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READERS' OPEN FORUM

Encourage U.S. Hwy. 101 businesses to relocate

It is only a matter of time before we experience another disastrous flood.

Eventually, many of the businesses along U.S. Highway 101 between the Wilson River bridge and the Hoquar-ton Slough are going to be inundated and forced to leave the area, similar to the Dairy Queen scenario.

The vacated land in the floodplain could then become a "green" strip with trees, bushes, bicycle paths, picnic areas and hiking trails.

In anticipation of this, I suggest that Tillamook County

identify a strip of commercial land south of town along U.S. Highway 101 to accommodate these businesses and to encourage them to relocate.

Don Kilgore,
Netarts

A long time community organizer... Project at Wilson River and Tillamook Bay to reduce the risk of water heights and... the... project... flood... and... always... and... (see... meeting... 10... 10... and... studies... for... of... and... in...)

Headlight Herald Letter to the Editor

*draft
(unpublished)*

PRESS RELEASE

Encourage Co-Existence With Floods Along Hwy 101 . . . is a more sustainable plan for City of Tillamook Hwy 101 than “Encourage U.S. Hwy 101 businesses to relocate” from flood-prone north to flood-prone south city. The highest traffic count (71%) and business profitability is north City of Tillamook. Concentrated high value natural environment and flooding exist in the same area.

Locals have co-existed with nature, development, and floods for 150 years. To sustain the private-public sectors into the future, mutual planning continues the balance of community, nature, and economic growth. Safe and economic channeling of flood waters from the mountains to bay and ocean is feasible as a whole.

Tillamook Bay Habitat & Estuary Improvement District (TBHEID) formed as a special water control district in 2002. Businesses, farmers, homeowners, officials, and agencies focus on flood water control in Tillamook City and County. Nature, economic, and regulatory realities are factors in keeping Tillamook’s old and new generations flood resistant.

A long time community approved “Blind-Nolan Slough Wetlands Reconnection Project” at Wilson River and Tillamook Bay to reduce flood waters heights and duration is the one priority project undone for this flood season. New flood water spillways, annual flood channel maintenance, up-to-date communications and plans (see the county Incident Command Center “Winter Readiness” meeting on local TC-TV for particulars), property flood-proofing, flood gauges, and costly studies are completed for a winter where 75% chance of flood and 50:50 chance of snow storms is forecasted.