



Manzanita Reporter

Fall 2007

MEETINGS POSTPONED FOR HIGHWAY 101 GROUP

The Committee working with State Transportation staff on improvements to Highway 101 through Manzanita will begin meeting again in January. The Committee, made up of local citizens, began meeting with Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) planners and engineers over a year ago to provide local input into an improved design of Highway 101 near Manzanita and Laneda Avenues. The group had made some preliminary recommendations and was waiting for ODOT to provide some more detailed survey data to evaluate some alternatives.

Due to the damage done to many State highways last winter, the ODOT survey crews have had to focus on the repair work and put off the planning work. ODOT staff recently advised the City that information for the Committee will not be available until January, 2008. ODOT still intends to involve the local committee in decisions dealing with the design of improvements at the intersections of Laneda and Manzanita Avenues. Monies for construction of improvements are included in the State's Transportation Improvement Plan and are expected to get underway in 2011.

CODE ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS NEED YOUR HELP

Response to City Code violations has improved with the hiring of a part-time Code Enforcement Officer. To start with, the Code Enforcement Officer has been working on violations of the short term rental regulations. However, neighbors frequently wait until Monday morning to report on a problem that happened over the weekend. The Code Enforcement Officer must see the violation in order legally to deal with it. Therefore, citizens are encouraged to report possible violations of the short

term rental regulations to the police as they happen so that the police can respond and document the violation. Please call 503-368-7229 (Public Safety Office) or 503-815-1911 (non-emergency dispatch number). An officer will check it out as soon as possible.

PLEASE DON'T FEED RACCOONS

Raccoons may be cute looking, but they can be real pests in our neighborhoods. In addition to raiding trash cans, raccoons can be dangerous to pets and children. One citizen reported capturing over 25 raccoons near his house in the period of a few months. The City encourages residents to secure their trash containers, feed pets indoors, and don't feed the raccoons.

KNOTWEED CONTROL PROGRAM MAKING PROGRESS

Efforts by the City to control Knotweed within the urban growth area of the City are making a huge dent in the problem. The contractor hired by the City to apply herbicide reports that the plants whose stems have been injected with the herbicide Aquamaster have died back significantly. The Knotweed control program has been undertaken by the City on public properties and on private properties where owner permission has been obtained.

Some property owners have tried to help by mowing or cutting the weeds. Unfortunately, cutting or weed whacking the plant is not effective, and the weeds usually grow back in a larger patch. Many thanks to property owners who have identified Japanese Knotweed on their property and let the City know where these patches are located.

The City's contractor has indicated that some patches of Knotweed have stems that are too small to inject, and that the patches must be sprayed with

herbicide to effectively control the weeds. As permission was only obtained from property owners to inject the herbicide, the City will be sending out permission forms again to obtain permission to do limited spray application next year on the private properties affected.

MORE STREET IMPROVEMENTS ON THE WAY

Several streets were improved this summer and more street improvements are planned for completion next spring. City crews completed improvements on Beeswax Lane between Carmel and Third, Classic Street between Laneda Avenue and Dorcas Lane, and Merton Lane from Carmel east to the end. The Beeswax and Merton projects also included upgrading the water line and installation of a storm drainage system.

Plans and specifications will be developed this winter on four road segments: Classic Street between Laurel (Bank of Astoria) and Manzanita Avenue, Fourth Street between North and Ocean Avenues, Beach Pine Road, and Fifth Street between Manzanita and Fir Avenues. These projects will be bid together to obtain a better price. The projects will also include upgrading the water lines and installing storm drainage systems. The projects will be constructed and completed in the spring of 2008.

CITY WEBSITE BEING REMODELED

The official City website at ci.manzanita.or.us has been updated to improve its appearance and add information that we hope many people will find useful. Due to some technical difficulties, the website has not had the most current information available. However, we hope to have the problems cor-

rected soon and provide an up-to-date tool for people to stay informed on City affairs. You will also find links on the City website to other websites providing information on programs and services in the Nehalem Bay area. Check out ci.manzanita.or.us and let us know what you think!

ARE YOU READY FOR EMERGENCIES?

As we enter the time of year when Mother Nature tends to show off her muscles, the City reminds you to be ready for emergencies. Windstorms, floods and storm-driven tides are always possible, not to mention the possibility of a major disaster such as a tsunami or earthquake. Make a checklist of items that you will need in an emergency and make sure you have enough supplies on hand. When the power goes out is not the time you want to discover that you haven't enough batteries or fuel for your generator.

For more information on emergency supplies, follow the link on the Public Safety section of the City website at ci.manzanita.or.us.

2007 HOLIDAYS

November 12	Veterans Day observed
November 22 & 23	Thanksgiving holiday
December 24 & 25	Christmas holiday
December 31, and January 1, 2008	New Year's holiday (City offices will be closed)

The City of Manzanita is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.

WHAT DO YOU THINK? The Manzanita City Council and staff are interested in your comments on City programs and issues. Please send us a note or use this form as you wish: City of Manzanita, PO Box 129, Manzanita, OR 97130-0129; fax to 1-503-368-4145; or e-mail to manzbch@nehalem.tel.net.

TO: MANZANITA CITY COUNCIL Here is what I think about

Name

Address