

Late compromise brings housing bills closer to home

By **PARIS ACHEN**
Capital Bureau

SALEM — Lawmakers made progress Tuesday on two significant housing bills — churning out a last-minute deal with builders and real estate lobbyists on inclusionary zoning and passing a bill out of the House of Representatives that increases notice for raising rent.

The Senate Committee on Finance and Revenue unanimously recommended passing a bill to lift a ban on cities and counties requiring developers to include affordable housing units in their plans, which also is known as inclusionary zoning. The bill is now headed for the Senate floor.

"It appears there is an agreement that everyone can come to the center on," said Sen. Mark Hass, D-Beaverton.

Senate Bill 1533 is "a monumental bill for this

Legislature, which has been struggling with inclusionary zoning for many years," Hass said.

Due to resistance from builders and the real estate industry, lawmakers offered a compromise that would ensure developers would receive incentives for offering affordable housing, including tax exemptions, fee waivers or expedited services.

The measure allows local government to require developers to offer up to 20 percent of units at below market rates in exchange for at least one incentive, such as tax exemptions, fee waivers or expedited services. Developers also may opt to pay a fee in lieu of the requirement. The requirements would apply only to multifamily housing projects with 20 or more units. The units would be offered to those who earn up to 80 percent of area median income.

The compromise bill also allows local governments

to levy an up to 1 percent construction tax to help pay for developer incentives, pay for housing programs and provide down payment assistance for home ownership.

Meanwhile, the House passed a bill to increase notice for raising rent in month-to-month tenancies. The measure passed 48-to-11 with bipartisan support and now heads to the Senate floor. The bill was part of an omnibus housing package negotiated by House Democrats, landlords, builders and affordable housing advocates to address the state's affordable housing shortage.

Much of the housing package has fallen by the wayside — including addressing problematic no-cause evictions — in the compression of a 35-day legislative session.

Alissa Keny-Guyer, D-Portland, chairwoman of the House Committee on Human Services and Housing, said lawmakers

failed to reach a deal on some of the other issues in time.

"This bill which aims to increase stability is a small step in the right direction," Keny-Guyer said of Tuesday's tenant protections bill. "It does not say what the rent should be. It just says give tenants more time."

The bill prohibits landlords from raising rent for the first 12 months in a month-to-month tenancy and requires a 90-day notice, instead of the existing 30-day notice, before hiking rent after that point.

The city of Portland already requires 90 days' notice.

The measure also increases fees landlords can charge tenants for violating a smoking ban from \$50 to \$250 after a warning.

Another tenant protection to increase the notice period for no-cause evictions after a year of tenancy from 60 days to 90 days was stripped from the legislation.

BRIEFLY

Former Condon/Wheeler track coach gets probation for sex abuse

MADRAS (AP) — The daughter-in-law of Nike co-founder Bill Bowerman has pleaded guilty to sexual abuse for having a relationship with a 17-year-old boy on the track team she coached in central Oregon.

The Bend Bulletin reports that 45-year-old Melissa Bowerman was sentenced Monday to five years of probation.

During probation, her Internet usage will be restricted and she's not allowed to contact males under age 18, except family members. A violation could land Bowerman in prison for up to 1½ years.

She will also have to register as a sex offender.

Bowerman did not make a statement at the hearing. Her attorney, Stephen Houze, says therapy has been "very valuable" for Bowerman. He says she had a previously undiagnosed mental health condition.

The former Madras High coach spent 26 days in jail after her July 2014 arrest.

In 2013, Bowerman was dismissed from a volunteer coaching job with the Condon/Wheeler track team after she escorted a student to prom. No criminal charges were brought against her.



Bowerman

Two dead after powerful Washington home explosion

PORT ORCHARD, Wash. (AP) — The remains of two people were found following a powerful explosion Tuesday morning that leveled a home in western Washington.

The couple who died in the explosion in Port Orchard, about 15 miles west of Seattle, were 70-year-old William B. McDonald and his wife, 65-year-old Maria C. McDonald, said Kitsap County sheriff's Deputy Scott Wilson.

Their identities will be officially confirmed by the Kitsap County coroner, but Wilson said they have no reason to believe anyone else was in the house when it exploded around 4 a.m. Tuesday.

Authorities have all but ruled out homicide as a cause of the explosion at the triple-wide manufactured home, but they have not determined how it happened.

"At this point, we do not believe there is anything suspicious that leads us down the path of criminal activity," Wilson said.

As far as they know, no one in the neighboring homes was injured in the blast, although other buildings were damaged, including a nearby elementary school. The extent of the damage elsewhere involved broken windows and doors, which he said was "truly remarkable" considering the strength of the blast that shook the neighborhood, Wilson said.

Briefs are compiled from staff and wire reports, and press releases. Email press releases to news@eastoregonian.com

FBI estimates Malheur occupation costs at more than \$1.2M

By **JOHN SEPULVADO**
OPB

The 41-day armed occupation at the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge cost Oregon counties at least \$1.2 million, according to documents obtained by OPB.

The FBI prepared the cost estimate Feb. 13. It illustrates how the counties incurred those costs, from lodging and meals to fuel expenses and overtime.

The Harney County School District paid some \$16,000 for security and counseling services — the school district also spent \$160,000 in wages for teachers and staff to stay home during the first week of the occupation.

Meanwhile, more than \$700,000 was spent on backup law enforcement in the area from police and sheriff's departments across the state. Nearly 200 law enforcement officials from 35 agencies worked 3,678

Prosecutors seek to push back trial

PORTLAND (AP) — Government prosecutors have filed a motion to push back the trial dates for those arrested following a 41-day standoff at an Oregon wildlife refuge.

The prosecutors want a federal judge to deem the case complex, which would delay the defendants' right to a speedy trial and likely send the case into 2017. They cite the unique crime scene, the large number of defendants and complicated pre-trial discovery issues.

Defense attorney Lisa Hay filed a document opposing efforts to designate the case as complex.

Standoff leader Ammon Bundy and 15 others are scheduled to each be arraigned Wednesday on a conspiracy charge. Prosecutors say a superseding indictment with additional charges could be filed early next month, after investigators finish processing the crime scene near Burns.

regular hours during the occupation, according to the documents.

Of the \$700,000, the biggest expenditure went to 4,588 overtime hours for law enforcement, costing those departments more than \$400,000.

The figures compiled by

the FBI do not include costs incurred by the Oregon State Police, which played a visible role in assisting the FBI.

Clackamas County spent more than any other department assisting Harney County, racking up \$136,000 in costs. Meanwhile, Lane, Marion and Multnomah

counties each spent more than \$60,000.

Lodging costs alone for all of the assisting law enforcement topped \$52,000.

Local and state officials were in Washington D.C. this week, lobbying the federal government to reimburse counties for the costs.

Rep. Peter DeFazio, D-Ore., and other Oregon representatives have introduced federal legislation and amendments since the occupation ended that would shift some of the costs to the federal Interior and Justice departments.

"The vigilantes who occupied the Malheur Wildlife Refuge for over a month sapped resources from local and state governments and inflicted tremendous damage to a valued national resource," said DeFazio in a statement Monday. "It will take time, money and hard work to clean up the destruction left behind."

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AccuWeather.com Forecast

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Intervals of clouds and sun	Partly sunny	Times of clouds and sun	Clouds and sun with a shower	Some sun with a passing shower

PENDLETON TEMPERATURE FORECAST
53° 30° 56° 33° 57° 41° 54° 36° 60° 41°

HERMISTON TEMPERATURE FORECAST
56° 30° 58° 32° 57° 43° 58° 34° 59° 39°

ALMANAC

PENDLETON
through 3 p.m. yesterday

TEMPERATURE	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	55°	26°
Normals	49°	31°
Records	66° (1921)	7° (1894)

PRECIPITATION
24 hours ending 3 p.m. 0.00"
Month to date 0.82"
Normal month to date 0.94"
Year to date 2.33"
Last year to date 1.49"
Normal year to date 2.32"

HERMISTON
through 3 p.m. yesterday

TEMPERATURE	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	54°	22°
Normals	51°	30°
Records	67° (1947)	14° (1928)

PRECIPITATION
24 hours ending 3 p.m. 0.00"
Month to date 0.34"
Normal month to date 0.79"
Year to date 1.44"
Last year to date 1.05"
Normal year to date 2.07"

SUN AND MOON
Sunrise today 6:44 a.m.
Sunset tonight 5:34 p.m.
Moonrise today 7:50 p.m.
Moonset today 7:34 a.m.

Last	New	First	Full
Mar 1	Mar 8	Mar 15	Mar 23

REGIONAL FORECAST

Coastal Oregon: Clouds yielding to some sun today. Partly cloudy tonight.

Eastern and Central Oregon: Intervals of clouds and sunshine today. Partly cloudy tonight. Partly sunny tomorrow.

Western Washington: Clouds and sun today. Patchy clouds tonight. A blend of sun and clouds tomorrow.

Eastern Washington: Times of sun and clouds today. Partly cloudy tonight. Partly sunny tomorrow.

Cascades: Times of sun and clouds today. Partly cloudy tonight. Times of clouds and sun tomorrow.

Northern California: Partly sunny today. Partly cloudy tonight. Partly sunny tomorrow.

REGIONAL CITIES

	Today			Thu.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Astoria	56	43	pc	62	45	pc
Baker City	48	23	pc	50	26	pc
Bend	58	29	pc	61	34	pc
Brookings	60	45	pc	60	48	pc
Burns	46	20	pc	49	23	pc
Enterprise	50	27	pc	53	26	pc
Eugene	61	40	pc	64	43	pc
Heppner	54	30	pc	56	33	pc
Hermiston	56	30	pc	58	32	pc
John Day	60	31	pc	64	35	pc
Klamath Falls	59	28	pc	61	33	pc
La Grande	52	28	pc	56	31	pc
Meacham	50	29	pc	54	31	pc
Medford	64	38	pc	67	43	pc
Newport	56	45	pc	61	47	pc
North Bend	60	44	pc	63	47	pc
Ontario	53	30	pc	55	31	pc
Pasco	55	29	pc	58	32	pc
Pendleton	53	30	pc	56	33	pc
Portland	60	40	pc	64	44	pc
Redmond	61	27	pc	63	31	pc
Salem	60	39	pc	64	43	pc
Spokane	48	30	pc	51	32	pc
Ukiah	54	29	pc	56	31	pc
Vancouver	58	39	pc	63	42	pc
Walla Walla	53	33	pc	56	37	pc
Yakima	58	31	pc	58	32	pc

WORLD CITIES

	Today			Thu.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Beijing	44	19	s	43	17	pc
Hong Kong	60	55	sh	61	56	c
Jerusalem	61	48	s	65	52	pc
London	45	27	pc	43	29	s
Mexico City	78	41	pc	75	47	s
Moscow	37	26	c	35	26	c
Paris	45	32	pc	44	30	pc
Rome	62	47	pc	61	47	sh
Seoul	34	19	s	42	21	pc
Sydney	90	73	s	93	75	s
Tokyo	48	33	pc	44	37	c

WINDS

(in mph)	Today	Thursday
Boardman	NE 3-6	ENE 3-6
Pendleton	N 3-6	NNE 3-6

UV INDEX TODAY

0 2 3 2 0 0

8 a.m. 10 a.m. Noon 2 p.m. 4 p.m. 6 p.m.

0-2, Low 3-5, Moderate 6-7, High; 8-10, Very High; 11+, Extreme

The higher the AccuWeather.com UV Index™ number, the greater the need for eye and skin protection.

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NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY

Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day.

National Summary: A major storm will bring severe weather to the Southeast, rain from the Ohio Valley to New England and snow from southeastern Missouri to the Lower Peninsula of Michigan today. Much of the West will be sunny.

Yesterday's National Extremes: (for the 48 contiguous states)
High 93° in McAllen, Texas Low -17° in Clayton Lake, Maine

NATIONAL CITIES

	Today			Thur.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Albuquerque	57	29	s	60	32	s
Atlanta	59	38	t	51	32	pc
Atlanta City	57	49	r	51	36	pc
Baltimore	59	48	s	53	32	c
Billingham	44	24	s	54	33	pc
Birmingham	52	37	sh	52	33	pc
Boise	53	32	pc	56	35	pc
Boston	47	45	r	54	35	r
Charleston, SC	76	45	t	61	37	s
Charleston, WV	64	38	r	40	28	c
Chicago	38	30	sn	37	23	c
Cleveland	45	35	r	37	21	sn
Dallas	61	38	s	59	33	s
Denver	49	19	s	50	30	s
Detroit	39	30	sn	36	20	sn
El Paso	61	32	s	68	37	s
Fairbanks	35	19	pc	40	17	s
Fargo	36	23	sf	29	23	c
Honolulu	80	64	pc	80	68	s
Houston	63	40	s	70	39	s
Indianapolis	43	31	r	36	23	sf
Jacksonville	78	44	t	65	37	s
Kansas City	46	30	c	43	24	pc
Las Vegas	68	46	s	74	49	pc
Little Rock	53	33	c	54	28	s
Los Angeles	82	54	s	83	55	s
Louisville	57	36	r	42	28	sf
Memphis	48	36	r	50	31	s
Miami	84	63	c	74	53	s
Millwaukee	39	29	c	35	24	c
Minneapolis	37	25	c	35	22	c
Nashville	55	38	r	44	30	pc
New Orleans	62	44	pc	67	44	s
New York City	50	49	r	53	31	sh
Oklahoma City	60	33	s	53	29	pc
Omaha	41	31	pc	39	26	pc
Philadelphia	58	52	r	56	33	c
Phoenix	78	51	s	83	54	s
Portland, ME	40	35	i	52	33	r
Providence	53	50	r	55	33	r
Raleigh	71	44	t	55	34	s
Rapid City	42	17	s			