



Clackamas County Surveyor's Office
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THE FORE SITE

NEWSLETTER FOR THE

CLACKAMAS COUNTY SURVEYOR'S OFFICE

January 22, 2001

We are pleased to announce that our Web Page at the Clackamas County Web Site is now up and running at <http://www.co.clackamas.or.us/surveyor/intro.html> or simply go to the Clackamas County site (www.co.clackamas.or.us) and find us under departments "surveyor" or temporarily in the "HOT and NEW" section.

Please look at our page. We think that there are several features that the survey community will find beneficial. When you open the page you can click on the bars or "boards" on the "TREE" and get to the information described. You will find forms for requesting Public Land Corner preservation or restoration on the "Public Land" bar. When you click on the "Plat Info" bar you will have four "leaves" that appear. Click on the "leaf" for information in a particular area. At the "leaf" buttons, you will find Subdivision, Partition and Condominium Plats and Plat Naming. Click on a leaf and you will find information such as our minimum submittal requirements, fee calculation sheets, inspection checklists and many other items that are in our hand out packages. At the "Plat Naming" leaf, there are features that developers and surveyors should find very helpful; there are the Subdivision Plat name list and a Name Reservation form.

If you have questions, encounter problems, have comments, or items that you would like to see, please contact our office. See below under GIS News about status for our digital image project.

We would like to express our thanks to Amber Dew, who works with the Clackamas County Web Development group, for the impressive job in creating a wonderful looking Web Page for our office.

GIS NEWS:

One of the features you will not find on our new Web Page is a map-searching feature. We are pleased to announce that new to our staff, as of January 2, 2001 is Information Services Software Specialist, Jim Moore. He will be working on our project to construct a digital GIS based research system. Since this a very large project we do not anticipate that we will have information in electronic form any time soon.

PUBLIC LAND CORNER:

As many of you are aware, this last fall we began collecting data for a County wide GPS Control Network, since that data will be submitted to NGS for Blue Booking we do not anticipate that the data will be finalized for publication until some time later this year. In addition to adding some clean up re-observations, we also need to conduct several second order vertical control ties, some of which are covered by snow now. We anticipate completing the additional observations needed and making the appropriate vertical ties late this winter and next spring.

We note that the cooperative observations on our GPS Project went well. At times, we had up to 22 receivers collecting data. Those participating in this project were Wasco County, Hood River County, Warm Springs Indian Reservation, Multnomah County, BLM, Marion County, City of Portland, Washington County, Yamhill County and our own staff. We thank John Putnam and BLM for the loan of two receivers that we used as a base station and for an additional rover.

Do you need a Public Land Corner for a project or will a Public Land Corner fall within one of your projects? Contact our office and we will make every attempt to accommodate you in referencing and/or restoring the corner. Please try to give us as much lead-time as possible.

DEVELOPMENT REVIEW AND RECORDING:

New to our staff is Eva Pomikacsek, Engineering Tech 2. Eva is working with Gina Buckel inspecting plats in the field and assists reviewing surveys in the office. Eva, while new to our Country, has a great deal of experience. She is a Graduate Civil Engineer from Hungary. Eva's experience includes 21 years with the Department of Transportation in the County of Csongrad, in Szeged, Hungary working her way up from assistant designer, Traffic Engineer, Supervisor for Road Building, Road Maintenance Engineer and Road Planner.

Last year was a reasonably slow year for plat recording and survey filing; in 2000 we recorded and filed:

65 subdivisions with 1534 lots and tracts (down from 77 with 2053 lots and tracts in 1999)

11 condominiums (down from 20 in 1999)

117 partitions (down from 144 in 1999)

454 records of survey (down from 554 in 1999)

We expect that with Clackamas County identified to receive a large share of the metropolitan area growth that the recording/filing volume will turn around significantly over the next few years.

Please remember that, while we try to be objective in our reviews of your work, we sometimes step "over the line" in what we request you to change. While those requested changes will most often improve your plat or survey, they may not always be something you would choose to address. If there is a problem with any of the comments on your plats or surveys, please feel free to discuss them with the person that performed the review. Should you wish, you are always welcome to call Chuck Pearson, Clackamas County Surveyor (503-353-4499) or Carl Clinton, Deputy County Surveyor (503-353-4498). Believe it or not, your comments, observations, and objectivity are always welcome.

RECORDS RESEARCH:

Recently we have had several e-mail requests for research assistance. As with telephone requests, we would like to remind you that as Professional Land Surveyors researching a project is a professional responsibility. Part of researching a project is knowing the purpose of the work and if you have obtained adequate information from that research to conduct the project. Our office staff would not know those limits or purposes. Our practice is not to conduct your work for you, however we will assist if you need special help in researching some of our more obscure records. Of course, we are always pleased to send you specific information such as a survey or plat if you have the recording number or name.

In those rare circumstances where we do provide research, there is an hourly fee. Such research must be approved by the County Surveyor.

DEVELOPMENT REVIEW PROCESS AUDIT:

Clackamas County Department of Transportation, Water Environment Services and Surveyor are undergoing an Audit of the entire Development Review Process, from Pre- Application through issuing building permits. The audit is being conducted by Zucker Systems, an experienced audit firm with considerable development background. Early next month they will be hosting several focus groups of people involved in the process. There will be 3-4 seats available for the surveying community, out of about 12 in the group for Architects, Engineers and Surveyors group. If you would like to be involved with that focus group please contact Carl Clinton at 503-353-4498 or by e-mail at carlcli@co.clackamas.or.us .