

The intersection of Broadway and U.S. Highway 101 will see $upgrades\ in\ the\ 2024\ State\ Transportation\ Improvement\ Plan.$

Upgrades: Projects are planned through 2027

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101," Dale McDowell, the city's public works director said. "This is a team effort."

The Statewide Trans-Improvement portation Program is the state's regular project funding program. Last year, the Oregon Transportation Commission allocated \$65 million for the Enhance part of the 2024-2027 transportation program.

The intersection project will come in addition to improvements already underway from Avenue A to Avenue K, one among regional projects in design through the 2021-24 state improvement program.

The Avenue A to Avenue K project, approved in a 2021-23 state transportation improvement project, is planned to start construction in the fall, ODOT spokesperson Angela Beers-Seydel said, with the goal of improving safety and traffic flow.

The city assisted with design review, locating existing underground utilities, water connections for the landscape areas, and working with the Seaside Transportation Commission and ODOT to bring this project to Seaside, McDowell said.

Design was completed in 2021 and completion is expected this year.

The project will install a new center turn lane. improve bicycle and pedestrian facilities and add two rectangular rapid flashing beacon crosswalks. Plans call for new curb ramps to meet Americans With Disabilities Act standards. Traffic signs will be upgraded and drainage improved before pavement is replaced and installed with new striping. A new transit stop will be installed.

Construction is estimated at \$8.1 million, she said. The overall cost estimate for the project, including planning and design, is \$10.7 million.

Contractors bid on projects based on what they think it will cost to complete and we accept the lowest qualified bid. Any funds left over from a project go back into the general funds available for con-

through things like the "Enhance" funding, which funds projects specifically designed to improve safety and reduce congestion.

'Work that people are seeing now is the gas company relocating their lines in preparation for the project," Beers-Seydel said. "Utilities are required to move anything they are responsible for before we begin."

The project is scheduled in four stages, starting with west side sidewalk construction between Avenue A and Avenue F, and east side widening between Avenue H and Avenue L. Additional construction and widening will continue, finishing with a pedestrian island construction between Avenue A and Avenue F.

"The exact order of how all of the components of the project will be done is determined when the contractor is on board, but we give guidance and approval," Beers-Seydel

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The city has worked to make sure all the underground infrastructure has located, replaced or prepared for the work ODOT will do, City Council President Steve Wright said, with McDowell "at the forefront."

Wright is a board member of the Northwest Oregon Commission on Transportation, which works with the Department of Transportation to determine city needs and goals.

"I see my role as trying to keep these projects moving forward and to promote any other idea that will help improve the transportation options for our area," Wright said.

ODOT work starts in the fall and continues into 2024. When it begins, there will be both day and night work with shoulder and lane closures. Lane closures will be at night,



Section of the Native American mural.

Mural: Depicts culture of Clatsop and Nehalem people

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"It was quite the deal when that car hit that piece of concrete right through the thing," Lawson said. "There's three major holes about the size of a fist that went through. We're going to surgically restore those areas as much as we can."

Lawson said while there will be some repainting, cleanup will be limited. "It

was in pretty good shape," he said. "It had more years left in it. We're trying to put another 15 years into it.'

The finished mural will be sealed with a graffiti protective surface and UV chemistry that wasn't available when the mural was originally installed.

The fundraiser is well on its goal of \$20,000, with a \$10,000 grant from city nonprofit funds and \$2,700 in donations so far, Lawson said. Any money left over from the fundraiser will be put in a special account for maintenance and emergency.

"We will work with a muralist from the Seattle area to repair the mural so we can reinstall it on the building on Broadway," Lawson said.

Damaged panels will be shipped to Seattle for restoration and then repaired and

Jeff Mihalyo, a traditional and new media artist based in Seattle, will undertake the project.

"We thought about having it scanned and then printed like a billboard, or whatever, but it's a piece of art," Lawson said. "We're looking to start hopefully in a month and a half, once we get all our ducks in a line and money, of course."

Chamber: McCloud to fill interim role

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The chamber board has started forming a selection committee and will issue a formal job opening to the public. "Katie has been with the chamber for over a year and has the support of the board in this interim period," they said in announcing the appointment.

During her time as the chamber's marketing and communications manager McCloud has helped manage events and awards shows, upgraded the website and social media, and created a campaign, "Women in Business," that was honored as outstanding social media campaign at the Oregon State Chamber of Commerce Conference at their annual conference which was held in Hood

A La Grande native, she moved to the Dalles before high school. Working at Cousins' Country Inn, her boss suggested she serve as an ambassador for the Dalles Chamber of Commerce. She got the "chamber bug," she said, "the passion for businesses big and small and helping them in any way we

She and her boyfriend, Jim Beasley, came to Seaside in February 2021 and decided

"That was the day Brian had posted the job," McCloud



Katie McCloud was named acting director of the Seaside **Chamber of Commerce.**

is a huge understatement."

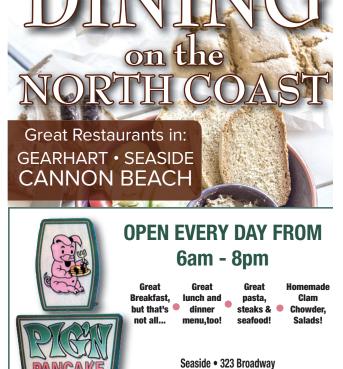
Beasley, who started at the Clatsop Small Business Development Center, recently joined the Oregon Coast Visitors Association as their marketing and global sales director.

As the chamber's marketing and communications manager, McCloud started the "Women in Business" project, a collaboration between the chamber and local businesses. The project featured interviews and profiles of Seaside women in all professions. McCloud envisions a web page, committee, resources and scholarships for women entrepreneurs.

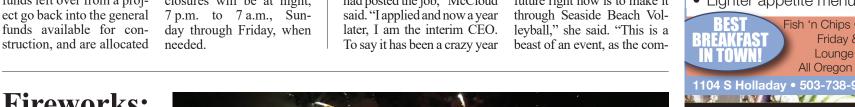
McCloud called Owen the best boss and mentor she has ever had.

"My plan for the near future right now is to make it munity knows, but luckily we have an amazing group of volunteers to help as well as Brian who will be there to help as much as he can. After that, if we have not hired any-

one by then will be to continue the work that Brian has done and make sure all of our chamber members feel supported and their business needs are met."



738-7234 (Open 7 Days)



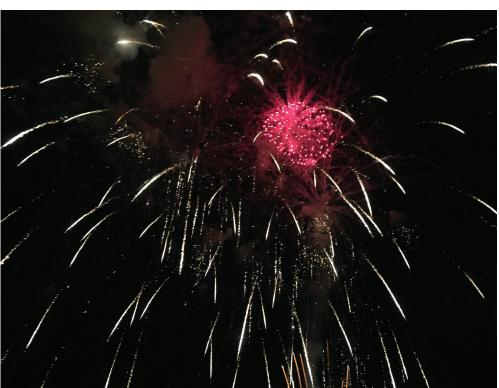
Fireworks: July Fourth event is planned

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community and out-oftown travelers that come here every year for the event will step up and help make this happen," she said.

If the fundraising goal is not met, next year's event deposit could be put in jeopardy. "Yes — that means we may not have a 2023 show," Owen said.

Donations can be made https://seaside-oregon-firework-show-2022. constantcontactsites.com/



R.J. Marx



Fireworks light up the sky at the 2018 Fourth of July show in Seaside.