

Real ID now available by online appointment through Oregon DMV

Oregonians now have the choice to get a Real ID the next time they renew their driver license or ID card.

The DMV began issuing Real ID-compliant licenses and ID cards to Oregonians who meet the federal requirements and bring the required documentation to their DMV appointment. Although a standard li-

cense or ID card is still available, some are choosing to get a Real ID-compliant card so that they are prepared for changes to TSA travel requirements next year.

In October 2021, the Transportation Security Administration will begin requiring identification that complies with federal

Real ID standards to pass through airport security when boarding a domestic flight. The new ID requirements also apply to identification you use when entering a secure federal site, such as a military base.

How to get a Real ID

Getting a Real ID requires an in-person visit a DMV office and presentation of

specific documentation before a card can be issued.

This means you can't obtain a Real ID card for the first time by using the DMV website to replace a card.

Visit the DMV website to learn more about Real ID, including a tool to help you make a checklist of documents to bring so you are prepared for your appointment. You can also read about other forms of ID such as a passport that you can use instead of a card issued by DMV.

You may not need a Real ID

Instead of gathering documents and making an appointment at DMV, check and see if you are "Real ID ready" with something you

already have — like a passport or passport card. There are many federally accepted forms of identification like a military ID or passports that Oregonians already own. These can be used to fly after October 2021.

Learn more about Real ID on our website at oregon.gov/realid.

Meetings from 1A

"We understand that a lot of public testimony has been entered into the record and [we] would like to take the time to address this testimony prior to the hearing," Serra wrote.

Murphey then accepted a motion to postpone the hearing and rescheduled further presentations until Aug. 25. The city will continue to accept public comments on this and other issues and Kelli Weese, City

Recorder, updated commissioners on the evolving technical advancements being initiated to allow for more interactive public meetings.

"The City has come to the realization that with the adoption of the Phase 2 guidelines from the Governor's office, we will likely be having these meetings for a while and with that we needed to figure out a way to have a more inclusive public process," Weese said, "So we are going to add back in public comments for both action items and

general public comments."

The second action item was also postponed as the applicant, Rosa Cazares, requested the opportunity to provide the commissioners with additional information in support of her application for a conditional use permit for a retail marijuana location at 470 Highway 101.

This request was also approved by the commission and the public hearing was rescheduled for July 28.

The final area of dis-

cussion undertaken by Commissioners was the acceptance of the latest update in the city's COVID policies, which was quickly approved with little discussion.

For more information on the City of Florence's Temporary Public Meeting Policies, visit the City of Florence website at <https://www.ci.florence.or.us/em/public-meeting-during-covid-19>.

Port Commission

The Port of Siuslaw Commission also met this week with a very

brief agenda for commissioners to consider.

The meeting was held via teleconference and all commissioners were in attendance. The agenda was approved as were the financials and a brief report from Administrative Assistant Kelly Stewart was also accepted.

Port Manager David Huntington walked commissioners through the evening's main discussion item, the sealing and striping of the Harbor Lot.

There was a brief discussion which result-

ed in commissioners and Huntington agreeing that the specifics of the three bids received lacked specificity and needed to be clarified.

This led to the decision by the Commission to have Huntington restate the terms of the bid with the interested contractors, and then move forward with the selection of the contract recipient.

There were no public comments. The next Port of Siuslaw Commission meeting is scheduled for Aug. 19.

Parking from 1A

until Oct. 30.

The modifications to parking in Old Town are in part due to concerns over the inability to navigate the sidewalks on Bay Street while adhering to the physical distancing requirements currently in place.

There is also concern with assuring proper distancing between

tables while allowing restaurants to meet the rising demand for their services as the summer continues.

Sarah Moehrke, Community & Economic Development Assistant, is coordinating the modification to current parking regulations and provided additional guidance and a time-frame for interested restaurant owners.

"The City has creat-

ed a four-business-day process that will be used for processing the Outdoor Seating Acknowledgement form," Moehrke explained. "Once a restaurant turns in the form, staff will be given two days to review the form. Once the review process has taken place, if everything is in order, the restaurant will be allowed to expand seating."

For restaurants that

apply for a right-of-way permit to utilize the parking lane in front of their restaurant to expand seating, the City's Public Works department will place barriers provided by the City within one business day.

The restaurant will then be notified that it can expand seating into that area.

For the restaurants that are applying for the private property ex-

pansion into their own parking areas, those restaurants will be able to start their expansion as soon as their acknowledgement form is reviewed by staff and deemed complete.

There are different forms for business owners to submit to the city, depending on the specifics of their restaurants parking situations.

These can be found online at <https://www.ci.florence.or.us/economicdevelopment/expansion-restaurant-outdoor-seating>

ci.florence.or.us/economicdevelopment/expansion-restaurant-outdoor-seating

For more information about the Expansion of Outdoor Seating program, contact Sarah Moehrke, Community & Economic Development Assistant, by email at Sarah.Moehrke@ci.florence.or.us, or call her at 541-991-8276.

RHRP from 1A

moved to Florence three and a half years ago when they bought the house they live in now. After the initial cost of the home and the new flooring, the Wiesner's were left with little money to afford the long list of other repairs that needed to be done. But with another baby on the way, they felt it was imperative they make their home safe and livable.

"We knew that we had no choice," Wiesner said.

After reaching out to Weatherization, a Homes for Good program, they were directed to Andy Clay and Christina Spencer, who coordinate the Rural Housing Rehabilitation Program (RHRP).

St. Vincent de Paul's RHRP helps Florence homeowners like the Wiesner's make their home safe, accessible and livable by providing access to low-interests

rate, payment-deferred loans to afford home improvements. RHRP provides loans to low- and moderate-income homeowners who would otherwise not be eligible for one through their traditional bank.

"We've done some pretty major work since getting the loan," Wiesner said.

Their home hadn't had improvements or repairs since it was built in 1979. This was apparent from the outside as the sides of the house appeared dilapidated before the renovations began.

"I believe they had this specialized metal siding put on that was supposed to last a lifetime, but it was pretty rough," Wiesner said. "So, we decided to go ahead and replace it as well."

Their home now has a leak-proof roof atop upgraded siding. New plumbing runs throughout the home, and soon there will be new dry-wall installed in sever-

al of the rooms in the house to help improve insulation and replace molded paneling from previous leaks.

"It's an amazing program," Wiesner said. "I would recommend it to anybody, especially if you have a lot of stuff that needs to be done like we did; it's definitely worth it."

Project manager Andy Clay said he is currently applying for a new grant to fund more renovations in Florence. To do this, he has to conduct a needs assessment which gauges how many people qualify and what type of renovations need to be done to the homes here.

"Unfortunately, there's never enough money," said Clay. "But, you know, the things that we've done have really helped improve people's lives. Some homes have been so dilapidated there are structural dry rot issues or holes in the floor — and it's a danger for the folks.

"There are other projects where somebody simply needs more accessibility, such as ramps or a converted bathroom, to make it more accessible for them."

The loan is for families or individuals who may not be able to make monthly payments on a loan.

Instead, the loan is payment-deferred, meaning the homeowner doesn't have to pay it until they sell the home, whenever that is.

"Technically, there's a 20-year term on the loan," Clay said. "But after that, as long as you're remaining in the home, we just renew it every five years. Plus, the interest stops accruing after seven years."

Since getting approved for the program, Wiesner feels much of her stress has been lifted. Now she can spend more time focusing on her children's needs.

"Our lives have improved so much because

we don't have constant stress from trying to figure out what we're going to do to fix everything," Wiesner said. "Before, it just felt like one thing after the next was falling apart. And since we've got four kids and my husband's the only one that's able to work, it was very, very stressful. It has completely gotten rid of all that stress and made life so much easier."

The Wiesner's are hoping to have all the renovations completed by the end of summer, just in time for her children to start school again.

"It will be nice to not have things torn apart and all over the place while the kids are trying to study," Wiesner said.

Currently, there is still a gaping hole in the ceiling of their bathroom where they had ripped out water-damaged paneling and insulation — something her children are not a fan of looking at.

"Of course the kids are

like, 'I don't want there being a hole!' and I'm like 'Well, I know. I don't like it either,'" Wiesner said. "But once the new roof went on it was like, 'oh my goodness, the leak stopped and we can breathe for a second, but we still have a lot to deal with to get everything done.'"

Still, Wiesner said her children are amazed by how much their house has improved so far.

"The kids love it," she said. "They tell me all the time when we pull in the driveway that it looks like we just bought a brand-new house and I mean, it is completely transformed."

For more information about the program or to find the application to apply for the program, go to <https://www.svdv.us/what-we-do/affordable-housing/rural-housing-rehabilitation-program> or call Christina Spencer at 541-743-7165.

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• Urologist Dr. Bryan Mehlfaff attends.

• Tuesday Lunch Group (3rd Tuesday)
12 noon - 1:00 p.m. - Ichiban Chinese/Japanese Restaurant
• Urologist Dr. Roger McKimmy attends.

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