



# CITY MANAGER'S WEEKLY UPDATE

November 22, 2024

Adam J. Brown, City Manager

It was a good meeting Monday night. Everyone handled the big crowd with skill. It's been a good week at city hall.

**Community Engagement** – This week I attended Keizer United, Chamber Greeters, and Keizer Rotary.

**Travel Salem Award** – Council President Starr, Councilor Cross, Councilor Juran, and I attended the Travel Salem Oregon Awards where the City was recognized for Keizer Rapids Park receiving the Most Transformative Award. Richard Walsh was also invited to be there with us as an integral part of making that park happen. We can share the hardware at our next council meeting.

**FEMA National Flood Insurance Program** – Many were greatly waiting for FEMA's response to Governor Kotek's request to slow down the Pre Implementation Compliance Measures (PICMs) request. It was received last week and the request was denied. As expected, cities are either required to pick options 1 or 3 or default to option 2, which is what we plan on doing. This [link](#) is a decent resource for more information about the issue. You will hear more about it at the City Council Meeting on December 2, 2024.



**Camera Project** – Installations continued this week. They were able to turn one of the bullet cameras onto the turf field until we get cameras dedicated to that facility.



**Population** – We receive the city’s official population estimates from the Population Research Center at Portland State University. We have not seen much growth since 2020 according to their estimates; however, this year we are up by .2% a change of 69 persons from 39,180 to 39,249. According to their numbers the number of housing unites increased by 187 from 2023 to 2024.

**Keizer Community Fields (KCF)** –Public Works Director Bill Lawyer and I met together to review my meeting with KCF and will be scheduling something with KCF to move towards finalizing the agreement.

Speaking of Keizer Community Fields there is a large tournament this weekend between Salem and Keizer with teams from all over the region of the Country. Councilor Cross had a great idea to make sure everyone knew where they were and remembered Keizer, so we got this banner printed just in time (today) to welcome our guests.



**Keizer Station Area B** – We continue to work with some new economic development prospects in Keizer Station.

**Paid Leave Oregon** – If you will recall last year, the council approved going with a private agency for the new Paid Leave Oregon. Their rates are going up significantly so we are recommending switching to the state plan. We were worried the state would not have things figured out. We believe they have things figured out now and we will save tens of thousands by switching over to the state program at this point. We plan to notify our carrier of our intentions and we may need a cleanup resolution from you in December. The savings by doing it now is over \$9k this fiscal year. We want to save that money!

**Public Works** – We reached out to a franchisee about their right-of-way work installing fiber throughout the City. They took our call very seriously. They have eight contractors working on their behalf right now. They identified some customer service issues with two of their crews and they are going to button down on them to get rid of those issues. Our front counter staff have taken many calls and I even took a few calls this week from concerned residents. Mine were more about understanding the process and the easements on their property. Many people do not understand that the public right-of-way could extend 15 feet into their front yard. Anyone working within the right-of-way is responsible for leaving it as they found it, so please make sure they leave it to that standard. If they do not, then you can reach out to our staff to make sure they return it to normal. Please ask for our Public Works Department when you call our main line at 530-856-3700.

**Orientation** – I met with Councilor-elect Marlene Parsons today and had a very nice discussion. After council appoints the remaining vacancy (Council Position #5) I will schedule my new councilor orientation with them. Even though this isn't Councilor-elect Parsons' first rodeo she is okay going through things with me. In the meanwhile, I will start adding them to my weekly update.

## **Planning**

Code enforcement continues to be busy responding to citizen concerns. Parking, solid waste, homeless concerns (along with clean ups), and other complaints are keeping Code Compliance Officer Ben Crosby and Planning Department Specialist Megan Hurley busy as always.

Mr. Crosby met with representatives from the McNary Junior ROTC and Northwest Neighborhood Association recently. The group is interested in helping address graffiti, which is great! Hersch Sangster and Marlene Parsons are working with Mr. Crosby to come up with a process/plan.

Certificates of Occupancy for the new apartment complex on Trail Avenue have been issued.

The request for comments and notice of Public Hearing was sent out to surrounding property owners for a proposed 5-lot subdivision located on Clear Lake Road. The applicant has indicated they are uncertain as to how the property will ultimately be developed, but it is likely to be developed with "middle housing" products.

A public hearing was held this week for a proposed 6-lot subdivision on Alder Drive. The property is zoned RM (Medium Density) and the applicant proposes to develop middle housing products on the site, which will include an existing triplex and single family home, along with a new duplex and some townhomes. The Hearing Officer's decision should be rendered within the next 10 days.

## **Police**

### Community Events

On November 20, 2024, some of our officers were at Corban University participating in their Career Day. Some of the officers were on a mock interview panel. This allowed the college students to get interview experience prior to applying for jobs in the criminal justice field. We also had a booth at the Career Fair portion. We look forward to attending the Corban University Career Day in the future.

### Patrol Division

Marion County Program Coordinator Josh Wolf and his Marion County Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) program team spoke at two of our patrol briefings. The team provided updates and refreshers regarding how the program can be utilized. The LEAD program is a community-based diversion approach with two main goals: improving public safety and public order, and reducing unnecessary justice system involvement of people who participate in the program. LEAD provides a tool for police officers to use their discretionary authority to divert individuals suspected of low-level, non-violent crimes away from jail and into community based services with the help of intensive case management.

Officers conducted an investigation and determined a male saw a vehicle turn around in a cul-de-sac near his residence and thought it was suspicious due to some people having been harassing him on an online forum. It was determined the male decided to follow the vehicle, overtake it, and approached the driver of the vehicle with an exposed knife. The male was taken into custody and was transported to the Marion County Jail on multiple charges.

Officers responded to a report of a female who emerged from a backyard and tried to attack a male who was waiting for his kids' school bus to stop. The female was detained in handcuffs and while an officer was questioning her, she attempted to flee but was unsuccessful. The female was transported to the Salem Hospital for a mental health evaluation.

An officer responded to a reported burglary at a business. It was determined the suspect forced their way inside the building and ended up stealing a vehicle. The vehicle was recovered the following day.

A female came into the front lobby at the police department reporting she had a bomb inside her vehicle. City personnel were notified to ensure their safety based on the information the officers had at hand. It was ultimately determined the device had already been detonated at the female's residence. She brought the remnants of it from her residence to turn over to police. The device was collected from the female's vehicle.

An officer located a previously reported stolen vehicle. The driver of the stolen vehicle fled on foot but was ultimately located and taken into custody.

Officers responded to a reported robbery at a business. It was reported the suspect physically fought with the victim, stole the victim's car and hit them with the vehicle. Follow-up to be conducted.

#### Criminal Investigation Division (CID):

CID detectives helped out with the Property and Evidence Specialist 1 interviews this week along with working on investigations.

#### Community Response Unit (CRU)

CRU Detectives worked an Organized Retail Theft Operation over the past week. They also attended the California Narcotic Officers' Association Conference this week.

#### Traffic Safety Unit (TSU):

This week our traffic officer continues to prepare for the Festival of Lights Parade coming up on December 14, 2024. This week he responded to a driving complaint, made contact with the driver, and conducted a DUII investigation where the driver ultimately provided a breath sample with a result of 0.21 BAC.

#### Property and Evidence Unit

Our Property and Evidence Specialist was on the interview panel for the Property and Evidence Specialist 1 position this week.