

# City News

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[www.venetaoregon.gov](http://www.venetaoregon.gov)

## Focus on Code Enforcement

At the October 9 City Council meeting, Code Enforcement Officer Teresa Warrick provided a “refresher course” on City Codes and Code Enforcement Policies.

“Because we have received a number of complaints about illegally parked cars and recreational vehicles, the council wanted to revisit some of those codes,” explained Warrick. The Council will not take any immediate action on this issue, but is hoping that residents will take note of and adhere to City codes.

Codes are designed to protect the health and safety of residents, visitors, and the environment by assuring compliance with land use, environmental, and construction codes. Some examples of code violations include nuisances that create a hazard such as vehicles on a jackstand or noxious vegetation that pose a fire risk or junk piles that create vermin infestations.

Warrick said that the City likes to encourage voluntary compliance. “This is gen-

*(See “Code Enforcement” on page 2)*

## City Welcomes New Team Members

The City of Veneta has recently filled an open Public Works position and enlisted two economic development specialists.

On Oct. 9, Ryan Young joined Veneta’s seven-person Public Works Department, where he will maintain landscapes and parks as well as City vehicles, equipment, and facilities.

“Ryan brings a nice overall skillset,” said

Public Works Director Kyle Schauer. “He has a strong mechanical background and holds an Associates degree in Automotive Technology.” Young worked for Weyerhaeuser for six years as well as holding a position as a metal fabricator for Reynolds Machinery Design in Veneta since 2014. “He has lived in Veneta for the past four years and really

*(See “Team Members” on page 2)*

## Let the Holidays Begin

Veneta will soon be awash in holiday spirit as cherished events draw us together.

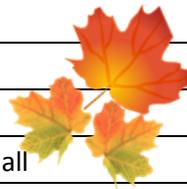
On Nov. 30 at 6:00 p.m., gather for the traditional Tree Lighting Ceremony at Veneta Elementary School (VES) bus loop plaza. Youth choirs will fill the night with song as the lights on the tree come ablaze. In keeping with tradition, Santa Claus will arrive on a fire truck while Key Club elves ensure that every child is able to visit the old elf. Kiwanis of Fern Ridge will be serving free hot cocoa.

On Dec. 7 at 7:00 p.m., the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Fern Ridge Light Parade will paint the night with thousands of twinkling lights. Dozens of floats will roll through the streets in what has become a most cherished tradition for the Veneta community. To register a float contact the Veneta Fern Ridge Chamber of Commerce at 541-935-8443 or visit the Chamber’s website at [www.fernridgechamber.com](http://www.fernridgechamber.com). Entry forms for the parade can be picked up at the Chamber office or the City of Veneta.

### CITY OF VENETA - CIVIC CALENDAR - NOVEMBER 2017

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

1	Veneta Park Board Meeting - City Hall	4:30 p.m.
5	Daylight Saving Time - Fall Back	
6	City Council - Special Meeting - City Hall	6:30 p.m.
7	Planning Commission Meeting - City Hall	6:30 p.m.
8	Economic Development Committee Meeting - City Hall	2:00 p.m.
10	City Hall Closed in Observance of Veterans' Day	Closed
11	Veterans' Day	Closed
13	City Council Meeting - City Hall	6:30 p.m.
	Urban Renewal Agency Meeting immediately following City Council Meeting	
16	Municipal Court - City Hall	8:30 a.m.
23	Thanksgiving Day - City Hall Closed	Closed
24	City Hall closed in Observance of Thanksgiving Holiday	Closed
27	City Council Meeting - City Hall	Cancelled
30	Tree Lighting Veneta Elementary School	6:00 p.m.



## Code Enforcement

erally less expensive for all parties and has a satisfactory and lasting result,” she said. “The City would prefer that residents understand and abide by the codes and regulations that have been put in place to make the City more attractive and livable.”

Among the Council priorities for enforcement are violations that pose an imminent threat to public health or the environment, those affecting storm drainage and wetlands, building code infractions, animal incidents, land-use and zoning, and multiple complaints on the same property.

The City responds to written citizen complaints on violations, with vehicles, high grass, and animal control

## Team Members

enjoys being part of this community,” added Schauer. “We’re pleased to hire a Veneta resident,” added City Administrator Ric Ingham. “Having someone who lives here and can respond to urgent needs is just one of the benefits of hiring Ryan.”

The City has also selected Corum Ketchum as its new University of Oregon RARE (Resource Assistance for Rural Environments) Participant, replacing Marina Brassfield. Ketchum will continue the work started by his predecessors to implement the “Veneta Economic Development Strategy: Five-Year Action Plan.”

That plan articulates the City’s role in economic development, outlines the resources it can commit to support the needs of entrepreneurs for the benefit of the entire community, and serves as a blueprint to help the City do an even better job of targeting economic development in the near term.

“The ‘Plan’s’ intent is to help create new economic and

## Prepare for Winter

### Leaf Pickup on Tuesday and Thursday

The City of Veneta began picking up bagged leaves left at curbside in October and will continue each Tuesday and Thursday until the end of January 2018. Bags are to contain leaves only, no garbage or other yard debris, and must be tied shut.

As an alternative, residents may place leaves in the yard debris container provided by Sanipac or use them for mulch or compost for gardens or flower-beds. Residents should be aware that some properties contain protected wetlands and take special care when removing vegetation. Questions about wetlands can be directed to Associate Planner Lisa Garbett at 541-935-2191.

### Keeping Streets and Sidewalks Clear

As winter approaches, leaves can pile in the streets, blocking street drainage. The City street sweeper is often unable to clean a street properly when basketball hoops,

topping the list of calls Warrick receives. Warrick will then visit the involved property to conduct a site investigation. If a code violation exists, she will make a follow-up call to the resident to discuss how the issue can be resolved. Only if an issue is not resolved will the City issue a fine. If the issue is not addressed at that point, the City may correct the violation and place a lien on the property for abatement costs.

To learn more about City codes, visit the City of Veneta’s website at [www.venetaoregon.gov](http://www.venetaoregon.gov), contact Teresa Warrick at 541-935-2191, or email [twarrick@ci.veneta.or.us](mailto:twarrick@ci.veneta.or.us)

employment opportunities in the community,” Ingham explained. “We’d like to see more jobs created locally so our residents don’t have to commute out of the area.”

Like other RARE Participants, Ketchum recently completed a four-year degree at the University of Oregon and will now spend a year working with a rural community before moving on to his post-graduate work.

“He is already helping the economic development committee work through the Middle Mile project, which will bring broadband to Veneta residents and businesses,” Ingham explained.

Simultaneously, the City Council authorized the budget for a temporary half-time Urban Renewal Specialist, selecting Marina Brassfield after a thorough search process. “As a RARE Participant, she had already conducted a downtown market analysis and ‘next step’ strategy to revitalize that area as part of the five-year plan,” Ingham said. “Now she can continue that work.”

garbage cans, illegally parked vehicles and recreational vehicles are being left or parked in the public right-of-ways. Under the Veneta Municipal Code Chapter 12.15.010, “Public rights-of-way” include, but are not limited to, streets, roads, highways, bridges, alleys, sidewalks, trails, paths, public easements and all other public ways or areas, including subsurface and air space over these areas. “The elderly, handicapped, children, people with strollers and dog walkers are especially endangered when they can’t walk on the sidewalk and must de-tour into the street,” says Public Works Director Kyle Schauer. “Please move basketball hoops and any other impediments onto your property when not in use.”

The City’s intent is to ensure pedestrian safety and to maintain its streets and drainage systems. Contact the Code Enforcement Officer Teresa Warrick with questions about City ordinances at 541-935-2191.

# 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



Annual Veneta Fern Ridge Chamber Event

# Tree Lighting

Thursday, Nov. 30

Veneta Elementary  
88131 Territorial Hwy.

Santa  
Arrives  
6 PM

Tree  
Lighting  
6:15 PM

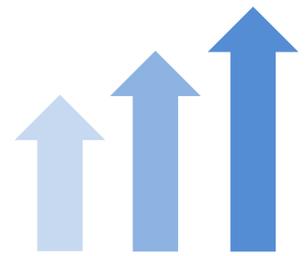
School  
Choirs to  
Follow

SEE *Santa!*

Enjoy FREE  
*Hot Cocoa!*  
by Kiwanis

# Veneta Economic Development

## NEWS



An Occasional Publication of the Veneta Economic Development Committee

November 2017

### Message from the Chair

By the time you see this, it will actually be the beginning of the holiday season. Your mailbox will be stuffed with sale ads; your email inbox will be screaming Black Friday and Cyber Monday. Some of the opportunities seem too good to be true (and perhaps some of them are).

*“Join us [this holiday season] in growing Veneta’s economy and finding a niche for our many local businesses”*

This is not a plea for you to ignore all those deals and only shop local. Like you, I will succumb to some of them I’m sure. This is, however, a suggestion that you also look at the gifts you can buy locally. Buy the 70-inch TV if you must, but also visit downtown Veneta and Elmira, visit the many holiday bazaars and craft shows. Find the things locally that you cannot find online or in the nearest big box store: small items, well and custom made; things that represent the maker’s labor of love. Visit a local winery and get a gift for your wine loving friends, and perhaps pick up a bottle or two for your own holiday celebrations. If you get a Christmas tree, get it from one of the many local vendors, maybe even where you can select your own tree while it is still in the ground.

A growing economy requires a wide variety of choices. I’m happy that there are some things I can’t buy in Veneta. I don’t want to see a 100,000-square foot store blocking our views of the forest and the lake. But I am also very glad that I can get many things right here at home. And I might even be willing to pay a few pennies more to make sure that some of the specialty stores of which Veneta can be so proud, can compete with the large outlets in Eugene or Springfield. As in all things, balance and moderation are the key.

Hopefully your holiday season will be bright, and as we begin another new year you will be ready to join us in growing Veneta’s economy and finding a niche for our many local businesses

- Len Goodwin, EDC Chair

### What’s Being Built Along Highway 126?



Photo of the construction along HWY 126

Many have noticed the recent excavation activities in the Veneta Business Park near Cornerstone Drive. We are excited to share that this work is in preparation for the new Fern Ridge Self Storage facility that will be opening in the spring of 2018. This new location will provide Veneta and the surrounding community with an additional supply of storage units that are needed now and also to support future community growth.

*“...We found that Veneta is truly ‘open for business’”*

My wife Michelle and I are happy that we have been able to expand our business within Veneta. A project like this is complicated, but throughout the process we found that Veneta is truly “open for business”. Even at this early stage of construction, we have some local entities to thank for their assistance. First and foremost, the officials and staff at the City of Veneta have provided the framework needed to work through land development processes and approvals. And for construction activities, special thanks goes out to Goebel Engineering and Survey, Greensuns Excavation, and our long-time financial partner Banner Bank.

Looking forward, we hope others businesses will choose to build in the Veneta Business Park bringing with them new jobs and increased availability of quality goods and services in our community.

- Herb Vloedman, Fern Ridge Self Storage, EDC Vice-Chair

### Veneta Quick Facts

Population:	2000	2010	2014	Avg. Growth Rate		Veneta	Lane County
Veneta	2,762	4,565	4,690	5.0%	Median Age	34.9	39.2
Lane County	322,959	352,010	358,805	0.8%	Average Household Size	2.75	2.38
<i>The EDC Celebrates Successes: Since 2016, EDC members and volunteers have enabled: LTD Route 93 to Veneta, the 2017 Small Business Showcase, and the Chamber Jobs Board!</i>					Average Family Size	3.16	2.9
					Median Home Value	\$169,400	\$214,300
					Median Household Income	\$45,705	\$43,685

## Committee Mission

*The purpose of the Veneta Economic Development Committee is to support existing businesses and attract new businesses. The mission is to pursue the economic interest of Veneta by constructing and implementing policy development and programs.*

## Events and Dates to Remember

<b>Economic Dev. Committee Public Meeting</b>	<b>Nov. 8th 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.</b> Veneta City Administrative Center 88184 8 <sup>th</sup> Street, Veneta
<b>Holiday Bazaar</b>	<b>Nov. 17th and 18th</b> <b>10 a.m. – 5 p.m.</b>
<b>RAIN Business Mentorship Drop-in Hours</b>	<b>Nov. 21 and every 4th Tuesday</b> <b>4 p.m. - 7 p.m.</b> Veneta—Fern Ridge Chamber, 24949 HWY 126, Veneta

## Profiles of the Committee Members: Ron Osibov

My interest in serving on the Economic Development Committee is motivated by my personal and professional interest in economic development from a career education perspective. I have spent over 30 years leading career education efforts for high school students and am currently Director at West Lane Technical Learning Center (WLTLC)- a public Charter High School in the Fern Ridge School District.

*“Serving on the [EDC] allows me to share my insights...”*

My membership on this committee helps me to understand local economic development efforts and link youth/adult instruction to local and regional job opportunities. As an example of this linkage, I shared with our committee information about *Eugene - WorkSource Oregon*, one of 41 job centers around the state open to youth and adults for career exploration, education and job placement. *WorkSource Oregon* centers also provide support services to businesses that include the posting of jobs available for youth and adults. Serving on the Economic Development Committee allows me to share my insights (see aforementioned example) and support the economic evolution of our community.

- Ron Osibov, Director, West Lane Technical Learning Center



Osibov (right) being awarded 2012 CTE Admin. of the Year by the Oregon Association for Career & Technical Ed.

## 2017-2018 EDC Work Plan—Top 10

#	Description
1	Develop and expand upon business expansion and retention programs including business development toolkits and the Small Business Showcase
2	Pursue the expansion and installation of a fiber optics line to, and throughout, Veneta to bring the City, and the Fern Ridge community, more fully into the communication age.
3	Implement the findings from the 2017 Downtown Retail Market Analysis
4	Work with regional tourism associations and wine industry to increase tourism activity in the area.
5	Develop criteria used to determine how the City of Veneta prioritizes projects and allocates funding and other support for incentivizing economic development.
6	Collaborate with Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) to increase consistent and attractive way-finding signage and direct traffic off of Highway 126 into downtown Veneta and to Veneta businesses.
7	Continue to monitor commercial “problem properties” through code enforcement and nuisance ordinances.
8	Continue making beautification improvements at key locations or along corridors that are not only appealing to residents and visitors, but signals to prospective businesses that the community invests in public aesthetics.
9	Provide regular updates to real estate agencies on availability of developable sites.
10	Collaborate with regional economic development agencies/groups and other communities to recruit industry and businesses to the area.

## Veneta Economic Development Committee Members

Len Goodwin, Chair	<a href="mailto:lenelmira@gmail.com">lenelmira@gmail.com</a>
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