

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Richard Meyers, City Manager

SUBJECT: Friday Update

DATE: May 10, 2019

Yard of the Week

The 22nd Yard of the Week season has officially begun. The first yard selected is 45 South 12th. It is a great yard with lots of blooms. The Yard of the Week recognizes local single family homes for upkeep and care to beautify their neighborhoods. The recipients of the Yard of the Week award receive a credit for a month of water on their City Utility bill, a gift certificate from the Chamber of Commerce, 1-year gift subscription to the Cottage Grove Sentinel and most importantly the public recognition by having the Yard of the Week sign in their yard. A picture of the residences that receive the award are also posted on the City's website.

Beeper

The City Manager will be on KNND's Beeper Show on Monday, May 13th from 9:00 to 10:00 am.

Main Street Grant

Main Street Cottage Grove is excited to announce that they have been awarded a \$200,000 Oregon Main Street Revitalization (OMSR) grant from the State Historic Preservation Office, Oregon Heritage. This grant will be used by Raphael Building, LLC to help fund the current renovation of the Bank Building at 6th and Main in Downtown Cottage Grove. The project is being managed by Cottage Grove's own Len Blackstone.

The OMSR grant funds may be used to acquire, rehabilitate, and construct buildings on properties in designated downtown historic areas statewide. Funded projects must facilitate community revitalization that will lead to private investment, job creation or retention, establishing or expanding viable businesses, or creating a stronger tax base.

The \$200,000 will help offset over one million dollars in project costs that will lead to updated spaces for Christi's Barber Shop and the Latina market, as well as the creation of a new coffee shop, a small-business incubator that will fuel entrepreneurship in the area for years to come, and a new home-base for Windermere Real Estate. Much needed housing will also be made available by remodeling and updating all of the upstairs apartment spaces.

US Bank Economic Forecast

The City Manager and Finance Director attended the US Bank Annual Economic Forecast breakfast this week. The forecast was presented by Economist John Mitchell which highlighted the trends and economic indicators in the Country and region. During the presentation John Mitchell noted that his first presentation was 50 years ago.

Northwest City/County Managers Conference

The City Manager attended the Northwest City/County Managers Conference last week. The conference brought together managers from throughout Oregon, Washington, Alaska and Idaho. The conference focused on crisis management. Covering events that were manmade to natural disasters the managers discussed communication, preparation and response to the disasters using examples from recent actual experiences in Oregon, Washington and California. Representatives from the Regional Water Providers Consortium from the Portland Metro area also shared their emergency preparedness materials and programs they have created.

I Want to Ride My Bicycle

As May has finally brought us some warm and dry weather, many are feeling the urge to get back in the saddle and enjoy pedaling around the community on their bicycles. In the next month there are a number of things to help satisfy that urge. May has been officially proclaimed as Bicycle Month and next week is Bike to Work Week with Friday, May 17th being Bike to Work Day.

In addition to next week being Bike to Work Week, it is also Scenic Bikeway Week commemorating the 10th anniversary of the creation of the Oregon Scenic Bikeway program. There are 17 bikeways in the state and one is in our own backyard. Although most of the Row River Trail is still in the process of being cleaned up, riders could ride a of the portion of the Covered Bridges Scenic bikeway that is not closed for cleanup and construction. The three mile portion of the trail from the Row River Trailhead at 10th and Main to Mosby Creek is open and clear for riding.

At the end of the month the Oregon Gran Fondo will be returning to downtown Cottage Grove, with riders from all over the country coming to participate. Riders will start their journeys on Saturday, June 1st from downtown early in the morning and ride one of the four routes ranging from 40 to 130 miles. Everyone is invited to come downtown in the early afternoon and cheer on the riders as the cross the finish line downtown and complete their rides. If you have not seen the start of the Gran Fondo, it is a sight to see over 200 cyclists mass start at 7th and Main.

Although not during Bike Month, the Mayor will be holding his Annual Mayor's Bike ride on Saturday, June 15th. The ride will begin at the Row River Trailhead Park at 10th and Main at 10:00 am and riders will ride the trail to the Mosby Creek Trailhead. At Mosby Creek there will be refreshments and a brief break. Riders can then ride back into town making it a leisurely six mile ride or they can join the more adventurous to ride as far as possible up the Row River Trail. (It is hoped that the trail will be cleared of the storm damage before the ride.) The construction and new pavement, on the BLM managed portion of the trail is expected to be complete by July. The storm cleanup of the trail should be completed before that so the construction work can be completed. There may be cleanup involved until the end of the summer for the shoulders along the trail.

Happy cycling.

Outdoor Burning Suspended

Due to high fire danger, outdoor burning in all of Lane County has been temporarily suspended until weather conditions improve. The Lane Fire Defense Board and Oregon Department of Forestry decided to temporarily ban outdoor burning activities in Lane County. Hotter temperatures and high winds contribute to increased fire danger risk. The season could open back up on Thursday, May 16th, if the area receives more rain. If the fire danger continues, burning may be prohibited until the fall burning season.

Please dispose of your woody yard debris at the City's limb drop site at the end of N. 12th Street behind Dari Mart. The site will remain open through May. Please avoid the risk of getting a fine by starting a fire. Be nice to your neighbors, don't burn and take it to the pile.

City Wide Limb Pickup Update

City crews worked all week picking up limb piles along City streets. Due to the large number of limb piles the pickup is taking longer than expected. Crews were able to get through about half the City and plan on continuing pick up next week. The second round of City wide limb pickup is still scheduled to start on May 20th. Thank for your patience as we work to complete the limb pickup.

Open House

Next Thursday, May 16th, City staff will host an open house at Lincoln Middle School in the entry foyer to the classrooms from 4:30 to 6:30 pm to share the construction plans and need for property acquisition for the Safe Sidewalk project on Harrison and S 4th Street. We would like to invite you to the meeting to see the final drawings and detailed right-of-way impact maps, and talk directly to the City Engineer and Project Engineers about this project. If you can't make the open house please contact our office to set up a meeting to discuss your property. Please call the Public Works & Development Department at (541) 942-3349 to discuss any specific concerns you have.

We look forward to starting this project this summer and working with our partners to achieve the goal of providing safe and accessible routes for our students.

Quote of the Week

“Minds are like flower; they open only when the time is right.”

~Stephen Richards~