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City works to secure two homeless shelters

Council finalizes purchase of Bend Value Inn pending grant money

BY BRENNA VISSER The Bulletin

The city of Bend is closer to getting two permanent homeless shelters off the ground.

On Wednesday, the Bend City Council voted to finalize the purchase of the Bend Value Inn, which would be turned into temporary housing for

homeless residents, on the condition that the city is awarded grant money from the state.

Unlike a warming shelter, which only allows people to stay at night, this shelter at 2346 NE Division St. would have 28 rooms for homeless residents to live in like a home, albeit on a temporary basis.

"I'm really excited that we are looking at a concrete option for this type of housing," Councilor Gena Goodman-Campbell said Wednesday.

The money is expected to come from Project Turnkey, a state program operated by the Oregon Community Foundation that gives local communities and nonprofits funding to renovate hotels and turn them into homeless shelters.

After a series of setbacks put Bend at the back of the line for this funding earlier this year, an expected infusion of an additional \$9.7 million into the state program is putting the city back in play for paying for the majority of this project with grant dollars, said Carolyn Eagan, the city's economic development director.

See Shelters / A4



LEGISLATURE

BY GARY A. WARNER

Oregon Capital Bureau

Too optimistic.

Too pessimistic.

sessions until Monday.

party and other chamber.

the House or Senate.

on Friday.

Cooperation on

issues bring end

of session closer

Back in January, the Legislature

thought it would be adjourning for good

Midweek, lawmakers seemed doomed

to working right through to the constitutional deadline of 11:59 p.m. June 27,

House and Senate members headed

for the exits Thursday afternoon with a few hours of sunlight left to spare and

word not to be back in Salem for floor

"They didn't really want to work on Saturday, either," Rep. Jack Zika, R-Red-

Lips that are rarely zipped stayed shut as sheaves of bills and resolutions moved swiftly through the Legislature. The work was a late-session nod to the reality that bills cannot be amended on the floor of

with maybe a break for Father's Day.

tax, housing

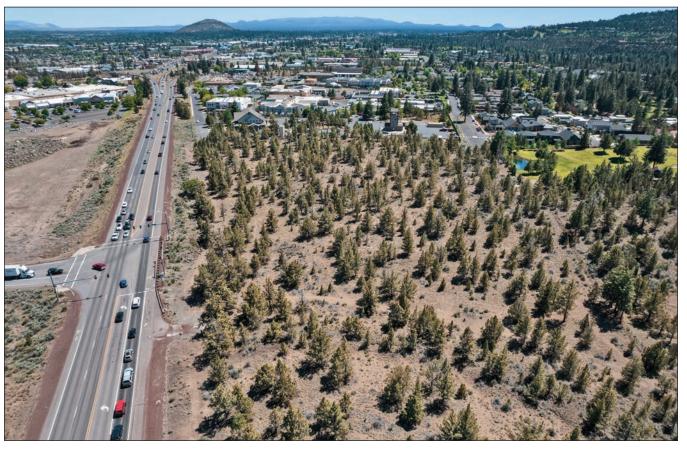
Guests wait in line June 9 to check into the homeless shelter at 275 NE Second St. in Bend.

Ryan Brennecke/ The Bulletin

Bend | Library plans

Residents urge board to reconsider expansion plans

An aerial view of the 12-acre plot of land, right, near the intersection of U.S. Highway 20 and Robal Lane is seen Thursday. Area residents are auestioning the **Deschutes Public** Library board's decision to build the new Central Library at the proposed location. Ryan Brennecke/The Bulletin



BY KYLE SPURR The Bulletin

growing number of Bend residents are questioning the Deschutes Public Library Board's plan to build a new Central Library on 12 acres off U.S. Highway 20 and Robal Lane.

The plan is the result of a \$195 million bond approved by voters in the fall to build the new library, double the size of the Redmond Library and upgrade the other county

But residents say the bond measure never explained where the new library would be built.

They worry the proposed location offers poor access off the highway and would be better suited in other parts of Bend.

Anne Ness, a newly elected library board member who will be sworn in at the July 14 meeting, is listening

to the concerned citizens. Ness, a retired teacher from Sunriver, plans to ask the board to stall its plans and consider the public input.

"I would hope that we would be able to take a pause, even if it's for a month or two, to really go look at our plans," Ness said. "I'm hoping there would be an opportunity to seek more information from the community."

At the last library board meet-

ing June 9, several residents spoke against the current Central Library location. Speakers included Bend City Councilor Anthony Broadman, Bend Park & Recreation District board member Ariel Mendez, Bill Gregoricus of the Central Oregon Coalition for Access and Louis Capozzi, board president of the

Council on Aging of Central Ore-

See Library / A6

See Legislature / A6 **Tenants get**

reprieve; landlords get assistance

BY PETER WONG

Oregon Capital Bureau

Oregon lawmakers reached an agreement that will give tenants 60-day protection from eviction proceedings if they show their landlords they have applied for rental assistance in the aftermath of the coronavirus pandemic.

The agreement, which the House approved Thursday, also guarantees that landlords will be paid all of their pastdue rent from the state program. Under an earlier state program, landlords had to forgo 20% of past-due rents to obtain payment for the other 80%.

See Tenants / A4

2 Japanese nationals assaulted, allegedly by Oregon inmate General Masaki Shiga of the **NOELLE CROMBIE**

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Classifieds

TODAY'S

WEATHER

The Oregonian The brutal assault of two Japanese women, allegedly by an escaped inmate, prompted a blistering letter from the Japanese government to Oregon Gov. Kate Brown, questioning how the Department of Corrections allowed the 14-time felon to slip away and warning of economic consequences as a result.

The letter from Consul

Mostly sunny

High 87, Low 54

Consular Office of Japan in Portland came about two weeks after Jedaiah Lunn, 36, walked away from an inmate work crew in Washington County and, accord-

B6

Editorial

ing to Shiga, beat the two women with a large stick, leaving both with critical in-

The incident, apparently the result of a breakdown in security, may threaten

Oregon's relationship with Japan, a longtime economic and trade partner.

The consulate's letter was pointed and detailed potential consequences.

See Assault / A4

The Bulletin

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