

Lawsuit: About 5 million homes are covered by national flood insurance

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"If successful, the industry lawsuit ... would reverse years of effort in Oregon to reform the taxpayer-subsidized National Flood Insurance Program administered by FEMA, the conservation groups said in a joint release. "The flood insurance program places people, communities and wildlife at unnecessary risk by encouraging development in flood-prone areas by providing taxpayer subsidies for insurance coverage that private companies generally see as too risky."

FEMA administers the National Flood Insurance Program, providing coverage in flood-prone areas to more than 250 cities and counties in exchange for their adopting flood plain development regulations. About 5 million homes in the U.S. are covered by the program.

The Audubon Society of Portland and several other conservation groups sued the agency in 2009, claiming the flood insurance program endangered the habitat of salmon, steelhead and southern resident killer whales protected under the Endan-

gered Species Act. A settlement required FEMA to consult with the fisheries service and propose changes to better protect endangered species and their habitat.

A biological opinion issued in 2016 included several proposed changes including limiting development in flood- and erosion-prone areas, further protecting salmon-bearing surface waters from development, enhancing mapping and identification of flood- and erosion-prone areas, using local governments to help track flood plain development and enhancing enforcement.

Oregonians for Floodplain Protection contend the biological opinion violates both the Endangered Species Act and the Administrative Procedure Act, and is therefore unlawful. The agencies being sued have asked that the case be thrown out, arguing the complaints are premature because the agencies have not yet taken any action to determine whether they've caused the alleged harm. FEMA predicts that a final implementation plan will not be adopted until at least August.

Shelter: Local, state leaders support it

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The scope of work for the Uniontown Apartments included repairing and re-installing windows, repairing and painting all interior dry-wall, removing and replacing all flooring and sub floors, installing new heating units, electrical wiring upgrades, roof repairs and dealing with any instances of asbestos, lead paint and mold.

"To bring it up to government standards is just too expensive," said Scott Lee, the chairman of the housing authority board as well as chairman of the county Board of Commissioners. "We wanted to flip it and hopefully get it to somebody who could serve the same population that (the housing authority) serves and who goes along with our mission rather than have it just turned into condos."

The housing authority decided to offer the house to Helping Hands before putting it on the market. The two had collaborated before. The housing authority board voted unanimously to approve the sale at its meeting last week.

"Alan Evans has a track record of success with these buildings and we felt that Helping Hands would be a great organization to continue the legacy (of the building)," Lee said.

'Positive for Uniontown'

Lee has already heard some complaints and concerns from people who live or work in the area who worry the shelter could be detrimental to the neighborhood. The Astoria



Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

Helping Hands, a nonprofit that works with the homeless, is looking to expand operations to Astoria.

Warming Center, at the First United Methodist Church on Franklin Avenue and across the street from apartments and houses, has faced criticism for how it has operated in the neighborhood. Some of the criticism, board members admit, was justified. They have tried to tweak how the center is operated this year.

The Uniontown Apartments are on the north side of busy Marine Drive, sandwiched between a motel and a store that sells work wear and across the street from a coffee shop and a bar. Lee hopes people wait and figure out what Helping Hands plans to offer before jumping to conclusions, he said.

"It's going to be positive for our community," he said. "It's positive for Uniontown."

The project received support from leaders such as state Senator Betsy Johnson, District Attorney Josh Marquis and Astoria Mayor Arline LaMear.

"This project and the work Helping Hands does aligns closely with current city, county and state priorities for addressing the housing crisis in Oregon and the effect it has had on the most vulnerable among us," Johnson wrote, also noting that her husband, John Helm, serves on Helping Hands' board of directors. Johnson, D-Scappoose, has also been a member of the board and is now an advisory board member.

All of the Helping Hands centers operate on referrals and work only with people who are willing to abide

by the organization's requirements, which include sobriety, random drug tests, mandatory volunteer hours, participation in weekly process groups and proof of a job search. The nonprofit does not provide services to sex offenders or to people who make a lifestyle of being homeless and are not interested in changing their lives, Evans said. Helping Hands created a similar single-campus, apartment-like dorm in Tillamook at the former naval air station, a substantially larger and more complicated structure.

"Anytime you say you're opening a facility (like this one), you get some resistance because people feel they know what you do," Evans said. "We're very good at what we do."

Column: This could be a way to fund parks

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at their brick-and-mortar location, the menu will be limited.

"We like to do a couple things and do them really well," Lisa Malcolm said.

The City Council did not ask the Malcolms any questions and quickly approved the proposal. The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board had more of a discussion when Parks and Recreation Director Angela Cosby broached the subject at a meeting in January.

One board member worried that the parks department could be "opening a can of worms" by allowing vendors in city parks, but it could also be a way to fund parks.

Norma Hernandez, the board chairwoman, said many out-of-town visitors go to the Column once or twice a year, but they still pay \$5 for an annual parking pass. Offering more at the Column could be a way to encourage people to linger and help them feel they are getting

more of an experience.

The board was concerned about creating a carnival-type atmosphere at the Column, however. Some board members also pointed out that adding another structure on Coxcomb Hill, even a small, mobile ice cream cart, could alter the view. Astoria has beautiful parks and beautiful places, said board member Andrew Fick. "We need to be thoughtful whenever we're going to start messing with that," he said.

In their proposal, the Malcolms outlined several ways they plan to minimize the impact of the business. Their cart will be 7 feet tall and 16 feet long and light blue in color "so that it blends in with its surroundings on a sunny day," they wrote, adding, "We think a primary color would look out of place with the natural beauty of the Column site."

Instead of using a generator for power, they want to plug into the existing electric grid. "We don't want to be the source of any noise pollution," they wrote.

Homeless: Police chief hopes to collect more data

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"(The councilors' motion of support) causes us to look at our priorities," Spalding said after the meeting. "Not having infinite resources, we have to look at where are we going to spend our time. We've known for a while that there's been a big frustration in the community, you can see the frustration bubbling up. Even the councilors are frustrated because it's a problem for our community that no one has any really great answers for."

'Bad behavior'

Debbie Boothe Schmidt, owner of Phog Bounders Antique Mall, whose comments sparked the discussion, had hoped for a parking exemption so her employees — some of whom are older — could park near the business. Instead, they park on Astor Street near a small park at the base of Eighth Street, where there is no parking time limit. Homeless people often gather at this spot, she said. While



Joshua Bessex/The Daily Astorian

The Astoria City Council has directed police to more aggressively enforce city rules against public urination and defecation.

they haven't done much more than catcall, it is intimidating to her employees and customers, she said. She believes there have also been issues of drunkenness and drug use.

"We are not people without compassion," said Tom Schmidt, Debbie Schmidt's husband and also an owner of Phog Bounders. "We are not

people who don't care about other people, but these people don't care about us."

Spalding and LaMear head the city's homelessness task force, meeting with a wide spectrum of people from social service, advocacy, law enforcement, education and health backgrounds to come up with ways to address issues. LaMear hopes creative solutions will come out of their discussions, but said it could be a long time before they have anything concrete.

"We've got people breaking the laws, making our citizens feel unsafe and jeopardizing the quality of life and we're letting them do it," Nemlowill said, arguing that the motion was something that could be accomplished now. "So our chief of police says that he would like direction from council on how to deal with this and whether or not we would like the police department to take a more aggressive approach to this kind of bad behavior."

"It seems to me like we've got two problems," she added.

"There's the issue of homelessness and then we've got bad behavior, and I don't care who's causing the bad behavior, whether they've got a house or they don't have a house, they still shouldn't be allowed to be violating laws that we have in place, like urination and defecation on the streets and violation of leash laws and drinking alcohol, smoking in city parks. That stuff just happens and we just let it happen."

Nemlowill pointed out that in a goal-setting session held Friday, Spalding and the council talked about bad behavior people have attributed to homeless people and how some of these issues could be addressed by police taking a more proactive approach in enforcing city rules. The understaffed police department would likely require more officers to do this effectively, Spalding cautioned.

The police chief hopes to begin collecting more data around homelessness to determine what are problems and what are just perceptions.

THE DAILY ASTORIAN TV SCHEDULE												Evening listings TUESDAY	
TUESDAY EVENING												FEBRUARY 6	
A	L	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
2	KATU	(2) KATU News at 6 (N)		Jeopardy!	Wheel of Fortune	The Middle (N)	Fresh Off-Boat (N)	Black-ish (N)	Modern Family	Saves the World "Fish-tail" (N)		KATU News (N)	(3:55) Jimmy Kimmel
4	KOMO	(4) KOMO 4 News (N)		Wheel Fortune (N)	Jeopardy! (N)	The Middle (N)	Fresh Off-Boat (N)	Black-ish (N)	Modern Family	Saves the World "Fish-tail" (N)		KOMO 4 News (N)	(3:55) Jimmy Kimmel
5	KING	(5) NBC News (N)	KING 5 News	KING 5 News	Evening	GameGames "I See Dizzy People" (N)	This Is Us "Across the Border" (N)	Chicago Med "On Shaky Ground" (N)				KING 5 News (N)	(3:55) Tonight Show
6	KOIN	(6) KOIN Local 6 (N)	Evening News (N)	Extra	Ent. Tonight	NCIS "Keep Your Friends Close" (N)	Bull "Keep Your Friends Close" (N)	NCIS: New Orleans "A New Dawn" (N)				KOIN 6 News (N)	(3:55) Colbert
7	KIRO	(7) KIRO 7 News (N)	Evening News (N)	KIRO 7 News (N)	Ent. Tonight	NCIS "Keep Your Friends Close" (N)	Bull "Keep Your Friends Close" (N)	NCIS: New Orleans "A New Dawn" (N)				KIRO News (N)	(3:55) Colbert
8	KGW	(8) KGW News at 6:00 p.m. (N)		Live at 7 (N)	Inside Edition	GameGames "I See Dizzy People" (N)	This Is Us "Across the Border" (N)	Chicago Med "On Shaky Ground" (N)				KGW News (N)	(3:55) Tonight Show
9	KRCW	(9) Modern Family	Modern Family	The Goldbergs	The Goldbergs	The Flash "True Colors" (N)	Black Lightning "Black Jesus" (N)	News at 10 (N)	Friends			Two and a Half	Two and a Half
10	KOPB	(10) Ask-Old House	Business (N)	PBS NewsHour (N)		We'll M "Lost Children of Vietnam" (N)	American Experience "The Gilded Age" (N)					More Manners of	Downton Abbey
12	KPTV	(12) 6 O'Clock News (N)		Family Feud	Family Feud	Lethal "An Inconvenient Ruth" (N)	LA to Vegas (N)	The Mick (N)		10 O'Clock News (N)		News (N)	Page Six TV
13	KPDx	(13) Mike & Molly	Mike & Molly	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	FOX 12's News (N)	9 O'Clock News (N)		Family Guy	American Dad!		The Game	The Game
13	KCPQ	(13) Modern Family	Modern Family	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Lethal "An Inconvenient Ruth" (N)	LA to Vegas (N)	The Mick (N)		Q13 News at 10 (N)		Q13 News (N)	The Simpsons
20	TBS	(20) Family Guy	Family Guy	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory "Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory "Big Bang Theory			Big Bang Theory	The Detour (N)		
22	KZJO	(22) Friends	Friends	Mom	Modern Family	Mom	Modern Family			Q13 News at 9 (N)		Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory
29	ESPN	(29) NCAA Basketball (L)				SportsCenter (N)			SportsCenter With Scott Van Pelt (N)			SportsCenter (N)	
30	ESPN2	(30) NCAA Basketball (L)				College Basketball	NFL Live A weekday	NFL news and information show.		Jalen & Jacoby	30 for 30 "Jordan Rides the Bus"		30 for 30
31	NICK	(31) The Loud House	Henry Danger	Henry Danger	The Thundermans	The Thundermans	NickyRickyDicky	Full House	Full House	Full House	Full House	Friends	Friends
32	DISN	(32) Jessie Pt. 1 of 3	Bunk'd	Bunk'd	Raven's Home	Andi Mack	Stuck in Middle	Bizaardvark	Bizaardvark	Bunk'd	Jessie Pt. 2 of 2	Andi Mack	Stuck in Middle
34	FAM	(34) (5:30) *** The Bounty Hunter (10) Gerard Butler, Joel Garland, Jennifer Aniston.		The Fosters "Scars" (N)				*** The Wedding Planner (01) Matthew McConaughey, Jennifer Lopez.					The 700 Club
35	FMC	(35) (5:00) The Mask (94, Com) Jim Carrey.		(5:5) ** The Mask (1994, Comedy) Cameron Diaz, Jim Carrey.		(5:50) FXM Presents		*** The Watch (2012, Comedy) Vince Vaughn, Ben Stiller.		(5:55) FXM Presents			Parental Guidance (12) Billy Crystal.
36	LIFE	(36) Grey's "I Will Follow You Into the Dark"		Married at First Sight "Honeymoons"	Married1stSight	Married at (N)		Married at First Sight "Move-Ins" (N)		This Time "No Pain, No Gain" (N)		(05) This Time "No Pain, No Gain"	
38	ROOT	(38) Destination Pol.	Mark Few	NCAA Basketball Colorado State vs. Air Force (L)				Focused (N)	In the Spotlight	Poker Heartland Tour		NCAA Basketball Xavier at Butler	
39	FS1	(39) (5:30) NCAA Basketball Georgetown at Providence (L)		FOX College Hoops	Speak for Yourself			TMZ Sports (N)	Skip and Shannon: Undisputed Opinions on the biggest sports topics of the day.			INASCAR Race Hub	
43	SPIKE	(43) Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends	Ink Master "Step It Up"		Ink Master (N)		The Fast and the Furious: Tokyo Drift	
44	COM	(44) The Office	The Office	South Park	South Park	South Park	South Park	Drunk History	Drunk History	Drunk History (N)	Another Period (N)		The Daily Show (N) The Opposition (N)
45	HIST	(45) Forged in Fire		Forged in Fire		(05) Forged in Fire: Cutting Deeper		Enhanced episodes of 'Forged in Fire.'				(05) Forged in Fire	
46	A&E	(46) The First 48		Intervention		Intervention (N)		Intervention (N)		Undercover High "Bullied" (N)		(05) 60 Days (1:10) Interv.	
47	TLC	(47) Four Weddings "... and a Rock Club"		Big Fat Fabulous "Buddy's Big Secret"		Big Fat Fab. "We're Having a Baby" (N)		(05) I Am Jazz (N)		(05) Seeking Sister Wife		(05) Big Fat Fab. "We're Having a Baby"	
48	DISC	(48) To Be Announced		To Be Announced		Moonshiners: Outlaw Cuts (N)		Moonshiners (N)		Moonshiners		Moonshiners	
49	NGEO	(49) The Getaway "Jack McBrayer in Hawaii"		Wild Hawaii "Land of Fire"		Tut's Treasures "Tales from the Tomb"		Tut's Treasures (N)		Stonehenge Decoded		Tut's "Treasures Rediscovered"	
50	TNT	(50) (5:00) NBA Basketball Washington vs Philadelphia (L)		NBA Basketball Oklahoma City Thunder at Golden State Warriors Site: The Oracle -- Oakland, Calif. (L)				Inside the NBA				NBA Basketball Was./Phi.	
51	AMC	(51) (4:00) *** The Green Mile (1999, Drama) David Morse, Bonnie Hunt, Tom Hanks.		*** Terminator: Genisys (2015, Sci-Fi) Jason Clarke, Emilia Clarke, Arnold Schwarzenegger.				Fixer "Big Budget for a Big House" (N)		Restored Fords (N) House Hunters (N)		House Hunters	House Hunters
52	FOOD	(52) NCIS "Hometown Hero"		NCIS "Switch"		WWE Super Smackdown		Chopped "Mac and Cheese"		Chopped "Mardi Gras Goals" (N)		Chopped "Pride of New Orleans"	
53	USA	(53) Chopped "Canned Cheese, Please!"		Chopped "Pizza Perfect"				Chopped "Mac and Cheese"		Chopped "Mardi Gras Goals" (N)		Chopped "Pride of New Orleans"	
54	HGTV	(54) Fixer "A Classic, Traditional Beauty"		Fixer Upper "New Chapter, New House"		Fixer Upper		Fixer "Big Budget for a Big House" (N)		Restored Fords (N) House Hunters (N)		House Hunters	House Hunters
56	FX	(56) (4:00) *** X-Men: Days of Future Past (14) Hugh Jackman, ...		Terminator: Genisys (2015, Sci-Fi) Jason Clarke, Emilia Clarke, Arnold Schwarzenegger.				Baskets (N)	Baskets	Baskets		Baskets	This Is the End
57	CNN	(57) Anderson Cooper 360		CNN Tonight With Don Lemon		CNN Tonight With Don Lemon		Anderson Cooper 360		Anderson Cooper 360		CNN Tonight With Don Lemon	
58	FNC	(58) Hannity		The Ingraham Angle		Fox News @ Night		Tucker Carlson Tonight		Hannity		The Ingraham Angle	
61	CNBC	(61) Shark Tank		The Profit "Southern Culture" (N)		Shark Tank		Shark Tank		The Profit "Southern Culture"		Paid Program	
63	BRVH	(63) Beverly Hills "Unfashionably Late"		The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills		Beverly Hills Social (N)		Beverly Hills (N)		BethFred (P) (N)	Beth-Fredrik (N)	WatchWhat (N)	Beverly Hills
64	TCM	(64) (5:00) Air Force (43, Act) John Garfield.		(15) *** The Adventures of Robin Hood (38) Olivia De Havilland, Errol Flynn.				(15) *** How the West Was Won 1962, Western) Gregory Peck, John Wayne, James Stewart.					
65	SYFY	(65) (5:00) The Legend of Hercules		*** The Last Witch Hunter (2015, Action) Rose Leslie, Elijah Wood, Vin Diesel.				*** The Chronicles of Riddick (2004, Sci-Fi) Judi Dench, Colm Feore, Vin Diesel.					Dragon Blade (15)
66	RFD	(66) (5:30) Cattlemen	Women's Rodeo	Downunder Horseman.		Chris Cox	Rural Eve. News	Ag PhD		Cattlemen to Cattlemen		Women's Rodeo	Product Showcase