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ONE DOLLAR

Developer fights for waterfront hotel design

Hollander appeals to the City Council

By **KATIE FRANKOWICZ**
The Daily Astorian

A developer is fighting another denial of a proposed four-story hotel along the Astoria waterfront.

In an appeal to the City Council submitted this week, lawyers representing Hollander Hospitality argue that the city's Design Review Committee misapplied standards dealing with size and massing — criteria the committee considers when evaluating projects.

The City Council will hold a hearing on the appeal on Dec. 12.

Bellingham, Washington, developer Mark Hollander hopes to build a 60-plus room Marriott-brand hotel at the base of Second Street where the former restaurant, The Ship Inn, now stands. The site falls under Bridge Vista, a section of the city's Riverfront Vision Plan that outlines design standards and criteria.

The Design Review Committee, in a split 2-2 vote, denied the project in October. It was the second time the committee had looked at designs for the Fairfield Inn and Suites.

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CANNON BEACH

City clarifies new policy on fire calls

New restrictions aimed at fire chief

By **BRENNA VISSER**
The Daily Astorian

CANNON BEACH — The new mobilization policy adopted by the Cannon Beach Rural Fire Protection District is intended to limit the time the fire chief spends away from the district rather than individual volunteers, the fire board president said.

The clarification comes after the fire board decided in a 3-2 vote Monday that personnel will only be able to be out on outside calls 15 days out of any 30-day period from June through October.

"I would like to clarify the policy was not intended to deny the chief or volunteers from doing any conflagration work except outside the borders of the state of Oregon," Garry Smith, the board president, said. "And that could be overridden by specific circumstances if need arises. I support our district going out to help. The intent of the policy is to control the amount of time the fire chief, who is paid by the taxpayers, spends out of the district."

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New study looks at who visits North Coast

Traffic and lodging costs are concerns

By **BRENNA VISSER**
The Daily Astorian

When international travelers come to the North Coast, they are enamored with the nature that surrounds them and the Oregonians they meet. But a few more signs telling them how to get around wouldn't hurt.

The observations are a part of recent study by Travel Oregon and the University of Oregon's Institute for Policy Research and Engagement that looks at who visits the North Coast and what they like to do while they are here.

About 750 visitors from Astoria to Pacific City were surveyed in August in cities and state parks about what they felt were the region's greatest assets and weaknesses.

The information is aimed to inform tourism leaders on how to make tourism sustainable environmentally and economically through a multiyear rural tourism studio program.

"It gives us the opportunity to understand who is there and what they value there," said Linea Gagliano, Travel Oregon communications director.

In many ways, the study shows what one would expect. About half of the visitors reported being from outside of Oregon but from the United States, with about another 30 percent coming from Portland — but almost all of them are coming for leisure.

About 80 percent of visitors come for entertainment, including restaurants, shops and breweries. About 70 percent of people are then interested in getting active with land-based activities like hiking and about 60 percent in water-based activities like beach walks. Only about 27 percent reported dabbling in arts and culture.

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Photos by Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

ABOVE: Cycling is still catching on as a recreational activity on the North Coast. BELOW: Paragliders prepare to take to the skies over a beach at Fort Stevens State Park.



Visitors to Ecola State Park admire the view looking south toward Cannon Beach.

Astoria ferry hopes to be underway in 2020



The Daily Astorian

The Astoria Ferry Group hopes to have the historic Tourist No. 2 ferry taking tours on the Columbia River in 2020.

Reviving the Tourist No. 2

By **EDWARD STRATTON**
The Daily Astorian

The Astoria Ferry Group, a nonprofit trying to put the Tourist No. 2 back on the Columbia River, hopes to take passengers in 2020.

The group recently raised \$33,000 during the memorial for Robert "Jake" Jacob, a local developer and leader in the restoration effort, and hopes to translate the donations into a larger capital campaign over the next two years

to get the vessel ready for certification by the Coast Guard.

Cindy Price, a city councilor and president of the ferry group's governing board, said the group is trying to raise an initial \$50,000 this month.

"The idea is for that \$50,000 to be the kickoff to a capital campaign of \$250,000" over the next year, she said.

The donations are leverage for the group to go after grants from philanthropic and maritime interests, along with companies that might be able to supply some of the needed equipment for the ferry, Price said.

The group hopes to raise

another \$250,000 during 2020, with the current estimate to reach Coast Guard certification at \$500,000, she said.

"I would really love to get the vessel underway in the summer of 2020," Price said.

The group aims to have the entire restoration complete by 2024, the 100th anniversary of the Tourist No. 2 being pressed into service ferrying passengers between a 14th Street dock in Astoria and the former town of Megler, Washington.

The ferry group has talked about charging passengers around \$12 to ride the ferry

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