



# THE FLASH

September 2018  
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An update from City Administration, Planning, Public Works and Police Departments

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## From the Mayor's Office

Talent Council has been on a good long search to find a new City Manager who will lead the fine team at City Hall, managing excellent essential services and leading our goals into reality. Time and effort has gone into a critical change in leadership, because we know the next 5 to 10 years will be challenging and, in some ways, transformative for Talent. We are pleased to have found a leader who will bring "good fit" experiences, skills and professional values, that will give Talent an edge into our next years. Our

search concluded in August; hiring Sandra Spelliscy to join the Talent team in pursuit of a new level of excellence!

Sandy comes from a background in rural, small town government, having served a four-year term as a member of the Mt. Shasta, California City Council. She is experienced in municipal planning and land use, having spent five years as a city planning commissioner. She grew up and attended college in southern California and earned a law degree at the University of California, Davis, which led to a decades-long career as an environmental professional and non-profit administrator, mostly in and around the state capitol in Sacramento. Sandy loves to travel and has lived abroad in Mexico, France, and Nicaragua. She speaks (almost) fluent Spanish. She and her husband recently relocated to Ashland from Mt Shasta, where they live in a net-zero home.

Please stop by City Hall sometime and give Sandy a warm Talent welcome. She is excited to engage with residents and hear from folks about what they feel are priorities for Talent.

Grateful to serve,  
Mayor Darby Ayers-Flood

## 49th Annual Harvest Festival

By Erin Zelinka

Harvest Festival Committee

Did you know that the City of Talent's The Harvest Festival will take place this year on Saturday, October 6, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., at Talent City Hall and the skate park.

The day kicks off at 8 a.m. with a 5k/10k race organized by Southern Oregon Runners, with an award ceremony afterward at The Grotto.

At 10 a.m., the Grand Parade will start down Main Street, featuring Grand Marshall Lester Naught. Les was the Public Works Superintendent for over 30 years, and we want to celebrate his service! The theme of the parade this year is Harvest Dreams.

There will be something for everyone, with musical performances by Emily Turner (10:45 a.m. - Noon), Slow Corpse (12:30 - 2 p.m.) and The Brothers Reed (2:30 - 4 p.m.) on the main stage.

In the beer and wine garden, Caldera Brewing Company and Paschal Winery will serve up local beverages, and local food carts will also be onsite.

Children's entertainment will include an inflatable obstacle course, a dunk tank, two-person joust, demonstrations by ScienceWorks, balloon creations by Ingalls' balloons and more.

The Harvest Home section is back with apple pressing, hens, the Rogue Valley Weavers & Spinners, and children's vendor booths with organic veggies from the generous Fry Family Farm

The arts are represented as well, with local artisans with items for sale and live plein air painting by local artist Jenay Elder.

Please join us for this free, family-friendly, zero-waste event, which would not be possible without our generous community partners:

Providence Health & Services, Recology Ashland, Avista, RH2 Engineering, Pacific Power, Medicap Pharmacy, State Farm Insurance Agent Brad Linnell, Fabricated Glass, Middleway Acupuncture & Herbs, Welburn Electric, The Grotto, and Debi Rappaport, LMT & JSJ Practitioner.

## Department Update

By Chief Tim Doney

It is that time of year when people are taking vacations. The Talent Police Department (TPD) is offering some common-sense tips that may help you not fall victim to thieves and burglars when you are away. Please take a few moments to think about and implement a plan before leaving on vacation.

- Install good locks on doors and windows and use them;
- Make sure your residence looks occupied; utilize timers on lights, radios and/or televisions;
- Ask neighbors to watch your residence or ask TPD to perform vacation home checks while you are gone; call TPD at 541-535-1253 for more information on home checks conducted by volunteers;
- Notify the US Postal Service, UPS, and FedEx to hold deliveries while away or arrange for a neighbor or relative to pick up your mail and newspaper while you are gone;
- Have a neighbor place a garbage can at the street on the normal pick-up date and return it;
- Do not announce your absence on personal answering machines or social media.

Please contact us with any non-emergency questions and concerns at 541-535-1253 and, of course, 911 for emergencies.

### Volunteer Service Awards

The Volunteer Service Award will now be awarded on a *quarterly* basis hosted by the City of Talent.

**Nominate your favorite local volunteers at Talent City Hall** or online at [bit.ly/VSA nominations](http://bit.ly/VSA nominations).

### Election Schedule

The Jackson County General Election will take place on **Nov. 6, 2018**.

Prospective candidates should keep the following timeline in mind:

**Sept. 10, 2018:** Last day to file candidate statements for voters' pamphlet.

**Nov. 6, 2018:** General Election Day.

For further details, visit [www.cityoftalent.org/elections](http://www.cityoftalent.org/elections).

## The Bee City: Call for Volunteers

The Bee City USA Talent Subcommittee would like to have more volunteers. We promote activities and education regarding our pollinators, certify pollinator gardens with the Talent Garden Club, and participate in the Harvest Festival Parade. Our meeting time is the second Tuesday of the month from 4:00 to 6:00. Please call for our meeting place.

For further details, contact:  
Dolly Warden  
[dolly.warden17@gmail.com](mailto:dolly.warden17@gmail.com)  
541-897-9965

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City of Talent  
Edited by Gabriella Ciprazo  
[www.cityoftalent.org](http://www.cityoftalent.org)  
541-535-1566  
[gciprazo@cityoftalent.org](mailto:gciprazo@cityoftalent.org)*

## TURA and the Gateway Project, Part 7

By Ryan Pederson,  
TURA Board Member

As summer wraps up, so is the agreement with DOSO properties to re-develop Talent's Gateway. The final Development Agreement is due to be signed in September, bringing 60 affordable senior housing units, 20 market-rate townhomes, and 3 commercial sites to Talent's Gateway. Current terms, which are in the final stages of negotiations and are therefore subject to change, lay out TURA and DOSO's contributions and responsibilities:

TURA:

- Build the roundabout extension which will provide one of two access points - could be built by TURA or the City of Talent in Spring 2019, and would be designed to connect to Wagner Street in the future
- Remove the existing restaurant/bar building
- Contribute portion of land, SDCs (System Development Charges), and some cash investment

DOSO:

- Build approximately 60 units of affordable senior housing (number may vary slightly based on final design)
- Build 20 market-rate townhomes
- Purchase the land dedicated to townhomes for appraised value
- Build the interior road and shared parking area near the commercial sites along Valley View
- Complete landscaping and walking paths to connect and beautify the site
- Build a commercial site on Valley View for possible brewery or other use

Based on the current figures, TURA's investment would total just over \$1.7M. Some details, such as who will build the open space and how much SDCs will be paid by TURA, are still under negotiation. However, by enabling the project with the investment, TURA will create investment of over \$20M in Talent. Based on a \$1.7M investment, the increased property taxes over time would make the "break-even" point in about 9-10 years - a faster-than-average return on investment for this type of project.

One of the three commercial sites, along Hwy 99, is planned for Talent Maker City's future location, and is being negotiated in a separate agreement. That site would have underground utilities ready to connect to the future building. DOSO also has the first option to purchase and build on the corner commercial lot by the roundabout, with the potential for two stories. Visit the Gateway website for more information, including new 3D visuals of Talent's future Gateway!

### At This Year's Harvest Festival: Get Festive about Zero Waste!

By Jamie Rosenthal,  
Talent Zero Waste Team

Did you know that the City of Talent's Annual Harvest Festival is a ZERO WASTE event? A few years ago, the Talent Zero Waste Team, City of Talent, and Harvest Festival Vendors combined efforts to make zero waste a priority by banning the use of single-use plastics and Styrofoam by festival food and snack vendors, and by modeling that we can all enjoy ourselves at a community event when there's a lot less trash. Conveniently, the Harvest Festival's mission of zero waste aligns nicely with the City's new goal of reducing non-disposable waste in our community. Please join us in our efforts on Saturday, October 6th!

What should you expect at this year's event? You can expect to be offered metal utensils instead of plastic disposables and actual glasses instead of disposable plastic cups. The City will sell reusable water bottles and provide cold water for refilling. Collection areas for food waste, dirty dishes and silverware, and recycling will be provided. Jackson County Master Recyclers will be staffing the event and happy to answer any of your waste reduction and recycling questions.

This significant movement towards zero waste aligns with the greater Talent Clean Energy Action Plan, which is focused on reducing the inefficient use of resources and energy costs, creating sustainable businesses and jobs that strengthen Talent's local economy. The plan prepares residents for the impacts of climate change while preserving Talent's rural way of life.

Zero Waste & Infinite Fun! That's what we're about!

Festival goers can help in the effort to reduce waste by bringing reusable water bottles, walking or biking to the festival, opting out of straws and lids for drinks, and only taking the freebies they truly plan to use.

*The Talent Zero Waste Team is a group passionate about waste reduction. This group strives to inspire and foster a community without waste in Talent. We meet every third Thursday of the month at 2:30 p.m. in the Talent Public Library. Please join us as we develop educational material, sponsor reuse and recycling events, and promote zero waste at City-sponsored events.*

*For more information about the Talent Waste Zero Team, please contact Sharon Anderson at [scanderson1@charter.net](mailto:scanderson1@charter.net).*

**SPACE  
RESERVED  
FOR ADS**