

CITY OF OREGON CITY

Trail News

INCORPORATED 1844

OREGON CITY

DECEMBER 2001

SCUTTLEBUTT from the Mayor

"If wishes were horses, beggars would ride", goes an old adage. If I had my wishes in this holiday season what would I wish for? Peace and happiness, obviously. Peace for the world and happiness for everyone.

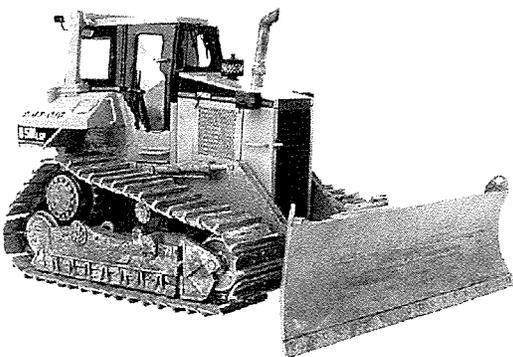
My other "wishes" are more mundane, but for a Mayor, very important. I wish we could balance our budget, with all the needed police and fire personnel to give us "peace of mind" for our public safety. I wish we had a full budget for more parks and recreation for our citizens, young and old. I wish we had enough money in the budget for restoration and development of our city, as those who have a "vision" of a better place to live and relax have projected.

My "wishes", or rather our "wishes", as it stands today, will not be fulfilled. It's a fact of life for Oregon City that an already inadequate budget is getting worse. Property values did not increase at the projected rate. Qwest is refusing to pay its utility franchise fee. (We will be in court). Every day City costs continue to go up, like yours...higher electric bills, higher natural gas bills, etc... I just want you to be aware that we will have problems. With all of that (gloom and doom) said, we should remember we still live in a fine city with good neighbors, good schools, good employees working for us, and we have a lot more to be thankful for than many, many people in this old world.

As a wise man said, "With no shoes I felt sorry for myself, until I met a man with no feet."

John F. Williams, Jr., Mayor

Glen Oak Road Improvements Open House



The City is working with the Oregon City School District to efficiently construct optimal, cost effective improvements on Glen Oak Road between the future high school collector road (near Pioneer Place) and Highway 213. Vehicle, pedestrian, and bike safety; pavement condition; Caufield Creek improvements; and water line installation will be addressed by the project.

In addition, a traffic signal and realignment with Caufield Road are being proposed to ODOT for the Glen Oak Road/Highway 213 intersection. The City has monitored this intersection for several years. The additional traffic expected at the intersection when the high school opens raises safety concerns. Users of the intersection already experience delays and safety issues.

Funding for these improvements can come from a combination of sources, including System Development Charges, a Local Improvement District, gas tax revenues (to help with pavement reconstruction), and utility funds (water line work). The Local Improvement District would be made up of local residents who use the road and the intersection and the School District (high school).

A public open house will be held from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. on December 6, 2001 at Clackamas Community College, Community Center, Room 127. Please come and learn, ask questions, and provide comments on the project and the funding mechanisms.

If you have questions, contact Nancy Kraushaar, P.E., City Engineer/Public Works Director at 503-722-3795 or e-mail: nancy-k@ci.oregon-city.or.us.

13th Annual Holiday Lighting Event

The Clackamas County Courthouse at 807 Main Street is the place to be on December 8th. The 13th annual holiday lighting event will take place from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. in front of the courthouse on Main Street.

This event first took place on December 7th, 1988. It was a coordinated event between Independence, Missouri, the beginning of the Oregon Trail, and Oregon City, the end of the trail. The lighting of the tree symbolized a light of hope at the end of the journey. Today the event has evolved into an Old Fashioned Family Holiday Celebration.

More than 3,000 lights will illuminate the Courthouse, freestanding forms and the official Oregon City holiday tree. Santa will offer his lap and ear to hear those special gift requests for the North Pole. Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue firefighters will be handing out treats to the children, and there will be chestnuts roasting on an open fire for the adventurous ones. Holiday entertainment includes school choirs and the Rose Quintet, a brass ensemble.

For additional information about the lighting, contact Peter Busch at 503-657-0891, extension 163.

A Storybook Christmas

The Stevens Crawford Heritage House at 603 Sixth Street is opening its doors for a Storybook Christmas on Saturday, December 1st from 10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Local Garden Clubs will elegantly decorate the house. There will be Christmas music by local musicians and refreshments from old-fashioned recipes. Admission is \$4.00; seniors are \$3.00.

If you are unable to attend the December 1st gathering, the Stevens Crawford House will be open for daily house tours from December 2nd through the 14th; weekdays noon to 4:00 p.m. and weekends from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

For additional information please call Marian at 503-632-7068.



Fireside With Santa

It's that time of year! Join Santa and friends for an evening at the Carnegie Center (606 John Adams Street) and enjoy special entertainment and take home a gift. Refreshments will also be served. Fireside with Santa will be held:

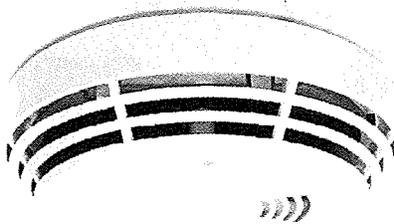
December 1st from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.,

December 2nd from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.,

December 7th from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.,

December 8th from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Space is limited and fills up fast. Tickets are \$6 per person. Call 503-557-9199 for tickets or to reserve your spaces.



Holiday and Heating Safety

Each year Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue responds to dozens of fires related to holiday candles and home heating equipment fires. Turning safety items into holiday gifts may be one way to show friends and family how much you care. Smoke alarms, fire safety ladders and disaster preparedness kits are all cost-effective examples of gifts that last and have lasting impact.

Here are some holiday and home heating safety tips for your household:

Holiday Trees: The Christmas tree is one of the most recognized seasonal symbols in the world, and many people prefer to use real, rather than artificial, in their homes and businesses. According to National Fire Incident Reporting System and NFPA survey information, Christmas trees were the item first ignited in 400 home fires per year from 1992 to 1996, resulting in 11 civilian deaths, 93 civilian injuries, and \$19.6 million in direct property damage. Though the average numbers of Christmas tree fires and associated losses have steadily declined since 1980, Christmas trees are still a fire hazard if not treated properly.

Fortunately, there is a fairly simple solution to this problem: water. A tree's needle moisture content governs whether the tree can ignite and continue to burn, so keeping a real tree moist will allow it to resist ignition and continued combustion. Trees can dry out during transport, storage, and sale so it is imperative that trees are immediately watered when they are brought home.

Candles: During the holiday season, candles are often times used to decorate homes. When using candles, certain precautions must be followed to avoid a fire tragedy.

1. Place your candles in a non-flammable, well-supported base.
2. Keep candles away from flammable decorations, such as evergreen boughs, gift-wrap, and stockings.
3. Never leave burning candles unattended. Extinguish them before leaving the house or going to bed, and keep in mind, pets, especially cats, have been known to knock-over candles.
4. Keep candles (and matches and lighters) out-of-reach of small children!

Home Heating Equipment: Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue would like to remind individuals to follow these simple precautions when using heating equipment.

1. Have your chimney or woodstove inspected for cracks and creosote build-up, and cleaned if necessary. *Note: Creosote is a shiny, brittle and highly flammable coating of unburned fuel which collects in a woodstove pipe or chimney flue. Even at only 1/4" in thickness, it only takes a spark from a fire to ignite creosote and start a chimney fire.*
2. Use only dry, seasoned wood (reduces creosote build-up) and keep combustibles (furniture, newspapers, etc.) at least 3 feet away from a fireplace or woodstove. Never leave your fire unattended.
3. Allow ashes to cool completely by waiting 2 to 3 days before cleaning your fireplace or woodstove. If you cannot wait several days, dispose of ashes safely by placing them outside, in a metal container, away from the home.
4. Keep combustibles at least 3 feet away from all portable and

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baseboard heaters. *Note: Many baseboard heating systems do not shut-off completely and will "kick-on" when temperatures drop below a certain level. Fires then result from furniture or bedding which was placed next to the unit during the summer months.*

5. Never use kerosene, propane or other heaters intended for out-of-doors because of the risk of carbon monoxide poisoning.

For further information or questions on holiday safety, contact Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue at 503-657-1365.

Water Quality News

The arrival of winter seems like a good time to remind customers how to prepare for emergency situations. In the event of a prolonged power outage, or a disaster such as an earthquake, water service may be disrupted or water rationing imposed. Be prepared by ensuring that you and your family have an ample supply of clean water. A recommended amount is one gallon per person per day for 12 days.

Bottled drinking water should be stored out of direct sunlight, away from chemicals that could permeate the container, and protected from freezing. Commercially bottled water can be stored for one year. Tap water that is kept in safe containers can be stored for six months before being replaced. It is best to buy approved water jugs or use well-washed, plastic soda bottles. It is not recommended to use empty bleach, detergent, or milk jugs.

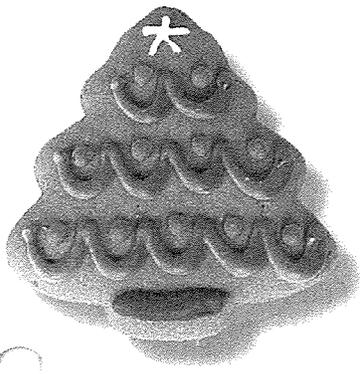
If unsure about the safety of water, there are two easy ways to purify water that is to be used for drinking, food preparation, or hygiene. One is to bring water to a rolling boil for three to five minutes. Let the water cool before use. The second method is to disinfect with household liquid bleach that contains 5.25 percent sodium hypochlorite. (Never use scented bleaches, color safe bleaches, or bleaches with added cleaners). For each gallon of water add 16 drops of bleach. Stir the water and let it stand for 30 minutes. If the water does not have a slight bleach odor, repeat the dosage and let it stand for an additional 15 minutes.

Please contact Gail Johnson at 503-657-8241, extension 107 or gjohnson@ci.oregon-city.or.us with any water quality questions or concerns.

Cookbooks!

The Oregon City Employees have compiled a cookbook of some favorite recipes. Copies are available at City Hall and the Pioneer Community Center. The cost is \$7.75 per book.

Holiday Happenings through Parks & Recreation



The following classes will be held on Saturdays at the Carnegie Center, 606 John Adams Street. The cost for each activity is \$6 for Oregon City residents or \$12 for non-residents. Pre-registration is required. To register or for more information call 503-722-9816.

- Cookie Decorating (Ages 6-12) ~ Impress your family and friends when you learn how to decorate your holiday cookies the professional way on December 15th. There are two sessions: Ages 6-8 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and Ages 9-12 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

- Holiday Ornaments (Ages 6-12) ~ Put your creativity to the test as you

create holiday ornaments and keepsakes. The class will meet on December 22nd from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

- Dough Art (Ages 6-12) ~ Ever experiment with different types of dough? Here is your chance as we create ornaments using dough on December 22nd from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Holiday Kids Connection

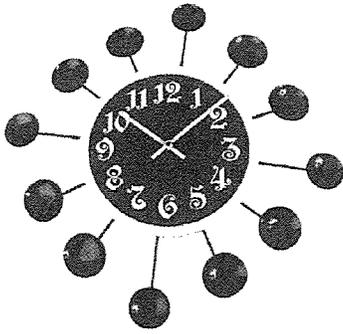
Oregon City Parks & Recreation is offering a holiday version of the kid's connection day camp for ages 3 to 5. Join us on Saturday, December 8th from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at the Oregon City Carnegie Center. We will be making our own wrapping paper, decorating cookies, and creating ornaments. The cost for this activity is \$8 for Oregon City residents or \$12 for non-residents. Pre-registration is required. For more information or to register call 503-722-9816.

"Christmas Carol" Comes to Life

Watch your favorite Dickens characters come to life at the Ermatinger House "Christmas Carol" on December 1st. For more information, or for reservations, please call 503-650-1851.

River Cities Recycling Center

The River Cities Recycling Center and Yard Debris Depot is now accepting wood waste and yard debris. Bark dust and soil amendments are available. Complementary scrap metal recycling is also available. They are located at 4001 Willamette Falls Drive, West Linn and are open Tuesday through Saturday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Sunday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. For additional information, call 503-655-1928.



Library Hours for December

The Oregon City library will be closed Christmas Eve (December 24th), Christmas Day (December 25th) and New Years Day (January 1st). The regular schedule of operating hours is in effect the rest of the month.

Monday – Thursday 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Friday & Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Sunday 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Library Activities for Children

Special holiday craft and story time this month will be at 10:30 a.m. on December 5th & 11th (same program repeated) for 3 to 5 year-olds and December 13th for the 2 year-olds. Space is limited so these programs require advance sign-up.

On December 13th at 4:00 p.m. there will be a theater-in-the-round performance of "A Christmas Carol" by Damon Jones and Performing Artists for Literacy.

Last Fall Library Music Program

The last program in the library's autumn music series will be held on Thursday, December 6th at 7:30 p.m. This program will feature Geoff Frasier on the bagpipes. Just back from Scotland, Frasier will perform in full-kilted regalia. His repertoire includes traditional Gaelic songs, bagpipe tunes, folktales and historical anecdotes.

Once again, a big thank you to the Friends of the Oregon City Library who, through their hard work, provide the funding for these programs which are

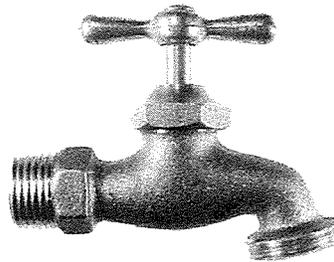
free to the public. Stay tuned for the winter series of programs that will start in January.

Library has OSHA Video Training Catalog

If you are looking for videos and other materials related to workplace safety and health, the library now has a copy of the current edition of the OSHA catalog available for viewing in the reference department. This catalog describes the several hundred training videos available for loan from the OSHA Resource Center and Video Library.

Thank You Martin Engel and Martha Wallauer

Library board members Martha Wallauer and Martin Engel are completing their terms at the end of this month. In addition to serving two four-year terms on the board, Martha (Marty) is an active member of the Friends of the Library and is chair of their Outreach Services Committee. Both Marty and Martin have been very active and committed members of the library board and they will be missed.



Need Information About Water Conservation?

South Fork Water Board, Oregon City and West Linn's water provider, has a number of free water source and conservation presentations and talks available to local groups and associations. Presentations vary from 10 to 15 minutes talks to hour-long workshops

depending on the needs of the group. Below is a list of presentations that are available:

- From the Faucet to the Tap: Where does our water come from when we turn on the tap? How does the water get to your house? How do we keep it safe to drink? Why is conservation important? Learn more about the water you drink.
- Saving Water Make Cents: With the abundance of rainfall we get in the Pacific Northwest it is sometimes difficult to understand why we need to conserve water. This presentation will explain why conservation is important and what you can do to save water both indoors and outdoors. Learn how you can cut your water use – and your water bill.
- Learning How to Find and Fix Leaks: This hands-on presentation will show how you can use your water meter to check for leaks and how easy it is to repair leaky faucets and leaky toilets. Those little leaks can really add up.
- Water Wise Landscaping Slide Show: During the summer months we use a lot of water outdoors. Water-wise landscaping uses simple, common sense gardening practices that can help you create a beautiful yard while using less water. This slide show shows the seven basic steps to achieve a water efficient landscape.
- Developing a Water Wise Lawn Slide Show: Nearly 30% of the water used in a single-family residence is used in the summer to water lawns. This slide show will explain how a properly installed and maintained lawn can be kept green and healthy with the appropriate amount of resources – fertilizer, water, and your time.
- Cadillac Desert: This four part PBS video series provides insight into the history of the politics of water. Each video is about one hour long and can be seen individually or as part of the series. The first three videos are based on Marc Reisner's book,

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Cadillac Desert, and examine how water created the modern American West. The fourth video is based on the book *Last Oasis* by Sandra Postel and looks at water demands and the need for water conservation.

For more information about scheduling a presentation or talk, please contact Kim Swan at South Fork Water Board at 503-723-9692 or via email at kims@sfbw.com

Fall Leaves and Storm Drains



Now that fall is here again we would like to remind citizens about raking or blowing leaves out into the street. This not only causes unnecessary flooding but also makes it difficult for the street sweeper to thoroughly clean your streets, as he must sweep around large piles of leaves to prevent the sweeper from plugging up. Not only leaves but other yard debris also needs to be kept out of storm ditches to prevent flooding. Oregon City Garbage Co. will haul off yard debris at no charge to their customers as long as they are in proper containers. There is a \$3 charge for non-customers.

To get answers to any questions, call Oregon City Public Works at 503-657-8241 or Oregon City Garbage Co. at 503-656-8403. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Urban Renewal Agency Positions Open

The City of Oregon City has positions open for the proposed expansion of the Urban Renewal Agency. The Urban Renewal Agency oversees disbursement of funds collected within the City's two Urban Renewal Districts (Downtown and Hilltop). Currently the Agency is made of the Mayor and four City Commissioners. The City is looking to expand the agency with four additional members. They include an individual residing or doing business within the Downtown Urban Renewal District, another individual residing or doing business within the Hilltop Urban Renewal District, one representing the Chamber of Commerce and one member-at-large.

If you are interested and would like further information or an application, please contact Fran Shafer with O.C. Public Works at 503-657-8241.

Holiday Display Requires Modifications

Oregon City must bid adieu to the Christmas tree and star light display on the Municipal Elevator that residents and passers by have enjoyed for 13 years. Old electric wiring and cable support strands have become hazardous and now present safety risks. In addition, the heavy support system is difficult to assemble and appears to have induced stresses on the elevator roof that would require additional structural modification.

Oregon City Public Works regretfully must retire the unwieldy light display that provided many years of holiday cheer to our community. We are reviewing elevator lighting alternatives for the upcoming and future holiday seasons. If a satisfactory replacement is not identified for this year, please consider looking at it as a power saving year (to be on the bright side!).

Community Traffic Courtesies

Please be mindful of your speed, and the speed limit, as you drive around town and through yours and others' neighborhoods. Excessive speeds are hazardous for children playing, people backing from driveways, bicycles, and other drivers. Speeding is undesirable throughout the community. Don't wait for a traffic ticket. Please watch your speed and respect your community.



Fill A Stocking, Fill A Heart

Fill A Stocking, Fill A Heart has been busy the past year in preparation for this month's Christmas holiday. The non-profit, tax-exempt organization provides filled stockings to individuals facing difficult times this holiday season and needs your help! Last year we provided 1,700 stockings and expect this year's demand to be near 2,000.

You can pick up an empty stocking at any of the Oregon City locations listed below. Fill it with needed items from the "gift suggestion list" you will find inside the stocking. Then, return it to one of the locations, **no later than December 14th**, for Christmas delivery. The committee members deliver the filled stockings to agencies that then distribute them to their clients.

Especially needed are stockings or bulk items for teens and adults. Call 503-632-0577 if your group would like to collect items in bulk, need a large number of stockings to fill, or to volunteer.

Stockings are available at:

- Bank of the West – 1301 S. Molalla Avenue
- Berry Park Retirement Community – 13669 Gaffney Lane
- Clackamas Federal Credit Union – 270 Warner Milne Road
- O.C. City Hall – 320 Warner Milne Road
- Hopps Upholstery & Shoe Repair – 916 Main Street
- Nelson's Nautilus – 1715 S. Beaver Creek Road
- Oregon City Library – Danielson's Shopping Center
- Oregon Photo – Oregon City Shopping Center
- Oregon Trail Interpretive Center – Washington Street
- Pioneer Community Center – 615 5th Street

Neighborhood Calendar

Barclay Hills Neighborhood Association (BHNA)

Contact: Larry Jacobson, Chairman at 503-657-3740 or visit BHNA at BHNA@AOL.COM

Canemah Neighborhood Association (CNA)

General Membership Meeting
Date: Thursday, December 6, 2001
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Location: To be Determined
Contact: Howard Post, Chairman at 503-650-0976

Caufield Association of Neighbors (CAN)

General Membership Meeting
Date: Thursday, January 31, 2002
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Location: Clackamas Community College
Contact: Cathi VanDamme, Co-Chairman at 503-518-5552 or Robert Pouria, Co-Chairman at 503-655-5836 or e-mail to Crvdamme@aol.com

Gaffney Lane Neighborhood Association (GLNA)

Steering Committee Meeting
Date: December 4, 2001
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Location: Jimmy O's Pizzeria 1678 S. Beaver Creek Road
Contact: Shelley Alway, Vice-Chairman at 503-650-4125 or visit GLNA at www.neighborhoodlink.com/oregoncity/glna

Hazel Grove - Westling Farm Neighborhood Association (HG-WFNA)

Steering Committee Meeting
Date: Thursday, December 20, 2001
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Location: Cornerstone Family Life Center
18955 S. South End Road
Contact: Bill Vickers, Chairman at 503-655-3762

Hillendale Neighborhood Association (HNA)

General Membership Meeting
Date: December 6, 2001
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Location: Gaffney Lane Elementary School
13521 S. Gaffney Lane
Contact: Debbie Watkins, Chairman at 503-655-3070 or visit HNA at www.neighborhoodlink.com/oregoncity/hnassoc

McLoughlin Neighborhood Association (MNA)

Steering Committee Meeting
Date: December 6, 2001
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Location: TVF&R Main Fire Station # 54
Meeting Room, 624 Seventh Street
General Membership Meeting
Date: Thursday, January 3, 2002
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Location: TVF&R Main Fire Station # 54
Meeting Room, 624 Seventh Street
Contact: Tim Powell, Co-Chairman at 503-650-2466 or Rick Winterhalter, Co-Chairman at 503-650-7550

Mt. Pleasant Neighborhood Group

Contact: Andy Busch, Contact Person at 503-723-0108

Park Place Neighborhood Association (PPNA)

Contact: Julie Puderbaugh, Chairman at 503-650-8028 or visit PPNA at www.neighborhoodlink.com/oregoncity/ppn

Rivercrest Neighborhood Association (RNA)

Contact: Diane McKnight, Chairman at 503-656-6435

South End Neighborhood Association (SENA)

Contact: Katy Weber, Chairman at 503-650-0733

Thayer Neighborhood Association (TNA)

Contact: Melanie Paulo, Acting Chairman at 503-656-6436

Chief's Advisory Committee Meeting(s) (Police and Fire)

Date: Third Tuesday of each month
For further information, contact Nancy Brooks, Admin. Assistant at 503-657-0891

Citizen Involvement Committee Council (CICC)

Date: Second Tuesday of each month
For further information, contact Mary E. Palmer, Public Affairs Manager at 503-657-0891

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CITY PHONE NUMBERS

EMERGENCY SERVICES (POLICE, FIRE, MEDICAL)	911
POLICE BUSINESS	657-4964
ANIMAL CONTROL (CLACKAMAS COUNTY)	655-8628
FIRE BUSINESS	657-1365
CITY HALL	657-0891
PLANNING / ZONING / BUILDING PERMITS & INSPECTIONS	657-0891
CODE COMPLIANCE / HISTORIC PRESERVATION	657-0891
MUNICIPAL COURT	657-8154
PUBLIC WORKS	657-8241
LIBRARY	657-8269
PIONEER COMMUNITY CENTER	657-8287
SWIMMING POOL	657-8273
WATER / SEWER BILLING	657-8151
GEMETERY / PARKS (REPAIR & PICNIC RESERVATIONS)	657-8299
CAMPGROUNDS & RV PARK	650-6399
CARNEGIE CENTER	557-9199

CITY MEETING DATES

City Commission	1st & 3rd Wednesday	7:00 pm
Civic Improvement Trust	As Announced	
Urban Renewal Agency	As Announced	
Budget Committee	As Announced	
Rate and Fee Review Committee	2nd Monday	6:00 pm
Planning Commission	2nd & 4th Monday	7:00 pm
Historic Review Board	Last Thursday	7:00 pm
Library Board	4th Thursday	5:00 pm
Metro Enhancement Committee	As Announced	
Pioneer Community Center		
at the center	4th Monday	10:00 am
Parks and Recreation		
Advisory Committee	4th Monday	7:00 pm
Parking Advisory Board	As Announced	
Transportation Advisory Committee	3rd Tuesday	6:00 pm
Arts Commission	1st Tuesday	4:00 pm