

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council
FROM: Richard Meyers, City Manager
SUBJECT: Friday Update
DATE: October 14, 2016

Walk your Wheels

New signs have been installed downtown to remind cyclists, skateboarders, roller-skaters and others to “walk your wheels” in the downtown business district. The new bright blue signs will hopefully be hard to miss and serve as a constant reminder to only walk on the sidewalks downtown. The police department will also be encouraging compliance with the sidewalk use rules. Riding bicycles, skateboards, rollerblades and skates is not allowed in the business district. It is dangerous because of the number of businesses that open right out onto the sidewalk.



City Employee Service Awards

Annually we recognize employees who have served the community for 5, 10, 15, 20, 25 and 30 years and beyond. On Thursday we held a special lunch to recognize those employees that reached those milestones of service. This year there was one employee recognized for 40 years of service to the City, Cindy Blacksmith. She started her career with the City working in the Police Department in 1976 and is now working in Community Development. All the recipients that received recognition this year are:

<u>5 Years</u>	<u>10 Years</u>	<u>15 Years</u>	<u>40 Years</u>
Jarrold Butler	Jeff Violette	Dale Smith	Cindy Blacksmith
Shawn Branstetter	Christopher Hurst	Ron Powers	
Shawna Bailey	Steve Norman		
Amanda Biehler	Pete Keenan		
Robert Winters			

The City of Cottage Grove is blessed to have some amazing and dedicated employees that work daily to make the community a better place to live. We appreciate all the service rendered from our staff and the contributions to make the City of Cottage Grove a beautiful and safe place.

Election Information

The General Election on November 8, 2016 is quickly approaching. Visit the City’s web page for information about the local election and for links to County and State election materials. The ballots for the General Election are expected to be mailed on October 20th. If you do not receive your ballot by October 28th contact Lane County Elections.

Mayor's Ball

On Saturday, October 22nd the City will be hosting the "Mayor's Ball" at the Cottage Grove Armory beginning at 5:30 pm. The Ball is the kickoff to the fundraising campaign for the Armory. The keynote speaker for the evening will be Brigadier General William Edwards of the Oregon Army National Guard and performances by the Emerald City Jazz Kings. Tickets for this gala event can still be reserved by calling (541) 942-2441. City Councilors should contact Trudy as soon as possible to RSVP for the event.

Community Foundation Dinner

The Cottage Grove Community Foundation will be holding their annual dinner on Wednesday, October 19th at Our Lady of Perpetual Help in the Parish Hall with a 5:30 pm social hour and dinner at 6:30 pm.

Scenic Bikeway Proponent Conference

The City Manager will be attending the Scenic Bikeway Proponent Conference on Friday, October 14th. The Proponent Conference brings members of the proponent groups for the other scenic bikeways together to discuss issues associated with the scenic bikeways. They share information on how to maintain, enhance and promote their scenic bikeways.

Cottage Grove Youth Advisory Council

Recruitment for the 2016-17 Youth Advisory Council continues with a meeting on Monday, October 17th from 6:15 to 7:30 pm at City Hall. Any Middle School or High School aged youth that would interested in the YAC can come to the meeting learn more about the YAC and decide if they want to join. Parents are also welcome to bring their youth and explore the possibility of the YAC. Application forms and more information about the YAC is available on the City's webpage at: www.cottagegrove.org.

No Ivy Day

The City of Cottage Grove and Coast Fork Willamette Watershed Council will host "No Ivy Day" on Saturday, October 29th from 9:00 am to noon in Silk Creek Park. No Ivy Day will be an ivy-pulling work party at Silk Creek Park. If left alone ivy will climb the trees and eventually kill them. Come out, rain or shine, and help improve the health of our local rivers and streams by removing this invasive species. The Watershed Council will provide the tools, water, snack and gloves. Just bring your own refillable water bottle. For more information contact the Coast Fork Willamette Watershed Council at (541)767-9717.

Main Street Trick or Treat

On Monday, October 31st the Cottage Grove Chamber of Commerce, Main Street Program and City of Cottage Grove will be hosting the Main Street Trick or Treating. So far over 22 businesses have signed up for booth space on Main Street. Plans are underway for a wide variety of activities and games, all in beautiful downtown Cottage Grove from 3:00 to 5:00 pm. More spaces are available for additional booths, but space is vanishing fast. To reserve your space and be a part of this monstrous community event contact Travis Palmer at the Chamber of Commerce (541)942-2411. Attendance is expected to be over 1,500. Don't miss this event and see all the amazing costumes. Also, don't forget to stop by and see the results of the City Employee pumpkin contest at City Hall.

Economic & Business Improvement Districts Extension Assessment Notices Mailed

The public hearing notice and yearly assessment notice for extension of the Economic Improvement District (EID) and the Business Improvement District (BID) has been mailed.

Council will hold the second public hearing at its regular meeting on November 14, 2016 to consider a five (5) year extension of the EID & BID. The districts were formed in 2001 and extended for three years in 2004, 2007, 2010 and 2013. The districts are assessment districts in which property and business owners choose to be assessed an annual fee that will be used for promoting and improving the proposed district. For the EID each property owner will be advised of what their yearly assessment will be. For Tier 1 properties the assessment is \$0.05 per square foot not to exceed \$500 per year and for Tier 2 properties the assessment is \$0.02 per square foot not to exceed \$300 per year. For the BID the assessment is \$50 per year.

If a business or property owner is NOT in favor of the EID and/or BID, State statute requires that they remonstrate in writing. Written objections can be delivered at the public hearing, or mailed/delivered to Community Development Department, 400 E. Main Street, Cottage Grove, OR 97424. The remonstrance (written objection) shall provide the following information to insure accurate recording: 1) date, 2) name of the property owner (if objecting to the EID) or name of business owner (if objecting to the BID), 3) tax lot number of the subject property, 4) address of the subject property, 5) that you are objecting to the formation of the appropriate district, and 6) signature of the property and/or business owner.

For information regarding the public hearing or remonstrance process please call the Community Development Department at (541) 942-3340. For information regarding the EID, BID, and/or their activities, please call Jim Gilroy at (541) 334-5810 or email: jgilroy@bannerbank.com.

THE BIG MIX – Entrepreneurship in Cottage Grove the Next Step

Do you have a business idea?

Dying to tell others about your new company?

Love helping others grow their business dreams?

Then.... You're invited to the Big Mix, a landmark networking event for entrepreneurs, business leaders, and anyone with a dream to help grow and accelerate new businesses in Cottage Grove, hosted by Fertilab (www.fertilabthinkubator.com), the Cottage Grove Community Development Corporation (CGCDC) (cgcdc.org) and the Cottage Grove Chamber of Commerce (cgchamber.com). Have you recently started a business or plan to very soon? Would you like 2-3 minutes at this event to share your passion with all in attendance? Whose dreams will write the next chapter of entrepreneurship in Cottage Grove? Come join us to learn what passions your neighbors are turning into a reality, and how you can turn your own passion into a business. Connect with mentors, business leaders, peers, and new startup founders.

Agenda

6:30pm Doors open

7:00pm Opening Remarks

7:15pm Presentations from new business founders

8:00pm Networking

9:00pm Doors Close

Make connections, build networks, and grow startups. Join us for an evening of networking and connections between anyone with a dream and those who have made their dream a reality. Can you become an entrepreneur? Pre-register now for a free ticket at: bit.ly/bixmix2016.

Oregon Heritage Commission Holds Quarterly Meeting in Cottage Grove

The Oregon Heritage Commission will be in town this Sunday and Monday, October 16th and 17th. Cottage Grove is the host for the Commission's quarterly meeting. The Oregon Heritage

Commission coordinates efforts to solve statewide heritage issues through grants, education and advocacy. Sunday the Commission will be touring existing heritage landmarks in Cottage Grove including Main Street, Cottage Grove Armory, Cottage Grove Museum, McFarland Cemetery, and Chambers Bridge. Monday they will hold their business meeting at the Cottage Grove Community Center from 9:00 am to 2:30 pm. The agenda can be found on their webpage at <http://www.oregon.gov/oprd/HCD/OHC/docs/prelimagenda1016.pdf>.

Fall is in the Air

With fall rapidly approaching, the City will soon be buried in leaves. To prepare everyone for the City's annual leaf collection service, the dates for this year's leaf collection service will be November 14th through the 18th, December 5th through the 9th, and the final week of leaf pick-up will be December 19th through the 23rd. More information about the placement of leaves is available on the City's web site at www.cottagegrove.org.

Technical Team Meeting

Last week, Public Works Director, Jan Wellman attended the Technical Team meeting of the Coast Fork Willamette Watershed Council. The Team discussed several grant-funded watershed enhancement projects that are scheduled over the next year. The group also discussed invasive plant species control on City-owned and other privately owned properties. The City will be working with the Watershed Council to remove Ivy along the bike path near Gateway Boulevard and assisting with treatment efforts for Yellow Flag Iris and Japanese Knotweed on several different pieces of City owned property.

Teen Library Advisory Board (TLAB)

Next week the Cottage Grove Public Library "Teen Library Advisory Board" will meet on Friday, October 21st from 4:00 to 5:00 pm. Any interested teen is invited to attend and help shape teen collections and activities at the Cottage Grove Library.

Teen Read Week

October 9th through the 15th is Teen Read Week at the Cottage Grove Public Library. Teens are encouraged to stop by the Library this Saturday, October 15th for the final day to participate in the "Guess the Shredded Book" contest for a chance to win fabulous prizes. The contest is open for 6th through 12th graders.

Friends of the Library Appreciation Week

Next week is Friends of the Library Appreciation Week. This is a great time to stop by the Cottage Grove Public Library to show your support for our "friends" organization. Applications for membership in the Friends of the Library group are available and we encourage everyone to join this group as a great way to support our Library. Our Friends group now has a permanent book sale area in the library where you can purchase awesome books and help support your public library.

New Library Cards Available

New plastic library cards are available for patrons at the Cottage Grove Public Library. The Friends of the Library are providing the cards at a reduced cost of \$1. Patrons can continue to use the paper cards at no cost or choose one of the new cards that come in three different designs.

Indigenous Archives, Libraries and Museums Conference

Cottage Grove Community Services Director, Pete Barrell, received a scholarship to attend the International Conference of Indigenous Archives, Libraries, and Museums Annual Conference in Phoenix this week. This conference was presented by the Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums (ATALM) and this year the gathering was on the Pima and Maricopa Indian reservation at Wild Horse Pass near Phoenix, Arizona. This conference brought together library and museum professionals from around the world for a few days of inspiring lectures, workshops, and meetings. The Cottage Grove Public Library partners with local Tribal members of our community to celebrate Tribal Culture during the month of January each year. Tribal and Indigenous Culture and History is also incorporated into other programming at the Library throughout the year, so this conference was a great opportunity to network with others and gain ideas for programs and special events that we can offer locally.

Quote of the Week

“In every day, there are 1,440 minutes. That means we have 1,440 daily opportunities to make a positive impact.”

~Les Brown~