



Mayor
Crystal Shoji



Council President
Stephanie Kramer



Councilor
Gene Melton



Councilor
Jennifer Groth



Councilor
John Muenchrath



Councilor
Mike Vaughan



January 2012

Changes on the City Council

On December 27, 2011, Coos Bay Councilor Joanie Johnson tendered her resignation from her position on the Coos Bay City Council. Councilor Johnson wrote the following in her resignation letter:

"Due to current health issues, I am stepping down from my council position effective December 27, 2011. My condition at this time is an undetermined Auto Immune Disorder, and one of the areas being challenged is my speech. This has been noticeable as of late; and as I like to talk, this is most difficult on all parties involved. Being on the Council has been one of the most rewarding and educational experiences I have ever had the pleasure of participating in!"



Councilor Johnson has been serving on the Council since November 18, 2008; and during her time in office, she also served on the Coos Bay Urban Renewal Board, Coos Bay / North Bend Visitors & Convention Bureau Board, Coos Bay's representative on the Oregon Coast Zone Management Association, Coos Bay's Public Safety Standing Committee, Community Coalition of Empire, Coos Art Museum Board, Coos Historical & Maritime Museum Project Committee, and the Tree Board. In addition to her public service, Councilor Johnson has been an active member of the Coos Bay Downtown Association and the Bay Area Chamber of Commerce.

Are You Interested In Serving On the City Council?

The Coos Bay City Council will be accepting *Letters of Interest* for consideration of appointment to fulfill a vacancy on the City Council. To qualify, the applicant must be a registered voter, must have resided within the Coos Bay City limits for a least one year, and must not be a City employee. The *Letter of Interest* should include a brief summary of the work and community experience, education of the applicant, and reason for interest in being appointed. An attached resume is acceptable.

Letters of Interest will be accepted in the City Manager's Office until 5:00 p.m. Friday, January 27, 2012. For your convenience, if you wish to e-mail your *Letter of Interest*, you may e-mail it to jmickelson@coosbay.org

Interviews will be held on Tuesday, February 7th, and applicants will be contacted to schedule an interview with the City Council. For more information, contact City Manager Rodger Craddock at 269-8912.

Coos Bay City Hall Seismic Rehabilitation Project



In 2005, the Legislature passed Senate Bill 2 which called for development of a statewide seismic needs assessment that included a seismic safety survey of police stations and similar facilities used by state, county, district, and municipal law enforcement agencies. The result of the survey was that Coos Bay City Hall was identified as having a “High Potential of Collapse”.

To assist agencies to address these issues, the Oregon Legislature created the Seismic Rehabilitation Grant Program administered by the Oregon Department of Emergency Management. The City of Coos Bay has been awarded a Seismic Rehabilitation Grant in the amount of \$1,500,000 to upgrade the portions of City Hall utilized by the Police Department. The idea is to ensure the main City facilities occupied by First Responders would be protected in the event of a seismic event. The City of Coos Bay will provide an additional \$600,000 from the General Fund for the project while the Coos Bay Urban Renewal Agency will contribute \$400,000 toward the project. This additional \$1,000,000 will fund additional seismic upgrades along with other improvements needed throughout city hall for a total project budget of \$2,500,000.

The primary goal of this project is to upgrade Coos Bay City Hall to a level of performance necessary to allow immediate re-occupancy following a seismic event; therefore, allowing police emergency services to continue to safely operate and serve the community following a disaster. This project also provides an opportunity to replace inefficient lighting and heating / air conditions units.

Coos Bay City Hall
500 Central Avenue
Coos Bay, OR 97420
www.coosbay.org

Police Department
(541) 269-8911

Fire Department
(541) 269-1191

Library
(541) 269-1101

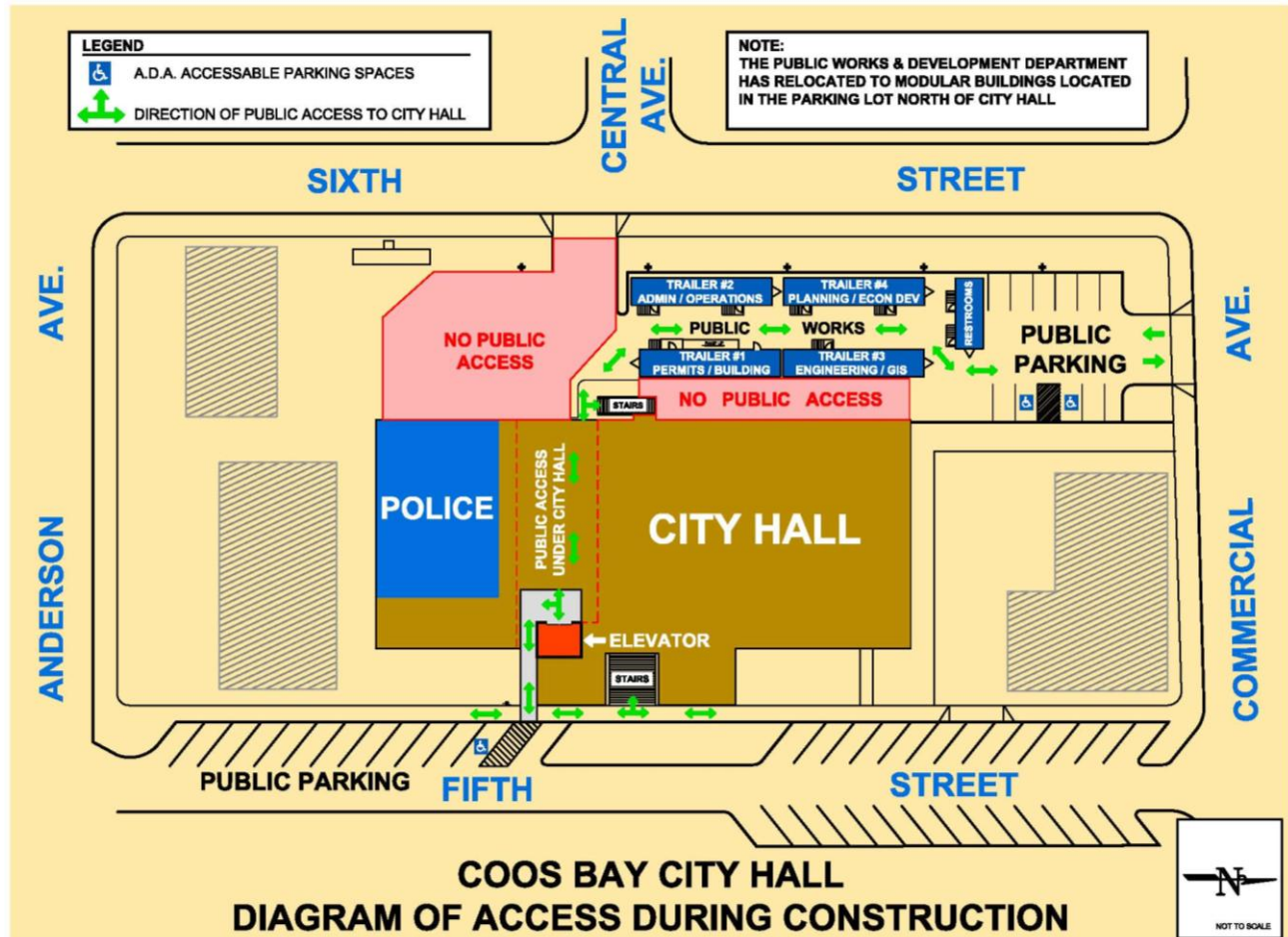
Public Works &
Development
Department
(541) 269-8918

Economic
Development
(541) 269-8924

Finance Department
(541) 269-8915

City Manager's
Office
(541) 269-8912

Access to services at Coos Bay City Hall has changed due to the construction project for the seismic upgrade. Relocation of City services includes the Police Department and Public Works and Development. The Police Department is now located in the south side of city hall where Public Works and Development was previously. The Public Works and Development Department has relocated outside of city hall into modular buildings located in the northwest parking lot.



Public parking for city hall will be located on Fifth Street in front of city hall and in the northwest parking lot adjacent to the modular buildings. Parking in this lot can be accessed from Commercial Avenue. ADA compliant spaces are available on both Fifth Street and in the northwest parking lot accessed off Commercial Avenue.

Christmas Tree Pickup

City residents are encouraged to discard their cut Christmas trees at the curb. Coos Bay Firefighters will be picking up Christmas trees on January 7th beginning at 9:00 am. All trees left out will be picked up as part of the Fire Department's annual effort to remove dangerous trees from homes and businesses. Residents are asked to remove all decorations, including lights, tinsel, and ornaments. Trees should not be placed in bags.

Firefighters request a canned food donation for local food banks be left with the tree. For additional information, call 541-269-1191.

**Fire
Department**

Coos Bay Welcomes a New Library Director

After learning last year that the City's longtime Library Directory Carol Ventgen had decided to retire, the City began a nationwide recruitment process to fill the position. Nearly 30 applicants from locations across the country responded. With help from the Library Board of Trustees, Library Foundation, and Friends of the Library, Samantha (Sami) Pierson was selected to be the new Coos Bay Library Director.



Sami is most recently from Libby, Montana where she has served as the Library Director of the Lincoln County Public Library since 2003. The Lincoln County Library is a three-library system which provides service for a population of 18,000. She is also an adjunct faculty member at Flathead Valley Community College and a contract cataloger for the Montana Department of Transportation. In addition, she has served on the Montana State Records Advisory Board, and she is the recent past president of the Montana Library Association. If that is not enough, she spends some of her spare time coaching youth soccer and baseball.

Sami earned a Master of Public History and Archives degree from Colorado State University and a Masters of Library and Information Sciences from the University of Southern Mississippi. She grew up in a rural area just outside of Albany, Oregon, and she has been looking forward to returning to her home state.

Crafts @ the Library – Lapidary, Rocks, and Gems!

The **Far West Lapidary and Gem Society** will be demonstrating their arts at the Coos Bay Public Library. This fun event will be held on **January 14th from noon to 4:00 p.m.**

Love rocks and gem stones? Come see what you can do with them from cutting to polishing to setting. The Society will demonstrate both machine and hand techniques. Society members will also demonstrate what you can make with your prepared stones. There is no admission charged nor is registration required. Please call the library at 541-269-1101 for further information on this program.

Hours

Library:

Monday – Thursday 10:00 am - 7:00 pm
Friday – Saturday 12:00 pm – 6:00 pm
Sunday – Closed

Book Store:

Wednesday 12:00 pm – 5:30 pm
Thursday 10:00 am – 5:30 pm
Friday 12:00 pm – 5:30 pm
Saturday 12:00 pm – 5:30 pm

Monthly 2Do List – Who Would Want to Steal My Car?



The word "thief" may conjure up ideas of a person with a mask on, secretly and without detection, entering a home to steal a collection of jewelry or a thief who grabs a handful of merchandise from a store and runs out before the shopkeeper can stop them. However, thieves do not always target the small items that can be stuffed in pockets or thrown in a backpack. Sometimes the object of their crime has four wheels and provides them the means of getting away. We're talking about the theft of cars.

Thieves going for these "big ticket" items may have many different reasons for taking something that doesn't fit in their back pocket. They may use the stolen vehicle to hide their identity and commit other crimes from the vehicle. They may strip down the vehicle by removing certain components to be sold to private persons or unscrupulous repair shops or they may simply steal the vehicle to sell to an unsuspecting person.

Regardless, whether you have insurance or not, losing a vehicle can create a real hardship, and in some cases, a financial catastrophe.

While there is no foolproof method for protecting your vehicle there are many no-cost or inexpensive steps that can be taken.

- ✓ **Lock it up** - An open vehicle is certainly an invitation to thieves.
- ✓ **Protect your keys** - Use caution when you share your vehicle's keys with repair shops and parking facilities. A corrupt employee may take the opportunity of having your keys for a few hours to make a second set for themselves.
- ✓ **Park in safe areas** - Just as it is important to park in well-lit areas to prevent auto burglary (theft from inside your car), the same applies to the whole car. Thieves don't like to be seen committing their crimes so a highly visible (well-illuminated) area can be a true turn-off.
- ✓ **No ignition – no go!** - Some vehicles come with (or you can install) an ignition limiting device that requires a second key or other controller to start the vehicle. Likewise, installing / activating a system that allows the vehicle to be shut down remotely after a theft can also be very effective. Tracking systems available by several different providers can also prove beneficial in tracking your vehicle down once it has been stolen.
- ✓ **Spare key?...Not a good idea!** - Well that's not completely true, a spare key kept in the right location is a good idea. However, many drivers use a stick-on or magnetic spare key holder for attaching to the vehicle. Auto thieves are aware of these containers and might be the first thing they look for!

The above article is an excerpt from the December 2011 Coos Bay Crime Prevention Connection. The monthly Crime Prevention Newsletter is a free monthly newsletter which provides crime prevention education and tips, lets you know about crime in our community, and alerts you to upcoming Police Department events. Sign-up to receive your own monthly issue of the CPC NEWSLETTER at <http://coosbay.org/police/index.html>

Coos Bay Group Organizes Student Mural Design Contest

Coos Bay students in grades K-12 are invited to help design a mural to beautify a 157-foot wall on 2nd Court in downtown Coos Bay. Entry forms are available on the District & City websites, at City Hall, and at local schools, and are due at city hall on January 30, 2012.

This project is being coordinated by a group of citizens who participated in the recent "Your Town" training session organized by the South Coast Development Council. Participants in this rural design training course were asked to consider a small project to improve the downtown area in each of their communities. The volunteer group, who call themselves "Alley Cats", initially spent a Saturday morning in October pulling weeds and cleaning up the 2nd Court alley in front of the wall, and City workers helped by removing trees that were not appropriate for the planting location. In addition to the new murals, the Alley Cats plan to landscape the area with more suitable plantings.

Mural designs will be selected from each school in the Coos Bay District, and the 2nd Court space will be divided into sections to allow each school's design to be installed on the wall. For more information, contact Christine Coles at (541)404-8508 or Hilary Baker at (541)396-1956.

2nd Court Mural Contest



Use your creative talent and help your City improve this blank wall!

All Coos Bay students in grades K—12 are eligible to submit mural designs. Entry forms are available on District & City websites, at City Hall & at local schools.
Contacts: Christine Coles (541)404-8508 & Hilary Baker (541)396-1956.
Designs are due **January 30, 2012.**

