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New Pedestrian Ramps Downtown

The city was awarded a \$77,000 grant through Idaho Transportation Department to replace two pedestrian ramps on the south side of State Highway 44 at Viking Ave., two at SH44/Jet Ave. And six at Hawthorne Dr. Material and labor costs increased more than 30% in the spring of 2017, and there is a shortage of contractors in Treasure Valley for all trades, including concrete.

The city contacted nine companies last fall and only one responded and was able to do the work. The project cost \$81,500 and the ramps now comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Thank you to the adjoining landowners for their consent and cooperation: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Middleton School District #134, El Ranchero Restaurant, Hi-Pro Motors, Clarity Credit Union, Tsai's Chinese Kitchen, Jackson's Shell station, and Charles Buskirk's estate.



Speed Limit in School Zones

Many drivers struggle to know and follow speed limits in school zones. In Middleton, school zones match the school property boundaries fronting a road, and sometimes extend a little before and after. The speed limit in Middleton school zones is 25 mph all-day every-day since schools are near neighborhoods, parks, and busy roads. This makes it consistent throughout town and easy-to-remember for students, pedestrians and drivers.



Restrooms in Piccadilly Park

The City of Marsing last year successfully installed a prefabricated restroom building in its park along the Snake River and saved thousands of dollars. Middleton estimates spending about \$40,000 less for the prefabricated restroom building shown below, to be installed in Piccadilly Park before Memorial Day, than the city would have paid to construct restrooms on site. The restroom building will be trucked to town and set in place using a crane.



FEMA Changes Flood Maps

The Letter of Final Determination was issued December 7, 2018 by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The revised maps, used by companies to identify which properties are in flood zones, were based on elevation surveys of Willow Creek and Mill Slough in 2014-2015. That data was included on 9/16/2016 Preliminary maps provided to cities and counties. Two public meetings were held in 2017-2018, and the data has been on-line at FEMA's website since then for public comment. The Code of Federal Regulations states the revised maps become "effective" on June 7, 2019. Until then, the Community Floodplain Administrator can rely on the best available data, May 24, 2011 or the June 7, 2019.

Contact Mayor Taylor for more information (208) 697-4354, dtaylor@middletoncity.com.



Local Government Taxing Districts

Several taxing districts provide local government services to Middleton area residents. It is important to understand that different districts have different leadership, rules, regulations and taxing abilities. This information should help when you have questions. Each of these districts has open meetings that can be attended to understand issues and provide input. For more information contact information is provided below.

City of Middleton/Police
208-585-3133 / 208-585-0008

Cemetery District
208-585-9394

Fire District
208-585-6650

Greater Middleton Parks & Rec. District
208-585-3461

School District
208-585-3027

Calendar

City Council Meeting 6 N. Dewey Ave. 6:30 p.m.	Mar. 6
Planning and Zoning Meeting 6 N. Dewey Ave. 7:00 p.m.	Mar. 11
City Council Meeting 6 N. Dewey Ave. 6:30 p.m.	Mar. 20
Clean Up Middleton 310 Cornell Trolley Station 7:00 p.m.	Apr. 28

Water And Sun Bring Flowers and Weeds!



Spring rains will bring beautiful flowers and unwanted weeds. Weeds are the number one complaint received at the city during the summer. Weeds must be mowed at twelve inches or lower.

Legislative Update

House Bill 127

A change to the Local Land Use Planning Act is proposed that would allow counties to opt-out of planning and/or zoning. Subdivisions being built next to manufacturing/industrial facilities or confined animal feeding operations (dairies and feedlots), or vice-versa, resulted in the Idaho legislature requiring counties and cities to enact zoning laws in the 1950s, 60s and 70s. Zoning is a property right and appurtenant to certain property. If the law changes and a county opts-out, can an apartment complex or gas station be built next to a single-family dwelling? Does a property's existing zoning go away? Is that a taking of private property without just compensation?

House Bill 129

The state legislature is considering changes to the process the State Tax Commission follows if it does not recognize an annexation of land into city. One proposed change requires the Commission to give written notice to the affected taxing authority stating the reasons for the Commission's failure to recognize the formation or change in boundaries, and provide available remedies. Another proposed change makes the Commission's decision subject to judicial review.

House Bill 130

Laws require a property to be contiguous to city limits before the property can be annexed (added to city limits). Existing laws prohibit annexation of a property that is contiguous only because the property touches a road or railroad that extends all the way to town. The proposed change states land, lots or blocks that are only connected by a railroad or highway right-of-way that is one hundred twenty (120) feet or less shall be considered contiguous for purposes of annexation.

HB130 also proposes to prohibit annexation of land, if five acres or greater, that is either actively devoted to agriculture, as defined in section 63-604(1), Idaho Code, or forest land, as defined in section 63-1701(4), Idaho Code, even if surrounded on all sides by lands within a city, without the written consent of the landowner. Also, HB 130 proposes to reduce the number of properties, less than five acres in size and contiguous or adjacent to city limits, from 100 to 25 that can be annexed at a time without landowner consent.