

Jekyll and Hyde



Jekyll and Hyde is currently playing at the Cottage Grove Theatre. See A1 for complete review. Photos by Emily Bly.

Swinging Bridge denied grant

By Caitlyn May
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Cottage Grove City Manager Richard Meyers had sad news for the council during the Monday, October 9 meeting.

The city's Swinging Bridge was not included on a preliminary list of projects that applied for a grant through the state parks commission.

"We went a presented and more than likely, that list will be improved in November," Meyers said. "So we won't make the official announcement that we have not been funded but we were not on that list."

The city was hoping to earn between \$135,000 and \$150,000 to fund repairs of the Swinging Bridge.

Meyers told the council the city will now be looking towards other funding options.

The city was presented with three options for repairing or replacing the bridge earlier this year and the board opted to put its effort behind the second option.

The plan would provide the most movement for the bridge while still maintaining its design.

The price tag for a bridge that would look like the Swinging Bridge and provide movement similar to the current bridge was estimated at \$261,000.

"Basically, the option is using the existing bridge and replacing the aspects that have failed like the upper cables and the decking," city engineer Bradsby previously told The Sentinel. While the replacements would enable to bridge to swing, OBEC reported that it would exceed the 50 pounds per lineal foot safety standard.

City approves agreement with SLSD

School district can avoid additional bond for Harrison construction

By Caitlyn May
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The South Lane School District (SLSD) is saving up to \$20,000 thanks to the city of Cottage Grove. This, according to planning and development manager Faye Stewart who presented to the city council on Monday night.

The agenda called for the council to discuss an intergovernmental agreement between the city and SLSD regarding the bonding of public improvements for the new elementary school.

"Under the development code, performance bonds for all public improvements shall be issued for the city in the amount of the improvements," Stewart said. "What we've found with the school district is that it has two bonds in place."

SLSD currently has a bond for the cost of the project with its general contractor and a bond with a sand and gravel company.

"As I understand it," councilman Jake Boone ventured, "The school district would normally have to put up some money that says, 'we promise we'll finish our project

and won't screw up and make the city fix it.' But they already have a contractor telling them they won't screw up and they'll fix it so rather than making the school district effectively, double bond, we're saying let the district drive this."

Cottage Grove City Manager Richard Meyers agreed, saying, "We put the bonds in place because contractors can disappear. We have some strong feelings the school district won't disappear on us," he said. "So having this agreement isn't unusual. We know they're going to be around.

SLSD

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worry me," she said.

In the latest report, Cottage Grove High School had 35 less students than last year, Bohemia had five less and Harrison had 12 more students.

Parent noted that the district is set up to handle the ebbs and flows of attendance. Issues only arise when it hits extremes in either direction. A few years ago, the district had 70 students less than the previous year and one year had 40 students more than the year before.

"We can handle it. It'll fluctuate, we'll get more kids in, things will change. So, we're not worried about that right now," said Parent. "I get these [updates] weekly and this drives our entire budget."

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