

## City Manager's Report

Date: October 6, 2020

To: Mayor Axelrod and City Council, City staff, and West Linn community

From: Jerry Gabrielatos, City Manager [JG](#)

### Calendar notes

- **October 7, 2020:** West Linn Police Oversight Task Force meeting at 6:00pm. Meetings are taking place on Wednesdays every other week.
- **October 12, 2020:** Council Regular Meeting at 6:00pm, preceeded by a 5:00pm Worksession.
- **October 17, 2020:** Mark your calendar for the Parks Department's [Boo Drive Through](#) Event on Oct. 17 from 6:30 to 8:00pm. Better yet, consider picking up a pumpkin Oct. 13-15 from 3:00-5:00pm and enter the competition yourself!
- **October 19, 2020:** Council Worksession is currently scheduled, this may need to be revised to a Special Meeting for Council approval of Emergency Business Grants.

### Informational updates

- **Emergency Business Assistance Grants.** The City closed the application period on September 30 for a second round of Emergency Business Assistance grants. Approximately 20 applications were submitted by local businesses. West Linn was awarded \$10,000 in matching funding from the State of Oregon, allowing the City of West Linn to provide \$20,000 in grants to small local businesses affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The program was heavily marketed towards small businesses and members of historically marginalized populations. Applications will be reviewed by staff to ensure state guidelines are met, and are tentatively scheduled for Council to award approval at an October 19<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting in order to ensure we meet state and federal grant deadlines.
- **Library Kindergarten Carnival.** Library staff hosted the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Kindergarten Carnival on Thursday, October 1<sup>st</sup>. Rather than the usual hundreds of kindergarteners and their families who visit the Library afterhours for a free book, library card sign up, and fun activities, this year's Carnival included a Curbside Packet Pick Up and virtual activities on Beanstack that run through October 9th. Each kindergartener received a free Elephant and Piggie book, bookmark, STEM activities, and more, distributed by our very own Book Fairy. Both kindergartners and teachers can earn the chance to win prizes by participating. The goal is to introduce young patrons and their families to the wonderful services and programs offered at the Library typically and now [virtually](#). Over 150 kindergarteners from our six primary schools participated!



- **West Linn/Oregon City Pedestrian Bridge.** Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), in partnership with Oregon City, West Linn, Clackamas County and Metro is initiating a planning effort to investigate the feasibility of a pedestrian and bicycle bridge across the Willamette River connecting Oregon City and West Linn.

The purpose of the Oregon City/West Linn Pedestrian and Bicycle Bridge Concept Plan is to identify potential bridge locations and provide opportunities for community and local agency conversations to reimagine a new crossing. ODOT was able to identify \$350K in funding to assist the multi-agency group with a consultant to lead a feasibility study and public engagement.

- **Willamette Main St. Construction.** The Willamette Falls Drive (Main Street) construction continues with paving of the asphalt cycle track bike lanes this week. [Landscape planting details](#) have been finalized and are posted to the [project webpage](#). Design of the holiday lighting has started along with purchasing of holiday lighting equipment and cabling. Police staff have created a brief educational video and are continuing to only issue warnings for failing to follow the back-in angle parking until the end of October.



- **Parks Projects and Events Update.** Parks staff remain busy with a long list of [GO Bond and park improvement projects](#) in progress. Hammerle Park playground border project is now complete and the tennis court drainage and retaining wall project started on October 5. Midhill and Robinwood Park basketball court drainage projects are scheduled to start later this month. Parks staff is currently installing a new nature play area at Sahallie Ilahee Park and the brief community [survey for the White Oak Savanna Nature Playscape Design](#) closed October 4<sup>th</sup>.

COVID-19 [guidelines for recreational sports](#) were recently updated and we are partnering with local sports groups to reopen sporting opportunities to the community. We also want to thank all those who volunteered their time to help clean up Maddox Woods this past Saturday!

- **Political Signage.** We have been promoting guidance on political signs (and temporary signs) to educate the public, and code enforcement has been busy dealing with political sign issues during this season. We ask that any complaints continue to be routed through the non-emergency dispatch number (503-635-0238) as this the best way to ensure complaints are consistently logged and addressed. More information on temporary and political signs can be found on our [political sign webpage](#) which is currently listed on the City's main page for increased visibility.
- **OSHA COVID-19 Workplace Policy.** Oregon OSHA is in the final stages of rulemaking for COVID-19 temporary workplace standards. We are following their process and our leadership team will be discussing any changes we need to make to improve our current safety practices and ensure they are in alignment with the new rules, which are tentatively set to become effective October 12, 2020.
- **Post Office Update.** We received the necessary background information needed from the USPS and are currently promoting a public [survey on the West Linn Post Office](#) as requested by Council. The survey will remain open for two weeks, through Sunday, October 11. Following conclusion of the survey we will forward a summary of the results to Council for their use in advocating for the future of the West Linn Post Office with our federal delegation and the USPS.

- **League of Oregon Cities Update.** Over the summer, Council provided recommendations to the LOC for legislative priorities. The Board recently approved its [statewide priorities](#). In addition to that, the LOC will be hosting its [annual conference](#), virtually, next week. Please take a look at the sessions and let me know if you are interested in attending.
- **Supportive Housing Services Committees.** Clackamas County and Metro are seeking members of the public for their Supportive Housing Services local and regional committees. These committees will develop an implementation plan for funding services such as rent assistance, mental health, addition services, and employment assistance. Recently passed Metro measure 26-210 created new revenue streams to provide for these services. [Learn more and apply online](#) before October 16.

It has been an eventful first few weeks. I am appreciate the opportunity to serve and to be part of the great team here.

Jerry