



Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

The tide rolls in near a neighborhood in Cannon Beach.

## Study: No definitive solution offered

Continued from Page 1A

Different approaches solved different problems. Policies that include “strategic retreat” — intentionally moving buildings out of a dangerous area — would see up to 1,800 buildings relocated and preserve the most beach access. But it comes at a price: moving buildings could cost \$300 million after accounting for the money it would take to renourish the beach and create new environmental easements.

The “laissez-faire” approach, where restrictions about where to build and whether riprap is allowed are stripped, actually resulted in almost no buildings being impacted by erosion in comparison to the status quo. Predictions show there would be a spike in homeowners fortifying properties that they currently cannot do under state law. Current planning policies would see about 20 buildings a year be affected by erosion by 2100.

But it, too, was costly, incurring about \$2.5 million a year regionally for costs associated with fortifying

coastal properties. The policy also massively impacts beach accessibility by interfering with sand production, which would also increase total water levels and lead to more flooding hazards. Currently, about 80 percent of the coastline is walkable. In the worst climate scenario, that would drop to about 40 percent by 2100 under this approach.

Though the study doesn’t offer a definitive solution, Corcoran said he hopes the information can be used to make long-term decisions.

“We’re so used to shooting down ideas,” he said. “I find it useful for electeds and others to play through alternative policies through the end.”

### Local impact

While the study focused on challenges unique to Tillamook County, the broader lesson of considering development hazards is something that can be applied across the North Coast.

Studies like this could be a model for cities to rethink the development process in the tsunami inundation zone.

“(Planning is) project driven and opportunity driven,” Corcoran said. “There’s no sense of altering development for hazards”

Such policies could force planners to “tick some kind of box” about whether vulnerable populations should be put in areas known to be historically inundated after a tsunami, Corcoran said.

Think of the Shooting Stars Child Development Center in Astoria as an example, he said, which moved into a building the Oregon State Police left in Uniontown because of tsunami danger. It falls into the 3 percent of land considered to be at most risk for a tsunami in Astoria, and has been inundated 17 out of the last 19 major historical events.

“If that kind of thinking went through the Planning Commission as a factor, there might have been an incentive to find another location,” he said.

No decision will be perfect, but it should at least be informed.

“Can we, through strategic decision, at least make the project less bad?” Corcoran said.

## Jeffery: Spent much of his career in smaller, rural school districts

Continued from Page 1A

Tom and Robbie, the administrative team has built them. They’re their programs, not mine, so I knew I could step out, and we wouldn’t miss a beat.”

Jeffery has spent much of his career in smaller, rural school districts.

Before Warrenton, he was superintendent of Willamina in the Willamette Valley for two years and the rural Eastern Oregon town of Paisley for eight years. He taught for 12 years in nearby Lakeview.

Before becoming an educator, Jeffery worked in lumber mills and restaurants, and served in the Air Force and Army. He decided to become an educator in the 1980s while training drill sergeants at Camp Rilea near Warrenton.

Jeffery plans to retire in either Redmond or Prineville to be closer to his siblings and father in central Oregon. His wife, Judith, lives in Warrenton but works from a distance for Crystal Peaks Youth Ranch, a Christian camp near Bend that rescues domesticated horses and links them with troubled young people for therapy.

When arriving in Warrenton, Jeffery said he had heard from someone buying a house that while it was seen as a good community, Warrenton was the school district where you didn’t want to send your kids.

“That was a stunner for me, and that ... has been really the benchmark off of which I work,” he said. “That, and in my first year, just having folks come in and not satisfied with what we were doing.”

The school district needed changes in the staff culture, educational approach and how it interfaced with the community, particularly at the grade school, Jeffery said.

Jan Schock, principal at the grade school for 15 years, was transferred in 2012 to South Jetty High School, the campus the district operated for inmates at the North Coast Youth Correctional Facility. Robbie Porter, the previous principal at South Jetty, was brought in as vice principal at

the grade school to help improve the behavior of students.

Rogozinski, a former principal at St. Mary, Star of the Sea School in Astoria, was hired the same year as principal of the grade school to help advance the school’s academic rigor. Heyen, principal at the high school for 12 years, helped smooth the transition by pulling double duty at the grade school.

“One of the three could step right in and do a great job,” Jeffery said. “They’re all ready for it.”

The school district has established a reputation for high marks on state assessments and other indicators of success, such as attendance and graduation. Jeffery gave the credit to his staff for improving students’ access to technology and using it effectively to support English and math instruction. The district also changed schedules to add more math instruction, ensured eighth graders transition smoothly to high school and expanded high school-level offerings to middle schoolers to provide a head start.

“When I started, my overarching goal was to make this the best district in the state,” Jeffery said. “I’m certain it could be done. It’s just everything takes longer than I want, as I’ve said before. We knew in order to do that, every department had to be the best.”

The school district recently finished a successful campaign to pass a \$38.5 million bond to buy a master campus out of the tsunami inundation zone and build a new middle school. The bond is the first of three the district hopes to pass by 2032 to relocate all of its schools uphill and east of the Skipanon River.

The bond was not a deciding factor in his retirement, Jeffery said, but made the decision to retire and let someone younger handle the project easier. The school district hopes to buy the property on Dolphin Avenue from Warrenton Fiber sometime next month, and hire a project manager, design firm and general contractor shortly thereafter.

“I think all of that will occur before I’m out the door,” Jeffery said.

## Homeless: ‘You can’t punish homelessness, you can’t punish it away’

Continued from Page 1A

Mary Docherty, the director of Riverfolk, a local organization that works with homeless people to secure state identification cards and birth certificates, approached Spalding a while back about fines her homeless clients face. She is wary of community service as a catch-all solution.

Instead, Docherty would like to see forgiveness of citations and associated fines and fees — especially citations she argues criminalize people for being homeless.

Speaking for her clients, she said, “The reason they don’t appear (in court) is because they feel hopeless. It’s like, why bother? Nothing is going to change.”

“It just adds to the barrier

that they’re up against,” she added. “And it really does affect them emotionally. That’s a big chunk of money to worry about.”

Spalding, who leads the homelessness solutions task force with Mayor Arline LaMear, is interested at looking into creative options, but he foresees other issues with a “clean slate program,” including arguments about equal treatment. If two people — one of them homeless and one with housing — both get cited for drinking in public, do they both get the option to work off their fines through community service?

City Councilor Cindy Price noted that many people struggle financially and receiving a ticket or citation can be a significant setback whether they have housing or not.

“The equity issue goes well beyond people who are unhomed,” she said.

Spalding still needs to speak with the Clatsop County Circuit Court to see if the court would accept community service in lieu of fines for homeless offenders. Astoria’s Municipal Court does not have the staffing to offer an official community service program, but believes the court could work

with the police department.

Right now, if a person who is homeless does show up to their court hearing and explains their situation, Municipal Court Judge Kris Kaino says he is likely to be lenient. In the past, he has worked with people to do community service with a local nonprofit instead of paying fines. In other cases, the fine might be reduced or eliminated if the person has no ability to pay.

“I’m not saying there’s

never a fine imposed, but very seldom,” Kaino said. “And we talk about different options with them.”

The city needs to ensure people are not violating city rules, but in cases involving the homeless, it often just makes matters worse to impose a fine, Kaino added. Also, people who have nowhere to live, nowhere to receive mail, cannot receive notices about accumulating fines if they miss their first scheduled court

appearance.

“I think the challenge is that you can’t punish homelessness, you can’t punish it away,” Amy Baker, the executive director of Clatsop Behavioral Healthcare, said at the task force meeting Tuesday. “That approach isn’t going to work. Really it has to be a long-term strategy around persistently and consistently getting people into help and getting them what they need in order to not be homeless.”

IT’S THAT TIME OF THE YEAR!!!

# NORMA'S

## SENIOR DAY SPECIALS

SPECIAL SENIORS MENU FOR 60 & OVER

EVERY TUESDAY  
STARTING NOVEMBER THRU JANUARY

CHECK OUT OUR  
**\$7 DAILY SOUP & LUNCH SPECIALS**

MON: TRIPLE GRILLED CHEESE WITH TOMATO BASIL SOUP  
WED: FRENCH DIP WITH POTATO LEEK SOUP  
FRI: COD FISH TACOS WITH A CILANTRO LIME SAUCE AND RICE  
OUR SOUPS ARE, OF COURSE, HOMEMADE

OPEN DAILY AT 11AM

# NORMA'S

Est. 1976  
Seaside, Oregon

SEAFOOD & STEAK

1 BLOCK OFF BROADWAY • 1 BLOCK FROM BEACH  
20 N. COLUMBIA, SEASIDE • 503-738-4331  
www.normasoceandiner.com

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**

**HEY KIDS! COLOR ME!**

**ENTER OUR HOLIDAY COLORING CONTEST TO WIN COOL PRIZES!**

Please Print Clearly

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Names: \_\_\_\_\_

**BRING OR MAIL ENTRY TO:**  
**AREA Properties, Inc.**  
1490 Commercial • Astoria  
503-325-6848  
www.areaproperties.com

RETURN ENTRIES BY DECEMBER 17<sup>TH</sup>  
WINNERS WILL BE NOTIFIED ON DECEMBER 19<sup>TH</sup>

www.facebook.com/Area-Properties-14560852144483