

MEMORANDUM



TO: City Council
Kelcey Young, City Manager
Interested Parties

FROM: Blair Larsen, Community and Economic Dev. Director

DATE: January 23, 2024

SUBJECT: Community and Economic Development Department Report for January 2024

The Community and Economic Development Department (CEDD) consists of the City's Building, Planning, Engineering, Economic Development, Code Enforcement, and Parks and Recreation programs. The following is a summary of activities and notes on current projects from January 1st to January 31st, 2024.

1. BUILDING

- Summary of Building Program Permits Issued.

Permit Category	January, 2024	December, 2023	2024 YTD	2023 Total	2019-2023 Annual Average
Residential 1 and 2 Family Dwellings	1	0	1	12	24.8
Residential Demolition	0	1	0	10	8.6
Residential Manufactured Dwellings	0	0	0	4	9.2
Residential Mechanical Permits	5	9	5	91	104
Residential Plumbing	1	0	1	24	30.8
Residential Site Development	0	0	0	0	0.4
Residential Structural	2	1	2	33	50.4
Commercial Alarm or Suppression Systems	0	0	0	2	3.6
Commercial Demolition	0	0	0	5	3.6
Commercial Mechanical	2	2	2	11	16.4
Commercial Plumbing	1	0	1	11	9.8
Commercial Site Development	0	0	0	1	2.2
Commercial Structural	5	4	5	26	36.6
Total Permits	17	17	17	230	300.4
Value Estimate of All Permits	\$689,844.12	\$1,139,442.00	\$689,844.12	\$10,728,408.94	\$19,600,417.90
Fees Collected	\$10,569.92	\$12,537.72	\$10,569.92	\$133,127.61	\$246,251.26

- Developments of note: For your reference, below are some developments of note that were previously reported. Changes are noted with **bold text**.
 - Duck Hollow Phase III Subdivision: 51-lot single-family home subdivision located adjacent to the existing Duck Hollow Subdivision (41st Avenue and Long Street). This subdivision received planning approval in 2020, however there was a long delay due to wetlands regulations administered by the Oregon Department of State Lands. State approval has been granted, and construction is expected soon.
 - Live Oak Subdivision: 8-lot single-family home subdivision located between the two existing portions of Live Oak Street. The subdivision was approved in 2021, however the property changed hands, which delayed development. The new owner is planning on constructing 8 duplexes (16 housing units) on the lots. Development of the road and infrastructure is complete, and construction of the first buildings has begun.
 - Foothills Ridge Subdivision: 21-lot single-family home subdivision located at the west end of Foothills Drive. This subdivision was approved in 2021, however the owner has run into delays with his engineering firm, and recently applied for an extension. The construction timeline is unknown.
 - Santiam River Development Phase 1 : 42-lot single-family home subdivision located at the north end of Clark Mill Road. Planning approval was granted at the beginning of this year, however some of the property is being sold to a different developer. It is unknown when construction will begin.
 - Clear Water Subdivision: 18-lot single-family home subdivision located on the west side of 45th Avenue, just north of Kalmia Street. Planning approval was granted in June. Road, sidewalk, and other infrastructure construction is complete.
 - **Domino's Pizza is under construction at the northwest corner of Main Street and 22nd Avenue.**

2. PLANNING

- Summary of Final Decisions of Planning Division Applications:

Application Type	January, 2024	December, 2023	2024 YTD	2023 Total	2019-2023 Annual Average
Adjustments	0	0	0	1	N/A
Annexations	0	0	0	0	0.4
Code Amendments	0	0	0	3	1.4
Conditional Use	0	0	0	3	7.4
Partition	0	0	0	4	11.8
Planned Development/ Subdivision	0	0	0	0	1.8
Property Line Adjustments	1	0	1	3	13.4
Vacation	0	0	0	1	0.2
Variance	0	0	0	4	3.0
Zoning Map Amendment	0	0	0	2	2.2

- 4 Land Use Application were submitted in January.
- 10 Land Use Applications are pending final approval.
- 2 Fence Permit were issued in January.
- 0 Temporary RV Permits were issued in January.
- The City received a grant from the State to update our Transportation System Plan and create an Area Plan for the undeveloped land on the north side of the City. The project is fully underway.
- Work is now underway on the City's Housing Production Strategy. This project is grant funded and fulfills a State requirement.
- The Planning Commission last met on February 1st. The next scheduled meeting is March 7th, 2024.

3. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- The City is seeking interest from developers for a public-private-partnership with the City at the Quarry Property. Staff are developing a Request for Interest that solicit interest that will fit with the City's goals for the property.
- Staff recently gathered a group of business and property owners to discuss efforts to improve Downtown Sweet Home. The initial meetings of this 'Downtown Focus Group' have been productive, and the participants are excited with the ideas generated thus far. This group recently traveled to Independence to learn from efforts there to improve their downtown met last week to discuss what has been learned. The group consensus is that Sweet Home should follow the community vision process that Independence described by restarting SHARE, a previous revitalization effort.
- The first phase of implementing the Downtown Streetscape and Parking Plan is underway. Staff have drafted plans to convert 10th and 13th Avenues between Long and Main Streets to one-way parking to allow for additional parking and the EV charging station. The Council

recently approved changing these streets to one-way southbound traffic. Staff have finalized the parking plan. The next step is to restripe the streets and install signs and delineators.

- The EV Charging Station project has been delayed by concerns raised by Pacific Power. Staff are working with the contractor to mitigate the problems and get the project back on track. Construction is expected in the next two months.

4. CODE COMPLIANCE

- Summary of Actions.

Case Status	January, 2024	December, 2023	2024 YTD	2023 Total	2019-2023 Annual Average
New Complaints-Residents	17	10	17	243	128.5
New Complaints-Officer	5	2	5	39	61.3
Violations Resolved	14	7	14	125	213
Complaints Noted with No Violation Found	8	2	8	111	40.8
Open Cases at End of Period	24	61	24	61	32.3
Citations	6	4	6	30	8.4
Abatements	1	0	1	8	2.4
Enforcement Type	January, 2024	December, 2023	2024 YTD	2023 Total	2019-2023 Annual Average
Animal	3	4	3	38	42.8
Blight	0	1	0	17	4.4
Illegal Burn	0	3	0	7	2.2
Illegal Dumping	0	0	0	2	0.6
Illegal Parking	1	1	1	3	9.6
Illegal Sign	0	0	0	1	2.0
Junk/Abandoned Vehicle	3	1	3	34	15.6
Minimum Housing	0	0	0	3	3
Occupying an RV	5	1	5	44	40
Open Storage	8	1	8	51	57.4
Other	1	0	1	29	14.4
Public Nuisance	1	0	1	14	39.2
Public Right-of-way	0	0	0	9	12
Tall Grass & Weeds	0	0	0	28	93.2
Vacant Lot	0	0	0	2	0.4

The City's Code Compliance Officer responds to complaints submitted through the City's website, and actively patrols the City and works to resolve identified code violations.

5. PARKS

- The Park and Tree Committee last met on January 17th. Their next meeting will be February 21st, 2024.
- Work continues on updated the Parks System Master Plan.
- Staff have applied for a grant from the Oregon Park and Recreation Department for Phase III of Sankey Park improvements, which will include a replacement structure for the now-demolished bandstand and trail connections to the upper portion of the park. The application has passed the first review, and Staff gave a presentation to the grant review committee on June 27th. Staff recently received an award letter for this grant. The next steps are to continue gathering donations and start the procurement process for the work.
- Design work is underway for a new park adjacent to City Hall. The Park will include a donated playground structure and dog park.

6. OTHER PROJECTS

- Willow Street Neighborhood LID: Staff have finalized a financing plan, and recently received approval from the financing agency. A Request for Proposals was issued, however new information on current conditions has come to light which requires the RFP to be reissued. The City is utilizing its Engineer-of-Record contract to do the initial engineering design, after which an RFP for construction will be issued.
- The ODOT Foster Lake Sidewalk Project: Construction is nearly complete. Staff are working with the Railroad and ODOT on a plan to construct the portion that lies under the railroad trestle.
- Engineering on the 2nd Avenue/Holley Road pedestrian crossing, which is funded by a Safe Routes to School Grant, is complete and a Request for Proposals for the work has been issued. A contract for the remaining work has been signed, and the contractor has ordered materials and equipment. This project has been delayed by ODOT permitting, however permits were recently granted, and Staff are working with the contractor to get the project moving again. Construction is expected to start and be complete within a month.