

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council
FROM: Richard Meyers, City Manager
SUBJECT: Friday Update
DATE: March 3, 2017

HEAL City

On Monday, the Cottage Grove City Council approved Resolution No. 1927 that approved the City’s commitment to be a part of the Healthy Eating Active Living Cities Campaign (HEAL Cities). The HEAL Cities Campaign is an initiative of the Oregon Public Health Institute, in partnership with the League of Oregon Cities and Kaiser Permanente, to encourage cities to increase the options for citizens to improve their health. Cottage Grove is the 39th city to join the campaign and will be in the campaign as a Fabulous City, joining four other cities at the highest level of participation in the campaign.



As a HEAL City, Cottage Grove is now eligible for the HEAL Small Grants to assist with the implementation of HEAL policies. Grant requests can range from \$5,000 to \$15,000. The 2016 applications are now closed, but 2017 will be available next fall.

Cottage Grove Half Marathon

The City Manager and Police Chief met with Mike Ripley from Mudslinger Events, the organizer of the Cottage Grove Half Marathon to review final preparations for the race on Saturday, March 11th. The run will start with a bus ride for the participants from Bohemia Park to Dorena School. The runners will then run from Dorena School to the finish line in Trailhead Park using the Row River Trail. So far over 260 participants have registered for the event.

Saturday morning, during the run, traffic will be occasionally stopped at trail crossings. Motorists are encouraged to use routes that don’t cross the trail or be patient for the groups to cross.

Everyone is encouraged to cheer for the runners along the trail or at the finish line. The half marathon will start at 9:30 am and the first runners will get to the finish line about an hour later. The award ceremony will begin at about noon.

A Great Example of Recycling

The City Shop property has had some major changes. The box cars that were on the property since the City purchased the property have been removed and sold for scrap metal. The box cars had been used for storage but were beginning to leak and the cars that were on tracks were beginning to list as the ties under the tracks were rotting. As a part of the project, the contractor left six sets of wheels. Staff is making benches out of the wheels. One bench has been completed and is installed on the Row River Trail by the entrance to the Shop. These beautiful new benches are a creative way to reflect the railroad history along the trail. Thank you to the staff for the creative reuse of the materials.



Youth Advisory Council

The Cottage Grove Youth Advisory Council (YAC) will be meeting on Monday, March 6th from 6:15 to 7:30 pm in City Hall. They will be visiting with representatives from Looking Glass and planning for their trip to the State Legislature.

Oregon Scenic Bikeway Committee

The City Manager attended a meeting of the Oregon Scenic Bikeways Committee this week. The City Manager sits on the committee as the representative from the League of Oregon Cities and currently serves as chair of the committee. The Scenic Bikeways Committee reviews the applications and reports from the 15 designated scenic bikeways and provides recommendations to the Oregon State Parks Commission regarding the Scenic Bikeway Program. Oregon was the first state in the nation to have a Scenic Bikeway Program and is recognized around the country for the beautiful bikeways. The Oregon Scenic Bikeways were highlighted in the March 2, 2017 issue of the Northwest Cyclist Magazine. The article can be found by following the NW Cyclist link on www.outdoorsnw.com.

Youth Art Show @ the Library

Youth in grades 6th to 12th are encouraged to enter a piece of their own art into the Cottage Grove Public Library Youth Art Show. All entries must be submitted by March 28, 2017. The opening Gala Reception will be on April 7th from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. For more information on the art show, stop by the Library and chat with a Librarian.

Native American Cultural Event

Don't forget to attend the Cottage Grove Public Library's Native American Cultural Event tomorrow, Saturday, March 4th from 12:00 – 4:00 pm. The event will be in memory of Roy Hayes, Jr., Great-Great Grandson of Chief Joseph, who contributed so much to the Native American programs at the Library and in the community. The afternoon will include storytelling, crafting, beading, leatherwork, food and more. Everyone is welcome to this free community event.

Rating Action: Moody's Upgrades City's General Obligation Limited Tax Bond Rating

Credit ratings represent the general credit quality of a bond issue by grading the likelihood of timely payments of principal and interest on the bonds. The lower the credit rating, the greater the indications of risk of a payment default.

Moody's Investors Service, ("Moody's") reviewed 294 local government General Obligation Limited Tax (GOLT) bond ratings in Montana, Oregon, and Washington. The City's rating was one of 136 rates upgraded as a result of the review. The City's rating has been upgraded from a previous rating of Baa2, to a current rating of Baa1. The upgrade to the City's rating is likely the result of the City's improvement of its general credit profile.

It is important to have the City's rating be at bond quality because Municipal market participants rely heavily on these indicators of risk when they determine if they want to purchase bonds which fund our infrastructure improvement projects.

Lane County Recruitment Application Workshop at Community Center

Lane County Recruitment and Selection Coordinator, Laura Vinson, will be hosting an Application Workshop in the Shepherd Room on Tuesday, March 7th, from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm. If you are interested in hearing more about Lane County's recruitment and selection processes, finding current job openings, or how to complete a more successful application packet, please plan to attend. No fee or registration is required and everyone is welcome to attend.

Quote of the Week

"Remember to take care of yourself. Sometimes you get so busy taking care of others that you forget that you are important too."

~Daily Inspirational Quotes~