



THE FLASH City of Talent

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

The Flash, which occupies the following two pages, is a publication of the City of Talent and is editorially separate from the rest of the Talent News and Review. All content and editorial choices contained in the rest of the paper are the sole responsibility of the TNR and are not in any way associated with the City of Talent. -JG

From the Mayor's Office

What the heck is a Parklet?

With the down turn in the economy, there is little hope in generating the hundreds and thousands of dollars needed to construct and maintain large city parks. There is also little hope this



economic condition will drastically change in the near future. I am a strong supporter of neighborhood parks as an alternative to large park areas. Neighborhood parks can be more economical to build, take advantage of existing vacant land, and be tailored to fit a specific neighborhood. Some neighborhoods may want playground equipment for the children, while others may want a community garden, bocce ball courts, horseshoe pits, etc. I believe that a creative volunteer effort can create park areas on existing vacant land that truly serve a neighborhood -- all within the scope of existing City budgets. Many cities across the nation are creating parklets. Parklets are a homegrown effort to take advantage of existing vacant land to create common areas for neighborhoods. Parklets can be as small as two parking spaces or a space between two buildings, or as large as a city lot. All are primarily created by volunteers to benefit their specific neighborhoods. Even though parklets are generally created in large urban areas, I believe the philosophy can help us create meaningful common space for Talent neighborhoods. For more information on Parklets, you can go to www.sfgate.com and search Parklets.

The Parks Commission is beginning the process of updating the Parks Master Plan to guide the City of Talent Parks Program for the next five to ten years. I have asked the Parks Commission to incorporate the neighborhood parks philosophy into this plan. I encourage each of you to become involved in updating the Parks Master Plan. It is extremely important that our parks program serve the community. We can only do this with your help. Contact Melissa at 541-535-1566 for information about when the Parks Commission will be working on the Parks Master Plan. Of course you can always contact me for additional information or comments.

Bill Cecil, Mayor
541-535-5863
mayor@cityoftalent.org

FROM THE TALENT PUBLIC ARTS COMMITTEE

The Talent Public Arts Committee would like to invite the public to view the "What Makes Talent Your Talent", August / September City Hall Lobby Gallery arts show. Hours

are 8:30 am - 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday. This show features local artists with memorable, personal works of painting, photography and mixed medium. Local landmarks, events and personalities illustrate some of what makes Talent the unique small town it is.

The Talent City Hall Gallery is located at 110 East Main Street in Talent, Oregon.

City Council Elections 2012

Interested in running for office? Now is your chance! The filing period for the Talent City Council vacancies for the General Election on November 6, 2012 will be:

FIRST DAY TO FILE - July 19, 2012 8:30 a.m.
LAST DAY TO FILE - August 23, 2012 5:00 p.m.

Election packets are now available. You can pick one up during normal business hours 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Talent City Hall: 110 East Main Street, Talent, OR 97540. **(forms will not be available electronically).**

Open Positions on the City Council:

Councilor #2 – Four Year Term (currently held by Sherman Lamb)
Councilor #3- Four Year Term (currently held by Kierstin Brown)
Councilor #4 – Four Year Term (currently held by Teresa Cooke)
Councilor #6 – Four Year Term (currently held by Edwin Jerome McManus)

Candidate Qualification Requirement:

Qualifications to become a candidate for a City Office include both residency and being a registered to vote prior to petition submittal. A person cannot file for more than on position during a single election.

City Election Officer: Filings for City Office are to be submitted to the City Recorder for processing. For more information you can go to the city's website: www.cityoftalent.org or contact City Recorder, Melissa Huhtala at 535-1566 or email: melissa@cityoftalent.org.

'FIRELINES'

Submitted by Dan Marshall, Fire Chief Jackson County Fire District NO. 5

\$1.8 Million General Obligation Bond Measure For Apparatus And Equipment

Jackson County Fire District NO. 5 has submitted a 10.5 year \$1.8 million General Obligation Bond Measure to the Jackson County Elections Officer for the November 6, 2012 election. The bond would allow the fire district to improve, replace and standardize apparatus and equipment at three stations (Phoenix, Talent, Emigrant Lake). Listed below is the explanatory statement reprinted as submitted to the Jackson County Elections Officer.

Explanatory Statement Background/History

Jackson County Fire District NO. 5 incorporated as Talent Rural Fire Protection District in 1963, and originally was an all volunteer force. The fire district covered 30 square miles and served approximately 800 rural residents of Talent and Phoenix.

In 1977 the department was renamed Jackson County Fire District NO. 5 for regional firefighting purposes and also identifies the district as the fifth fire district to incorporate in Jackson County.

The fire district has experienced growth in service area and population density since 1963, including the 1968 annexation of Barron Rural Fire District southeast of Ashland near Emigrant Lake, the City of Talent in 1999 and the City of Phoenix, 2008.

Today, Jackson County Fire District NO. 5 has grown to 115 square miles and provides fire and emergency medical services for approximately 25,000 residents in south Jackson County.

Operating out of three stations (Phoenix, Talent, and Emigrant Lake) the fire district responds to approximately 2,200 calls for service each year, employs 28 career personnel, maintains 35 volunteer/student firefighters, strategically deploys 17 vehicles district-wide and has an annual operating budget of approximately \$4.8 million.

Apparatus and Equipment

The fire district has a comprehensive apparatus and equipment replacement program addressing vehicle types, replacement cycles, years of service, cost of operation, reliability, cost of repair and capability to meet current and future fire safety standards.

The program also outlines funding goals for apparatus and equipment replacement in conjunction with developing a financial plan that maintains response times and service levels to the residents of the District within the constraints of the annual operating budget. Proceeds of the Bond Measure would assist the District in replacing aging apparatus and non-standard equipment, reduce firefighter safety risks and meet the demands of the existing and expanding service area.

General Obligation Bond Levy Objective

The objective of the bond is to replace two 33 year-old fire engines, one 21 year-old fire engine and purchase new apparatus and equipment (plus bond costs) as listed below:

- Three fire engines fully equipped at approximately \$440,063 each (one engine at each fire station)
- One water tender (tanker truck) fully equipped at approximately \$247,365 (for Emigrant Lake Fire Station)
- Self-contained breathing apparatus compressor, air packs, masks and bottles totaling approximately \$99,536.
- Three vehicle extrication packages (spreader-cutters) totaling approximately \$70,860
- Bond issuance/bond counsel costs totaling approximately \$62, 050

Estimated Tax Impact

The annual average bond levy is estimated at 0.1411 per \$1,000 of taxable assessed value on real property. For example, a property owner would pay an estimated average of \$25.11 per year for 10.5 years on a home having an initial taxable assessed value at \$155,000 and assuming a 2.5% assessed value growth rate per year.

AUGUST, 2012
Volume 14/Issue 8
Official
Newsletter of the City of Talent
110 East Main Street,
P.O. Box 445, Talent,
Oregon 97540

Edited by
Melissa Huhtala
City Website:
www.cityoftalent.org
Telephone:
(541) 535-1566
E-mail:
melissa@cityoftalent.org

HARVEST FESTIVAL 2012

Don't forget to mark your calendars for **OCTOBER 6th for the 2012 Harvest Festival!!** There will be a wide variety of activities this year! Stay tuned for more details in the months to come!

Applications for VENDORS, PARADE ENTRANTS, 5 & 10 K RUN, AND SPONSORS is available on the city website: www.cityoftalent.org. **You are also welcome to come by Talent City Hall or contact Melissa Huhtala (541) 535-1566 or melissa@cityoftalent.org for more information.**

MORE TREES PLEASE!

Do you have a special tree in your yard or can't help but notice while walking or biking in the community? The Talent Friends of Trees is looking for more nominations of your favorite trees. We will be putting together a list of these special trees and plan to feature them in future issues of the Flash. Submit your selection to talentfriendsoftrees@gmail.com or call Elizabeth at 541-499-2664. Be sure and include a description, why you love this particular tree, and where it's growing.

Is a leafy canopy over the streets of Talent a goal you support? Would you like a volunteer tree nursery to grow seedlings into young healthy trees to transplant to our yards, streets and parks? Talent Friends of Trees, a branch of the city Together for Talent Committee, will be meeting to discuss these and other ideas on August 8 at 5pm at the Library. Join us!

From the Parks and Recreation Commission

Summer Recreation Program Continues

For August, swim lessons will be offered, plus classes in skateboarding, jump rope, art, and dodgeball. There will even be Friday trips to Mt. Ashland and the bowling alley. Pick up a schedule and registration form at City Hall.

Also, professional dog trainer Juanita Fagan will hold a dog obedience class for adults and/or kids with their dogs. For more information call Juanita at 541-535-7171.

Talent PD News

By Chief Mike Moran

This August 4th will mark the end of my 4th year as Talent Chief of Police. It doesn't seem possible that 4 years has gone by so quickly. I enjoy serving the people of Talent and I appreciate the support you have given to me and the entire police department.

In the past 4 years we have had some excellent additions to our staff. But at the same time we have generally had a small amount of turnover compared to years past. That is a positive thing as our officers and staff get to know more people individually.

There are several good weeks of bicycle riding ahead. I receive many inquiries about bicycle operation on the roadway. I encourage everyone to read about proper bicycle operation beginning with Oregon Revised Statutes 814.400. One highlight from those laws is: **814.400 Application of vehicle laws to bicycles.**

(1) Every person riding a *bicycle* upon a public way is subject to the provisions applicable to and has the same rights and duties as the driver of any other vehicle concerning operating on highways, vehicle equipment and abandoned vehicles, except:

(a) Those provisions which by their very nature can have no application.

(b) When otherwise specifically provided under the vehicle code.

(2) Subject to the provisions of subsection (1) of this section:

(a) A *bicycle* is a vehicle for purposes of the vehicle code; and

(b) When the term "vehicle" is used the term shall be deemed to be applicable to *bicycles*.

(3) The provisions of the vehicle code relating to the operation of *bicycles* do not relieve a *bicyclist* or motorist from the duty to exercise due care.

I also hear complaints about pedestrians being unsafe. Pedestrians have a series of laws they should be aware of starting with ORS 814.010. A highlight from those rules is: **814.070**

Improper position upon or improperly proceeding along highway; penalty.

(1) A *pedestrian* commits the offense of *pedestrian* with improper position upon or improperly proceeding along a highway if the *pedestrian* does any of the following:

(a) Takes a position upon or proceeds along and upon the roadway where there is an adjacent usable *sidewalk* or shoulder.

(b) Does not take a position upon or proceed along and upon the shoulder, as far as practicable from the roadway edge, on a highway that has an adjacent shoulder area on one or both sides.

(c) Except in the case of the divided highway, does not take a position upon or proceed along and upon the left shoulder and as far as practicable from the roadway edge on a two-way highway that has no *sidewalk* and that does have an adjacent shoulder area. This paragraph does not apply to:

(A) A hitchhiker who takes a position upon or proceeds along and upon the right shoulder so long as the hitchhiker does so facing the vehicles using the adjacent lane of the roadway; or

(B) A member of a group that has adopted that section of highway under the provisions of ORS 366.158 and who is

obeying the rules of the Department of Transportation for picking up litter on either side of the roadway.

(d) Does not take a position upon or proceed along and upon the right highway shoulder, as far as practicable from the roadway edge, on a divided highway that has no *sidewalk* and does have a shoulder area. This paragraph does not apply to

a member of a group that has adopted that section of highway under the provisions of ORS 366.158 and who is obeying the rules of the Department of Transportation for picking up litter on either side of the roadway.

(e) Fails to take a position upon or proceed along and upon a highway that has neither *sidewalk* nor shoulder available, as near as near as practicable to an outside edge of the roadway, and, if the roadway is a two-way roadway, only on the left side of it.

Of course vehicle drivers have some specific laws directing them in regards to pedestrians and bikes. A review of ORS 811.005 THROUGH 811.065 talks specifically about the duties of drivers in regards to bikes and pedestrians. There are many laws worth reviewing but here is one important one:

811.020 Passing stopped vehicle at crosswalk; penalty. (1) The driver of a vehicle commits the offense of passing a stopped vehicle at a *crosswalk* if the driver:

(a) Approaches from the rear another vehicle that is stopped at a marked or an unmarked *crosswalk* at an intersection to permit a *pedestrian* to cross the roadway; and

(b) Overtakes and passes the stopped vehicle.

I encourage everyone to Google these Oregon Revised Statutes and refresh your knowledge of these laws.

City of Talent Construction Updates:

Hwy 99 Waterline / Gibson Street Improvements

The contractor working on the Highway 99 Waterline Improvement project finished up towards the end of July. We would like to thank all residents for dealing with the interruptions in water service and traffic while the project was being completed. ODOT and the City are still working towards finalizing the plans for the future improvement of the transportation facilities in the same area.

The City will be receiving bids for the Gibson Street Improvement Project in early August with the expectation that construction will begin in Mid-August with completion of the project in early November weather permitting. This project will include replacement of existing water infrastructure, replacement of the street and installation of storm drain facilities. The City had representatives available July 23, 2012 from 5pm until 7pm at the site to discuss the project with residents that were available. If you were unable to attend and have any questions regarding the work to be completed please call Talent Engineering at 541-535-5531.

UNCLAIMED PROPERTY WITH THE CITY OF TALENT

The following individuals have unclaimed property held by the City of Talent. Please make arrangements to claim your property by October 1, 2012. Any property unclaimed as of October 1, (and having met the appropriate abandonment period), will be turned over to the Department of State Lands. Please contact Assistant Finance Director Kurt Sexton at 541-535-1566

Bonas, Shelly,	McCrary, Sam
Bruntz, Eileen	McWhorter, Shannon
Erdogan, Anna	Morgan, Sharon
Evans, Chet	Norton, Greg
Dale, Kristen	Paris, Robert M Jr.
Difruscia, John	Police Training Co.
Harding, Coral	Ritchey, Rene
Land, Daria	Schrump, Donald
Marikos, Michelle	Taylor, Danika
Massey, Robert	Weiss, Zephera
Mason, Genevieve	Wilson, Julie