

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Richard Meyers, City Manager

SUBJECT: Friday Update

DATE: March 28, 2019

Audit Committee Met

The Audit Committee met Tuesday, March 19th, to review the Financial Statements and Supplemental Information for the City of Cottage Grove, fiscal year end 2017-18 with the City's Auditor, Gary Iskra of Isler CPA. Members of the Committee present were Sheri Henry, Jennifer Morrocco, and City Councilor Greg Ervin. The City Manager, Richard Meyers, and Finance Director, Roberta Likens, also attended the meeting. The report contains a "clean opinion" on the financial statements and related disclosures. The Committee has fulfilled its responsibilities for oversight of the City's financial reporting. The City Council accepted the Audit report Monday, March 25th and placed it on permanent file. Copies of the audit for FY 17-18 and previous years can be found on the City's website: www.cottagegrove.org.

Lane Economic Committee

Monday, Len Blackstone and the Public Works & Development Director presented to Lane Council of Government's Lane Economic Committee about Cottage Grove's Downtown Renaissance. The Director discussed how Cottage Grove's Downtown has changed over the past twenty years through investments by landowners renovating historic buildings and the infrastructure improvements made by the City, Oregon Department of Transportation and Economic Business Improvement District. Information was also shared about current building remodel projects and future City projects designed to improve downtown.

Len Blackstone shared about his Bank Building remodel project on the south east corner of Main and 6th Streets. Len's project is a complete remodel that includes six upstairs apartments including commercial shops and office space on the first floor. He plans on completing the remodel early 2020. He also shared his thoughts regarding future needs to improving downtown. Such as more living opportunities downtown to support downtown business, grant and loan programs focused on providing necessary funding to move projects forward, and the necessity to make downtown business and pedestrian friendly.

Bridge Repairs – 2019

The bridge repair project continues with repairs occurring to the Main Street Bridge, Silk Creek Bridge at South River Road as well as the Harrison Avenue Bridge. For more information on the project, see the [Construction Corner](#) for frequent schedule updates, as well as the [Bridge Repairs-2019 project page](#) for general information.

NASA at the Library

The NASA national touring exhibit, *Discover Exoplanets, The Search for Alien Worlds*, continues to be on display at the Cottage Grove Public Library. We are in the final month of displaying this cool STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) infused exhibit, so please stop by the Cottage Grove Public Library soon to check it out.

Exoplanet Costume Making Workshop

Please join us at the Cottage Grove Public Library for an upcoming Exoplanet Costume Making workshop on Monday, April 8th from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. This will be a great opportunity for you to make a celestially inspired costume for the Exoplanet Costume Party and Dance on Saturday, April 13th. We have all the supplies you need to make an awesome costume so come and join us on April 8th.

Exoplanet Film Festival

Please join us next Wednesday, March 27th at the Cottage Grove Public Library when we will screen the film *Lego's Star Wars Movie* as part of our Wednesday Exoplanet Film Festival. The film is from 3:00 to 5:00 pm and popcorn and fun are sure to happen. Bring a friend or two and join us for this fun afternoon event.

Quote of the Week

“May the first day of April bring with it much peace, love, joy, passion and purpose into your life.”

~Trudy Vesotsky – 2013~