

CITY OF NEW MEADOWS MAYOR'S REPORT

July 8, 2024

The Farmer's Market had a great opening day on June 29th with 16 vendors and more are expected in the future. This is such a great event for our community.

The Gold Line ridership continues to grow with 226 riders in the first month of the new 5 day a week schedule. We will continue to promote this program and encourage local ridership.

We will be discussing budgets in City Council meetings until our budget hearing in August, but we will need to have a special meeting to discuss the water and sewer fund in a more in-depth fashion. Please be prepared to schedule a special meeting for that purpose.

The construction project on Hwy 95 north will continue but should have less effect on us in town, except for the increased truck traffic moving product north from the staging area at JI Morgan. There will be another project which will start at the west end of town with chip sealing through town and up Goose Creek Canyon to Paddy Flats Rd on the other side of McCall. We will continue to stay in contact with the ITD project managers and the contractor supervisors to encourage all trucks to stay within speed limits and not to travel on side streets.

We will be giving updates as they are received from ITD.

Kyla is gone on a much-deserved vacation and should not be contacted while she is enjoying time with family. I will be meeting daily with Dianne to facilitate anything she needs while Kyla is gone. Thank you for considering the reduction in staff when making requests for information.

With the rising cost of electricity and the cost of water to the city when it is used in the park, I am recommending we create an ordinance to address the use of the park and possibly approve a fee for use of electricity and water in the park. I have recently had several instances where RVs were accessing the electricity at the back of the restrooms and using it. I have asked Hunter to create a way to lock that box so we are not paying for electricity that is used without permission. There is concern about the water being left on if we allow its use in the park, so we may need to review a way to make sure it is only accessed during times approved.

Josh, Hunter, Grae, Kyla, Kirk and myself had a good meeting around street issues in town. We all agree that the best way to move forward is to do a transportation plan update to create a cohesive, complete plan on long term solutions for our road situation. Keller & Associates is also providing expert consultation input to Hunter as he moves forward with what needs to be done immediately.

"The need for connection and community is primal, as fundamental as the need for air, water and food." Dean Ornish