



The Friday Update

Bringing you a summary of weekly news from City Hall

September 15, 2000

CITY OF COOS BAY

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HAVE A WHEELY GREAT TIME – The Coos Bay Area celebrates with its 26th annual Fun Festival September 16th and 17th. The event will be held in downtown Coos Bay offering entertainment, craft and food booths, boardwalk and waterfront events, and much more, including the PRE-Prefontaine Memorial 10K Run and 2K walk on Saturday at 10 a.m., the parade at 1 p.m. and “Cruz the Coos” car show through downtown at 7 p.m. Sunday begins with the 5th annual Coos Classic Mountain Bike Race at Winchester Trails on Hwy 101 at 9 a.m. and the PRE for Kids at 1 p.m. Come on downtown and enjoy the festivities and “Have a Wheely Great Time”!

BOARDWALK AQUARIUM DEDICATION – The new Boardwalk aquarium dedication is set for noon on September 16 on the Boardwalk. Mayor Verger will be on hand to place some fish into the new tank. The tank donated by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife was constructed by Tom Rumriech of ODFW and his volunteers. The tank will have a pump to continue to have fresh bay water circulated through it. Everybody is welcome, so please come and enjoy the new addition to the Boardwalk.

CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILY OF FORMER MAYOR BILL SCHROEDER – The City of Coos Bay expresses its condolences to the family of former Mayor William S. Schroeder, who passed away earlier this week. Among other offices held locally, he was elected to the Coos Bay City Council in November 1980 and served until the consolidation with Eastside in December 1983. He was later elected as mayor November 1986 and served until 1988. We salute former Mayor Schroeder for his service to the community.

CITY COUNCIL AND URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY TO MEET TUESDAY NIGHT – In separate meetings Tuesday evening, the City Council and Urban Renewal Agency will take up consideration of a number of public issues, including discussions about paving Front Street, sewer projects for this fiscal year, the Empire Gateway, and more. All meetings are open to the public, and attendance is encouraged.

CITY MANAGER ATTENDS LEGISLATIVE HEARING – Yesterday morning city manager Bill Grile drove up to Salem for a hearing by the House Interim Government Committee, which had asked for an update on the state building codes overhaul that Grile and about a dozen others have been working on for several months as part of a committee established by the Oregon Dept. of Community and Business Services. The city manager is representing the League of Oregon Cities in the endeavor, which is expected to bring modest but not sweeping system changes forward when it wraps up its work in about a month.

COOS BAY HOSTS OREGON PUBLIC LIBRARY DIRECTORS – Twenty public library directors from around Oregon will be in Coos Bay Thursday and Friday this week for the group's annual retreat. A business meeting will be held Thursday at Coos Bay Public Library. A training session that includes exploration of the use of electronic books in public libraries will take place Friday at the Oregon Institute of Marine Biology boathouse. The Directors' organization meets four times a year in various parts of the state for training, information sharing and participation in cooperative projects.

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FIRE DEPARTMENT HOSTS OPEN HOUSE – The fire department will once again be hosting an open house event at central Station No. 1. While you visit the Fun Festival stop by the station for some popcorn and balloons, equipment demonstrations and fire prevention materials.

FIRE DEPARTMENT HOSTS TRACK TEAM – For the third year the Coos Bay Fire Department will be hosting the Mazama track team from the Medford/Grants Pass area. The team comes up to the Fun Festival every year to practice their skills at the Prefontaine run.

GOVERNMENT ACCESS SUBSCRIPTIONS – To date four entities have subscribed to participate in the government access channel. The City of North Bend, School District 9, BLM, and Coos County have all signed agreements with the City of Coos Bay to put their meetings on Channel 14. The City extends a big thank you to BLM for donating office and video equipment to the government access channel operations.

ANOTHER FRONT STREET WORKSHOP - A workshop to discuss the proposed Front Street redevelopment plan has been scheduled for Tuesday, September 19, 2000 at 5:30 p.m. in the Port of Coos Bay conference room, 125 Central Avenue. The public is welcome to attend.

COMING SOON - TOWNHALL MEETING-NEWMARK AVENUE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT - A public meeting will be held on September 25, 2000 at 7 p.m. at SWOCC's Newmark Center, Room 228.. Larry Lewis, TriLand Design Group, Inc., will discuss the process for the analysis and creation of a Newmark Avenue Improvements Plan. Also, what do people see as the opportunities and the problems for the stretch of Newmark from Staples to the "Y" (the intersection of Ocean and Newmark)??? Come share your ideas and concerns.

PROJECT UPDATES – Empire Street Scape - The Empire Street Scape Project is moving along very well with the sidewalk completed. Bricks are being placed along the south side of Newmark Avenue east of Main Street. The new street lights have been put together and are ready for installation once the brick work is completed. Some trees have been planted along the south side of Newmark. The remaining trees will be planted this fall when they can be dug up at the nursery.

Broadway Street Scape and Parking Lot Lighting Projects – The Downtown Street Scape Project and Parking Lot Lighting Project is moving along. Brick work is being completed on Broadway with grouting in of the brick. Lights have been installed along Broadway starting at Commercial Avenue going south and will be hooked up this weekend for the Fun Festival. Once Broadway is completed the brick work in the parking lots can begin. The landscaping of the parking lots is about 80% complete with some trees still to be planted.

2000 Street Overlay Project – The 2000 Street Overlay Project has been completed. The following streets were completed this year: Wall Street, Cammann Street, Woodland Drive, Date Avenue, North 10th Street, North 6th Street, Myrtle Avenue, Alder Avenue, 8th Avenue, 14th Avenue, and 16th Avenue. There is some shoulder work that needs to be completed by City crews around mailboxes and driveways.

Thank you for your patience with all of the above projects.