

SEPTEMBER 1, 2023



“When one door of happiness closes, another opens; but often we look so long at the closed door that we do not see the one which has been opened for us.” ~ Helen Keller

Feel free to contact us with any questions.

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City Manager's Weekly Report

Community Development

Parks Division: Park Certified Pool Operators started winterizing the Caveman Pool this week. A contractor preformed a leak test and discovered the pool to be leaking water out of the vessel. Divers used dye to test where the leaks occur.

Field three at Reinhart Volunteer Park received a new pitching mound rubber this week.



Economic Development: The 2023 Art Along the Rogue event (Oct. 6 – 8) now has 40 artists and 40 vendors signed up. The City is working with community partners like Evergreen Federal Bank, Dutch Bros Coffee, Hellgate Excursions, and Project Youth+ to help make this year's 20th Anniversary community event a success. In partnership with Visit Grants Pass, we produced a 60-second radio advertisement that will reach Lane, Douglas, and Benton Counties, expanding the event to visitors from around Oregon.

Public Works

Streets: The Streets Division partnered with a local contractor for a pavement repair project at the intersection of Bridge and Pine streets. This method, the first time used here in Grants Pass, uses infrared heat rays to heat the existing asphalt to 350 degrees until it becomes malleable. It's then raked and mixed with new asphalt and a rejuvenator, graded, and finally compacted. In this case, several 5' x 8' sections were repaired in sequence and the street was ready for traffic 20 minutes after the last section was finished. If this repair technique holds up to the rigors of traffic well, staff may consider this type of repair in the future over more traditional remove and replace tactics.



Facilities: The team is busy with routine preventative maintenance and repair duties, as well as participating with the design team for the Welcome Center remodel design efforts. The design is anticipated to be completed on October 18, with 30/60/90% plan reviews along the way. Toward the end of the design phase, the architects and engineer will have fleshed out a project construction schedule. It's anticipated to be completed during late summer 2024. The team has also nearly completed uploading data for the new computerized maintenance management system that will be fully implemented in December. In this picture, the Council Chambers planter area is getting a fresh layer of bark chips.

Public Works

Josephine Community Transit Hub: 5th Street has been paved and the concrete is cured. The roadway should be opened this week and the project nears completion. (5th and D streets)



Laurel and Mary Water and Sewer Main Replacement:

The sanitary sewer manhole has been installed on Bridge Street. Construction of the sanitary sewer on Mary Street has been substantially completed. (Laurel and Mary streets)

Pregnancy Care Center: The contractor continues to work on the proposed building outside of City right of way. Power has been supplied to the site via an underground service drop across 8th Street. (8th Street)



Public Works

Water Treatment Plant: Crews at the plant continue to prepare for the replacement Water Treatment Plant project, developing knowledge and skills regarding membrane filtration processes. This week, crews are taking part in an American Membrane Technology Association workshop focusing on membrane process implementation in the Pacific Northwest. Crews are taking advantage of the opportunity to learn from key partners in the replacement Treatment Plant project. Crews are also developing an understanding of some of the challenges faced by other municipalities using membrane processes and their solutions.



Distribution: Distribution staff received a call this week regarding a water leak that began to surface on NW Candler. Staff was able to respond and begin to troubleshoot the location of the water leak to determine the best course of action to repair the break. Staff found that a 1" water service line had split close to the corporation stop that is tapped into the water main. Leaks in this location are common as this is a point where the water service line is not only in contact with a metal valve but is bent into a 'gooseneck' shape on its way to the meter box. Staff performed the necessary repairs to ensure that this service won't have any future issues in this location.

Public Works

Water Restoration Plant: When operating a 50-year-old building, it becomes important to focus on the fundamental components built into its structure for plant operations. Recently, staff noticed some unusual discoloration on a wall where the water supply for the plant boiler enters the room. Upon closer examination, it became clear that the mortar sealing the pipe had become damp and had completely lost its cohesion. The pipe was cut at the wall to conduct a thorough investigation. It was discovered that the pipe was leaking in multiple places, including within the wall itself, but the flow of water was almost entirely obstructed. This discovery prompted the replacement of nearly 150 feet of piping. Engaging in this type of maintenance serves a dual purpose: it helps prolong the life of the City's valuable buildings and ensures that equipment continues to operate at peak efficiency.



Safe Routes to Schools Phase I:

All major construction has been completed on NE 10th Street from Cedar to Savage streets, just in time for school to start. The contractor is continuing work along NE 10th Street south of Cedar Street, by installing ADA compliant sidewalk ramps for better accessibility to the school. (10th Street near Lincoln Elementary School)



Public Works

Collections Division: While a plumber was doing a new sewer tap for a home on NW Lawnridge Avenue, it was discovered that some of the main was in very poor condition allowing infiltration to occur. Finding and fixing these types of issues is important since ground water, once in the public sewer system, eventually gets to the Water Restoration Plant where it must be treated and discharged to the river. Once this issue was discovered, the damaged main was replaced with PVC. The collections crew has also been working on regular cleaning of the sewer main, assuring that those lines stay flowing and are unobstructed by grease or other sediment that can slowly build up in some of the older mainlines.



Stormwater Division: This week, the Stormwater crews were assisting Streets folks by installing new thermo-plastic crosswalks on 4th and A streets. These refreshed crosswalks will give pedestrians and motorists a more visible stop line.

Also, the crew was busy finishing installing multiple “permit parking only” signs on East Park Street.

The crew spent a day trimming vision hazards around town. These vision hazards need to be removed so adequate sight distance is achieved. It also allows vehicles to move freely without damaging low hanging trees or vehicles.



Stormwater crews performed a confined space entry on 6th Street to repair a failing catch basin. The catch basin was eroded and allowed soil into the stormwater system, which in turn led to a sinkhole. The crew repaired the missing piece of the catch basin and has hydro excavated around the outside to ensure a full watertight repair was made.

Police Activity

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| Calls for Service | 670 |
| Officer Initiated | 392 |
| Arrests | 55 |
| Citations | 46 |
| Warnings | 85 |
| Traffic Stops | 58 |
| Sobering Center Lodging | 7 |
| Community Response Team | |
| Contacts | 135 |
| Warnings | 26 |
| Citations | 51 |
| Arrests | 0 |
| Trespasses Warnings | 27 |
| Camps Posted | 100 |

Fire Rescue Activity

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| Fire | 5 |
| EMS/Medical | 31 |
| Lift Assist | 8 |
| Rescue | 29 |
| Assist to Public | 6 |
| Assist to Other Agency | 4 |
| Total Fire Responses | 106 |
| False Alarm | 6 |
| Medic Level '0' within City | 13 |
| Pub Ed/Prevention | 2 |
| Car Seats Installed | 4 |
| Business Inspection | 30 |

911/Dispatch Calls for Service:

Records—Incoming non-emergent calls: 973

911 calls: 1,081

Women's Crisis Support Team 24/7 Hotline

541.479.9349

Choices Counseling Center - Substance Use Disorder

Treatment 541.479.8847

Sustainability and Energy Action Committee: Seven positions open. Apply by September 29.

Committee on Public Art: One position open. Apply by September 1.

Tree Advisory Committee: Three positions open. Apply by September 8.

Housing Advisory Committee: Two positions open. **Special qualifications:** One representative from an organization that develops and/or operates housing, transitional housing, short-term housing, or shelter for special needs (Options, OnTrack, Kairos, Women's Crisis Support Team, Hearts With A Mission, Gospel Rescue Mission, etc.), and one active local builder or developer. Apply by September 15.

Budget Committee: Four positions open. **Special qualifications:** Must be a City resident and registered to vote. Apply by October 6.

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