



# WEST LINN UPDATE

*Third Quarter, 2018*

## Emergency Preparedness and You



### **A Moment with Mayor Axelrod:**

Hard to believe it's already September. Not only is it time for students to return to school, but it is also a good time to prepare your family and home for emergencies. In fact, the month of September is officially declared Emergency Preparedness Month - a perfect time to assess and improve your household and neighborhood emergency planning and preparations.

Whether they be small emergencies that only affect yourself or your family, or larger events impacting a city or region, the better prepared we are, the better the outcome. Remember that in a major disaster, such as a Cascadia earthquake, our emergency responders will be focused on broader community and regional needs. Because of this, you should be prepared to take

care of your family and neighborhood needs for up to two weeks. So, being prepared not only increases our resilience and safety, it empowers us and helps reduce our stress, which is especially important for our youth during emergency events.

I hope you were able to attend the Emergency Preparedness Fair on Sept. 13. There was a vast amount of information available regarding ways to prepare yourself, your family and your community in the event of an emergency.

If you were unable to attend I urge you to consider having a Map Your Neighborhood presentation with those in your neighborhood. Map Your Neighborhood is a volunteer-run program that helps neighborhoods prepare to care for each other when disaster strikes. The program helps us organize a timely response to disasters neighborhood by neighborhood.

Additional information on this group can be found by sending an email to: [westlinnready@gmail.com](mailto:westlinnready@gmail.com) or by visiting the City's website. Other great resources on emergency preparedness information are the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the American Red Cross and your local emergency responders.

### **Emergency Kit Items**

- **Water** - one gallon of water per person per day for at least three days, for drinking and sanitation
- **Food** - at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food
- **Battery-powered or hand crank radio and a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert**
- **Flashlight**
- **First aid kit**
- **Extra batteries**
- **Whistle to signal for help**
- **Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation**
- **Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities**
- **Manual can opener for food**
- **Local maps**
- **Cell phone with chargers and a backup battery**

# West Linn Police Department Update

Since taking position as the Chief of Police on June 4 of this year, I have been inspired and impressed by the men and women already working for this community. They are optimistic, dedicated and excited at the anticipated changes.

We have roughly 50 percent of our officers with just five years' experience or less and a great challenge before us. When I first arrived, we had one new hire just graduating from the State Police Academy and a new female officer heading off to that same academy. In the short time that has since passed, we have hired three additional new police officers.

One new hire is a lateral from the Mount Angel Police Department. We have also promoted a Captain from within to replace now retired Capt. Neil Hennelly. Additionally, we have an ongoing recruitment process for a second vacant Captain's position. Other new hires in the department include a new Records Specialist and a new Property Evidence Manager. Finally, we just completed an internal Sergeant's promotional process and will be promoting that new sergeant from within. I still need to hire a replacement for our vacant Emergency Operations Manager position and two additional entry level police officers just to meet our authorized strength.

Two years from now we will be fully staffed, with no one on probation. That is exciting!



The West Linn Police Department has not met this threshold in a very long time. Ensuring full staffing is also a great opportunity for us to set expectations, ensure accountability, reinforce values and provide

direction. Our coaches and sergeants have an important and vital role in the development and training our new officers for a successful future. That future includes increased community engagement, procedural justice, police legitimacy and growing specialization within the profession. This career has always been challenging and the expectations upon us at times can feel overwhelming. But, the future is bright and the personnel here are energized, committed and ready to move forward.

This community's ongoing support cannot be over emphasized. The relationships already built have been a huge contributing factor to the positive attitudes of our police officers. This show of support from the citizens of West Linn reminds all of us, even on our toughest days, why we were drawn to this profession in the first place. I want to thank all of you who have been and continue to be, there for us. It is my promise that when needed, we will be there for you as well.

Respectfully,

Terry Kruger, Chief of Police

*Pictured: Chief Kruger and Capt. Oddis Rollins take a moment for a picture of Capt. Rollins' Swearing-in Ceremony.*

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## New Emergency Alert System Rolls Out

On Sept. 1, Clackamas County will upgrade how it communicates with residents during times of disaster by replacing its emergency notification software system.

All residents are urged to enroll, or re-enroll, at [www.clackamas.us/publicalerts](http://www.clackamas.us/publicalerts).

By providing contact information, county residents can opt-in to receive critical emergency messaging via email, phone call, and text during times of disasters.

Important messages that could be relayed include notices to evacuate, shelter-in-place, shelter locations, and other extremely important information.

"This new system – #ClackCo Public Alerts – will allow us to utilize Wireless Emergency Alerts and integrate the Emergency Alert System for critical life safety messages," stated Disaster Management Director Nancy Bush.

The county will not use any registered #ClackCo Public Alerts contact information for anything other than these emergency notifications.

All residents are strongly encouraged to enroll in this new system. Those residents enrolled in the previous system – the Clackamas County Emergency Notification System, or CCENS – must re-enroll themselves in the new system in order to receive future messages



# City Council Town Hall

Featuring Clackamas County Arts Alliance Director Cheryl Snow

September 20 @ 7 p.m.

West Linn Adult Community Center

Learn how the City of West Linn has benefited from the local arts and culture community and how you can join efforts to further support it.



From the City Manager:

## General Obligation Bond Update

Thank you once again to those who supported the City's general obligation (GO) bond measure on the May 2018 election ballot. Your decision to continue to invest in your city will ultimately result in better roads, parks and city facilities to enjoy for years to come. On Aug. 21, the new bonds were placed on the open market, with the winning bid resulting in a true interest cost of 3.2 percent (this the interest rate for repayment of the bonds.) We also now know the City will have approximately \$19.58 million in net proceeds to work with, with about two-thirds of that funding transportation projects and the remainder being used for improvements to park and city facilities.

To remain within bond regulations, 85 percent of the bond money is to be expended in the next three years. This means, residents can expect to see a lot of construction activity between 2019 and 2021. Two major projects that are getting underway immediately are improvements to Willamette Falls Drive in the historic Willamette area and the 10th Street interchange with I-205 from Willamette Falls Drive up to Salamo Road and Blankenship Road. The City is currently seeking proposals from engineering firms to design these projects and oversee construction after a contractor is selected. This first year will be quiet as projects are developed and designed. But plans are being made for the City's public outreach efforts on the above mentioned projects, and others. We are also putting the finishing touches on a new webpage to report on the progress of projects including their actual cost and construction status. Look for this to appear in the coming weeks.

## Fourth Book Drop Opens



The grand opening celebration of the latest library book drop, located in the Sunset neighborhood, took place on Aug. 23. Sunset Primary Principal Michelle Wilson and many students were on hand to celebrate. This new book drop is located outside of Sunset Primary near the parking lot by the baseball field. This is the fourth satellite book drop available within the community, in addition to parking lot of the Adult Community Center, outside the Pacific West Bank branch in the Willamette neighborhood and in the parking lot of the Emmanuel Presbyterian church in the Robinwood neighborhood. The West Linn Public Library remains committed to helping patrons through a variety of services.

# City News Briefs

- We ask that residents maintain both their private property and any adjacent City right of way, in accordance with Chapter 5.470 and 5.600 of the Municipal Code.

If property owners have questions about maintenance responsibilities or need assistance on how to start, please contact Public Works Streets Supervisor Jeff Randall at 503-742-6090.

Any concerns of violation of the Municipal Code can be directed to Code Enforcement using the City's YourGOV service request system at <https://westlinnoregon.gov/YourGOV>.

- Enroll in our paperless eBill service to receive your bill online. You can also schedule your payment to be made automatically, or make pay-

ments online each month. To enroll in eBill online, register at [municipalonlinepayments.com/westlinnor/utilities](http://municipalonlinepayments.com/westlinnor/utilities).

- The City of West Linn recently sought Requests for Qualifications (RFQs) from engineering firms to design and perform construction administration of street improvement projects. These services are needed to help supplement the capacity of our Public Works Department as multiple Capital Improvement Projects move forward as a result of the recent passage of the General Obligation Bond. Once proposals are submitted, a firm will be selected to assist in creating plans for Street Improvement Projects, such as the 10th Street intersection. The draft concept plan which was attached the RFQ on the City's website is for reference only

for interested parties so they have a better understanding of what type of projects they may be working on. The 10th Street and Salamo Road plan attached to the RFQ is a draft concept plan, which is referenced in the City Council and Planning Commission approved Transportation Systems Plan (details can be found on page 109 of the PDF).

- The 10th Street/Salamo Road Street Improvement Project has not been designed, nor is the project going out for bid just yet. Once the design firm is selected, the detailed design process will begin will include opportunities for citizen involvement, comment and outreach related on the design. This will all occur before the project is put out to bid for construction.

## Library Updates

The West Linn Public Library is once again partnering with all six primary schools in the school district to have public library books drops inside the schools. With this access, children can return their public library books to the school library and they will be picked up and checked in once a week by our library staff member.

The West Linn Public Library also produces a monthly Primary School Newsletter in partnership with Wilsonville Public Library that has book recommendations, information for teachers and upcoming events in each library.

Please inquire at the Youth Services desk for more information. Finally, the Library will also be having our Kindergarten Carnival on Thursday, Oct. 4 from 5:30 – 7:00 for kindergartners and their families. Each kindergartner will receive a free book, a \$5 token good off late fees, and a chance to win raffle prizes. There will also be a free vision screening, a photo booth, and an opportunity to sign up for a library card. Everyone can meet the Librarians and Otto the Library dog, get a balloon animal and have fun!

## Neighborhood News

Savanna Oaks Neighborhood Association

Savanna Oaks NA had its annual potluck in July, on one of the hottest days of the year. Bubbles were brought out for the kids and several families came and enjoyed the company and the good food at the White Oak Savanna. Next year we may plan a get together at a local restaurant so the hot weather will won't be a factor.

SONA meetings will now be on an every other month schedule. The most recent one was held on Sept. 4. If there is an important item that needs to be discussed quicker than that, we will plan a meeting sooner.

