

CLACKAMAS FIRE DISTRICT #1



April 30, 2010

Fire District Information Regarding the Oak Lodge Community Council Area

Board of Directors' Vacancy

Clackamas Fire District #1 is now accepting applications to fill one vacancy on its Board of Directors. This uncompensated position will be filled by a majority vote of the remaining four directors. The appointment will complete the four-year term position, which expires on June 30, 2011. Candidates must be at least 18 years of age, and must be either an elector or a property owner within the Fire District. Applications must be received by 4:00 p.m. on Friday, May 7, 2010. Those interested in obtaining an application may find it on the Fire District's website at www.clackamasfire.com or by contacting the District's Administrative Office at 11300 SE Fuller Road, Milwaukie, OR 97222 or by phone at (503) 742-2600.

SWIFT Team Awarded 2010 Higgins & Langley Memorial Award

Clackamas County's SWIFT (SwiftWater Incident and Flood Team) has been selected for a 2010 Higgins & Langley Program Development Award, to be awarded in May.

"The Higgins and Langley Memorial Awards in Swiftwater Rescue honor outstanding achievement in the technical rescue discipline of swiftwater and flood rescue. They are not heroism awards, but rather recognize preparedness, teamwork, and a job well done, sometimes under extreme conditions, where training is vital to the success of rescue missions, as well as the safety of rescue personnel."

*"The **Program Development Award** honors programs that define "state of the art" deployment for swiftwater and flood rescue, and can be considered international models for the science."*

Clackamas County's SWIFT Team is a public safety partnership between Clackamas County Fire District and the Clackamas County Sheriff's Office. The SWIFT Team's purpose is to provide the highest level of emergency response for flooding events in Clackamas County, flood prone areas of Oregon and to be available to respond to national flood disasters such as Hurricane Katrina.

The SWIFT Team meets the highest standards as a FEMA Type I team and is an excellent example of two public safety agencies working together to improve local, state wide and national disaster preparedness.

In 1999 Clackamas County's Water Rescue Consortium, which both the Clackamas County Sheriff's Office and Clackamas Fire District belong, was awarded the Higgins & Langley Award for their life saving efforts. The Unit Citation Award was in recognition for the dynamic rescue on the Collawash River, where two people were trapped on top of a car that had crashed into the water.

Fire District Awarded 2009 Fire Prevention and Safety Grant

Clackamas Fire District #1 is pleased to announce that it was awarded a 2009 Fire Prevention and Safety Grant by FEMA of DHS to provide smoke alarms for the District's senior citizens. The grant will provide \$24,780 for smoke alarms, installation tools, and publications for CFD#1 residents 65 and older. The smoke alarms will be installed by CFD#1 staff, Meals on Wheels volunteers, and local civic groups.

According to national statistics, persons 65 and older are twice as likely to be killed or injured by fires and fire related incidents than the population at large. Further, if adults aged 65 and older are injured by a fire or fire-related incident, they are at a higher risk of dying because of the accidental injury. The NFPA and USFA have also shown that a person's chances of surviving a home fire with a working smoke alarm is 45 percent greater than if no smoke alarm is present. By installing working smoke alarms (made possible with grant funds) and reducing hostile fires, CFD#1 hopes to save lives and prevent injury in this very vulnerable population.

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New Budget Committee Member

The Board of Directors approved Charles Kidwell to the Budget Committee for a three-year term. He replaces Lori Luchak who retired from the Budget Committee earlier this year. Mr. Kidwell resides in Oregon City and is an architect with Leeb Architect LLC in Portland. He is interested in participating in the District's Budget Committee as a way to provide service within his community and learn more about the government services provided by his tax dollars.

Budget Committee Meeting

A public meeting of the Budget Committee of Clackamas Fire District #1 to discuss the budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011 will be held at 9339 SE Causey Avenue, Happy Valley, OR 97086. The meeting will take place on May 13, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. The purpose of the meeting is to receive the budget message and the budget document of the district. A copy of the budget document may be inspected or obtained on or after May 7, 2010 at 11300 SE Fuller Road, Milwaukie, Oregon 97222-1124, Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. This is a public meeting where deliberation of the Budget Committee will take place. Any person may appear at the meeting and discuss the proposed programs with the Budget Committee.

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Week – May 16-22, 2010

Clackamas Fire District #1 supports National EMS Week. This year the Fire District and other local EMS providers will join in a week-long public education campaign as we communicate this year's theme, "**EMS: Anytime. Anywhere. We'll Be There.**"

Grant Received for Carbon Monoxide Detectors

The Fire District has received two new carbon monoxide detectors through a grant program and help from local businesses. The District applied for a grant from the Fireman's Fund Insurance Company's philanthropic program, which helps fund equipment and training to fire departments across the country. Wells Fargo and the Clackamas Spaghetti Factory were also partners in the grant. These detectors are hand-held, electronic devices that can be used to determine a person's level of exposure almost instantly during or after a fire. EMS Capt. Karl Koenig demonstrated these detectors to the agencies involved in helping the Fire District obtain them. A small sleeve is slipped onto a potential victim's finger, the detector is turned on and the results are received in a short period of time. Capt. Koenig shared that 50-percent of the cases of heart attacks in firefighters are caused by carbon monoxide exposure and heart attacks account for 50-percent of the deaths of firefighters. The Fire District now has nine of these detectors.

Re-Accreditation Update

After a 55-day, very thorough document review by a Peer Assessor Team, the Fire District was given approval of our documents and the go ahead for the site visit by the four member Peer Assessor Team. The Team is scheduled for arrival on Saturday, May 22 and will be on-site touring the District and speaking with personnel until Thursday, May 27. If approved, the Fire District will be awarded its re-accreditation status at the International Association of Fire Chief's conference in August in Chicago.

New Volunteers Begin Duty at Logan Fire Station

The new volunteer duty shift schedule at the Logan Fire Station began April 19. From April 19 through July 1, a duty shift rotation has been designed consisting of six shifts. Four of the six shifts have six volunteers on them and two shifts have five volunteers. Each of the six shifts has a "Team Leader" who was chosen based on experience. From May 1 through June 30, the team leaders will be assigning one new volunteer to ride along on every shift at both the Beavercreek and Redland Fire Stations in order to get to know the career crews, the equipment and the two career home stations.

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Update on Clarkes Fire Station Project

The Clarkes Fire Station is in the process of receiving an update. The original building was built in 1954 and had come to a point where it was determined that it needed to be replaced. When it was decided that it would be too costly to refurbish the building, the decision was made to replace it with a modular structure. Demolition of the old building took place on May 3. Foundation forms will be set in place and the foundation poured during the week of May 3. The new modular structure will be delivered no later than May 18. The new station will be operable by July 1, 2010 and will be staffed by volunteers.



Global Mission Readiness' February Trip to Peru

On February 23, six team members from the Fire District who work with Global Mission Readiness returned from Peru after a two week water rescue teaching mission. The mission, led by Lt. Don Davis and Capt. Joe Pelletier focused on teaching shore based rescue techniques to rescue teams from Caraz and Cusco, Peru. The instructor team made up of FF Mike Bauer, FF Scott Kohler, AO Brandon Paxton and FF Ryan Savage trained 68 rescue team members from these two areas. This training came at a pivotal time as the Cusco area has seen major damage due to severe rain and flooding. All participants in the class were very receptive and eager to learn the information and now feel better prepared to handle water related emergencies. In addition to providing the Shore Based Rescue Class, Global Mission Readiness provided the Caraz B.E.A.R team with an assortment of donated medical and rescue equipment of which they have already used for an emergency call. Global Mission Readiness is already planning a return trip to the area to build on skills learned in this first class. This was the first solo trip by Global Mission Readiness, which was funded by donations and fundraising and was a great success. Thanks to all those who helped to make this first mission and future missions a success. If you would like more information, or to get involved please contact Lt. Don Davis or go to www.globalmissionreadiness.org.



Program Highlight – Urban Renewal Update

Background. Urban renewal is a method of financing improvements and curing blight in underdeveloped areas. In 1960, a Constitutional Amendment was adopted in Oregon that authorized tax increment financing (TIF) for urban renewal. This law gives each city and county the ability to activate an urban renewal agency with power to propose and act on plans and projects to remove "blight." Examples of blight include buildings that are unsafe or unfit for

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occupancy or the existence of inadequate streets. The area where the work is to be done is known as a "plan area."

The process begins when either a city or county creates an urban renewal agency to cure blighted areas and/or fund the development of infrastructure. The urban renewal agency proposes a plan for improving the area. The urban renewal plan describes the projects to be completed, the timeframe for completion, and the costs for those projects. Following public notice and hearing, the city or county may approve the urban renewal plan by ordinance. No public vote is necessary.

The "overlapping taxing districts"—special districts and other taxing districts other than the city or county—are consulted during the planning process, but do not have "veto" authority over the adoption of urban renewal plans.

Financing Urban Renewal. When an urban renewal plan area is created, the assessed value of the property within the area's boundaries is frozen at the amount calculated from the most recently certified tax roll. The agency then raises revenue in subsequent years from any value growth above the frozen amount; this value growth is referred to as the *increment* or *excess value*.

Urban renewal agencies receive revenue from the "division of tax." The division of tax is calculated by multiplying the excess value by the tax rates of the overlapping districts that levy taxes within the urban renewal agency's boundaries. The county assessor calculates this division of taxes annually and diverts the revenue from the taxing districts for allocation to the urban renewal agency. Because of the division of taxes, there is no direct impact to the taxpayer; however, because the local taxing districts' revenue is diverted, local agencies receive lower revenues.

Statewide, more than \$182 million in property taxes are diverted that would otherwise have funded services provided by cities, counties, special districts and most importantly schools. According to the Oregon Department of Revenue, in FY 2006-07 there were 84 plan areas in Oregon's 36 counties. In 2009-10 there were 103 plan areas, representing an increase of nearly 23 percent in roughly four years. In Clackamas County, there are currently 10 urban renewal plan areas. Those plan areas encompass more than \$1.6 billion in excess value and divert more than \$25 million in operating revenues from local agencies. The table below provides a description of the local urban renewal plans in Clackamas County.

Urban Renewal Plans and Revenue In Clackamas County, 2009-10

Agency	Plan Area	Excess Assessed Value	Revenue from Excess Value	Revenue from Special Levies	Total Revenue
City of Estacada	Estacada City	4,951,044	79,440	0	79,440
Clackamas County	Clackamas Town Center	575,272,376	8,368,587	4,275,218	12,643,805
Clackamas County	N Clackamas Revitalization	63,626,359	908,884	0	908,884
City of Gladstone	Gladstone	49,597,418	797,798	0	797,798
City of Lake Oswego	East End Lake Oswego	186,191,037	3,264,037	0	3,264,037
City of Oregon City	Oregon City	99,371,379	1,745,912	0	1,745,912
City of Wilsonville	Wilsonville Yr2000 UR	329,522,297	4,730,264	0	4,730,264
City of Wilsonville	Wilsonville West Side UR	150,082,879	2,153,282	0	2,153,282
City of Sandy	Sandy UR	65,463,211	1,125,742	0	1,125,742
City of Canby	Canby UR	110,311,687	1,859,357	0	1,859,357
City of Molalla	Molalla UR	2,997,014	47,892	0	47,892
Total for all Plans		1,637,386,701	25,081,195	4,275,218	29,356,413

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When urban renewal became popular in the 1980s, state statutes required a timeline during which the projects would be completed and after which the urban renewal district would ultimately dissolve. Typically, those timelines were set to no more than five years. With the economic downturn in the 1980s however, many counties elected to renew the districts because the assessed value growth in the area was insufficient to fund the projects that were required by the project plans. In the 1990s, new state laws changed the method of limiting urban renewal. Today each urban renewal district is limited by its *maximum indebtedness*, which is the maximum cumulative amount that the urban renewal agency can borrow to complete its projects. Once that maximum is reached, the urban renewal district may amend its maximum indebtedness by up to 20 percent without the concurrence of the overlapping taxing districts.

Paying for Projects. Projects undertaken by the agency are paid for through bonds issued by that urban renewal agency. Generally, the agency issues bonds and pledges future tax revenue generated by the division of tax to make the payments on the bonded indebtedness. No public vote is required for the bond issues. While most of the revenue received by the urban renewal agency is derived from the division of property taxes, urban renewal agencies may receive revenue from the sale of property, from federal or state matching funds, from government grants, interest on deposits, and from other sources. In addition, some urban renewal districts even assess a property tax levy on properties outside the boundaries of the URD. Each URD has a maximum amount that it can collect, irrespective of whether that amount comes from the incremental value, or from the assessment. Clackamas County has two existing urban renewal districts, which together receive more than \$9.2 million in division of tax revenue and nearly \$4.3 million in property tax levies.

Recent Legislative Changes. During the 2009 legislative session, the Oregon Legislature recognized that changes were needed to urban renewal in the state. House Bill 3056 passed both the Oregon House and Senate unanimously and provided three major changes to urban renewal laws in the state. First, the house bill established limits on the amount of maximum indebtedness for new plans. Next, the legislature created a process to require the concurrence of overlapping taxing districts when an urban renewal plan amendment increases the maximum indebtedness by more than 20 percent. Finally, the new law provides a method for urban renewal agencies to return assessed value to overlapping agencies for a single year or for multiple years when enough revenue is received to service the bonded debt.

The Effect of Urban Renewal on Fire District #1. Urban renewal has two major effects on Clackamas County Fire District #1. First is workload. The Fire District is responsible to serve urban renewal projects within the District's geopolitical boundaries. That means that it must review building plans for all new buildings and all new developments. Further, during the construction process, each step of construction receives fire and life safety inspections to ensure that the proposed project is engineered in compliance with the building plans. The fire district receives no system development fees, permit fees, or licensing or any other fees for construction projects. All of those fees go to the city or county sponsoring the plan.

Next, Fire District taxes are diverted to the urban renewal agency, meaning that the taxes that citizens intended to go toward fire and emergency medical services are instead used for urban renewal projects. The amount of diverted revenue is largely based on the time that the urban renewal plan has been in existence—the longer the plan has existed the more money that the plan diverts. Three plans exist in Clackamas County that effect the Fire District's tax revenue. In total, approximately \$1.77 million *each year* in taxpayer revenue is diverted from the fire district to cities and counties. This is enough to staff about 1.5 fire stations every year, or purchase more than four fire engines or two fire trucks, or nearly enough to construct a fire station within the Fire District. The table below shows the fire district taxes diverted, based on the Fire District's property tax permanent rate of \$2.4012 per thousand dollars of assessed value.

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Agency	Plan Area	Excess Assessed Value	Fire District Tax Rate / \$1000	Fire District Taxes Diverted
Clackamas County	Clackamas Town Center	575,272,376	2.4012	1,381,344
Clackamas County	N Clackamas Revitalization	63,626,359	2.4012	152,780
City of Oregon City	Oregon City	99,371,379	2.4012	238,611
Total for all Plans		738,270,114	2.4012	1,772,734

More information. The information from this document has been derived from data provided by the Oregon Department of Revenue. More information, and links to the information provided herein, can be received on urban renewal in Oregon by going to the following website sponsored by the State of Oregon:

Oregon Dept of Revenue (DOR): http://www.oregon.gov/DOR/PTD/IC_504_623.shtml
OR DOR Property Tax Stats: <http://www.oregon.gov/DOR/STATS/303-405-10-toc.shtml>
2009 Changes: <http://www.leg.state.or.us/comm/sms/sms09/hb3056bsfr06-08-2009.pdf>

LOCAL STATION ACTIVITIES

Station 3 – Oak Lodge Fire Station

- Station 3 attended the School Buddy program at Oak Grove Elementary School.
- Installed two smoke detectors in a residence.
- Hosted a child safety seat clinic.

March

Total Number of Responses for Station 3 in March = 200

Number of Medical Aid Calls = 150

Number of Fires = 3

Other = 47

Mutual aid given - 3

Mutual aid received - 3

District-wide

	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>
Total number of calls during March	1,299	1,279
Total number of calls January – March 2009	3,854	3,618