

Task force weighs affordable housing

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a "poor option" and "unrealistic," citing downtown businesses that need parking. The concept of housing at the children's center may be reconsidered to include the entire property, including the Tolovana Arts Colony building across the street.

In June, former Mayor Mike Morgan and former City Planner Rainmar Bartl suggested tiny, factory-built park model homes as an alternative concept for affordable housing at the RV Park.

The task force agreed to consider replacing some of the affordable housing units in the concept design with park model "tiny homes" that could work for individuals or couples.

"You're getting at the variety of needs that you've identified, some more expensive and some more quick and affordable," Silvis said of the park model cottages.

City Planner Mark Barnes said the RV Park is already zoned and permitted for park model homes, though the city would need to allow long-term tenants.



LYRA FONTAINE/CANNON BEACH GAZETTE

The Cannon Beach affordable housing task force heard public comment last week.

"Of the options we've talked about, that is by far the fastest," he said.

The cost of park models, which would take up 12 RV spaces, would be lower than new construction.

Response

Resident Ed Johnson said that people in the community who might be affected by affordable housing at

the RV Park or at the children's center should be contacted before the task force makes a final recommendation.

"There's some bigger issues that I wish were being addressed, particularly those people most closely associated with the intended plans that you have on the table," Johnson said.

Several residents said it was business owners' issue and some local

businesses provide housing for employees.

Resident Phil Massebeau said the focus should be on finding a private party to build housing.

"We could make it easier for an apartment complex to come in but why do we have to put one in the RV Park, the most populated part of Cannon Beach with full-time residents?" he said.

Resident Jan Siebert-Wahrmund said keeping the community sustainable is difficult.

"I know we don't have much water in our watershed to take on much more growth," she said.

The affordable homes would be available for those who make about 70 to 100 percent of the area median income.

"I think it's so critical that this gets done," City Manager Brant Kucera said. "We're the only ones trying to do this and I'd hate to see this go down in flames because it feels like the square foot cost is too much."

The task force could provide a report with recommendations to the City Council by November.

School bond

Bond from Page 1A

to be evacuated safely in the event of a Cascadia earthquake and tsunami.

In a letter to Weyerhaeuser President and Chief Executive Officer Doyle Simons, Dougherty conveyed gratitude for the company's "community spirit and corporate philanthropy." The parcel is the only land meeting the district's requirements that will not liquefy during an earthquake and is 80 to 100 feet above sea level.

The gift "will make an enormous difference for students in years to come," he wrote. "We are overwhelmed with the magnitude of the gift coming at such a crucial time in the community."

The land donation is not contingent on passage of the bond.

The meeting will be held at 6 p.m. Sept. 1 at the Seaside School District office at 1801 S. Franklin St.

Council explores uses of former preschool building

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building as a community hall, suggesting that the children's center manage the building as a nonprofit.

"We were hoping that we could become its management and rent it to other community members that would use the facility," she said.

She said residents, from families to home-schooled students, have approached her about using the space.

Meanwhile, the city's affordable housing task force has looked at the former children's center property as one potential city-owned location for affordable housing, which would be available to those who make 70 to 100 percent of area median income.

Carleton Hart Architecture created a concept of what nine affordable housing units could look like on the old children's center site.

Councilors discussed the housing need, the costs of building affordable housing on the site, and whether to prioritize housing for first responders.

Mayor Sam Steidel said he would like to see an affordable housing plan that takes into account the entire property, both the children's center building and Tolovana Hall across the parking lot.

"When I start thinking housing, I think of the entire property," he said, adding that Knop's offer is "a good interim use of the building until we have a good plan."

Kucera said the city should request a business plan for a nonprofit that wants to use the space.

Councilor Melissa Cadwallader said the building is "sad and overgrown," but the nonprofit that could take it over should be financially solvent.



SUBMITTED PHOTO/CANNON BEACH GAZETTE

The Cannon Beach Preschool and Children's Center.

"Whichever direction we go, we have an empty building," Steidel said. "So do we just mothball it and let it get like the gymnasium, or do we try to propose something that can be used as an interim?"

Former elementary school site

According to the recently adopted strategic plan, the city will make a decision on

whether to purchase the former Cannon Beach Elementary school site by the end of the year. The site is now owned by the Seaside School District.

The city budget includes a \$665,000 placeholder for purchase, demolition, remediation and restoration of the school site.

The city has hired a structural engineer, who is working



LYRA FONTAINE/CANNON BEACH GAZETTE

Sign at the former Cannon Beach Children's Center.

on a structural analysis of the building, which will be done by the end of August. The city will also retain a building contractor to help evaluate maintenance and cost of repair, Kucera said. The electrical system may need to be upgraded and the roof is leaking in the gymnasium.

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Professional North Coast Women Artists

The Palette Puddlers of Cannon Beach
are moving their Labor Day Art Show and Sale to the **Astoria Art Loft**
103 3rd Street, Astoria
(above Dots and Doodles Art Supply across from Burger King)

Saturday Sept. 3rd thru Monday Sept. 5th
10am to 4pm daily

Fantastic Original Artwork at Surprisingly Reasonable Prices!

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Coastal charm abounds in this 3 bdrm/2 bath home, with 1 bdrm/1 bath guest quarters above the garage & shop. Just 3 doors from the beach - beautifully furnished & ready for you to make beautiful beach memories!

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This 4 bedroom home is wonderful for entertaining with its large ocean view great room and expansive deck. Only 1 block to the beach and just across the street for golf and dining. Comes beautifully furnished too!

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Many different ocean views from the 4 decks at this spacious 5 bedroom home in the gated community of Surf Pines Attached 2-car garage plus extra 2-car garage/shop. Request the "Special Features List" to see this home's many custom features.

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Ocean View 2 bedroom condo, 2nd floor. All new interior, quartz counters, custom cabinets, stainless appliances, fireplace, laundry room, garage, elevator & pool. Close to beach, golf, dining, tennis & shops.

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1241 S. Prom, Seaside • \$999,500
Investor Opportunity - OCEAN FRONT with OPTIONS! This 5 bedroom, 3 bath home has a 2nd kitchen, living room & entrance so upper & lower levels can be used separately. Extra-large lot can be divided to sell or add another home.



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