



PHOTO BY JIM CORNELIUS

Site preparation is underway for the new home of MidOregon Credit union in Sisters.

### MIDOREGON: Planners urge more work on Western theme

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During their deliberations, five of the commissioners urged stronger adherence to the 1880s Western theme but three of those five were willing to accept the proposed site plan.

Commissioner Scot Davidson thought the site plan was great and remarked, "MidOregon is a great contributor to the community." He expressed concern about the requirements for maintaining the Western theme is too vague.

"The 1880s Western theme represents the brand or character of our town and should be maintained," said Davidson and he urged the architect to work more on the design.

Commissioner Art Blumenkron thought the tall wraparound windows in the rendering looked too modern. MidOregon representative Kevin Cole pointed out that banks located along main highways are more prone to be robbed and the large windows provide more visibility to see what is going on both inside and outside the building.

Darek Olson of Steele Associates stated, "The design meets the intent of the Western theme with covered walkways, lap siding, benches, parapets, and a plaza out front with Western artwork."

They wanted to provide the 1880s feel while still offering a modern look on the inside.

Concerns about the safety and function of the drive-through were addressed and satisfied. Staff explained that the rendering is only a concept and not the finished blueprint and elevations. The site plan basically designates placement of the building, landscaping, and parking on the property.

Staff attached 23 conditions of approval that must be met prior to either issuance of a building permit or certificate of occupancy unless otherwise stated within each Condition of Approval. Most of the conditions address issues required by the Fire Marshal and Oregon Fire Code, landscaping requirements, outdoor lighting

compliance, and public works requirements (water meters, site drainage, drywells, public improvements, utilities, etc.).

Prior to or at the time of building permit application, the applicant will provide final exterior building materials and colors to ensure compliance with the submitted elevations and Western design theme requirements.

A variety of pine, deciduous, and street trees must be planted.

A shared access easement off of Arrowleaf Trail will serve both MidOregon and the St. Charles medical office. There will be 23 parking spaces, 12 of them to be shared between the two offices.

Site preparation work on the property is underway.

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caregivers the respect our community has given for the Stay Home request. As we see on the front lines, this has made a difference and I want to thank you for that. You are a part of this fight for the health of us all.

I am proud to be working for St. Charles. They have been very supportive through this time emotionally, financially and physically. For that I want to say thank you to them for all their hard work to keep the care team safe.

Please know, community, we as caregivers will give all we can to care for you no matter what. We are honored to care for all that are in need. Thank you for loving us and supporting us, it truly makes our shifts even more possible than it already is.

Stay Healthy and THANK YOU!  
Emily Kroytz

"Visiting Thailand before pandemic," in which you show a photo of a couple riding an elephant.

As mentioned in this article: (<https://www.worldnomads.com/responsible-travel/make-a-difference/planet/why-elephant-riding-should-be-removed-from-your-list>), riding of an elephant is extremely harmful to these amazing creatures and in order to do so they are put through extreme torture including a "bullhorn" (basically a giant metal hook), which is used to hook the elephants by the ears to get them to turn as you can see the person controlling the elephant holding the handle to a bullhorn.

Obviously, I assume as always that this is just simply due to being unaware, so in this instance, "the more you know."

This message does not come from a place of negativity, but simply a place of education and awareness.

J.D. Alex

To the Editor:  
Recently you ran a 'Commentary' piece

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