

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Richard Meyers, City Manager

SUBJECT: Friday Update

DATE: March 15, 2019

Youth Advisory Council Academy

The Cottage Grove Youth Advisory Council will be spending the day with City staff on Monday to learn about the many functions and activities that go on a daily basis. The youth will get to experience the sewer camera to Police Dogs. The City Council is invited to join them for lunch at City Hall at 11:30 am.

Subscribe Today

The City of Cottage Grove created the Construction Corner as a part of the City website at the start of 2018 to help alert residents to construction projects that could impact community. The Construction Corner is regularly updated with new information that is useful to avoid traffic problems or to just know what is going on. Subscribers to the Construction Corner get notified when updates are posted so they can always stay in the know. With the bridge projects beginning next week and the Safe Routes to Schools work starting later this summer there will a lot of construction work that will impact traffic. Main Street Bridge construction will begin next week and it will involve lane closures, more detailed information is available on the Construction Corner.

Subscribing is free and the subscription and the subscription list is not shared, so subscribers only get information about updates to the Construction Corner (no annoying emails about cat videos or special offers). So join those in the community that are in the know and subscribe today by visiting www.cottagegrove.org/constructioncorner.

Safety Committee Training

The City Safety Committee met with our SAIF Safety Management Consultant this week and received required training on Safety Committees and Hazard Identification. The Safety Committee serves as a vital part of the City's efforts to maintain and improve the safe working environment for our employees. Members of the committee come from all departments.

Business After Hours

On Thursday, March 21st the Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours will be held at the King Estate Cottage Grove Warehouse at 1780 Carnegie Way in the Cottage Grove Industrial Park from 5:30 to 7:00 pm. King Estates and the Friends of the Cottage Grove Carousel are hosting the Business After Hours. Stop by and visit with Chamber members and see the progress of the carousel restoration.

Police Academy Graduates

Congratulations to Officers Wendie Jackson and Harry Sullivan III for graduating the Oregon Department of Safety Standards and Training "Basic Police Academy". This represents sixteen weeks of instruction at the academy in Salem, Oregon. Both Officers represented the department very well, receiving compliments from both staff and fellow classmates.

Harry Sullivan III received the "Victor G. Atiyeh" Award for outstanding student in this class. This award goes to the outstanding student of each basic class as selected by their fellow students and the academy staff. The student selected must display exceptional professionalism by demonstrating an exemplary attitude and outstanding achievement in leadership, academics, health & fitness and survival skills.

Congratulations to both Wendie and Harry for completing the next step in their law enforcement careers.

Both Officers will move to the Field Training process and will start working next week with their Field Training Officers.

Winter Storm Damage Estimate

The Public Works & Development Director reported an estimate of \$297,800 for damages as a result of the February 24, 2019 snow storm to Lane County. This estimate consists of actual costs the City incurred from February 24th through March 8th and estimated costs to complete the clean up. The Director is estimating an additional 4 to 5 weeks of time to complete the clean up work. The City will also need to repair several structures as they were damaged, consisting of roof and gutter damage. Because the City, Lane County, and State declared an emergency resulting from the storm, the City may be eligible to receive up to 75% of the actual costs incurred as a result of the storm from FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) provided funding is appropriated by Congress for the damage.

Do you have damage from the Snow Storm?

As storm damage clean up continues, businesses and homeowners are encouraged to submit an initial damage assessment to Lane County that will then be shared with Oregon Emergency Management. Businesses and homeowners are encouraged to fill out the online form, even if they have already repaired the damage. Homeowners should only provide assessments for primary residences, not vacation homes. The link for businesses and homeowners to submit initial damage assessments is: <https://apps.lanecounty.org/InitialDamageAssessment/>.

The initial damage assessments should be high-level overviews and submitted as soon as feasible. The information will be used to determine whether there are any Federal assistance programs available for businesses and homeowners. There is no guarantee that any assistance will become available.

Trees, Limbs, and Debris Update

It is amazing the amount of damage the City and property owners received as a result of the snow storm. The City has received an incredible amount of woody debris this past week since

opening the woody debris drop site off North 12 Street behind Dari Mart. City staff will be working through the weekend bunching and piling the debris to be sure everyone can get their damage tree debris to the site. The City expects to keep the site open as long as there is space to accept the debris.

Residents will receive information in their water bill this month regarding a City wide limb pickup schedule for the month of April. Crews will be working through the City trimming trees, picking up limbs and tree debris. This will be very similar to the City's yearly limb pickup program. City is estimating it will take 3 to 4 weeks to complete the limb and tree debris pickup due to the massive amount of damage received throughout the City.

Golf Anyone?

Just in time for the beautiful spring weather Middlefield Golf Course will reopen this Saturday after 3 weeks being closed as a result of the snow storm. The golf course suffered a great deal of damage to trees throughout the course. Golf course staff and volunteers have worked tirelessly the past 3 weeks cutting trees and removing debris to make the course playable. This work will continue for several weeks as there are more damaged trees to clean up. The City is very thankful for all the support and hard work volunteers have given to clean up and restore the golf course so it can be reopened.

Astronomy Lecture a Blast

The Cottage Grove Library extends a huge thank you to special guest Astronomer Steve Kilston for an amazing Exoplanets lecture last night. An enthusiastic crowd enjoyed hearing about the history of the concept of Exoplanets, and hearing about projects that Steve has personally worked on that NASA has used to now discover over 4000 Exoplanets. Steve also shared his design for an amazing space ship that could take us to Exoplanets. Thanks Steve for a memorable evening at the Library.

Exoplanet Family Fun at the Library Tomorrow

Please join us at the Cottage Grove Library on Saturday, March 16th from 12:00 to 3:00 pm for a family event filled with astronomy fun for children of all ages. We will be designing "Planetary Pizzas" (and eating them too), will make "Celestial Slime," and have other fun Astronomy STEM activities. Bring a friend and come join us for some science fun.

Quote of the Week

"May the dreams you hold dearest be those which come true and the kindness you spread keep returning to you." Happy St. Patrick's Day!