

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Richard Meyers, City Manager

SUBJECT: Friday Update

DATE: November 17, 2017

Population Estimates

Portland State University's Population Research Center released their annual Preliminary 2017 Population Estimate for cities and counties in the state. The City of Cottage Grove 2017 population estimate is 9,920 up from the adjusted 2016 population. The preliminary estimate will be certified following the review period on December 15, 2017.

The population estimates provided by Portland State University are used to calculate State Shared revenues for cities and counties. The PSU numbers should not be confused with the estimated population that has been prepared by the US Census. Recently reported the US Census 2016 Estimate puts the City of Cottage Grove's population at 10,109. The US Census methodology uses less community specific information and is a rougher estimate of the population. PSU uses the same data but also pulls in specific information such school enrollments, building permits, housing demolitions and other community or county specific data to attempt to generate a much more accurate estimate.

Local Managers Meet

The City Manager and Public Works & Development Director attended the Lane County Managers meeting in Springfield this week. The managers met and discussed: the impact of fiber optic development in the County; efforts underway in Eugene, Westfir and Oakridge to improve access to broadband and accessory dwelling units and efforts to encourage the development of ADUs within communities. The managers also had the opportunity to meet Senator Merkley's new Field Representative, Courtney Flathers. After the meeting, the City Manager and Public Works & Development Director met with representatives from the smaller cities in attendance to discuss building inspection services in preparation for the decision from the State Building Codes Division.

YAC

The Cottage Grove Youth Advisory Council will meet on Monday from 6:15 to 7:30 pm.

First Impressions

The Chamber of Commerce and City of Cottage Grove sponsored a meeting this week held by Rural Development Initiatives to report the results of the First Impressions program. The First

Impressions program brought visitors from Oakridge to Cottage Grove to record their impressions of the community as they sought information about local services, recreation or businesses. Cottage Grove sent a group from our community to perform the same review in Oakridge earlier. The members of the community that attended reviewed the results and considered several ideas to address the findings from the program.

Executive Appointment to Historic Assessment Review Committee

City Planner Amanda Ferguson has been appointed by Governor Brown to sit on the Historic Assessment Review Committee (HARC) for a four-year term. This committee assists property owners participating in the Special Assessment Property Tax Program for Historic Properties in finding solutions that work for their buildings and businesses while preserving the best of their historic resource. The Committee meets 1 to 4 times a year.

City's Drinking Water System Awarded "Outstanding Performer"

On October 20th, the City's Drinking Water System was inspected by the Oregon Health Authority Drinking Water Program. A "Water System Survey" (formerly referred to as a Sanitary Survey) was conducted. The survey is an on-site review of a water system's sources, treatment, storage facilities, distribution system, operation and maintenance procedures, monitoring and management, for the purpose of evaluating the system's capability to providing safe water to the public. The purpose of the inspection is to identify potential and existing sanitary hazards that may influence the quality of the drinking water, commonly referred to as "Significant Deficiencies". At the completion of the inspection, the inspector stated that: "The water system facilities were found to be well operated and maintained by very knowledgeable and competent staff - Excellent Work." Because no significant deficiencies were noted during this inspection, the water system was awarded the status of "Outstanding Performer". As a result of this award, the City's water system will not undergo another inspection for 5 years (normally every 3 years). This is a cost savings to the City as the City must pay the Oregon Health Authority for the inspection. Currently each inspection cost the City \$7,200.00. This is the second inspection in a row that the City has been awarded the status of "Outstanding Performer".

Wastewater Treatment Plant

On Thursday of this week, the Pacific Northwest Clean Water Association held a plant profile of the Cottage Grove Wastewater Treatment Plant. Approximately 30 wastewater professionals from Oregon attended the meeting. Walt Meyers from West Yost Associates gave a presentation on the treatment plant's current wastewater effluent program and the proposed expansion project. The meeting concluded with a tour of the plant.

Row River Trail Lighting Project

The Maintenance Crew is working on installing 12 power poles along the Row River Trail from LuLu's Dog Park East to 16th Street. The crew is hoping to have the project completed and operational by the end of December. In the future, we plan to extend the light poles to Main Street towards the West and to Walmart heading East. This will improve the safety of the trail users.

Mosby Creek Road and South 6th Street Update

Knife River plans to work this Saturday installing man hole covers and valve cans on both Mosby Creek Road and South 6th Street. On Monday, November 20th, they will remove steel plates, cones and work signs bringing the repaving projects to a close. Central Oregon Pacific Railroad is working to schedule the installation of concrete panels at the South 6th Street rail crossing.

Gateway and Vintage Inn Road Repair

On Monday, November 13th, Engineering staff met with Brown Contracting, Inc. to review the work plan for the Gateway and Vintage Inn Road repair project. In December, Brown Contracting, Inc. will be installing new water and storm drain lines in preparation for the roadwork. The concrete road and sidewalk repair will start in January after the holidays.

Preparing for Winter Weather

The Fleet Division has been busy preparing equipment for winter. Dale Smith installed a new snowplow blade on a fleet pickup and mounted a street sander in a 10-yard dump truck. All of this equipment was purchased from Lane County earlier this year in their surplus equipment auction. A small 5-yard dump truck is equipped with a snow blade and sanding unit and is ready for use. With this new snow removal and sanding equipment, we are well positioned to keep the streets passable during the Winter.

WWII Japanese Internment Film at the Library

On Monday, November 20th at 6:00 pm, the Cottage Grove Public Library will be showing the Oregon "premiere" screening of the film: *Never Give Up: Minoru Yasui and the Fight for Justice*. This documentary is about the life and work of Minoru Yasui, by Holly Yasui and George Doolittle and narrated by George Takei. The screening will be followed by a live interview with the film Director Holly Yasui (via Skype).

Minoru Yasui was an American lawyer from Oregon, born in Hood River. He earned both an undergraduate and law degree at the University of Oregon. He was one of the few Japanese Americans after the bombing of Pearl Harbor who fought laws that directly targeted Japanese Americans or Japanese immigrants. His case was the first case to test the constitutionality of the curfews targeted at minority groups.

Ukulele at the Library

Thursday mornings at 9:00 am the Ukulele Club meets at the Cottage Grove Public Library. No experience is necessary and we even have Ukuleles that can be checked out. Anyone is welcome to drop in and join in the fun.

Library Needs Board Games

The Cottage Grove Public Library is about to begin hosting board game times for "kids of all ages" and we need more awesome board games. Please consider donating your clean and complete board game sets to the library. We anticipate a "big snow season ahead" and want to be able to provide board game opportunities for kids, teens, and others with "cabin fever." Games can be dropped off at the Library anytime. Some of the board games we are seeking include:

- Timeline
 - Onirim
 - Settlers of Catan
 - Mouse Hunt (kids' RPG)
 - Ticket to Ride
 - Risk
 - Sagrada
 - Carcassone
 - Sheriff of Nottingham
 - Magic Maze
- Spaceteam
 - Code Names
 - Pandemic Legacy
 - Scrabble
 - Cartagena
 - Igloo Pop
 - Chicken Cha Cha Cha
 - Blokus
 - Gulo Gulo

Rhyme and Romp at the Library

Parents and their babies, ages 0 to 18 months, are encouraged to join in the fun on Tuesday mornings at 11:30 am at the Cottage Grove Public Library for "Rhyme and Romp." Rhyme and Romp is a time for stories, songs, action rhymes, and more with Julie, our Youth and Children's Services Librarian.

Opal Whiteley Birthday Party

The Cottage Grove Public Library and "Friends" invite everyone to the 120th birthday party for Opal Whiteley. Please join us Monday, December 11th from 6:00 to 8:00 pm at the Axe and Fiddle. We will be screening the Oregon Experience film, "Opal Whiteley", and will have an Opal Whiteley "Karaoke Party" where people can get up and read passages from Opal's writings. "Opal expert" Steve Williamson will also share a few words about Opal and her extraordinary local history. All ages are welcome for this fun Opal Whiteley event on December 11th.

Quote of the Week

"We can bring positive energy into our daily lives by smiling more, talking to strangers in line, replacing handshakes with hugs, and calling our friends just to tell them we love them."

~Brandon Jenner~