



COUNTY MANAGER'S OFFICE

CLATSOP COUNTY WEEKLY BULLETIN – OCT. 16, 2020

NOTEWORTHY DEPARTMENT UPDATES

COUNTY MANAGER

RESILIENCY PROJECT:

Staff continue to provide presentations to the community in regards to the Resiliency Project. On Tuesday, Oct. 13 staff presented the updated information to the Planning Commission and answered their questions regarding the project, in addition to receiving continued feedback. Staff continue to update the Resiliency Project website and encourage residents to learn more about the project by reviewing the list of FAQ's which can be [found at this link](#).

ASSESSMENT & TAXATION

TAX PAYMENTS: What's the best way to pay my taxes in 2020? The Clatsop County Assessment and Taxation office recommends paying your taxes in the following ways in order to uphold best practices in public and staff safety:

BY MAIL: Mail payments to:

CLATSOP COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR
820 Exchange St, Suite 210
Astoria, OR 97103

Make Checks Payable to:

Clatsop County Tax Collector

Payments must be postmarked by Nov. 16, 2020 in order to receive discounts.

DROP BOX: Drop your check or money order payment off in the drive-up drop box located in front of the 820 Exchange Street Public Services Building. Please remember to either write your property tax account number on the check or include the coupon portion of your statement along with your payment.

ONLINE: Credit Card and Debit Card payments can be made online by going to the Clatsop County's Pay Taxes Online link at: <https://www.co.clatsop.or.us/assessment/page/pay-taxes-online>

Note: Processing fees will apply; see webpage for details.

Each year after tax statements are sent out, the Clatsop County Assessment and Taxation office handles numerous calls from taxpayers who have questions and/or concerns about their amount due, payment due dates, and valuations. We anticipate this year we may receive a heightened volume in these types of calls due to the impacts of COVID-19 and other various situations that have unfolded during 2020. The following information may be helpful:

- While you receive your property tax statement in October of 2020, it is important to remember that your property's Real Market Value is based on market conditions as of Jan. 1, 2020. Sales that occurred between Jan. 1, 2019 and Jan 1, 2020 were analyzed to determine your property's value as of Jan. 1, 2020. COVID-19 was declared a Pandemic in March of 2020.

Real Market Value – Oregon law says the assessor must value all property at 100 percent of its real market value. Real market value (RMV) is typically the price your property would sell for in an ordinary transaction between a willing buyer and seller. This value is established every Jan. 1, for the current assessment year. To estimate the initial RMV for your property, your county assessor appraises your property using a physical inspection and a comparison of market data from similar properties. Between the years of physical inspections, sales of similar properties are used to update the current RMV for your property.

Assessed Value – Property is taxed on its assessed value. A property's assessed value (AV) is the lower of its real market value or its maximum assessed value. Each year, the county assessor determines the property's real market value and calculates its maximum assessed value. You are taxed on the lesser of the two, which is called the assessed value. Real market value and maximum assessed value are defined below. Our office maintains three sets of values for each individual account, the Real Market Value, Maximum Assessed Value and the Assessed Value.

Maximum Assessed Value – A property's maximum assessed value (MAV) is the taxable value limit established by the voters in 1997. The first MAV was established in the 1997-98 tax year with the passage of Senate Bill 1215, commonly referred to as Measure 50. For that year, the MAV was the property's 1995-96 real market value minus 10 percent. For example, if a residential property had a real market value of \$100,000 for the 1995-96 tax year, its 1997-98 MAV would have been \$90,000. MAV is allowed to increase 3% annually or due to specific property events.

CLERK & ELECTIONS

Passport Notification: The Clerk's Office will not be accepting passport applications or processing passport photos from Monday, Oct. 19 through Dec. 4 due to the election. The Warrenton Post Office can help with passport submissions by appointment only.

We are currently conducting business by appointment. You can go to our [webpage](#) and schedule an appointment for park passes, marriage licenses, dog licenses and recordings with us.

ELECTIONS:

November General Election:

- Ballot were mailed out Wednesday, Oct. 14; if you do not have yours by Oct. 21 please contact us for a replacement.
- Ballot return by Nov. 3, 8 p.m. to any official drop site in Oregon or Oregon Elections office; postmarks do not count.

Drop-site boxes are open – they are all 24-hour boxes located outside of the following sites:

- County Clerk's Office, 820 Exchange St., Astoria
- Cannon Beach City Hall, 163 E. Gower
- Gearhart City Hall, 698 Pacific Way
- Seaside City Hall, 989 Broadway
- Warrenton City Hall, 225 S. Main (located in back parking lot off S. Main Court)
- Knappa High School, 41535 Old Hwy 30
- Jewell School, 83874 Highway 103

Get trusted information regarding voting in Oregon and Clatsop County; find us on Facebook at Clatsop County Clerk & Elections and Instagram @ClatsopCountyClerk. Look us up and “like” or “follow” our page for #TrustedInfo2020 Election information and other exciting news going on at the Clerk’s office.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

APPLY TODAY! Call for Citizen Advisory Committee Applicants

Clatsop County is accepting applications for representatives on the **Lewis and Clark / Olney Wallooskee** and **Elsie-Jewell / Seaside Rural** Planning Area Citizen Advisory Committees as part of a 33-month project to update the County’s six Community Plans and the Comprehensive Plan. The Citizen Committee Application form is available from the County Manager’s office at 800 Exchange St., Suite 410, Astoria, OR, or at <https://www.co.clatsop.or.us/county/page/committee-vacancies>. **The deadline to apply is 4:00 p.m., Friday, Oct. 16.**

ONLINE APPOINTMENT SCHEDULING

Online appointment scheduling is available for Building Codes, Land Use Planning and Code Compliance. A link to the scheduling application is located on the [Community Development Department](#) webpage.

There are also a variety of socially-distanced options to get your permit to us:

- **Email**
comdev@co.clatsop.or.us
buildingdivision@co.clatsop.or.us
- **Regular mail**
Community Development
800 Exchange Street, Suite 100
Astoria, OR 97103
- **Drop off** in the permit basket outside the Community Development Department
- Building permit applications can be submitted and inspections scheduled online through the [Accela](#) program.



Appointments are strongly encouraged.

SHORT-TERM RENTAL COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Code Compliance staff will be holding a series of community discussions to increase transparency and accountability and obtain input from community members. The following meetings, which will be held on a quarterly basis, are scheduled for October and November:

- Clatsop Plains: Oct. 30, 9 a.m. (electronic meeting)
- Falcon Cove Beach: Nov. 13, 9 a.m. (electronic meeting)

For additional information, contact [Rob Ledgerwood](#) at 503-325-8611.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

Over the next seven months, the Citizen Advisory Committees (CACs) will be discussing resources associated with Statewide Planning Goal 5 – Open Spaces, Scenic and Historic Areas, and Natural Resources. Goal 5 is a multi-faceted, interwoven document that address various resources from historic and cultural sites to minerals and aggregates to watershed and wetlands. Everyone is invited and encourage to attend a virtual CAC meeting in your planning area. More information can be found [here](#).

Upcoming Meetings

Oct. 15, 5 p.m.: Elsie-Jewell / Seaside Rural CAC (electronic meeting) **CANCELED – TO BE RESCHEDULED**

Oct. 19, 6 p.m.: Lewis & Clark Olney Wallooskee CAC (electronic meeting)

PUBLIC HEALTH

HAZARDOUS WASTE AWARD: Last week the county's Household Hazardous Waste program received the Champion for Healthy Environments Award from the Oregon Public Health Association.

[Read more here.](#)

The hazardous waste collection facility in Astoria opened in January and received more than 61 tons of toxic, flammable and otherwise hazardous materials. The last monthly collection event of the year was Oct. 12 – collection days will resume in January 2021.

RAPID COVID-19 TESTS: This week the department received a supply of 1,000 rapid COVID-19 test kits (*right*) that allow for same-day results. The tests will be available through the county's drive-thru testing service – [go here to learn more.](#)



4-H & EXTENSION

We are very excited to welcome OSU Horticulture/Small Farms Agent Julia Wentzel beginning Dec. 1. Julia will lead the local OSU Master Gardener program as well as provide research-based solutions to local small farms in Clatsop and Tillamook counties. A community meet & greet will be planned for December; more details to come.

Meetings and Events

1. Monday, Oct. 19, 6 p.m.
Lewis & Clark / Olney Wallooskee Citizen Advisory Committee – Comp Plan Update
(*video conference meeting*)
2. Tuesday, Oct. 20, 11 a.m.
Arts Council of Clatsop County (*video conference meeting*)
3. Thursday, Oct. 22, 1 p.m.
Recreational Lands Planning Advisory Committee (*video conference meeting*)
4. Monday, Oct. 26, 10 a.m.
Hearings Officer-Code Compliance hearing (*video conference meeting*)
5. Wednesday, Oct. 28, 5 p.m.
Board of Commissioners work session and regular meeting (*video conference meeting*)
6. Friday, Oct. 30, 9 a.m.
Clatsop Plains Short Term Rental Meeting (*video conference meeting*)