



New school may come with growth boundary expansion

City Council 'very interested' in South East Hills

By Katherine Lacaze
Seaside Signal

At a July 7 Planning Commission meeting, city staff and the commission considered four sites for expansion of the city's urban growth boundary by about 200 acres.

Along with three other potential sites, commission members focused on the South East Hills area, south and east of Seaside near Wahanna Road. The land is considered suitable for development because of easy access, potential for diverse land use and location near about 30 acres suitable for a school site.

"We're not ready to do that today, but I certainly want to acknowledge the

idea of having school facilities and enabling them to grow up into that area," planner Don Hanson said.

Hanson is a principal and director for HLB Otak, Inc., a Seaside-based engineering and consulting firm hired by Weyerhaeuser, which owns much of the land under consideration.

"Our City Council is very interested in having that land," City Planner Kevin Cupples said. "If you wait until you run out and then you're trying to scramble in order to do that, then that's not good planning."

Managing growth

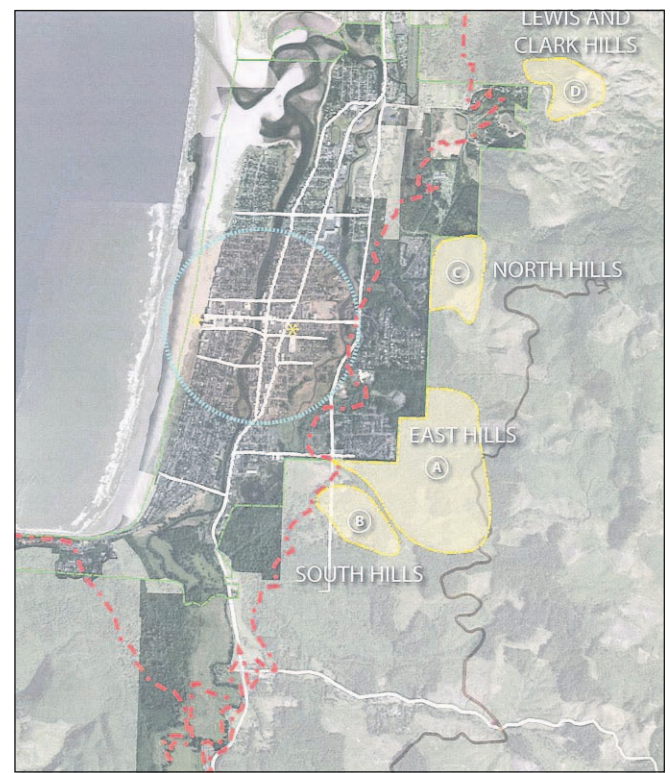
The process to expand Seaside's boundary started about two years ago in order to comply with statewide

planning goals, guidelines for land use planning.

Through consultation with Otak, the city forecast the rate of growth in Seaside over the next two decades and estimated how much land needs to come into the Urban Growth Boundary to accommodate the city's growth, Hanson said.

Otak and the city collaborated to create a land-need analysis that showed the city will require 154.6 acres of residential land, 10.6 acres of park land and 35.6 acres of industrial and institutional land, for a total of about 200.8 acres.

With that "land budget" in mind, they considered where in Seaside it could be found, in pieces or as a whole, according to Cupples.



SUBMITTED DRAWING/COURTESY OTAK

Four study sites considered for expansion of Seaside's Urban Growth Boundary.

See UGB, Page 9A



KATHERINE LACAZE/SEASIDE SIGNAL

Celeste Bodner (back row, third from left), the founder and executive director of FosterClub. This summer's All-Star interns include: (front row, from left) Tristan Torres, Ridmi Coe, Angelica Cox, Karen Banks, Ariana Guerra, (back row, from left) Malcolm Leal, Ricky Ballesteros, Isaac Brito, Rosalina Burton, Ashyna Davis, Alexis Baska and Teal Martell.

Local woman featured in national magazine for work with foster youth

Founder of FosterClub shares personal story

By Katherine Lacaze
Seaside Signal

A local woman is making far-reaching, dynamic waves from within a small, unassuming facility on First Avenue in Seaside.

Celeste Bodner is the founder and executive director of FosterClub, a national network well known in Washington, D.C., and elsewhere across the country for connecting and representing foster youth and reforming policies and practices related to the system.

If you asked native Oregonian Bodner about her life-changing efforts, though, she immediately would

reference the young people with whom she works, because to her, they are the game-changers — strong, capable and resilient. She is the coach, guiding and cheering them on from the sidelines through her organization.

Bodner recently brought more recognition to her young people and FosterClub when she shared her story in MORE magazine's July/August 2015 edition, guest edited by First Lady Michelle Obama. Bodner was featured along with four other individuals in a section titled "Women Working Wonders," which highlighted their work with youth across the country. She was included in the article upon nomination from a White House staff member who remains anonymous, even to Bodner.

Although being featured in a magazine article involved an airplane flight and a photo shoot in New York City, both activities that Bodner dislikes,

she was happy to promote FosterClub.

From a simple website run from Bodner's home with the help of her sister, the organization has grown to an approximately \$1.6-million operation with 40,000 members and national name recognition. The website also includes an online training portal, used by about 8,000 foster parents.

It all started about 20 years ago, when Bodner was introduced to two people who irreversibly changed her life.

Bodner's story

In 1994, while living in Portland, Bodner and her husband met Terry and Gary, then ages 12 and 10, through a day laborer hired occasionally by Bodner's husband. The boys were the sons of the employee's girlfriend.

See Bodner, Page 7A

Seaside high schoolers help adorn cast of local music festival production

Sewing Club members participate in costume apprenticeship

By Katherine Lacaze
Seaside Signal

Three students from Seaside High School's Sewing Club took part in the Astoria Music Festival's first costume apprenticeship program in late June.

The festival, which held its 13th season this year, traditionally incorporates a Vocal and Instrumental Apprenticeship Program. The program's production for 2015 was the comedic opera "The Magic Flute,"

or "Die Zauberflöte," by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. The production used Astoria as its setting. In general, the two-week apprentice program provides advanced training to pre-professional singers and instrumentalists. It also incorporates local young dancers.

A new addition to this year's program was a costume apprenticeship, overseen by Costume Manager Cynthia Harber, a local teacher at Astoria Middle School.

When Managing Director Carol Shepherd heard about Seaside High School's Sewing Club, she saw an opportunity to provide another venue

to instruct and develop young people through the apprentice program. Three students from the sewing club — Brooke Laws, Max McNeill and Chastity Cozzitorto — participated in the costume apprenticeship, and the program benefited from their participation, Harber said.

The program also benefited from a \$500 budget for costumes, which gave the team the ability to create more elaborate attire. They had to craft outfits and other costume pieces for the nearly 20-member cast, as well as about 18 dancers from Maddox Dance Studio and the Astoria School of Ballet.

See Sewing, Page 9A

CITY COUNCIL

Panhandling rules stir citizen ire

Proposed rule changes for panhandlers come under fire in Seaside

By Katherine Lacaze
Seaside Signal

Seaside City Council members tabled an amendment to the itinerant merchant ordinance after testimony from numerous citizens, as well as the audible support the speakers received from the audience during Monday's meeting.

During the public hearing, words such as "wrong," "brutal," "discriminatory" and "a street-sweeping technique" were used to describe the amendment, which expands the definition of "itinerant merchant" to include anyone who "provides a service (entertainment, etc.) or solicits for any form of compensation or remuneration." Those people would have to pay \$50 per day or as much as \$1,000 per year for a permit. This definition would encompass panhandlers, which were the main source of concern for many.

"Draconian policies against the homeless are not the answer," Mary Eng said during the public hearing. "We need humanitarian solutions."

Many aspects of the ordinance have been in effect

since it was adopted in 1984. In general, it regulates the buying and selling or merchandise by individuals who do not have a fixed location.

Currently the code entirely bans begging or soliciting on the streets or in any public place under a different ordinance. The amendment to the itinerant merchant regulation would allow that activity — as long as the individual has obtained a permit. The fees remain unchanged.

The definition of temporary fixed location would change to "any business location, public or private" and the amendment also would prohibit activities associated with the permit from 10 p.m. to 8 a.m. Additionally, the amendment adds a new exception to limit licensing during high-traffic times.

The penalty for violating the ordinance is \$500; the amendment would increase that to \$700.

Most of the nearly dozen speakers took issue with the idea of requiring panhandlers and street performers, many of whom don't make \$50 per day, to pay for a permit. For some who spoke, the change carries implications about how individuals and society should approach poverty and homelessness.

See Rules, Page 6A

City considers regulating medical marijuana grow sites

Operations would be subject to licensing, zoning regulations

By Katherine Lacaze
Seaside Signal

The Seaside City Council reviewed an ordinance Monday to limit the growth of medical marijuana to the city's three industrial zones. The council also established licensing requirements for local medical marijuana growers.

The legislation, drafted by the Seaside Planning Commission, resembles the work done by the City Council earlier this year to establish rules and regulations for medical marijuana dispensaries.

"This creates some regulatory relief, which was not created by the state of Oregon," City Planner Kevin Cupples said. "The city would be regulating the grow sites similar to the way they regulate dispensaries. This is

making sure the city is aware of what's going on, and that we're aware of who's doing the activity and that the activity is carried out safely."

The city's code currently prevents licensing of businesses deemed "prohibited by the laws of the United States." Since cannabis remains a Schedule I substance under federal law, the proposed amendment would grant general business licenses for medical marijuana production and processing, as long as the business otherwise complies with city code.

Production and processing of medical marijuana would be restricted to the industrial areas in Seaside based on the city's zoning ordinance. Because the ordinance already has provisions for producing or processing prescription drugs in the industrial zone, commercial production of medical marijuana would be addressed by those, Cupples said.

See Pot, Page 6A

PRSR STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 97
ASTORIA, OR