

# City Manager's Message



It's been a wonderful and now, unseasonably hot, season in Roseburg and we look forward to a very busy and prosperous summer. Our operating budget and capital improvement budgets have recently been adopted and the new fiscal year will bring great opportunities as well as a few challenges. As you will see in greater detail in other parts of the Connection, we are looking to complete additional improvements at the Roseburg Regional Airport, some major transportation system work and projects throughout our storm drain and water systems. While each of these improvements impact neighborhoods and commercial areas during construction, the final product provides recreational opportunities and long term infrastructure upgrades which will serve our community for many years to come. Please support your local businesses during this very busy construction season.

During the spring we held a ribbon cutting ceremony at the Guardians of Heroes parking lot which serves our community as a facility to accommodate veterans' funeral and memorial services at the VA National Cemetery as well as parking for the very active Fir Grove



Soccer Fields and summer Arts Festival. We also celebrated with Roseburg Public Schools the opening of the new and improved Eastwood Park. This park provides a significant upgrade for neighborhood families and kids!



We continue to be guided by City Council's goals to:

- ↳ Identify and Implement Long-term Infrastructure Funding Mechanisms to Ensure the City can meet Long-term Infrastructure Stability and Sustainability.

- ↳ Implement the Urban Renewal Financial and Capital Improvement Plan and Evaluate Establishment of an Additional Plan Area.
- ↳ Initiate Community Livability programs and Beautification projects.
- ↳ Define and Establish Business Friendly/Improved City Image.

The goals are not in any particular order, but they continue to speak to livability and the commitment our organization has to serve and enhance our community; and to provide transparent information through enhanced communications. Work plans are in place, and Staff and Council continue to work on meeting these goals.

Our recently adopted budget includes a Capital Improvement Plan component that outlines over \$12.5 million in project work to be completed during the fiscal year between the City and Urban Renewal Agency budgets as well as contributions towards another almost \$10 million in Oregon Department of Transportation projects. Projects range from around \$1 million at the Airport (90% grant funded) to \$1 million in storm drain projects and over \$4 million in Urban Renewal Projects. The City will again invest over \$2 million this year in water infra-

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structure.

From the operational side, the General Fund budget of \$26.9

## City of Roseburg, Oregon



## 2015-2016 Adopted Budget

million in expenditures (with \$7.34 million in reserves) is virtually flat when compared to the last two fiscal year budgets. Based on some policy changes, and in an effort to carry out the Council Goal on livability/beautification, this budget provides for an enhanced level of service in Community Development focused on code compliance and enforcement. Prior to development of the budget, Staff put together updated financial policies and a five-year forecast we believe will allow us to meet this current level of service into the future and continue to provide a higher level of service to our community. Operational sustainability is important from an organizational standpoint and a community service standpoint. Over 81% of the adopted operational

budget in the General Fund consists of "people" costs, and that translates directly into the services we provide for our citizens.

The City continues to partner with local businesses, other municipalities and non-profits to meet community needs. We work closely with Douglas County and other cities on economic development through the Partnership for Economic Development. We also work closely with the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians through our membership in the Umpqua Business Center, a business incubator facility and small business center and with Douglas County through the Industrial Development Board and the Downtown Roseburg Association through the "Main Street" program. Visitor information and advertising services are provided through a partnership contract with the Roseburg are Chamber's Visitor's Bureau.

We continue to work on Land Use and Development Ordinance (LUDO) modifications to enhance our "Citywide Beautification" as well as providing additional transparency for a "Business Friendly and Improved City Image". While regulation can sometimes be seen as less than business friendly, it is important for our

community to know that everyone is held to the same high standards. It is also important that the information is readily available and easily accessible. We strive to meet these standards as we work with the Planning Commission and City Council on the new LUDO modifications. Phase II of the modifications should be adopted in early summer and Phase III will likely be in front of Council later this summer or early fall.

Once again, I would like to say we look forward to working with local businesses, constituents, volunteers and City staff to make Roseburg a better place to live, work and play. Have a great summer.

Respectfully,

C. Lance Colley  
City Manager

