

MAYOR'S REPORT JUNE/JULY 2017

Summer is a busy time for the City. This is the time for projects involving streets, water or sewer. Oregon Department of Transportation will be closing the old highway to replace the Chenoweth Creek Bridge beginning today, August 4 for three weeks. It will also begin to develop its long range Transportation Plan for the state.

I just attended the Oregon Mayor's Conference in Lebanon, Oregon and heard good news about additional money from the Oregon Legislature for Rural Transit and infrastructure plus lottery bond money awarded to the Civic Auditorium, MCMC, Maupin and Mosier for capital improvement projects.

Mercury Development is investing \$4 million to upgrade the Cascade Square buildings across from Fred Meyer. The Main Street program acquired a \$50,000 revitalization grant for Victor Johnson who is fixing up the Herbring House at 313 West Fourth Street; and The Dalles received a \$2 million low interest loan to help pay for methane gas power production as part of the upgrades to the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

The Neon Cruise Weekend will begin next Friday, August 11, with muscle and antique cars cruising the downtown area on Second and Third Streets. Don't miss the car show at Sorosis Park or the drag races at Columbia Gorge Regional Airport on Sunday. The National Neon Sign Museum will open on Saturday, and the Granada Theatre will re-open on November 10.

The City is taking great effort to improve operations and coordination between City staff and the City Council. Work sessions on "performance management" and leadership were held in July and the City will review its program for use of transient room tax revenue in September.

Finally, I will be attending the League of Oregon Cities Conference in Portland September 28 through the 30, and will participate in a major discussion on homelessness. The City Council does not meet in August. Enjoy the rest of your summer and protect yourself during this heat spell.