



# CITY MANAGER'S WEEKLY UPDATE

July 26, 2024

Adam J. Brown, City Manager

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**Community Engagement** – My community engagement efforts this week included attending Keizer Rotary, the Community Dinner, and a service project with a youth group.

**Sounds of Summer Concert Series** – The first concert went great last Saturday. Seeing three recent McNary graduates in the Rhythm and Business band was special. The concerts at Keizer Rapids Amphitheater will be held every Saturday through August 31<sup>st</sup>.



**Emergency Management** – The Oregon Office of Emergency Management sent out a reminder for the Salem Keizer area warning about potential power outages because of wildfires. Click on this [link](#) to see their recommendations for being prepared.

**Website Team** – I attended our website team this week and was impressed that this group of five employees across the city departments continues to work toward determining what improvements need to be made. We are in good hands.

**Human Resources Director Recruitment** – Assistant City Manager, Tim Wood and I had dinner with each of the finalists this week. They will interview with the Executive Leadership team and another group the week after next.

**Artificial Turf Fields** – Field Turf, the company whose product is on top of the base, has finished up their part of the project today. They were cleaning up the fields as I stopped by the project site.



I presented to the Local Government Grant Program review committee on Thursday. The presentation was part of the application process for an over \$600,000 grant request for Phase II which is the bathroom, ADA improvements and trail connectivity. Within the next few months, they will be making a recommendation to the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) Commission for their consideration. We may know the recommendation of the Local Government Grant Program Review Committee, but it won't be finalized until the OPRD Commission approves the recommendation at one of their meetings in the fall.

**Public Works** - Trashy Tuesday this week had two businesses participate, Safeway and Loren's Sanitation. There were 9 volunteers who collected almost 70 pounds of litter in 1 hour! Attached is a picture of the Trashy Tuesday Super Heroes!



## **Police**

### Patrol Division

Over the previous weekend, Officer Darst took a call of a stolen dump trailer at a residence undergoing construction. Officer Darst also responded to a trespass call involving a local transient, who was heavily intoxicated. Officer Darst asked the subject to leave multiple times, but the latter refused, eventually getting up and trying to punch Officer Darst. Officer Darst was able to grab onto the subject's arm and take him to the ground, and he was subsequently arrested and transported to the Marion County Jail.

Sgt. Quintero's patrol team also responded to a call about an unknown female tearing out the window screen on the caller's residence. The resident reported the unknown female had jumped out of the window of the upstairs apartment. Arriving police units determined the mentioned apartment was vacant and the complainant had a history of making similar reports.

The officers from the same team responded to a call regarding a fire in a kitchen and, upon arrival, saw heavy smoke coming from the interior of the house. The caller and his family had been out of the house for several hours and did not know what started the fire. The family was going to stay at a hotel due to the major damage to the inside of their house.

Officer Kowash responded to a report of a sex offense that went unreported for several years, and he is following up on the case this week.

A male was reportedly throwing large rocks into traffic in the area of Washman Car Wash, but upon officer arrival it was determined he was throwing the rocks at his own vehicle. The subject said he was going through a lot and was upset. He was advised not to throw large rocks at his car when River Road was his backstop.

On Wednesday evening, Officer Starns investigated a domestic disturbance call in the area of Arcade Ave NE, which resulted in an arrest of a male who had allegedly assaulted his wife. Det. Hans is following up on this investigation. Officers Starns, Smith, and Johnson handled additional domestic disturbances on Thursday night, which were deemed non-criminal.

An individual reported being attacked in the alleyway behind John's Chinese in what was described as a rape attempt. Officers searched the area utilizing a K9 and a drone but were unable to locate anyone in the area.

On Wednesday afternoon, Officer Perez responded to a report of a motor vehicle crash that resulted in a DUII arrest. While this investigation was underway, a driving complaint was received about another, unrelated, driver. Officer Fahey located the vehicle and was assisted by Officer Smith, with another DUII arrest as a result. Officer Fahey made yet another DUII arrest on Thursday.

On Wednesday, Sgt. Quintero located a motorcycle with a switched, stolen, license plate. As a result of the investigation, the owner of the bike was taken to jail on charges of unlawful use of a vehicle and possession of stolen property. The bike is believed to have been involved in a recent elude.

Officers responded to multiple calls involving emotionally disturbed persons (EDP), trespass calls, domestic disturbances, and vandalism. Officers also responded to a complaint at Los Dos Hermanos that unknown subjects were dumping household garbage in their dumpster.

Officer Darst completed a background investigation on a police cadet applicant this week. Officer Darst is currently working on a background investigation on another cadet applicant.

On Friday, Officer Jesse White successfully graduated from the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) Basic Police Academy. He will be back at the department and resuming his field training process next week.

### Criminal Investigation Division (CID)

On Saturday, Det. Lathrop followed up on the US Bank robbery that occurred several weeks ago, as the suspect was located by Woodburn PD, and a firearm was recovered. Det. Lathrop will be working with the Marion County District Attorney's Office to charge the suspect in the Keizer PD case.

The murder trial from a 2011 case that went on for multiple weeks and required testimony from several Keizer PD officers, including Detectives Anderson and Lathrop, and Chief Copeland, concluded on Thursday with a guilty verdict returned by the jury.

### Community Response Unit (CRU)

Detective Zavala applied for and was granted search warrants by the Marion County Circuit Court for a residence and a vehicle as part of an investigation into unlawful use of firearms by a male suspect who was allegedly involved in a shooting incident a few months ago. With assistance from Detective McCowan of CRU, CID Detectives Farrens, Renfro, Hans, and Sgt. Avetisyan, as well as Officers Smith and Johnson, the warrants were executed in the early morning hours of Thursday, July 25<sup>th</sup>. Keizer PD officers completed the investigation after Salem Police SWAT team conducted an operation at the location and took the suspect into custody.

### Traffic Safety Unit (TSU)

Officer Powell handled a significant number of parking complaints and has so far resolved most of them. Officer Powell also responded to several hit-and-run reports. One was solved the next day as Officer Powell recognized the type of vehicle based on the description and video obtained during the investigation, as the vehicle had damage consistent with the report. The driver of the vehicle admitted to the crime and was subsequently arrested for failure to perform the duties of a driver and cited for driving uninsured. Officer Powell also arrested one individual for DUII this week.

### Property and Evidence Unit

This week, Property and Evidence Specialist Amanda Hague completed a major project: preparing and copying evidence documents needed for a civil forfeiture case. Also, this week, Specialist Alejandra Gallegos utilized her bilingual skills by assisting Det. Renfro with a child abuse investigation involving Spanish-speaking individuals.