

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Mike Sauerwein, City Manager

SUBJECT: Friday Update

DATE: February 2, 2024

### **Winter Storm Cleanup Update**

The City is working hard to clean up down trees, limbs and branches including; removal of all tree safety hazards on City properties, road and sidewalk right of ways, parks, and at Middlefield Golf Course. There are two City staff crews along with 10 contracted crews working throughout the City. Seven crews are cleaning up streets, sidewalks, and trimming up and removing the broken branches from the remaining street trees. Cottage Grove Municipal Code 8.12.060 requires all tree branches to be a minimum of 13 feet 6 inches above the streets and a minimum of 8 feet above sidewalks. As the crews work through the neighborhoods they are removing hazardous branches and limbs and ensuring the minimum limb and branch clearances are met. This work will continue until all the debris and tree hazards are removed. Under normal circumstances, it is the adjoining property owner's responsibility to ensure the City street trees are maintained to City code requirements. Due to the significant amount of damage and the threat to the safety of street and sidewalk users, the City is leading in cleaning up and removing the safety hazards.

The City has a branch, limb, and woody debris drop site located at 8<sup>th</sup> and Monroe behind Bohemia Park. Residents are encouraged to bring their woody debris to the site. Lane Forest Products will be grinding the woody debris and taking the chips to local mills for use. The site will remain open until the City crews have completed cleaning up the debris. City staff will be going throughout the City picking up branch piles as they do for the annual tree branch and limb removal program. Please go to [Tree Branch Pickup Program | Cottage Grove Oregon](#) to review the requirements for where and how to place your branches and limbs for pickup.

All the City parks and Middlefield Golf Course had extensive tree damage. It will take several more weeks to have all the debris and hazards removed. Hopefully, most of the parks and the golf course will be open for use later this month.

### **Bilingual Storytime Returns**

Bilingual Storytime returns to the Cottage Grove Public Library at 700 E Gibbs Avenue on Monday, February 5th at 5:30 pm. This partnership with staff from the Early Learning Center and community educators includes stories, music, and fun activities in English and Spanish.

Este programa incluye cuentos, música y actividades divertidas en inglés y español.

## **Middlefield Golf Course Pro Shop Manager Retires**

Steve Zeek retired as Pro-Shop Manager on Wednesday, January 31, 2024. Steve was employed with the City since May 1, 2007. He also worked for the previous owners, spending over 24 years of his career at Middlefield Golf Course. A send-off was held on Wednesday to recognize his many years of dedicated service to the City, the Men's and Women's Golf Clubs, the Middlefield Homeowners, and customers. In retirement, Steve is planning on doing a bit of traveling to the coast. We wish him a happy and healthy retirement!

### **Quote of the Week:**

*"The best preparation for tomorrow is doing your best today."*

*~ H. Jackson Brown, Jr.*

