

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Richard Meyers, City Manager

SUBJECT: Friday Update

DATE: August 25, 2023

### **Yard of the Week**

This week the Yard of the Week is located at 300 S. R Street. The yard is encircled by a variety of flowering or colorful vegetation.

### **Police Chief**

The entire hiring process has been completed for the Cottage Grove Police Chief position. Thank you to everyone that helped through the process and participated in evaluating the candidates.

We are excited to announce that Cory Chase was selected and has accepted the appointment to be the next Police Chief of Cottage Grove. Chief Chase has had a wide range of experience in his nearly 22 year career in local law enforcement in Oregon. He began his career with the Prineville Police Department where he served for nearly three years. While with Prineville he served as a Patrol Officer and a Field Training Officer. He left Prineville to join the Redmond Police Department and worked there for 8 years where he served as a Patrol Officer, Field Training Officer, Narcotics Detection K9 Handler, Street Crimes Unit Detective, Patrol Sergeant, Detective Sergeant, Central Oregon Drug Enforcement Team Sergeant and Patrol Lieutenant. Currently, he serves as the Assistant Chief of Police for the Port of Portland. With the Port of Portland he manages 61 sworn and 6 non-sworn personnel. He has extensive experience in coordinating services with multiple agencies while providing patrol, special and administrative operations.

In his spare time Chief Chase has served on the Washougal Washington School Board since 2016. He is currently President of the Board.

Chief Chase will be starting on September 11, 2023.

Congratulations Chief Chase, welcome to the City of Cottage Grove, we look forward to working with you.

### **ODOT Speed Zone Review Panel Hearing**

On Wednesday, August 30<sup>th</sup> the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) Speed Zone Review Panel will be holding a virtual hearing regarding the speed zones on London Road and South 6<sup>th</sup> Street just south of Cottage Grove. For more information about the hearing or how to join the virtual hearing visit:

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/ORDOT/bulletins/36c3912>.

## **LRAPA Air Advisory**

Lane Regional Air Protection Agency (LRAPA) issued the following advisory:

### **Air quality advisory issued for expanded to all of Lane County through Sunday afternoon, smoke impacts expected through the weekend**

The Lane Regional Air Protection Agency (LRAPA) expanded the ongoing air quality advisory from eastern Lane County to all of Lane County through Sunday afternoon due to smoke from fires in northern California and smoke from the Bedrock and Lookout fires settle into the southern Willamette Valley. LRAPA expects periods of Unhealthy to Hazardous air quality in Blue River, Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups to Unhealthy air quality in the Eugene/Springfield area, and Moderate to Unhealthy air quality in Oakridge.

“We are hopeful to see an onshore airflow help to improve air quality Friday afternoon, but we are not confident this airflow will be strong enough to significantly improve air quality in the Southern Willamette Valley,” says LRAPA spokesperson Travis Knudsen. “It may take a bigger weather pattern shift at the end of the weekend to bring much better air quality back to the region.”

Check current conditions on the Oregon Smoke Information Blog, or by visiting the EPA’s Fire & Smoke Map: <https://fire.airnow.gov/>

Smoke can irritate the eyes and lungs and worsen some medical conditions. People most at risk include infants and young children, people with heart or lung disease, older adults and pregnant people.

#### **Protect yourself and your family when smoke levels are high:**

- Stay inside if possible. Keep windows and doors closed. If it’s too hot, run air conditioning on recirculate or consider moving to a cooler location.
- Use high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filters in indoor ventilation systems or portable air purifiers. Or create your own air purifying filter by following these instructions.
- Be aware of smoke in your area and avoid places with the highest levels.
- If temperatures allow, when air quality improves to moderate or healthy (yellow or green on the Air Quality Index), open windows and doors to air out homes and businesses.
- If you have a breathing plan for a medical condition, be sure to follow it and keep any needed medications refilled.

**Cloth, dust and surgical masks don’t protect from the harmful particles in smoke.** N95 or P100 respirators approved by NIOSH may offer protection, but they must be properly selected and worn. Select a NIOSH-approved respirator with a N, R or P alongside the number 95, 99 or 100. Learn how to put on and use a respirator. Respirators won’t work for children as they don’t come in children’s sizes. People with heart or lung conditions should consult their health care provider before wearing a respirator.

For more information please contact: Travis Knudsen, LRAPA Public Affairs Manager at (541)-736-1056 ext. 217.

### **Ad-Hoc Street Improvement & Funding Committee Meeting**

Next Tuesday at 6:00 pm in the City Hall Council Chambers the Ad-Hoc Street Improvement & Funding Committee will be holding their 6<sup>th</sup> meeting. They will be looking at information about Local Improvement Districts, updated pavement condition index and cost estimates for all the City streets with a collector or arterial designation. They will also continue discussions on funding options with a goal of improving the City streets to a good classification. The current condition for the average of all City streets is in the poor category. The goal is to find funding that will improve the City streets over the next 10 years. Citizens are welcome to attend the meeting either in person or online. The meeting information is available on the City website at <https://www.cottagegroveor.gov/meetings>

### **Oregon Aviation Historical Society Fly-In**

The Oregon Aviation Historical Society (OAHS) hosts the fifth annual [Great Oregon Homebuilt Fly-in](#) on Saturday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm at 2475 Jim Wright Way at the Cottage Grove State Airport. This free event celebrates the state's long legacy of advancing experimental aviation. The public will have the opportunity to see homebuilt planes, ask Van's Aircraft about their kit planes, and enjoy the Meatloaf Burgers Plus food truck. OAHS requests that visitors leave pets at home in order to protect their paws from the hot asphalt. For additional information, visit [OregonAviation.org](http://OregonAviation.org) or contact Rachael Heuser at (541) 543-1068.

### **National Preparedness Month is Coming**

Join us on the City's facebook page at: <http://www.facebook.com/CityofCottageGroveOR/> and the City website at: [www.cottagegroveor.gov/cd/page/emergency-management](http://www.cottagegroveor.gov/cd/page/emergency-management) the entire month of September as we participate in National Preparedness Month. Complete a short survey or give a simple 'like' to be entered into two raffles, one for the weekly prize-giveaways and the other for the grand prize. Prize-items will include folding shovels, flashlights, power banks, tarps, and so much more. All great items to include in your emergency preparedness kit. For more information on how to build your supplies kit visit: [www.ready.gov/kit](http://www.ready.gov/kit). We hope you're all able to join us in being prepared.

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

*"Between believing a thing and thinking you know is only a small step and quickly taken"*

*~ Mark Twain*