



Brenna Visser/The Daily Astorian

Road crews clean up a landslide across U.S. Highway 101 near Hug Point outside Cannon Beach in 2018.

## Rocks: Repair work depends on the soil, rock, vegetation

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“As long as we have what we have now ... we’ll always deal with that,” Torres said. “Between gravity and the intense rainfall that we get, when you add that together, you’ll always have a problem.”

In general, mitigation work is costly. Recent work on a short section in the Clatskanie Bluff area off Highway 30 just over the Clat-

sop County line cost around \$2.3 million. These project costs were on the high end, but repair work still can cost several hundred thousand dollars or more.

State road crews routinely deal with slides and rockfall on a stretch of Highway 30 near Clatskanie in neighboring Columbia County. A major slide in the area over a decade ago crushed homes and shut down the highway. The Associated Press later revealed

that information predicting the landslide dangers was shelved to avoid clashes with land developers. People who lived in the area were not aware of the risk.

### ‘Cleanup, scaling and screening’

What kind of repairs are done depends on the soil, the type of rock and the vegetation.

The Department of Transportation’s district office oversees

roughly three and a half counties with a maintenance budget of about \$10 million a year. The budget is specific to regular issues like brush maintenance, new asphalt or pothole patching, Buffington said. Surprise rockfalls aren’t figured into the spending plan.

Over the years, the state’s method of addressing issues on Highway 101 in Clatsop County has remained roughly the same. There’s the familiar fix of install-

ing a kind of hanging chain-link fence-type screen over the rock face, a common sight along the coastal highway in some places.

“Cleanup, scaling and screening,” Buffington said.

“The biggest challenge is not knowing when and where rocks are going to fall on the highway,” he said. “Sometimes it is predictable since it is a regular trouble spot, and other times, it is a completely new rockfall.”

## Deluca: Imagines Saturday’s food show was likely the final one

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The show eventually was rebooted in December and raked in \$350 for Filling Empty Belies, a nonprofit that serves lunch six days a week to needy people. On Saturday, Deluca hosted another show.

“We didn’t think about a charity component, but it became obvious as we went along that we should give back to the community,” Deluca said. “Well, we just thought, why don’t we pick a food organization that could benefit from this?”

Motivated by the previous suc-

cess and a desire to continue the holiday spirit, Deluca kicked off another show this weekend during the Second Saturday Art Walk.

“We were all feeling very giving and wanted to keep giving in the new year,” he said.

About 10 artists accepted Deluca’s invitation to join the show,

and each decided on a portion of their profits to donate. The photography, paintings and collages included a “Wizard of Cheese,” a piece inspired by “The Wizard of Oz.”

“Some are a little weird, abstract you might say,” Deluca said. “It’s very tasty.”

Deluca imagines that Saturday’s food show was likely the final one. In February, he will head to Las Vegas for an extended period of time to participate in another art show.

The food art, however, will continue to be on display for the remainder of the month.

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