

CITY OF BROOKINGS

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Improvements Continue at Salmon Run

New golf carts arrived Tuesday at Salmon Run Golf Course in Brookings just as work to rehabilitate the clubhouse is nearing completion.

The City of Brookings has financed the purchase of 52 new golf carts for Salmon Run at a cost of \$225,000. The golf course management company, Early Management Team (EMT), will pay the City an amount equal to the monthly lease/purchase payment on the financing.

"We were able to secure financing as a public agency that is not available to the private section," said City Manager Gary Milliman. "Having a lower interest rate for the acquisition of these carts...and having a fleet of reliable carts...will help both the City and EMT be successful in sustaining the golf course."

EMT has also purchased 20 golf carts, bringing the total available fleet to 72.

Meanwhile, work continued on a \$90,797 project to rehabilitate the golf course clubhouse. Work includes removal and replacement of the siding, dry rot repair, completion of a roof project started by the former operator last November and installation of large roof vents for the kitchen and deck work.

"We did not know what to expect when we removed the siding to address problems with the windows and leaking, and it turned out to be worse...much worse...than we had anticipated," Milliman said. "It seemed like dry rot was everywhere, and it was deep."

Palm Industries of Brookings was retained to do the clubhouse repair work.

Repairs to the Salmon Run entrance road are scheduled to begin the week of July 4, Milliman said. "There are a number of slip-outs and rough areas on the road that are becoming safety hazards," Milliman said. "It's more than just cosmetic."

Tidewater Contractors of Brookings has been retained to do the road repair work at a cost of \$15,000.

"The next projects we will be tackling are repairs to the cart roads and rehabilitation of the potable water well," Milliman said. "We are still working on plans and securing proposals for that work."

Milliman noted that EMT "and a cadre of volunteers" have also made large contributions to improving golf course facilities, including removal of the collapsed driving range shelter roof, removal of several large hazard trees, clearing invasive vegetation, landscaping around the clubhouse and "lots of debris removal."

“EMT and the people who use the golf course have done a lot of work,” Milliman said. “They obviously love Salmon Run and want to see it succeed.”

The City has ordered a replacement event tent that will be located adjacent to the clubhouse. “The event tent that was there was severely weather damaged and unusable,” Milliman said, noting that the event tent is an important aspect of Salmon Run for use in conjunction with tournaments and other events.

“Salmon Run is not exclusively for golfers,” Milliman said. “We hope to make it a venue for non-golf events, such as weddings and other large gatherings. It’s a beautiful place.” Disc golf is currently available.

The City and EMT are also exploring habitat restoration projects on the golf course property.

“Jack Creek runs through the golf course and is a Salmon spawning area and is a host environment for beaver,” Milliman said. “We have had some initial discussions about projects to improve and sustain the wildlife habitat.”

Brookings recently joined the Oregon Coast Visitors Association (OCVA) and is exploring opportunities for promoting Salmon Run to visitors. “OCVA and Travel Oregon have some really good programs to promote golf tourism and we need to engage with that,” said Milliman, who was recently appointed to the OCVA Board of Directors. “Here is another opportunity for the City and EMT to work together to leverage our efforts in promoting Brookings as a visitor destination.”

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