

Press Release

City of Bend

May 27, 2008

Public Meeting for a Potential New Murphy Crossing Urban Renewal District

A potential new urban renewal district in the vicinity of Murphy Road and the Bend Parkway will be discussed at a public meeting at **7:00 pm, Wednesday, June 11, 2008, at the Romaine Village Recreation Center, 19940 Mahogany Street.**

To get to the recreation center take the Bend Parkway / US 97 south to Romaine Village Way; turn right and go west to the stop sign at Ridge Drive; turn right and go north to Mahogany Street; turn left and go west on Mahogany Street.

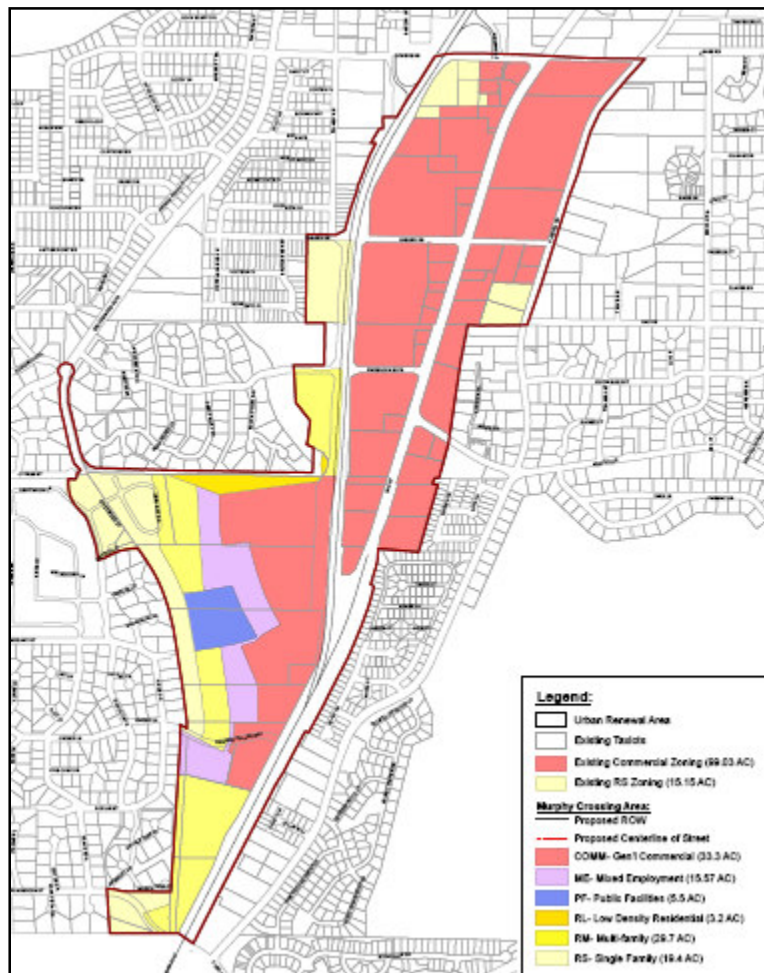
For additional information, contact Jerry Mitchell, Development Manager, City of Bend, at 541-480-4058 or jmitchell@ci.bend.or.us.

As currently envisioned, the urban renewal area boundary encompasses approximately 230 acres along the Bend Parkway from Powers Road on the north to China Hat Road on the south.

East of the Parkway, the proposed urban renewal area includes the south end of the Third Street corridor.

West of the Parkway the proposed urban renewal area includes the Murphy Crossing Refinement Plan Area.

The refinement plan was adopted by City Council in November, 2006, and outlines a program for developing prime land that currently is inaccessible and has no utility service.



The meeting will focus on the process of forming an urban renewal area and potential urban renewal projects in the Murphy Crossing area. Urban renewal consultant Elaine Howard will lead the presentation and answer any questions, along with John Russell, director of the Bend Urban Renewal Agency (BURA), and Jerry Mitchell, Development Manager for the City of Bend.

Urban renewal allows for the use of tax increment financing to pay for urban renewal projects. Tax increment revenues – the amount of property taxes generated by the *increase* in total assessed values in the urban renewal area from the time it is first established – are used to fund investments in the urban renewal area.

Urban renewal investments can include construction or improvement of streets, utilities, parks and other public facilities.

The main objective of the Murphy Crossing urban renewal area would be to implement the Murphy Crossing Refinement Plan and to enhance the south end of the Third Street corridor.

The largest infrastructure project envisioned for the area is the extension of Murphy Road west from Third Street, over the Bend Parkway, to Brookwood Boulevard; and the extension of Murphy Road east from Brosterhous Road, over the Burlington Northern Santa Fe railroad to 15th Street.

Related projects would be funded from a variety of sources and could include local streets in the Murphy Crossing area; a temporary extension of Third Street west of the Parkway; and a future grade separation of the Third Street / Bend Parkway intersection.

The City of Bend's plans for the Murphy Crossing area are coordinated with the Oregon Department of Transportation's South Parkway Refinement Plan and will result in dramatic improvements in the local street system, as well as US 97 in the south end of Bend.