

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Richard Meyers, City Manager

SUBJECT: Friday Update

DATE: March 17, 2017

Elementary School Groundbreaking

South Lane School District will be holding the Groundbreaking Celebration for the new Harrison Elementary School on Thursday, March 23rd at 4:30 on the site of the new school. Be sure to mark your calendars to attend the event.

Eugene Symphony

The City Manager met with representatives from the Eugene Symphony this week and discussed the continued performance in Cottage Grove. The Eugene Symphony is nearing the end of the selection process for a new conductor. The final candidate performed with the Symphony Thursday evening. As a result of the Musical Director selection process the establishment of dates for the Cottage Grove, Roseburg and Cuthbert performances have been slightly delayed. At the meeting this week the dates for the performances were set. The Eugene Symphony will be coming to Bohemia Park on Monday, July 24, 2017. We are looking forward to another great performance and we may also be able to meet the new Musical Director.

Coast Fork Butterflies

The Coast Fork Willamette Water Council will be hosting Alison Center, North American Butterfly Association Oregon Chapter President, for the March Science Pub presentation on Thursday, March 28, 2017 from 5:00 to 7:00 pm at the Axe & Fiddle. The presentation, "Butterflies In and Around the Watershed" will describe what butterflies that can be found in different habitats in the watershed and how to attract them.

Youth Advisory Council

The Cottage Grove Youth Advisory Council will be meeting on Monday, March 20, 2017 from 6:15 to 7:30. The YAC will be discussing House Bill 3030 which was introduced by Representative Hayden as a result of the discussions that the YAC had with him last year during their trip to the Legislature.

The City Manager also was interviewed by a researcher from the University of Delaware about the Youth Advisory Council and the Youth Representative on the City Council. The interview is being used to prepare a report on the best practices for youth involvement in cities and will be used to help other cities in Delaware create and implement programs to involve youth in local government. It is exciting to know that the efforts to involve youth in Cottage Grove are recognized around the country.

Infrastructure Report Card

The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) released their 2017 Infrastructure Report Card this week. The ASCE report card is a comprehensive assessment of America's infrastructure that is prepared and released every four years. This year's report continues to indicate that America is not investing in critical infrastructure at the level needed. Failing to rebuild America's infrastructure according to the report costs every American Family \$3,400 a year. The ASCE also indicates that failing to close the infrastructure investment gap will bring serious economic consequences. They estimate that the US will experience \$3.9 trillion losses in the U.S. GDP by 2025, \$7 trillion in lost business sales by 2025 and the loss of 2.5 million Americans jobs by 2025 if the gap is not closed. The cumulative grade across the 16 infrastructure categories is a D+ for the nation.

The report also summarizes some facts specifically for the State of Oregon. In the Roads category it is reported that in Oregon motorists spend on average \$285 per year on car repairs related to driving on roads in need of repair. For comparison, an additional \$.06 gas tax would cost a motorist driving 15,000 miles a year with 20 mpg only \$45. The complete report can be found at: www.infrastructurereportcard.org. The Key Facts About Oregon's Infrastructure can be found on the site www.infrastructurereportcard.org/Oregon. Check out the report, it paints a graphic picture of our failures to properly fund infrastructure repairs.

Regional Managers Meeting

The City Manager attended a meeting of the local government managers from Lane County in Coburg this week. The managers discussed budget preparations and current activities at the Legislature. The regional meeting provides a great opportunity to share information about the issues facing communities throughout the county and to share ideas and thoughts.

Community Center Air Quality

The air quality tests have been completed for the Community Center/Library and the results are counts well below the standards for a "clean building". The report states, "These results indicate very good indoor air quality at the time of this investigation". As a result of the study the contractor will begin cleanup and removal of damaged material.

Fleet Maintenance Training

Fleet and Facilities Supervisor, Russ Kaleese will attend the 68th Annual Vehicle Maintenance Management Conference in Seattle, March 28th through the 30th. The conference is the premier West Coast educational conference for the vehicle maintenance industry. Agencies from Canada, California, Washington, Idaho and Oregon are represented. This is the 20th year that Russ has attended the educational conference, where he also serves as a Trustee on the Board of Directors (he is also past president). This year's conference will focus on new fleet technology, specifically new engine designs, fuel saving practices, hybrid technologies, shop management and diesel engine servicing. The City Shop maintains and repairs over 300 pieces of rolling stock ranging from mowers, golf carts, and ATV's to ten-yard dump trucks and backhoes. Proper parts inventory practices and vehicle maintenance recordkeeping are integral components of any successful fleet maintenance program.

ODFW Family Fishing Event Scheduled for April 8th in Cottage Grove

Families interested in angling can find a great fishing opportunity Saturday, April 8th at the Cottage Grove Pond in the Row River Nature Park. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife plans to release approximately 2,000 rainbow trout into Cottage Grove Pond in advance of the Family Fishing Event. ODFW staff and volunteers will be on hand from 9:30 am to 1:30 pm to provide access to fishing equipment and angling instruction.

Under Oregon Sport Fishing Regulations, anglers under the age of 12 can fish for free. A juvenile license is required for anglers 12-17 years of age. Juvenile angling licenses can be purchased for \$10 from ODFW field offices and license outlets. All other anglers must have an Oregon adult fishing license. This event is for kids, so while the standard fishing regulations will apply, ODFW asks adults to leave the fishing to the young anglers for a few hours.

This will be the fourteenth year for this event so, if you have children or grandchildren that would like to experience fishing, mark your calendar for this free event. Cottage Grove Pond is located in the Row River Nature Park off Row River Road east of Cottage Grove. The Cottage Grove Pond parking area is near the weigh station.

Book Club for Middle Schoolers

Behind the Pages is the Cottage Grove Public Library book club for Middle School age youth. The next meeting is Saturday, March 18th from 2:30 to 3:30 pm at the Library. The book club will be discussing "Nothing Can Possibly Go Wrong" by Prudence Shen and Faith Erin Hicks. Behind the Pages is for 6th to 8th graders and meetings are on the 3rd Saturday of each month.

Bilingual Story Time at the Library

On Monday evenings at 6:30 pm, the Cottage Grove Public Library is hosting Spanish and English story time and family activities. Children accompanied by their parents are welcome to come join in stories, crafts, food and fun.

Teen Art Show Coming Soon

There is still time for Cottage Grove teens to enter art in the Library Teen Art Show. Teens need to bring their art to the Library soon to enter into the show that opens in April.

Quote of the Week

“A strong, positive self-image is the best possible preparation for success.”

~ Joyce Brothers~