

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Richard Meyers, City Manager

SUBJECT: Friday Update

DATE: August 27, 2021

Yard of the Week

This week the Yard of the Week is located at 904 Ash Avenue. Check out this exciting yard with its wealth of edible as well as beautiful plants. It is a great arrangement of fruit, vegetables, herbs and flowers. Only four more weeks left in the 2021 Yard of the Week season. If you see a yard that deserves recognition let us know. We will check to make sure they have not been recognized in the last two years and get them on the list for the Yard of the Week Prize patrol to check out.

Emergency Broadband Benefit

The Federal Communications Commission has launched a temporary program to help families and households struggling to afford Internet service during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Emergency Broadband Benefit provides a discount of up to \$50 per month toward broadband service for eligible households and up to \$75 per month for households on qualifying Tribal lands. Eligible households can also receive a one-time discount of up to \$100 to purchase a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet from participating providers.

Eligible households can enroll through a [participating broadband provider](#), or directly with the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC), using an [online](#) or mail in application. You can learn more about the benefit, including eligibility and enrollment information, by visiting www.fcc.gov/broadbandbenefit, or by calling (833) 511-0311.

Oregon Health Authority Surveillance Dashboard

Early 2020 Oregon State University began a study to determine if COVID-19 could be detected in the wastewater being treated at the Cottage Grove Wastewater Treatment Plant. Results of their testing showed COVID-19 was detectable and present at the Treatment Plant. The intent of the study was to be an early indicator whether or not the virus was present in the community. The level of the amount of virus detected also indicates how prevalent it is in the community.

OSU has continued testing the wastewater and the OHA has created a results dashboard that can be viewed at:

<https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/oregon.health.authority.covid.19/viz/OregonsSARS-CoV-2WastewaterMonitoring/WastewaterDashboard>.

On Monday the testing showed there was a steady increase of cases in Cottage Grove. This morning the testing results indicate the COVID cases have plateaued. This information is consistent with other statistics kept by Lane County's Public Health Department. This is another tool being used in the fight against the COVID virus for early detection to help Health professionals provide early intervention for fighting the virus.

Lane County Fleet Auction

Each year Lane County holds an auction of used fleet equipment from local jurisdictions. This year the Public Works & Development Department placed bids on several items to replace items in the City's fleet that are at or close to end of life. Three used pickups were purchased all with less than 80,000 miles and 20 years newer than the ones they will replace. An all-electric car was purchased with less than 5,000 miles. The electric vehicle will be used by City staff for work within the City limits or short trips to Creswell or Eugene reducing vehicle emissions and saving fuel expenses. Two other items purchased were a forklift for use at the shop and a large Vactor Truck to use for excavating around underground utilities, cleaning wastewater and storm drainage manholes and lines. The Vactor Truck was purchased at a fraction of new cost and will extend the life of the City's current truck.

The auction is currently open to the public to bid. Please go to [LANE COUNTY FLEET AUCTION](#) to check out the items for sale. There are a lot of items for sale in very good condition. Check it out, you might find just what you're looking for. The auction ends Saturday at 12:00 pm.

Weekly Update #46 Southmayd Home Build Project *(By Jason Bush)*

Melany Klemmer, City of Cottage Grove Building Inspector, who recently passed her state approved electrical training class, accompanied Ryan Bennett, City of Cottage Grove's Senior Electrical Inspector, and I to the Southmayd project and performed the rough-in electrical inspection on behalf of Lane County. She did a superb job and found three minor corrections that we will watch for at final. Jason Everett Bush, Project Engineer for Harvey & Price, met Ray Hutchinson, Lane County Building Inspector at the SHB on Thursday for their rough-in NFPA fire suppression system inspection. It was our first approval without any conditions or corrections.



We should be calling in inspections for the framing and the rough plumbing and mechanical systems for early next week. Once approved, we are clear for wall & vault insulation. Wade Stevens and I continue to haul sand and rock to the site to bring up the grades at the front & back porch as well as filling up almost 3 feet in the garage. Nolan Booher has helped us get the site cleaned up by leaving his dump trailer on site, so we could get all the wood construction debris recycled. He then brought it back and we filled it with the remaining construction debris & garbage.

Nolan also walked me around the perimeter to figure out where we want downspouts to come down and directed to. We figured we need about 200 feet of pipe, 9 sanitary tees, about 15 coupling's and 90 degree turns. That added up to almost \$1,000, so I called Eric Bordeaux, Estimator & Project Manager for Twin Rivers Plumbing and they were gracious enough to buy it for us and have it delivered—hopefully by today so I can get it installed this weekend. A big thank you to Twin Rivers Plumbing and Eric.



Nolan Booher's site work can be seen in the pictures above.

Window World showed up with our window package on Tuesday. The front door should be delivered today or Monday, and Emerald Door & Glass has completed the four doors with half-lights for the rear of the home. They will store them until needed, and then will deliver them to the site. Boyd Rink, and his crew got over there and installed all the windows for us.

Travis Prine, Project Manager for Northwest Siding Contractors of Eugene gave me a final list of all the various flashings, nails, and other materials needed to complete the siding. He gave me a bid for \$6,000 and indicated it would take approximately 10 to 12 days. The normal bid for a job like this would have been about \$11,000. A big thank you to Travis. The siding is supposed to arrive at Square Deal today, hopefully. So, I will be reaching out to Huttig Building Products and Weatherly's, for some of the products, and Steve with ANCO Fastener Sales has given us any and all the nails we need, including 2 boxes of stainless steel siding nails. I'm hoping to get the siding guys to work by next week.

I made a couple calls this week trying to sniff out some insulation and sheetrock. I called Knez on Franklin Boulevard and spoke with Donnie Reed who indicated that he does not know how much, but said they will help with some of the insulation products we need. I followed up our conversation the next day by stopping in to introduce myself. He walked me through their warehouse and indicated that he was ordering a bulk shipment today, could give us at least 15-17 bags of wall insulation, and depending on what he gets out of their Tigard store, he may have additional products soon. Thank you Donnie.

The next opportunity revealed itself while doing inspections in Creswell. A big boom truck showed up and started unloading sheetrock. I asked the guy's a little bit about their company and was soon provided a card for the Branch Manager, Richard Nelson, of L & W Supply. We soon talked, and he was going to review our website and see what he could do. He actually does a lot of business with the USG plant up in Rainer, Oregon, that I had previously gotten a commitment from, but have yet to hear back from, so he indicated he would reach out to them on our behalf as well. A big thanks to Richard for going to bat for us.

I wanted to clarify a couple things in regards to the weekly updates. They are sent to the City Manager's Office for Cottage Grove and Creswell where it is reviewed and posted on their respective websites. I then forward it to myself and blind copy it out to all the folks who have donated time, money, labor, or simply have requested to follow our progress. There is well over 200 people receiving it now, which does not include the people that view it on Operation Second Chance's site. As I typically make contact with folks, I generally add them to the blind copy listing, so if there are some folks out there that would prefer to be removed from the weekly updates, please do not hesitate to call me.

Many thanks to all of you that continue to support this project, and follow the weekly updates. The entire Southmayd family and I cannot thank everyone enough.

Quote of the Week

"While we are free to choose our actions, we are not free to choose the consequences of our actions."

~Stephen R. Covey~