

## Mayor's Report May 2016

The City and Urban Renewal Agency have both completed their budget process for 2016-17, which will go into effect July 1, 2016. Both are available on the City's web page. There were some reductions in the amount of revenue expected for the city which required adjustments. It is hoped those were only the result of the previous year's predictions being too optimistic. The City's immediate emphasis will be to complete financing of the Dog River pipeline and hiring a new Human Resources Director, a new Chief of Police and moving forward on completing plans for the high end apartment project in the Tony's building area with construction to begin in the fall, plus looking for new opportunities with the Recreation, Granada and Blue Building.

Major efforts in the next three months will be to begin implementing the second year of street maintenance projects, completing the Transportation Systems Plan, the housing assessment and review of the entire Urban Renewal Agency structure and use of funds. Once the transportation study and housing assessment are completed, the city needs to look at its comprehensive plan and vision statement.

All the successes occurring downtown have created a need to put together a parking task force to determine what is needed as the city continues to grow. The parking garage that was part of the Granada development plan is on hold. With MCMC placing a large number of employees in the Craig building, it is obvious that additional public parking requirements need to be addressed. The city will be isolating handicapped parking and identified parking for veterans next to the Veterans Service Office. If you are interested in serving on such a task force please contact the city manager, Julie Krueger or myself.

This summer will be filled with lots of fun activities. The Civic Beer Fest is scheduled at the Lewis and Clark Park, for the first time, on June 11, the 4th of July will again be highlighted with fireworks, a concert and dedication of the new Lewis and Clark fountain. The Car Cruise will also feature a concert and drag races at the airport. The Airport's fly in of antique planes will occur the third weekend in June, the swim team will be putting on a major swim meet and parks and recreation is planning on an outdoor series of movies at the city park. Of course, baseball and softball will be a major part of The Dalles summer as always.

Construction is everywhere. Google will be starting its third build out with up to 500 construction workers. A new hotel is being planned on the west side and a new church will be constructed on the east heights on the way to the Veteran's Home. Building codes reports an average of 10 new housing permits each month. Two new parklets have been installed in downtown and Freebridge Brewery has installed outdoor seating. It is now common place to see customers walking between brew pubs and restaurants at night. Legends Cidery is locating in the Port area and Sedition Brewery will soon be online.

The City has revised the requirements for RV parks in The Dalles to allow for more opportunities by property owners and tonight, the City Planning Commission will be reviewing a code amendment regarding marijuana businesses requirements on time, manner and place. Finally, the City Council has passed a ballot measure for a local 3% tax on marijuana sales to be included on the November ballot. That's a lot of information in a short amount of time but if you have any questions, please call or email me.