

## **CM REPORT – JUNE, 2023**

### **Administration**

- City Hall Grand Opening Public Open House 4-6 p.m., July 13. Ribbon Cutting 4:30.
- The bi-annual livability survey is scheduled for August. If you have a question(s) that you would like asked as part of the survey, please submit them to Jaime. Staff will tabulate the questions and select 3 for the survey. The questions are on leading issues and intended to solicit community feedback.
- Congresswoman Bonamici plans to tour the T.V. Highway Safety Improvements Project on Monday, July 10 from 10-11. If you are interested in attending, please let Jaime know.
- At the request of CFM, the City's federal affairs consultants, the Mayor and City Manager will be making a quick trip to DC to visit with the Oregon Congressional delegation June 20-22. Thus far, Congresswoman Bonamici submitted the TV Highway Safety Improvements Project on the House side and Senators Merkley and Wyden submitted 5 of the city's 6 projects on the Senate side. The next steps are mark-ups of both appropriations bills which is why CFM has requested the visit. The projects being considered include:
  - TV Highway Safety Improvements - \$3 million
  - Community Solar – \$900,000
  - East Side Emergency Water Intertie - \$2 million
  - 21<sup>st</sup> Ave Festival Street Improvements - \$2 million
  - Emerald Necklace Trail – \$2.24 million
- The County is expected to close the HWY 47 encampment by June 26.
- City website vender has been selected and redesign has started.
- City Instagram and Nextdoor accounts were created this Spring.
- *What's Growing On* has 794 e-subscribers with an open rate of just over 60%.

### **Public Works**

- The new Public Works Equipment Shelter is nearly complete.
- The D Street project is complete including sidewalks, curbs, and asphalt overlay.
- The 26<sup>th</sup> Avenue Reconstruction Project received a record eight bids. The project has been awarded and tree removal is beginning this week.

### **Fire**

- The Forest Grove Rural Fire Protection District will celebrate 50 years of service on June 17, 2023 at the Gales Creek fire station.
- The Fire Task Force met on May 25, to continue the discussion towards fire governance options. The Task Force is on pause due to the Cornelius fire levy, likely this November.

- Fire applied for two staffing grants from the State and regrettably received neither. There are two FEMA federal grants still under consideration.
- American Medical Rescue (AMR) was awarded the County's ambulance contract, formerly provided by Metro West. The new franchise starts August 1, 2023.

### **Library**

- The Summer Reading Program began on June 1. It registered over 576 children.
- Library staff is planning outreach to Forest Grove School District's free summer meal sites.
- In May the Library created a newsletter. There are currently 245 subscribers.

### **Light and Power**

- Line relocation work on the 26<sup>th</sup> Avenue road-widening project has begun. Crews are relocating and upgrading the overhead lines from Sunset Hwy to Hawthorne Street on 26<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
- Light and power will be presenting some additions to the City's electric vehicle program, namely, an incentive program for e-bikes, at the July City Council meeting.

### **Police**

- Chief Reimann and COS Quinsland staffed the information booth during the Market's First Wednesday. Information about Neighborhood Watch and handgun locks were distributed.
- The FGPD met their 2023 Communication Goal in increasing FGPD Facebook following to 13,000.

### **Parks, Aquatics, and Recreation**

- On May 15th, the Recreation Department opened enrollment for 14 brand new youth summer recreation opportunities. The programs have reached 65% of registration capacity. Shared events with the Forest Grove Library are under development, and free school lunches will be accessible at the majority of programs each day. Six part time staff have already been hired.
- Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) has identified six additional Ash Trees in Lincoln Park infested with the Emerald Ash Borer. ODA will remove the trees in the next few weeks.
- Five Star Construction continues to work on Stites Park improvements. Grading is complete and curbs were poured for the front parking lot.
- The Thatcher Park sports field drainage and infield project are progressing and are scheduled for completion this month.