

The Newsletter of the  
City of Veneta

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<http://www.ci.veneta.or.us>

# City News

## Transportation Permit Fee Reduction

On March 9, the Veneta City Council passed a resolution to reduce the Transportation System Development Charges (SDC) for commercial (non-residential) development by 50 percent for one year. The cost savings could make Veneta particularly attractive to development and is in keeping with the City's recent Veneta Economic Development Strategy, which aims to encourage expansion of existing small businesses and attract new ones. In a nutshell, the resolution means that businesses wishing to expand, launch, or relocate to Veneta can save on their overall development costs.

"Transportation SDCs are one-time fees included in the building permit process," explained Kay Bork, Community Development Director. They are based on a formula that calculates the number of 'new' trips that will be generated by a new or expanded business. "The SDCs fund improvements in the overall transportation system within the City, helping to accommodate growth and making it more attractive to businesses," she continued. The money from SDCs go into the street fund in accordance with the City's capital improvement plan developed in 2005. "That plan identified many projects," Bork explained. Some examples include the Bolton Hill Rd improve-

ments, in which the City contributed to widening the street, adding bike lanes, as well as improved intersections. Another example is the Pine Street connection between East Bolton and Hunter Rd., where the City built a new street as well as curbs, gutters, sidewalks, and a bike lane. "The SDCs we collect fund those ongoing improvements that serve projected growth," Bork concluded.

Transportation SDCs are generally the lion's share of system development charges—sometimes as much as 75 percent of the total cost. So a 50 percent reduction is an attractive incentive to those considering expanding or opening a new business.

The city originally passed a Transportation SDC fee reduction in 2009. However, with little commercial development activity at the time, some questioned the value in keeping it, so it was allowed to expire in June of 2013. Since that time, interest in commercial development has been on the rise in Veneta. City of Veneta staff has experienced an uptick in inquiries about developing other commercial properties. The fee reduction was reintroduced to support this interest and encourage prospective businesses to turn their inquiries into actions and economic development for the City.

## Storage Tank Rehabilitation Project

A lot has changed since Veneta first installed the two-million gallon water reservoir at the east end of Broadway nearly 40 years ago - several new wells, additional tanks, technology upgrades, and a pipeline to bring water from Eugene.

Built in 1978, the storage reservoir has proven to be a great asset for providing water service to city residents. To protect its investment, the city is now conducting preventative maintenance.

"The tank still has its original interior coating," explained Public Works Director Kyle Schauer. "A contractor is now in the process of sandblasting the entire coating off the inside and repainting it. This will prevent rust and deterioration, and help us to preserve our water quality into the future." By rehabilitating the tank before problems develop, the city can preserve the integrity of the steel for years to come, he stated.

For the task, the city procured the services of S&K Painting, at a bid of \$352,000. The tank's interior will be sandblasted to bare metal and three

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### CITY OF VENETA - CIVIC CALENDAR - MAY 2015

Day	Event	Time
2	City Wide Clean Up - Bolton Hill Road Facility	8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
5	Veneta Planning Commission Meeting - City Hall	7:00 p.m.
6	Veneta Park Board Meeting - City Hall	4:30 p.m.
11	Veneta City Council Meeting - City Hall Veneta Urban Renewal Agency Meeting - Immediately following City Council Meeting	7:00 p.m.
14	City of Veneta Budget Committee Meeting - City Hall Veneta Urban Renewal Agency Budget Committee Meeting - Immediately following City Budget Meeting	6:00 p.m.
21	Municipal Court - City Hall	8:30 a.m.
21	City of Veneta Budget Committee Meeting - City Hall Veneta Urban Renewal Agency Budget Committee Meeting - Immediately following City Budget Meeting	6:00 p.m.
25	Veneta City Council Meeting - City Hall	Cancelled
25	Memorial Day - City Hall Closed	Closed
30	Meet Sgt. Halvorson - Fern Ridge Library	1:00 p.m.

## ***“Please Don’t Litter” Campaign Readies for Cat Breeding Season***

Spring is in the air and cat breeding is in full swing. Unfortunately, the feral cat population is a real problem in cities across the nation, and Veneta is no exception. An adult feline can start reproducing as young as five months and one female can produce as many as three litters of kittens from early spring to late fall. That’s a lot of cats!

To combat the number of stray and feral cats in the Fern Ridge area, the City of Veneta was awarded a grant from PetSmart Charities and, in January 2014, the City, along with Veneta Friends of Ferals, launched a free spay/neuter program for cats in the 97487 ZIP code.

The “Please Don’t Litter” campaign supports Veneta’s current method of managing the stray/feral cat population, called Trap-Neuter-Return. Under this program, cats are ear-tipped to mark them as altered and

then returned to their original territory, provided they do not face imminent risks. Whenever possible, kittens that can be readily socialized are offered for adoption.

The city partnered with Willamette Animal Guild and Veneta Veterinary Hospital to perform alterations and, to date, has spayed or neutered 177 cats. After reaching its goal for the first year, the city secured a second year of funding.

Residents who are aware of stray or feral cats or kittens that need to be altered, or would like to volunteer to help with the program through trapping, post-surgery care, transportation, or by donating such supplies as towels, blankets, litter boxes, or food bowls, are encouraged to contact Teresa Warrick, City of Veneta Code Enforcement Department, at 541 935-2191 or through the City’s website at:

<http://www.ci.veneta.or.us/animal.cfm>.

## ***Pool Readies for Summer Season, Offers Private Rentals***

With summer fast approaching, the Veneta Community Pool will soon kick off its fifth summer of providing family friendly fun, swim lessons, water aerobics and more. The city reminds the local community that the pool is also available for private rentals.

“Private rentals are available for any group that’s looking for a great summer outing,” said Public Works Director Kyle Schauer. Rates start at \$110.00 per hour for up to 50 people and include the services of certified lifeguards. “The rate is based on the number of swimmers and the number of lifeguards that must be on hand to keep them safe. It’s a great bargain for company picnics, service clubs, church outings, family reunions, and more.”

The pool opens to the public for recreational swimming on Saturday, June 13. In the following weeks, staff will register students for the full schedule of group and private swim lessons as well as offer water aerobics classes, lap swim, open swim, and family swim

times. Special events back by popular demand this year include the “Summer Solstice Party” on June 20 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Families are invited to celebrate the longest day of the year with music, games, and a barbeque. On July 17, from 8:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., the pool will host its “Night Waves” teen pool party for those 13 to 17. At the “Family Fun Night” on Friday, July 31, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., families can enjoy games, water toys, sprinklers, and more.

The Veneta Community Pool features a regulation lap pool, a recreation diving board, pool-side lounge chairs and changing/shower rooms. A complete schedule will appear in the City of Veneta Summer 2015 Recreation Guide, which will be available online at [www.ci.veneta.or.us](http://www.ci.veneta.or.us), the first week of June. When available, the guide can be picked up at Veneta City Hall on the west end of Broadway, or at the pool on the east end of Broadway near the city park.

## ***Storage Tank Rehabilitation Project***

layers of coating designed to protect the structure will be applied. The contract also calls for some spot repairs on the outside of the reservoir to repair scratches and chipping.

“Water customers should not notice any impact to their service,” said Schauer. “We bypassed the tank back in March when the project started and will be uti-

lizing EWEB water until the project is done in July.” In anticipation of the project, Schauer said, the city built a bypass system for the tank while it was completing the EWEB pipeline project. Funding for this preventative maintenance project is coming from the water maintenance budget and will not incur any new debt.