



# THE FLASH City of Talent

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

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## From the Mayor's Office

One of the most important tenets of a Democracy is the ability of the people to have a voice in their government.

I am asking you to exercise that ability. I ask for your voice in our local government. On March 19th the Talent City Council will meet for the purpose of setting goals that the Council intends to accomplish over the next two years. We need your input for this to be a truly meaningful and democratic process. You can send your comments to me by e-mail, mail, or come see me in person. My contact information is listed at the end of this article.

Please note: I will need this information by no later than March 14th.

Goal setting is a tedious but important process. For the City to manage limited resources and balance competing priorities, it is necessary to establish achievable goals. City Staff along with our City's Commissions and Committees are providing the City Council priorities within their respective areas of expertise. Again, I ask every citizen of Talent to take part in this important process by providing your thoughts on what you think our City should focus on in the next two years. I assure you that I will read, and the Council and I will consider, your input during the goal setting process.

Bill Cecil  
Mayor

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Office hours Tuesday, 11AM to 1PM  
(Other days and times by appointment)

## News From Engineering Waterline to be Replaced in South 1<sup>st</sup> Street

The aging and undersized waterline in South 1<sup>st</sup> Street between Wagner Street and Wagner Butte Avenue is scheduled for replacement in March. Currently a 2" waterline serves this neighborhood. The new line will be an 8" line that will provide increased reliability and allow the addition of a fire hydrant for additional fire safety.

The project garnered a lot of attention from local contractors; a very competitive bidding process ensued and the result was a low bid of \$43,681 - roughly \$7,000 below the estimated cost. The low bidder was West Coast Pipeline from Central Point. Formal award of the project is expected at a March City Council Meeting.



Residents in the affected area will be notified a minimum of 48 hours prior to any service disruptions. Construction is expected to last three to four weeks barring any complications.

Questions? Call our City Engineers: 541.535.5531

## PUBLIC WORKS



### Planning to Dig?

The State of Oregon requires everyone, including homeowners, who plan to dig or excavate to have all utilities in the work area located in advance.

### Call the Oregon Utility Notification Center

The Oregon Utility Notification Center (OUNC) is the Oregon state agency that administers Oregon's excavation laws and the statewide toll free "One-Call" number is: 1-800-332-2344 (2DIG).

Call at least 48 hours in advance. After receiving a call OUNC notifies all of the utilities that have lines in the area that they will need to locate and mark the whereabouts of their underground utilities.

Various utilities have service lines buried at different levels which make it very important to call before you start any project that requires digging.

Project examples might include planting trees, putting up a fence, building a deck or any yard excavation.

The OUNC "One-Call Center" is located in Portland and is staffed by about 50 operators. The Center is available to process locate requests seven days a week, 24 hours a day.

Questions? Talent Public Works may be able to assist. Call: 541.535.3828

## Planning Department News Arbor Day

This year's Arbor Day celebration will be held on Thursday, April 7th, 2011 at noon. It will take place at the new Talent Dog Park currently under construction on the vacant parcel next to the Police Station on Talent Avenue. The 2011 ceremony will coincide with the planting of the park's first tree providing shade and aesthetic qualities to the park. Please come and participate in this fun event! (If you're driving, please park at Chuck Roberts Park and NOT within the Police Station's parking lot).

### FIRM Map Updates

Periodically, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) updates its minimum flood plain standards and accompanying Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) causing local municipalities to do the same in order to insure compliance and consistency.

Typically, these updates are minimal and are accompanied by new definitions and clarifications. If there are proposed mapping amendments, a Flood Insurance Study (FIS) is included. Amendments to maps are often based on new surveying information, new mapping technologies, or physical man-made changes to the flood plain.

That said, there doesn't appear to be any changes to the maps affecting Talent except for a new "Vertical Datum" which has been adopted by the Federal Government replacing the National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929 (NGVD29) with the North American Vertical Datum of 1988 (NAVD88). NAVD88 is a more reliable surveying "starting point" and a technology more compatible with new surveying and mapping technologies. The only other proposed changes relate to definitions such as the definition of a crawlspace vs. a basement.

### "Firelines"

## Apparatus and Equipment Replacement Program

Submitted by Dan Marshall, Fire Chief  
Jackson County Fire District # 5



With the exception of personnel costs, no other area of the fire district budget requires more attention than our apparatus and equipment. Currently, Fire District 5 maintains 15 vehicles in front line service at three fire stations with an approximate replacement value of over \$2,000,000. If these assets are not well maintained, or if they are allowed to become obsolete, operating efficiency will be sacrificed and the costs of maintenance and replacement will go up.

In 1993, the fire district implemented a comprehensive apparatus and equipment replacement program that has proven to be very effective. The stated goal of the program is "to develop and maintain a highly functional and efficient fleet of fire and rescue vehicles." To achieve this goal, several sub-programs and objectives were established such as vehicle purchasing and replacement criteria, disposition of outdated vehicles, centralized vehicle maintenance, fuel management plan, and the utilization of state and federal surplus programs.

The basic proposal for the program is simply that each year a contribution shall be made to the equipment replacement fund for each vehicle in the fleet equal to the life cycle depreciation accrued during that fiscal year. For example, if the fire district obtained a new engine during fiscal year 2010-2011 (July 1-June 30) with an estimated life cycle of 20 years, at a purchase price of \$250,000, we would need to contribute \$12,500 per year for each of the 20 years of its life cycle. Thus, spreading the burden of replacement over a 20-year period rather than having to fund the replacement in one given year.

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Even though we have not been able to contribute 100% of the funding needed to the replacement fund each year, the program has been a huge success when combined with other funding programs such as lease/purchasing large dollar expenses (fire engines and water tenders) over a 5-10 year period, and paying cash with equipment reserve funds for lower cost equipment such as staff vehicles, ambulances/rescue units, defibrillators and related equipment.

Over the years, because of strong fiscal policy, proactive budget planning and the coordination and blending of funding programs, the fire district has made dramatic and significant improvements in apparatus and equipment that ultimately has enabled our firefighters to use "state of the art" equipment to deliver excellent fire and emergency medical services to our customers.

### Talent PD News Submitted by Chief of Police Mike Moran

Recently I reported to the City Council on the 2010 activity of the Talent Police Department. Here are some highlights of that report:

#### Calls for Service

TPD handled 3640 calls for service in 2010. The following is a list of the more serious calls by type:

- Robbery of Business: 2
- Other Robbery: 3
- Aggravated Assault: 4
- Simple Assault: 21
- Intimidation/Threats: 23
- Stalker: 1
- Restraining order Violations: 12
- Burglary of Residence: 12
- Burglary of Business: 2
- Shoplifting: 22
- Motor Vehicle Theft: 3
- All other thefts: 99
- Non Criminal Domestic: 80
- Vandalism: 58
- Drug Law Violations: 34

As part of the Drug Enforcement effort, the new regional drug team MADGE has been of great assistance. MADGE worked 6 cases last year in Talent/Talent zip code. Two of the 6 were medical marijuana cases. That is 2% of total MADGE cases. They did 5 cases in Phoenix of which 2 were medical marijuana. In addition,



MADGE is a great resource to Talent PD for investigative support.

The general impression of crime in Talent is that our community continues to be a safe place to live.

**Traffic Citations**

In the last year Talent Police issued 971 traffic citations. The largest numbers of those tickets were for speeding, driving without a license and DUI.

DUI arrests were 89 for the year. We investigated an additional 47 traffic crimes such as Driving While Suspended and Reckless Driving.

TPD investigated 22 motor vehicle collisions on public highways and quite fortunately there was only 1 serious injury accident. This statistic of low numbers of collisions is in part attributable to the fact that Talent PD conducts traffic enforcement

For an agency of Talent's size we are especially proud of the number of hours our officers train. It is an important element of an excellent police department. The total number of training hours for 2010 is 894.

**A Child Is Missing program**

Talent PD has been a member of the A Child Is Missing program for a few years. Last month I renewed our involvement and wanted to tell you about it in the event we need to use it.

A Child Is Missing is a Non-Profit organization that assists law enforcement in the early search and recovery of missing children, college students, disabled individuals and the elderly (often with Alzheimer's) by using alert telephone calls. Within one minute ACIM can place 1000 calls in the area where the missing individual was last seen. To date ACIM has assisted in over 800 safe recoveries. Any missing person under the age of 21, any adult with disabilities, and any elderly individuals qualify for this alert system.

Should you receive an automated phone call from ACIM, the message will start off, "A Child Is Missing" and then advise you of the particulars. You may be asked to check your own property. You will be given a phone number to call if you have seen the person. You need not call back otherwise. As mentioned, up to 1000 calls can be made in one minute. For more information visit the web at [www.achildismissing.org](http://www.achildismissing.org) to learn more about this remarkable law enforcement tool.

**How Can I Get Involved In My Community?**

There are a number of City Committees and Commissions that continue to seek new members. Please contact City Hall if you are interested

in applying: 541.535.1566.

**Planning Commission** - 5-person commission, 4-year term. Two alternates serve a 2-year term. Responsible for community planning and development review related to all land use issues as specified in City Codes and State law. Meets once a month or as needed. Members participate in the development of the City's Comprehensive Plan, Zoning and Land Division Codes.

**Parks & Recreation Commission** - 7-person commission, 2-year term. Advises the City Council on planning and improvements to City parks and provides over site to the City's Summer Recreation Programs. Meets once a month. Members are active in raising community awareness of use of City parks and the importance of participation in recreational activities.

**Architectural Review Committee** - 5-person committee with no specified terms. Advises the Planning Commission and City Council on Design Review criteria for the Historic District in Talent. Reviews development applications for new or renovation projects in the Old Town area. Meets once a month.

**Budget Committee** - 7 person committee, 3-year term. Holds public hearings and takes public comment on the proposed City budget each year. The committee is made up of elected and appointed members. Meets at appointed times during the months of April and May annually.

**Together for Talent Committee** - no restrictions on number of members; meets once a month or as required. Formerly the Enhancement Committee, TFT's mission is to promote sustainability, honor the City's agricultural heritage, promote gardening and tree planting, reduce litter, and generally improve the appearance and livability of Talent.

**Harvest Festival Committee** - no restrictions on number of committee members; help plan and execute all of the events related to the Harvest Festival that takes place in September each year. Planning begins in the spring.

**Harvest Festival DVDs Available For Purchase**

Remember all the fun we had at last year's Harvest Festival! Well, you can relive it over and over again. Come to City Hall and buy a 2010 Centennial Harvest Festival DVD. It includes the parade, the walk/race, the entertainment and more! Great memories - Only \$10 (less if you buy more).

Stop by and order yours today.

