

Here is a quick update for you from this week (8/28)

Public Works Department:

- The contractor for last summer's resurfacing of River Road will be adjusting various manholes and valve boxes that have settled during the one year warrantee period. This work is scheduled to begin next Monday August 31st. The project area is from Sandy Drive to the south city limits.

Community Development Department:

Business Oregon Grant

- We are now accepting applications for our small business grant program through Business Oregon!! Applications are available on the City's website in both English and Spanish. We are utilizing social media, the City website, and the Keizertimes to advertise the opportunity. The Chamber is helping get the word out through their website and email groups to Keizer business, the Latino Business Alliance, and Keizer Network of Women, and we have already started to see a response. In addition, staff had a very fruitful meeting with RJ Navarro and his associate Pedro Careaga about reaching Latino businesses in our community that aren't as well connected through some of the traditional channels, and they have agreed to help us get the word out through their connections. We are thankful for everyone's help and support, and thankful that we get the opportunity to help small businesses in Keizer through this program. We have already received 4 completed applications. We will be reviewing applications after September 9th as a sort of "1st round" of awarding funds.

Administration:

LOC Weekly COVID19 Conference Call:

Governor's Office: Cases continue to drop and the statistics are looking pretty good. Governor wants to make sure that the numbers continue to decline so she is ramping up enforcement and restrictions instead of relaxing measures. Two counties are coming off the watch list this week with no counties going on the watch list. A number of counties are requesting to move from phase 1 to phase 2 reopening but the Governor's Office is not approving any changes in phase status. The Governor's emergency declaration expires next week so she is extending it for another 60-days. Continuing to monitor and decide where to go from here but no real plan yet for complete reopening in the near future. Really focusing on additional enforcement at the local level. Once again, the Governor's Office is really pushing to keep the pressure on and restrictions in place...or increasing them...and not let up even though non-compliance with existing measures is starting to ramp up.

Oregon Health Authority: Seeing a decrease in cases and positive trends...down 13% from last week and positives from testing are also down. Highest rates continue to be in 20-29 year olds which is why death rates are very low. Transmission is really happening prior to someone showing symptoms, thus everyone MUST keep taking precautions because you may not know that you're spreading the virus. Nearing 500,000 tests so far, which is helping to define the disease. Working with schools to develop reopening plans. Need to get down to around 60-cases per day before K-12 public schools reopen. At current rates, that will be approximately 200-days. Also working with Dept. of Corrections to place parolees into communities in a safe way.

Office of Emergency Management: Continues to be activated for both COVID19 and also wildfires. 27-current wildfires in Oregon though air quality continue to be pretty good...other than right around Sisters. White River Fire, approximately 13-miles from Government Camp is the most concerning at the moment and is not currently under control. Working on strategies to protect K-12 staff from COVID19 when schools open. Hurricane season is starting to eclipse COVID response at the federal level of emergency management. Hurricane Laura posted the strongest sustained winds ever recorded for a hurricane to make landfall.

League of Oregon Cities Advocacy: Take a look at the bulletin for instructions for registration through the DAS portal to apply for CARES reimbursement funds. Summary of legislative priorities have been provided to legislators and will be working on legislation to push pieces forward.

National League of Cities: Still working strongly to urge members of Congress to provide local governments additional economic relief. Does not seem as though there is any traction on this matter. No forward progression is being made currently. There is a wide gap between the House of Representatives vs the Senate and White House on what would be an acceptable package. FEMA may stop providing PPE reimbursements to state and local governments very soon, which would add an additional expense at the local level. FEMA has currently spent \$24B on COVID19 relief efforts.