



CITY MANAGER'S WEEKLY UPDATE

May 2, 2025

Adam J. Brown, City Manager

I attended the League of Oregon Cities Conference in North Bend with Councilors Kohler and Christopher. The content was very good. The connections with our peers and other cities are super helpful. Among some of the topics addressed were artificial intelligence applications, council-manager relationships, code enforcement, homelessness, and middle housing.

Emergency Management – In my absence, the Executive Leadership Team and Public Works Permit Specialist Lana Bremer ran the emergency management meeting.

Iyo Sister City – The forming sister city nonprofit had their second official meeting on Tuesday with good attendance. Council President Starr is planning to attend with the Mayor and I moving forward.

Economic Development – I completed the Environmental Questionnaire on behalf of the City and forwarded previous Phase I reports we have done over the last two years for Keizer Station Area B properties under the Letter of Intent. They are wrapping up their Phase I environmental and as part of that process we have to share with them all previous studies.

I met with Eric Meurer, Volunteer Economic Development Advisor, this week to talk about the leads he is working on. It's really nice to have someone who can just focus on that attraction. I am juggling way too many things to give my undivided attention to that like he can.

Planning

Building permits have been busy this week.

The building permit for the mixed use building at the corner of River Rd and Churchdale was officially issued.

Burgerville officially has applied for a building permit to remodel the old Sonic building on River Road! (Walla Walla Sweet Onion Rings are getting closer to a reality)

Simonka House applied for a building permit for remodeling and an addition on their facility.

Discount Tire applied for a Building permit for their new building in Area D of the Keizer Station.

We also received applications for 5 new duplexes that are planned to be built in a new subdivision on O'Neil Road, as well as 2 new homes that are proposed in the subdivision on Oppek.

Planning Director Shane Witham (along with Public Works Director Bill Lawyer) had 2 separate meetings regarding the Transportation System Plan update this week. One to discuss the scope of work with City Staff, Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) staff, and the Consultant team, and the other to discuss background information on existing identified projects and some of the new Climate-Friendly and Equitable Communities (CFEC) requirements regarding what ODOT defines as “capacity building” projects.

Public Works

Parks & Facilities Division

The footing portion of the foundation for the Gold Star Memorial at Ryan J. Hill Memorial Park was poured this week. The stem wall portion of the foundation will be completed in the next couple weeks.

We have 2 temporary employees on board for the summer season.

Water Division

The contractor for the watermain replacement project has completed installing the main line and hydrants. They will be finishing the new services next week and then will begin the testing and disinfection process.

The Delta well is back online.

Streets/Stormwater Division

Staff was busing making repairs to the storm drainage system in various locations.

Environmental & Technical Division

Our GIS Technician has created a [Keizer Lead Service Line Inventory](#) with Water Department to adhere to the Federal Lead Service Line Program of making the inventory publicly accessible.

Our GIS Tech is also working on creating an inspection map for our annual stormwater inlet inspections conducted by Stormwater Field Staff.

The Senior Program Coordinator position closed 4/28/25 and applications will be reviewed next week.

Tree Plotter Inventory is kicking off and community volunteers are signing up for collections. Spread the word: <https://www.keizer.org/TreelInventory>

Earth Day Event on April 26 at Spong’s Landing with Marion County saw over 300 attendees. The Earth Day Virtual Hike in Keizer Rapids Park had 113 views.

Staff is partnering with Keizer Fire for their May 6, 5-7 pm Wildfire Preparedness event <https://keizerfire.gov/2025/04/15/wildfire-preparedness-class/>

Learn to Fish is May 10, 9-11:30 am at Keizer Rapids Park <https://www.marionswcd.net/mwog/>

Police

Upcoming Community Event

It was great seeing everyone at the event at Plaza Morelia this week! There was a good turnout and it gave us an opportunity to meet many more members of the community.

Patrol Division

Officers responded to an area due to the report of a male wearing a mask over his face, carrying rifle cases, and later placing them in a recycle bin in an alley. Officers made contact with the male and determined he was unlawfully in possession of multiple firearms taken from a nearby residence. The male was later transported to the Marion County Jail on multiple charges.

One of our officers located a recent stolen vehicle entering our city. A male driver was found to be the sole occupant of the vehicle and was taken into custody.

Officers responded to a residence due to a report of a restraining order violation. Officers located a male, in violation of the restraining order, who was taken into custody.

Officers responded to a location due to the report of a male threatening the caller and then later menacing them with a firearm. The investigation is on-going.

Criminal Investigation Division (CID):

Detectives have been working on sex offense, child abuse, and burglary cases throughout the week. They continue to conduct employment applicant background investigations and employment screenings.

Community Response Unit (CRU):

During the past week, one of our CRU Detectives executed a search warrant of a backpack. This investigation is on-going.

One of our CRU Detectives witnessed an individual spray painting graffiti at one of our city's parks.

Traffic Safety Unit (TSU):

This week, our Traffic Safety Officer handled a few minor crashes within the city and several reported hit and run incidents. There have been an increasing number of older motorhomes showing up around the city. Our Traffic Safety Officer is able to educate and enforce if need be via our city ordinances. There has been a focus in specific neighborhoods as well as the more well-traveled roads leading to the specific neighborhoods due to speeding complaints received.