

Creekside Park Bridge will get ADA-accessible ramps and new viewing bump-outs.

BRIDGE: Grant funding will offset some of project cost

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A, which included a more involved design requiring higher construction costs.

Option B will cost approximately \$77,000, with a grant of \$48,000 from Oregon Parks and Recreation Department.

In-creek riparian restoration work, including the removal of a concrete structure in the middle of the creek and bank restoration, will be completed in 2021 by the Upper Deschutes Watershed Council, utilizing \$250,000 in grants. The concrete removal is necessary because it is impeding the fish coming upstream to spawn. This year a Chinook salmon was found in the creek within one mile of Creekside Park. Two other species are already traveling through Creekside Park.

The new sewer line on the upside of the Locust Street bridge will be moved and replaced in 2021 utilizing a FEMA grant. All three of these improvements started out as part of one improvement project but each has been broken out as an individual project, utilizing a variety of funds.

PLAN: Citizens will play a role in setting community goals

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content that necessitates help for the outside consultant — cities have the opportunity to shape the plan to fit their character and needs. Things like wildfire hazard mitigation can be included.

"Hillsboro, for instance, included a sustainability section," Mardell offered.

The "visioning" process that the community undertook over the past several years established priorities.

"We can build on that to create the comp plan," Misley said.

The City has latitude to set its own goals.

"The state doesn't usually get involved in goals unless they go against a state landuse goal, there's a conflict there," Mardell explained.

The biggest question in this kind of long-range planning usually comes down to land inventory and how much is available to accommodate growth and development. The plan requires a buildable lands inventory to determine how much residential, commercial and industrial land is actually available.

"That's an objective review of the conditions on the ground," Misley said. Mardell noted that, "A city is meant to have a 20-year supply of land within the UGB. It's a pretty complicated process to identify that equation. There's no fixed number, necessarily."

That equation throws up questions that have to be articulated in goals.

"What sort of housing mix do we want?" Misley offered as an example.

And Sisters will have to grapple with the fact that we don't have a lot of vacant land left inside the UGB.

Setting goals and determining the shape of future growth isn't just the province of City staff, elected officials and consultants. Citizens will be asked to participate.

Several committees will be formed around various topics within the scope of the plan; the planning commission will hold several public hearings on various aspects of the plan; and there will be outreach events where the general public can weigh in on what they think of the goals as the plan is developed.

One of the first tasks of City staff is to develop a formal plan for public engagement. Those interested in participating in the process can let the city know now. Contact staff through the City's web site at https:// www.ci.sisters.or.us.

"If you're interested about growth in Sisters, this is the time to be involved in the process," Mardell said.





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