

Community News

Community public meeting to discuss Territorial Hwy. June 20

Neighbors and community members are invited to an informational meeting to learn more about upcoming improvements to Territorial Highway between Gillespie Corners and the town of Lorane.

The public meeting will be held Thursday, June 20, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Lorane Grange (80342 Old Lorane Road).

Planned improvements to the 5.7 miles between Gillespie Corners and Lorane include providing shoulders, realigning four curves to improve sight distance, replacing deficient culverts and widening bridges, and stabilizing a landslide at Stony Point.

The improvement plan reflects community and neighbor input gathered in 2014.

"Safety improvements to this section of Territorial have historically had widespread community support," said Lane County Engineer Peggy Keppler. "Since the tragic death of bicyclist Jane Higdon on that stretch of highway in

2006, we have been looking at opportunities to improve safety and address the overly sharp curves, steep grades and narrow shoulders in the Gillespie Corners area.

"After years of careful planning, we are ready to begin the first phase of construction next year."

Jurisdiction over the 42-mile stretch of Territorial Highway located within Lane County's boundaries, with the exception of the portion that is also Highway 36, was transferred to Lane County by the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) earlier this year.

While Lane County takes on immediate jurisdiction for Territorial when it comes to ownership and permitting authority, maintenance of the highway will transfer in three phases over the next five years.

A detailed map that includes the maintenance transfer phases is available online at www.lanecounty.org/territorialhighway.

'BBQ for Bernie'



DAMIEN SHERWOOD/COTTAGE GROVE SENTINEL

Approximately 50 people gathered for a BBQ event in Coiner Park Saturday under the banners of South Lane for Bernie Sanders and the Green New Deal Coalition to discuss progressive issues and strategies for organizing a local presence. "The point is to get people who are interested in the Green New Deal — bringing jobs to the area, bringing jobs to get selective logging, to get fire prevention, to make a resilient economy, a resilient society — together. And the person who's doing that on the national stage is Bernie Sanders," said organizer Josh Fattal, who predicted more organized events in the near future. "Hopefully by September we can see a room full of 100 people."

Richard Meyers recognized with Visitor Industry Award

Nearly 200 members and guests celebrated the 2019 Travel Lane County Visitor Industry Awards on June 5.

With "cycling" as the theme, Steve Schulz from

Cycle Oregon gave the keynote address and spoke about the great impact regional events like Cycle Oregon can have on local economic growth and rural

tourism.

Everyone in the room at Valley River Inn was excited to congratulate this year's award recipients.

•Community Leadership Award: Richard Meyers, Cottage Grove

•Convention Leadership Award: Janet Wasko, University of Oregon

•Sports Leadership Award: Mike Ripley, Mud-slinger Events

•Destination Award: PublicHouse, Patric Campbell & Colby Phillips

•Stewardship Award: Oregon Country Fair, Crystalyn Autuchovich

•Stewardship Award: McKenzie River Trail Run, Tim Hooton

Additionally, nine Tourism Ambassadors were honored for their work in communities throughout Lane County.

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Wednesday, June 26 – 6:30 p.m.
For more information call:
Linda LaZar (541) 942-0054

1425 Daugherty Ave • Cottage Grove
Refreshments will be served