



Map of Heritage Dunes in Gearhart.

A MATTER OF INCHES

Gearhart, property owner to split the difference

By R.J. Marx
Seaside Signal

Water pipe diameter became a matter of dispute in Gearhart, ending in compromise at a City Council appeals hearing. The compromise comes after property owner Ray Romine appealed a Planning Commission denial after the commission determined construction plans failed to meet the city's water im-

provement standards.

Romine appealed that decision, arguing that the 8-inch pipe was unnecessarily large.

In his appeal, Romine said a 3-inch pipe would be sufficient to supply water to two new homes, part of the Heritage Dunes subdivision on the east side of Highway 101 on Hillila Road in Gearhart.

The city and property owner will share the cost of an 8-inch pipe, a city fire code

requirement.

"After we appealed, we began discussing with the staff how we can reach an agreement, and we've been able to do that I think to the satisfaction of staff," Hathaway said.

The city will build an 8-inch line and Romine will pay for the cost of a 6-inch line.

Romine estimated the cost of a 3-inch line at \$2,250. Engineering for an 8-inch line is

estimated at \$7,000.

"The city's going to end up with an 8-inch line and Mr. Romine's going to end up with something more than a 3-inch line," Hathaway said. "We think that's a positive."

City Attorney Peter Watts recommended acceptance of the compromise agreement before councilors voted unanimous approval. "In the end we believe the city will benefit," Watts said.

Campus traffic plans meet city's goals

Campus from Page 1A

Winterbrook Planning as key elements of the proposal.

"The district is making major contributions to the city," he said, including system development charges for parks, transmission lines, and a 2-million-gallon water reservoir and booster pump station. Booster pumps, located near Seaside Heights Elementary School, will serve existing neighborhoods.

Traffic plans meet goals of the city's transportation system plan, Winterowd said. "We're not getting what we call significant impacts at any streets or intersections," he said.

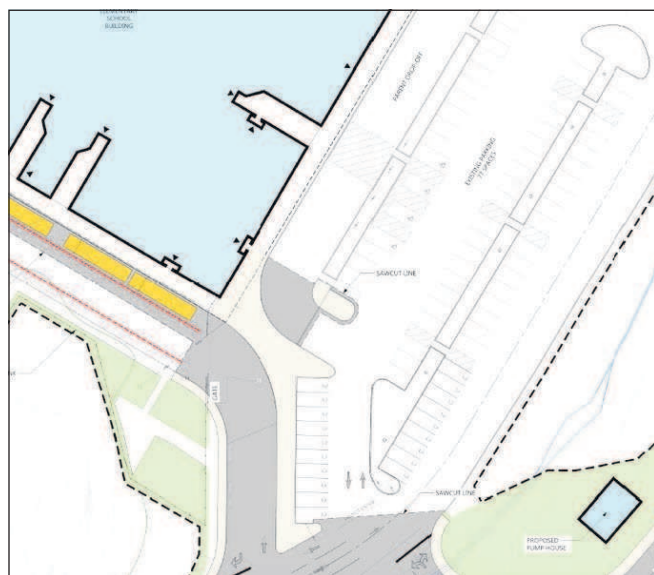
A right-turn lane from Spruce onto Wahanna Road will help ease some traffic flow, Winterowd said.

He said he welcomed a second "peer review" of the study to get a second opinion on traffic impacts.

"We are not generating impacts that require the district to pay for off-site improvements," Winterowd said. "We feel we meet the criteria. We've done our work. If you look at the issues, we haven't been idle."

Winterowd said the district would work with neighbors to make streets safer and slow traffic.

District traffic consultant



BRIC ARCHITECTURE

Campus parking plan delivered to the Planning Commission for review.

Will Farley said major collectors typically carry 7,000 cars per day. With the new campus there would be about 4,000 trips down Spruce Drive per day, "about half what you'd expect on a major connector" road.

Farley studied five intersections as part of the traffic study.

"Every one of them operated acceptably through 2020," he said.

A right-hand turn lane at Wahanna is added "to have an

acceptable level of service," Farley said.

District consultants are working with the Seaside Fire Department to provide safe access and traffic calming devices. The driveway from Seaside Heights Elementary to the middle and high School building will be 30-feet wide, with an 8-foot parallel parking lane, leaving 22 feet for fire trucks to reach the site.

Staggered hours on the campus will also cut down on traffic. "We're really doing

our share," he said.

In addition to 339 campus parking spaces, 143 overflow parallel parking spaces along the new driveway and in the existing Wahanna Road parking lot will be used for special events.

There was no public comment, either from proponents or opponents of the plan.

Winterowd said the district hopes to be open by 2020. "We're asking that you carefully consider the application," he said.

Winterowd requested a continuance until March 20, at which a new traffic study could be delivered. The hearing would remain open until April 3. "That's the big ask — we hope you'll make a decision."

Cary Bubenik, operations manager for Hoffman Construction Co., said he hoped to break ground by June 1. "It's aggressive, we know, but in the interest of getting it done in 27 months and open in 2020, that's imperative."

The continuance was unanimously endorsed by commissioners, including Chairman Chris Hoth, Teri Carpenter, Bill Carpenter, David Posalski and Richard Ridout. Commissioner Lou Neubecker was absent.

How arts pay off in the South County

Arts council presentation in Seaside

By R.J. Marx
Seaside Signal

How much is art worth in the South County?

Don Frank, a local photographer and volunteer for the Arts Council of Clatsop County, came to Seaside in late February to share the group's mission. "We're trying to put numbers to this idea that art is a value to the community," Frank said at a meeting of the Seaside Downtown Development Association. "As artists, we appreciate art. It has its own intrinsic value. But we also want to make sure it makes economic sense."

The Arts Council of Clatsop County serves as an advisory body to the county commission, and was formed in 2014.

The nine members of the council holds monthly meetings in Astoria, Warrenton, Cannon Beach and Seaside, with representatives throughout Clatsop County. Tracy Abel represents Cannon Beach on the council; Seaside members include Seaside Downtown Development Association Executive Director Sarah Dailey, Drea Frost, Katherine Lacaze. Frank and Harold Gable are from Gearhart. County Commissioner Sarah Nebeker, a Gearhart resident, is part of the council's organizational staff and Theresa Dursse is county liaison.

The arts have grown not just in art or photography, but all forms, Frank said. A 2016 survey revealed demographics of art events attendees, with 800 attendees interviewed. Nonprofit arts and cultural events bring in almost \$14 million a year. The sector supports 359 full-time jobs. In com-

parison Clatsop County to similarly sized counties, the county was above average in attendees and revenue, he said. The arts comprise 5 percent of county revenues.

In 2015, 87,000 residents attended arts events, and 73,000 nonresidents, spending an average of \$67 per attendee.

Spending by nonprofit arts and cultural organizations totaled \$2.9 million in Clatsop County during 2015. A total of 1,233 volunteers donated a total of 80,328 hours to Clatsop County's participating nonprofit arts and cultural organizations.

Nationwide, the nonprofit arts industry produces \$1.663 billion in economic activity every year, resulting in \$27.5 billion in federal, state and local tax revenues. In addition, it supports 4.6 million full-time equivalent jobs and generates \$23.1 billion in household income.

Adding for-profit businesses and the "multiplier" effect, arts contributions to the local economy are much higher.

"It's a huge impact when it comes to volunteerism," Dailey said.

"What this tells us is that arts is an investment, and you can get a return on your investment by spending money on the arts," Frank said.

On Thursday, March 29, at 6 p.m., geologist Tom Horning presents "The History of Clatsop Plains' Geology" at Seaside Brewing Co. as part of the Seaside Museum and Historical Society's History and Hops program. Horning will cover events from Columbia River sands forming a storm-smashed delta to landslides falling from Tillamook Head. He will explain how spectacular tsunami landforms sculpted Seaside and influenced how the town was developed as well as why the Lewis and Clark Salt Works was sited near Avenue N.

Horning has a master's degree in geology from Oregon State University. After a career as an exploration geol-



R.J. MARX/SEASIDE SIGNAL

Don Frank of the Clatsop County Arts Council.

Bringing you home.

FHA, USDA, VA,
Conventional
and Construction
Loan programs
available right here in
Seaside!



Bob Woodford

NMLS # 461522

Senior Real Estate Loan Officer

P: 503.738.2554

BWoodford@BankofthePacific.com

All loans subject to credit approval and standard underwriting. Certain fees and restrictions may apply.

BankofthePacific.com



Bank of the Pacific

Students advocate for 'mutual respect'

Walkout from Page 1A

Circling together in bands along the edge of the athletic field, students offered a message of mutual respect as they went one-by-one to the microphone and expressed their thoughts in one-line comments:

"I will respect my peers."

"I will stand up for others."

"I will show kindness and to everyone."

"I will not watch others be treated poorly."

"I will extend friendship to strangers."

"I will speak up when things aren't right."

"I will be a voice for those who no longer have one."

Unlike many walkouts happening around the country, student organizer Sequoia Shand said the goal of Wednesday's presentation was focused on advocating for "mutual respect" for one another rather than stark emphasis on gun control.

For 17 minutes, 17 different students presented call-to-actions every minute, on the minute, about how students



BRENNIA VISSER/EO MEDIA GROUP

Seaside High School student Sequoia Shand, organizer of the event.

can support one another. Every statement was sandwiched between long moments of silence.

Among the approximately 150 visitors who joined the walkout were district superintendent Sheila Roley and principal Jeff Roberts.

In the wake of recent shootings, Seaside High School has taken some precaution by tightening lockdown protocols and choosing to lock every door except the front entrance throughout the day. Preliminary designs for the new Seaside school campus feature

school shooting-specific locking mechanisms that can lock down doors and passage ways in the school remotely.

"My concerns are like everyone's in this national trend," Roberts said. "We don't expect this kind of thing here, but we'd be naive to think it couldn't happen here. But I take solace in the ways we've taken precautions."

"This is about the lives that were taken at Parkland High School," student Jetta Ideue said. "This is for those people who were innocent that night."