



The Friday Update

Bringing you a summary of weekly news from City Hall

June 1, 2001

CITY OF COOS BAY

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HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE EVENTS COMING - The Cities of Myrtle Point and Bandon, in conjunction with the State Department of Environmental Quality, will host hazardous waste drop off events in June. Household hazardous waste events will be held in Bandon on Saturday, June 9th from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the parking lot at Hardin Optical, 1450 Oregon Avenue and on Sunday, June 10th from noon til 4 p.m. at the Myrtle Crest Elementary School, 903 Myrtle Crest Lane. These events are free and open to all Coos County residents. These will be the only local events available this year. Residents can drop off household items and chemicals that could be harmful to health or the environment, such as batteries, paint, solvents, used motor oil, antifreeze and pesticides. Pre-registration is required for commercial disposal and some fees may apply. For more information please call the City of Myrtle Point at 572-2626 or the City of Bandon at 347-2437.

CITY COUNCIL POISED FOR A FINAL DECISION ON "THE ANDERSON ALTERNATIVE" - The City Council meets Tuesday evening in regular session and among other items requiring attention, the much debated "Anderson Alternative" is expected to draw a crowd and be the focus of what may prove to be the final decision to either proceed or shelve the plan indefinitely. Here's what the Anderson Alternative proposes:

- * Diagonal on-street parking from Fourth Street east to the Penney's building in front of the Coos Art Museum.
- * A left turn on Bayshore (Hy 101 northbound) on to Anderson, with two-way traffic on Anderson between Bayshore and Second Street (at the corner of Rite Aid and Independent Financial Airport).
- * Elimination of the light at Anderson and Second.

The plan was developed by a consultant four years ago under funding from the Oregon Dept. of Transportation and enjoys the State's support. ODOT will be represented at Tuesday evening's meeting and is expected to articulate the plan's advantages. One of the biggest is that its implementation will stave off any State impetus to order on-street parking removed from Broadway through the Theater District. There are other advantages - too numerous to name here - and few disadvantages. A complete staff report on the matter has been developed and is available on request by calling the Community Services Department at 541.269.8912 or emailing sshribbs@dcs.coosbay.org <mailto:sshribbs@dcs.coosbay.org> and asking for a copy.

The plan is supported by Rite Aid, Security Bank, the owner of the Penney's building, property owner Doug Fletcher, Island Sun, Bank Brewery, Cottonwood Studio, Rita Todd's Design Renaissance and others.

DOWNTOWN STRATEGY FUNDING PACKAGE COMPLETE! - The Oregon Economic and Community Development Department has announced a \$15,000 grant to the City of Coos Bay for partial funding of a Downtown Strategy Review. The project will look at how to further leverage recent developments in downtown and help to develop a recruitment plan for downtown spaces. A second part of

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the project will complete a structural review of the American Building and North Point Realty building to assist those building owners in seeking funding necessary to redevelop upper levels for occupancy and restore the buildings to their historic splendor. The total cost of both projects is \$32,000. The Coos Curry Douglas Regional Investment Board awarded an additional \$15,000 grant for the project, and the City will contribute \$2,000.

PLANT ONE IS INSPECTED BY STATE - On May 14, 2001, a Department of Environmental Quality representative conducted a comprehensive compliance inspection of Wastewater Treatment Plant #1. The inspection was a routine requirement to determine the extent of compliance with the terms and conditions of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit issued for the facility. Operations Management, Inc. (OMI) manages the facility for the City of Coos Bay. The Plant was found to be in compliance with the NPDES permit, and notice was taken of the process management and documentation improvements that have taken place at the plant since OMI began operating the plan for the City five years ago. Operating the plant in compliance with the NPDES permit is not only a legal requirement, but it also means we are doing what we can to assure that the effluent being released into the bay is clean and won't negatively impact salmon or the environment. Thank you, OMI, for helping the City meet its obligations.

WATER WISE! - The beautiful spring weather may bring late summer problems unless we all remain mindful of our water usage. OMI, the City's wastewater contractor, shared the following water wise tips in their nationally-distributed monthly newsletter.

Indoor Tips: Check for leaks in your water system. Shut off all faucets and water-using appliances. Take a reading on your water meter, wait 30 minutes and take a second reading. If the dial has moved, you have a leak! The most common place for leaks is the toilet. Place a few drops of food coloring in the tank. If after 15 minutes the dye shows up in the bowl, the toilet has a leak. Also, check your sink and bathtub faucets. Dripping faucets can usually be repaired by replacing the rubber O-ring or washer inside the valve.

Outdoor Tips: Maintain a lawn height of 2 to 3 inches, and avoid planting turf in areas that are difficult to irrigate. Promote deep root growth through a combination of proper watering, aerating, fertilization and attention to lawn height. A lawn with deep roots requires less water and is more resistant to drought and disease. Plan your landscape so that plants with similar water requirements are clustered together.

Watch for more tips as the season proceeds. Being conservative with our water resource helps everyone!

FRONT STREET REZONE IS FINAL! - The Council's decision to rezone the North Front Street area to "Waterfront Heritage" was final at 5 p.m., Friday, May 25, 2001. The procedure for this type of land use action requires a 21-day appeal period to the State Land Use Board of Appeals, in which an opponent to the proposal may file an appeal of the decision. No appeals were filed. The area rezoned extends north from Commercial Avenue to Ivy Avenue, east to the bay, and west to Bayshore Drive. The new zone will allow a mix of commercial and residential uses in addition to water-dependent uses. Kudos to the Council, Planning Commission and staff who worked many, many hours to bring the proposal to a successful conclusion.

MARITIME ART EXHIBIT - The Coos Art Museum will hold their eighth annual Maritime Art Exhibit from June 15, 2001 to July 28, 2001. The exhibit will feature works from 25 artists residing in the Western United States. Grant Saylor of Everett, Washington will be the guest artist. The Victor West collection Tugboats of the Southern Oregon Coast will be featured upstairs in the Mable Hansen Gallery. A reception will be held on June 15, 2001 from 5:30-7:00 p.m. A gourmet dinner will be held after the reception at the Red Lion Inn, featuring awards and a mini auction, the cost is \$40.00 per person. For reservations call (541) 267-3901. Reservations must be confirmed (per-paid) by June 5, 2001.

4th OF JULY IN MINGUS PARK - The City of Coos Bay will once again sponsor the annual 4th of July

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celebration in Mingus Park with a burst of all-day family activities. The day begins with a one-mile walk for kids at 9:30 a.m. and the Mayor's Firecracker 4K run at 10:00 a.m. Registration is from 8:30 to 9:15 a.m. for the kids and 8:30 to 9:45 a.m. for the 4K. The South Coast Running Club, under the direction of Pete Dawson, will once again sponsor the running events.

Activities, entertainment and food will be available from 11:00 a.m. till 4:30 p.m. or until supplies run out. Some of the low cost / no cost activities include face painting, bubble blowing, build a birdhouse, canoe rides, free swim at the Mingus Park pool from 1 - 4 p.m., petting fair, bean bag toss, activities and crafts, painting, pottery, tie-dye, free popcorn, free balloons, balloon animals, fishing pond and more.

Entertainment begins at the Mingus Park stage at 11:00 a.m. with the Little Ole Opry Band. The band will be joined at 11:45 a.m. by Opry singers and comedienne for an hour of country western music and comedy. The Flag ceremony will begin at 1:00 p.m. The new rock-fusion group, Abstraction, will entertain from 1:15 - 2:45 p.m. and will be followed by North Bend High School student Amy Brian's all girl band Unum. The annual celebration will conclude with the City of Coos Bay's fireworks in downtown Coos Bay at dusk.

Interested groups may still be a part of the festivities by calling Marty Crouse at 888-4662 or Cindi Miller at 267-3341. Some activities may be canceled in the event of rain.

METHAMPHETAMINE INVESTIGATION MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP - Coos Bay Police Officer Randy Sparks has been selected to attend a three-day workshop in Vancouver, Washington focusing on the methamphetamine problem and procedures to follow while conducting investigations involving illegal clandestine methamphetamine manufacture. Seminar costs are being covered through a scholarship provided by the South Coast Interagency Narcotics Team.

POLICE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL PARTICIPATE IN DPSST CURRICULUM WORK GROUPS - Sgt. Darrell King, along with several other Coos Bay Police Department staff members, are continuing to work with Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) staff in developing its 16-week basic police course. Sgt. King's expertise in crime prevention techniques qualifies him to work as a member of the Work Group developing the Community Policing/Problem Solving portion of the Basic Police Academy. DPSST is the State of Oregon agency responsible for establishing minimum standards for the training and certification of fire, police, corrections, parole and probation officers, telecommunicators, and emergency medical dispatchers.

7TH ANNUAL VIOLENCE PREVENTION SUMMER INSTITUTE - Officer Rodger Craddock has been selected to attend the 2001 Violence Prevention Summer Institute held on the Oregon State University campus in Corvallis. The topic of this year's conference, "Addressing the Root Causes of School Violence - Sowing the Seeds of Peace," is designed to assist officers in developing skills to plan and implement effective violence prevention strategies and programs within a school and community setting.

CITY MANAGER SPEAKS TO RENTAL OWNERS' ASSOCIATION - Last night City Manager Bill Grile spoke to the SW Oregon Rental Owners' Association with a message entitled: "The Coos Bay Progress Report." It was also a good forum to address a number of questions about the budget, spending priorities and urban renewal. Councilor Larson was also in attendance and available to assist with information about the progress our City is making.

CONGRATULATIONS CITY EMPLOYEES! - It's hats off and a sharp salute to a pair of Coos Bay employees celebrating anniversaries. In the Library, Ann Couture celebrates 15 years with the City, and at City Hall, Carol Anderson celebrates 5 years. Congratulations!!

LABOR TRENDS - Non-manufacturing increased by 70. Retail trade expanded by 130 with over half of that gain in restaurants. Services and finance had smaller increases. Offsetting these positive trends were reductions in transportation, wholesale trade and local government. Compared with last April, non-manufacturing jobs increased in retail trade, services and local government. In the latter, gains were greatest in health care and tribal activities. On the other hand, there were small reductions in construction, transportation, and local education. *(Information excerpted from State of Oregon Employment Department)*