

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Richard Meyers, City Manager

SUBJECT: Friday Update

DATE: August 6, 2021

Mobility Hub Survey

The City of Cottage Grove is looking to design a mobility hub that meets the transit needs of its community. As part of the research, the City would like your feedback about mobility hub needs.

A mobility hub is a centralized location where many different forms of transportation meet up to make using transit even more convenient for you. The study that is being created will be separated into three parts. The first part is to identify what a transit hub generally would need - as well as identify what the Cottage Grove community would want in a centralized transit area. Row River Trailhead Park will be analyzed and identified for its current, proposed, and long range uses and how the mobility hub could work within these plans. Lastly, it will be examined how these two overlap and decided how to properly build it for the community.

The City is asking citizens to complete a survey to gain the community's input on what kind of additional transportation modes you would like to have access to in the community. The survey will be available through the link below and will be open until the end of August. For more information contact Abby Gisler at agisler@southlanetransit.com

Link to the survey:

<https://forms.gle/XQwuBxEbVa4zwEyw7>

Yard of the Week

This week the Yard of the Week is located at 411 North 10th Street. This cute home abounds with a tremendous variety of flowering trees and shrubs. The colors are amazing. Thanks for the great nomination. Keep the nominations coming for yards within the community that deserve recognition.

U.S. Air Force Band of the Golden West Concert

It is sad to report that due to the increase in COVID-19 variant cases the August 25th concert has been cancelled. The Department of Defense has established mask requirements for indoors and other restrictions to help prevent cases among our troops. The US Air Force has cancelled or postponed all California and Oregon performances of the USAF Band of the Golden West.

We are hoping that the third scheduling will be successful and are remaining in contact with the USAF Band of the Golden West officials to get a concert rescheduled in the community.

COVID-19 and Variants Update

With the cancellation of the USAF Band of the Golden West it is important to comment on the recent increase in COVID-19 cases (both regular old COVID-19 and the new variants).

Lane County provided the following information on Wednesday evening regarding the current situation in Lane County:

“Today, we reported 95 new cases of COVID-19 in Lane County. Additionally, there are 49 people hospitalized, including 18 people in Intensive Care Units. There are 572 currently infectious people. We are seeing a significant resurgence of cases locally that is putting pressure on our local hospital system capacity.

Approximately 80 percent of new COVID-19 cases are unvaccinated individuals. Additionally, approximately 93 percent of people in the hospital for COVID-19 are unvaccinated and 4 percent are only partially vaccinated. It is important to stress that COVID-19 vaccines significantly reduce the likelihood of contracting COVID-19, as well as significantly reduce the severity of disease for those who do experience symptoms.”

We are getting much the same report from our local PeaceHealth officials that with all the cases reported (over 400) only seven are vaccinated individuals.

The effectiveness of the vaccines is quite evident from these numbers. Sure, nothing is 100% perfect – but the COVID vaccines are pretty close. Please, anyone that is unvaccinated, please, please, talk to your healthcare provider, think of your friends, family, children, grandchildren that cannot be vaccinated and carefully consider getting the vaccine and protecting yourself and others. Preventing future mask mandates and future lockdowns is easy – it will just take more vaccinations from those that can be vaccinated.

Concerts in the Park

The next Concert in the Park on August 11th has been cancelled. One of the members of the Annie Rhodes Band had a major medical incident and they are unable to perform. With the cancellation of the USAF Band of the Golden West performance on August 25th the last Concert in the Park this year will be on Wednesday, August 18th with the performance of Dusty Herd.

Startup Bootcamp with SBDC & RAIN

The Startup Bootcamp, an 8-week online program, will be held every Thursday night from 6:00 to 8:00 pm, will begin on August 12th and run through September 30th. Robert Killen, Director of Lane Small Business Development Center and Ariel Ruben, Lane County Venture Catalyst with Oregon RAIN will be conducting the training for small businesses and solopreneurs. Learn new skills and boost your business in this 16-hour startup training course. This will be an excellent program for startups and young businesses alike – and it's FREE to **Rural Participants** in Lane County (not Eugene & Springfield – that means it is free to all businesses and startups in Cottage Grove). Even if you have been in business for a while and would just like to refresh and sharpen your business skills, this program will be worth your while. REGISTER HERE: <https://bit.ly/startupbootcampLANE>. See the flyer attached to the Friday Update.

Oregon RAIN Venture Catalyst

The City and the Community Development Corporation are partnering to bring Oregon RAIN (Regional Accelerator & Innovation Network) to Cottage Grove to help develop a Rural

Entrepreneurial Development Program to the City. The project is already under way and Ariel Ruben has been assigned to work specifically with Cottage Grove as the local Venture Catalyst. Today Matt Parsons and the City Manager gave Ariel the grand tour of the community identifying many of the current and ongoing projects. Welcome Ariel – we look forward to a great partnership with Oregon RAIN and getting to work with you.

Utility Tours

The first tour group in the City Utility Tours completed their package of three tours on Thursday evening. The next tour group will begin their tour package on Thursday, August 12th. Councilors Ervin, Roberts and Stinnett will be joined by their 9 guests for three nights of tours.

The first tour group reported that they enjoyed the tours and found new understanding about the City's utility systems.

Weekly Update #43 Southmayd Home Build Project *(By Jason Bush)*

Harvey & Price's crew, including my son and grandsons were at the SHB project most the day this past Saturday. I trimmed trees in order to get dump trucks to the back, west side where we need about 30 loads of clean fill dirt, and somewhere in the neighborhood of 200 yards of gravel. Nathan Marple, Owner of Marple Excavation has donated about 100 yards if I haul it myself, and coincidentally, I ran in to Brian Way today, Owner of Way to go Construction, who is working on the Lindsey Townhomes here in Cottage Grove. He indicated he will have some fill dirt, and can help with some of the gravel hauling. Wade Stevens of WA Stevens Construction just bought a new 5-yard dump truck he said I could borrow. It does not require a CDL license, so I may be learning to drive a dump truck.

Harvey & Price's top team members getting their photo taken by my son Jason Everett. Left to Right are Mark, Jim, and Derrick. Thanks to these boys for donating their time on a Saturday!

I spoke with Scott Smith, Owner of New Breed Dog Baths who designs and fabricates dog bathtubs and he said he would be happy to donate a dog bath so that when Jayson gets his dog training business, Southpaws back up and operating, he will have a wash your dog spot. They are located at 85451 Highway 99 South, which is near Goshen. Thank you Scott!



I have had some luck trying to get Black Rifle Coffee Company, Grunt Style, and American Hero's Adventures on board our cause, which would complement the other two veteran organizations: Operation Second Chance and Elite Relocation Services. I have spoken to all three and they are taking it up a level and, or, to their respective Board-of-Directors. These veteran owned and operated companies would be a huge addition to our project. We're hoping Grunt Style will help us design a special Tee-Shirt acknowledging all our sponsors on the SHB project, as well as possibly them helping with a little cash donation.



Jayson “Doc” helping me with the tree trimming this past Saturday.

The link to last week’s Cottage Grove Sentinel article is here:
<https://cgsentinel.com/article/Southmayd-home-nears-completion/>

Quote of the Week

“Don’t be pushed around by the fears in your mind. Be led by the dreams in your heart.”

~Roy T. Bennett, The Light in the Heart~