



The Friday Update

Bringing you a summary of weekly news from City Hall

November 17, 2000

CITY OF COOS BAY

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CITY PURCHASES DOWNTOWN PROPERTY – Under direction from the Coos Bay Urban Renewal Agency, yesterday city manager Bill Grile and Urban Renewal chair Joe Benetti signed documents transferring ownership of downtown property known commonly as "The Sportsman" to city ownership at a negotiated price of just under \$174,000. "The City's plan is to demolish the building and open the area up to make the walkway from Broadway to the parking lots behind The Egyptian Theater more like a plaza and open space," said city manager Bill Grile this morning. This action is part of the City's ongoing efforts to improve the livability of downtown and improve the commercial core. Details will follow.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PONDERES 2001 GOALS – City manager Bill Grile spent the better part of yesterday in Bandon at a retreat with Chamber president-elect Greg Stevens and other community business and government leaders pondering goals for the Chamber for 2001. Ideas were refined concerning membership development, economic development, transportation, tourism and other key areas of community concern. Present and participating in the discussion was Carol LeTellier, new executive director for the Chamber. Stay tuned for an exciting new year.

PLANNING COMMISSION ACTION / MEASURE 7 – After months of public hearings and workshops, Tuesday evening the Coos Bay Planning Commission recommended approval to the City Council for architectural goals and design standards for the portion of the Empire district abutting Newmark, extending from the intersection Ocean Boulevard to Empire Boulevard. In addition, the Commission recommended approval to the City Council for the comprehensive plan amendments, zone change and architectural goals and design standards for the North Front Street area to enable redevelopment which would allow a mix of commercial and residential uses in addition to water-dependent uses.

2001 NEEDS AND ISSUES INVENTORY – The City has completed and submitted the 2001 Needs and Issues Inventory to CCD Business Development Corp this week. The inventory is anticipated to facilitate the creation/reorganization of county wide priority lists which are coordinated by the Regional Coordinating Organizations serving local and regional areas throughout the state. CCD Business Development Corp is coordinating the process in Coos and Curry county. The inventory does not guarantee funding, however state and federal agencies draw from this inventory to further develop the projects listed and to invite applications for funding.

HO! HO! HO! – Santa's coming to town! The Downtown Association invites the community to attend the City's annual tree lighting ceremony on Friday, November 24th. The event will be held at the Convention Center located at 158 Central Avenue and will begin at 6 p.m. There will be entertainment, caroling, refreshments, and pictures with Santa and cookie decorating for the children. Santa will arrive by horse-drawn carriage at 6:30 p.m. and carriage rides will be offered throughout the evening.

CITY OFFICES CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY – City hall offices will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday Thursday and Friday next week. The City Council and staff wish you and your family a wonderful holiday. Due to the short week, there will not be a Friday Update on November 24th.

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FIRE PREVENTION AWARDS PRESENTATION – Local winners of the Oregon State Fire Marshal's Fire Prevention Week Campaign contest "The Great Escape: Check it Out!" will be presented with the prizes won this Saturday at 3:00 p.m. Sally Gilpin from the Office of State Fire Marshal Fire Prevention Division will conduct the ceremony at Central Fire Station No. 1.

RECEPTION TO HONOR HELEN SCULLY – The Board of Directors of Coos Art Museum invite the community to join in honoring Helen Scully for her accomplishments during her six years as administrator. A reception will be held at the Art Museum on December 7, 2000 at 5:30 p.m. Please RSVP by December 1st at 267-3901.

MAYOR AND COUNCILORS TO TAKE OATH OF OFFICE – The oath of office will be given Tuesday, November 21st at the regular city council beginning at 7:30 p.m. to Mayor Joe Benetti and City Councilors Anna Marie Larson, Jeff McKeown and Judy Weeks.

COMMITTEE OPENINGS – Looking for a place to volunteer? The City has openings on the Budget Committee, Design Review Board, and Parks Commission. Applications are available from the City Manager's Office during normal business hours and will be accepted through December 15th. There are three openings on the Budget Committee; two positions on the Parks Commission, and four positions on the Design Review Board. The openings on the Design Review Board are for two citizen at-large, one downtown property owner, and one representative from the Empire Community Association.