City breaks ground on landscape ordinance

BY JADE MCDOWELL **EO MEDIA GROUP**

Mayor David Drotzmann provided a rare tie-breaking vote this week directing city staff to start the public hearing process on a landscaping ordinance.

The ordinance, if approved, would set minimum landscaping requirements for new development on commercial, industrial and multi-family residential land.

'We're about the only city in Oregon that doesn't have an ordinance for landscaping," city planner Clint Spencer said.

The ordinance requires 15 percent of multi-family residential property, 3 percent in the C-1 Commercial Zone, 6 percent in the C-2 Commercial Zone and 3 percent or 10,000 square feet of industrial land to be landscaped. It only ap-

Online

The draft of the landscaping ordinance is available online at http://www.hermiston. or.us/sites/hermiston. or.us/files/File/PlanningDept/20150403%20Draft%20 Landscape%200rdinance.pdf

plies to new development, including renovations or a change in business use, and only to the section of land actually being developed.

"It's only the area you're actually moving dirt,' Spencer said.

Under the ordinance, developers would have to get a landscaping permit approved by the city, showing that their plan follows the ordinance's guidelines. Newly planted trees must be taller than four feet, for example, pathways longer than 30 feet must have landscaped lighting and rock beds cannot make up more than one third of the landscaping credit.

"A lot of people have a lot of gravel and very little planting and are calling it landscaping," Spencer said.

Kathy Erz, a local business owner, said she spends an extra \$40 to \$50 a month on her summer water bill to water the landscaping at one of her businesses, plus \$100 a month for someone to weed and mow. She said not everyone can afford the upkeep or the original planting and design costs.

"This is an unfunded mandate against businesses," she said.

Diana Ables said she doesn't own any commercial property, but would like to, and some of the property she has looked at isn't landscaped at all, meaning she would probably have to tear up part of the parking lot.

cost-prohibitive for us," she said.

Spencer said 3 percent of a property isn't as much as it sounds — Fiesta Foods has nine percent of its property landscaped and still has plenty of room for parking. He said city staff have discretion in allowing for alternatives like window planters and decorative lighting

Today's Weather

Local 5-Day Forecast

when a property's slope or location isn't conducive to much green space.

Councilwoman ie Myers, who sits on the Community Enhancement Committee that drafted the ordinance, said the committee tried to leave the ordinance very open-ended, allowing property owners to do what works best for their situation.

"We did try to structure this so it wouldn't be a burden on people," she said.

In the end Myers, Rod Hardin, John Kirwan, Manuel Gutierrez and Drotzmann voted in favor of moving forward with a public hearing and state review process, while Doug Smith, Lori Davis, Clara Beas-Fitzgerald and Doug Primmer voted no.

Banner Bank issues warning of phone scam

to receive reports of fraudulent phone calls to both clients and non-clients regarding their debit and credit cards that appear to be part of a wide-spread phishing phone scam, according to a press release from the com-

Bank officials said the robo-calls are not from Banner Bank.

These fraudulent calls, which may appear to originate from the bank, tell the recipient that their "Banner Bank card has been compromised" and to "press one to speak with an operator." At this point, the fraudsters ask for card information.

"These robo-calls are part of a phishing scam attempting to obtain bank account and personal information," Banner Bank Senior Vice President Dianne Larsen said. "Banner Bank has not been compromised, and these calls are not from

Banner Bank continues Banner Bank. Banner never asks for clients' personal or account information by phone, email or text message and advises to never provide personally identifiable information via the phone, text message or email.

Bank officials offer the following tips to help protect personal information:

- Never give personal or account information to anybody over the phone, by text message or email, especially Social Security numbers, account numbers, usernames, PINs or other login credentials.
- Beware of phishing emails, which look like they are from reputable companies and provide a link to verify or change an account in some way. Do not click on the provided link.
- Beware of suspicious text messages requesting account information via a mobile device (e.g., cell

For Herald news, advertising or subscription information:

phone, smartphone, tablet).

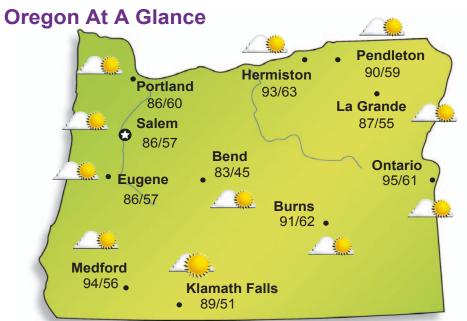
• Keep passwords secret, do not share passwords, do not leave passwords in an unsecured area and change passwords regularly.

Any bank clients that may have provided debit or credit card information to the fraudsters are asked to call Banner Bank's client services at 1-800-272-9933.

Additionally, if anyone mistakenly provided bank account and personal information, or believes they are a victim of identity theft, visit www.idtheft.gov or call 1-877-IDTHEFT to report the crime to the Federal Trade Commission. The ID Theft website is a onestop national resource to report and learn about the crime of identity theft.

For tips about Internet security and password safety, visit bannerbank.com/ advice-center/internet-safe-

93/63 98/65 105/67 109/73 110/72 Sunshine and clouds Sunny. Highs in the upper 90s and lows Sunny. Highs 103 to 107F and lows in the More sun than Plenty of sun. Highs mixed. High 93F. Winds WSW at 5 to clouds. Highs 108 to lows in the low 70s upper 60s. in the mid 60s. 112F and lows in the 10 mph. low 70s. Sunrise Sunset Sunrise Sunset Sunrise Sunset Sunrise Sunset Sunrise Sunset AmericanProfil CELEBRATING THE AMERICAN SPIRIT# **Oregon At A Glance**



Area Cities

Hi	Lo	Cond.
86	56	pt sunny
92	57	pt sunny
68	54	pt sunny
86	52	pt sunny
83	45	pt sunny
72	58	pt sunny
91	62	pt sunny
66	53	pt sunny
87	55	pt sunny
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63 52 pt sunny 90 59 pt sunny Pendleton Portland 86 60 pt sunny Redmond 88 49 pt sunny 89 58 pt sunny 86 57 pt sunny 85 54 pt sunny Salem Springfield 90 64 pt sunny 69 54 pt sunny The Dalles Tillamook 63 pt sunny

National Cities

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-	Atlanta	97	74	mst sunny	Houston	95	75	pt sunny	Phoenix	108	79	sunny
-	Boston	81	62	sunny	Los Angeles	82	63	pt sunny	San Francisco	67	54	pt sunny
-	Chicago	79	65	pt sunny	Miami	91	80	mst sunny	Seattle	79	60	cloudy
-	Dallas	96	75	sunny	Minneapolis	84	63	pt sunny	St. Louis	92	79	rain
-	Denver	89	62	cloudy	New York	85	67	sunny	Washington, DC	89	68	sunny
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Moon Phases

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Very High Very High Very High Very High The UV Index is measured on a 0 - 11 number scale, with a higher UV Index showing the need for greater skin protection.

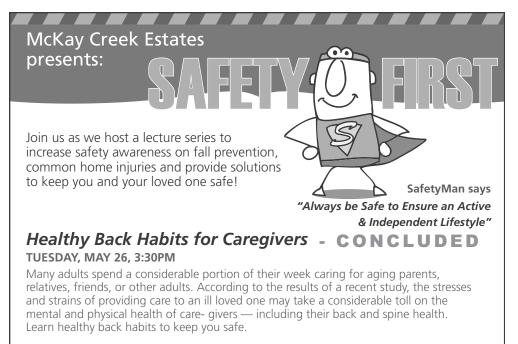
• call 541-567-6457

Corrections

It is the policy of the *Hermiston Herald* to correct errors as soon as they are discovered. Incorrect information will be corrected on Page 2A. Errors committed on the Opinion page will be corrected on that page. Corrections also are noted in the online versions of our stories. Please contact the editor at editor@hermistonherald. com or call (541) 564-4533 with issues about this policy or to report errors.

CORRECTION

The Lavender Festival schedule published on Page 1 of the Saturday, June 20 issue contained an error. There is no classic car display as part of this year's festival.



Elder-Friendly Living: Modifying Your Home for Safety TUESDAY, JUNE 23, 3:30 PM - CONCLUDED

No matter when the older person's home was built and regardless of whether it is modern or traditional in style, it likely was designed for young adults and their families. As adults age their homes also grow older, but most are not updated to accommodate the resident's changing needs. Home adaptation or modification can provide friendlier elder living so older occupants may continue to life safely in the comfort of their home.

Know Your Numbers

TUESDAY, JULY 28, 3:30 PM

Are you at risk for diabetes, heart disease and other chronic diseases? Learn about the numbers and what they mean for various screenings to stay in control of your health. We will talk about cholesterol, blood pressure, body mass index (BMI) numbers

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10:00pm Fireworks

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