

WORLD IN BRIEF

Associated Press

Pence carves his own political identity, on behalf of Trump

WASHINGTON — Shuttling across the country aboard Air Force Two, Vice President Mike Pence has been a loyal messenger for President Donald Trump. At the same time, he has been carving out his own political identity as the steady understudy to a mercurial president.

The Republican vice president has raised more than \$1 million in recent months for his political committee, headlined GOP events in such key states as Iowa and Ohio, and hosted Republican VIPs for dinner at his formal residence in Washington. Pence is also preparing to take his fourth overseas trip in the last six months, a schedule that has removed him from the Trump White House's daily palace intrigue and the special counsel's investigation into the Trump administration's ties with Russia.

The vice president's push-and-pull with Trump was reflected in his office's vigorous response to a New York Times report that suggested he might be taking steps to position himself for a 2020 presidential campaign. Pence said in a lengthy statement Sunday that the report was "categorically false."

The vice president's spokesman made multiple appearances on cable networks Monday to push back against the story. "The political activities of the vice president are 150 percent in support of the president's agenda. Anyone who asserts otherwise is uninformed," said Phil Musser, a longtime Pence adviser.

Few Republican operatives believe that Pence would challenge Trump in the 2020 Republican primary election. But at the same time, Republicans privately concede that Trump could be the first president since Richard Nixon to leave office mid-term or not to seek re-election — either for political or personal reasons. Pence would be ill-advised not to prepare for an early Trump exit, as unlikely as it may be, they say.

Kenyans on Tuesday voted in large numbers an election that pits President Uhuru Kenyatta against challenger Raila Odinga in this East African economic hub known for its relative, long-term stability as well as the ethnic allegiances that shadow its democracy.

Kenyans choose next president in fiercely contested vote

NAIROBI, Kenya — Kenyans on Tuesday voted in large numbers an election that pits President Uhuru Kenyatta against challenger Raila Odinga in this East African economic hub known for its relative, long-term stability as well as the ethnic allegiances that shadow its democracy.

Voters formed long lines at many polling stations before dawn, waiting for the chance to cast ballots in the tightly contested race for the presidency as well as for more than 1,800 elected positions, including governors, legislative representatives and county officials. A key concern was whether Kenya would echo its 2013 election, a mostly peaceful affair despite opposition allegations of vote-tampering, or the 2007 election, which led to violence fueled by ethnic divisions that killed more than 1,000 people.

Kenyatta, the 55-year-old son of Kenya's first president after independence from British colonial rule, campaigned on a record of major infrastructure projects, many backed by China, and claimed strong economic growth. Odinga, 72, is also the son of a leader of the independence struggle and has cast him-

self as a champion of the poor and a harsh critic of endemic corruption in many state institutions.

However, many voters are expected to vote along ethnic lines. President Kenyatta is widely seen as the candidate of the Kikuyu people, the country's largest ethnic group. Odinga is associated with the Luo voting bloc, which has never produced a head of state.

More than 300 people, including ethnic Maasai draped in traditional red blankets, waited for hours in the dark before polling station opened in the Rift Valley town of Il Bissil. Kenyan television also showed long lines of voters in the port city of Mombasa.

Lebanon's army prepares to clear border area of IS militants

BEIRUT — Lebanon's U.S.-backed military is gearing up for a long-awaited assault to dislodge hundreds of Islamic State militants from a remote corner near Syrian border, seeking to end a years-long threat posed to neighboring towns and villages by the extremists.

The campaign will involve cooperation with the militant group Hezbollah and the Syrian army on the other side of the border — although Lebanese authorities insist they are not coordinating with Syrian President Bashar Assad's government.

But the assault could prove costly for the under-equipped military and risk activating IS sleeper cells in the country.

The tiny Mediterranean nation has been spared the wars and chaos that engulfed several countries in the region since the so-called Arab Spring uprisings erupted in 2011. But it has not been able to evade threats to its security, including sectarian infighting and random car bombings, particularly in 2014, when militants linked to al-Qaida and IS overran the border region, kidnapping Lebanese soldiers.

The years-long presence of extremists in the border area has brought suffering to neighboring towns and villages, from shelling, to kidnappings of villagers for ransom. Car bombs made in the area and sent to other parts of the country, including the Lebanese capital, Beirut, have killed scores of citizens.

Powerful Venezuela assembly meets again as pressure mounts

CARACAS, Venezuela — Foreign ministers from 14 nations are meeting in Peru on Tuesday in hopes of finding consensus on a regional response to Venezuela's growing political crisis, while President Nicolas Maduro's all-powerful constitutional assembly is forging ahead on promises to punish the embattled leader's foes.

The assembly was expected to gather at the stately legislative palace in Caracas for the first time since voting Saturday to remove the nation's outspoken chief prosecutor, a move that drew condemnation from many of the same regional governments that are sending representatives to the meeting in Peru's capital.

Peru's president has been vocal in rejecting the new assembly, but the region has found that agreeing on any collective actions has proved tricky. Still, Venezuela is facing mounting pressure and threats of deepening sanctions from trade partners, including a recent suspension from South America's Mercosur.

Despite growing international criticism, Maduro has remained firm in pressing the constitutional assembly forward in executing his priorities. He called for a special meeting Tuesday in Caracas of the Bolivarian Alliance, a leftist coalition of 11 Latin American nations.

Gearhart: 'It's been one of our top goals'

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"I'm a big proponent of it," Brown said at a public hearing Wednesday. "It's been one of our top goals for a long time. I think it's a no-brainer."

City Councilor Dan Jesse called the plan "anti-development" and said funds would be better spent elsewhere.

Wish list

The transportation plan prioritizes investments with four tiers, from the \$1.2 million likely to be available through existing funding sources to a wish list that exceeds the likely level of city and state funding through 2040.

Roadway and intersection upgrades, including development of a three-lane configuration on Highway 101 through most of Gearhart, are estimated at \$23 million.

Bridge projects — including replacement of the Highway 101 bridge over Mill Creek and Highway 101 bridge over Neawanna Creek in Seaside — would cost an estimated \$2 million.

According to the plan, 33 pedestrian and bicycle projects would cost an estimated \$25 million to complete. Concepts include sidewalk, path and roadway crossing improvements, and a network of bicycle lanes, marked on-street routes and shared-use paths.

Transit and system management projects comprise the remainder of proposed project costs. None are funded or planned, Connell said, but adoption of the plan will enable the city to request outside funding for future transportation improvements.

Adoption of the plan, prepared by the city, Oregon Department of Transportation, DKS Associates and Angelo Planning Group, does not commit the city to the projects.

"There is a whole other process outside of this," said Kevin Chewuk, a lead transportation planner with DKS.

Higher cost "aspirational" projects listed in the plan include sidewalk replacement, road extensions and Highway 101 reconfiguration.

Of a potential \$51 million for 59 spending projects, the plan lists 35 locally funded transportation projects at an estimated cost of \$28 million to the city, an amount that could be supplemented by the county, State Highway Trust Fund, Federal Highway Surface Transportation Program or road district taxes.

Other potential funding sources could include an increase in system development charges for builders, lodging tax increases, debt financing or formation of a local improvement district, among others.

Development concern

Brown said the plan would improve connectivity in Gearhart, particularly providing safer access to areas east and west of the highway.

"It's a 'to-do' in our comprehensive plan, an that was enough for me to want to be involved in it," City Councilor Paulina Cockrum said. "I think it's a good template for us to move forward."

Councilor Kerry Smith called it "a good starting point."

Jesse said he feared the plan would cause the cost of development to rise and stifle new affordable homes by putting an increased burden on builders to comply with new rules.

"I'm not as optimistic," Jesse said. "If we're talking about affordable housing, it will greatly increase the cost of land in our community."

Brown, Cockrum, Smith and Councilor Sue Lorain voted for the plan. Jesse voted against.

The City Council directed staff to prepare an ordinance for the September council meeting, including amendments to the city's zoning code to ensure consistency with the approved plan.

80 Work Wanted

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Legal Notices

AB6431 Notice of Public Auction Main Street Storage (South) Pursuant to its lien rights Intends to sell at Cash only Public oral auction The property of: Kayla Baughman #307 Kevin Jensen #142 Billy Mccall #164 Ashley Obryant #220 Kathryn St. Clare #302 Chelsea Tennis #333 Andrew Wirkkala #144 Sale to be held at 1805 S. Main Ave. Warrenton, Oregon 8/23/17 11:00 am (503) 861-2880 Published: August 8th and 15th, 2017

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AB6430 Notice of Public Auction Main Street Storage (North) Pursuant to its lien rights Intends to sell at Cash only Public oral auction The property of: Herb Camp #7 Liz Nelson #103 Lisa Benson #20 Shannon Innis #71B Ben Jackson #108 Kelly Simonsen #76A Leeann Travenshek #64 Brandon Wark #115 Branden Wirkkala #34 Sale to be held at 51 NE Harbor Ct. Warrenton, Oregon 8/23/17 at 10:30am (503) 861-2880 Published: August 8th and 15th, 2017

Legal Notices

AB6432 Notice of Application and Pending Planning Department Decision The Seaside Planning Department has received the following request: 17-040V: A variance request by Barbara Scott, on behalf of the property owner (Mariani Seaside LLC) to the minimum lot size and side yard setbacks in order to allow a property line adjustment (file 17-041PLA) that will divide the two existing houses 295 & 305 17th Avenue (6-10-16AD-TL1200) so they can be sold separately. The existing dwellings are located on two platted lots that would normally permit separate sale; however, the eastern dwelling extends over the platted lot line preventing the separate sale of each lot. The applicant plans to adjust the lot line so the western dwelling (295 17th Ave.) will be on a parcel approximately 4,414 sq. ft. and the eastern dwelling (305 17th Ave.) will be on a parcel approximately 5,583 sq. ft. The property is zoned medium density residential (R-2) and the zone would permit attached townhomes on 3000 square foot parcels; however, the applicant's request would maintain the existing detached single family dwellings under separate ownership. Both adjusted parcels would comply with the lot coverage provision applicable in the zone. The review will be conducted in accordance with Article 7 and Article 10 of the Seaside Zoning Ordinance, which establishes the review criteria and procedures for a variance. The subsequent property line adjustment would establish a surveyed line that would separate the two properties. A copy of the applications, applicable criteria, documents, and evidence relied upon by the applicants are available for review at no charge. These materials can be reviewed at the Community Development Department, 1387 Avenue U in Seaside. Copies of these materials will be provided at a reasonable cost. All interested persons are invited to submit written testimony in favor or in opposition to the request. Written testimony submitted by 5:00 p.m., Monday, August 28, 2017; will be considered by the Planning Director in rendering a decision on the application. Comments received after this date will not be considered. Comments may be delivered to the Community Development Department located at 1387 Avenue U or mailed to 989 Broadway, Seaside, Oregon 97138. Failure to raise an issue in writing, or failure to provide sufficient specificity to allow the Planning Director the opportunity to respond to the issue may preclude appeal to the Planning Commission based on that issue. For more information, contact Seaside Planning Director, Kevin Cupples at (503) 738-7100 Published: August 8th, 2017

Legal Notices

AB6417 Notice to Interested Persons In The Court of the State of Oregon for the County of Clatsop In the Matter of the Estate of Christine Tomine Sagen Deceased. Case No. 17PB03707 Notice is hereby given that Christine Ann Sagen has been appointed Personal Representative of the above entitle Estate. All persons having claims against the Estate are required to present them to the undersigned Personal Representative in care of the undersigned Christine Ann Sagen, Personal Representative 677 Florence Avenue, Apt. 2, Astoria, Oregon 97103, within four (4) months after the date of first publication of this Notice, as stated below, or such claims may be barred. All persons whose rights may be affected by the proceedings of this Estate may obtain additional information from the records of the Court, the Personal Representative or Attorney Kelly Stearns as attorney for the personal Representative at Columbia Pacific Law Firm, LLC, 1139 Exchange Street, Astoria Oregon 97103. Dated and first published: July 25, 2017 Christine Ann Sagen, Personal Representative 677 Florence Avenue, Apt. 2 Astoria, Oregon 97103. Published: July 25th, August 1st, and 8th, 2017

AB6429 CITY OF ASTORIA NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Common Council of the City of Astoria, acting as the contract review board, will take comments on the draft findings for an exemption to the standard solicitation method (City Code Section 1.966) for an exemption from the competitive solicitation requirements for the Bear Creek Headworks Dam Maintenance Contract at the August 21, 2017 Council Meeting. The meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at Astoria City Hall, 1095 Duane Street, Astoria, OR 97103. Copies of the draft findings are available at Astoria City Hall upon request. This meeting is accessible to the disabled. An interpreter for the hearing impaired may be requested under the terms of ORS 192.630 by contacting Jennifer Benoit, City Manager's Office, (503) 325-5824. Published: August 8th, 2017

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