



# FIGHTING HISTORY

CIVIL WAR RE-ENACTORS GEAR UP FOR LABOR DAY WEEKEND EVENT

# THE DAILY ASTORIAN

146TH YEAR, NO. 44

DailyAstorian.com // THURSDAY, AUGUST 30, 2018

ONE DOLLAR

## Warrenton schools see best campus opportunity on Dolphin Avenue



Photos by Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

Mark Jeffery, superintendent of the Warrenton-Hammond School District, speaks to a group touring the proposed site of a new master campus.

## Project depends on bond money

By EDWARD STRATTON  
The Daily Astorian

**W**ARRENTON — The Warrenton-Hammond School District starts negotiations next week with Warrenton Fiber on a new master campus on nearly 60 acres the company owns on a gradual hillside nestled between the Old Skipanon Creek, business parks along Dolphin Avenue and subdivisions south of the North Coast Business Park.



Mark Jeffery, the school superintendent, has described the site as one of the last plausible properties inside city limits, but outside the tsunami inundation zone and wetlands where the school district can fit a master campus.

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The preferred site for a master campus is west of the Willow subdivision, background, and another proposed community known as Roosevelt.

## Economists predict a 'kicker' in 2020

Revenue collections have outpaced state forecasts

By CLAIRE WITHYCOMBE  
Capital Bureau

SALEM — State economists say if their revenue estimates hold, Oregon taxpayers will get a \$686 million “kicker” in 2020.

On Wednesday, economists released their latest revenue forecast, which showed general fund and lottery resources in the two-year budget to be about \$20.4 billion, \$166.8 million higher than projected several months ago.

“Oregon’s economic expansion has largely played out as expected in recent months, yet state revenue collections continue to outpace the forecast,” state economists wrote in their quarterly revenue forecast. “Much of the strong revenue growth can be traced to temporary factors, including the response of Oregonians to federal tax law changes and a spike in estate tax collections.”

While state economists expect the state collect more revenues than previously expected in the biennium, which concludes in mid-2019, they now expect to see less revenue in the 2019-21 budget period.

Oregon taxpayers receive the “kicker” when actual revenues in the two-year budget cycle are 2 percent above the original budget.

Economists now predict taxpayers will receive about \$686 million in 2020. The median taxpayer, earning between \$35,000 to \$36,000, can expect to get about \$164. Higher income earners can generally expect larger checks.

State economists also predict a corporate tax kicker of about \$207.8 million, which will be dedicated to K-12 education in the next biennium.

Generally, Oregon’s economy continues to do well. While wage growth and household income is still growing, the rate of growth has slowed over the past few years. Much of Oregon’s general fund revenue comes from income taxes.

However, state economists identified some downside risks that could pose a threat to the state’s economy in the medium and long term, including, but not limited to, “worrisome trends at the U.S. level,” housing affordability, climate and natural disasters and federal fiscal policy.

The Capital Bureau is a collaboration between EO Media Group and Pamplin Media Group.

### Q&A

## New Coast Guard commander outlines challenges

Hints about new cutters in Astoria

By JACK HEFFERNAN  
The Daily Astorian

Capt. Jeremy Smith has logged a lot of miles since he took command of Coast Guard Sector Columbia River in June.

He has spent much of his first two months on the job traveling to bases in Portland; Kennewick, Washington; Lewiston, Idaho; Grays

Harbor, Washington; Tillamook and Cape Disappointment in a dash to learn as much as possible about the region.

In his 24 years in the Coast Guard, Smith’s experience includes policy development in Washington, D.C., and leading response and air operations in San Diego. Most recently, he was the executive officer of the Coast Guard’s Aviation Training Center in Mobile, Alabama. He also holds a master of science degree from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University.

The new commander sat

down for a conversation with The Daily Astorian, where he discussed, among other things, what he’s learned so far and his top priorities during his three-year tour. He also hinted that the 2021 arrival of two 154-foot Sentinel-class cutters in Astoria — announced last year — may not be a done deal.

**Q:** From what you’ve seen so far, what have been some of the biggest challenges and some of the advantages of working in this area and at this air station?



Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

Capt. Jeremy Smith greets Coast Guard personnel during a change of command ceremony in June.

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