

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Richard Meyers, City Manager

SUBJECT: Friday Update

DATE: March 8, 2019

### **Tree Debris Drop Off Site**

The City has designated a tree debris drop site at the end of North 12<sup>th</sup> Street behind the Post Office. City residents and businesses are welcome to bring their tree debris to the site from dawn to dusk. The site will remain open at least through this month and possibly into April. The site is only for tree and shrub debris, no boards, garbage, plastic or roofing is allowed. The City plans on grinding the debris and making it available for gardening and landscaping projects.

City staff is currently working on a limb pickup plan similar to the City's regular limb pick up program. Once the plan is completed we will notify residents of dates and locations of the limb pickup. Please wait until the plan is released and the snow has melted before preparing for the limb pickup.

### **Estimated vs. Actual Meter Readings**

The City's utility workers are working diligently to clear the roads, sidewalks, parks, and other city facilities from debris caused by the recent snow storm. In an effort to remain timely in providing utility bills, it will be necessary to estimate water consumption for the utility bill being mailed to our customers this month. The City will use the utility billing software to create each customer's estimate. The estimates will be based on the consumption during the last meter read period. For example, if the previous period consumption was 1000 gallons, the estimated consumption will be 1000 gallons. The readings will be reviewed by the Utility Billing clerk for reasonableness. However, there could be estimates that are not in line with actual usage and will be addressed during the next billing cycle.

### **Bridge Repair Project**

After a slight delay because of the snow the Bridges Repair Project will be getting underway next week starting on Wednesday, March 14<sup>th</sup>. The work will begin on the Main Street Bridge with the westbound lane being closed on the 14<sup>th</sup> through the 18<sup>th</sup>. The traffic lanes will be open at night and on the weekend. Work is scheduled to then close the eastbound lanes from March 19<sup>th</sup> -21<sup>st</sup> during daytime only. There may be short periods of closures of both lanes to allow for construction material deliveries. Work has not been scheduled for the Harrison or Silk Creek Bridges yet. To get up-to-date information about the projects and the impact on traffic visit the City's Construction Corner webpage. By subscribing to the Construction Corner you will be notified every time an update is posted on the Construction Corner. Subscribing is easy just hit the "Subscribe" button.

### **Beeper**

The City Manager will be on KNND's Beeper Show on Monday, March 11, from 9:00 to 10:00 am.

### **NASA at the Library**

The NASA "Discover Exoplanets" exhibit is at the library through April 20<sup>th</sup> so stop by soon to check it out.

### **Exoplanets Event**

The Wisdom Seekers had a special "Exoplanets" inspired meeting and discussion this week at the Cottage Grove Public Library. Next week on Thursday, March 14<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 to 8:00 pm, Astronomer Steve Kilston will give an Exoplanets themed talk and on Thursday March 28<sup>th</sup>, the Wisdom Seekers will once again meet at the library to view the Exoplanets exhibit and to discuss all things celestial and beyond. Please join us for any of these free, fun and educational events at the Cottage Grove Public Library.

### **Eugene Science Center Field Trips**

As a part of the programming associated to the NASA Discover Exoplanets exhibit, the Cottage Grove Public Library did two recent field trips to the Eugene Science Center and Planetarium. Students ages 7 to 17 had the opportunity to view the "other half" of the Exoplanets exhibits, and enjoyed two Planetarium Shows as well as all of the amazing "hands-on" exhibits at the Science Center. Special thank you to the Eugene Science Center for the free admission for all of us visiting from Cottage Grove.

### **Exoplanet Film Festival**

The Cottage Grove Public Library is hosting an Exoplanet inspired film festival while the NASA exhibit is in town. Next week on Wednesday, March 13<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 to 5:00 pm we will screen the film Short Circuit. Please come on down for some free popcorn, cool film and fun.

### **February 2019 Building Inspection Services Report**

For the month of February the Building Division of the Public Works & Development Department issued 30 permits, 3 for new homes, and performed 101 inspections in Cottage Grove. Staff issued 12 permits and performed 42 inspections for the City of Creswell. In Veneta, 10 permits were issued, and they performed 78 inspections. Staff reviewed and completed 13 plan sets in February and 9 plan sets are in review or on hold for additional information from the applicants.

### **Wastewater Treatment Plant**

On Monday, Wastewater Treatment Plant Staff successfully installed the rebuilt wet well pump that exploded last month. The plant is fully operational without the need of portable pumps to operate. The City would like to thank the cities of Eugene and Woodburn for providing the portable pumps while the treatment plant's pump was being rebuilt. The portable pumps were used during the latest storm event which allowed the plant to process all the sewage during the high flows. Staff would also like to thank Ben Howell coming with his crane to set the pump and Builders Electric for rewiring the pumps.

### **Cottage Grove Housing Advisory Committee Meeting**

On Tuesday, the Cottage Grove Housing Advisory Committee met with Becky Hewitt from ECONorthwest to start discussing strategies from the Housing Needs Analysis. Three strategies were discussed which included partnering on surplus South Lane School District property, Urban Renewal as a housing implementation tool, and property tax abatement programs. The committee also discussed other housing priorities. The committee will meet again in April to further discuss the potential strategies.

### *Quote of the Week*

*“Do not mind anything that anyone tells you about anyone else. Judge everyone and everything for yourself.”*

*~Henry James~*