

Hello and good Friday afternoon to all of you. As you all know, Lance is on vacation this week, so this Friday message will be shorter than normal.

As expected, our week started off with another “standing room only” Council meeting. While the primary topic was pretty emotional for many people, a decision was made and we’ll move forward from there ~ that’s the way the process works. The rest of the week has been relatively quiet, but next week will prove to be a little busier.



On Monday, August 17th, construction on the Highway 138E Corridor Solutions project is scheduled to begin. You may have noticed that the contractor has already begun installing signs and erosion control measures. They will begin work on the Stephens Street Bridge over Deer Creek, just north from Diamond Lake Boulevard, with traffic coned down to one lane in each direction. They will also have lane closures on Diamond Lake Boulevard. This will lead to traffic delays. The positive side is that ODOT has made an effort to keep the work zones and phasing contained. In other words, there should not be significant work occurring on Harvard/Oak/Washington during this phase around Stephens and Diamond Lake Boulevard.

As staff has talked about this project in the past, we have tried to prepare Council and citizens for the realization that there will be traffic impacts with this project. Unfortunately, it will frustrate people at times as they wait their turn through the construction zone. This project is a large undertaking right in the middle of our City. Traffic impacts are unavoidable. You may get calls from angry or frustrated citizens. Staff believes it is important to maintain a positive outlook when speaking with the public about the project. This is a daytime construction job. People may ask why it wasn’t bid as nighttime work. It will take about sixteen months to complete as a daytime job. If it were night work, it could’ve taken even longer.



The good news is that ODOT has a website and active email list to keep people informed. If you haven’t already, please check it out at www.Roseburg138.com. Towards the bottom of the page is a section called “Stay Informed”. You can sign up for email updates under this section. Please do not hesitate to contact staff if you have any questions or concerns during this lengthy project.

On Tuesday, the Downtown Roseburg Association, United Community Action Network and NeighborWorks Umpqua will be hosting a meeting to discuss possible solutions to the current challenges the community is facing with regard to the homeless and transient population. As Mayor Rich reminded everyone Monday night, it is important that *less than a quorum* of Council attend the meeting. We understand Councilors Ryan, McDonald, Kaser and Hawks will be attending ~ which keeps the count just under a quorum. Certain staff members will attend as well and we look forward to hearing

effective, appropriate suggestions that could create a safer, nuisance-free environment for everyone. I'm certain that the Councilors who do attend will give the remaining Councilors a full report on the meeting at the August 24th Council meeting.

On Wednesday, August 19th, at 2:00 p.m., the Roseburg Rescue Mission will hold a grand opening ceremony for the "Samaritan Inn" located at 544 W. Umpqua Street, directly behind Grocery Outlet. This has been a three-year project, funded through private donations and various grants to provide shelter for women and children in need of a safe haven.

The Public Works Commission met on Thursday and will be forwarding recommendations to Council on equipment purchases, additional work needed as part of the Highway 138E Corridor Solutions Project and the final engineering design contract for the South Stewart Parkway Project. These recommendations will be on the August 24th Council Agenda.

On Saturday, August 15th, the City, in conjunction with Friends of the Boys & Girls Club of the Umpqua Valley, will present the 3rd annual Umpqua River Run event. A press release was sent out yesterday to alert every one of the single-lane closures that will occur on Old Melrose Road, Douglas Avenue, Spruce Street, Washington Street, Stewart Park Drive, Garden Valley and Harvard. The race will include a half-marathon, 10K, 5K and even a Kids Final Mile Marathon! Most of the activity will start at 6:00 a.m. in Stewart Park, with all courses closing at 11:00 a.m., with the participants being met at the finish line by a few local vendors. It sounds like another fun thing for folks in our community to participate in ~ and all for a good cause. So if you're out and about on Saturday morning, be cautious and watch for runners in the areas mentioned above as well as in the Laurelwood and Hucrest neighborhoods and on Melrose and Old Melrose Roads.



I also want to remind everyone that the League of Oregon Cities Conference is just around the corner. The conference is scheduled from September 24-26 at The Riverhouse Hotel and Convention Center in Bend. Information about the conference can be found on the League's website. So far, Councilor Zielinski is the only one who's expressed an interest in attending. If you decide you'd like to go, please contact Koree as soon as possible so she can make the appropriate arrangements for you. Registration closes September 14th; after that date registration must be done on-site and will cost an additional \$50.00.

That about wraps up this week's activities and what we'll have going on next week. I hope everybody has a great weekend, appreciates today's rain and will be looking forward to Lance's return next week as much as I will!