

City Bridges

Summer 2005

News to keep you connected to Albany City government

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CARA Downtown Streetscape Project to Break Ground this Summer

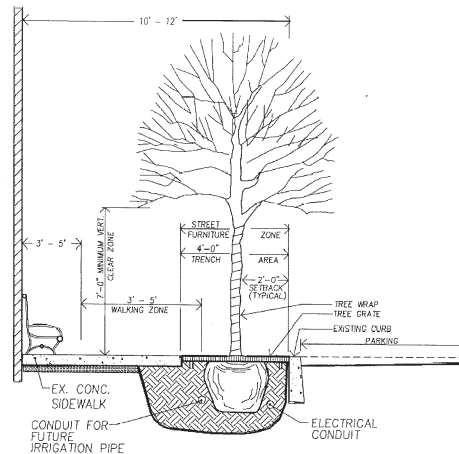
Please pardon the dust as the Central Albany Revitalization Area (CARA) streetscape project begins construction this summer. Aiming to enhance pedestrian traffic in the downtown retail area, the \$2.2 million project will include new lighting, street trees, benches, trash receptacles, and sidewalk replacement along First and Second Avenues from Lyon to Washington Streets.

Design plans will be available to contractors and bidders in late May. The City hopes to announce the contract award by the end of June with construction quickly to follow. The project should be substantially complete this fall, long before the 2005 holiday shopping season.

Work will be staged to limit disruption to area businesses, their customers, and residents. Affected streets will have at least one lane of traffic open at all times, and access to local businesses and merchants will be maintained except for brief periods of time needed to complete critical activities.

Once construction has begun, affected businesses and residents will be notified of when construction will be scheduled on their block. The public will be able to find up-to-date construction information on affected areas by accessing the City's Web site at www.cityofalbany.net.

For more information about this project, please contact Guy Mayes, Project Coordinator, at 917-7640.



Cross-section drawing shows bench, sidewalk, and street trees planned for downtown.

Firefighters Host Golf Tournament for Assistance Fund

Albany firefighters will sponsor the fifth annual AFFCAF golf tournament to raise money for their community assistance fund on Friday, July 29, 2005, at Spring Hill Country Club. The four-person team scramble begins with a shotgun start at noon. Cost is \$300 per team, which includes golf, dinner, and prizes.

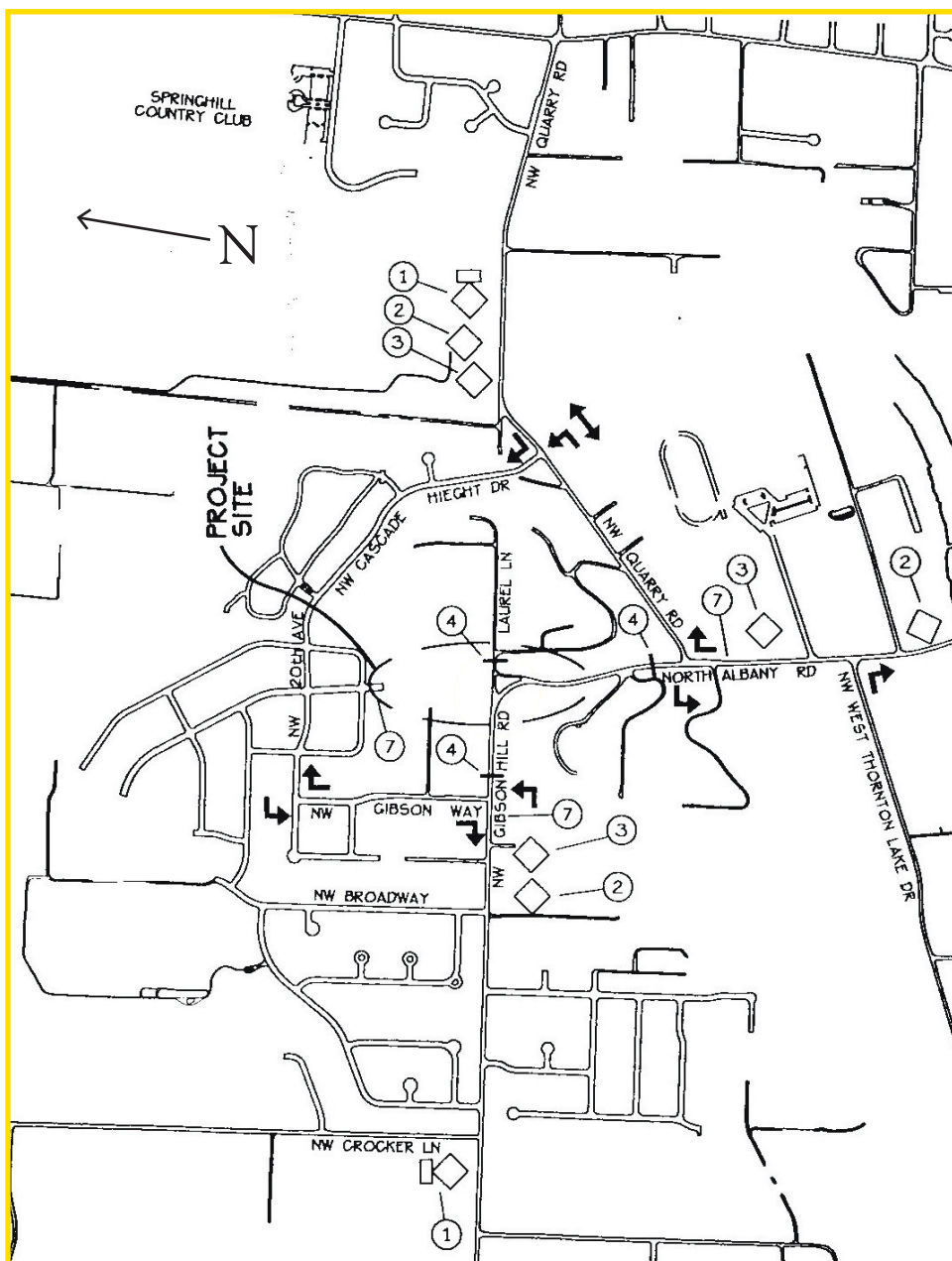


AFFCAF is the Albany Firefighters Community Assistance Fund. Fire Department employees raise money year-round to help people who need assistance in an emergency. Funds are also used for immediate financial aid for families who are burned out of their homes, bike helmets for kids, support for local senior and children's programs, and for at-risk youth.

Team sponsorships and prize donation opportunities are available.

To register or for more information about the tournament or AFFCAF, contact Lt. Mark Matthews by e-mail at mark.matthews@cityofalbany.net or voice mail at 917-7700, ext. 5050.

North Albany Road to be Extended this Summer Roundabout will be City's First



Arrows mark detour routes for construction in North Albany.

Construction of the North Albany Road roundabout and local improvement district should begin the first week of June and extend through August. Mid Valley Gravel of Philomath will do the work on the estimated \$1.8 million project.

The project includes construction of street and storm drain improvements for the extension of North Albany Road between Gibson Hill Road and Olivia Circle in the Covey Run Subdivision. Sidewalks and bike lanes will be included with the street extension. The project also includes sanitary sewer and water improvements under the North Albany Road extension to avoid cutting the new street in the future.

A roundabout will be built at the intersection of Gibson Hill Road and North Albany Road. This will be the first roundabout constructed in Albany.

Beginning June 16, the intersection will be closed for up to eight weeks. The closure is necessary to complete fill work as well as construct storm drain lines, complete concrete work, and do final paving. Northbound traffic on North Albany Road and eastbound traffic on Gibson Hill Road will be detoured onto Quarry Road NW, Cascade Heights Drive NW, 20th Avenue NW, and Gibson Way NW.

The construction schedule is very aggressive for minimum public inconvenience and impacts to traffic during the road closure. In an effort to reduce impacts to the public, the contract includes an early completion bonus. The early completion bonus will help encourage the contractor to work quickly so that the road is closed for the shortest time possible. The contractor faces stiff penalties if the intersection is not open at the end of the eight weeks.

Construction of some improvements that will not impact traffic on North Albany Road and Gibson Hill Road may extend through September.

COOL! Swanson Park Action Center Grand Opening Set for July 2-4

After six years of waiting, COOL! Swanson Park Action Center will open July 2 as the Albany community's only public outdoor pool.

Swanson Pool had been in operation from 1938 to 1999, when repairs became too expensive. The Mayor and City Council created a task force of community leaders to assess Albany's aquatic needs and create a plan to include an outdoor facility. Funding from an anonymous donor and many corporate sponsors made the COOL! Swanson Park Action Center possible.

With a serpentine slide and splash-down area, a play structure with buckets and spray features, zero depth entry, and a four-foot deep play area, this pool is what Albany families need to cool off on a hot summer day.

For more information on season pass pricing, early bird specials (purchased before June 22), hours, and classes, visit <http://www.swansoncool.com> or call 917-7777.

Admission:

	Res.	Non-Res.
Daily		
Adult/Senior	\$4.00	\$5.00
Youth (6-17)	\$3.00	\$4.00
Tots (0-5)	\$2.00	\$2.50
Observer	\$2.00	

City of Albany Directory

Mayor:

Chuck McLaran 928-3114

Ward I Councilors:

Dick Olsen 926-7348

Doug Killin 926-6829

Ward II Councilors:

Sharon Konopa 928-3067

Ralph Reid, Jr. 928-7382

Ward III Councilors:

Bessie Johnson 791-2494

Jeff Christman 926-0528

City Manager:

Steve Bryant 917-7505

City Hall Phone Numbers

General Information 917-7500

Ambulance Billing 917-7710

Building Inspection 917-7553

City Council Message 917-7503

City Manager 917-7501

Downtown

Carnegie Library 917-7585

Engineering 917-7676

Finance Office 917-7520

Fire Department 917-7700

Human Resources 917-7501

Main Library 917-7580

Mayor's Message 917-7502

Municipal Court 917-7740

Parks & Recreation 917-7777

Planning and Zoning 917-7550

Police Department 917-7680

Public Information Office 917-7507

Senior Center 917-7760

Transit 917-7667

Water and Sewer Billing 917-7547

Water/Sewer/Streets 917-7600

Emergencies

(Fire, Police, Ambulance)

Dial 911**City Bridges Info**

City Bridges is published by an editorial team from the City of Albany. Questions and input about this newsletter can be directed to the City Manager's Office, 333 Broadalbin SW, P.O. Box 490, Albany, OR 97321-0144.

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333 Broadalbin SW, Albany, OR 97321
www.cityofalbany.net

2005 Summer Safety Camp

Albany Fire and Police Departments are working with the Albany Community Pool, Boys & Girls Club of Albany, Mid-Willamette Family YMCA, and Greater Albany Public Schools to plan for the 8th Annual Summer Safety Camp.

This year's camp, open to kids entering fourth, fifth, and sixth grades in the fall, will be held June 20-23 at South Albany High School. Camp activities will include water safety and swimming, train and boat safety, fireworks safety, bike helmet and scooter safety, field trips to the Fire and Police

Departments and the Linn County 9-1-1 Center, and lots of fun. Campers will end the week with a graduation ceremony and barbecue for their families.

Cost per camper is \$25, which includes daily lunches, snacks, and a camp T-shirt. Scholarships are available. Registration is limited to 90 children. Register at the Boys & Girls Club of Albany, 1215 Hill Street SE.

For more information, contact the Albany Fire Department at 917-7700 or visit the City's Web site at www.cityofalbany.net.

**Albany Police Department Citizens' Academy**

The Albany Police Department is accepting applications for the fall Citizens' Academy. The Academy will be held on Tuesday evenings and two Saturdays from September 6, 2005, through October 25, 2005.

The Citizens' Academy is offered free to Albany citizens age 18 or older who pass a criminal background check. The Academy is designed to develop citizen awareness and understanding of the role of the Police Department in the criminal justice system and the community.

Twenty citizens will be selected to attend 30 hours of interactive classroom and hands-on instruction. Topics include police officer selection, training, and duties; investigation skills; tactical operations; canine procedures; firearms use; narcotics investigations; communications; crime scene processing; emergency vehicle operations, and crime prevention. Students will be actively involved in a variety of educational, interesting activities.

To reserve a seat for the fall class or to learn more about the Academy, call Community Service Officer Ryan Knoll at 917-3206.

Saturday, June 18 Bicycle Safety Rodeo

Albany police will host the annual Bicycle Safety Rodeo on Saturday, June 18, 2005, in the G.I. Joe's parking lot, 2000 14th Avenue SE. The event is scheduled from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

The purpose of the Bicycle Safety Rodeo is to increase child safety through educating children about safety rules, bicycle skills, and helmet use. Activities include bicycle skills testing, bicycle safety inspections, and bicycle identification engraving. Rollerblades are welcome; helmets are required for all participants.

Law enforcement personnel, including bicycle officers, will be present from the Albany Police Department.

A drawing will be held at 1:30 p.m. for bicycles, helmets, and bicycle-related items. Rodeo participants must be present to win. Items for the drawing have been



donated by G.I. Joe's, Kiwanis Club of Albany, and the Albany Fire Department.

The 2005 Bicycle Safety Rodeo is sponsored by the Albany Police Department, Kiwanis Club of Albany, and G.I. Joe's. For more information, contact Ryan Knoll, Community Service Officer, at the Albany Police Department, 917-3206.

Library Volunteers

Kids who have completed sixth grade may apply to work as a Library volunteer during the summer. Youth volunteers assist at craft programs for younger kids, work individually to straighten items on the shelves, and work in groups on special projects at work parties scheduled during the summer.

Applicants may pick up a volunteer application packet at either library location. Call either Library location for complete details.

July is National Recreation & Parks Month

Albany Parks & Recreation, in conjunction with the National Recreation and Parks Associations (NRPA), will celebrate National Recreation and Parks Month in July.

July is filled with recreation and park activities including:

- COOL! Swanson Park Action Center grand opening, July 2
- Fun in the Park youth activities, July 6, 18
- Pre-concert Art Activities, July 7, 14, 28
- River Rhythms concert series, July 7, 14, 28
- Mondays @ Monteith concert series begins July 11
- A Star is Born theater camp, July 11, 15
- Good Horse Sense for Beginners, equestrian camp, July 11-13, July 25-27
- COOL! Swanson Park Action Center Teen Events, July 12, July 26
- Red, White and Blue BBQ, July 13
- Good Horse Sense for Advanced Riders, equestrian camp, July 14-16, July 28-30
- Birthday Party service debut, July 15
- Step Up to Health celebration, July 16
- Fitness classes/Super Fitness Saturday, July 16
- Wacky Olympics summer camps for youth, July 18-22
- Get a Cue! billiards camp, July 18-22
- Health Forum with Good Samaritan Hospital, July 19

For a schedule of the River Rhythms or Mondays @ Monteith concert series, check your Summer 2005 Parks & Recreation Activity Guide or visit www.riverrhythms.org.

Throughout the month, Albany Parks & Recreation will also offer a variety of sports programs, adult and children's classes, trips, tours, and countless outdoor opportunities for recreation through Albany's parks. Go to www.cityofalbany.net/parks/summer for more fun things throughout the summer.

Celebrate Reading at Albany Public Library

Watch eagles and falcons and 25-foot Burmese pythons or laugh as a man becomes a clown before your eyes. Stack zucchini coins, shoot green bean baskets, or play Quidditch. Make some money at our parking lot sale or win the Albany Idols III Talent Show.

It's all part of the Summer Reading Program at the Library, and it's all free. Kids of any age can win prizes, food coupons, or tickets to an end-of-summer swimming party just for reading a great book. There are two programs, one for grades K-6 and another for grades 6-12. Starting June 1, everyone who signs up gets a free book.

Information on summer programs for children sixth grade and younger is available by calling 917-7583.

For more information on programs for sixth to twelfth grade, call Young Adult Services Librarian Doris Hicks, at 917-7580, ext. 4704.

You can always find out more about summer reading programs on the Web at <http://library.cityofalbany.net>.

Protect Your Drinking Water through Cross-Connection Prevention

Protection of the City's drinking water supply starts at the water treatment plant, but it doesn't end there. We also prevent contamination through the City of Albany's Cross-Connection Control Program. Cross-connection occurs when the drinking water system is or may be connected to anything that may contain nonpotable water.

Water normally flows in one direction from the City's water distribution pipes to your plumbing system. Backflow happens when nonpotable water or substances go in the opposite direction. Backflow may occur as a result of back siphonage or from back pressure.

Back siphonage is caused by a drop in the pressure that pulls water in the opposite direction of its normal flow. For instance, fire fighting and water main breaks often cause a sudden drop in water pressure, drawing water back toward the area of high water usage. When this happens, any substance in contact with the water may also be drawn into the water distribution system.

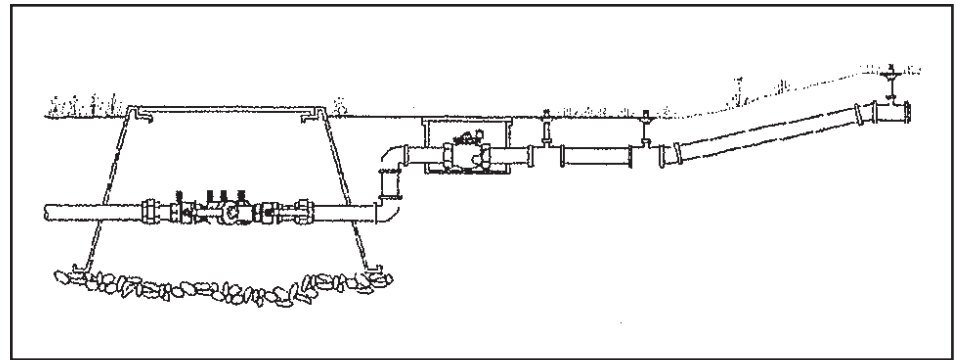
Back pressure occurs when a second system connected to the consumer's drinking water has higher pressure than the municipal water system. For instance, a pump on an irrigation well or landscape pond that is accidentally connected to the consumer's water system may cause back pressure to occur. The connection may force nonpotable water from the well or pond into the municipal water supply.

Because of the threat posed by cross-connection and backflow, the City is

required by Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR 333-061-0070), the Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS), and federal law to monitor and regulate cross-connections. It takes cooperation between the City and our water customers to ensure the water supply is protected. The City works to maintain the integrity of the water treatment and distribution systems. Please do your part by installing approved backflow devices as required, having them tested annually by an ODHS-certified tester and, if necessary, making repairs. Even one unprotected cross-connection has the potential to contaminate a large part of our water distribution system.

Albany Municipal Code Section 11.01.225 requires backflow devices for all irrigation systems, private fire protection systems, and some types of new construction. Customers who have a well are required to have a backflow prevention device. The type of device required varies with the potential hazard.

Customers that are required to have a backflow protection device must have it tested at least once each year. A licensed ODHS-certified backflow assembly tester must test the device at the owner's expense and send the results to the City's cross-connection program manager. If you don't know if you are required to have a backflow device or you have other questions about backflow or cross-connection, contact Jeff Kinney, Lead Utility Technician, at 917-7628, or by e-mail at jeff.kinney@cityofalbany.net.



Double check valve assembly backflow prevention device in below-ground box. A double check valve assembly (DCVA) may be installed to isolate all irrigation systems that do not use injectors or pumps to apply fertilizers and other agricultural chemicals.

If you have a backflow prevention device that prevents water flowing back into the water distribution system, it may also contribute to a dangerous situation caused by thermal expansion inside your hot water heater. A well-maintained hot water heater and pressure relief valve presents no danger, but the backflow device may contribute to explosion in a poorly maintained one.

Most homes have a hot water heater with a thermostat and a pressure relief valve. If the thermostat malfunctions, the water can become superheated. Water expands as it warms, and superheated water normally flows out of the pressure relief valve and down the overflow tube.

If the valve malfunctions and does not open, pressure from the superheated water may force the water back toward the City's water supply. If a backflow device has been installed between the hot water heater and the water meter, the backflow device will not allow water to enter the water main, and the pressure inside the hot water heater will continue to build. Under these circumstances, the hot water heater may explode with enormous force.

This situation will not exist for all customers. Many backflow devices are installed on a branch of the water system so that water can travel back through the meter from the hot water heater. To be safe, each customer who is required to have a backflow prevention device must properly maintain the hot water heater. A broken thermostat and pressure relief valve can cause significant damage if the heater overheats.



Renovation Continues at the Multimodal Station

Improvements associated with the historic train station and multimodal transportation project have continued through the spring and should be complete by this fall. The parking lot, sidewalks, lighting, and pedestrian areas at the depot are largely finished, as is the new entry and traffic signal at 12th Avenue. This signal should be in use this summer; until then, those arriving by car should continue to use the Lyon Street entrance.

The depot building is being restored to resemble what it looked like when it was built in 1908, following state historic preservation guidelines. The roofing and interior walls, electrical, and mechanical construction are complete. Interior partitions and fluorescent lighting that were added over the years have been removed. Contractors will continue to work inside the building this summer, focusing on painting, flooring, and installing furnishings. The Amtrak office, currently operating from a temporary building east of the depot, will move back into the depot when the work is completed. The public will again be able to go inside the building after the Amtrak move.

Train and bus operations have continued during construction. Transportation throughout the region is available at the depot from a variety of sources (see box below). Personal autos may be parked in the new lot, and those using any of the transit services may leave their vehicles in the lot for the duration of their trip.

Dedication ceremonies are expected to take place this fall.

Destination	Operator	Contact Information
Albany or Corvallis	Albany Transit Service	541-917-7667
Lebanon / Sweet Home	Linn Shuttle	541-367-4775
Newport / Bend / Portland	Valley Retriever	541-265-2253
Throughout Oregon with connections to the West Coast (Los Angeles to Vancouver, B.C.)	Amtrak	800-872-7245



If you live in Albany and irrigate your lawn, you qualify for a FREE irrigation audit. Our trained staff will show you practical ways to reduce your water usage and maintain a healthy lawn. Call 917-7629 to schedule your audit.

An efficient garden hose sprayer, and other tools to conserve water (and money) outside your home are available to you in a **FREE OUTDOOR WATER CONSERVATION KIT.**

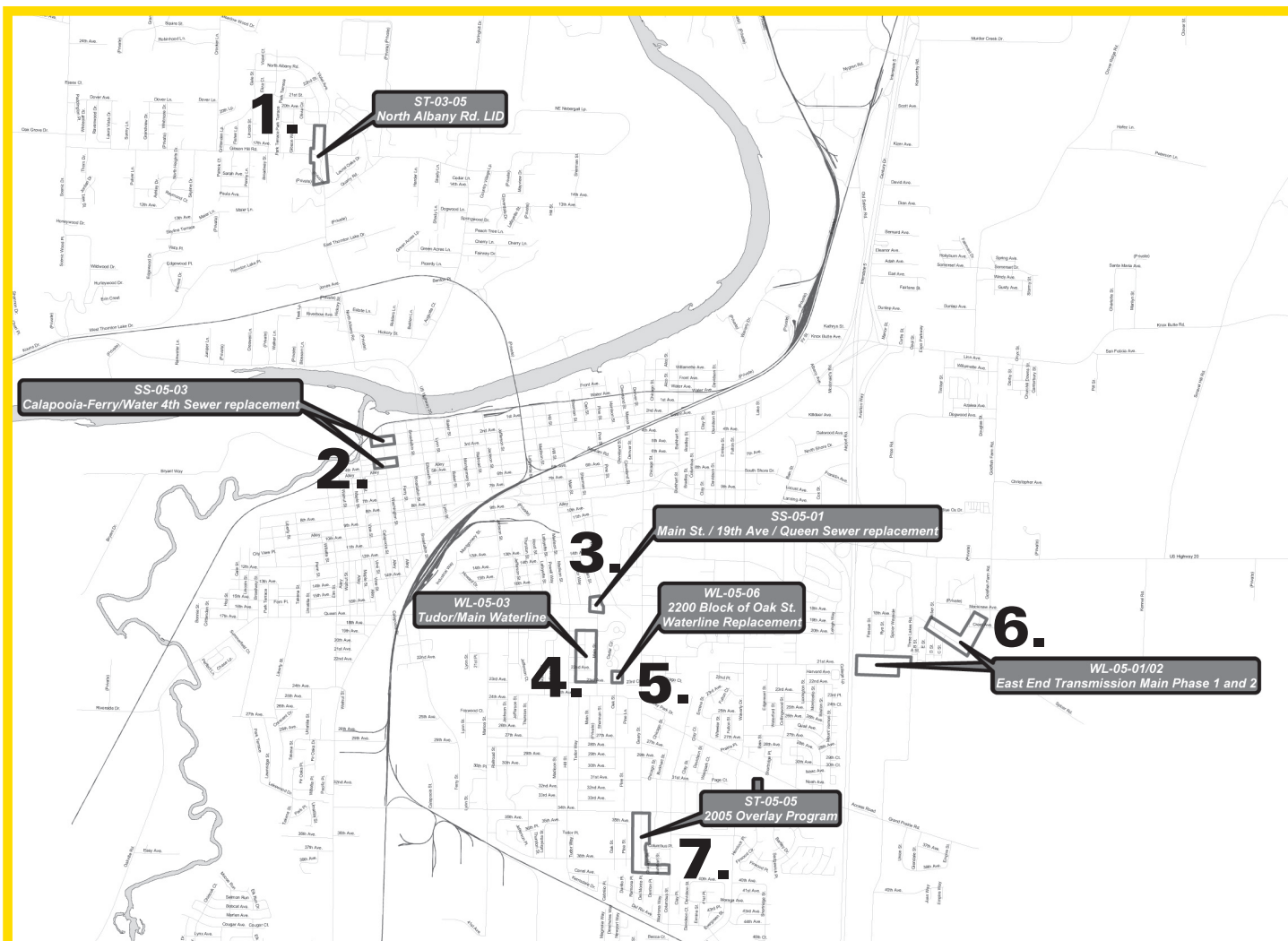
Get yours today from the Albany Public Works Department:



City Hall (2nd floor)
333 Broadalbin Street SW
Albany, OR 97321



Streets, Water Lines, and Sewer Lines on 2005 Summer Construction List



The City of Albany plans seven major construction projects throughout the community this summer. The map shows where the work is scheduled. This should explain the work that is being done and how much it will cost.

1. North Albany Road extension and roundabout

North Albany Road will be built over the top of the hill to connect with Olivia Circle in Covey Run Subdivision. The intersection with Gibson Hill Road will have the first roundabout in the city of Albany. Work will begin June 16 and continue into October. The roundabout will be completed by the time school starts. Cost is estimated to be \$1.8 million.

2. Rehabilitation or replacement of 1,300 feet of an eight-inch sewer lines due to structural problems and flow deficiencies

The work should reduce inflow and infiltration from ground water. Lines to be replaced are between Water and First Avenues from the railroad tracks to Ferry Street and between Third and Fourth Avenues from Washington Street to Ferry Street. Cost is \$202,000.

3. Replacement of a back lot line sewer main that is collapsing

570 feet of eight-inch pipe will be moved to Main Street right-of-way, between 19th Avenue and Queen Avenue. Replacement line will be 850 feet long. Cost is \$135,000.

4. Replacement of 5,930 feet of eight-inch water lines leaky, deteriorating water lines

Work will be done on Tudor Way between 19th and 21st Avenues and between 28th and 31st Avenues; 31st Avenue between Hill Street and Tudor Way; 19th Avenue between Main and Hill Streets; Main Street between Queen and 24th Avenues; and tie in at the intersection of Main Street and 22nd Avenue. Cost is \$841,000.

5. Replace 1,020 feet of 1½- and 2-inch galvanized water lines with 4- and 6-inch lines

One segment will be at 2204 Oak Street SE, the other north of 27th Avenue SE between Sherman and Main Streets. Cost is \$101,000.

6. Complete installation of 3,000 feet of 8-, 12-, and 24-inch water lines east of Interstate 5

Part of the Albany-Millersburg Water Treatment Plant project. Cost is \$1.4 million.

7. Pavement overlay for 39th Avenue between Waverly and Columbus and Geary Street and 39th Avenue

The overlay will help preserve the pavement of this street that gets heavy school traffic. Construction will take place during the summer when school is out.

Council Sets New Limits for Temporary Businesses

The Albany City Council changed the Albany Municipal Code this winter to limit outdoor sales of merchandise by temporary businesses. The changes became effective in late April, and City staff have been asked many questions about it. The Council planned to discuss the ordinance again in early June.

For now, however, Section 5.10 of the Municipal Code requires that individuals or businesses who want to conduct sales of merchandise or services from an outdoor venue be licensed and limits the license to 30 consecutive days in 12 months. The rules do not apply to nonprofit organizations, sales conducted on public property with the written consent of the public entity that controls the property, or sales under a contract promising a portion of the proceeds to go toward improvements in the City parks.

Merchants must apply for a license at Albany City Hall weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. In addition to information about the proposed business and its proprietor, the license application requires a signature acknowledging that the owner or manager of the property being used for the sale has given consent. The license fee is \$100.

We have attempted here to answer some of the most frequent questions that we have been asked about the law:

Q: How did the temporary merchants' ordinance change?

A: On February 9, 2005, the Albany City Council changed current City code to allow temporary merchants one license per business in a 12-month period. That license is valid for doing business at one location for no more than 30 days. It expires 30 days after it is issued. Merchants who obtain a license for any location may not receive a license for another location within the city for 12 months. The law also requires licenses for persons who want to conduct temporary sales of seasonal produce or other plant materials.

Q: I have a produce stand every summer out on Riverside Drive. How does the law affect me?

A: It doesn't. The law applies only within the Albany city limits.

Q: My Boy Scout troop wants to sell fireworks in the Bi-Mart parking lot. Do I need a license?

A: No. Nonprofit organizations, individuals, or groups who donate sales proceeds to improve the City parks or anyone conducting sales on public property as part of a public event, with the controlling public entity's permission, are exempt from licensing and time limits. Examples include Farmers' Market, Northwest Art & Air Festival, River Rhythms concerts.

Q: In addition to the above, may Bi-Mart also allow another nonprofit organization to sell Christmas trees in December?

A: Yes. The 30-day limit does not apply to property owners or to nonprofit organizations.

Q: I work for a business that repairs chips in auto windshields. We move to different locations around town every few days. May I operate my business in more than one location at different times during the year if I don't do so for more than 30 days?

A: No. A temporary merchant can be issued only one license, for one location, for not more than 30 consecutive days per year.

Q: Is this new regulation subject to Measure 37 claims?

A: No. Measure 37 applies to property owners, not merchants. However, anyone who has questions about Measure 37 should contact the City of Albany Community Development Department at (541) 917-7550.

Q: I have a flower business and would like to sell bouquets at several locations throughout town on the weekends before

Mother's Day and Valentine's Day. How does the ordinance affect me?

A: You may obtain a license for one location and one period not to exceed 30 consecutive days in any 12-month period on private property. You may, however, sell goods from a variety of public properties with the consent of the public entity which owns the property or which controls the right-of-way.

Q: Does that mean that I could operate a flower cart year-round in the downtown area?

A: Yes, with the consent of the City Council and if your business is conducted solely from the sidewalk areas and other public places specified by the City Council. Operating from within the state highway right-of-way areas such as along Lyons and Ellsworth Streets would require the permission from the Oregon Department of Transportation.

Q: Does the ordinance apply to temporary merchants located within existing commercial buildings?

A: No.

Q: If I apply for a license under my name for a specific location, may I have another family member or business partner apply for an additional license?

A: The original application must include all names of business partners and other persons who have management or supervision responsibilities for the business while it is being conducted within the city. Another family member may obtain an additional license only if they have a separate business name or legal entity.

Q: How difficult will it be to amend this ordinance in the future?

A: The ordinance can be amended at anytime by a vote of four members of the City Council.