



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

With the old year behind us and the promise of the year ahead, please join me in welcoming our newly appointed Councilor Kenneth Baker and congratulating elected



Councilor Christina Collins, Emily Berlant and Councilor John Harrison. All are sworn in and I am confident that our great body of work in 2017 will be well served by a full Council.

The Council also appointed and reappointed citizens to the Planning Commission, Parks Commission and Budget Committee. These vital boards support the Council as the expert advisors on matters before the City. Talent residents are stepping up to help govern our City. I am sure you will agree with me we owe them our thanks! There is always room for more; please find openings at www.cityoftalent.org or go call Talent City Hall at 541-535-1566

Council wrapped up election business as we adopted the 3% tax rate on marijuana sales. This tax was voted by the Citizens and will be collected to benefit Talent City Parks maintenance. Some call it "Pot for Parks", go figure!

We got the year off to an exciting start, by doing some house cleaning on some of our old code enforcement Ordinances, with more current regulation and fees. I guess not everything we do is an adventure.

Looking ahead, we will be goal setting for the next fiscal year so send in your ideas.

On March 1, I will deliver the State of City address at our regularly scheduled Council meeting. I always look forward to reporting on the successes of our City efforts, goals and the accomplishments of our fine staff. I hope to see you there.

Grateful to serve,
Mayor Stricker

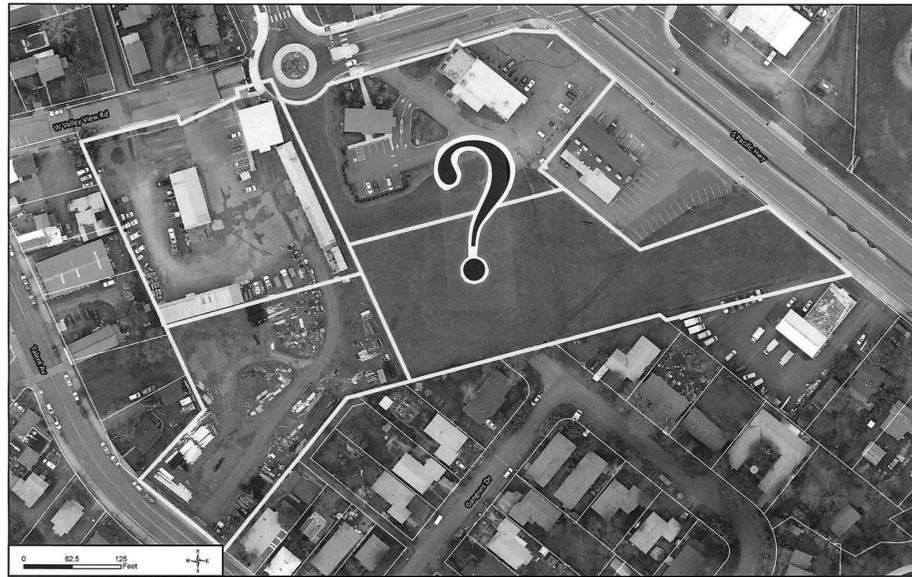
TALENT GATEWAY PROJECT OPEN HOUSE A HUGE SUCCESS!

To paraphrase a movie line, "If you build it, they will come..."

Well, we just talked about building it and you came!

The Talent Community Center was packed on Wednesday, January 11 to hear the possibilities for the Gateway Project in Downtown Talent.

Citizens, Councilors, developers, realtors, business owners and future business owners all came together to



give their ideas. Mayor Darby Stricker, consultant John Southgate and I were overwhelmed at the number of great ideas that were brought to the table. We readily accepted input from all who attended. I think we have a few future city planners out there by the way they just got up, went to the map, and started to unravel their plans for our future.

Ideas ranged from Maker Spaces, to residential areas, business with residential over it, livability, solar components, rooftop bars, green space to tasting rooms for all sorts of things.

Talent Urban Renewal Agency recently purchased two lots on Highway 99 at the center of the first step into our beautiful Downtown. Over the next few months we will continue to solicit input from our citizens and then put out a Request for Expressions of Interest for developers. The RFEI is different from a Request for Proposals as it doesn't say exactly what we want. We can give developers ideas and some basics but then it's up to their imagination to see what comes together.

Thank you again so very much for your time and energy! We will notify you of upcoming events and happenings. Please go to our website www.CityofTalent.org and then to City News on the front page. It will direct you to any updates. Please give us a little time to review all of the ideas we have received. And keep those emails, letter, and calls coming in!

Tom Corrigan
TURA Executive Director
Talent City Manager

WANTED- COMMITTEE & COMMISSION MEMBERS

Talent Public Art Committee (TPAC)

Currently TPAC is looking for 3-4 volunteers for specific projects and/or to become TPAC members to enjoy a greater hands-on involvement in developing the arts in Talent. So whether you're just interested, ready to go or you're looking to support the arts with your time or just financially, give us a call. **Call Ron Hodgdon at 541.535.1620 or email: hodg1027@mind.net.** Please specify your name, contact information and TPAC related

interest to be contacted.

Together For Talent Committee

Interested in becoming a **Talenteer**? There are currently 11 openings. Each term is 2 years. This is a great Committee to be involved in if you have a passion for trees, trails, forums and want to help make Talent an even better place to live and work. Meetings are every 1st Tuesday of the month at 3:00 PM in the City Hall Conference Room.

Harvest Festival Committee

Looking for motivated, enthusiastic Committee members to help create an event that was even better than the last. The Committee meets monthly beginning in February and twice a month or more as we get closer to the event.

Bee City USA

Education on Pollination. Meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 6 PM for location and more information contact Dolly Warden at 541-897-0065 or email: dolly.warden17@gmail.com

Architectural Review Committee To reestablish this committee we need 5 members for the Architectural Review Committee.

This is a 5-person committee with no specified terms. The ARC 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 every 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6:00 p.m.

Parks Commission

There are currently 1 Alternate vacancy for the Parks Commission. This is a seven person commission each serving a two year term. The commission advises the City Council on planning and improvements to City parks and provides oversight to the City's Summer Recreation Programs. The commission meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Community Center. Members are active in raising community awareness of use of City parks and the importance of participation in recreational activities.

For other questions regarding the vacancies please contact Melissa Huhtala at City Hall:

541-535-1566 or email: Melissa@cityoftalent.org. You can stop by City Hall for an application or find one online at www.cityoftalent.org

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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

News from the Talent Historical Society

Please keep us in mind as you clean out your closets or come across items about Talent's past. We are actively seeking donations of photographs, school annuals; Talent Junior High, Talent Middle school and Phoenix High (where Talent students attend high school) and anything else "Talent". They don't have to be antiques to be valuable. We support ALL of Talent's history, not just the pioneer years. In fact, we have more information on the pioneer days than on our more recent history! So, bring your Talent collectibles over to the Museum on Saturdays, Sundays and Holiday Mondays from 1:00 - 5:00 pm and let us take a look at what you have. Thanks

Come and join us at our February *Tuesday Evening at the Museum* talk. On Tuesday, February 28th, Ron Meyer will give a presentation on the History of the Talent Irrigation District which celebrated 100 years of service in 2016. Mr. Meyer is a former TID board member. The talk will be from 6:30 to 8:00 pm at the Society's museum at 105 N. Market Street, Talent. The meetings are free and open to the public and you need not be a member to attend. Call 541-512-8838 for more info.

Watts Up?

Everybody likes free things. Especially free things that can also save you money! Rogue Climate has teamed up with Energy Trust of Oregon to become an Installation Ally. What does that mean? You can get up to 16 LED bulbs installed in your home completely free. You don't even have to do any of the work. A volunteer will come to your home replace incandescent bulbs with LED bulbs and you get a massive savings! If you're interested in learning more about this program or becoming one of their amazing volunteer, please email lightbulbs@rogueclimate.org.

You can also sign up for an Energy Saver Kit from Energy Trust of Oregon which will give you LED

lights, high efficiency showerheads, and faucet aerators. All it takes is a short questionnaire online or phone call to get your home's specific characteristics. This can be done at <http://www.energytrust.org/incentives/energy-saver-kits/> or **1.866.691.1766**.

If you have any questions about energy savings light bulbs or general energy ideas, you can email me at nowings@cityoftalent.org.

Fun Fact: Changing from an incandescent bulb to an LED bulb can save you up to \$80 for the life of each bulb.

News from Talent PD

By Chief Whipple

The Talent Police Department had a busy year in 2016 and I would like to share some statistics showing the work performed. Many of the crime statistics were up for 2016 and although many would consider this to be a negative trend, I consider some of it in a positive light.

Arrests in Talent were up 36% in drug offenses, 11% in warrant arrests and 81% in DUII arrests. I consider these positive numbers because it demonstrates our officers are proactive in their patrols and are making a difference in the community. I believe proactive police prevents crime and deters criminals from hanging around in our community.

The number of DUII arrests made this year (49) is due in part because of increase in DUII patrols by a grant from the Oregon Department of Transportation. Over the holidays we conducted 8 hours of extra patrols and issued 7 citations and 10 warnings while looking for intoxicated drivers. I ask that you help us make a difference in 2017. By stopping a DUII driver from leaving an establishment or a residence, you can prevent a tragedy from occurring. I hope that you will assist us this year in lowering the number of intoxicated drivers on the roadway in 2017.

And although we had many crime categories up in 2016, others showed a reduction compared to 2015, including burglary, which was down 17%, thefts, which were down 28% and vehicle thefts which were down 36%.

In 2016, the Talent Police investigated 4,051 cases and issued 1329 traffic citations. Included in these cases were major assault cases, rape cases, burglary cases, and drug cases. Many of these investigations were complicated, taking many hours to investigate and solve. As I have said before, there are reasons to be proud of the police who serve you.

In conjunction with the case work and traffic safety patrols, the Talent Police Department has continued to reach out to the community we serve by implementing a neighborhood survey to find out how we are performing as a City, began "coffee with a cop" to listen to the concerns in the community, conducted neighborhood watch programs and continued outreach to our schools. The outreach programs which have been implemented are how we connect with our citizens and shall be continued and expanded through 2017. We thank you for the support we have received.

News from Utility Billing

The City of Talent's financial software conversion is nearly complete, and you will notice changes in the format

of your utility bill in early February. Customers who were previously signed up for pre-authorized payments will continue to have their on-file bank account debited around the 15th of each month. If you pay your bill over the phone or at City Hall, you will notice no difference in service. If you pay your bill on GovTeller (by clicking the link on the City website), it will be down from January 31st until February 6th while we transition from our old system to a new utility billing portal, and we recommend you pay at City Hall or over the phone. The rest of the City website will function as normal. If you have any questions, feel free to call (541) 535-1566.

Celebration for Volunteers in Talent

Come one come all to celebrate the Citizens of Talent's who volunteer in the Community.

On February 23rd from 6:30-8:30 PM at the Talent Community Center there will be a celebration for all the volunteering citizens in our Community. There will be light refreshments and a no host cash only bar.

There are so many that get involved in helping Talent be a great Community. Each year we see more and more involvement and can't wait to celebrate you all!! This will be a celebration to thank all those who volunteer their time and energy to better Talent. There are many opportunities to volunteer, if you are interested please contact Melissa Huhtala at: 541-535-1566 or email: melissa@cityoftalent.org.

Adopt a Family for the Holidays Thank You!

The City of Talent and Fire District 5 would like to thank everyone who helped in making this year's "Adopt a Family for the Holidays" program such a tremendous success! Below are just a few names of the many of this year's sponsors. Thank you to everyone who participated!

Phoenix/Talent Head Start
Leslea Heiken
Coleen Bradley
Fire Chief Vince Lockett & crew
Recology Ashland Sanitary
Mike Strickland

Talent Zero Waste Team

The Zero Waste Team meets every 3rd Thursday of the month from 2:30 to 4:30pm at the Talent Public Library small meeting room.

We are a group of dedicated people who are passionate about lightening our impact on the planet by understanding where our waste comes from, where it goes and by Rethinking the three R's of Recycling. So, this New Year, we encourage

everyone to take steps to Refuse to buy single use disposable items, Reduce the amount of plastics and trash in the waste stream by Reusing,

Repairing, Repurposing, or Renting because it is getting more and more difficult to actually Recycle.

Please join us as we develop educational material, sponsor reuse and recycling events, and promote zero waste at City Sponsored events. For more information contact Sharon Anderson at scanderson1@charter.net.

And remember There Is No Away!