

PUBLIC FACILITIES ELEMENT



VII: PUBLIC FACILITIES

The keys to providing adequate public facilities include advanced planning and operating the installed system efficiently. Such keys guided the city to the following goal:

To provide for logical orderly development of public facilities and services.

Note: A referenced and incorporated document to be used in assessing public infrastructure elements and needs is the Public Infrastructure Design Standards Manual Guidelines for Development, effective May 2009, or its most recent update.

SEWER

The City of Detroit currently has no community wastewater collection and disposal system. The city uses on-site septic systems to dispose of wastewater. There is very little known about the condition of these systems, but it is suspected that because of their age and changing regulations many existing systems do not meet current Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) specifications. Current standards require that there be sufficient lot area for a complete replacement drainfield system in the event of failure of the primary drainfield. DEQ regulations do not allow development over or modification of replacement drainfields in any way, thus demanding large lots for residences.

The city must overcome other constraints to the installation of a community sewage collection and treatment facility. One of these is in the form of statewide water quality guidelines controlling discharge of treated sewage into rivers and lakes. Volume I of the Statewide Water Quality Management Plan; Section III, Subsection D, states:

In order to preserve the existing high quality water for municipal water supplies and recreation, it is the policy of the Environmental Quality Commission (EQC) to prohibit any further waste discharges to the waters of the North Santiam River Subbasin above the City of Stayton.

In a letter dated October 18, 1993, DEQ stated "... our Department strongly supports the phase out of individual septic tanks systems and the replacement with a community system adequately sized and designed to serve the urban needs of the City of Detroit and the recreational needs of the area surrounding Detroit Lake."

Future development of the community, particularly industrial and commercial facilities, is virtually impossible under the existing scenario. The Upper North Santiam River Canyon Sewage Treatment Feasibility Study, completed in October 1996, was adopted as a facilities plan for a regional wastewater treatment facility that was planned to serve the City of Detroit, the City of Idanha, US Forest Services facilities, and Oregon State Parks facilities in the area. Financing of the public sewer system is beyond the capability of the city and its residents. Financing assistance from other sources would be necessary for completion of a public sewer system.

For the City of Detroit to have new development beyond that allowed by septic tank systems, a sewage collection and treatment facility must be constructed. The cost of such a system is currently prohibitive for the city with its existing small population base to finance alone. Although the Cities obtained other funding sources, there was not sufficient financing to continue planning the public system. At the January 11.2005, meeting, the Detroit City Council decided to abandon the Detroit/Idanha sewer project. A letter sent February 2, 2005, informed the City of Idanha of the Detroit's Council decision. Based upon secured and reserved funds, the City of Idanha continued planning for an alternate system for the community. Again, based upon the higher costs to its residents, Idanha ended its efforts to pursue a publically operated system on January 26, 2009, and formally de-obligated the funds.

WATER

A municipal water system provides service to the residents of Detroit. According to the 20-Year Master Water Plan 1997-2017, there were approximately 250 active unmetered sites during the winter and 360 sites in the summer. Because of large, seasonal fluctuations in population, the summer demand for water is substantially higher.

The City of Detroit holds rights to 0.25 cubic feet per second (cfs) from Mackey Creek, a tributary of the North Santiam River, and 1.00 cfs from the Breitenbush River. Mackey Creek has provided water to the city since October 1957. The Breitenbush River was

developed as a water source in 1963 to supplement Mackey Creek during low-flow summer months.

The city uses a slow sand filter, constructed in 1990, to treat its water. The filter, with a design capacity of 250 gallons per minute (gpm), discharges into a reinforced roofed concrete reservoir with a capacity of 205,000 gallons.

The 20-Year Master Water Plan 1997-2017 identified several major deficiencies in Detroit's water system. First, the Breitenbush River intake system, constructed in 1966, needs major repairs to the pump, wet well and supply piping. In addition, much of the distribution system piping is of small diameter (4 inches or less) and deteriorating. Many leaks are possibly present. One of the recommendations from the master water plan was to meter all services so that the city could detect leaks and inefficiencies. Another problem caused by the small diameter pipes, is that it is not possible to provide adequate capacity for fire flows.

In the 1997 water master plan, the estimated costs for all the recommended improvements to the system totaled \$767,897.00. Should adequate financing become available, the improvements will be completed on or before 2017.

In the fall of 2008, the city adopted an updated Water System Master Plan. The October 2008 Water System Master Plan is referenced and incorporated as a supplemental document of the Comprehensive Plan and in the review of development proposals.

SOLID WASTE

The City of Detroit was served by the McCoy Creek Sanitary landfill that is located three miles south of the City of Idanha until the landfill closed. Residents' solid waste is now trucked to the Salem-Keizer Transfer Station.

STORM DRAINAGE

The existing storm drainage system consists of a series of open ditches with culverts at street crossings where necessary. These systems seem to function during normal conditions, but during past heavy winter rainfalls, some reworking of culvert crossings

has been necessary. Some flooding has occurred in the area of the school and ponding occurs in the core business district.

The city will eventually need to redesign their existing storm drainage system. With new development taking place on higher slopes, the city's storm system must handle increasing runoff.

The city should enlist the services of an engineer to evaluate the existing system and make recommendations on any necessary improvements.

FIRE PROTECTION

The City of Detroit lies within a special tax district for fire protection by the Idanha-Detroit Rural Fire Protection District. The district protects a 5-square mile area that includes the cities of Detroit and Idanha. The Fire District has two stations - one in Detroit and the other in the City of Idanha.

Equipment possessed by the Fire District includes:

Idanha Station

Detroit Station

4,000-gallon Tanker

500-gallon Pumper

1100-gallon Pumper

One Ambulance

1,800-gallon Tanker

1 Rescue Rig

1 Ambulance (out of service)

POLICE PROTECTION

The Marion County Sheriff's Department and the Oregon State Police Department provide police protection for Detroit. The Marion County Sheriff's Department has located a satellite station in Stayton to serve east county and Santiam Canyon areas. The station has three officers assigned to it, with one being responsible for patrol of the Santiam Canyon area. Officers are assigned on a five-day work schedule. Beginning in mid April, the Sheriff's Department assigns three officers to marine patrol at Detroit Reservoir. They are assigned to a four-day work schedule that includes every weekend

until the middle of September. From Memorial Day through Labor Day, the Sheriff's Office has assigned a forest patrol to this area, working ten-hour days on weekends.

The closest Oregon State Police Station serving the Detroit area is located in Salem. An Oregon State Police Officer lives in Mill City as the resident trooper whose patrol includes the Detroit area. After-hours calls are dispatched from Salem or from the trooper's home in Mill City.

During the high tourism periods beginning in April and continuing to September, as many as four Sheriff's Deputies and one or two State Police officers are available for service to the Idanha-Detroit area. While the officers are not directly assigned to the city, their area of assignment greatly reduces response time for service calls.

Under this method of police protection, there are no direct costs to the City. The indirect cost is in the form of taxes paid by residents to Marion County and the State of Oregon. These indirect costs would be present regardless of the level of service provided to the area.

HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

The residents of Detroit have very limited health and social service programs. The reasons for the city's lack of services stem from both the remote location and the small population base. Both factors when combined make the provision of full-time medical and social service quite unlikely.

Residents seeking the services of a physician must travel to Mill City (18 miles), Stayton (37 miles) or Salem (50 miles). The nearest hospital facility is in Stayton. It is unlikely that a physician would locate in either Detroit or neighboring Idanha, because there are not sufficient numbers of persons to support a full-time medical practice.

The Idanha-Detroit Rural Fire Protection District provides a volunteer ambulance service for the Santiam Canyon area. Trained Emergency Medical Technician personnel on an on-call basis staff the service. The ambulance service answered 55 calls during 1997 and 123 calls during 1998, transporting victims to either the Stayton or Salem hospitals.

Marion County's Health Department provides for some of the community's health care needs. The County holds monthly mother-child clinics in Detroit. Monthly well-child clinics designed to monitor a child's progress are also scheduled. There is also a twice-a-year children's clinic to give physicals and immunizations to children as a prerequisite to entering school. Marion County also provides a public health nurse on a monthly basis for the public school. The listed services provided by Marion County are the only medical services available in the Detroit Lake vicinity.

There has been an interest in Detroit for some type of health care facility to locate in that community. If a facility for a clinic could be established the combined communities of Detroit and Idanha may be able to use it as a base to start a nurse practitioner or a physician's assistant program.

PARKS AND RECREATION

The City of Detroit is located in one of the most popular vacationing areas in the state. There are numerous state and federal parks surrounding the lake. Facilities offered at these parks include: camping, picnicking, protected swimming areas and boat-launching ramps, to list a few. While many-of the residents of Detroit take advantage of these facilities, there is still a need for a community oriented park, and a long-range park and recreation plan to accommodate existing, seasonal, and future needs.

Members of the community have expressed a need for both a community park and a public meeting place. The city is currently without any form of parkland that would be suitable for a large gathering especially during the summer influx of people.

In the past, the city has attempted to obtain a narrow strip of land located south of Santiam Avenue and east of Patton Street from the Forest Service for use as a city park. These attempts have been unsuccessful but there is still a possibility for future acquisition of this land by the City.

There are other Forest Service lands on the north edge of the city that are of interest to the city for park development. The area on the west side of French Creek Road has been

mentioned as a possible nature study park, with a natural setting overlooking the reservoir. All of these proposals need to be formalized and put into a formal parks plan.

Public Facilities Element Goals and Policies

GOAL:

The City of Detroit shall provide for logical orderly development of public facilities and services.

Policies:

Sewer

1: The city should promote development at the highest density allowed by septic systems.

Water

- The city shall implement the improvements to the water system recommended by the 20-Year Master Water Plan or its most recent update as financing becomes available.
- The city shall provide for placement of fire hydrants in a manner that is acceptable for fire rating purposes.
- 5. The city shall take an active role in the planning of future water system improvements.

Storm Drainage

- Adequate storm drainage shall be required in all new construction areas.Financing should come entirely from the new development.
- 7. New storm drainage systems shall be designed in a manner to not overload existing drainage ways, and to provide for future community expansion.
- 8. The City shall determine a means of financing maintenance and improvement of the existing storm drainage system.

Fire Protection

9. The city shall continue the present agreement with the Idanha-Detroit Rural Fire Protection District until such time it can finance paid fire-fighting personnel.

Police Protection

10. The city shall continue with the existing police protection service provided by Marion County and the State of Oregon while continuing to investigate localized police protection services.

Health and Social Services

- 11. The city shall encourage Marion County to increase the level and frequency of medical services to Detroit.
- 12. The city in a combined effort with the City of Idanha shall investigate various sources of financing for a community health care facility.
- 13. The city shall investigate the possibility of a program of allied medical services with the City of Idanha.

Parks and Recreation

- 14. The city shall negotiate with U.S. Forest Service for additional land for future park sites.
- 15. The city shall develop a parks plan to locate potential parks and open spaces within the community.
- 16. The city shall develop programs that will provide recreational opportunities for the residents of Detroit as well as visitors to the area.

