

WILDFIRE: Customized planning to come out of year process

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citizens will have the opportunity to meet the CPAW team members, hear about CPAW program goals, and ask questions and share comments.

During the year-long process, the CPAW team will work with local agencies, organizations, and experts in planning, fire, emergency management, and land management to develop customized planning recommendations for Sisters. These services are delivered at no cost to our community. The CPAW program is funded by grants from the U.S. Forest Service, the LOR Foundation, and other private foundations.

The CPAW process consists of four phases. The kickoff meeting, which will introduce the community to CPAW team members, is the first part of Phase 1 (November 2017-February 2018). A Memorandum of Understanding will clarify roles and responsibilities of the parties involved. The team will begin to identify stakeholders and determine the scope of the program with an in-person site visit.

During Phase 2, team members will conduct a review of all relevant planning documents and schedule a second site visit to further assess local conditions with stakeholders (March-June

2018).

Based on stakeholder feedback and the CPAW team’s analysis, detailed recommendations will be developed during Phase 3 (July-September 2018).

The planning process will culminate with Phase 4 (October-December 2018) with the CPAW team outlining findings and recommendations to improve Sisters’ wildfire resilience through planning.

Ongoing implementation support is available from CPAW as needed and as funding allows. The City of Sisters retains authority of whether, when, and how to implement any recommendations. In addition, the City will also receive access to science and research by experts in fire, forestry, and planning.

Wasco County, Oregon was also selected as one of the eight communities to participate in the CPAW program. The other six communities are spread across the U.S.

Fire Chief Roger Johnson told City Council that the long-term solution to saving homes from the danger of wildfires is to make the community more resistant to fires by developing homes and subdivision that don’t easily catch fire from ember showers on decks, roofs, and landscaping.

As development encroaches on the wildlands, homes are at greater fire risks, which presents challenges to the agencies charged with protecting the public from wildfire.

Governor calls for education focus

By **Andrew Selsky**
Associated Press

SALEM (AP) — Speaking on the opening day of the Legislature’s short session, Oregon Gov. Kate Brown made a case Monday for increased education funding and a focus on technical education.

One out of every five jobs for advanced manufacturing are filled from out of state, while state economists project 27,000 openings for high-wage, high-demand jobs each year through 2024, Brown said. Last summer, private businesses in Oregon reported 66,000 job vacancies, she added.

To help close the gap between job skills that Oregonians have and what businesses need, Brown advocated for “Career and Technical Education programs” that prepare students for careers in agriculture, communications, industrial and engineering systems, health sciences and other fields.

The governor said she wants every school district to offer “hands-on learning opportunities for every single student,” and is dedicating \$300 million dollars toward that in her proposed budget for the next biennium.

Brown, addressing

lawmakers in her state of the state address, described her own family story is an example of how people can escape poverty.

Her grandmother, a nurse, was left to raise four sons alone in Minnesota after her husband, a doctor who was addicted to drugs, left them.

“Living on nurses’ wages, it was terribly difficult for her; a constant and exhausting struggle to make ends meet,” Brown said. “But she never stopped thinking about her sons’ future ... She taught them that the key to a better life was education, education, education.”

The four sons finished high school and went on to college. Three, including Brown’s father, became doctors and one became an engineer.

“I never worried about whether I had enough to eat, or if the heat would be turned off during the sub-zero Minnesota winters,” Brown said. “I knew from an early age I was going

to college, and that my parents would support me.”

Some Democrats also want to create a cap on greenhouse gas emissions, but it’s unclear if that can be accomplished in the 35-day legislative session. Republican lawmakers say bills should be limited to those that make small policy adjustments and budget fixes, pointing out that the session must end by March 11.

A thorny issue that could affect the Legislature: a likely budget shortfall of \$200 million to \$300 million described last week by Senate President Peter Courtney, D-Salem, stemming from changes to federal tax laws.

Legislation with national implications include bills to put a referral to Oregon voters on the national popular vote and to require presidential and vice presidential candidates who want to be on the ballot in Oregon to fill out financial disclosure forms or release their tax returns.

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