

Comments Sent to the City Council – June 22 thru July 6, 2021

- Elizabeth Swan – Keizer - Education and Action – dated June 22, 2021
- Elizabeth Swan – Keizer – Dangerous Conditions/Heat – dated June 23, 2021
- Jane Herb – Keizer – State Shared Revenue Funds – received June 23, 2021
- Kim Reyes – Keizer – Drought, Winds, Fireworks – received June 28, 2021
- Claudia Boyd – Keizer – Banning Fire Works on Fourth of July – received June 29, 2021
- Bob Arnsmeier – Keizer – Fireworks Ban – received June 29, 2021
- Linda Warner – Keizer – Upcoming 4th of July – received June 29, 2021
- Roisin Reed – no residence listed – Say No to Salem Casino (form letter) – received June 30, 2021
- Randy Maddox – no residence listed – Please stop the sale of fireworks and ban fireworks from being shot off. Let the professionals do it only please!!! – received July 2, 2021

Davis, Tracy

From: Cathy Clark
Sent: Wednesday, June 23, 2021 5:31 AM
To: Davis, Tracy; Daniel Kohler; Elizabeth Smith; Kyle Juran; Laura Reid; Roland Herrera; Ross Day; elizabethallenswan@gmail.com
Subject: Re: Education and action

Good morning Ms. Swan,
Thank you for your inquiry.

What have we done over the last year to meet the need of anti-racist needs in our community? Individually and collectively, we all have been active in opposing racism and building equity and inclusion.

Have we invested in education and training regarding anti-racism? Yes, both individually (many Council members have extensive work related and professional training in this area as well) and collectively we have invested in training and education.

What policies and practices are in place to protect Black lives in Keizer? Our police continue to provide service and protection and recognize that people's past experiences factor into how they may view public safety services and use that awareness to build new and stronger relationships.

Best regards,
Cathy Clark, Mayor
clarkc@keizer.org
503-390-3700

From: Davis, Tracy
Sent: Tuesday, June 22, 2021 8:36:48 AM
To: Cathy Clark; Daniel Kohler; Elizabeth Smith; Kyle Juran; Laura Reid; Roland Herrera; Ross Day
Subject: FW: Education and action

FYI...

Tracy L. Davis, MMC
City Recorder/Community Center Manager
City of Keizer, Oregon

-----Original Message-----

From: elizabethallenswan@gmail.com <elizabethallenswan@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 22, 2021 12:49 AM
To: Wood, Tim <WoodT@keizer.org>; Administrator <Administrator@keizer.org>; Davis, Tracy <DavisT@keizer.org>
Subject: Education and action

Hi Keizer City Council members,

Some of you all I have spoken with before but most not--my name is Elizabeth and I have been a Keizer resident for a long time. I know many community members have taken the time and energy to speak with you all and challenge you all to take anti-racist actions--especially over the last year. What have you done so far to meet this need in your community? Have you invested in anti-racism education for yourself or as a board? If you have not already, or even if you have, would you commit as a board to taking an anti-racism course? What policies and practices are you putting in place to protect and defend Black lives here in Keizer? Thank you, Elizabeth Swan

Davis, Tracy

From: Cathy Clark
Sent: Saturday, June 26, 2021 8:33 AM
To: elizabethallenswan@gmail.com; Keizer City Councilors
Subject: Re: Dangerous conditions

Good morning Ms. Swan,

Thank you for sharing your concerns for the health and safety of our community members in this heat wave event.

We are working with community partners and sharing health information to provide resources. Cooling centers are open. Water and electrical power providers have staff on hand to prevent any outages should they occur.

Please help us share this information as well.

Be safe,
Cathy

Cathy Clark, Mayor
clarkc@keizer.org
503-390-3700

From: Davis, Tracy
Sent: Wednesday, June 23, 2021 4:50:55 PM
To: Cathy Clark; Roland Herrera; Daniel Kohler; Davis, Tracy; DePina, Machell; Elizabeth Smith; Harms, Tammie; Johnson, Shannon; Kyle Juran; Laura Reid; Lawyer, Bill; Ross Day; Witham, Shane; Teague, John; Wood, Tim
Subject: FW: Dangerous conditions

FYI

Tracy L. Davis, MMC
City Recorder/Community Center Manager
City of Keizer, Oregon

From: elizabethallenswan@gmail.com <elizabethallenswan@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 23, 2021 4:07 PM
To: citycouncil@cityofsalem.net; Wood, Tim <WoodT@keizer.org>; Administrator <Administrator@keizer.org>; Davis, Tracy <DavisT@keizer.org>
Subject: Dangerous conditions

Elected officials of both Salem and Keizer,

We are expecting an incredibly dangerous heatwave that our community is not prepared for. As I've learned as a student studying extreme weather, heat is one of the most dangerous. Heatwaves kill. The CDC has multiple pages dedicated to the subject: https://www.cdc.gov/disasters/extremeheat/heat_guide.html Heatwaves can put anyone at increased risk but especially those without climate controlled homes, without shelter at all, without easy access to water, without access to fresh food. More community members than ever before are without the necessary support to survive this due to our community's failure to properly support our members through the ongoing pandemic. Places to cool off are already limited to do the necessary Covid guidelines. The city of Salem's unnecessary and violent choice to cut off access

to water at places where our community members have been taking shelter has increased the difficulty to access this basic life sustaining need.

In the past this is what the city of Salem put out, but they have yet to do anything of the sort for this weekend that I can find (and if I just can't find it than it is not accessible): <https://www.cityofsalem.net/Pages/heat-warning-for-salem-area-cooling-locations-and-heat-prevention-tips.aspx>

This is an emergency, a time to work together, cut the red tape, and put together as much support as we can before we lose our neighbors to this heat. We know that Covid is an ongoing crisis, but we also know that businesses are opening up again, people are more vaccinated, and mask wearing saves lives. We can do our best to keep us safe from both.

Open cooling shelters, find businesses and community centers who can open their doors, get water out to our neighbors, disseminate information. Let's take care of each other.

Elizabeth Swan

Davis, Tracy

From: Jane Herb <janeherb08@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 23, 2021 7:58 AM
To: Cathy Clark
Cc: Davis, Tracy; Daniel Kohler; Elizabeth Smith; Kyle Juran; Laura Reid; Roland Herrera; Ross Day; Johnson, Shannon; Wood, Tim
Subject: Re: State Revenue Sharing Funds

Thank you for your note, Mayor Clark; I appreciate it! Trashy Tuesday was such a great event--beautiful evening and terrific turn-out. It is the perfect opportunity for people of all ages to make an immediate difference in our city, and I was so happy to be able to bring my family. Looking forward to the next one!

Thank you for the information and direction to continue to work towards this public library goal. We'll be sure to keep in touch with Tim as far as federal funds that are arriving--and hoping some of that could go towards the library.

Warm regards,

Jane

On Wed, Jun 23, 2021 at 6:20 AM Cathy Clark <ClarkC@keizer.org> wrote:

Good morning Jane,

It was so good to visit with you yesterday at the Trashy Tuesday cleanup at Claggett Creek Park.

We discussed the use of state revenue sharing for staffing a library position through the city. The state revenue sharing funds were allocated to the general fund for those expenditures in the 2021-2022 budget.

You mentioned that you talked with Tim about opportunities to use some of the one time funds coming to us through the federal coronavirus packages. That sounds like a good conversation to have and see what the short and long term picture is the community library.

thank you for you dedicated work to get public library services for all the people of Keizer.

Cathy

Cathy Clark, Mayor
clarkc@keizer.org
503-390-3700

From: Davis, Tracy
Sent: Wednesday, June 9, 2021 9:07:19 AM
To: Cathy Clark; Daniel Kohler; Elizabeth Smith; Kyle Juran; Laura Reid; Roland Herrera; Ross Day
Cc: Johnson, Shannon; Harms, Tammie; Wood, Tim
Subject: FW: State Revenue Sharing Funds

FYI....

Tracy L. Davis, MMC

City Recorder/Community Center Manager

City of Keizer, Oregon

From: Jane Herb <janeherb08@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, June 9, 2021 5:48 AM

To: Wood, Tim <WoodT@keizer.org>; Administrator <Administrator@keizer.org>; Davis, Tracy <DavisT@keizer.org>

Subject: State Revenue Sharing Funds

Dear Mayor Clark and Keizer City Councilors:

I appreciate you! Your work for all of us in Keizer is time-consuming and difficult, even in the best of times, and you have handled the past 16 months with grace and clear-headedness. And, all without pay, which says everything about your true dedication to public service. Thank you.

I watched the meeting this week and found it was once again time for the City to determine if they would accept the State Revenue Sharing funds of about \$397,000; it was approved, and the City will now have these funds. I'd like to make a plea for some of the money to be used for the Keizer Community Library, and in the following way:

\$115,000/year for two additional city staff--a paid librarian and a paid youth services librarian, 1 3/4 time. This figure is also inclusive of benefits.

Do you know that our Keizer Community Library meets all but two of the qualifications to be officially recognized as a public library in Oregon? The two requirements are: have at least half of the library's operating expenses be tax-supported and employ at least a half-time staff person using tax funds. Hiring two librarians (or even one half-time librarian) would meet these two requirements.

Once we become a public library, we can then join CCRLS which would leverage the \$240,000/year that our property taxes contribute to CCRLS. We currently do not get full benefit from these taxes because we do not have a public library.

Being a member of CCRLS would then give our Keizer residents easy access to more than 1 million items in the collection of all the member libraries--with courier service to deliver them right to the Keizer Community Library for people to pick up.

This minor investment would leap us so far ahead of where we are now as a community. Our nearly 40,000 residents deserve access to books and resources that contribute to life-long education and a successful life--especially with the laser focus on inclusivity and opportunity for all.

I would be happy to meet with you or present to the full Council at an open meeting to provide more details, on request.

An additional benefit to becoming a public library is that we would then qualify for substantial grant opportunities that could be used to provide any number of programs and resources to the residents of Keizer. May I leave you with this [article](#) about the resources that could open up for us?

Thank you for your consideration, and I look forward to hearing from you and to continuing this important conversation.

Warm regards,

Jane Herb

Keizer

Davis, Tracy

From: Cathy Clark
Sent: Tuesday, June 29, 2021 10:01 PM
To: Kim Reyes
Cc: Keizer City Councilors
Subject: Re: Drought, winds, fireworks.

Hi Kim,

I am confident in the guidance we have received from fire and emergency professionals.

And we are in communication to adjust and respond as needed if conditions change.

All the best

Cathy

Cathy Clark

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 29, 2021, at 9:55 PM, Kim Reyes <kimreyeshomes@gmail.com> wrote:

I hope that works out. Portland and Redmond just did bans. A fire broke out this morning in Redmond that high winds made more difficult to subdue. Link below.

<https://ktvz.com/news/fire-alert/2021/06/29/brushfire-erupts-in-se-redmond-task-force-called-up-hwy-126-closed/>

Kim Reyes

Broker

Premiere Property Group, LLC

541 390 6233

kimreyeshomes@gmail.com

premiererepropertygroup.com

On Tue, Jun 29, 2021, 7:39 PM Cathy Clark <ClarkC@keizer.org> wrote:

Hello Kim,

Thank you for writing and encouraging safety measures for fireworks and outdoor fires for the upcoming holiday weekend.

With our 2 fire districts, we are watching for any changes or restrictions from the state and county. There are none posted at this time; the county ban on back yard burning is actually a permanent ban in Keizer. Like the city of Salem who also is not banning legal fireworks, Keizer will already have all available resources up and operating. We do encourage people to call the police to report the use of illegal fireworks, as their outreach proved to have success last year.

Please watch for additional information on our Facebook page and website.

best regards,

Cathy

Cathy Clark, Mayor
clarkc@keizer.org
503-390-3700

From: Kim Reyes <kimreyeshomes@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 28, 2021 8:39:40 PM
To: Cathy Clark; Laura Reid; Ross Day; Kyle Juran; Roland Herrera; Elizabeth Smith; Daniel Kohler; Davis, Tracy
Subject: Drought, winds, fireworks.

Hello. Other towns are emergency banning all fireworks for one week. May we consider a ban on fireworks?

A concerned Keizerite.

Thank you,

Kim Reyes
Broker
Premiere Property Group, LLC
541 390 6233
kimreyeshomes@gmail.com
premierepropertygroup.com

Davis, Tracy

From: Cathy Clark
Sent: Tuesday, June 29, 2021 6:49 PM
To: Claudia Boyd
Cc: Keizer City Councilors
Subject: Re: Banning Fireworks Fourth Of JULY

Good evening Ms. Boyd,

Thank you for contacting me.

And thank you for reporting the tall grass to our code enforcement officer.

I appreciate you writing and encouraging fireworks and other safety measures for the upcoming holiday weekend.

With our 2 fire districts and following the restrictions from the state and county, we will be posting the steps the city will take to join in the effort to protect our community and promote safety. Like the city of Salem who also is not banning legal fireworks, Keizer will already have all available resources up and operating. We do encourage people to call the police to report the use of illegal fireworks, as their outreach proved to have success.

Please watch for additional information on our Facebook page and website.

Best regards,

Cathy

Cathy Clark, Mayor
clarkc@keizer.org
503-390-3700

From: Claudia Boyd <claudiaboyd@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, June 29, 2021 1:58:49 PM
To: Cathy Clark
Subject: Banning Fireworks Fourth Of JULY

To whom it may concern,

I am contacting Keizer City Council to inquire about the ban of selling and using fireworks this year.

As you know some cities in Oregon have done so and I strongly urge Keizer to do the same. Considering the loss of property, the loss of lives of humans and countless animals in 2020 I propose Keizer will follow suit.

I have lodged a complaint against a property near me which has been vacant for several years with tall and very dry grass growing around it.

I normally don't get involved in other peoples business but with our recent extreme heat I would urge the council to consider banning the sale and use of any kind of fireworks.

Time is of the essence and I am pleading with you to consider my and countless other citizens of this beautiful city concern.

I am looking forward to your reply.

Sincerely,
Claudia Boyd
503.510.0021

Sent from my iPhone

Davis, Tracy

From: Cathy Clark
Sent: Tuesday, June 29, 2021 6:27 PM
To: Bob; Jeff Cowan; Keizer City Councilors
Subject: Re: Fireworks Ban

Good evening Bob,

Thank you for writing and encouraging fireworks and other safety measures for the upcoming holiday weekend.

With our 2 fire districts and following the restrictions from the state and county, we will be posting the steps the city will take to join in the effort to protect our community and promote safety. Like the city of Salem who also is not banning legal fireworks, Keizer will already have all available resources up and operating. We do encourage people to call the police to report the use of illegal fireworks, as their outreach proved to have success.

Please watch for additional information on our Facebook page and website.

best regards,

Cathy Clark, Mayor
clarkc@keizer.org
503-390-3700

From: Bob <oregonpackfan@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 29, 2021 3:09:01 PM
To: Jeff Cowan
Cc: Cathy Clark
Subject: Re: Fireworks Ban

Thank you Chief for hearing my concerns. I am confident that you have the best interest of all Keizerites in mind and will do what is in your powers to keep us safe.

Here's to safe and prosperous summer.

Bob Arnsmeier

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 29, 2021, at 2:16 PM, Jeff Cowan <Chief@keizerfire.com> wrote:

Good afternoon Mr. Arnsmeier,

Keizer Fire District is confidently aware of the fire danger and those posed by fireworks.

As Keizer's Fire Chief, I share your concerns and a great disdain for fireworks. I also want to share with you that Oregon already declared fireworks illegal decades

ago (Rockets, Explosives, Fire emitting) The people of Keizer has ultimately chosen not to respect this. You and I have seen the thousands of fireworks set off on the 4th of July. This is a public safety issue. This is a law enforcement issue. The public has chosen not to obey. When the will of the people is to outlaw fireworks in Keizer, with enforcement, and ban the sale of fireworks, only then do I see this issue being reduced. I say reduced because there will continue to be issues as long as they are sold in other communities. I can and have declared everything we have discussed here, but as demonstrated by the actions of the public at large, it will go unheeded. In my 40-year career in public safety, I have always decried the dangers of fireworks and will continue to do so.

Respectfully and sincerely yours,

Chief Cowan

<mime-attachment>

Davis, Tracy

From: Cathy Clark
Sent: Tuesday, June 29, 2021 6:27 PM
To: Linda Warner
Cc: Keizer City Councilors
Subject: Re: Upcoming July 4th

Good evening Ms. Warner,

Thank you for writing and encouraging fireworks and other safety measures for the upcoming holiday weekend.

With our 2 fire districts and following the restrictions from the state and county, we will be posting the steps the city will take to join in the effort to protect our community and promote safety. Like the city of Salem who also is not banning legal fireworks, Keizer will already have all available resources up and operating. We do encourage people to call the police to report the use of illegal fireworks, as their outreach proved to have success.

Please watch for additional information on our Facebook page and website.

best regards,

Cathy Clark, Mayor
clarkc@keizer.org
503-390-3700

From: Linda Warner <lindadeewarner@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 29, 2021 5:12:04 PM
To: Cathy Clark
Subject: Upcoming July 4th

June 29, 2021

Dear Mayor Clark,

After a weekend of unprecedented heat and the ongoing drought in our state I am asking that Keizer be forward thinking and ban the use of fireworks for this year. I understand that this will be an unpopular decision and that the city will face pushback, but the devastation from last year's wildfires still linger and I am worried that people will unintentionally start brush fires that could lead to further destruction. This morning before the temperature rose yet again to over 90 I raked the leaves from my yard. The large maple trees surrounding my home have been impacted by the heat and the drought and are dropping their leaves. I have seen my friend's photos on Facebook of the vegetation surrounding their homes crisped by the heat. Our area is but a tinderbox just waiting for a match

To give you some perspective, Portland, Tualitin, Eugene, Bend, Cannon Beach, and Ashland have all enacted a firework ban of some form in their communities. Clark County in Washington has enacted bans as have many communities there, including Vancouver. Salem has asked residents to avoid using fireworks. The fire chiefs of Linn and Benton County have asked people to use extreme caution with fireworks due to fire conditions that are ripe for the ignition of unwanted fires. Costco has pulled their fireworks. We have a high fire danger burn ban in effect for much of Oregon and fireworks on the 4th are but the match that will set our state on fire.

Yes, I understand it will be an unpopular decision. Yes, I understand that many churches, community groups, and our beloved McNary use firework sales as major fundraisers. This year we have to ask, at what cost? As Fire Chief Boone from Portland stated: "If we don't take this proactive step now, I fear the consequences could be devastating. It is not

easy to make a decision like this so close to our national holiday but as a fire chief, I feel I have a higher responsibility to sometimes make unpopular decisions during unprecedented times to protect life, property, and the environment." Please consider taking the steps needed to protect Keizer too.

Sincerely,

Linda Warner
Keizer, OR

Davis, Tracy

From: Wood, Tim
Sent: Wednesday, June 30, 2021 2:12 PM
To: Davis, Tracy
Subject: FW: [BULK/SPAM] Say NO to the Salem Casino!

Written Testimony

From: Roisin Reed <roisinreed@gmail.com97305>
Sent: Wednesday, June 30, 2021 2:06 PM
To: citycouncil@cityofsalem.net; commissioners@co.marion.or.us; atha.ciera@co.polk.or.us; Wood, Tim <WoodT@keizer.org>; Administrator <Administrator@keizer.org>
Subject: [BULK/SPAM] Say NO to the Salem Casino!

Hello,

I am a concerned citizen that is urging you to publically oppose the Siletz Tribe's proposal to build a new Vegas-style casino in the heart of Salem.

A new 180,000 square foot casino right off of I-5 would create unprecedented traffic issues, causing our already congested streets to become more dangerous. In addition, if this casino is allowed to move forward, it would completely change the rules of the game regarding gambling in Oregon, which would open the door to new Vegas-sized casinos all over Oregon's cities. If this were to happen, rural economies that rely on casinos would be devastated, costing hundreds of jobs.

Without your public opposition, this casino is more likely to be built. Please, listen to our community and say "no" to the Salem Casino!

www.nosalemcasino.com

-- Roisin Reed
roisinreed@gmail.com97305

Davis, Tracy

From: Cathy Clark
Sent: Friday, July 2, 2021 12:36 PM
To: Davis, Tracy; Lockhart, Debbie
Subject: Fw: Please stop the sale of fireworks and ban fireworks from being shot off. Let the professionals do it only please!!!

For written comment.

Cathy Clark, Mayor
clarkc@keizer.org
503-390-3700

From: Randy Maddox <randy.maddox@me.com>
Sent: Friday, July 2, 2021 11:28 AM
To: Cathy Clark
Subject: Please stop the sale of fireworks and ban fireworks from being shot off. Let the professionals do it only please!!!

Sent from my iPhone

July 6, 2021

Keizer City Council Meeting

Re: Iris Festival 2021

Sherrie Gottfried
7-6-21
tracy - copies

Good Evening Madame Mayor and Councilors

My name is Sherrie Gottfried, I am a member of the SEKNA board and the Manager of The Grass Hut.

I am here today to ask the council to consider the following information before considering the approval of the permit request put forth to you this evening by the Keizer Chamber of Commerce and/or its Representatives in regards to the 2021 Keizer Iris Festival based on the following...

- On June 18, 2021, I received information that the Keizer Chamber of Commerce had applied for and submitted an event permit for the 2021 Keizer Iris Festival; to be held the 3rd weekend in August at the same location/area (Cherry Ave) as in 2019. There have been no notices given to SEKNA, area businesses or those living in the area.
- After I received the information regarding the event permit, I visited the majority of the businesses that will be affected by the impact of the festival. I have submitted a handout with the business names, contacts and if they had received any information regarding the 2021 Iris Festival from the Keizer Chamber and/or representatives.
- To date, there has only been one (1) meeting regarding the festival in which an invitation was sent out to the residents, businesses and the Southeast Keizer Neighborhood Association. The said meeting was held on January 28, 2021 via zoom. At that meeting, discussion was given regarding the possible option of the 3rd weekend in May, but (due to the current executive order) an option of a possible August date/time might work out better; it was then stated that the chamber board would meet to discuss possible options in August.
- So it is now July 2021 and our neighborhood is receiving a 30 day notice about a possible major event. There has been no additional meeting invitations and/or no information regarding the plans for street closures, parking, safety, vendors or being ADA compliant (as prior to 2019 this was an issue); in addition, the festival is typically the 3rd weekend in May - an event in August will bring possible negative impacts to the neighborhood along with a lack of commerce for businesses in the area.

In closing, I would like to remind the city council that in April 2019, the SEKNA board at a regularly scheduled meeting, held a discussion regarding the 2019 Iris Festival. By unanimous vote, the SEKNA board confirmed **"Due to the blatant disregard for the concerns of the Southeast Keizer area residents and businesses, the Keizer Iris Festival is no longer welcome in our neighborhood"**. This message was submitted during Public Testimony at the May 6, 2019 city council meeting.

KEIZER IRIS FESTIVAL 2021 - pg1

| Business | Contact | Title | Notice Rec'd Y/N |
|---------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|--|
| Keizer Vision Source | Sadilee | Office | Not sure, will let Dr know |
| Keizer Dental | Lita (Jonathon) | Staff (Office Manager) | Yes as Jonathon is a Chamber Rep |
| Dominoes Pizza | Nathan | Asst. Manager | Not sure will let GM be aware |
| Adventures w/Autism | Xo | Staff | No |
| Elks | Alanna | Staff | Yes Chamber rep |
| Lions | Rita | Coordinator | Yes Chamber rep |
| KYKN 1430 | Unable to speak with | | |
| Salem Friends for Felines | Jutta | Staff | No |
| T-Shirt World | Terry | Owner | Not open at visit |
| Eagles | Helen | Staff | Yes Chamber Rep |
| Pronto Signs | Jose | Front office | No |
| The Grass Hut | Sherrie | GM | No |
| Showroom Auto Spa | Not open | | |
| Red B Barber | Barbara | Owner | No |

KEIZER IRIS FESTIVAL 2021 - pg2

| Business | Contact | Title | Notice Rec'd Y/N |
|---------------------------|----------------|--------------|-----------------------------|
| Root Family Business | Chris | Owner | No |
| Pinnacle Physical Therapy | Kris | Staff | No |
| Columbia Bank | Gail | Teller | Yes |
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2018 Parking/Safety Concerns

Grass Hut management attended the Keizer Iris Fest Meeting in March 2018, at that time we were informed that Cherry Ave would be closed at the Alder and Cherry Avenue intersection for the following reasons...

Safety

Handicap Parking

Due to the ODOT sign being placed at the intersection there were numerous issues with cars assuming everyone was turning onto Alder off of Cherry; this caused three known accidents and a lot of near misses for those using Local Access.

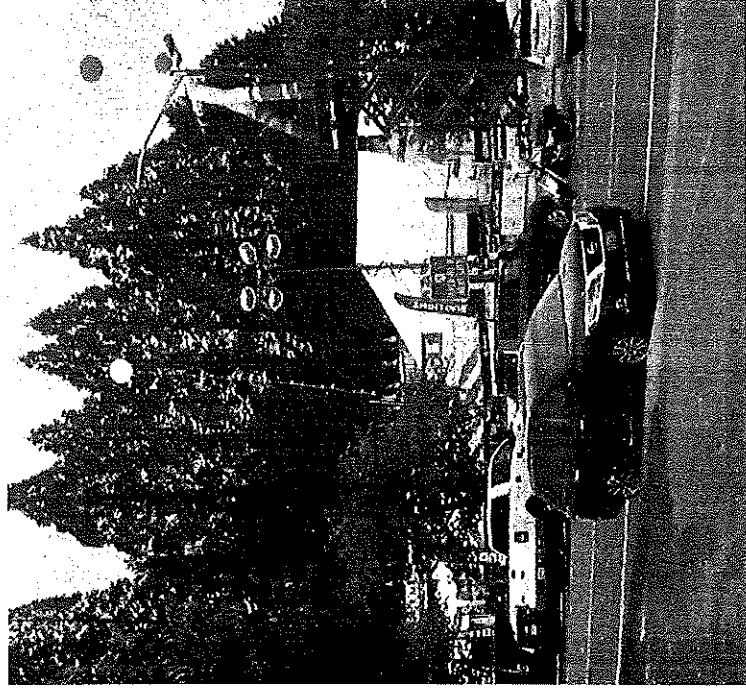
Having the ODOT sign there (Street Closed – Local Access Only) this was definitely a safety issue.

Regarding Handicap Parking, there was not one handicap parking sign or any handicap directional signage in the area that was closed.

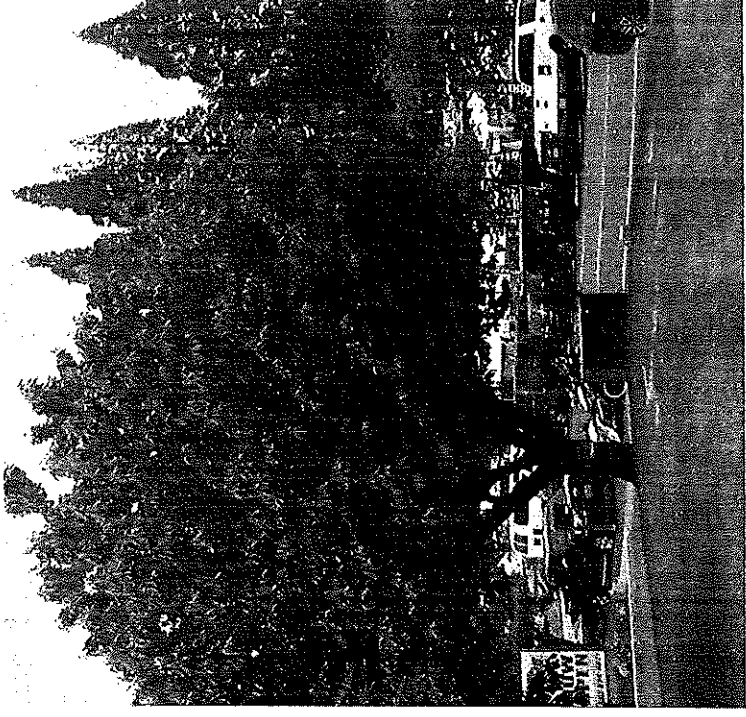
It should be recommended that the Keizer Chamber refer to the American Disabilities Act regarding special events and parking.

Parking

Numerous parking.....



None for handicap!



5 residents of SE Keizer: KeizerFEST isn't welcome

It's not often a declaration during public testimony shocks the members of the Keizer City Council, but members of the Southeast Keizer Neighborhood Association (SEKNA) pulled out a doozy on Monday, May 6.

Joe Tillman, SEKNA's messenger and a volunteer in city committees, read a brief statement that left no room for interpretation: "Due to the blatant disregard of the concerns of residents and businesses, KeizerFEST is no longer welcome in the neighborhood. We really thought this would be a wonderful thing and it has been less than so."

Tillman told the council that a vote was taken at the last meeting of SEKNA and it was unanimously decided to deliver the message to the council. When asked how many members of SEKNA attended the last meeting, Tillman said four, until he was corrected by a member of the audience that there were actually five members in attendance the night the vote was taken.

Sherrie Gottfried, an employee of The Grass Hut II, was the audience member who offered the correction. The Grass Hut has had longstanding disputes with the Keizer Chamber of Commerce, the organizer of KeizerFEST, over the closure of roads leading to their business during the annual event. KeizerFEST headquarters are located at the Keizer Lions Club property which sits cater-corner to Grass Hut II.

At an April meeting of the Keizer City Council, Gottfried presented information to the council about lost business and concerns over disability parking. She said that the given reasons for closing the street, for safety and ADA parking, did not comport with what happened in the space. Closing the street led to accidents and near-misses and there were never any signs put in place to delineate where handicapped parking was available.

Moreover, Gottfried's documents show Grass Hut II lost about a third of its regular foot traffic during KeizerFEST

weekend and about 20 percent of its expected revenue.

KeizerFEST organizers plan to reduce the size of the closure this year and that appeared to alleviate some of Gottfried's concerns until the SEKNA vote was presented to the council.

Council members appeared stunned by the announcement that KeizerFEST wasn't welcome, but Councilor Marlene Parsons leapt to the defense of the Keizer Chamber and chided SEKNA for representing the vote as having more weight than the five people who attended its most recent meeting.

"The Chamber has worked with businesses to get a positive result. I think what needs to happen is a conversation with all 37,000 residents of Keizer. I think that needs to happen with the citizens and you guys in the forefront of that," Parsons said.

"I know that they are working hard to please everybody and every neighbor," added Mayor Cathy Clark.

steps toward shorter sessions