

Oregon, Ohio, wants to clarify its allegiance

Dick Squibb and his son Matt, right, stand at the Oregon, Ohio, city limits sign Jan. 2. The Ohio city of Oregon isn't going to be known as "Buckeye Town" or any other title despite a petition calling for a temporary name change to show allegiance to the Ohio State Buckeyes as they face the Oregon Ducks in college football's championship game next week.



AP Photo/The Blade, Andy Morrison

TOLEDO, Ohio (AP) — The Ohio city of Oregon isn't going to be known as "Buckeye Town" or any other title despite a petition calling for a temporary name change to show allegiance to the Ohio State Buckeyes as they face the Oregon Ducks in college football's championship game next week.

The mayor of the Toledo suburb, instead, said he intends to issue a proclamation declaring it "Ohio State Buckeye week" in the city of Oregon.

Mayor Mike Seferian said he looked into the history of the city's name and found it goes back to 1838, when the area

became Oregon Township — well before the state of Oregon got its name in 1859.

Both got their names from the Oregon territory in the Pacific Northwest.

"To change the name of Oregon just seemed wrong for us," Seferian said.

The name debate started after two natives of the city who don't normally cheer for Ohio State started the petition. One of the men is more into soccer and, perhaps shockingly, the other roots for rival Michigan.

Matt Squibb, one of the petition organizers, said he didn't want anyone confused who the city would be cheering for

during the title game.

"Call it anything but Oregon," he said.

They also think the city's high school should temporarily change its colors from green and yellow, the colors of the other Oregon in the West.

Mark Rabbitt, a lifelong Michigan fan, said he helped start the petition because "any success at Ohio State not only helps Michigan but anyone else who plays them."

Ohio State faces Oregon for the national title Jan. 12 in Arlington, Texas.

Information from: The Blade, <http://www.toledoblade.com/>

New study supports Seaside Convention Center expansion

Consultants asked to further develop funding options for project

By KATHERINE LACAZE
EO Media Group

A new study has found an expansion of the Seaside Civic and Convention Center still is a feasible and worthwhile endeavor, although it would cost about \$25 million and require a new source of funding.

The city retained C.H. Johnson Consulting, in association with Belay, a Division of POWER Engineers, at a cost of \$42,000 to assess the merits of renovating and expanding the convention center. The consultants submitted the results of their financial feasibility study in early November.

The study is one in a series that have been conducted regarding the center's possible expansion. Its recommendations were meant to provide an independent review of those made by SAG Consulting in 2009 and EHS Architecture in 2013.

According to the C.H. Johnson Consulting study, Seaside has several key characteristics and requirements necessary to support an expansion and renovation to the convention cen-

ter, such as "steady population growth, low unemployment, a diversifying economy, an established hospitality industry and its reputation and success as a popular tourist destination."

Russ Vandenberg, general manager of the convention center, said the city asked C.H. Johnson to further investigate and develop some of the recommended financing plans in the study. The consultants should submit that information to the city by the end of this month, Vandenberg said.

"Then we'll meet again with the Seaside City Council and present the total package," he said.

He expects the meeting will occur early next year.

The proposed expansion

The study agreed with recommendations made in the 2009 SAG study, such as constructing a new 12,000-square-foot exhibit hall; converting the Pacific Hall and Necanicum Room into a multipurpose ballroom or banquet space; adding an additional 8,830 square feet of meeting and break-out space; and additional storage space and restrooms.

The study implies an expanded facility "will be better positioned to compete effectively in the regional marketplace, by bringing its space offerings in line with its larger and newer competition."

The study compared an expanded Seaside facility to a set of competitive regional facilities, such as the Salishan Spa & Golf Resort in Gleneden Beach, Sunriver Resort in Central Oregon, Salem Convention Center and The Riverhouse Hotel and Convention Center in Bend.

The study says a clear gap exists in the market with respect

to facilities offering more than 10,000 square feet of meeting and breakout space.

In 2017, the expanded convention center could hold 109 events, or 21 more than were held in 2013, according to the study's projections. By 2021, the center could hold about 149 events. After that, the number of events is projected to stabilize, although attendance likely will continue to increase by nearly 26,000, from 56,880 in 2017 to 82,620 in 2026.

Parking problems

To create the extra space, the study proposes extending the building to the west, over North Edgewood Street and into what currently is the parking lot. North Edgewood Street would be closed or realigned to the west, between First Avenue and Oceanway.

As the study notes, an expanded center could cause the loss of 40 to 50 public parking stalls, which may not negatively affect the convention center but is a concern for surrounding businesses.

To address the public's concern, the study suggests several changes, such as realigning North Edgewood Street; making the portion of Oceanway between Columbia Street and the newly aligned North Edgewood Street an eastbound one-way street; striping the northern edge of that section of Oceanway to allow parallel parking to add an estimated 18 to 21 stalls; and striping Oceanway along the southern edge of the existing center for perpendicular parking to add an estimated 19 to 22 stalls.

Vandenberg said they also are considering other options, such as building a parking facility with upward of 500 stalls or leasing

parking stalls from Our Saviour's Lutheran Church across the street during busy months.

"It's all based on what strategy we use for the funding source," he said.

Funding options

The estimated cost for the total expansion project is about \$25 million.

The convention center runs at a deficit of \$350,000. After the expansion, the center is expected to operate at a net deficit of \$461,000 in 2017, \$322,000 in 2021 and \$317,000 in 2026, the study says.

Key elements of the study's revenue projections include space rental, food and beverage, equipment rentals and event services, advertising and other revenue. Key elements of expense projections are salaries and wages, employee benefits, sales and marketing, general and administrative costs, utilities, maintenance and repairs, supplies, insurance and food and beverage recovery accounts.

The project would require additional funding through expanding the existing tax base or a new mechanism, according to the study. It provides a few options for a new funding mechanism, such as a strategic alliance with Cannon Beach and Astoria for destination marketing or establishing an improvement district in greater downtown Seaside that is "centered upon the convention center and utilizing (Tourism Improvement Fee) revenues or a specially enacted 'sales fee' on retail and hotels" to fund the project and other downtown improvements.

Vandenberg said they want the consultants to provide more information on these funding options.

ACCUWEATHER® FORECAST FOR ASTORIA

Astoria 5-Day Forecast

Tonight
Considerable clouds
44°

Shown is tomorrow's weather. Temperatures are tonight's lows and tomorrow's highs

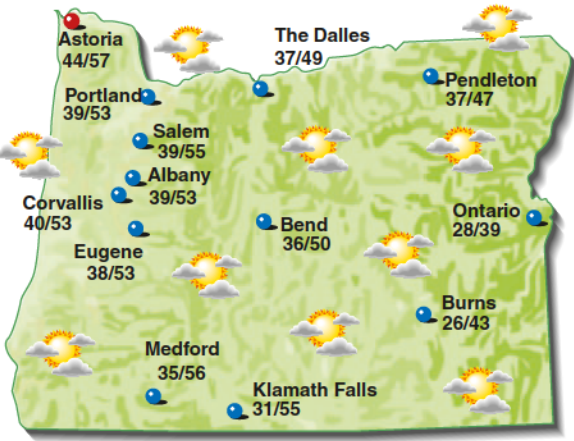
Tuesday
Times of clouds and sun
57° 41°

Wednesday
Mostly cloudy
57° 41°

Thursday
Cloudy with a little rain in the afternoon
56° 43°

Friday
On-and-off rain and drizzle
51° 44°

Oregon Weather



Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2015

Almanac

Astoria through Sunday.

Temperatures	
High	54°
Low	39°
Normal high	49°
Normal low	37°
Precipitation	
Yesterday	3.20"
Month to date	0.30"
Normal month to date	1.39"
Year to date	0.30"
Normal year to date	1.39"

Sun and Moon

Sunset tonight	4:44 p.m.
Sunrise Tuesday	7:58 a.m.
Moonrise today	5:49 p.m.
Moonset today	7:54 a.m.



Regional Cities

City	Today			Tues.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Baker City	38	30	r	40	26	pc
Bend	47	36	pc	50	30	pc
Brookings	56	46	c	60	47	pc
Eugene	55	38	c	53	35	c
Iwaco	53	46	sh	55	44	c
Klamath Falls	50	31	c	55	30	pc
Medford	52	35	c	56	35	pc
Newport	55	45	sh	58	44	pc
North Bend	58	43	c	60	42	pc

City	Today			Tues.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Olympia	53	41	r	53	34	c
Pendleton	50	37	sh	47	30	pc
Portland	54	39	sh	53	36	pc
Roseburg	53	39	c	55	38	pc
Salem	56	39	sh	55	34	pc
Seaside	54	46	sh	55	44	pc
Spokane	40	36	r	41	28	c
Vancouver	54	38	sh	53	33	pc
Yakima	50	35	c	49	28	c

Under the Sky

Tonight's Sky: Jupiter reached opposition or nearest to Earth at a distance of 391 million miles or 4.21 A.U.

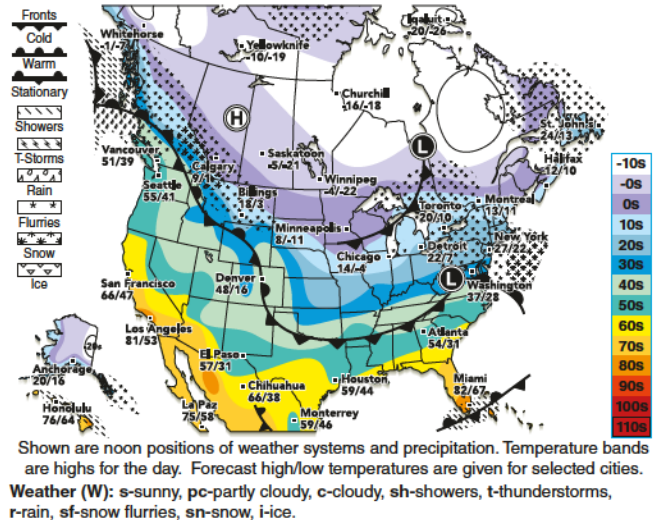
Tomorrow's Tides

Astoria / Port Docks			
Time	High	Time	Low
2:19 a.m.	8.4 ft.	7:52 a.m.	3.0 ft.
1:34 p.m.	9.2 ft.	8:31 p.m.	-0.2 ft.

National Cities

City	Today			Tues.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Atlanta	45	30	s	54	31	s
Boston	36	15	sf	23	18	sn
Chicago	9	4	pc	14	-4	sn
Denver	50	33	c	48	16	pc
Des Moines	15	3	sn	13	-6	c
Detroit	16	10	sf	22	7	sn
El Paso	55	29	s	57	31	s
Fairbanks	-17	-23	s	-5	-14	s
Honolulu	77	65	s	76	64	s
Indianapolis	15	13	s	25	4	sn
Kansas City	24	16	pc	23	6	pc
Las Vegas	59	40	pc	64	42	s
Los Angeles	76	51	s	81	53	s
Memphis	37	30	s	46	29	s
Miami	84	71	pc	82	67	pc
Nashville	32	25	s	42	26	pc
New Orleans	51	38	s	60	43	pc
New York	39	22	pc	27	22	sn
Oklahoma City	40	27	s	41	20	s
Philadelphia	40	21	pc	29	24	sn
St. Louis	25	24	s	30	11	c
Salt Lake City	43	31	c	45	29	c
San Francisco	63	45	s	66	47	s
Seattle	55	47	r	55	41	c
Washington, DC	42	27	s	37	28	sn

Tomorrow's National Weather



Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day. Forecast high/low temperatures are given for selected cities. Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice.

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Public meetings

MONDAY
Youngs River Lewis & Clark Water District Board, 6 p.m., 34583 U.S. Highway 101 Business.
Astoria City Council, 7 p.m., Astoria City Hall, 1095 Duane St., Astoria.

TUESDAY
Port of Astoria Commission, 5 p.m. work-shop, old Port offices, 422 Gateway Ave.

Miles Crossing Sanitary Sewer District Board, 6 p.m., 34583 U.S. Highway 101 Business.

THURSDAY
Northwest Oregon Housing Authority Board, 10 a.m., NOHA office, 147 S. Main Ave., Warrenton.

Lotteries

OREGON
Sunday's Pick 4:
1 p.m.: 2-5-3-0
4 p.m.: 1-4-4-9
7 p.m.: 8-5-5-1
10 p.m.: 2-7-0-5
Saturday's Megabucks:
10-22-25-36-37-44
Next jackpot \$5.5 million.
Saturday's Powerball: 04-18-43-46-55, Powerball: 25, Power Play: 3
Estimated jackpot: \$131 million
Saturday's Pick 4:
1 p.m.: 9-6-9-8
4 p.m.: 7-7-9-9
7 p.m.: 0-4-0-2
10 p.m.: 2-5-4-6

WASHINGTON
Sunday's Daily Game: 7-8-7
Sunday's Keno: 02-06-07-08-11-16-25-27-29-35-41-44-50-51-52-58-66-74-76-77
Sunday's Match 4: 01-03-11-14
Saturday's Daily Game: 3-4-1
Saturday's Hit 5: 20-25-28-30-32
Estimated jackpot: \$100,000

Saturday's Keno: 08-12-15-17-18-27-30-35-37-41-43-45-47-51-53-55-57-58-61-70
Saturday's Lotto: 04-11-17-23-32-42
Estimated jackpot: \$2.2 million
Saturday's Match 4: 04-07-10-16
Friday's Daily Game: 2-4-9
Friday's Keno: 01-03-04-09-11-16-32-33-36-37-41-49-51-53-58-62-64-69-76-80
Friday's Match 4: 12-13-18-23
Friday's Mega Millions: 13-15-35-62-74, Mega Ball: 12
Estimated jackpot: \$188 million

Deaths

Jan. 2, 2015
STEPHENS, Iona "Onie" Jean, 78, of Hammond, died in Hammond. Caldwell's Luce-Layton Mortuary in Astoria is in charge of the arrangements.
JORDAN, Stuart Douglas, 35, of Astoria, died in Astoria. Caldwell's Luce-Layton Mortuary in Astoria is in charge of the arrangements.

Jan. 3, 2015
DURHEIM, Richard John, 67, of Astoria, died in Portland.

Jan. 4, 2015
STEINMANN, Dr. Leroy, 93, of Astoria, died in Astoria. Caldwell's Luce-Layton Mortuary in Astoria is in charge of the arrangements.

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