



# THE FLASH

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

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## From the Mayor's Office

I have said so many times that Talent's super power is the labor force that moves our City. This force made up of staff, public officials and volunteers demonstrates a selfless dedication which is really a labor of community love. I can't say enough.

Please indulge my pride as I tell you about the Talent City Councilors I serve with, and their current focus of interest.

Councilor John Harrison dedicates much of his focus to public safety. He champions the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) and is also the Chair of Talent's Traffic Safety Commission. He also attends regional meetings to ensure that Talent is considered with road funds that are being distributed.

Council Eleanor Ponomareff, in addition to City Council, serves on the Planning Commission as an ex-officio member with a key focus on Affordable Housing. She also serves on regional committees to gather housing and transportation solutions for Talent.

Councilor Jason Clark has been championing Talent's Urban Forestry Committee; a group who will propose policy to ensure Talent's urban forest health, resiliency, and environmental sustainability. He serves as the Council liaison to the Parks Commission, where these two efforts will likely intersect.

Councilor Stephanie Dolan currently serves as liaison for Together for Talent as well as the Economic Development Commission. Projects have included Talent's land management program without the use of harmful chemicals and economic assessments for future economic vitality and a healthy downtown commerce.

Council President Emily Berlant is one of the Talent's Clean Energy Action Plan (CEAP) champions. As a liaison to Together for Talent, she is working hard to include Talent among other cities in the country who are creating a future without a dependence on fossil fuel.

Councilor Daria Land is liaison to the Talent Public Art Committee as well as the Economic Development Commission. She has supported Talent in demonstrating an understanding that art is beauty, art is economy, and art is education. The recent art education efforts at the city and storm drain art project demonstrate our community understands about how beautiful art can make positive change.

These are just a sample of efforts under volunteer steam! Please consider joining a volunteer Commission or Committee in Talent. Current openings can be found at City Hall, call 541-535-1566 or go online at [www.cityoftalent.org](http://www.cityoftalent.org).

Grateful to serve,  
*Mayor Darby Ayers-Flood*



**We would like to extend our gratitude to all those who attended this year's Talent Harvest Festival.**

**A special thanks to all of the vendors, performers, volunteers, and sponsors. We could not host such a wonderful family event without your support.**

## Talent Police Department Back to School Transportation Safety

Whether children walk, ride their bicycle or take the bus to school, it is extremely important that they take proper safety precautions. Here are some tips to make sure children travel safely to school.

**Walking to School:** -walk on the sidewalk, if one is available; when on a street with no sidewalk, walk facing traffic. -Before you cross the street, stop and look left, right and left again.

-Make eye contact with drivers before crossing and always cross streets at crosswalks or intersections.

-Stay alert and avoid distracted driving

**Riding a bicycle to school:** -Ride on the right side of the road, with traffic and in single file.

-Come to a complete stop before crossing the street; walk bikes across the street.

-Stay alert and avoid distracted riding.

**Riding the bus to school:** -Go to the bus stop with your child to teach them the proper way to get on and off the bus.

-Teach your children to stand six feet away from the curb.

-If your child must cross the street in front of the bus, teach them to walk on the side of the road until they are 10 feet ahead of the bus; your child and the bus driver should always be able to see each other.

*This information is provided by the National Safety Council.*

### TPD Personnel

-In Partnership with Phoenix-Talent School District, Officer Ernie Whiteman is back at school this year as Part-time School Resource Officer at the Talent Middle School.

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## Leaf Disposal Opportunities

Keeping leaves out of the street is a simple but important action we can all take to help improve water quality in our streams and mitigate localized flooding.

Free leaf disposal is available to residents on Sunday, November 10th at Talent City Hall, which is located at: 110 E. Main St., Talent, OR 97540. Only leaves will be accepted, no pine needles or branches! This opportunity is available from 10:00am – 3:00pm. Please arrive prepared to empty your bags of leaves yourself and take your bags back home with you.

As an alternative to the free leaf disposal event, Recology offers Talent residents -within the Urban Growth Boundary- compostable bags for the collection and disposal of leaves. For a limited time, the City of Talent is offering a discount on the bags. Normally \$14.50 per set, from October 21st through November 1st a set of five bags may be purchased for \$10.00. Please be prepared to show proof of residency. Each bag is nearly three feet tall and can hold up to 35 pounds of leaves.

For information on other leaf disposal opportunities, please call Talent Community Development at 541-535-7401 or visit [www.cityoftalent.org](http://www.cityoftalent.org).

## TREES ARE WAITING FOR YOU

Lots of great things are going on in Talent! A group of Talent volunteers called Talent Friends of Trees, has pledged to take part in an important mission: Plant more trees in Talent. Why be a friend to trees? Pretty basic simple reasons, such as

to create more living canopy, and provide the lovely benefits trees provide – more oxygen and beauty. Trees are the lungs of our beautiful planet; they help keep the balance.

As a subcommittee of the city Together for Talent committee--- the Talent Friends of Trees has a Community Tree Nursery in small donated piece of city property next to the City Public Works Department off of Suncrest Road. It is here where seedlings are fostered in pots. Nurtured year round, the trees grow ever so slowly. When strong they are given away to those that would like to plant them and care for them. Unfortunately, many were lost in the scorching heat as we see in nature, sometimes they just don't make it through a tough summer or winter.

What can you do to help us plant more trees? 1) Check for tree seedlings growing in your yard. Ask around, ask your neighbors and anyone that might have extra seedlings growing. Let's put them to good use! 2) You will need to get the tree into a pot, we can't do that part. 3) If you need a pot – come to the garden and find a pot with soil already in it that works for your tree. 4) Post your plans on the Talent Friends of Trees Facebook page or email Sharon Anderson at [scanderson1@charter.net](mailto:scanderson1@charter.net). 5) Volunteer at the nursery if you have time, even an hour. 6) Remember that you can make a difference. It is a single drop of water that makes an ocean of change.

The City of Talent sponsors an annual Arbor Day celebration in April to honor trees. The date, time and location of the celebration in 2020 will be announced next year. In the meantime, post your ideas on Facebook as we welcome collaboration for this city project.

Reach out if you are inspired, have great ideas to share, want to volunteer or help us obtain seedlings and expand our nursery. Thank you for caring!

Urbara Scott  
Talent Friends of Trees