

MEMORANDUM

Senior Services & LINX Transit

Date: September 1st, 2025

To: Mayor Jackola and City Council

From: Kindra Oliver, Senior Center & LINX Transit Director

Subject: Monthly LINX Transit & Senior Center Report

LINX Transit:

As noted earlier in the year, LINX Transit was awarded \$428,000 in STIF Discretionary Funds through ODOT, for FY2025-27. The grant funding was awarded for a LINX operations expansion to respond to the significant increases in ridership over the last few years and we will be adding a new deviated fixed route this fall.

Senior Center:

The AARP Safe Driver Program returned to an in-person class setting this year, which has resulted in large class sizes. These safe driver classes are offered in partnership with AARP, LBCC and the Senior Center. Safe driving skills are important at any age, but refreshers can play an important role in keeping folks safe on the road and up to date on any changes to rules or best practices.

Inspiring memories and a childlike playful spirit while engaging in various activities was the goal of our Senior Summer Camp week, which was held in late August. We held several indoor and outdoor activities. Our biggest surprise hit was our Letters Home activity. Seniors gathered and utilized fun stationary that we created to write a letter to a family member or friend. We mailed the letters for them. So many were touched by this project and hope that we do it again. The simple act of sitting down and writing a letter to a loved one really struck several chords with various seniors. The rising costs of stamps or ability to get a letter mailed have impacted many from this "old school" way of doing things. One letter needed no stamp though. We were honored when a senior wrote out staff a letter sharing what we mean to them, as they didn't have any family to write to.

The "dog days of summer" had us thinking about pets at the Senior Center. Our Summer Pet Photo Contest decorated our hall with some adorable pictures of some local pets. Seniors participating shared some fun stories about their pets with each other and staff.

Craft for a Cause is an activity that cultivates the idea that people can use their skills and abilities to work together to give back to our communities. This month's craft for a cause came from a request from Hearltand Humane Society, in Corvallis. We supplied their requests for some dog toys that were made from donated fleece scraps. The seniors that gathered made nearly 40 toys!