

Keizertimes

SECTION A

OCTOBER 26, 2018

\$1.00

- Catholic church property
- A New athletic fields & tennis courts to replace existing
- B New student parking
- C New entry courtyard
- Bus drop off
- SPED bus drop off
- Vehicle drop off
- Addition
- Bus circulation
- SPED bus circulation
- Vehicle circulation
- Pedestrian/Bike circulation

24J may threaten eminent domain

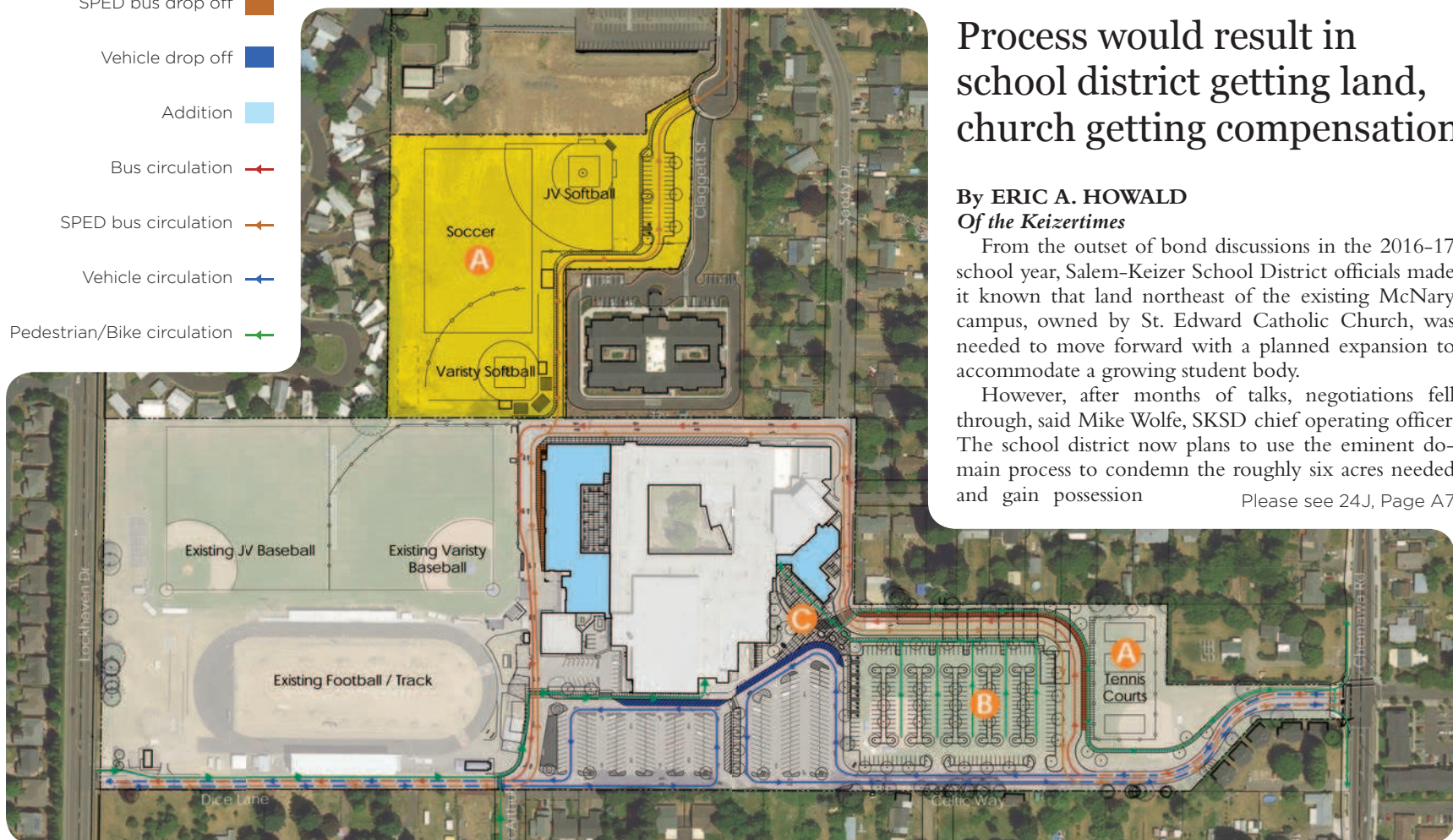
Process would result in school district getting land, church getting compensation

By ERIC A. HOWALD
Of the Keizertimes

From the outset of bond discussions in the 2016-17 school year, Salem-Keizer School District officials made it known that land northeast of the existing McNary campus, owned by St. Edward Catholic Church, was needed to move forward with a planned expansion to accommodate a growing student body.

However, after months of talks, negotiations fell through, said Mike Wolfe, SKSD chief operating officer. The school district now plans to use the eminent domain process to condemn the roughly six acres needed and gain possession.

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Courtesy Anderson Shirley Architects

What it means: Exercising eminent domain

By ERIC A. HOWALD
Of the Keizertimes

The Salem-Keizer School District (SKSD) Board of Directors is now considering condemning land – through the eminent domain process – owned by St. Edward Catholic Church that is needed

for planned renovations and expansions at McNary High School.

Voters approved a bond to pay for the improvements at McNary and throughout the school district earlier this year, but McNary's landlocked location means additional land

is required to complete the effort.

Under the Fifth Amendment, federal, state and local governments can condemn private property and take ownership of it for public use while compensating the owner for the fair market value.

The district needs approximately six acres to relocate two softball fields and tennis courts that will make way for new classrooms and additional parking.

The school board held a first reading of a resolution of necessity at its meeting Tues-

day, Oct. 23, which is a formal announcement of its intent to potentially exercise eminent domain rights on the acreage it needs. School board members will vote on the action at its Nov. 13 meeting.

If no agreement between the church and school district is reached before the November

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Report: Slow walk growth talks until 2021

By ERIC A. HOWALD
Of the Keizertimes

Keizer has limited options for growth and should wait until at least 2021 for a new population growth projections before making any major changes. That was the message from the final report on a cost of growth study at a Keizer City Council work session Monday, Oct. 22.

Glen Bolen, a senior planner with Otak – the consulting firm that conducted the study – led an audience through the findings of an analysis of what Keizer can expect to pay in terms of dollars and livability if it chooses to grow.

City officials and staff are wrestling with the challenges presented in a 2013 Housing Needs Analysis adopted by the city. That analysis concluded that Keizer would fall short of the land needed to accommodate expected growth for the next 20 years – to the tune of 1,674 residential units or 197 acres. Keizer could absorb some of the expected impact through zoning changes, but not all of it and what can't be absorbed might come at a high cost for current residents.

The growth expectations might also change in three years. Currently, Portland State University issues a

growth projection for the entire Salem-Keizer Urban Growth Boundary (UGB), but the university will look specifically at Keizer when the projections are revised in 2021.

"We verified that it's really not feasible to expand while sharing with Salem. Salem has enough capacity to handle the regional capacity," Bolen said.

Keizer shares its UGB with Salem that hems in urban sprawl. Divorcing the two cities will require

an agreement between the affected local governments or legislative action.

When Keizer Mayor Cathy Clark asked whether the city could skip the agreement and appeal directly to the state Legislature, a regional representative of the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) cautioned against it.

"We would recommend to follow [agreement] process first, and the legislature will

look for you to do that first," said Angela Carnahan, of DLCD.

In the study, Keizer was compared to three other municipalities that attempted to expand their UGBs. Of the three, only one was successful. Clark asked whether there were any other examples of success. Bolen said Redmond was one city that had incorporated new lands while also revitalizing a downtown core. Carnahan added the

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Escalating argument resulted in deadly shot on Cummings Lane

An argument between neighbors and friends ended with one of the men dead after kicking in the door of a home on Cummings Lane September 4.

Last week, a Marion County grand jury found the man who fired the shot that killed 27-year-old Bryan O'Connor was justified in his actions.

According to a press release issued by the Marion County District Attorney's Office, 26-year-old Alex Hackney and O'Connor visited several bars with friends the evening before the fatal argument. Hackney told law enforcement officials he began to get dizzy, but managed to free himself and fled to his home.

O'Connor yelled threats as Hackney ran home. Once he

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JUMP FOR JOY

KEIZERTIMES/Derek Wiley

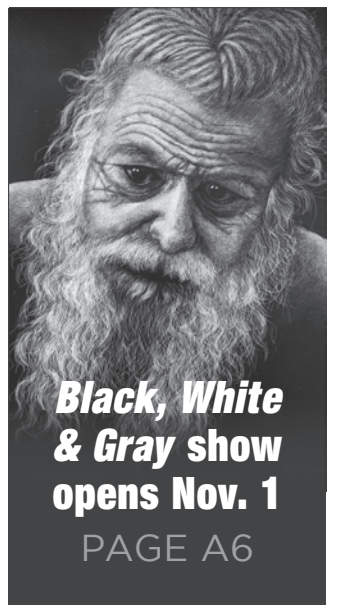
McNary junior Noah LeLack and senior Noah Bach, No. 11, celebrate during the Celtics 35-23 victory at West Salem on Friday, Oct. 19. McNary, winners of three straight, close the regular season this Friday at home against South Salem.



Soccer playoffs
PAGE B1



Meals on Wheels need drivers
PAGE A3



Black, White & Gray show opens Nov. 1
PAGE A6



Runners meet Saturday
PAGE B2



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