



City of Stevenson

Leana Kinley, City Administrator

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To: Stevenson City Council
From: Leana Kinley, City Administrator
RE: City Administrator Staff Update
Meeting Date: April 15, 2021

Overview of items staff has been working on over the past month not listed in the project updates:

Quiet Zone – The quiet zone authorization requires the city to affirm we are complying every 4 ½ to 5 years. The affirmation requires an updated traffic count for Russell Ave. A traffic count is taking place with the county and will last two weeks.

Committee/Regional Reports

Dog Mountain Shuttle – The Dog Mountain Shuttle will operate April 24th-June 13th and Memorial Day, May 31st. The reservation system is like last year with 100 tickets for each day being available starting March 31st. This year they will release an additional 100 tickets three days before each required day. There are only 70 available parking spots at the base and carpooling is encouraged. They have partnered with Columbia Area Transit and there will be a connection with the Gorge Express in Cascade Locks three times a day allowing people to travel to Dog Mountain car-free from Portland.

More information can be found on the county website -
<https://www.skamaniacounty.org/departments-offices/senior-services/dog-mountain-shuttle>.

Historic Highway – Sections of the Historic Columbia River Highway remain closed due to landslides. They will have a short-term fix to reopen in a couple weeks. The long-term fix needs to wait until the hillside dries out.

Multnomah Falls – Will begin using an advanced registration system and hire a full-time flagger at exit 31 to improve traffic flow and lessen the impact on public transportation.

Eagle Creek – The trail and parking lot are currently closed due to a landslide. They expect to award a contract soon to remove the debris. According to the lifecycle after a fire, years 3-7 see an increase in landslides with the roots of burned trees rotting and giving way. This is what is happening, and other areas can expect an increase in users as the trails remain closed.

Gifford Pinchot National Forest – Two popular areas will require advanced registration. They are Ape Cave, starting May 18th, and Lewis River Recreation Area, starting June 15th. More information can be found online at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/giffordpinchot/news-events/?cid=FSEPRD899717> or <https://www.recreation.gov>.

Houseless Impact – The Bi-State recreation group is looking to see how to address the houseless population and their impact on the communities within the Gorge. While it is a broad issue, the summer months bring an increase in illegal camping and use within the recreation areas causing damage to the environment and impacting tourism.

MCEDD – The annual Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy project ranking from the Mid-Columbia Economic Development District (MCEDD) is attached. The Stevenson wastewater project is listed as the number two item for the region. Information regarding the number 1 ranked item, the Goldendale Pumped Storage Hydro, is also attached.

Action Needed:

None.