

Here's your weekly update for week ending 9/4/20

Public Works Department:

Parks & Facilities Division:

- An Eagle Scout will be re-painting the Gazebo at Chalmers Jones Park in the next few weeks. This is a Youth Matching Grant project.
- The replacement of the play structure at Claggett Creek Park is scheduled to begin in late September with a completion date of November 1st.
- We are extending the operation of the Splash Fountain until September 20th.
- The slide in the Tot Lot area of the Big Toy is broken. It appears a child larger than a tot jumped on it and put a hole in it near the bottom of the slide. Staff is working on getting a replacement but have discovered the exact replacement is no longer available, the manufacturer had a fire that destroyed all of their molds. A new slide will be put in place as soon as we can find a suitable replacement.

Environmental & Technical Division:

- The Storm Water Advisory Committee (SWAC) met on Tuesday and reviewed the final Stormwater Management Program Document. This is a required element of our National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Phase II permit and is a living document that will be amended as needed to address operational and regulatory changes as they occur in the future.
- Staff is working on completing the annual reports required for both the NPDES Phase II permit and the Water Pollution Control Facilities (WPCF) permit.

Street/Stormwater Operations Division:

- Staff are halfway through the annual catch basin and manhole cleaning project.
- The contractor for the Shoreline Drive storm drain project needs to replace the ADA ramp at the northwest corner of Shoreline and Cummings to correct a drainage problem. This is the last item on the punch list for the project and will be completed before the end of September.

Water Division:

- The Water Resources Department (WRD) has issued a final order approving our Water Management and Conservation Plan. This approval stipulates our plan shall remain in effect until August 2030 with a requirement to provide an update to WRD by February 2030.

Administration:

LOC Weekly COVID19 Conference Call:

Governor's Office: Heading into the Labor Day weekend. Please stay home or local. Don't go out to events or parties because after each major event (graduation, 4th of July, Memorial Day, etc.) we have seen upticks and we want to keep numbers low going into the Fall. 18-counties have or are close to meeting all metrics to bring at least K-3 school kids back into the classrooms. Eviction Moratorium will continue until at least the end of September and may continue on past that. State is developing information and potential rules regarding early learning pods that many parents have created to help their children learn. Too early to determine when the Governor's office might begin working on a plan to open the state up fully and expire her executive orders.

Oregon Health Authority: 27K COVID cases in Oregon as of today. Cases are declining, deaths are increasing a little bit but positive test rates are down to 4.7%, which is a good trend. Really wanting to see rates stay low after coming holidays and going into the Fall. There is a push to make sure testing is occurring in all long-term care facilities and skilled care facilities. Still seeing higher risk rates in Hispanic community due to many reasons including the types of jobs they tend to work and lack of access to consistent health care. Planning has started to work on COVID19 vaccine distribution for as early as the end of October...should a vaccine become available by then. Not too early to get standard flu vaccine as well.

Oregon Emergency Management: No report today

League of Oregon Cities Advocacy: Another special legislative session is being looked at for later this month to look at police reform items. CRF funds Treasury Department guidance continues to change to define what the funds can and cannot be used for. It has been morphing and confusing for many cities. Funds can be used to upgrade public health infrastructure...including water systems to help promote good hygiene. Less about treatment facilities and more about distribution/supply systems. FEMA policy on reimbursement for costs to purchase PPE is being phased out on September 15th and refined down to just supplies needed to address a specific outbreak but no longer to stockpile supplies.

National League of Cities: Sent letter to FEMA to encourage them to keep current guidance on PPE reimbursements instead of rolling them back. Question on whether pay for first responders is an outright allowed expense for CRF funds reimbursement or if localities need to more carefully document the exact hours of first responders working on COVID related issues. There is a legal challenge coming as to whether the federal government can withhold funds from local jurisdictions for political reasons. \$2.2T being looked at for next relief package but the Whitehouse is still wanting to see the amount closer to \$1T. There is no agreement on a relief package on the horizon. It is an increasingly contentious environment.