

To the Mayor, Members of the City Council, Budget Committee and Citizens of Coburg:

We are in year two of the COVID pandemic and times continue to be challenging for the Finance Department and all of our city employees. Considering how up and down things have been during the last year, we have been able to operate business fairly normally for a majority of the year. The Finance Department has been in the office most of time, with very little work from outside the office being necessary. That has not been the case for many of our vendors and outside support partners. We continue to collect revenues above what was budgeted for Fiscal Year 2021-2022. There is no reason to think that will change. We are very busy at the city, and we should continue to meet that challenge. We are all very hopeful that life get "normal" again.

The Finance Department has not been able to attend in person training or conferences at this point. Everything has been done in a virtual environment and we have gotten better at Zoom meetings. We can certainly learn this way. But the human interaction is important as we can talk about different trends and events in other areas of the state with other agencies. The conferences also offer us the ability to see new and different technologies that may benefit the City of Coburg with regards to how we operate in the Finance Department. We are hopeful that there may be in person training this spring. It has been nice to have been able to have in person meetings at the City in the last few months. Hopefully that will continue. Whether we have to continue to operate as we have for the last two years or things get somewhat back to normal, the Finance Department will continue to deliver timely and accurate financial reporting and provide proper oversight of all expenditures and revenue collections in order to successfully support the operations of the City of Coburg.

Sincerely,

Tim Gaines
Finance Director