

Building a Bridge to our Future

Community Meeting: Public Safety & Parks & Rec

May 28th, 2014

Summary:

30 people in attendance

Two letters handed in for addition to summary (John Dunzer and Tom Horning) please see attachment at end of document

Presented by Dana Phillips and Community Partner Nathan Adamson (Parks & Rec)

Don Johnson and Community Partner Ann Samuelson (Public Safety)

What we have already seen in surveys:

Desire for:

- Parks
- Trails
- Bike trails
- Dog Parks
- Bike Friendly town
- Clean Beaches
- Natural History Park
- New Hospital
- New school

Concerns About:

- Tsunami and preparedness

- Street Safety
- Economic viability for a community is often judged by the schools in the town
- Drugs prevalent in town
- Marijuana legalization/closeness across the border in Washington

Community Member John Dunzer had specific goals he would like to see realized (please see attached document at end of this report) including:

- Moving housing areas outside of tsunami zone
- Moving schools above expected wave inundation
- Disclosures to prospective property buyers of potential for tsunami in area
- Urban interface zone 15 feet from forest
- Large public events supply their own security and public safety
- More surveillance cameras installed
- Bridges over 101 replaced
- Keep pressure on ODOT for 3 lane 101 highway

Submitted document by community member Tom Horning (please see attached document at the end of summary) requesting future plans for the following:

- Natural Hazard plan addressing earthquakes, tsunamis, and storms
- Evacuation survival and recovery plan
- Access to safety over bridges and more pedestrian walkways installed is essential
- A plan in place for survival over weeks if necessary
- Creation of potential storage containers
- Adding additional supplies

Other community comments:

- Create sidewalks on 101 through entire town
- Paths linking road and walking trails would better serve families in community who do not have cars
- Broadway Park, suggestion for a buffer zone keeping small children away from water's edge. Many school and Headstart groups in the park have issues with not enough adults to supervise all children so close to the water's edge.
- Biggest safety issue is the intersection at Roosevelt (101) and Broadway, both people turning in cars and pedestrians crossing. Any further commercial development in that area will only cause an increase in issues.
- Major issue of people crossing highway 101 to and from Safety, often causing traffic to completely stop.
- Amount of traffic in summers is a concern, developing a re-routing of traffic will dramatically increase the safety of people in our town.
- Concerns about how to fund these types of projects
- Create a bypass to get commercial traffic off of 101

- Community members felt that parks & recreation were easier examples of concrete results – public safety was a harder area to tackle.
- Parks should have a public safety factor when they are built, increased lighting, security cameras may need to be incorporated into future plans.
- Currently the city does have a public safety strategic plan (Yes)
- Safe rooms? (Mental health assistance space either at hospital or elsewhere) update – still in progress at this point – Seaside Hospital is potentially interested.
- Request for re-zoning of the EFU upland
- Funding discussion regarding grassroots efforts to support city and community development of these visionary ideas
- Concerns about expenditures on projects we may not need.
- Safer crosswalks across highway 101
- Youth Center and Library currently providing best activities for youth – expansion of those activities may need to be prioritized and adding partners example Jiu-jitsu center – as family assistance and growth areas
- Suggestion of a youth month or youth week – helping youth understanding civics, community volunteerism, and leadership.
- Helping new community members see where they can be involved in the community

Discussion of Sunset Empire Park and Rec District visioning process that was just completed.

Focused on 3, 5, and 10 years – bite sized chunks that can be accomplished

A few of the main goals from their visioning process:

- Aquatics facility is core
- Keeping pace with growth
- Continue with work well done at Youth Center
- Evaluating preschool need in the community
- Looking at Youth Center and adding addition resources for adults
- Acting as recreational hub for the parks in Seaside and access to recreational facilities in the area
- Staff as community Ambassador

JOHN DUNZER - VISION 2034 INPUT- SEASIDE OREGON

PUBLIC SAFETY

1. PRINCIPLE PUBLIC SAFETY PROBLEM IS TSUNAMI INUNDATION.
 - a. WE MUST REDUCE THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO WILL BE EXPOSED TO EXPECTED TSUNAMI.
 - b. WE MUST GET ALL SCHOOLS MOVED TO SEASIDE HEIGHTS SITE CITY MUST SUPPORT ATTACHED "PLAN B" WHICH WILL COST 45 MILLION NOT \$152 MILLION
 - c. WE MUST GET CRITICAL PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITIES WHICH HOUSE FIRST RESPONDER EQUIPMENT AND MANPOWER MOVED ABOVE ELEVATION 80.
 - d. WE MUST CREATE PERMANENT RESIDENT HOUSING THAT IS OUT OF INUNDATION AREA.
 - e. WE MUST INSURE THAT DISCLOSURE IS MADE TO PROSPECTIVE PROPERTY RENTERS AND BUYERS OF THE TSUNAMI SITUATION.
 - f. FOR ANY NEW PROPERTY THAT IS DEVELOPED IN THE TSUNAMI INUNDATION ZONE WE MUST INSURE THAT ADEQUATE TSUNAMI SAFETY AREAS EXIST PRIOR TO PERMITTING DEVELOPMENT.

OTHER SAFETY PROBLEMS

2. NO URBAN INTERFACE ZONES HAVE BEEN CREATED BETWEEN FOREST AND DEVELOPMENT TO PROTECT AGAINST WILDFIRES.
3. CLIMATE CHANGE IS EXPECTED TO INCREASE RAINFALL AMOUNTS AND INTENSITY IN SEASIDE. WORK WITH CORP OF ENGINEERS TO DIVERT PART OF RIVER INTO OCEAN UNDER SUNSET BOULEVARD BEFORE IT IMPACTS TOWN.
4. LARGE PUBLIC EVENTS MUST FURNISH ALL THE PUBLIC SAFETY RESOURCES NECESSARY TO HOLD THEIR EVENT. PROPERTY OWNERS SHOULD NOT HAVE TO SUPPLY RESOURCES. MODIFY PUBLIC SERVICE BUDGETS TO SUPPORT RESIDENTS AND NORMAL VISITOR LOADS.
5. SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS SHOULD BE INSTALLED IN AREAS ASSOCIATED WITH CRIME PREVENTION AND APPREHENSION.
6. REPAIR OR REPLACE THE BROADWAY BRIDGE OVER THE RIVER SINCE IT IS STRUCTURALLY INADEQUATE.

7. KEEP THE PRESSURE ON ODOT TO IMPROVE HWY 101 TO A THREE LANE CONFIGURATION BETWEEN AVE C AND HOLLIDAY
8. IMPROVE THE INTERSECTION OF BROADWAY AND 101 BY DIVERTING ALL BROADWAY TURNING TRAFFIC TO A NEW INTERSECTION CREATED BY EXTENDING LINCOLN STREET NORTH TO A NEW SIGNALIZED INTERSECTION WITH 101 AT 1ST STREET.
9. EXTEND AVE S WEST OVER THE RIVER WITH A NEW BRIDGE AND SIGNALIZE THE AVE S AND 101 INTERSECTION
10. EXTEND RIPPERT ROAD TO HIGHLAND AVE TO PROVIDE TWO ACCESS ROUTES TO COVE RESIDENTS
11. IN CONJUNCTION WITH SCHOOL RELOCATION AND CONSOLIDATION AT SEASIDE HEIGHTS SITE MAKE STUDENT'S TRAFFIC AND PARKING ACCESS THE SITE BY A CONNECTION TO HOSPITAL ROAD AND IMPROVE THE INTERSECTION OF HOSPITAL ROAD AND WAHANNA.
12. MAKE PUBLIC SAFETY MORE EFFICIENT BY JOINING A REGIONAL PUBLIC SAFETY ORGANIZATION PROVIDING POLICE AND FIRE SERVICES FOR THE ENTIRE SOUTH COAST AREA OF CLATSOP COUNTY.
13. MOVE HELICOPTER SIGHTSEEING TO AIRPORT TO ELIMINATE POTENTIAL POWER LINE CRASHES.
14. ENFORCE THE CITY ORDINANCE THAT REQUIRES PROPERTY OWNERS TO ELIMINATE ANY OBSTACLES OR LANDSCAPING THAT REDUCES THE ABILITY OF DRIVERS AND BICYCLISTS TO VIEW CROSSING TRAFFIC AT INTERSECTIONS.
15. COMPLETE INTERRUPTED SIDEWALKS ON MAJOR PEDESTRIAN STREETS ON A LEAST ONE SIDE OF THE STREET.
16. COMPLETE AND MARK BIKE LANES PER THE ADOPTED TRANSPORTATION PLAN

JOHN DUNZER---VISION 2034 INPUTS--SEASIDE OR

PARKS AND RECREATION

1. SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION OF SCHOOL PLAN "B" BY CENTRALIZING ALL SCHOOL PUBLIC EVENTS AT CENTRAL BROADWAY PARK SITE. MAKE THIS SITE A JOINT USE FACILITY BETWEEN SCHOOL DISTRICT, CITY OF SEASIDE AND PARKS AND RECREATION DISTRICT. SCHOOL DISTRICT CONTRIBUTES OLD BROADWAY SCHOOL SITE AND BUILDINGS.
2. UPGRADE AND SEISMICALLY IMPROVE EXISTING BROADWAY SCHOOL GYM. SCHOOL PRACTICE FACILITIES AT SEASIDE HEIGHTS GYM BUT SPECTATOR GAMES AND MATCHES AT BROADWAY PARK GYM WHICH HAS GOOD ACCESS AND PARKING FOR THE PUBLIC.
3. PARKS AND RECREATION DISTRICT MANAGES, AND ORGANIZES PUBLIC USE AND MAINTAINS CENTRAL PARK WITH FIRST PRIORITY TO SCHOOL NEEDS. PUBLIC ACCESS TO ALL FACILITIES WHEN NOT USED BY SCHOOL. SET UP RELATIONSHIP WITH ELDERHOSTEL
4. ESTABLISH AND OPERATE AN OPTIONAL PRE-SCHOOL PROGRAM WHICH IS FEE BASED AND INCORPORATES CHURCH PROVIDED RESOURCES. LOCATE ABOVE 80 FEET ELEVATION AT SEASIDE HTS..
5. REDEVELOP THE WEST SIDE OF 101 BETWEEN AVE U AND HOLIDAY INTO A RIVER FRONT PARK WHICH WILL SUPPORT A FARMER'S MARKET. CONNECT BY A FOOTBRIDGE WHICH PROVIDES FISHING TO EXISTING CITY PARK ACROSS RIVER
6. EXPAND THE PASSIVE USES OF SELZER PARK TO THE NON WETLANDS PORTION OF THE PROPERTY ALONG THE SOUTH SIDE OF SUNSET THAT HAS BEEN DONATED TO THE LAND CONSERVANCY. PUT IN A CONTINUOUS SIDEWALK ALONG SUNSET BECAUSE OF HEAVY PEDESTRIAN TRAFFIC.
7. CONNECT THE COVE AND SELZER PARK TO THE LAND CONSERVANCY PROPERTY BEING RESTORED SOUTH ALONG THE RIVER WITH AN EDUCATIONAL NATURE TRAIL ALONG THE RIVER.
8. EXPLORE WITH THE STATE
 - A WAY TO PROVIDE SAFER PARKING FOR SURFER'S UNLOADING ALONG SUNSET IN THE COVE AREA.
 - THE DEVELOPMENT OF OFF ROAD BICYCLE PATHS ACROSS TILLAMOOK HEAD BETWEEN SEASIDE AND CANNON BEACH.

Appendix B: Tom Horning Community Comments

Date: May 28, 2014

To: Don Johnson, City Councilor
989 Broadway
Seaside, OR 97138

From: Tom Horning
808 26th Avenue
Seaside, OR 97138

RE: Public Safety
City of Seaside Visioning Project

It is likely that the City of Seaside will be destroyed by a locally generated Cascadia tsunami within the next 100 years. According to research published in 2012 by Chris Goldfinger, Oregon State University, we are presently within a cluster period for subduction zone seismicity in which the mean recurrence interval is 330 years. This is shown in Figure 1. It has been 314 years since the last earthquake. The next earthquake may well be imminent. Total destruction of the city could be only a few years away.

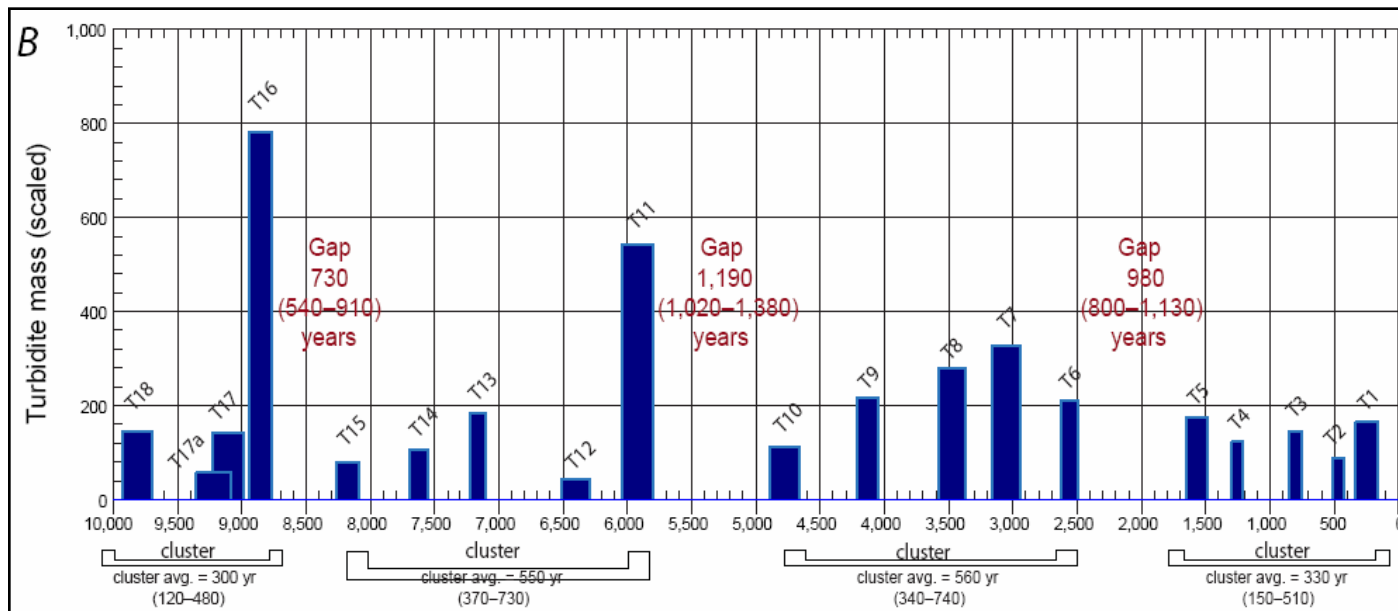


Figure 1: Recurrence history for earthquake and tsunamis within the Cascadia Subduction Zone, after Goldfinger and others (2012; page 124). Clusters are shown. The present cluster (far right) has an internal average recurrence history of 330 years.

My 20-yr Vision Goal for Seaside is that the community can rightly brag that it is the Most Tsunami-Ready Community on the Oregon Coast by 2034. It will take 20 years of hard work and planning to make this possible. It requires a City Council dedicated to the idea that the town can be made survivable by strategic investments in evacuation and survival infrastructure. At present only four bridges are earthquake-proof. Seven still need to be replaced. At least two pedestrian footbridges are needed where time is insufficient to allow safe evacuation. Vertical evacuation is needed north of 12th Avenue, west of the Necanicum. Survival supplies will be needed. The town will be isolated for many days to weeks. Fresh water will be in short supply. Not enough is being done to have the city ready in 20 years. Only the Council can compel this to happen. Further delay is unacceptable.

This is, by far, the most important Public Safety issue before the City of Seaside. For tsunamis five meters (17 ft) deep, the fatality rate can range up to 95 percent for people caught in the water. On a busy

summer weekend, this equates to the loss of 10,000 souls. We can minimize this number substantially by preparing. Water will likely be deeper than this, possibly as much as 40 ft. If our older bridges collapse, people will not be able evacuate and reach safety in time to avoid death. At this point in time, it is conceivable that 50 percent of the town's population may die, unless all the bridges are replaced, pedestrian foot bridges are provided, evacuation towers or strong hotels are built, survival supplies are in place, and on-going outreach and education carried out.

Assuming that we can save 10,000 lives and that the earthquake and tsunami strike in 100 years, it may be said that we have saved an equivalent of 100 lives per year for 100 years. If the quake and tsunami strike in 20 years and we have completed our tasks by then, we will have saved 500 lives per year for 20 years. Can the same be said of the fire and police department? No. I offer this simple comparison to help illustrate that tsunami preparedness is equal to or more important than police and fire protection. Tsunami preparedness should be given priority. Too little progress has been accomplished to date. We will be held responsible if we are not ready. We are morally obligated to make Seaside as safe as possible. It is easy to massage the statistics so that improvements are pushed into the future. The magnitude of the disaster and the number of lives at stake make this rationale inappropriate and foolhardy. Action is required.

Recommendation

The City should create a Disaster Preparedness Committee that is charged with creating a natural hazards strategic investment plan for Seaside that focuses on tsunamis. This should go beyond the City's Hazard Mitigation Plan by stipulating a strict schedule for improvements. The Committee should be responsible to the Council and should be populated with volunteers and specialists who can assemble a priority list and schedule for capital improvement projects that will minimize the loss of lives. The plan should recommend a deadline for improvements. The Council should adopt it and make preparedness among the highest of priorities until the plan has been completed, ideally in 20 years. The Committee should be empowered to justify and promote road levies or other means of funding these improvements to the electorate.