



The Friday Update

Bringing you a summary of weekly news from City Hall

July 7, 2000

CITY OF COOS BAY

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LABOR TRENDS: Oregon's South Coast non farm employment increased substantially in May. Coos County's employment estimates rose by 410. Curry County gained 320 jobs.

Manufacturing employment was fairly flat for both counties, increasing by 20 in Coos and by ten in Curry County. In Curry County, logging employment gains lagged the expected seasonal increase. Overall, Curry's lumber and wood products employment inched upward by ten. A gain of 30 in Coos County lumber and wood products employment was countered by a loss of 20 in food products manufacturing.

Coos County non manufacturing employment increased by 400 in May, boosted by nearly 100 temporary census workers. Seasonal increases in eating and drinking places (+40) and lodging places (+30) contributed to the employment gains. Miscellaneous retail employment increased by 40.

Curry County non manufacturing jobs increased by 300, with nearly 80 census workers added for the month. Seasonal employment increases in travel-related businesses such as eating and drinking places (+50) and lodging (+70) accounted for most of the increases. (Information excerpted from State of Oregon Employment Department)

LITTER PATROL CONCLUDES WORK: The litter patrols consisting of Richard, Phil and Patrick Loreman have concluded the litter pick-up and sidewalk cleaning work on June 30, 2000. They started work on April 10, 2000 and picked up litter on more than 44,000 feet of streets, cleaned more than 12,800 feet of sidewalks and the parking lots and planters in the downtown area. The final week of work they worked with the Parks crew on preparing Mingus Park for the 4th of July celebration. The two men were hired through Cardinal Services and were under the direction of street foreman Brad Carlson. Council authorized the work to begin in early April to clean up the City and prepare it for summer visitors. The two men performed a very important role in cleaning that they did.

DOWNTOWN ASSOCIATION SPONSORS FARMER'S MARKET: The Coos Bay Downtown Association is sponsoring a Farmer's Market in downtown Coos Bay on Wednesday, July, 12, 2000. The Market will be conducted in the City parking lot immediately south of the Chamber of Commerce Visitor Center and will open at 11:00 A.M.. The Downtown Association plans to sponsor a Farmer's Market in downtown Coos Bay each Wednesday throughout the summer growing season. Check this out – there will be a lot to see, a lot to buy and it will all be in downtown Coos Bay.

ED LUND PARK BUILDING TO BECOME A TELEVISION STUDIO: The City Council has approved the temporary use of the Ed Lund Park Building by the government access channel, Channel 14. This use of the building, formerly occupied by HelpLine, is made possible by the outstanding public spiritedness of Charter Communications who have offered to install cable between Charter's site on Newmark and the Ed Lund Park Building – at no cost to the City. The City Council has formally recognized Linda Kimberly, local manager for Charter Communications for this generous support of the government access channel. A few minor clean-up/fix-up items will be addressed prior to Channel 14's move into the building.

FRONT STREET PAVING PROJECT: The City Council and the Urban Renewal Agency have authorized the funding to accomplish an asphalt overlay of Front Street from Fir Street to Market Street. The project includes some work on the railroad track which runs down the center of Front Street. Engineering and construction oversight for the project is being provided by the Dyer Partnership, who estimates that the construction work will occur later this fall. This project is an important component of the City Council and Urban Renewal Agency long-range plan for the redevelopment of the Front Street area.

DOWNTOWN RESTROOMS: The Urban Renewal Agency has authorized the “final” funding amount necessary to accomplish construction of public restrooms in the downtown area. The restroom facility will be located in the parking lot immediately south of Kaffe 101. Use of an already engineered building design should speed up the design phase of the project, permitting the actual construction to be completed within the current year’s “construction season.”

BOARD OF REALTORS PRESENTATION: Community Services Director Bill Finney will speak to the Board of Realtors on July 20, 2000 about the City of Coos Bay’s Enterprise Zone and Urban Renewal District. Both of these resources may be useful in real estate transactions. Finney’s presentation will speak to those features which might be applicable to real estate professionals.

RAIN DOESN’T DAMPEN 4TH CELEBRATIONS: Although the weather didn’t exactly cooperate this July 4th there was still fun to be had. As usual the lines were long all day for the Fishing Derby run by the Fire Department in Mingus Park. Approximately 400 fish were caught by the kids who didn’t mind trying to catch that “big one” in the rain! The fireworks show also went off without a hitch and was again this year an enjoyable family outing.