

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Richard Meyers, City Manager

SUBJECT: Friday Update

DATE: December 31, 2020

Community Sharing Warming Shelter

The Community Sharing Warming Shelter site is ready for guests. The City has completed all the physical requirements for the shelters. Currently power is temporarily provided to the site by a generator. Permanent electrical service should be completed soon.

Community Sharing is conducting final interviews for staff this week and will begin training for staff and volunteers next week. Once the trainings are complete the shelters will be ready for activation. The Warming Shelters will be activated when the evening temperatures drop to 29 degrees or lower. The shelters will be available until the end of March.

Tuesday evening, the City and Community Sharing hosted an Open House from 4:00 to 8:00 pm. Over 50 people visited the site and learned about the operation of the Warming Shelters. In previous years, Beds for Freezing Nights has provided a warming shelter in the community using spaces in local churches. This year, the COVID-19 pandemic made congregate warming shelters difficult to operate. With the assistance from Beds for Freezing Nights and Lane County, the City and Community Sharing have partnered to provide the non-congregate Warming Shelters this year during the cold weather season.

Lane County Virtual State of the County Address

Lane County's annual State of the County Address will be held on Monday, January 4, 2021 at 10:00 am. The event will begin with the swearings-in of newly elected county officials, including Sheriff Cliff Harrold, District Attorney Patricia Perlow, Commissioner Pat Farr and Commissioner-Elect Laurie Trieger. Following the swearings-in, commissioners will share their appreciation of Commissioner Pete Sorenson, who has retired after representing the South Eugene district for 24 years. Chair Heather Buch will conclude the event by sharing a review of the past twelve months – both the challenges and victories our community has experienced – and a look forward at the hope we have for 2021. The entire State of the County Address, including swearings-in, will be held in a virtual format. It can be watched live at www.lanecounty.org/webcasts or at www.facebook.com/LaneCountyGovernment.

Visit with Regional Solutions Coordinator

The City Manager and Chamber CEO, Shauna Neigh, visited with Sarah Means, South Valley/Mid-Coast Regional Solutions Coordinator from the Governor's office on Monday. The hour long visit was centered on the drastic impact that COVID-19 restrictions were having on

local small businesses in the community. Specific data justifying the closures or restrictions was requested. The City Manager and Chamber CEO provided examples of the toll the restrictions were causing on individuals. Concern was also expressed that the State and Federal Government do not have the resources to repair the damage that has been caused to the lives of the owners and employees of those businesses. They also reported to Sarah some of the things the City and Chamber are trying to do to address pandemic impact in the community. Sarah committed to pass the information shared onto the Governor and other staff.

City Hall Remains Closed to Public

Effective January 1, 2021, Lane County will remain on the Extreme Risk list until at least January 15, 2021. Every 2 weeks a new list is provided with the risk levels counties will remain in for the following two weeks. Since Lane County is at Extreme Risk, City Hall will remain closed until Monday, January 18, 2021.

Urban Forestry Committee Vacancies

The City of Cottage Grove Urban Forestry Committee currently has two vacancies. Committee positions are appointed by the City Council. The Urban Forestry Committee was created on December 12, 1994 by the City Council for the purpose of assisting in developing an urban forestry plan for the City of Cottage Grove. The committee makes recommendations to City Council and Staff regarding urban forestry and seeks grants to improve the quality of our urban forests. The committee meets once a month as needed.

Applications for the Urban Forestry Committee will be accepted through January 7, 2021. Please visit the City's website at www.cottagegrove.org or call the Public Works & Development office at (541) 942-3340 for an application or other details.

Valentine's Day Personalized Message

Valentine's Day is just around the corner. Show your sentiment to your loved one on a bright red heart with a personalized message. There are two options to order a heart: one side for \$25 or two sides for \$40. Hearts will hang from utility poles on Main Street from Gateway Boulevard through the historic district to River Road. Please refer to the website: <https://donorbox.org/hearts-on-main-2> for more information. Deadline to place orders is January 11, 2021. Please email Molly at downtowncottagegrove@gmail.com if you have questions.

Weekly Update # 11 Southmayd Family (by Jason Bush)

This weekly update is broken down into two parts: The typical progress made throughout the week, and an update of the status of the existing home:

The Existing Home

The existing home continues to haunt the Southmayd family, and over the course of the last 6 weeks, several new cracks have developed in the sheetrock, there is a section of sub-flooring that has extended up about a ¼ of an inch out of plane that was not there before, because they now stub their toes on it. During the recent cold snap, they were unable to maintain 68 degrees in many areas

of the home including the Kitchen which was at 57 degrees while trying to prepare dinner. Many areas of the home were not insulated properly, if at all.

They had the smoke alarms start howling all at the same time and were unable to silence them, and so Misty, our Veterans wife, went to the electrical panel and turned them off. When she went to shut the panel door, she received an electrical charge through her fingers and hand. John, with Builders Electric sent an electrician out there for me and determined that water has been getting into the panel somehow. He got the smoke alarms back operating, but indicated that it was quite a mess in the panel. He also added a few lights at the front and back porch because we had live wires in areas, with only wire nuts on them. The water will continue to infiltrate as much of the roof shingles were face nailed and stapled.

When the kitchen sink is turned on, water runs out on the floor from below the cabinets. I stopped by and learned that the sink vent pipe was not even connected to the drain pipe. It was about 5" below, so since Easter, every time they would use the sink, it was draining down in the wall, and under the house. We got it patched with a fernco fitting. When the contractor walked off the job, he failed to install portions of the home with a proper foundation, nor to even secure it against rodents, so they are experiencing a huge rodent population problem. Another issue that is continuously getting worse is the black mold in areas of the attic and around the exterior eaves, adjacent to the few ventilation openings. This is not a healthy environment for a family to be living in, especially with Jayson's medical conditions.

The biggest concern at this point is the failing roof. This is where the contractor built homemade scissor trusses, that are obviously failing, as it can be monitored pretty easy from the outside where there is a large 12x12 area with a severe depression. It is adjacent to a skylight, and the skylight continues to lean into this depression. What alarms me the most about this is that it's the main gathering place for the family where the wood stove is that's keeping them warm. In fact, they have set their alarm for 3 AM, so they can stoke the fire in order to keep the home as warm as possible.

Typical Weekly Update

I have obtained all the interior & exterior stud wall lumber from Doug Henton of Goshen Forest Products, which was 790 pieces of 2x4 and 2x6 (PET) Precision End Trimmed to 104 5/8" long. I have also received confirmation that Star Fire, the Swanson Group, and Hammer Lumber Company will be able to help with the lumber, but at this point I don't know who will supply what. I have an email in to Frank Lumber Company and Sundance Lumber Company in hopes of spreading the donations of lumber out. Many lumber mills utilize this time for shutdown and maintenance, so most are out of the office.

I received word today from the Clair Company that they had received the hard copies of the plans from Central Print and Reprographic Services, have stamped them approved for issuance, and has forwarded them on to Lane County. I also spoke to Lane County and they anticipate the plans being ready to pay for and issues early next week.

I was copied on an email from Jerry, owner of Bridgeway Contracting, to Rich at L & W Supply who indicated he had 40 squares of Pabco Premier 30 laminate in "Prairie Wood" color, so I

contacted Allied Building Products and Roofline, who indicated they could help. I sent them the Home Depot roofing materials Bill of Lading and they are all three seeing if they can complete the order as a donation.

I spoke with Debbie Jenkins with EPUD, to see if we needed to provide a surveyor to develop the required easement or if there was anything we needed to follow up on. She indicated that they would take care of everything and are working on a timeline to schedule the work.

We are diligently continuing to work on creating the (FSA) Fiscal Sponsorship Agreement that would allow folks to claim their donations on their tax returns, which can be a significant issue.

The biggest news of the week... Ron Bradsby, City Engineer of Cottage Grove, has been working with a group of people the past couple weeks that have been working hard to help us in the most productive, advantageous, keep the project moving, way possible. And, I just learned Wednesday that they plan on donating \$30,000 to our project. This is a giant step in providing the backing needed to bridge the gap in the material donations and the financial backing providing the assurances needed to fulfill phase one of the project, which is being able to place the foundation, frame it up, install the siding, and put a roof on and dry it in.

Happy New Year

We wish everyone a safe and Happy New Year.

Quote of the Week:

“Plant seeds every single day that you know who you are, you know what you’re about, and you know what goals you’ve set for yourself.”

~Steph Curry, Athlete~