



# THE FLASH City of Talent

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

The Flash, which occupies the following two pages, is a publication of the City of Talent and is editorially separate from the rest of the Talent News and Review. All content and editorial choices contained in the rest of the paper are the sole responsibility of the TNR and are not in any way associated with the City of Talent. -JG

## From the Mayor's Office

A number of years ago when someone asked me where I lived and I said Talent - they would look at me strange and say "oh, I see". Today, however, when someone asks me where I am from and I say Talent, their



response is almost always "oh what a wonderful little town, I wish I lived there". So what has changed in such a few short years? First of all, our City Government has worked very hard at providing safe streets, excellent city services, good parks, and one of the best managed up and coming cities in the valley. But most of all, our success can be attributed to the citizens who take an active role in volunteering to make Talent such a unique and great place to live. Several years ago we struggled just to have enough volunteers to keep our Planning and Parks Commission functional. Today we have volunteers who build trails, manage a tree nursery, work in parks, promote public arts, promote recycling, promote gardening, etc. Recently, a group of volunteers led by Jim Larson and Sharon Anderson cleaned up the triangle planter on the north entrance to our City. Another group of volunteers works with our Harvest Festival which, by the way, keeps getting better and better (and larger) each year. So the real credit for the success of our city can be attributed to the willingness of our citizens to work hard at building a city where we are all proud to call home. If you would like to take part in the great volunteer effort in Talent, call me or Melissa Huhtala at 541-535-1566. We can help direct you to a group of others with the same interests.

By now, I am sure you can tell I am proud to be the Mayor of one of the best managed up and coming communities in the Rogue Valley. I hope none of us take for granted the lifestyle we continue to build and enjoy in Talent.

**Bill Cecil, Mayor**  
541-535-1566  
mayor@cityoftalent.org

## From the Parks and Recreation Commission

### Summer Recreation Program

The summer recreation schedule is now available at City Hall and on the City website (click on "Departments," then "Parks," then "Recreation, Programs & Clinics"). The summer program offers classes that will keep our youth active, creative, and intellectually stimulated during summer break. **You can now register and pay online using GovTeller on**



### the City of Talent Website!

Through affordable classes and scholarship opportunities, the program seeks to serve every child who wishes to take classes. If you would like to contribute to the scholarship fund or sponsor a class, please e-mail us at ParksComm@cityoftalent.org.

### News from the Talent PD

By Chief Mike Moran

In May we learned of the passing of a former Talent Police Chief. Chief Ed Hanson served the City of Talent from February 3, 2003 to June 30, 2003. Chief Hanson was appointed as an interim chief to help transition between chiefs while the City conducted a lengthy process to hire a new Chief.

Chief Hanson at that point was retired from the Oregon State Police. I worked with him when he was the local station commander and I was with Medford PD. He was always a high quality police professional. While at TPD he helped the City with the budget, replacing vehicles and staff shortages. All these pieces were in place when Chief Bob Rector took over in July 2003. Chief Hanson's work was essential to keeping TPD operating well.

Our condolences go out to Chief Hanson's family. We salute him for his many years of service to the State of Oregon and especially to the City of Talent.

### Talent Celebrates Trees

Congratulations to Talent on its 14th year of being proclaimed a Tree City USA!

To qualify as a Tree City by the National Arbor Day Foundation, Talent has to demonstrate its commitment to urban forestry (see <http://www.arborday.org/programs/treeCityUSA>). The Arbor Day festivities on April 19 confirmed that we are a community that strongly values trees, and is willing to put time and effort into cultivating them to enhance our town.

A young black tupelo tree (also known as sour gum or nyssa sylvatica) was planted at the corner of Ray's parking lot, by a team led by arborist Chris John. The tree was donated by

Ray's, whose manager Adam Balero also helped plant it, as well as donating mixed nuts and organic pear juice that were enjoyed during the event at the Talent skate park.

In the skate park Sharon Anderson introduced City Councilor EJ McManus, who read the mayoral proclamation while a representative of the Oregon Department of Forestry presented the city with a flag and plaque. Sixteen tree saplings were distributed by Talent's Friends of Trees, including maple, spruce and madrone. Talent residents chose their trees from a selection brought from the new tree nursery. Games and art projects entertained the children, while Jeffri Lynn Carrington sang folk songs, accompanied by musicians on hurdy-gurdy, bagpipes and drum. **It was a great turn out thank you to all who participated!**

### Thank You

The Together for Talent Committee would like to thank Meadowsweet Levi for all of her hard work and persistence on Talent being Pesticide Free! On April 9th a 60 day trial began on using only organic fertilizers and sprays including the City's Skate Park as a third pesticide-free zone. For two years now Meadowsweet and her 4 year old son Lorien continue to show to almost every City Council meeting to pursue this issue. Her efforts to have children wander barefoot in all Talents lands has been heard and we greatly appreciate the continued progress.

### FROM TOGETHER FOR TALENT

#### FORUM: PROTECTING OUR POLLINATORS

**When:** Saturday, June 7<sup>th</sup>  
10:00-12:00  
**Where:** Talent Public Library  
**What:** Forum on Protecting Our Pollinators

**Sponsored by:** Talent Garden Club, Together for Talent, Bee City USA – Talent, and Pollinator Project Rogue Valley

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### Presenters:

**Peter Schroeder**, Associate Professor of Biology at Southern Oregon University, will discuss the types of insect pollinators that populate the Rogue Valley, how pesticides affect those pollinators, how to avoid pollinator loss from pesticide use, and how to promote their abundance and activity.

**Laura Ferguson**, Director of the College of the Melissae, will discuss the current plight of the honeybees, their role in our lives (food, medicine, and other products), the long history of the bee-human relationship, and their link to spirituality in nature.

**Dolly Warden**, Member of the Together for Talent Committee, will discuss Talent's route to becoming a Bee City USA, the requirements for receiving this designation, the importance of celebrating these pollinators, and some projects that we are undertaking in Talent to help bees and other pollinators.

Refreshments will be served by the Together for Talent Committee. Garden Club members are asked to stay for a short meeting that will begin once the forum concludes. **The public is invited to this forum.**

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

### The Green Up and Clean Up 2014 Report!

This year the Together for Talent Committee expanded their Green Up and Clean Up to a week.

They kicked it off with the first ever expanded Recycling Drop-Off which was a success and the Community response was great!!

#### The Total Collected:

Metals: Approx. 1080 lbs which included water heaters, motors, window siding, a dryer, etc..

E-water: Approx. 6000 lbs of old computers, screens tv's, printers, cell phones, old equipment cables, etc.

Household batteries: 300 lbs,  
Compact fluorescent bulbs (CFLs): 186 CFL bulbs.

Household goods: The Salvation Army's 2 ton truck left 100% full of household goods.

Thank you to ECS Refining, Schnitzer Metals, Salvation Army and Ashland Hardware for collecting the items.

There were also two information tables at the Saturday Drop-Off staffed with master recyclers and a natural yard care expert. The Master Recyclers table had a demo of items that appear recyclable but aren't, and the Natural Yard Care table had valuable information about alternatives, including recipes for weed and pest management. Both were well received.

In total there were 23 volunteers, and approximately 150 participants.

The rest of the week included three different garden work project parties at three different sites in the City with varying degrees of success.

Fourteen volunteers showed up at the Colver Triangle work party and one-third of the triangle was completed. Two more work parties will complete the job and are scheduled for Saturday, May 31st and Thursday, June 5th beginning at 9am. Bring a friend, wear gloves and sunscreen and bring a water bottle and tools. Contact Sharon Anderson for more information 541-535-9055.

A lot of improvements were made by the work party at Talent's Great Green Garden, May 17th.

Seventeen volunteers showed up. The Great Green is now ready for planting, has several beds available and is looking for more community gardeners. Nice-sized plots are only \$25/year. Contact Kristi Rutkai at 541-840-0469 for info.

A small but committed handful of volunteers attended the Rock Garden across from the Library on Wednesday, May 14th, which is an ongoing project led by Elizabeth Zwick. A bench was added followed by some design-work, landscaping and planting. Contact Elizabeth Zwick at 541-499-2264 for information.

Thank you to all who participated and we are looking forward to this event next year!

**Fire Safety**

At the June 4th City Council Meeting, Fire Chief Dan Marshall will be giving a report on the predicted Fire Season and the proper precautions that should be taken to avoid fires.

All public is welcome. The Council Meeting is at 6:30 in the Talent Community Center, 206 E. Main Street.

**WANTED- COMMITTEE & COMMISSIONER MEMBERS!**

**Architectural Review Committee**

There are currently 4 vacancies for the Architectural Review Committee. The Committee meets the 3rd Tuesday of every month.

**Planning Commission**

There currently are 2 Alternate Planning Commission vacancies. The Commission meets the 4th Thursday of every month.

**Parks and Recreation Commission**

There is currently 1 vacancy for a Parks Commissioner and 2 vacancies for alternates. The Commission meets the 2nd Wednesday of every month.

For more information for any of these vacancies please contact Melissa Huhtala at City Hall: 541-535-1566 or email: Melissa@cityoftalent.org. You can stop by City Hall for an application or find one online at www.cityoftalent.org

**FORM LB-1**

**NOTICE OF BUDGET HEARING**

A public meeting of the City of Talent City Council will be held on June 18, 2014 at 6:30 pm at the Talent Community Hall, 206 E. Main Street, Talent, Oregon. The purpose of this meeting is to give the citizens an opportunity to comment on the use of State Revenue Sharing and to discuss the budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2014 as approved by the City of Talent Budget Committee. A summary of the budget is presented below. A copy of the budget may be inspected or obtained at the Talent City Hall, 110 E. Main Street between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. or online at the city's website at cityoftalent.org. This budget is for an annual budget period. This budget was prepared on a basis of accounting that is the same as the preceding year.

Contact: Thomas J. Corrigan

Telephone: 541-535-1566 Email: tcorrigan@cityoftalent.org

FINANCIAL SUMMARY - RESOURCES			
TOTAL OF ALL FUNDS	Actual Amount 2012-2013	Adopted Budget This Year 2013-2014	Approved Budget Next Year 2014-2015
Beginning Fund Balance/Net Working Capital	3,773,613	3,726,313	4,238,180
Fees, Licenses, Permits, Fines, Assessments & Other Service Charges	632,032	479,000	549,500
Federal, State and all Other Grants, Gifts, Allocations and Donations	837,714	2,402,135	2,306,210
Revenue from Bonds and Other Debt	0	0	0
Interfund Transfers / Internal Service Reimbursements	767,455	1,279,718	517,200
All Other Resources Except Current Year Property Taxes	2,443,382	2,082,598	2,585,975
Current Year Property Taxes Estimated to be Received	918,912	913,350	961,300
<b>Total Resources</b>	<b>9,373,108</b>	<b>10,883,114</b>	<b>11,158,365</b>

FINANCIAL SUMMARY - REQUIREMENTS BY OBJECT CLASSIFICATION			
Personnel Services	1,829,558	2,237,000	2,384,400
Materials and Services	1,374,324	1,520,970	2,256,875
Capital Outlay	866,045	3,166,446	3,287,720
Debt Service	396,141	403,350	412,025
Interfund Transfers	767,455	1,279,718	517,200
Contingencies	0	744,640	636,435
Special Payments	0	0	0
Unappropriated Ending Balance and Reserved for Future Expenditure	4,139,585	1,530,990	1,663,710
<b>Total Requirements</b>	<b>9,373,108</b>	<b>10,883,114</b>	<b>11,158,365</b>

FINANCIAL SUMMARY - REQUIREMENTS AND FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT EMPLOYEES (FTE) BY ORGANIZATIONAL UNIT OR PROGRAM			
Name of Organizational Unit or Program FTE for that unit or program			
Administration	498,371	627,570	1,141,900
FTE	3.33	3.75	3.87
Community Development	203,584	266,280	352,150
FTE	1.00	1.66	2.87
Police	1,068,541	1,254,450	1,262,800
FTE	9.40	9.56	9.76
Non-Departmental	36,921	643,500	655,450
FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00
Library	66,825	84,050	84,050
FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00
Parks	166,005	216,500	156,750
FTE	1.38	1.43	1.06
Street	704,699	941,500	811,500
FTE	2.20	1.99	2.30
Water	1,195,262	1,713,800	1,755,000
FTE	5.17	4.89	4.87
TAP Operations	225,453	302,010	569,060
FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00
SDC	134,666	697,940	760,525
FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00
Capital Improvement Project	837,916	3,748,506	3,469,205
FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00
GO Bond Debt Service	64,936	68,350	71,550
FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00
West Valley View Debt Service	28,644	79,858	68,425
FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00
Water Debt Service Reserve	1,700	238,800	0
FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Total Requirements</b>	<b>5,233,523</b>	<b>10,883,114</b>	<b>11,158,365</b>
<b>Total FTE</b>	<b>22.48</b>	<b>23.28</b>	<b>24.73</b>

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN ACTIVITIES and SOURCES OF FINANCING *	
Funding sources and activities for the City of Talent are consistent with the previous year. Interim financing for the Talent Urban Renewal Agency (TURA) of \$450,000 is included in the General Fund Administration Budget. This is a limited duration loan with a 2% interest rate to be repaid during the fiscal year. The City has reduced reliance on contracted professional services. The Information Technology Administrator's position was filled on a full time basis in July 2013 and the Community Development Director's position was filled on a full time basis in September 2013. The City proposes to refill a part-time position in Administration and Finance.	

PROPERTY TAX LEVIES			
	Rate or Amount Imposed 2012-2013	Rate or Amount Imposed This Year 2013-2014	Rate or Amount Approved Next Year 2014-2015
Permanent Rate Levy (rate limit \$3.2316 per \$1,000)	\$3.2316	\$3.2316	\$3.2316
Local Option Levy	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Levy For General Obligation Bonds	\$63,441.00	\$67,397.00	\$75,106.00

STATEMENT OF INDEBTEDNESS		
LONG TERM DEBT	Estimated Debt Outstanding on July 1.	Estimated Debt Authorized, But Not Incurred on July 1
General Obligation Bonds	\$605,000	\$0
Other Bonds	\$3,625,000	\$0
Other Borrowings	\$1,270,804	\$0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$5,500,804</b>	<b>\$0</b>