



Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

Kent Larson, of DLR Group, looks over a section of the deteriorating exterior of the youth facility in Warrenton.

Jail: County still hopes to have the state pay the \$1.5 million in repairs

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“It doesn’t mean, ‘We’ll have this kind of addiction program.’ It’s fundamentally, ‘What do we need to do in this building?’” Phillips said. “What is it going to look like to process new (people into) custody? What is it going to take to do the laundry? What is it going to look like to do the food service? If you have 120 inmates, how much space do you need to store their property?”

Doing this work also gives the sheriff’s office, which oversees the jail, the opportunity to think about ways to make the jail more efficient. For example, it’s important to think

about how inmates travel within the jail, Phillips said. A dedicated hallway between where people are held and the visiting room, for instance, would eliminate the need for deputies to escort them.

Thinking about how many holding rooms and where they are placed could also address problems officers sometimes face trying to conduct drunken-driving investigations, Phillips said. With only one holding room in the Duane Street jail, it is often a chaotic environment.

After getting a sense of what should go where, engineers can get a better idea of the size and needs of the jail and check it

against the project’s budget, said Kent Larson, the project manager from DLR Group.

“We’re getting the puzzle pieces stated at the right size, and then conceptually studying where those puzzle pieces go,” he said.

Through this process, architects will also recommend what aspects of the building should be replaced versus what can be remodeled.

There is about \$1.5 million in deferred maintenance left by the state from when the youth facility closed in 2017, including water intrusion issues, roofs that need to be replaced and flooring problems.

“It’s the idea of ‘now’

versus what you could do later,” Larson said.

The cost of the repairs has been factored into the bond, but the county still hopes to have the state pay the \$1.5 million bill, Monica Steele, the interim county manager, said.

Moving ahead, the county will conduct interviews on Monday to find the project’s construction management general contractor, who will oversee the construction.

In May, the county will also recommend candidates for an advisory committee comprised of citizens and other community leaders who will provide public input and oversight as the project progresses.

Homeless: ‘Some people act completely different once you get alcohol on board’

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Riley said it can include actions like cussing at or berating police or not complying with an officer’s requests.

She also pointed to one example recently where she responded to reports of a fight near the American Legion on Exchange Street, an area where police frequently have reports of problems tied to the homeless.

Riley asked the groups to split up and went to talk to one person who was very intoxicated. She didn’t feel the need to do much more when all of a sudden one of the men who had been involved in the fight walked up and punched another man in the face right in front of her. She had to arrest him for his violent behavior.

Spalding has not done a deep dive into how often police are dealing with “repeat customers” or the types of calls they are responding to across the city. But he said the calls involve a diverse group of the homeless population and there seem to be particular problem areas.

The empty lot next to the American Legion and the Garden of Surging Waves is one such spot.

Riley sees many of the same people congregate peacefully for daily lunches served by the non-profit Filling Empty Bellies at Peoples Park off Marine Drive.

Police are rarely, if ever, called to Peoples Park to deal with any kinds

of problems, she said.

“You go down there you see a big large group of people, all of them just acting completely appropriate, really nice, friendly, helpful to each other,” Riley said. “That is not what we’re seeing in other locations. We are seeing a difference, a different behavior.”

But, she added, “some people act completely different once you get alcohol on board and in these other locations.”

It’s an important distinction.

“I appreciate you pointing that out, thank you,” Erin Carlsen, the director of Filling Empty Bellies, told Riley at the task force meeting.

“We don’t want to lump individuals who are experiencing homelessness in the same category as people who are having poor behavior in our community because it’s not about the homeless,” Spalding said.

“Although,” he added, “I will say a lot of the people who are homeless are part of this problem. But again this is about behavior that’s impacting our community, that we’re getting complaints on and that we’re responding to calls for service.”

Still, anyone can cause problems in the city, he said.

When it comes to public questions of safety or suspicious circumstances and the homeless, police are often juggling perception versus reality, the police chief said.

Transit: ‘This is a game-changer’

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The transit district’s top priority for the new funding will be purchasing eight replacement buses. They include one electric bus paid for in part by the Federal Transit Administration’s low or no emission grant program. The district has applied to receive an electric bus for the past three years. The agency is also looking to invest in several new bus shelters and signs.

Sunset Empire is looking to expand weekend service between the Emerald Heights Apartments and central Astoria to help residents reach shopping centers and connections at the Astoria Transit Center, Hazen said.

The agency also hopes to add two dedicated circulator routes, one through the Warrenton-Hammond region and another through Seaside; twice-daily service to Clatsop Community College’s Marine and Environmental Research and Training Station; longer service hours on its U.S. Highway 101 route; and a shopping shuttle between the Knappa-Svensen area and Astoria-Warrenton.

Of the new funding, Sunset Empire has to spend 1 percent on improving service for high schoolers, Hazen said. The agency proposes two new limited bus routes open to the public but specifically timed to help students in the Clatsop Works summer internship program. One

route would run between Knappa and Astoria. Another would run between Jewell and Seaside.

“I’m excited about that one,” Hazen said of the Jewell-to-Seaside route. “We’re not serving Jewell, but they’re paying taxes into our system.”

Sunset Empire has also proposed several additional projects in case tax revenue comes in above estimates. They include local match money for the electric bus; adding additional weekend hours in Astoria, Warrenton and Seaside; and later evening service on Highway 101.

“This is a game-changer for the state of Oregon, having this funding,” Hazen said.

Crandall: Scored 1,248 points at Oregon State

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Basketball was big in Astoria in those days, George Crandall said.

“Did we ever play,” he said. “Then we both played (at Oregon State) for Slat Gill. The basketball at Astoria was going strong back then. And I’ll tell ya, we won the ball games.”

After high school, like many of his teammates, Cliff Crandall enlisted in the military for the duration of World War II, serving in the Army Air Corps. He enrolled at Oregon State in 1945.

And his basketball career picked up just where he left off.

In fact, Crandall’s scoring average actually increased with the Beavers — to the point where he would finish his college career as Oregon State’s all-time leading scorer.

As a four-year letterman (and twice a team captain), Crandall became the first player in Oregon State history to top 1,000 points. He eventually earned all-Pacific Coast Conference and All-American honors (1948 and ‘49), and finished his

college career with 1,248 points.

The record stood until it was passed by Dave Gambee (1956-58), who finished with 1,468, and Crandall slipped to third when Mel Counts (1962-64) became the Beavers’ all-time scoring leader with 1,973.

Crandall is No. 17 on Oregon State’s all-time scoring list, just ahead of former Knappa Logger Brian Jackson’s 1,236.

And Crandall is still on a few other career top 10 lists in Oregon State history, including sixth in games played (126) and eighth in free throws made (388).

His other career highlights included a 29-point outburst against Oregon (the most at the time by an Oregon State player vs. Oregon), and in a 1949 Final Four game, Crandall led the Beavers with 18 points in the third-place game, a 57-53 loss to Illinois in Seattle.

Crandall was inducted into the State of Oregon Hall of Fame in 1981, and the Oregon State athletic Hall of Fame in 1990 (followed by Palmberg’s induction in 1991).

He was drafted by the Minneapolis Lakers in 1948, in the NBA’s second-ever draft, and the first draft for the Lakers.

Crandall’s obituary states, “he was drafted by the fledgling NBA but couldn’t raise his new family on the low wages. Times have changed.”

Crandall eventually joined the San Francisco-based Stewart Chevrolet AAU club, which won the national Amateur Athletic Union title in 1951 under head coach and national College Hall of Famer Hank Luisetti.

Crandall and his family moved back to Oregon, where he began a long career in life insurance.

“He was an extraordinary athlete that never bragged,” his obituary states, and “a caring father that was always there, and a loving husband with a passion for his wife of 43 years.”

Crandall is survived by his wife, Linda; sister, Jane; brother, George; daughter, Shari; son, Doug; grandchildren, Brett, June, Kevin and Matthew; and great-grandchildren, Mei Lien, Kai Li and Cody.



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