



CITY MANAGER'S WEEKLY UPDATE

May 23, 2025

Adam J. Brown, City Manager

Next week, Tuesday will be the second town hall about the Urban Growth Boundary followed by an executive session to discuss real estate.

Community Engagement – I attended Chamber Greeters, Keizer Public Art Commission, and the Planning Commission this week.

Verda Sidewalk Funding – I was notified Thursday morning that Congresswoman Salinas needs letters of support in the next 28 hours. So, I drafted three letters with community partners to expedite the process. One was on behalf of the city council. I also drafted one for Kennedy Elementary and talked with the principal's office assistant to get that turned around quickly. I wrote one for Greater Northeast Keizer Neighborhood Association and the Chamber of Commerce. They were all able to get them signed and back to me by our 2 pm deadline today.

Claggett Creek Wetland Enhancement Project - Last week I told you about the bids coming in for the Claggett Creek wetland project and our inability to fund it completely with cash within the stormwater fee. After staff has had the opportunity to strategize, they decided to recommend borrowing from the transportation fund to award the project and then pay it back over two years. That will allow the whole project to be completed. That will be on the City Council agenda for June 2 for their consideration. We just needed under \$200,000 to be able to award the project.

Franchise – We received notice that AT&T purchased Lumen's fiber so they want to do a franchise agreement with us.

Pedestrian Flags – The first proof of concept trial for pedestrian flags has begun at Keizer Rapids Park on Chemawa I think it looks nice. We will see how it goes. There is a QR code at the site with a link to a survey.

Planning

Code Enforcement

May has been a productive month. In addition to responding to routine code enforcement calls and assisting with graffiti removal, parking issues, and transient camp clean-ups, staff contacted property owners of 23 properties regarding noxious vegetation concerns. We also coordinated with a local volunteer group that supports property maintenance for individuals unable to do so themselves. Three qualifying properties were referred for their consideration.

Building

Over the past four weeks, we have received permit



applications for five lots within the 10-lot subdivision off Oppek. Six of the lots in this development are proposed for duplexes, while the remaining four will be custom single-family homes. Additionally, permit applications have been submitted for all six lots in the O'Neil subdivision, all of which are proposed to be duplexes.

Planning

Planning staff met with a few different prospective developers looking at options for partitioning and developing some middle housing on a couple of residential properties, as well as an interested party looking to develop a small scale industrial warehouse use on industrial business park land in southeast Keizer.

Planning Commission met this week and held 2 public hearings on proposed text amendments. The first was to modify the Commercial Mixed Use zone in order to allow drive thru restaurants and gasoline service stations as Conditional Uses in Keizer Station Area B. There were 3 people who attended from the Gubser Neighborhood to voice concern of having a gas station there. They approved the text amendment with some minor tweaks. The Second was to eliminate minimum parking requirements in order to comply with the administrative rules implementing the Climate Friendly and Equitable Communities (CFEC) rules. That too was approved.

Staff met with our consultant on the engagement plan for the Transportation System Plan and the consultant presented to the Traffic Safety Bikeways Pedestrian Committee this week to gather some input and provide information on the draft engagement plan.

Public Works

Parks & Facilities Division:

The building permit for the bathrooms/concession building for the Turf Fields Phase 2 project was issued this week. The pre-construction meeting for this project is scheduled for Monday June 2nd, 2025.

The asbestos and lead testing for 4860 Bailey Road is scheduled for next Wednesday, May 28th at 9:00am.

Soggy Day in the Park is tomorrow, Saturday May 24th, 2025.

Water Division:

The contractor for the watermain replacement project has completed the project including the trench line paving.

Streets/Stormwater Division:

The Tepper Lane pedestrian tunnel continues to be impacted with graffiti on a regular basis.

Environmental & Technical Division:

We are providing stickers, educational information on stormwater, the watershed model, and water swag for the Soggy Day this Saturday. Our partners at the City of Salem are working the table in the name of Clean Streams.

We have had several illicit discharges this week and invite you to be a part of keeping our waterways clean by [reporting pollution](#) when you see it happen.

Interviews for the Senior Program Coordinator position were held on Tuesday. A second round of interviews is being scheduled.

Police

Community Events

On Friday, we attended a carnival at Clear Lake Elementary School. It was great to see all the kids and parents out enjoying themselves!

On Saturday, we were out to ensure the Keizer Fest Parade was a safe event for everyone in attendance.

On Tuesday, a Sergeant and our Executive Assistant attended a parent meeting at McNary High School. The presentation was in Spanish as a resource to migrant families.

Patrol Division

An officer took a report of a stolen vehicle that was taken sometime overnight. The vehicle was later located by another agency and was found to be on fire. This investigation is on-going.

Officers responded to a business due to the report of a shoplift. Officer made contact with the female suspect, who later threw a candle that hit one of our patrol vehicles and cracking the windshield. The female resisted arrest before being taken into custody.

An officer responded to a location due to someone reporting having located a firearm near the river bank.

Officers attempted to locate a vehicle reported to have taken the Keizer exit off of I5 and was reportedly not maintaining its lane. An officer located the vehicle, attempted to conduct a traffic stop, but the vehicle took off a short distance, stopped, and the driver attempted to flee from the vehicle. The driver was eventually taken into custody. An officer conducted a DUI investigation, wrote a search warrant, and the driver was transported to the Marion County Jail.

Criminal Investigation Division (CID):

Detectives continue to investigate multiple sex offense and child abuse cases. Detectives have been working on improving the efficiency of our background investigation process utilizing a background investigation software program.

Traffic Safety Unit (TSU):

This week, our Traffic Safety Officer concluded the parade planning on Saturday, which went well with no issues. He worked on catching up on writing/reviewing reports due to the time previously spent on the parade planning. He focused on education/enforcement at a specific location due to the continued reports of drivers doing illegal U-turns in the area.

Our Traffic Safety Officer responded to a reported rear-end crash, where the driver was transported to the Salem Hospital. Our officer responded to the Hospital and began conducting a DUI investigation. The driver was arrested for DUI, Reckless Driving and eventually was charged with Escape due to her fleeing the hospital while he was completing a search warrant. The driver was also issued a citation for driving while suspended, no insurance, and operation of an unsafe vehicle.

Our Traffic Safety Officer responded to a report of a vehicle stopped in the road and the driver being slumped over behind the wheel. Our officer made contact with the driver and began conducting a DUI investigation. The driver was taken into custody and a Drug Recognition Expert was later requested to assist in the investigation.