



# THE FLASH

February 2019  
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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

First thing first! Councilor Emily Berlant has been elected to the seat of Council President. There are important responsibilities that come with this position, which include filling in the role of Mayor at meetings, during the Mayors absence. With the confidence of the Council, Councilor Berlant is an excellent choice for this position. Please join me in congratulating her!

The first quarter of every year is a busy time. The immediate projects before the Council are goal setting for 2019/2020, preparing the

budget and budget calendar for the next fiscal year, and reviewing those projects for this fiscal year that will need to be completed over the next several months. Items being considered by Council are an ordinance on Short Term Rentals, updating the Parks Master Plan, and updating land use regulations to create more efficient use of land, while considering housing policies to ensure Talent can meet all of our communities needs. The proposed goals will be available on the City of Talent website for review and are subject to adoption during an open meeting should you wish to weigh in. This work before the Council is some pretty heavy lifting, which is good reason to laud the hard work of staff and Talent City Council.

This is also a moment of appreciation for those who volunteer to move the many Talent projects into reality! Talent does an amazing amount or work, for such a small town. One of the main reasons for that is the many volunteers who are involved in City Committee work. The Planning Commission, The Parks Commission, The Economic Development Commission, The Together for Talent Committee, The Talent Public Arts Committee, The Harvest Festival Committee are all City boards made up of citizens just like you, who are amply qualified to help the City decide how to manage our own community. This is Talent's super power! Please consider joining the effort to make Talent stronger together. More information on City Board openings can be found on the City website or by calling (541)535-1566

FORWARD TOGETHER!  
Mayor Darby Ayers-Flood

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FAIR

FEBRUARY 5, 2019



FOOD | CONVERSATION | COFFEE

**Join the Talent Community Development Department to learn about current projects happening here in town.**

Community groups, local and state agencies and representatives will all be present to answer questions and provide information on current and future projects and to let you know how you can get involved.



Tuesday, February 5th | 6 - 8 pm

Talent Community Center 104 E. Main St.

For information on who is attending, visit City News at [cityoftalent.org](http://cityoftalent.org)  
Other questions? Contact Zac Moody at [zmoody@cityoftalent.org](mailto:zmoody@cityoftalent.org)

## Commission & Committee Openings:

### Together for Talent

Want a voice in your city's affairs? Join Together for Talent, a city committee. Up to five seats available! Be a recommending body to the City Council. Funding is available for ways to improve the city. Participate in meaningful projects in our community.

Open Meeting on Tuesday, March 5th from 4 - 6 pm at the Old Town Hall.

If you are interested, please contact the City Recorder at 541-941-5939 or at [gciprazo@cityoftalent.org](mailto:gciprazo@cityoftalent.org)

### Harvest Festival 2019

Talent is looking for interested citizens and volunteers to take part in the planning process for the City's 50th annual Harvest Festival. The Harvest Festival will take place on September 21, 2019 here in downtown Talent.

Planning meetings are currently held every three weeks. The February meeting will be on February 21st at 4pm at City Hall.

If you are interested, please contact the City Recorder at 541-941-5939 or at [gciprazo@cityoftalent.org](mailto:gciprazo@cityoftalent.org)

### Parks Commission

This is a seven-person commission, with each person 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. Members are active in raising community awareness of use of City parks and the importance of participation in recreational activities.

If you are interested, please contact the City Recorder at 541-941-5939 or at [gciprazo@cityoftalent.org](mailto:gciprazo@cityoftalent.org)

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## Talent Police Department

In conjunction with Portland State University and the Law Enforcement Contacts Policy & Data Review Committee, the Talent Police Department hosted an anti-bias training for law enforcement personnel titled: Tactical Ethics – Perspectives in Profiling. We opened this course to other local law enforcement agencies in the valley including: Phoenix Police, Jacksonville Police, Eagle Point Police, Rogue River Police and the Veteran’s Administration Police Department.

In 2017, the Oregon legislature enacted rules requiring police agencies around the state to begin capturing data on individuals stopped for traffic violations as well as pedestrian stops. This was done in an effort to increase the transparency of policing. The rules required the largest police agencies in the state to start capturing information related to race, age and location of residence in 2018. The next tier of agencies are required to start capturing data in July 2019. The smallest agencies in the state are required to start recording data in July 2020. The Talent Police Department voluntarily opted to start capturing data in December 2018, earlier than required. We are currently the smallest agency in the state capturing data and participating in this program.

Please don’t hesitate to call us if you need assistance. During normal business hours for non-emergency business – 541-535-1253, non-emergency dispatch 541-776-7206 or Emergency – 911.

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## Council to Consider Ban on Single Use Plastic

Plastic is pervasive. You’ve probably seen the photos of bird stomachs full of small bits of bottle lids and spoons, or walked down the street and seen plastic bags fluttering in the trees like leaves. Take a look around the room you’re sitting in while reading this... how much plastic can you reach out and touch? How much can you see? Don’t forget to include synthetic materials like polyester and nylon in that calculation. When you do a quick audit of the plastic in your life, you can quickly see how profuse it is.

Fortunately, cities (like Santa Monica and Seattle) and individuals all over the world are taking substantive action to reduce access to a slew of single use plastics (items used once, briefly, then tossed - for “convenience”). While we know that it’s partially due to the way things are manufactured and shipped by corporations, it’s important to not discredit the change a small group of committed people can make. By saying “no” to plastic and opting for durable, nonsynthetic materials, we as consumers can flip the script on what’s more convenient. To that like, the Talent Zero Waste Team, by way of the Together for Talent Committee, will be presenting a proposal to prohibit disposable foodservice ware made of plastics and plastic bags in Talent to the City Council on Wednesday, March 6 at 6:45pm. Please come to show your support or voice your concerns so we can start changing the system together. Because we don’t think anyone finds it convenient to be buried in plastic bits.

Talent Zero Waste Team  
 “There is no *away*”