

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Jake Boone, Assistant City Manager

SUBJECT: Friday Update

DATE: July 28, 2023

### **City Council Special Meeting**

City Council will be holding a Special Meeting on July 31, 2023 at 5:30 pm in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

### **Yard of the Week**

This week the Yard of the Week is located at 2295 W. Harrison. This yard is tucked away at the end of Harrison Avenue and easy to miss. But when you do notice the yard it is easy to recognize the work that has gone into the yard. Only 9 more weeks left in the 2023 Yard of the Week Season so be sure to get those nominations submitted.

### **Oregon City/County Management Association Conference**

The City Manager and Assistant City Manager attended the annual summer conference of the Oregon City/County Management Association in Pendleton last week. Sessions on professional development, ethics and values, organizational culture, energy issues facing the state, environmental law and other topics provided valuable information and best practices for local government managers. The event culminated with a managers' roundtable event, in which experienced managers from around the state shared challenges, responses, and advice.

### **City Manager Recognized**

The president of the International City/County Management Association (ICMA), Jeff Towery was in attendance at the state conference. Jeff is currently the City Manager in McMinnville, Oregon (and a former City Manager from Cottage Grove). He is the first Oregon Manager that has served as president of ICMA. During his update on ICMA programs and services he took the opportunity to recognize Cottage Grove City Manager, Richard Meyers and award him a Presidential Challenge Coin recognizing the professionalism and integrity that Richard has demonstrated in his 36 years of service to local government.

### **Vintage Weekend**

This weekend will be busy in Cottage Grove. We start tonight with Art Walk downtown from 6:00 to 8:00 pm and in Bohemia Park the Rusty Rose Vintage Marketplace will kick off at 4:00 and be open till 9:00 pm. Then on Saturday, the Rusty Rose Vintage Marketplace will continue from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm and the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Rock, Roll "n" Rumble Car Show, Cruise and Street Dance will be in downtown Cottage Grove. Be sure to check out these great events.

### **Eugene Symphony**

Thank you, thank you and thank you to everyone that helped make the Eugene Symphony concert in Bohemia Park on Monday a huge success. It was so exciting to see so many of our friends and neighbors come together for an evening of beautiful music. Special thank you to all concert sponsors – Pacific Source, Woodard Family Foundation, Pacific Yurts, Harrison Village Apartments, Starfire Lumber, Branch Engineering, Parsons Financial, Weyerhaeuser, David Daugherty, Jack Sprats, Metal Detectors, Inc., Pinocchio's Pizza, South Lane Wheels, Fort Rock Construction and Speer Hoyt, LLC that help to make the Symphony performance a great tradition for the community.

### **Police Chief Recruitment**

Last week we held the interviews and Meet and Greet for the Police Chief candidates. Thank you to the panelists during the interviews and to everyone who attended the Meet and Greet. The day provided very valuable information and insights that were used to select the candidate for the position. The City Manager has visited with the candidates and has tentatively offered the position, pending the successful completion of the background and psychological evaluation. Once the evaluations are complete we will announce the results.

### **Emergency Preparedness Fair**

Come join us for the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Emergency Preparedness Fair next Saturday, August 5<sup>th</sup>, from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm at Coiner Park. The City will be partnering again with Party in the Park, so be ready for another exciting day filled with food, games, and emergency preparedness. Whether it's Lane County Public Health teaching us how to be prepared and ready to go, the American Red Cross with their emergency response vehicle display, or the many prizes and giveaways; rescue blankets to weather another snowpocalypse; or First Aid Kits to treat a minor injury. You will be well prepared in the event of an emergency.

Be sure to grab a stamp card on your way in. Get it fully filled out and spin the prize wheel to be entered into a raffle. If any questions come up in the meantime, feel free to reach out to Allison Crow at City Hall, (541) 942-3340. We hope to see you there!

### **Welcome Cody Aucoin**

The Public Works & Development Department would like to welcome Cody Aucoin to the Planning Division as the City's new Planning Intern. Cody is a Master of Public Administration student at the University of Oregon, with an emphasis in Planning.

During winter and spring terms of his first year, he opted to take the Community Planning Workshop, a capstone requirement for Planning students, where he was able to update the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for the Mid-Willamette Valley. Through that experience he acquired a taste for planning. He is thankful for the opportunity to continue his learning in the planning profession and has already been helpful in processing permit applications and preparing for the Emergency Preparedness Fair taking place next Saturday, August 5<sup>th</sup>.

Before coming to Cottage Grove, he worked in various settings, predominantly health insurance sales, and underground utilities. He and his wife, Helen, live in Eugene with their dog, Wendell.

The next time you visit City Hall, stop by the Public Works and Development Office and let him know we are excited to have him on the team!

### **Oregon Association of Clean Water Agencies Annual Conference**

The Public Works & Development Director attended the Oregon Association of Clean Water Agencies (ACWA) Annual Conference at Eagles Crest near Redmond this past week. The conference was excellent and filled with information regarding the past legislative session, new laws regarding wastewater and stormwater treatment, renewable energy and resiliency funding opportunities, temperature standards, and emerging concerns with micro plastics and PFAS chemicals. Presenters were from Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Environmental Quality Administration (EPA), National Association of Clean Water Agencies, and ACWA.

Micro plastics and Per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are of great concern to ACWA and all wastewater and stormwater treatment facilities. Micro plastics are micro fine particles of plastic that are consumed by humans and animals that are very difficult for their bodies to process and can cause health problems. Micro plastics are generated from all plastic products as they break down over time. PFAS are micro fine toxic chemicals that are used in manufacturing waterproofing for clothing, cosmetics, tents, and used on non-stick teflon cooking products. The four PFAS chemicals of concern have been banned in the United States for manufacturing but other countries continue to allow the chemicals to be used in manufacturing. The products from other countries are currently purchased by consumers in the USA PFAS are believed to be entering the wastewater system through domestic use from washing of clothing and cooking utensils and pans.

The EPA and DEQ are currently discussing ways to regulate the micro plastics and PFAS removal and treatment. ACWA received a large grant to test for PFAS to determine the current levels of PFAS that exist around the state. This information will be helpful to provide to the EPA and DEQ as they determine how they will proceed with regulations for treating water, both waste and stormwater. City staff is looking into where water and wastewater samples can be sent to determine what amount, if any, of micro plastics and PFAS exist in Cottage Grove. This information will be valuable as new regulations are adopted and how they will impact the water and wastewater treatment plants. The best way to address PFAS is to stop purchasing and using products that contain it.

### **Street Restriping**

Starting at 8:00 pm August 1<sup>st</sup> Lane County will be re-painting all the street striping existing on City streets and is expected to complete the work by 6:00 am August 2<sup>nd</sup>. Please watch for the paint truck and signs signaling fresh paint and avoid driving on it. The paint dries within seconds of being applied but if you happen to get fresh paint on your vehicle it can be washed off with soap and water if done soon. The longer the paint is allowed to stay on a vehicle the harder it is to remove. It is a water based paint and does come off with soap and water but it is harder to remove the longer the paint dries. City staff will be installing no parking signs throughout the City next Monday along streets where bike lanes exist so the white lines can be painted. Please follow the no parking signs to ensure all the street lines get repainted.

### **Row River Trail Lighting**

City staff worked with a boring contractor this week to install electrical conduit along the Row River Trail from Gateway to Walmart. Staff will be working this summer to install new light poles along this section to improve the safety of trail users.

### **Peace Tree Improvements**

City staff started working on improvements around the Peace Tree at Coiner Park. They will be installing a 16' circular paver kit around the tree, installing 3 new benches and an interpretive panel. They will also be installing a second paver circle for a Peace Pole. The Peace Pole was approved by the City Council at the request of the Peace Pole Committee, a local group of citizens promoting world peace. The two paver circles will be connected by a hard surfaced walking path and an interpretive display sharing information on both the Peace Tree and Peace Pole.

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

*“Honesty is the first chapter in the book of wisdom.”*

*~ Thomas Jefferson*