



CITY MANAGER'S WEEKLY UPDATE

February 21, 2025

Adam J. Brown, City Manager

The Council got a lot done on Tuesday evening, including the franchise agreement renewal with PGE, administrative changes to the committees, designating the Keizer library as the Keizer Public Library, annual water line replacement, and approval of the letter of intent for Raising Cane's Chicken. Great job!

Community Engagement – I attended the Rotary meeting, the Traffic Safety Bikeways Pedestrian Committee meeting, and the monthly regional managers lunch.

COOP – Lana Bremer, who assists me with emergency management, finished a first draft of an update to the Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP). I need to go through it now. This has not been updated for around 20 years.

Keizer Library – We received notification that the state library had received the request from BJ Toewe to consider the request for the Keizer Library a public library.

Transient Lodging Tax – Jonathan Thompson, Keizer Chamber Board Treasurer, put together a meeting with him, myself, and Greg Astley from the Oregon Restaurant and Lobby Association (ORLA). We had a good discussion about the Transient Lodging Tax.

Planning

Raising Cane's Meeting – Raising Cane's did not waste any time meeting with us. Planning Director Shane Witham and I met with them and their contractors. Mr. Witham gave them the information they needed so they can get the text amendment process initiated.

Public Works

Parks & Facilities Division:

Staff worked with the Keizer Community Fields group to address some issues with the nets at the ends of the turf fields.

Volunteers removed the wind screens on the south end of the pickleball courts for the winter months. They were blocking the sun creating, an icing issue on the courts.

Water Division:

Second round interviews were held on Wednesday for the open Municipal Utility Worker – Water Division position. HR will be performing the reference and background checks in preparation of presenting an employment offer.

The contractor for the telemetry PLC (programmable logic controller) replacement project has completed their work.

Streets Division:

City of Salem staff are in the process of changing the timing for the pedestrian signals along River Road. We have requested they implement a Leading Pedestrian Interval (LPI) of 3 seconds. This will allow pedestrians crossing the street to have a 3 second head start before the vehicles get a green light. This should improve safety for pedestrians along this corridor.

The contractor will be starting work on Monday, adjusting the manholes on River Road. They actually started this week by circle cutting around the manholes, but the actual adjustment work starts Monday.

Environmental & Technical Division:

Environmental Education Coordinator interviews were completed this week and HR will be completing reference check and background check.

Senior Tech job description is being worked on with a goal of having the position advertised around the 1st of March.

Working on flushing maps and sidewalk maps for GIS.

Working on PMA's (Private Maintenance Agreements), EC permits and ordinance updates.

Police

Patrol Division

An officer responded to Whiteaker Middle School due to the report individuals climbed onto the roof and turned off the cooler to the cafeteria, causing the food to be thrown away. This is still under investigation.

Officers responded to a report of a disturbance. The owner of a trailer at the location confronted his niece and her boyfriend, who were inside of the trailer, and told them to leave. A male at the location reportedly said he had a gun and was reportedly hit in the face by the owner out of self-defense. This is still under investigation.

Officers responded to a location twice during a shift due to an adult mother reporting her juvenile son was breaking things in the house, and he smokes marijuana. Officers arrived, made contact, and determined there was no crime.

Officers responded to a report of two suspicious females looking into mailboxes. Officers checked the area and initially were unable to locate the females. Another call came in, and it was reported a suspicious vehicle was parked, and the driver got something out of the trunk and got into a different vehicle. Officers located a cardboard box containing a backpack and mail in the area. Officers were able to contact the owner of the backpack and determined it was stolen from a vehicle overnight. The box, mail, and miscellaneous property were determined to have been stolen from the trunk of a separate vehicle. The property was returned, and this is still under investigation.

Officers responded to a reported vehicle vs. pedestrian crash on Cherry Avenue near Manbrin Drive. As medics tended to the pedestrian and officers talked to witnesses and the driver, two other pedestrians started yelling at the driver. Both pedestrians eventually walked away, but it was later reported one of the pedestrians had a firearm. Officers checked the area but were unable to locate the pedestrian.

An officer responded to an alarm call at a business. Upon arrival, the officer observed the door to an attached storage unit was open. No one was located inside the storage unit. It was discovered large bags of empty cans were stolen from inside the storage room. The officer recalled seeing an unknown subject carrying three large bags of cans while responding to the call. This is still under investigation.

During the week, an officer took a report of a stolen vehicle. The officer later located the stolen vehicle, which attempted to elude the officer. The vehicle ultimately crashed, and the driver fled on foot but was taken into custody. The driver admitted he had been breaking into cars in the Keizer area. A large amount of stolen property was inside the vehicle. The driver was transported to the Marion County Jail and lodged on Unlawful Use of a Motor Vehicle, Felony Elude, Misdemeanor Elude, Criminal Mischief, and Hit and Run. Officers will be working on identifying the owners of the stolen property.

Crime Investigation Division (CID)

Detectives assisted with the apprehension of a suspect who had allegedly committed multiple weapons offenses.

A detective was called out on the evening of Saturday, February 15, 2025, to assist the Patrol Division with a sex abuse investigation involving two juveniles. The alleged offender was arrested on Tuesday, February 18, 2025, and lodged at the Marion County Juvenile Department.

Detectives are working on multiple new child abuse cases as well as elder abuse investigations.

Community Response Unit (CRU)

CRU detectives are working on a shooting incident, with no reported injuries, and the case is under investigation in coordination with other local law enforcement agencies.

Traffic Safety Unit (TSU)

Our Traffic Officer has completed speed surveys in two locations, as requested by the Traffic Safety Committee. The results of the speed surveys were presented to the Traffic Safety Committee on Thursday, February 20, 2025. Our Traffic Officer has been focusing on specific areas with reported speed issues throughout the week and working on completing investigations initiated while helping the Patrol Division.