### MARCH 22, 2024



City Manager's Weekly Report

# **Community Development**



**Economic Development:** The temporary Downtown Welcome Center location is open and ready for visitors at 138 SE G Street. New maps are available that highlight regional tourist destinations and agrotourism of the Illinois and Applegate Valleys.

Staff attended a housing focused table event at the Oregon Department of Human Services as an opportunity to share various housing programs and resources with ODHS employees.

Staff, in partnership with the Chamber of Commerce, has been assisting local small businesses with accessing an Energy Trust of Oregon No Cost Lighting Upgrade Program and has fully completed 31 lighting projects with eight more in progress.



## Parks Division:



Park staff renovated the softball infield at Eckstein park over the last couple of months, measuring and removing overgrown outfield turf, to bring it back into the original infield dimensions. We also incorporated 2 tons of Turface, a calcined clay soil additive, to enhance soil management, preventing oversaturation and maintaining optimal playing conditions. Renovating ballfields is crucial for maintaining safe and enjoyable recreational spaces for the community.

"Be the reason someone smiles. Be the reason someone feels loved and believes in the goodness in people." ~ Roy T. Bennett

Feel free to contact us with any questions. Aaron K. Cubic City Manager 541-450-6000 www.grantspassoregon.gov

## City Manager's Weekly Report

## Page 2

# **Community Development**

**Parks Division:** The pond at Reinhart Volunteer Park was restocked with 300 legal-sized rainbow trout on Wednesday by ODFW.

The tree walk on Saturday, led by Urban Forester James Pasley, provided a captivating display of flowering trees, underscoring their aesthetic appeal and environmental significance. Approximately a dozen participants gained insights into the numerous benefits trees provide to our urban landscapes.





More bark was spread to freshen up the landscape beds at Morrison Park this week. Staff also removed some concrete to gain access to a couple of valve repairs at Reinhart Volunteer Park and took proactive measures to enhance safety by removing the decaying railroad ties and installing a new concrete curb, effectively eliminating a potential trip hazard.





Staff removed several stumps throughout the parks system and pruned trees at the Skate Park and Tussing Park where the bucket truck was needed to reach some of the limbs.



## City Manager's Weekly Report

## Page 3

# **Public Works**

Water Restoration Plant: Staff at the Water Restoration Plant consistently work on preventative maintenance. The philosophy is to regularly maintain equipment, following both manufacturer recommendations and staff experience, rather than waiting for it to fail. While reactive maintenance might seem attractive in the short term due to potential labor and parts cost savings, it ultimately leads to failures at the most inconvenient times and results in higher overall maintenance expenses. Additionally, the flow of sewage into the plant cannot be stopped, so critical equipment must operate 24/7. This approach also allows staff to conduct routine checks on equipment conditions and identify wear and tear. By doing so, funds can be allocated for major replacements as items near the end of their life cycle. The WRP maintenance management system ensures that tasks remain organized and relevant, allowing staff to access historical data and create specific notes for future reference.





**River Mist Subdivision:** The contractor has poured the interior sidewalks for the development. (Shady Lane)

Fruitdale Cottages: City crews have made the tap on the existing 12inch water main that will serve the proposed cottages. The sanitary sewer connection and storm drain main are set to be installed next week. (Fruitdale Drive)



Page 4

# **Public Works**

**Kickin-Cattle Subdivision:** The contractor has finished the paving along Carnahan Drive.





Library and C & D Street Sewer Replacement: The contractor started the bursting portion of the sewer main replacement from 5th Street to 4th Street. To accomplish this, the contractor must first weld the sections of HDPE together before pulling the pipe through the existing main. The new pipe "bursts" the old pipe and the new pipe is left in its place.

Wastewater Collections and Storm-

water: This week, crews have been busy responding to sewer calls in various areas of town. Crews cleaned up sewage that came from a private cleanout spilling onto the roadway, alleviating any public hazard. While performing regular CCTV work, crews found a large buildup of paper and wipes in a manhole causing the flows to back up. Jetter truck crews responded and vacuumed out the blockage so it wouldn't flow downstream and cause further problems.



# **Public Works**

Water Treatment Plant: Crews at the Water Treatment Plant finished filter maintenance cleaning Filters 5 and 7 this week. Filter 7, and to some extent Filter 5, settled water from Basin 3. Because of its design, Basin 3 does not perform as well as the other basins. As a result, the outside filters, like Filter 7, can lose filter performance and develop mud balls more quickly than the other filters. The outside filters are also exposed to sunlight. During the warmer months, algal growth can be a problem. All these factors impact filter



performance. During filter maintenance, crews remove algae, break down residual filter aids, break mud balls, and physically remove surface media contaminated with mud balls. The result is a clean filter that is ready for long efficient filter runs. With all the filters clean, crews can optimize treatment and get the most out of the filter runs.



**Distribution:** Within the past week, staff have run into a series of failing valves in the Redwood area that have caused some unscheduled disruptions. Staff originally planned work to replace a blowoff valve that had failed, but when they shut down the main to perform the repair, an additional valve failed. Staff expanded the shutdown and subsequently had another valve fail. Staff have worked to replace all of the compromised valves, and will evaluate the failed parts to help determine if a more proactive approach to replacing these valves is necessary moving forward.

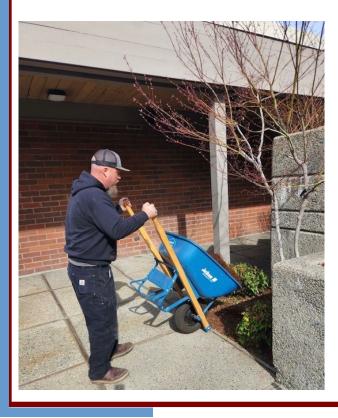
## Page 5

## City Manager's Weekly Report

## Page 6

# **Public Works**

Streets and Drainage: Streets and Drainage started the week by giving Reddy Street a fresh lift of <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> minus gravel to smooth the surface and fill in some holes. The crew used a total of 25 yards to give the residents a safer driving surface. With all the warm weather following the recent rains, the crew started spring vegetation maintenance which will continue in earnest throughout the spring and early summer. These areas include storm detention areas, alley rights of way, and some planter strips. Routine stormwater infrastructure cleaning and CCTV continued throughout the week. Additionally, numerous school signs and crossing signs were replaced on Bridge Street. These signs had faded due to sun and weather factors and, as a result, had lost their reflectivity.





**Facilities:** The Facilities team has been busy performing preventative maintenance, responding to service calls, and monitoring the construction project at the Welcome Center. The warmer weather has the team gearing up for the season as the demand for cooling is increasing. The team is also spending more time with landscaping maintenance activities including checking irrigation systems, mowing lawns, and performing weed control. In this picture, staff is adding bark to a planter at City Hall.

## Page 7

# **Police Activity**

Calls for Service	880
Officer Initiated	244
Arrests	43
Citations	60
Warnings	22
Traffic Stops	37
Sobering Center Lodging	I
DHS Referrals	32
Community Response Team	
Contacts	136
Warnings	37
Citations	18
Arrests	7
Trespass Warnings	13
Camps Posted	92
Camps/Trash Removed	4

## **Fire Rescue Activity**

Fire	4
EMS/Medical	40
Lift Assist	
Rescue	2
Assist to Public	2
Assist to Other Agency	6
Total Fire Responses	113
False Alarm	3
Medic Level '0' within City	20
Pub Ed/Prevention	5
Car Seats Installed	0
Business Inspection	18

## 911/Dispatch Calls for Service:

Records: Incoming non-emergent calls: 726 911 calls: 1115 Women's Crisis Support Team 24/7 Hotline 541.479.9349 Choices Counseling Center - Substance Use Disorder Treatment 541.479.8847

Urban Area Planning Commission: Two positions open. Apply by April 19.

Parks Advisory Committee: One position open. Apply by June 7.

Collaborative Economic Development Committee. One position open. Apply by April 19.

Tourism Advisory Committee. One position open. Apply by May 24.

Urban Tree Advisory Committee: One position. Apply by April 5.



**Follow us at:** Facebook@grantspassoregon; Twitter@CityGrantsPass; Instagram@grantspassoregon; YouTube: City of Grants Pass; Nextdoor: City of Grants Pass