

# City Secures Senior Center Asphalt Paving and Sidewalks

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Pacific Editor

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Mayor Herb Adams said the city staff has secured an agreement with West Asphalt to pave the parking lot of the new senior center for a tax credit, and the city would provide the forms and excavation for the curbs and sidewalks.

"We're fairly certain we also have a similar agreement for the concrete," Adams said.

The Tri-County Community Senior Center board reported to the public on July 13 that the building was almost complete, but that the parking lot would have to be paved and the curbs and gutters installed before the city and fire department would allow the center to open.

The center received a \$325,000 Neighborhood Assistance Program (NAP) business tax credit grant. Under the grant, businesses receive tax credit for 70 percent of funds donated to the center.

As of July 13, approximately \$110,000 in business tax credits was still available.

At the meeting, Adams vowed city support to get the asphalt and concrete work donated for the tax credit.

Speaking at the July 18 board meeting, Adams said the full board of aldermen and his administration were committed to the senior center.

In addition to the parking lot and sidewalks, Adams asked aldermen to give their thoughts on a request from Helen Preiss, center president, for the city to pay the center's utilities for the first five years.

Ron Sansone, who serves on the senior center board and has chaired the building construction committee, said he didn't think the center would need help for five years, but would certainly need help for a year.

Loyd Harris suggested that the city provide the water and service to the center at no charge for a year.

But Walter Arnette objected, saying the center would serve residents from outside Pacific city limits.

"We have seniors right here in our town who cannot afford to pay their water and sewer bills," Arnette said. "I don't think it would be right to spend taxpayer money to provide water and sewer for the senior center."

Police Chief Jim Brune said people from outside the community paid taxes to Pacific when they shopped, ate, or bought gasoline in Pacific.

Adams asked aldermen to delay deciding on the scope of financial assistance the city could give the center until after citizens had a chance to digest the latest suggestion.

"We went from considering paying all utilities for five years to free water and sewer for a year or year-and-a-half. Let's give the citizens a chance to read this report in the newspapers and give aldermen a chance to talk to them about it," Adams said.