

Prepared for Mayor and Councilors. Please contact Kristin Retherford, Interim City Manager, for additional information.

Parks

Junior Park Ranger Camp: This year's Junior Park Ranger program was a terrific success. Our Park Ranger, Mike Zieker, officially delivered the oath of office to 48 Junior Park Rangers. 24 were sworn into service in June and 24 more in July. And even though these rangers will not carry badges or enforce codes, they have graduated the program with firsthand experience of our city's turtle habitats, eagle nesting locations, and some new fishing techniques, too. The program provides our community's youth with access to this and much more in the Minto Brown Park. With rising attendance year-over-year, our hope is to see this program continue to grow in popularity.



Parks Maintenance: Parks operations depends on a combination of full-time staff, seasonal workers, and Adults-in-Custody (AIC) crews to maintain our parks and road right-of-way landscaping. The City continues to struggle with a tight labor market and hiring seasonal workers and has also experienced a significant reduction in Adults-in-Custody (AIC) crews. Prior to Covid, we had several crews available on a daily basis, and now have one State Department of Corrections Crew and one Marion County crew, but not always daily. We have gone from 67 down to 17 adults-in-custody on a good day. A historically robust source of supplemental labor, our community volunteer efforts, suffered greatly during the last two and a half years of the pandemic. Organizations and clubs have restarted group-level volunteer projects. However, the individual parks volunteers, many who are retired, have been slow or unable to return to volunteering.

In the next few weeks, we anticipate awarding a contract to bring on private contractor services to fill the gap and help address this maintenance backlog. We previously attempted to bring on contracted landscape maintenance but had to terminate the earlier contract this spring due to non-performance.

Homelessness, Sheltering and Affordable Housing

Upcoming Heatwave and Cooling Centers. Cooling centers activate when temperatures hit 100 degrees. We are communicating with our non-profit partners who operate these centers in advance of next week's anticipated high temperatures and will be sharing this information when it is ready to publish so that we reach the largest audience possible.

The Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency (MWVCAA) has confirmed 14 cooling centers in Marion and Polk Counties will be activated when temperatures reach 100 degrees. Salem cooling centers will be located at ARCHES (615 Commercial Street NE), UGM Day Room (777 Commercial Street NE), Salem Public Library (585 Liberty Street SE), HOME Youth 11-18 years (625 Union Street NE), ROCC (2555 Silverton Road NE), HOAP (694 Church Street NE), and HOST (1115 Liberty Street NE). MWVCAA staff has input all sites into an ArcGIS map with locations and hours that is being shared publicly with the community <https://arcg.is/i40y50> and they are updating their Incident Action Plan.

The City, through the Public Works Department, is providing bottled water for distribution to our unsheltered community members.

Climate Action Plan

Electrifying the City Fleet: The City's Climate Action Plan (CAP) includes a strategy (#TL 30) for the electrification of the City's Fleet. An update on this strategy was provided to the CAP Committee on June 6, and a summary of the present status and steps forward is attached (#TL 30 Summary Sheet).

Efforts are underway to purchase and install the infrastructure (EV charging stations) that will be needed to support EV's for continued City use. There are presently no dedicated charging stations for this purpose. Four EV charging stations are planned to be installed with the new Public Works Operations Building (completion 2023). Staff have also been looking into PGEs Fleet Partner Program as an opportunity to install 20 additional stations for use by Fleet vehicles. It has been determined that the cost to the City under this program will be \$110,243 for infrastructure only, charging station purchase and installation would be additional, estimated at \$92,000. In addition, the city is researching and applying for grant funding that will support the

transition to EVs. The first grant application for four additional charging stations (to be located at City Hall and Fleet) was submitted to the Oregon Department of Energy on July 8, 2022.

There are presently eleven hybrid vehicles in the City's Fleet. The Police Department is looking to purchase all hybrid patrol vehicles in FY 2022-23.

Fleet has been using 99% renewable diesel fuel for the last two years. This has resulted in reduced GHG emissions and maintenance costs associated with the City's Fleet. The large portion of the fleet—dump trucks, vac trucks, heavy-duty pick-ups, sweepers, etc.—still do not have an electric alternative.

Landscaping maintenance equipment also requires charging capacity and staff will continue to explore electric options for commercially-graded equipment as we cycle through equipment replacement.

CAP update to City Council: An information report to update City Council on CAP implementation is scheduled for September.

TOT Grant Awards

TOT Grant Awards: As of today, twenty-six organizations have been selected for TOT grant awards. These are:

Elsinore \$45,460
Salem Art Association (SAA) Facility \$45,180
Willamette Heritage Center (WHC) Facility \$45,780
Hoopla Assoc./Cherryfest NW 2023 - \$7,500
SAA Event/Salem Art Fair and Festival - \$7,500
WHC / Magic at the Mill - \$7,500
Deepwood Museum/Erythronium Festival - \$3,000
Enlace Event/Kermez Cross Cultural Festival - \$2,000
Salem on the Edge / En Plein Air Invitational Art Show - \$2,000
Helping Hands Resources / Quiltopia \$2,000
Englewood Forest Festival - \$3,000
WHC / Window and Gutter Restoration Project - \$7,500
Salem Public Library Foundation / Salem Reads \$7,500
Hoopla Assoc / Hoopla XXIII - \$7,500
Ceili of the Valley Society / Samhain Celtic New Year Festival - \$5,000
Deepwood Museum & Gardens – Facility - \$44,060
Gilbert House – Facility - \$43,750
Hallie Ford Museum of Art – Facility - \$45,150
Salem Multicultural Institute – Facility - \$45,000
Festival Chorale – Event - Alzheimer's Stories, by Robert Cohen - \$7,500
Festival Chorale – Event - Saint Nicolas by Benjamin Britten - \$7,500
Gilbert House – Event – Halloween Re-Engineered - \$7,500
Gilbert House – CIP – Accessible Outdoor Play Project - \$7,500
Press Play Salem – Press Play Magazine (Project) - \$2,000
Sasquatch Sports (Chris Roche) - Event – Capital City Classic - \$2,000
Salem Multicultural Institute – Event – World Beat Festival - \$7,500

Emergency Services

Divert policy change at Salem Hospital. We are working closely with Salem Hospital to jointly navigate implementing a divert policy change at the hospital. Our top priority is making sure that

we can take care of those who need medical care and ensure patients are transported to the best care possible to minimize impact to the community and keep patients safe.

The hospital's policy change reflects the ongoing strain on the state's healthcare system. Hospital inpatient volumes continue to be historically high across the state. Salem Hospital has been over 100% of capacity every day for the past 12 months. Salem Health is pursuing several strategies to preserve inpatient bed capacity for community needs. Among these tools is the option to divert incoming ambulances during periods of high inpatient census. Divert sends incoming ambulances, which are transporting patients with non-emergent conditions, to other institutions when a hospital is full, and is a common tool used by hospitals statewide to manage capacity challenges.

Thank you for reading.
Kristin Retherford
Interim City Manager