

Memorandum

Date: August 1, 2019

To: West Linn Mayor and City Council, City Staff and Readers

From: Eileen Stein, City Manager

Subject: City Manager's Weekly Report – August 1, 2019

Schedule Items

- Willamette Falls Drive Open House. Public Works is holding an open house on Thursday, August 8th from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Council Chambers to preview the design plans for Willamette Falls Drive.
- September 3 Work Session. This meeting will be on Tuesday since Monday, Sept 2 is Labor Day.

Information Items

- **Tree Removal at 4109 Ridge Court.** Staff has been working on an issue between two neighbors, all private property, regarding tree removal. You may recall recent testimony regarding this matter. In conclusion, there is a desire to have the tree ordinance re-opened to require neighbor notification. Meanwhile we will modify the tree removal permit form to encourage applicants for a tree removal permit notify their neighbors. Further, staff would like to revisit the \$0 fee specified in the ordinance. This would be consistent with our goals for fiscal sustainability. Expect to see a proposal later this year.
- **White Oak Savanna Fire Hazard Mitigation/Preservation of Bird Habitat.** As you know, there was much discussion this week about reducing fire hazard at the White Oak Savanna while preserving bird habitat. On June 26, grass was cut down in the upper reaches of the park adjacent to the residential area. This weekend wood piles will be removed by community volunteers in accordance with guidance from the National Audubon Society for spacing for bird habitat. The myriad of conversations this week also included talks with Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue and the Parks Department about bringing in the proper experts to advise the City on how to mitigate for fire hazard in the City's wooded parks. This is also in follow up to the recent testimony received about Wilderness Park.
- **Directors and Officers Insurance Coverage for NA Board Members.** Staff are also working with the CIS and legal counsel about whether the City ought to pay for D&O coverage for neighborhood association board members. The request is that since NA's are chartered and funded by the City, the City should provide coverage for both NA events, and anything the board does within the scope of their charter. The advice given was that NAs board members could use their homeowners insurance. There is dispute about this advice. There's no need for the Council to do anything at this point, but the Council should be aware of this matter.
- **New GASB Ruling.** This year, the finance department will be implementing a new Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement, No. 87 – Leases, as a part of the financial statement audit. The City will comply by collecting and examining all of the City's lease agreements to ensure that they are recorded and presented properly in our financial statements. Again, there is nothing the Council needs to do, just be aware this is something that may get mentioned when our auditors present the audit for FY 18-19 later this year.

- **Charter Amendment.** The Ballot Title challenge deadline was today. Challenges are filed directly with Circuit Court. We will provide an update on Monday at your special meeting.
- **Arts and Culture Commission Draft Mission Statement.** The Mission Statement and Goals were made available for public comment and review through July 31st. Comments received will be reviewed by the Arts and Culture Commission and brought back forth to the City Council when done.

That's it for this week.

Eileen