



City of Stevenson

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To: Stevenson City Council
From: Leana Kinley, City Administrator
RE: City Administrator Staff Update
Meeting Date: March 18, 2021

Overview of items staff has been working on over the past month:

COVID-19 – The federal government passed the American Rescue Plan Act, a \$1.9 trillion relief package. The latest estimate from AWC is the city will receive \$348,658. These funds can be used in a similar manner as the CARES funds as well as “replace lost, delayed, or decreased revenues due to COVID-19, address the negative economic impacts of the pandemic, and make necessary investments in water, sewer and broadband infrastructure. Cities will have the authority to transfer funds to private nonprofit organizations, public benefit corporations, or special units of local or state government.” We will have until December 31, 2024 to spend these funds. The bill is expected to be signed into law by Friday, March 12.

City Website – The contract for Municode website redesign and support services is on the agenda for approval. Once approved, staff will move the project forward with a go-live date anticipated in 3-4 months.

Traffic Study RFP – The RFP for the city-wide traffic study was published February 17th and is due March 19th. The goal is to have a contract ready for council approval at the April 15th or May 20th meeting.

Project Close-outs – Staff has been working with WSDOT to close out the Russell Avenue project with TIB and STP grants.

Gorge Bridge Impacts – The Hood River-White Salmon bridge began restricting heavier loads on March 3rd. This means increased truck traffic through Stevenson. They are working on the issue and if a fix can be made, they will evaluate whether or not it will be affordable. More information can be found on the Port of Hood River website, portofhoodriver.com.

The Dalles bridge will also undergo a deck replacement beginning this spring and lasting through 2022. Part of the project includes full weekend closures from Thursday night at 8pm through Monday morning at 6am starting Labor Day 2021 through Memorial Day 2022. More information can be found online at <https://www.oregon.gov/odot/projects/pages/project-details.aspx?project=20442>.

Dude Solutions – Staff has access and will begin testing the work-order system, entering in assets and scheduling preventative maintenance over the next couple of months. The next phase will be developing the predictor model some time in 2021.

Year End Activities – Staff is working on preparing annual reports for the State Auditors’ Office with the council review on this agenda. There will be a single-audit (A-133) focused on projects receiving federal funds in addition to our annual audit since we spent more than \$750,000 in federal funds last year. This means we will have a longer audit that needs to be completed by September.

County Building Inspector Contract – Tim Elsea, Skamania County Public Works Director/County Engineer, is not available this meeting for a quarterly update. He will be present at the April 22nd meeting.

Dog Mountain Shuttle – The Dog Mountain Shuttle will operate this season with a reservation system and lower occupancy buses to comply with COVID-19 protocols. The messaging and timeline are being worked out. Staff is coordinating the construction project along Rock Creek with the county, no work will be done on the weekends.

Historic Highway – Sections of the Historic Columbia River Highway remain closed due to cleaning up from the Mosquito Creek landslide, substantial amounts of material and cracks with the catastrophic potential for additional slides. More slides have also taken place at various points along the highway, which they continue to clean up. The current timeline for a full reopening is being measured in months not weeks.

Quiet Zone – The quiet zone authorization requires the city to affirm we are in compliance every 4 ½ to 5 years. The affirmation requires an updated traffic count for Russell Ave. Staff will be working to get the required data to ensure the crossing remains quiet zone compliant.

Action Needed:

None.