

# Talent, City of

## **Community Profile:**

**Population** 3,000

**Location** City of Talent

## **Position Description:**

**Sponsor** City of Talent

**Supervisor** City Planner

## **Assignment**

The RARE participant will have primary responsibility for working with the National Park Service Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance program to facilitate a public planning process for the Bear and Wagner Creek Greenways within the Talent urban growth boundary. A second long-range planning project will be to develop an Energy and Environment Element for the Talent Comprehensive Plan. This plan element will consider opportunities for conservation of energy, water quality, and other environmental issues that are otherwise not addressed in the City's periodic review work program that will be completed this year. The RARE participant will provide administrative support to the City Planner by answering customer questions, and completing tentative approval reports and letters for simple planning matters such as home occupations and site plans for existing structures. Working on environmental projects, such as Arbor Day (required for Tree City USA), and Earth Day or SOLV Cleanup (both optional, time permitting) with citizens and local school groups, and constituency building with area service organizations will be important aspects of this job. If opportunities for grants related to the participant's projects arise, grant writing may also be a part of the assignment.

## **Required Skills**

Ability to read, interpret and convey into lay language local ordinances and plan policies, both verbally and in writing, easy going, narrative writing style that is concise and that interprets technical details clearly. Patience and tolerance of people's differences, basic understanding of ArcView/GIS, and the ability to create maps and do map research.

## **RARE Member: *Meghan MacKenzie - 2000-2001, Year 7 Participant***

Meghan Mac Kenzie received her Bachelor of Science from Southern Connecticut State University in 1998 in History. She moved to Oregon in 1999 to become a member of REAL Corps, an AmeriCorps program affiliated with Southern Oregon University in Ashland. Meghan was a crew leader and the Natural Resource Education Coordinator for REAL Corps. After her year with the RARE program, she plans on pursuing her masters degree in Environmental Education.