

Cottage Grove Retrospective

A look back at Sentinel stories from 30 and 60 years ago

Council protests county road plan: 1987

Calling the proposed plan inequitable in its funding approach, the Cottage Grove City Council is protesting Lane County policies that would turn over jurisdiction of the county roads in the city limits in exchange for a lump-sum payment.

Council members directed city staff Monday night to send a letter to the county board of commissioners objecting to the formula used in the funding scheme, and to reconsider a more equitable formula for smaller cities.

Under the proposed plan, which the county and the cities of Eugene and Springfield have agreed to tentatively, the county would allocate \$1.5 million in the road improvement monies and about \$350,000 more in maintenance funds based on the total number of road miles within a city's boundaries.

Cities could use the funds for any type of road maintenance or improvement--wheth-

er on county roads or city streets--but would then be responsible for maintaining all county roads inside the city limits.

Cottage Grove would receive approximately \$69,000 from the road improvement fund and another \$17,000 from the maintenance fund. The cities of Eugene and Springfield, however, would receive nearly 78 percent of both accounts.

"The problem with the policy is that it gives the lion's share to Eugene and Springfield. Small cities get the scraps left over," said City Manager Bruce Williams.

City officials contend that basing the formula on the county road miles within a city's limits would be more equitable. Under the provision, the metro area and smaller cities would split the funding pie down the middle, said public works director Bob Sisson.

The proposed plan would do away with

the "assistance to cities" road improvement program in which the city has received an average of \$208,000 annually Sisson said. Failure to take part in the new plan, however, would not guarantee any amount of funding he added.

The city also disputes the county's estimate of having about a quarter mile of county road within the city. The city contends there are nearly 4.8 miles.

The matter will receive further discussion by the council in a June 1 work session, a meeting which will also feature discussion of forming a city beautification committee.

Developing a citywide beautification committee is among the council's goals for the year but how the program would be administered has not been decided. "When we're talking about beautification, we're talking about a plan for the whole city," said Mayor Jim Gilroy.



News from the state legislature and around Oregon

From the legislature

- The Cottage Grove Youth Advisory Council testified before the Oregon Senate on Tuesday, May 8 on a bill designed to prevent the sale of nitrous oxide canisters to people under the age of 21. The bill originated in Cottage Grove after the youth group approached Oregon Representative Cedric Hayden who supported the original legislative effort, House Bill 3030.
- A bill aimed at protecting children whose parents are incarcerated will have a public hearing today, May 10. Senate Bill 241 is designed to minimize the trauma in children during the arrest and incarceration process.
- Senate Bill 2403 would require individuals involved in fender benders to exchange insurance policy numbers and companies rather than the standard name, address and vehicle registration. That bill will be heard this week.

From around the state

- The fate of Elliott State Forest is still up for grabs with Oregon State University the latest entity to join the fray. Late last week, Oregon State Treasurer Tobias Read suggested that the university be given the chance to purchase the forest for research purposes.
- The Associated Press reports that while Oregon collected nearly \$75 million in tax revenue from the sale of marijuana, schools and law enforcement have yet to collect on the promised funds due to a note in state law. The law notes that the Oregon Liquor Control Commission must be paid back for the expense of creating the marijuana program before other entities receive their funds.
- An Oregon facility may be in hot water after immigrant detainees staged a hunger strike there last week. The Northern Oregon Regional Corrections Facility has fielded accusations of holding individuals for federal immigration authorities. The move would violate state law that prohibits Oregon law enforcement from using state resources for capturing, detaining or otherwise interacting with an individual based solely on their immigration status.
- Soon residents in Oregon may be able to identify as "non-binary" on their driver's license. The Department of Motor Vehicles is reportedly considering the option after hearing testimony on the subject last week. Residents can submit public feedback until May 12. The next public hearing on the matter will take place today, May 10 in Portland.
- The University of Oregon unveiled its Native American dormitory wing late last week. The space is expected to be ready for students this fall and is part of the ongoing effort of the university to represent a more diverse student body. Approximately 150 students on the University of Oregon campus identify as Native American.

POLICE BLOTTER

Cottage Grove Police Department 24-Hour Anonymous Tip Line: 767-0504

May 7

Cottage Grove police responded to a complaint that a female driver had pulled in front of another vehicle, went around the corner and hit a tree. The caller blocked the vehicle with his car until authorities arrived.

A tote of Christmas decorations was found dumped in an alley on 115 N. K St.

A complainant was reported as being upset that he had called CGPD two days in a row and had yet to receive officer contact regarding phone harassment.

Authorities received a call concerning a male described as heavy-set with baggie jeans and a hat punching his dog in the face and forcing it to walk on its hind legs to correct its behavior.

A male was reported urinating in an old phone booth in the area of 911 Main St.

CGPD took a call concerning a disorderly subject near Bennett Creek, reportedly yelling and screaming. The caller was unaware if anyone else was in the vicinity.

May 6

A needle with "sore sort of liquid" was found on the front lawn of a residence on N 16th St.

CGPD conducted a welfare check in Bohemia Park after receiving a call that a man was moaning and possibly crying in the gravel parking lot.

An incident near Quality Inn consisted of a male climbing into a dumpster in an attempt to collect cans.

A complainant on N. 10th St. reported he was approached by a female between 20 and 30 years of age carrying a pair of pants and shoes asking for a place to sleep.

May 5

A purse was reportedly stolen from the back room of the Cottage Grove Deli.

St. Andrews reported a syringe on its property and requested law enforcement collect it.

CGPD received reports of two subjects hanging out along the back fence line of Harrison Elementary School.

A male wearing a neon green hat allegedly stole a pack of lighters from Grocery Outlet.

May 4

A male was arrested for disorderly conduct and stealing cigarettes from Shell.

A parent arrived at the police station requesting that officers speak to his 10-year-old concerning threats the child had made at school.

A disturbance was reported at Safeway after two men were seen shouting in the parking lot. The disagreement may have been in regards to a cell phone.

CGPD responded to a call claiming a red pickup truck had attempted to run the complainant over.

A caller reported that an 11-year-old showed up at her house claiming they did not feel safe at home.

May 3

Criminal mischief was reported on the bike path between Bimart and Walmart. A large amount of graffiti was seen on the overpass and the bars were reportedly damaged.

A call came in from Adams Ave. claiming a woman was seen rummaging through the outside of a house left vacant after its owner passed away a month ago.

A concrete picnic table at Silk Creek Park was damaged after a seat was broken into three pieces.

NEW: Digital X-Rays (use less radiation)
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Cottage Grove Dental
Dr. Brent Bitner, DDS
350 Washington, Cottage Grove (behind Better Bodies)
541.942.7934

6-day weather forecast

THURSDAY MAY 11

53° | 42°



Mostly Cloudy

FRIDAY MAY 12

53° | 42°



Showers

SATURDAY MAY 13

54° | 40°



Showers

SUNDAY MAY 14

56° | 43°



Showers

MONDAY MAY 15

56° | 43°



Showers

TUESDAY MAY 16

57° | 43°



Showers

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