

Outbuilding Ordinances and Building Permits

The City of Veneta uses building codes, permits, and inspections to help preserve the beauty and livability of our City and promote harmony between proposed and existing land uses. Building codes set minimum construction standards to safeguard lives, health, and property. Inspections give current and future owners of a home the assurance that construction was completed properly.

Failing to obtain a permit when one is required can be a costly decision. "Established ordinances are not open to interpretation," explained Community Development Director

Evan MacKenzie. If you're uncertain whether a planned project needs a permit, please contact the Veneta Planning Department before purchasing materials. "Our goal is to ensure that residents can finish a project once it's started," he said. "We are happy to help!"

It's important to note that not all improvements require a permit. For instance a non-habitable detached structure or outbuilding that will be used as a storage shed, playhouse or similar purpose, and that is less than 200 square feet and not more than 10 feet in height are exempt. Ordinances gov-

erning how and where an outbuilding may be erected still apply.

The City of Veneta's Land Development Ordinance No. 493, Section 5.01(5) states that, "Except for garages and carports, accessory structures including those not requiring a building permit, shall not be located between any front or side street and a principal building and must comply with the minimum yard setbacks for the zone in which they are located."

"Among other goals, this ordinance ensures that residents have a clear line of sight from their home to the street

for personal safety," explained Associate Planner Lisa Garbett. "Accessory buildings cannot obstruct those views."

Any outbuilding that is attached to an existing structure, however, still requires a building permit regardless of size, she continued. Also, all accessory structures (regardless of whether or not a building permit applies) are required to have a minimum roof pitch of 2:12 and a maximum building height of 24 feet in a residential zone per City ordinance.

New Public Bus Service Now in Operation!

The Eugene to Florence public bus service began Tuesday, February 18th. Link Lane, a Lane Council of Governments (LCOG) service, is operating this route seven days per week with two round trips per day. This route includes stops in Veneta. The cost of a one-way ticket is \$5.00.

The route from Eugene to Florence starts at the Amtrak Station in Eugene, then out Highway 126 with a stop in Veneta, Mapleton, Three

Rivers Casino Resort, and then makes a stop at the Old Town Park on Bay Street. This service is open to the public and is a great option for those that choose not to drive, individuals with mobility challenges, and seniors.

In addition, LCOG says the route is still in the pilot phase of operation. Schedule times and stops will be adjusted as needed to accommodate travel times, connections with other services, and key destinations.



CIVIC CALENDAR March 2020

All meetings held at City Hall unless otherwise noted

3	Planning Commission	6:30 p.m.
4	Park Board	4:30 p.m.
8	Daylight Savings Time Begins	
9	City Council Meeting - Urban Renewal Agency meeting - immediately following	6:30 p.m.
11	Economic Development Committee meeting	2:00 p.m.
17	HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY	
19	Municipal Court	8:30 a.m.
23	City Council Meeting	6:30 p.m.

For bus route schedule visit:

<https://www.lcog.org/1068/Public-Transit>

For questions and route updates:

Call Lane Council of Governments 541-682-4283

Q & A on the Proposed School Resource Officer

Over the last several months, the Fern Ridge School District (FRSD) has engaged the City of Veneta about sharing the cost for a new School Resource Officer (SRO).

Q: What was the School District’s SRO proposal to the City of Veneta?

A: The School District proposed that the City equally share the cost of a new, full-time SRO from the Lane County Sheriff’s Office (LCSO). The estimated cost of an SRO is about \$172,000 annually. Contracting for an SRO through the City would be less expensive than the School District contracting directly with LCSO.

Q: What was the City’s response to the FRSD’s proposal?

A: The City proposed that the School District cover 75% of the SRO and the City would cover 25% of the SRO cost, plus the additional cost of increasing the City’s half-time sergeant to full-time for adequate and safe supervision of the City’s 4 deputies and the School District’s new SRO. Further, LCSO offered to temporarily subsidize the City’s cost for part of the sergeant position and pay for the costs of equipping the SRO. The estimated contribution amount of LCSO’s sergeant subsidy and SRO equipment is about \$97,000.

Q: With a 25/75 cost share for an SRO plus the City increasing its sergeant to full-time, what would the City and the School District each pay for an SRO program?

A: The Table below shows the estimated costs for an SRO program over the next four years.

Year 1	Cost to City	Cost to FRSD	Covered by LCSO	Total
Total	\$ 91,000	\$ 129,000	\$ 97,000	\$ 317,000
Year 2	Cost to City	Cost to FRSD	Covered by LCSO	Total
Total	\$ 110,000	\$ 133,000	\$ 33,000	\$ 276,000
Year 3	Cost to City	Cost to FRSD	Covered by LCSO	Total
Total	\$ 131,000	\$ 137,000	\$ 17,000	\$ 285,000
Year 4	Cost to City	Cost to FRSD	Covered by LCSO	Total
Total	\$ 152,000	\$ 141,000	\$ -	\$ 293,000

Q: Would an SRO program benefit the City?

- A: Potential benefits to the City of a local School Resource Officer Program include:
- Increase in deputy response time for emergent situations due to the SRO being in the area.
 - Reduction in City deputies responding to school calls for service due to the SRO handling those calls, putting that time for school investigations back to calls within the City.
 - SRO is assigned to the City during summer months providing additional patrols and case management for youth, freeing City deputies to focus on other calls within the City.
 - Backfilling City deputies in the summer to provide coverage in the City during scheduled seniority vacations.
 - Increasing the 1/2 time sergeant position to a full time position, providing more supervision, increased response time for calls that require a cover unit, and foster relationships within the community.

Q: When will a final decision about an SRO Program be made?

The School Board will decide on March 16th whether to fund an SRO program in partnership with the City, or fund an SRO program without the City, or not fund an SRO. If the School Board elects to partner with the City, then the City would engage in a public process over several months on potential funding sources for the City’s share of the SRO program, including a monthly public safety fee of around \$4.00 on City utility bills.