

TIM TRAINOR
Opinion Page Editor

The cost of stagnation

A consultant recently hired by the city suggested doubling water rates, raising sewer rates by 57 percent, inventing a stormwater utility charge and levying an additional fee on new development. That's in addition to discussion of a costly levy or fee to help pay for road upgrades and a separate levy the city hoped to pass last year to build a new \$4.5 million fire station and pay more millions of dollars in deferred facilities maintenance. Oh, and we almost forgot to include the Pendleton

But the burden on its residents will be sizable and the only way to reduce it is for the city to expand and evolve. To do so will take a dramatic cultural change.

Unsigned editorials are the opinion of the East Oregonian editorial board of Publisher Kathryn Brown, Managing Editor Daniel Wattenburger, and Opinion Page Editor Tim Trainor. Other columns, letters and cartoons on this page express the opinions of the authors and not necessarily that of the East Oregonian.

Dayle and Linda Robertson
Leavenworth, Wash.

The answer lies directly under our noses, but for the fact that a great deal of us don't know it exists. Collaboration

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What Bibi didn't say

The U.S. position — shared by China, Russia, Germany, Britain and France — is: Given that Iran has already mastered the techniques to make a bomb and managed to import all the components to do so, despite sanctions, it is impossible to eliminate Iran's



Netanyahu warned that the interim deal Obama negotiated with Iran would lead to a collapse of sanctions and be violated by Iran. None of it happened.

My problem with Netanyahu is that he warned that the interim deal Obama negotiated with Iran — which froze and rolled back parts of Iran's nuclear program and created these negotiations — would lead

Alas, Bibi is Churchill when it comes to isolating Iran, but he is AWOL when it comes to risking his own political future to make it happen. I have a problem with that. I still don't know if I will support this Iran deal, but I also have a problem with my own Congress howling in support of a flawed foreign leader trying to scuttle the negotiations by my own government before they're done. Rubs me the wrong way.

Thomas L. Friedman won the 2002 Pulitzer Prize for commentary, his third Pulitzer for The New York Times. He became the paper's foreign-affairs Op-Ed columnist in 1995.



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