

PROJECT: Council will consider list of projects

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of disciplines, working to advance priority city projects. Past city projects have included over 500 students from planning, architecture, business, law, public policy, landscape architecture, economics, journalism, product design, and others,” explained Megan Banks, SCYP program director in her presentation to the City Council.

Typically, projects are already in the city’s work plan and classes focus on specific, tangible, and beneficial outcomes and products.

“SCYP encourages cities to choose projects that already have a dedicated funding source to minimize budget impacts,” Banks explained.

For the 2016-17 school year, the university is reaching out to several smaller cities, which often have many of the same goals and concerns as larger cities, but fewer staff and less money to address them. Proposals have been made to Sisters and La Pine, being both geographically close to each other and not too far from Eugene, enabling the program logistically to

work with both cities.

SCYP is a proven model, and Council heard about its past success working with Gresham, Salem, Springfield, Medford, and currently with Redmond.

Redmond Mayor George Endicott shared his enthusiasm for the program.

“The SCYP program has been an excellent collaboration between the City of Redmond and the University of Oregon professors and students. The quality of work contributed and the enthusiasm shown has led to some outstanding results... The money invested by Redmond is what I consider funds well spent, and I would do it again.”

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— George Endicott

Banks estimated the City’s share of the cost would be in the neighborhood of \$50,000 for a 10-week term, including both hard dollars and in-kind

services by City staff.

“In order to move SCYP into those cities that need it most, UO has engaged the Ford Family Foundation, who is very interested in moving forward with a pilot program that focuses on La Pine and Sisters for the 2016-17 school year. Discussions with the Ford Family Foundation are underway, and the UO has asked them to match the city contribution. UO will submit an application on behalf of, but in collaboration with, the pilot cities,” said Banks.

Sisters benefits in a multitude of ways from participating in the project. Besides the manpower and expertise made available, City projects that may have become “stuck” will receive creative attention with new energy and a fresh perspective.

Pre-consultant work by the students makes eventual efforts on a project more efficient and cost-effective. With participation in the project, resources can be leveraged by streamlining staff efficiency, identifying areas for cost savings, and connecting with partners (private and public) to identify and address gaps and overlaps.

Community Development Director Patrick Davenport presented Council with a draft list of 15 possible projects that staff thought might

be suitable for the program. The list ranged from affordable and workforce housing policy analysis to a way-finding/information kiosks and public art plan to a bike and pedestrian plan for the Transportation System Plan update.

Councilors agreed that the opportunity to partner with UO and Ford Family Foundation to accomplish items already identified as goals or tasks is a definite positive to be considered. They will review the staff list with the intention of prioritizing and narrowing it down.

The conversation will continue between Banks and the City and, if Council gives their approval, this summer there will be an open house in Sisters to introduce the program to the citizens. Starting in September, UO students and faculty will begin working on their 10-week class projects according to what City goals match course offerings.

The SCYP is a win-win for everyone involved. Students receive practical experience in real-world settings dealing with actual city projects. The City gets the benefit of cutting-edge ideas and best practices creating results above what might have been if not participating in the program.

Bend massage therapist accused of sexual abuse

BEND (AP) — A massage therapist in Bend has been jailed following accusations he sexually assaulted two women during sessions.

Court documents say the 37-year-old man was arrested on charges of sodomy, sex abuse, and unlawful sexual penetration. Prosecutors said the man touched one of the women inappropriately on March 20, and the other incident happened last fall.

Deschutes County District Attorney John Hummel said in a statement that accounts provided by the women are chilling. He said they went to the massage therapist to receive physical care and instead received “inhumane abuse.”

Hummel says the case will soon be presented to a grand jury, and the man will be arraigned on any indictment next week. The man was in a Bend jail Thursday. Bail was set at \$250,000.

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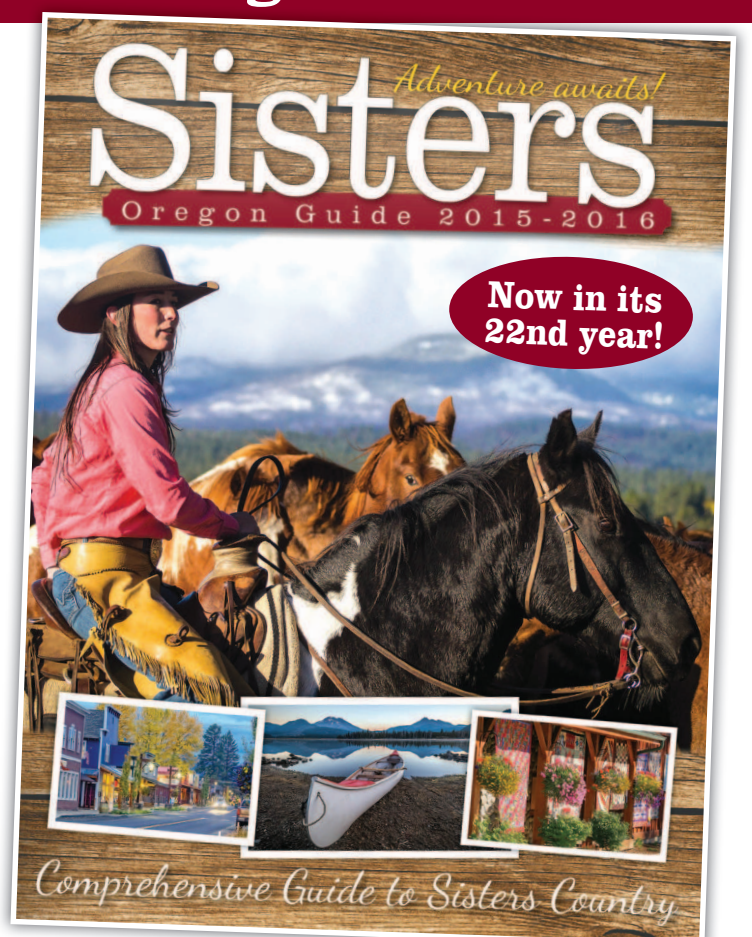
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