

Memorandum

Date: May 29, 2015

To: Members, West Linn City Council

From: Chris Jordan, City Manager

Subject: June 1 Work Session

The Council is scheduled to meet at 6:00 at City Hall on June 1 for a work session. Agenda Items are:

- Greater Portland, Inc.(GPI): GPI is an organization that assists in enhancing economic efforts throughout the Portland metropolitan region. The City of West Linn is a member of GPI. A GPI representative will be presenting information to the Council regarding the City's efforts to enhance the viability of businesses and our business districts.
- Legislative Update: The City's contract lobbyist, David Barenberg, will provide an update on legislative happenings in Salem. David will also be asking for guidance from the City Council on any pending issues, including the possible funding of studies for a third lane on I-205.
- Youth Advisory Group Update: During the Council goal setting retreat, the Council expressed an interest in involving the community's youth in the policy making process. The Council included the following as one of its goals:

In conjunction with the Portland State University Center for Public Service, conduct best practices research and literature review to develop a white paper on the development of a Youth Advisory Council.

Assistant City Manager Kirsten Wyatt has researched this issue and will provide an update. It is important to note that should the Council choose to move forward with one of the options, we do not have staff capacity to manage this program. Because staff involvement will need to be very limited, the Council will need to take the lead on administering and overseeing this initiative.

- 2015 Road Program/Sidewalk Maintenance: Approval of the contract for the 2015 road program is on the Council's agenda for June 8. At the work session, Public Works Director/City Engineer Lance Calvert will discuss the road program, but also the staff's concerns about sidewalk maintenance. Certain pedestrian improvements are required as part of the road program, but sidewalk maintenance is lagging in parts of the community. Staff wants to take this opportunity to present our concerns to the Council.

- Cascade Plaza Fountain: This issue was discussed in two memoranda to the Council this month. Staff is looking for guidance regarding the City's involvement -- or non-involvement -- with this project.
- Oregon City Construction Excise Tax Grant Letter of Support. Attached is a draft letter of support for a CET grant for Oregon City. Does the Council wish to provide this support to Oregon City?
- Review of the June 8, 2015 Agenda.

Attachment



CITY OF West Linn

May 26, 2015

Martha Bennett
Metro Chief Operating Officer
600 NE Grand Ave.
Portland, OR 97232

RE: Support for CPDG funding for the Willamette Falls Legacy Project Joint Opportunity Study and Refined Master Plan

Dear Ms. Bennett,

On behalf of the City of West Linn, I would like to submit the following letter of support for the Willamette Falls Legacy Project's funding request for a Metro Community Planning and Development Grant. The proposed project is an exceptional example of the guiding principles of the grant program and should be fully supported.

The Blue Heron site has incredible advantages: a stunning location on Willamette Falls, historic revitalization opportunities, the adjacent burgeoning downtown Oregon City, and an unparalleled list of private and public supporters. Nevertheless, there remain significant challenges that need to be overcome at the site, including inadequate infrastructure and market conditions. The next necessary step to spur private investment at Willamette Falls is eliminating some of these challenges and we believe this innovative grant request that significantly leverages private investment is the right approach. Full funding of the grant request will ensure that the project can continue to build on the momentum that it has thoughtfully established.

With the assistance of a Metro CPDG grant, our City recently finalized the Arch Bridge/Bolton Concept Plan, which encompasses an area directly across the river from this project. We have a vested interest the successful implementation of the Legacy project. If completed in accordance with the adopted vision for the area, it will supplement and aid in the redevelopment opportunities for our side of the river as well as the entire region.

We look forward to working with the partners and Falls Legacy LLC to ensure that the Willamette Falls Legacy Project is a success that benefits not just Oregon City but also the region.

Sincerely,