



The Friday Update

Bringing you a summary of weekly news from City Hall

May 3, 2002

CITY OF COOS BAY

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PEACE OFFICER MEMORIAL WEEK - In 1962, President John F. Kennedy signed Public Law 87-726 designating May 15th as Peace Officers' Memorial Day, and the week in which May 15th falls as National Police Week. The law was amended by the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, Public Law 103-322, signed by President Bill Clinton, directing the flag of the United States be displayed at half-staff on all government buildings on May 15th each year. While the actual dates change from year to year, National Police Week is always the calendar week, beginning on Sunday, which includes May 15th. On the South Coast, the public is invited to join with law enforcement officers and community members at a Peace Officer's Memorial Ceremony at the Discovery Center in Reedsport on Monday, May 13, 2002 at 6:00 p.m.

CHURCH GROUP CLEANS UP ALONG BOARDWALK - The Gloria Dei Lutheran Church sponsored a clean-up along the Boardwalk last Saturday. Youths from around the region that are part of the Oregon Lutheran Youth Group participated in the clean-up. Pastor Paul Teyler organized the event for the youths. The City was able to supply the garbage bags for the group. Many thanks to the group for the work along the Boardwalk and making the City look clean for visitors that are in town for the Lady Washington.

POLICE GO "BACK TO SCHOOL" - Police Chief Chuck Knight, and Sergeant Kevin Hedgepeth participated in the "Back To School" celebration at Eastside Elementary School in Coos Bay this week. The police department strongly supports Coos Bay Schools and currently two School Resource Officers assigned to work with school officials.

BUDGET COMMITTEE NEARLY WRAPS IT UP! - Tuesday night the Coos Bay Budget Committee nearly wrapped up its work on the City's budget for FY 2002-2003 after four long evenings. The city manager's recommended budget was revised in several areas and changes made that will produce about \$400,000 of additional carry-over to begin the fiscal year that will start a year away on July 1, 2003. Even with this additional carry-over and the elimination of 11.5 positions (about 10% of the City's work force), additional cuts will be necessary a year from now unless substantial new revenue is generated from some source. Additional revenues under consideration by the City include a monthly fee to be charged residents and businesses for streets maintenance and street lighting utility expenses. These fees could be enacted by the City Council upon adoption of an ordinance, although it is likely substantial Council discussion will need to occur before the option is even deemed worth of a public hearing. A hearing would need to happen before enactment of any new fee program such as this. Without new revenue from fees or any other source, however, additional cuts will be necessary early during the next fiscal year. As soon as budget document changes are posted to reflect the Committee's final decisions, an "approved" budget will pass on to the City Council for its consideration. The approved budget will be posted to Coos Bay's WEB site at that time. The Committee is scheduled to meet again next Tuesday at 6:00 p.m., one hour ahead of the City Council meeting later that evening. That meeting will be at City Hall, and public attendance and input is always welcome. In the mean time, please call the City Manager's office at 541.269.8912 if you have questions, suggestions or ideas about how to manage the City with shrinking resources.

BUSINESS CENTER CELEBRATES 5TH ANNIVERSARY - The Business Center at North Bend Airport Business Park will have an open house and five year anniversary on Thursday, May 9th. The event will begin at 3:30 p.m. and end at 6 p.m. with a presentation scheduled for 5 p.m. The center is located at 2455 Maple Leaf. This is a joint venture of Southwestern Oregon Community College and the Port of Coos Bay. The

message from the Bay Area is that **We're Here to do Business!** featuring the Business Development Center, Business Enterprise Center, CCD Business Development Corp., Government Contract Assistance Program, CyberRep, Inc., and Southwestern Customized E-Commerce Training Center. Business incubator clients include Black Market Gourmet, Coast Testing and Inspection, JNW Enterprises, Robert Antis Construction, and Brian Bream Screw Machines. Information exhibits by Bay Area Chamber of Commerce, South Coast Development Council, South Coast Business Employment Corp., Oregon Employment Department, Bay Area Enterprise Zone, and Oregon Coastal Environments Awareness Network

OREGON PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT CALLS FOR INPUT - Sen. Ken Messerle, Representative Joanne Verger, Coos County Commissioner John Griffith, Coos Bay city manager Bill Grile and others attended a small meeting with Oregon Parks and Recreation Department staffers in Coos Bay on Wednesday to discuss thoughts and concerns about a new planning effort underway by the agency. In an attempt to merge two planning efforts into one process, the State Parks and Recreation Department is undertaking public meetings to discuss the "Ocean Shores Management Plan" and a "Habitat Conservation Plan" addressing threatened species issues associated with the Western Snowy Plover. Public meetings at six coastal locations are underway to gather citizen, agency and interest group thoughts about these two plans. To learn more about either or both of these plans, the State has set up a WEB site at http://www.prd.state.or.us/osmp_hcp.php. Persons interested in signing up for an email list can do so by sending a request to OSMP.HCP@state.or.us.

RURAL FIRE DISPATCH CONTRACTS DISCONTINUED - In light of recent budget restrictions and subsequent personnel reductions, the North Coos County 9-1-1/Coos Bay Dispatch Center will no longer be providing fire and emergency medical dispatch services to rural fire agencies in Coos County effective June 1, 2002. Police Chief Chuck Knight and the Coos Bay Communications Center staff want to thank all rural fire agency personnel for their professionalism and dedication to a job well done that is demonstrated by the volunteer members of the rural fire agencies. Our long term working relationship has been rewarding and we will miss the day-to-day contact we have had with each of these agencies for the past 17 years.

WOODLAND DRIVE TO GET SPEED STUDY - The City of Coos Bay is requesting a speed zone study be conducted along Woodland Drive from Myrtle Avenue to the north city limits. The City requested the speed study because staff agreed the 40 MPH speed may be too fast due to the added development and increased use of the hospital and medical facilities in the area, and 30 or 35 MPH may be more appropriate. The study will be conducted by the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) through its' Engineering Division and could take anywhere from six months to a year to complete, depending on the number of requests that have been submitted state wide. The State controls the speed on all roads and streets throughout the state whether it is inside a city or not. Upon completion, the State will issue a determination on whether to change the speed or leave it the same.

WAL MART UPDATE - Phase One of the WalMart expansion project is nearing completion. Laskey - Clifton indicated that most of the dirt removal will be completed this week with some minor clean-up and a few trucks hauling the first part of next week. Building permits are scheduled to be issued the first of next week to CSI Construction to begin construction on the expansion portion of the building.

THE LADY WASHINGTON IS RETURNING - The Lady Washington is here for another visit. She will be in port from April 25th to at least May 5th and is moored at the Coos Bay City Dock along Highway 101. The ship was originally scheduled to be in port on April 20th, but due to high northerly winds she was held up in Eureka, California. For more information contact Beve Saukko with the Coos Bay/North Bend Promotions & Convention Bureau at 541-269-8921 or e-mail tourism@harborside.com.

THE SPRING BRUSH PICKUP IS COMING - To get signed up for the spring brush pickup that starts on May 6th, call your garbage provider. There are limitations as to size and what can be accepted, please be sure to ask your garbage provider what the limitations are when you call.