

The Newsletter of the
City of Veneta

88184 8th Street
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Veneta, OR 97487
(541) 935-2191
www.venetaoregon.gov

City News

City Adopts 2016-17 Budget

The Fiscal Year (FY) 2016-17 total budget, adopted on June 27, is \$20,299,254 compared with last year's total of \$18,582,397.

The budget as a whole reflects day-to-day operations similar to the current year, with no significant changes to current services and no major increases in costs.

Exceptions include a one-year increase in the amount budgeted for debt service. The City plans to pay off three outstanding bank loans totaling about \$500,000, as well as make an additional principal payment of \$150,000 on the 2001 Sewer Bond issue.

The City's Pavement Preservation Project will continue, at a cost of approximately \$450,000. The law enforcement contract for four full-time deputies and one half-time sergeant will continue, and will increase about 5 percent to \$863,479. Capital outlay expenditures are about \$160,000 more than the previous year to allow for sewer, street, and pool projects.

On the revenue side, fees for licenses and permits are expected to decline this year because of a lack of buildable lots during the upcoming fiscal year. That number is expected to rebound in 2017-18 as the number of lots will increase.

Revenue from property taxes is expected to increase by 2-3 percent. The primary factor is the addition of developed

properties within the City in the past couple of years. Beginning in January 2017, the City will see a slight increase in water revenue.

Other expenditures in the 2016-17 budget reflect the following City Council goals: improve community safety through enhanced community policing and development of an emergency preparedness plan; Implement the economic development strategy; Continue improvements to downtown streets that intersect with West Broadway and beautification of Hwy. 126; Dedicate staff time to updating the City's Transportation System Plan and secure a grant to construct the Veneta-Elmira multi use path; Update the City's Park and Open Space Master Plan, continue design work to incorporate a kiddie pool to the swim facility and remodel the Community Center Kitchen. Other budgeted priorities include continuing the publication of a monthly newsletter, supporting neighborhood watch, contributing to the construction of a "public plaza" at the Veneta Elementary School and implementing a Communication plan that includes the City's Website and a soon-to-be launched Facebook page.

The budget can be found on the City's website at www.venetaoregon.gov

City to Launch Facebook Page

In an ongoing effort to foster effective two-way communication and strengthen the relationship between City government and those it serves, the City of Veneta will be launching a Facebook page.

The page will share information regarding City programs, projects, and community events. It will also be used to communicate directly with the public during emergencies, increase government transparency, and highlight the City's history and culture.

The page will focus on content that is relevant, timely, and actionable.

Visitors will be able to reply to postings made by City personnel as a way to give feedback. This will help the City to poll citizen sentiment on specific issues by viewing responses.

The City's Facebook administrator, Ann Frydendall, and other City personnel, will monitor the site and remove inappropriate content. "We will only remove items that have profanity or are completely inappropriate," said Frydendall. "We will archive the comments because it is considered public record and subject to retention laws". Information that is not relevant to a post will also be removed.

CITY OF VENETA - CIVIC CALENDAR - JULY 2016

Veneta Administrative Center - 88184 8th Street, Veneta, Oregon

4	City Hall closed in Observance of Independence Day Holiday		Closed
5	Veneta Planning Commission Meeting - City Hall		Cancelled
6	Veneta Park Board Meeting - City Hall		Cancelled
7	Zumwalt Campground Opens		2:00 p.m.
11	Veneta City Council Meeting - City Hall Veneta Urban Renewal Agency Meeting immediately following		Cancelled
13	Veneta Economic Development Committee Meeting - City Hall		2:00 p.m.
15	Night Waves Teen Party - Veneta Community Pool - 25190 E. Broadway Ave.		8:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
21	Municipal Court - City Hall		8:30 a.m.
25	Veneta City Council Meeting - City Hall		6:30 p.m.
29	Family Fun Night - Veneta Community Pool - 25190 E. Broadway Ave.		6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
30	Meet Sgt. Halvorson (Lane County Sheriff's Office contract Sergeant for the City of Veneta) - Fern Ridge Library		1:00 p.m.

Citizens urged to Testify on Hwy 126 Improvements

A meeting in Eugene on July 20 will provide a tremendous opportunity for Veneta and Fern Ridge residents to express their concerns about Hwy. 126 before the Committee that will ultimately decide how funding for Oregon's crumbling roads and outdated bridges will be allocated. "We highly encourage everyone with an interest in this issue to attend that meeting and provide testimony," urged Veneta City Administrator Ric Ingham.

The Veneta City Council and Veneta Economic Development Committee has identified the Highway 126: Fern Ridge Corridor Plan as one of its highest priorities. After extensive study, the plan has evaluated and recommended options to improve safety and function of the Highway between Veneta and Eugene. The plan includes spot improvements that can be enacted in the short term—such as pavement improvements, addressing turn lanes including Central Rd., and adding sidewalks—with the eventual goal of expanding to four-lanes and an adjacent multi-use path.

"These improvements are not only critical to attract-

ing employers, encouraging economic growth, and bringing needed resources to the area, but also to improve safety along this busy corridor," said Ingham.

Though the plan has widespread support, it does not yet have funding. Oregon's elected leaders recently decided to prioritize a statewide transportation package in the 2017 legislative session. The Co-Chairs of the Joint Committee on Transportation Preservation and Modernization has been tasked with identifying priorities, and are hosting meetings around the state to hear from local officials, community members, and business leaders about their transportation needs.

The Committee will hear testimony on July 20 from 5-7 p.m. at Prince Lucian Campbell Room 180, University of Oregon, 1415 Kincaid St., Eugene.

Ingham said the City would post an informational white paper with talking points on the City Website with a specific call for action. Those interested in getting more information about providing testimony are also welcome to contact him at City Hall 541-935-2191.

Warm Weather Increases Concern about Vegetation Control

Above average temperatures early this summer make the need to control vegetation in Veneta City limits more important than ever, according to Code Enforcement Officer Teresa Warrick.

According to the City's Municipal Code (8.05.060), property owners, managers, or tenants are required to prevent noxious weeds or vegetation from growing out of control on their property and from encroaching on the right-of-way of a public thoroughfare abutting the property. The code defines noxious vegetation as weeds and grass more than 10 inches high, poison oak, poison ivy, and blackberry bushes growing into a public thoroughfare or across property lines. It also includes vegetation that presents a health, fire, or traffic hazard.

That means property owners or residents must mow grass and trim or cut down shrubs, bushes, weeds, or other noxious vegetation as often as necessary to prevent it from becoming unsightly or creating a fire hazard, or, in the case of noxious weeds, from going to seed.

Failing to do so could result in a citation and possible fines through Veneta Municipal Court. These restrictions are enforced June 1 through Sept. 30.

Warrick encourages residents to keep lawns mowed and vegetation under control, and to be a good neighbor. "If you notice that your neighbor's yard needs help, perhaps you could offer to mow, particularly if they are elderly or have special needs," she says. "In addition to doing a good turn, you'll also keep weeds from spreading onto your lawn".

The City also reminds residents that a process exists to deal with neglected yards. Whether a neighboring property is vacant or inhabited, the process of filing a complaint about tall grass or weeds is the same. Residents may obtain a code compliant form from City Hall or download one from the City's website at www.venetaoregon.gov. For additional information, please call the City of Veneta at 541-935-2191.

Splash into Summer at Veneta Community Pool

Activities at the Veneta Community Pool are now in full swing, with lessons, recreation, and special events planned for this month. Registration is still open for swim lessons, the next session begins on July 11, followed by July 25 and August 8. Water aerobics and lap swim take place all summer on a drop in basis. And special events catering to teens and families are coming soon.

The Annual Night Waves Teen Party takes place Friday, July 15 from 8:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Teens age 13-17 are invited to come enjoy music by DJ Barry MacGuire, dance, win prizes, and swim at this after-hours pool party. On Friday, July 29 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Family Fun Night provides an opportunity for the

whole family to play games, play with water toys and sprinklers and splash the night away.

In addition, the pool is available for private events. "Private rentals are available for any group that's looking for a great summer outing," said Public Works Director Kyle Schauer. The price of rentals is based on the number of swimmers, with rates starting at \$110.00 per hour for up to 50 people and includes the service of certified lifeguards. "It's a great bargain for company picnics, service clubs, church outings, family reunions, and more."

A complete pool schedule is available at the Veneta Community Pool at 25190 E. Broadway and www.venetaoregon.gov

\$500 REWARD

URGENT MESSAGE FOR ALL CITY OF VENETA RESIDENTS

Toxic substances have been dumped into the City's sewer collection system causing serious damage to the sewer treatment plant!

Dumping of prohibited substances is a violation of the following Veneta Municipal Codes:

13.10.260: Discharge of dangerous toxic and poisonous waters and viscous substance prohibited.

8.05.130: Unenumerated Nuisances.

The penalty for each incident ranges from \$400 to \$4000 per violation.

The City needs ALL residents to assist in identifying those individuals responsible for the prohibited dumping. It is illegal to dump, flush down drains or toilet systems, any gasoline, paint thinner, or other types of industrial or toxic solvents into the City's sewer collection system through any means whether a manhole, a business location or a city residence.

**The City is offering a \$500 reward for evidence
leading to the conviction of the responsible party(s).**

For more information or to report a lead, contact Kyle Schauer or Teresa Warrick at City Hall 541-935-2191. After hours please call 541-914-7982.



City of Veneta * 541-935-2191
88184 8th St., Veneta, OR 97487

Has Your Home Seen **Better Days??**

*St. Vincent de Paul, Society of Lane Cty., partnering with
The City of Veneta hopes to extend housing Rehabilitation to
Veneta Area Homeowners*

Call TODAY
541-743-7165

Christina Spencer

NMLS 1441426



Equal Housing Lender

***YOUR** help is needed to assess
the required funding for:*

**Roofs * Foundations * Dry Rot * Plumbing * Electrical * Heating Systems
* Windows & Doors * insulation * Siding * Paint * Much More!**

St. Vincent de Paul Society of Lane County, Inc.  in partnership with

