

THE DAILY ASTORIAN

144TH YEAR, NO. 74

DailyAstorian.com // WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2016

ONE DOLLAR

City Commission opposes property sales measure

Warrenton measure lets voters decide large city sales by double-majority

By **ERICK BENGEL**
The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — The City Commission agreed Tuesday to oppose a ballot measure that would amend the city charter to require double-majority voter approval before the city sells, trades, divests or otherwise dis-

poses of a city asset valued at more than \$100,000.

Measure 4-181, which will appear on Warrenton's Nov. 8 ballot, would prevent the city from taking such an action unless more than 50 percent of eligible electors vote on the sale, and a majority of them vote to approve it. The measure's explanatory state-

ment in the Clatsop County Voter's Pamphlet states that, without the required double-majority approval, the city will not be able to, for example, use a city-owned garbage truck or ladder fire truck as a trade-in for a new vehicle; replace parts in the city's water system; sell city-owned buildings; and dispose of certain outdated

and surplus equipment, such as a city-owned backhoe.

The measure was spearheaded by Warrenton Property Protection Committee, which initially created the amendment to oppose a possible land exchange between the city and Warrenton Fiber at Tansy Point. The amendment would not

apply to assets owned by the Urban Renewal Agency.

The elections for asset disposal may occur during a regularly scheduled election, or at a special election. The city would be responsible for the costs of special elections.

The measure itself will need to pass by a double-majority in order to become law.

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FROM PARKING LOT TO PONDS

PORT OF ASTORIA CLOSES IN ON NEW STORMWATER TREATMENT SYSTEM

By **EDWARD STRATTON**
The Daily Astorian

Strollers on the Astoria Riverwalk's west end might have noticed the transformation along the western edge of Pier 3.

Dug out, hydroseeded a deep green and surrounded by access roads, a former storage area on the pier has nearly become the multimillion-dollar stormwater treatment system the Port of Astoria needs to stay in business amid tougher environmental requirements.

The construction is being overseen by Conway Construction Co., the Port's general contractor and engineers from environmental consultant firm Maul Foster Alongi, which designed the stormwater system.

On Tuesday, Maul Foster civil engineer Cem Gokcora toured the site, checking on progress.

"It's probably about 70, 75 percent complete," he said, noting the pumps that take the water to the treatment system are some of the last major components to be installed.

The plan, Gokcora said, is to complete the entire system, go through the final checkoff and go active by late November.

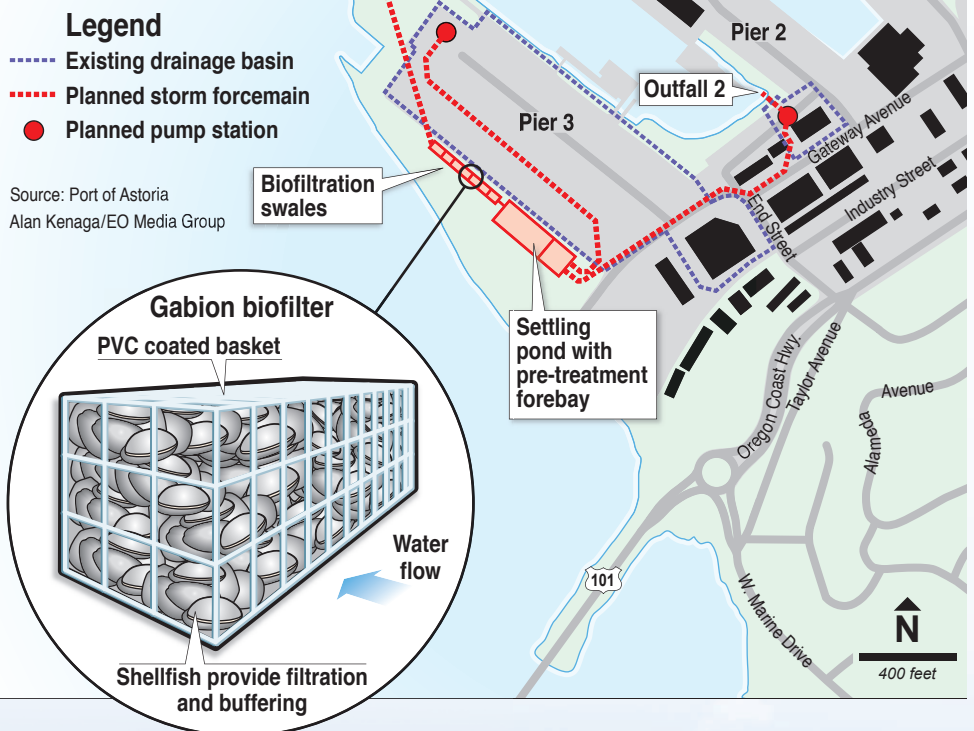
Pumping to the ponds

Next to the plot it leases from the Port at the end of Pier 3, Bergerson Construction has been building a 20-foot-deep

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Work continues on Port of Astoria stormwater treatment upgrade

The Port's plan to treat stormwater includes pumping the runoff to a settling pond and bioswales before it is discharged into the Columbia River.



BELOW: The public has a full view of the Port of Astoria's more than 2-acre stormwater treatment system on the western edge of Pier 3. The Port will also build an educational kiosk explaining how the system of settling ponds and bioswales works. Edward Stratton/The Daily Astorian



An olive branch in dam dispute

City, water district locked in standoff

By **ERICK BENGEL**
and **DERRICK DePLEDGE**
The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — The vice chairman of the Skipanon Water Control District suggested Tuesday night that the water district and the city negotiate over the future of the Eighth Street Dam to avoid expensive litigation.

Bruce Francis, who said he was speaking to the City Commission as a citizen representing his independent view, thinks there is room for some negotiation that might satisfy both sides in an increasingly contentious dispute.

Akin Blitz, a Portland attorney for the city, sent a letter to the water district in late September asserting that the city owns the dam. The attorney gave the water district a deadline last week to surrender ownership interest or risk a potential lawsuit or the city's seizure of the dam.

The water district, which has sought to remove the dam as obsolete and to improve fish passage on the Skipanon River, did not respond by the deadline.

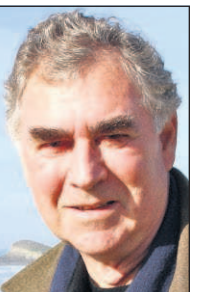
"So I would like to just perhaps bring to the council that negotiation really is a very valuable tool to save the coffers of the city, of whom I am a ratepayer. I live here," Francis said. "And I think that I would like to see us not turn the barnyard into a group of roosters clucking around and we get into a cockfight, in which nothing really gets achieved."

The water district has scheduled a board meeting Tuesday to discuss the dam. The City Commission is likely to address the dam again at a meeting later this month.

"I would really like to get some negotiation before that," Francis said.

Mayor Mark Kujala thanked him. "We appreciate that," he said.

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Bruce Francis

Shark attack victim warned others of danger

By **LYRA FONTAINE**
The Daily Astorian

CANNON BEACH — Even after a severe shark bite, surfer Joseph Tanner was able to warn others of danger and direct bystanders how to tie a tourniquet around his leg.

Tanner, a 29-year-old trauma nurse in Portland, was surfing at Indian Beach in Ecola State Park when he was attacked by a shark late Monday afternoon, sustaining bites to his upper thigh and lower leg. He fought off the shark by hitting it in the face, Cannon Beach volunteer firefighter David Norris said.

Then bystanders at the beach applied a tourniquet to his thigh to stop the bleeding.

"He directed his own first aid, what needed to be done," surfer Jeff Rose said. "He asked us a lot of questions: what we were seeing, if we saw spurting blood."

According to eyewitness West Woodworth, 29, Tanner had been in the water for approximately 10 to 15 minutes before the shark attack occurred. When Woodworth paddled toward Tanner and another man, Tanner started to flail around.

According to Oregon State Police, Tanner yelled to others

to get out of the water.

Woodworth told police all three started paddling back into the shoreline 40 yards away. Tanner was able to get almost to the shoreline when Woodworth pulled him out of the water.

With Tanner providing instruction, they used the leash of Tanner's surfboard with square knots as the tourniquet. Tanner was then placed on his board and carried to the parking lot.

Tanner was stabilized on scene and transported via air ambulance to Legacy

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Cannon Beach Fire and Rescue Cannon Beach Police Officer Matthew Nunnally and volunteer firefighters Shauna White and David Norris work to stabilize Joseph Tanner, who was bitten by a shark Monday at Indian Beach in Ecola State Park.

