWY • PHOENIX, OR • (541) 512-2355