

# Seaside group will seek sidewalk funds

The transportation commission has found new revenue routes

By **NANCY MCCARTHY**  
The Daily Astorian

SEASIDE — Seaside's Transportation Advisory Commission may have found a way to obtain grants to pay for more sidewalks and other amenities in town.

Dale McDowell, commission chairman, told the Seaside City Council Monday night that the commission will seek financial support from the federally funded Safe Routes to School Program, the state-funded Oregon Solutions Network and Oregon Consensus, an arm of Oregon Solutions.

McDowell said the commission has already discussed forming a partnership with Seaside School District Superintendent Doug Dougherty in seeking funds from the Safe Routes to School Program, which is administered by the Oregon Department of Transportation. Sidewalks could be proposed for U.S. Highway 101, Second Avenue and Broadway to make it safer for children heading to local schools, he said.

The commission also will contact Oregon Solutions and Oregon Consensus to determine

*'I truly feel we need to get the 101 (bus) back to hourly status. We're going to work hard as we can through the budget cycle to get that back.'*



— **Jeff Hazen**  
director of the  
Sunset Empire Transportation District

if funds might be available for sidewalks, bike paths, wetlands improvements and historical preservation projects.

The council expressed support for the commission's efforts and thanked McDowell and the commission for researching revenue sources. Councilor Jay Barber also suggested that the city's parks advisory committee be included in the plans.

Jeff Hazen, director of the Sunset Empire Transportation District, who was visiting the council meeting, told the council that the transit district also could partner with the city on

the Safe Routes in Schools program.

In addition, Hazen said the transit district is embarking on a long-term transportation plan.

"I truly feel we need to get the 101 (bus) back to hourly status," Hazen said. "We're going to work hard as we can through the budget cycle to get that back."

The schedule for the Highway 101 bus, which connects Astoria with Seaside and Cannon Beach, was reduced several years ago when the district suffered an economic setback that nearly shut it down completely. Since then, the district has restored some services.

In other business, the council:

- Approved rate increases for rental of the Seaside Civic and Convention Center. To rent the entire facility for ticketed events, the cost will go from \$1,200 a day to \$1,500. Fees for trade show or exhibits will rise from \$800 a day to \$1,000. Other fees, depending on the rooms being rented, will be from \$50 to \$100 higher per day. Rentals for funerals, however, won't increase. Fees for the smaller rooms, including Seahorse, Haystack and Seamist also won't change. Contracts reached prior to Feb. 1, when the increases go into effect, will remain at the lower fee schedule.

- Appointed Nancy McCune and Vera Kaarina to the Seaside Civic and Convention Center Commission. The council is still seeking members for the city Tree Board.

## DEQ to host Oregon LNG meeting tonight

WARRENTON — The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality will host an informational public meeting about its involvement with the proposed Oregon LNG pipeline project at 6 p.m. today at Warrenton Community Center.

Oregon LNG is asking DEQ and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to approve dredging and construction permits for the Oregon LNG export terminal and pipeline. Oregon LNG cannot build its terminal and gas pipeline without permits from DEQ and the Corps, according to Columbia Riverkeeper, an advocacy group opposed to the project.

The focus of the meeting will be for DEQ to answer questions regarding the permitting and certification process, and will not focus on the technical aspects of the project.

It is not a public hearing to submit oral comments on the proposed project or its related permits.

Local activists are expected to attend the meeting to demonstrate opposition, Columbia Riverkeeper said.

## Attempted rapist sentenced, possibly may be deported

By **KYLE SPURR**  
The Daily Astorian

The man who was gouged in the eyes by an Astoria woman he was allegedly attempting to rape in October was sentenced Friday in Clatsop County Circuit Court.

After pleading guilty to first-degree attempted rape and harassment, Jose Rene Cubas-Reyes, 35, was sentenced to 40 days in jail and 36 months probation. He will get credit for jail time served.

Other charges of first-degree forgery related to Cubas-Reyes having a fake social security card and resident alien card were dropped as part of his plea agreement.

He was listed as a 30-year-old when he was booked, but his actual birth date was later discovered and reveals he is 35 years old. He was working locally for one of the canaries, his defense

attorney Mary Ann Murk said.

Prosecutor Dawn Buzzard said Cubas-Reyes faces possible deportation, but that decision is up to the federal government.

"It's not a guarantee, but he did have forged paperwork on him when (the police) picked him up," Buzzard said.

Cubas-Reyes reportedly came out from the bushes at the intersection of Eighth Street and Harrison Avenue in Astoria early in the morning Oct. 8 and knocked the Astoria woman to the ground, according to Astoria Police.

He then began choking the woman and pinned her down. Unable to get away, she gouged his eyes with her fingers until she was able to get free, police said.

Police found Cubas-Reyes with significant injuries around his eyes at 66 W. Bond St. later in the day of the reported attack. The woman suffered bruising

around her neck.

"If it wasn't for her tenacity, who knows, this could have been a different ending," Buzzard said.

The woman knew Cubas-Reyes by his first name and from the bar where she works in Astoria.

The harassment conviction against Cubas-Reyes stems from another woman accusing him of accosting her and attempting to get a kiss from her on Aug. 23.

Police believed other victims may have been followed by, touched without their consent, or attacked by Cubas-Reyes. No other possible victims have come forward.

As part of his sentence, Cubas-Reyes will have to register as a sex offender and pay each victim \$1,000 in compensatory fines.

"Those women, both of them, I'm really impressed with," Buzzard said.

## KMUN gets grant for FisherPoets

The Tillicum Foundation, operator of KMUN Coast Community Radio in the lower Columbia-Pacific region, received \$6,500 from the Oregon Arts Commission's 2015 Arts Build Communities grants to help with its efforts during the annual FisherPoets Gathering from Feb. 27 to March 1 in Astoria.

The 19th annual FisherPoets Gathering will

bring together commercial fishermen and women from nearly 10 U.S. states and British Columbia to perform their poetry, prose and song in Astoria venues. Rooted in traditional forms, these creative performances highlight the significance of Oregon's fisheries. The gathering demonstrates the connections between Oregon's maritime culture, restaurants

and food traditions, and the regional economy.

For more information, visit [www.fisherpoets.org](http://www.fisherpoets.org)

Including the Tillicum Foundation, the Oregon Arts Commission gave \$200,000 to 34 groups across the state. For more information on grants from the commission for arts organizations and individuals, visit [www.oregonartscommission.org/grants](http://www.oregonartscommission.org/grants)

## WHS in search of old yearbooks for library

Warrenton High School is trying to complete its historical library by having a copy of every yearbook ever issued by WHS. The first yearbook was published in 1924 and there was not another one produced until 1937. There has been a yearbook every year since 1937.

The school has 67 of

the 79 volumes of "The Warrior" and is missing 14. WHS asks the community to donate any of the missing books to help complete the library. The missing years are: 1937, 1941, 1945, 1947, 1948, 1950, 1951, 1952, 1962, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1987 and 1992.

If you have any of these

to donate, drop them off at the high school or mail them to: Warrenton High School, c/o Doug Calvert, 1700 S.E. Main Ave., Warrenton, OR 97146. Any donations would be greatly appreciated and treasured for years to come by alumni and current and future Warrenton Warriors, organizers said.

## Nominees sought for fisheries council

By *The Daily Astorian*

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife is currently accepting nominations for a seat on the Pacific Fishery Management Council. The deadline to request nomination materials is Feb. 13. The three-year term begins in August.

The fisheries council manages about 119 species of groundfish, pelagic species and highly migratory species off the coasts for Oregon, Washington and California.

It includes 14 voting members representing tribal and state fish and wildlife agencies, and private citizens knowledgeable about sport fishing, commercial fishing and/or marine conservation, according to ODFW.

The ideal candidate would be knowledgeable of fishery resource conservation and management in marine waters

off the West Coast.

The successful candidate must work collectively with other council members, often making difficult decisions and fulfilling the standards set forth by the Magnuson-Stevens Act. Successful appointees must

pass an extensive FBI background check.

Those interested, or wishing to nominate someone, can contact Cyreis Schmitt at 541-867-4741 or [cyreis.c.schmitt@state.or.us](mailto:cyreis.c.schmitt@state.or.us) no later than Feb. 13.

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Assistance League the Columbia Pacific is a non-profit organization whose volunteers raise funds to assist school children in our community. For more information about this event, call Leslie Long at (503)-717-3671. For more information about ALCP or becoming a member, visit our website at [www.assistanceleaguecp.org](http://www.assistanceleaguecp.org)

**The Lower Columbia Hispanic Council would like to thank everyone who contributed to making 2014 one of our most productive years ever. Because of your generosity and contributions, this year we were able to help more than 400 families throughout the North Coast. From everyone at LCHC, we thank you for your support and we wish you and your family a prosperous 2015.**



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The Lower Columbia Hispanic Council is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is the equitable integration of area Hispanics into the lower Columbia community. To find out more about the organization and ways you can contribute please call 503 325-4547 or visit our website at [lchispaniccouncil.org](http://lchispaniccouncil.org)

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