

Grant: Cougar Dome's roof, walls to be made seismically safe

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tions on the gym could have some cost savings."

Gathering data on exactly what underlies the Cougar Dome foundations is a first step toward design and eventual construction.

On Tuesday, March 16, geotechnical engineer Michael Remboldt, of K.A. Engineering out of Coburg, was onsite to take cores on the south, west and north sides of the building. The track-mounted geotechnical drill that Remboldt and his wife, Marvis, used for the work reached bedrock at about 11-12 feet deep in all three holes. The material they found was mostly a gravelly substrate, Marvis said, which is a piece of good news for the building's seismic risk.

Their preliminary observations mean that liquefaction — the collapse of the ground that supports the building due to earthquake shaking — is probably not a major issue, Michael Remboldt said.

In November, the district awarded the engineering contract for the seismic



Ellen Morris Bishop/For the Wallowa County Chieftain
Geotechnical driller Michael Remboldt explains some of their methods and findings to Wallowa School Board member Polly DeVore, right, while his wife, Marvis, records sample data on the west side of the school's Cougar Dome on Tuesday, March 16, 2021.

retrofit to ZCS Engineering and Architecture. The Klamath Falls/Oregon City-

based firm has completed seismic retrofit projects for the Baker School District

and Grant County School District, as well as larger gym retrofits for schools in

Roseburg, Klamath Falls and Toledo, Jones said.

"We awarded the contract to them because of their experience with seismic rehabilitation work. They really understood what needed to happen," she said. "They've done more than any other contractor. And they've done some local seismic retrofits in similar districts, including Baker and Imbler."

"They also have a great record of being on time and on budget," Jones added. "And they have done 118 similar retrofit projects across the state in the past five years."

In addition, ZCS provided some seismic evaluation information for parts of the whole facility plan.

The work will be done using a contract management/general contractor methodology. That means that the general contractors work closely with the engineering firm during the design phase of the project, Jones said.

Some of the work that is likely, Jones said, includes building a new, reinforced wall in the gym weight

room where the existing wall, built of a wood portion set on concrete blocks and not tied together, is susceptible to failure during earthquake shaking.

"I was with them when they did their first walk-through," Jones said. "What they showed me is that, for example, in the weight room there's a concrete block that wood beams rest on. There's nothing that ties it all together. So that's a 'hinge point.' And so in an earthquake, that would 'hinge.' What they were thinking about is building another wall that would be reinforced and go all the way down and all the way up and be tied into the existing wall. And they'd insulate the space in between, too."

The grant may be used for added work.

"Other renovations funded by the seismic grant will likely include the Cougar Dome's ceiling, roof and reinforcement of walls. But they are still in the design phase," Jones said. "They will keep the same shape, and it will be seismically safe when they are done."

Money: 'We'll just have to see what happens'

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Roberts said the added money will help fill holes in the county budget caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

"That will just about fill the budget shortfalls from when they shorted us on PILT (payment in lieu of taxes) payments last year," she said.

That shortfall left a hole in the county budget of about \$600,000, she said.

"This'll just backfill that a bit," Roberts said. "Hopefully, we won't have to cut people's jobs or hours."

Lacey McQuead, city administrator for Enterprise, said in an email she was unaware of the specifics of the \$410,000 federal payout.

"We will be discussing this at the next council meeting (Monday, April 12) and I will be asking the council to appoint members to a committee to help provide the remaining council members recommendations on expending the funds," McQuead said. "Once those recommendations are made, we will provide more definite plans during the budget process."

City Administrator Larry Braden, of Joseph, said in an email Friday he was aware of Joseph receiving a share of the COVID-19 aid funds. He still has questions, as the process is still in its early stages.

"The expenditure guidelines have not permanently been set yet nor have the amounts," Braden said. "The projected amount for the city of Joseph is \$229,109."

But he's enthusiastic for what it means for the city.

"In any case, this is very exciting for the city of Joseph and it will be fun to hear what the exact guidelines are so we can start the discussions of what needs we can fill with

the grant monies received," he said.

Mayor Gary Hulse, of Wallowa, had not yet heard of the \$170,000 his city is getting when contacted Thurs-

day, March 25, but he anticipates it eagerly.

"IT'S ALWAYS GOOD NEWS WHEN WE HEAR WE'RE GETTING MONEY."

— Dusty Tippett, Lostine mayor

day, March 25, but he anticipates it eagerly.

"It would mean a lot to our budget," he said. "I'll need to meet with council and our budget officer and get their opinions."

He said he also wants to talk to Wallowa residents to get their thoughts on spending the federal aid. He said once the city is notified by the feds, the aid will likely be on the agenda for the following council meeting. The Wal-

lowa City Council next meets Tuesday, April 20.

The mayor said the aid package will help the city, but he's not sure in what areas.

"Right now, we're just

mainly cutting back and holding on until we figure what any losses are going to be," Hulse said. "We're still hanging in there, but there have been areas we've had to cut back on."

Mayor Dusty Tippett, of Lostine, said Friday, March 26, his city hadn't yet been notified of the federal disbursement and, since it's going through the state, it likely will be delayed a bit.

"Anything going through

the state will probably take longer," he said.

He expects the city can best use it to upgrade its water system.

"It could definitely help the general fund and the water fund, but I'll have to talk with the council first," he said. "It's always good news when we hear we're getting money."

"We'll just have to see what happens. We hope to get the water system upgraded. The USDA has been on us to boost the reserve in case we had a water main break. The water system is our biggest expense since we don't have a sewer system."

Michael Moore has been a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) serving youth in our community since 2019. He is a dedicated advocate, spending his time being a voice for children in the courtroom. Thank you Michael for continued excellence when it comes to serving our youth! Call Building Healthy Families to learn more about the important work of CASA volunteers like Michael.

EASTER SERVICES
April 4th 2021

All Are Welcome
St. Patrick's Episcopal Church
100 NE 3rd St, Enterprise NE 3rd & Main St.
Good Friday Service April 2 at noon
Easter Sunday April 4 at 9:30
Facebook: St. Patrick Church Enterprise, Oregon

Christ Covenant Church
Good Friday Services 5:30pm, April 2nd
Easter Breakfast 9:00 am
Easter Worship Service 10:30 am
Pastor Terry Tollefson
Email: terrancetollefson@gmail.com
Church Office: 541-263-0505
723 College Street, Lostine OR

Joseph United Methodist Church
301 S. Lake St. Joseph • Cherle Dearth, Pastor
Easter Sunday, April 4
In-Person Worship with Guidelines
7:30 AM Sunrise Service (North End of Wallowa Lake)
10:00 AM Worship at The PLACE
Limited Seating
Call 541-432-3102 or jumc@eoni.com to reserve your space
For more info or to Watch Online visit JosephUMC.ORG

ENTERPRISE CHRISTIAN CHURCH
85035 Joseph Hwy, Enterprise • 541-426-3449
www.enterprisechristianchurch.org
Maunday Thursday & Good Friday Services @ 7:00 p.m.
Sunrise Service will be at 6:15 a.m. (Radio/Parking Lot)
In-Person Services at 9:00 and 10:45 a.m. (Masks and Distance required)
• All services can be heard on the radio in church parking lot.
• All services are on Facebook Live
FB Page: "Enterprise Christian Church, Enterprise, Oregon"

Grace Lutheran Church
Good Friday Service April 2nd at 4:00 pm
John King, Pastor
409 West Main • Enterprise

St. Katherine's Catholic Church
Holy Thursday - April 1
St. Katherine's of Siena, Enterprise 7:00 PM
St. Pius X, Wallowa, 5:00 PM
Good Friday - April 2
Stations of the Cross at 2:30 PM
St. Katherine's of Siena, Enterprise 3:00 PM
Easter Vigil - April 3
St. Katherine's of Siena, Enterprise 8:00 PM
Easter Sunday Holy Mass - April 4
St. Katherine's of Siena, Enterprise 10:30 AM
St. Pius X, Wallowa, 8:00 AM
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