

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Richard Meyers, City Manager

SUBJECT: Friday Update

DATE: September 28, 2018

Youth Advisory Council

The 2018-19 Cottage Grove Youth Advisory Council will be meeting on Monday, October 1st from 7:00 to 8:00 pm.

Yard of the Week

This week the Yard of the Week is located at 1630 Bohemia Place. With fall approaching, this yard is still very green and well maintained. With the end of the last full week of September comes the end of the 2018 Yard of the Week season. Congratulations to all the Yard of the Week winners this year. Thank you for helping make Cottage Grove a more beautiful place to live. Remember all the Yard of the Week winners for the year can be seen on the City's webpage. The 2019 Yard of the Week season will begin the first full week of May.

Candidate Forums

On Monday, October 1st from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm, the League of Women Voters of Lane County will be hosting a candidate forum for the House District 7 race in the City Hall Council Chambers. Candidates Representative Cedric Hayden and Christy Inskip will be attending.

On Tuesday, October 9th, at 6:30 pm, the Chamber of Commerce will be hosting a candidate forum for the City Council, Wards 3 and At Large candidates. The forum will be at City Hall in the Council Chambers. Candidates for Ward 3 are Garland Burback, Raymond Ackerman, Jill Hermansen and Candace Lamb-Solesbee. Candidates for the At Large position are Mike Fleck and Ashley Rigel.

On Tuesday, October 16th, at 6:30 pm, the Chamber of Commerce will be hosting a candidate forum for the Lane County Commissioner candidates at City Hall in the Council Chambers. Candidates are Gary Williams and Heather Buch.

City Managers Around the World

The City Manager attended the annual International City/County Management Association Annual Conference in Baltimore this week. The conference brought together over 3,400 local government managers from the United States, Canada and 24 other countries to discuss issues facing local communities and share ideas to improve services to members of their communities. The conference brings internationally recognized speakers and experts for training. This year conference attendees heard from experts like Daniel Pink, Doris Kearns Goodwin, Melissa Agnes, Greg Bell and Wes Moore.

Scenic Bikeway Meeting

The City Manager attended a meeting of the Oregon Scenic Bikeway Advisory Committee last week. The committee received a brief report regarding the recruitment of a new Scenic Bikeway Coordinator to replace Alex Phillips who moved. The Oregon Scenic Bikeway will also be celebrating the 10th anniversary of the program in 2019. The committee discussed ideas and made plans for events to celebrate the creation of the program that remains the most successful bikeway program in the country.

League of Oregon Conference

This weekend the League of Oregon Cities will be holding their Annual Conference in Eugene. Mayor Gowing and Councilors Boone, Fleck, Roberts, Ehler and Ervin and the City Manager and Community Coordinator are attending sessions at the conference covering topics such as urban renewal, housing, homelessness, the 2020 Census, school safety, data, technology, recycling and a wealth of other topics. The conference provides an opportunity for local government leaders in Oregon to gather and visit with each other about issues they are facing. Councilor Jake Boone will be a speaker at the conference, as LOC Treasurer will present the annual financial report of the League of Oregon Cities and is also on the ballot to be Vice President during the annual business meeting.

Defensive Driving Training

This week City staff attended the ODOT Defensive Driving course, led by instructor Tony Jobanek. Eighty employees attended the engaging 4 hour training course focused on preparing employees with the following defensive driving techniques.

- Looking ahead and expecting the unexpected.
- Controlling your speed.
- Maintaining a safe following distance.
- Preparedness for the reactions of other drivers.
- Driving safely for weather and/or road conditions.
- Being alert and distraction free.
- Watching and respecting other drivers.

In an effort to provide employees with safe driving skills both at work and in their personal vehicles, employees attend a defensive driving training yearly. The hope is that the skills taught in these courses allow them to defend themselves against possible collisions caused by bad drivers, drunk drivers, and poor weather. The training course reinforced the ever growing issue of distracted driving, which is mainly caused by cell phone usage.

Sewer and Water Line Replacement Projects Update

By the end of next week, H & J Construction will have completed three of the four sewer mainline replacement projects, 1st Street, 3rd Street, and 7th and Adams. They plan on starting the final project on North 9th Street the week of October 8th pending receiving permits from the Oregon Department of Transportation.

The City's Utility Crew installed a new 8" water mainline between H and I Streets. Next Tuesday and Wednesday they will install the new line from H to G Streets. The following week they will

pressure test and chlorinate the new line. The third week of October the crew will make connections from the mainline to the homes from G to I Streets. Repaving of the street will follow once all the homes are connect to the new line completing the project.

Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade

This week TAG (The Automation Group) completed installing a new alarm system at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The new system has 25 alarms monitoring critical plant operations. The old system had 3 critical alarms. The new system will help staff insure that the treatment plant is operating properly 24 hours a day.

Cottage Grove Public Library Upcoming Events

- Bilingual Family Storytime - Monday's at 6:30 pm – A fun evening of stories, music, and crafts for all ages.
- Lego Club – Wednesday, October 3rd at 2:30 pm - Bring a friend and come join in the fun.
- Ukulele Morning Jam – Thursday mornings at 9:00 am - Join us for drop-in Ukulele. We have instruments that you can borrow and check out from the Library.
- Preschool Storytime - Friday mornings at 10:30 am - Stories, music, crafts and fun.

OPEN HOUSE: Safe Routes to School - Right-of-way Acquisition & Project Overview:

The City is holding an Open House on October 8th from 4:00 to 6:00 pm at City Hall in the Council Chambers. Staff from the Engineering and Planning Departments will be on hand to talk about the right-of-way purchase process and why the City may need to purchase additional right-of-way from property owners within the project area. A full project description with photos, design specifications, and other progress information will be posted on the City of Cottage Grove website early next week so please check the website for project updates. If you have any questions regarding the Open House, the Safe Routes to School Project, or the recent project area mailing on right-of-way acquisition, please contact Faye Stewart, Public Works & Development Director at (541) 942-3349.

Quote of the Week

"We don't stop playing because we grow old; we grow old because we stop playing."

~George Bernard Shaw~