

The Newsletter of the
City of Veneta

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City News

Veneta updates its Comprehensive Plan

Since 2000 Veneta has been the fastest growing city in Lane County. The City's population has grown from 2755 to 4610 between 2000 and 2012, a 67 percent growth rate.

Rapid growth has placed pressure on City facilities, specifically available water supply. Veneta's 2009 Water Master Plan pointed out current and future deficiencies that could not be met by continued development of groundwater resources, leaving the City to look outside of its Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) for new water sources. These water limitations threaten both residential service and future economic development.

In order to meet future water demands the City entered into a partnership with EWEB to construct a water pipeline that is expected to meet the City's water supply needs for at least the next 50 years. The pipeline project is the impetus for the City to update all of its relevant planning documents to reflect existing and future condi-

tions and projections.

The adopted 2009 Lane County Coordinated Population projects Veneta's population to grow to 10,505 by 2035, warranting further new analysis and plan amendments. In order to plan for this projected growth, the City will conduct several planning studies to update the City's Comprehensive Plan.

The first of these studies is a Residential Buildable Lands Inventory (BLI), based on land information as of June 2013, to quantify the amount of vacant and underdeveloped land available within Veneta's UGB. A BLI allows a community to determine whether or not there is an adequate supply of buildable land to accommodate future housing needs.

A Housing Needs Analysis and potential UGB analysis will be completed separately. If it is determined that future population growth will require more buildable land than is available in the UGB, the community's governing

bodies can then implement measures to address those unmet housing land needs.

The City will conduct similar studies to determine if the UGB contains an adequate 20 year supply of Employment Lands, (commercial and Industrial land) to meet projected employment and the development of targeted industries.

Veneta's Planning Commission will review the technical work at their regularly scheduled meetings on the first Tuesday of each month and will make recommendations to the City Council. If changes to the Comprehensive Plan are needed to meet projected housing needs, the City will conduct additional public outreach to gather input.

The City projects that the entire revision process will take two years. If you have any questions please contact Community Development Director Kay Bork, at 541-935-2191 or kbork@ci.veneta.or.us

Wetland Protection Overlay

In 2006 the City of Veneta zoned approximately 288 acres inside the city limits as a greenway. The Greenway Overlay covers all wetlands identified in Veneta's 1998 Local Wetlands Inventory and newly delineated wetlands or wetlands whose boundaries have changed since that inventory. The greenway also includes a protected 50 feet buffer area on each side of the wetlands.

The purpose of the greenway, when it was being established, was to adhere to state and federal regulations that require protection of wetlands, stipulating that such wetlands should remain undisturbed.

"The greenway's main function is to protect water quality within the wetlands by prohibiting development within the buffer area," says City Administrator Ric Ingham.

The buffer is necessary to protect wetlands from an influx of sediment and nutrients, to protect wetlands

August 2013		Veneta Civic Calendar	August 2013
Date	Time	Meeting/Event	
6	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting - City Hall	
7	4:30 p.m.	Park Board Meeting - City Hall	
12	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting - City Hall Urban Renewal Agency Meeting Immediately Following	
15	8:30 a.m.	Municipal Court - City Hall	
26	7:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting - City Hall	

See GREENWAY, page 2

Community pool to host movie night and a carnival!

During the dog days of summer, there is no better place to beat the heat than the Veneta Community Pool. And as the season wraps up, the pool offers more than just swimming.

Flick and Float Family Movie Night takes place Saturday, August 17 from 8:15 to 10 p.m. Normal family swim pass fee applies: \$10 for in city residents and \$12 for out of city residents (up to five family members per pass) and family season passes will be accepted.

The August fun doesn't stop until the pool season ends with a bang. The pool will host an End of Year Pool Carnival Friday, August 30 from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Normal recreation swim rates apply. The pool closes for the season



Swimming lessons at the Veneta Community Pool.

at the end of the carnival, which will feature games, water relay races, raft building competitions, free popsicles and more.

Swim lesson scholarships are still available, on a financial need basis, for the last session of swim lessons, which takes place from August 5 to 15. Inquire at the pool for qualification guidelines and to apply.

Veneta City Council has allocated funds from the Zumwalt Campground discretionary fund to help relieve the cost of lessons for city residents with financial need. The goal, says City Recorder Chris Workman, is to make sure that every child in the city who wants lessons can take them without too much of a financial burden on families.

Greenway: protecting Veneta's wetlands

from direct human disturbance, to protect sensitive wildlife species from adverse impacts and to protect wetlands from the adverse effects of changes in quantity of water entering the wetland.

Generally, no new development can occur within the greenway – except for the construction of paths, installa-

tion of utilities and, in some cases, new streets.

For a complete list of what is and what is not allowed to occur in the greenway you can visit the City's web site at:

<http://www.ci.veneta.or.us/pdf/ordinances/Ordinance493AdoptedJan252009.pdf>

Music and fun at the Veneta Downtown Farmer's Market

Veneta's Farmers' Market is coming into bloom with diversified attendance, new vendors and a lineup of musical performances throughout the market season, though locally grown produce continues to take center stage.

According to Market Manager Marie Pickett, the partnership between the City of Veneta and the Oregon Country Fair (OCF) to put on a series of monthly events has allowed the Veneta Downtown Farmer's Market to upgrade its advertising, increasing its exposure and enticing more musicians, artisans and farmers to attend.

"As soon as the Oregon Country Fair chose to co-sponsor the Fourth Friday Market Place, other entities such as the Eugene Weekly wanted to participate with promoting the event," says Pickett. "Now, with these partners we have the ability to print handbills for Fourth Fridays that can be distributed in Eugene as well, making the Fourth Fridays a destination for customer in Eugene and Florence."

Pickett says that the Veneta Downtown Farmer's Market also hopes to become a popular destination for many cyclists who regularly ride through the Fern Ridge area.

The Fourth Friday events, which take place between 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. on the fourth Friday of each month, are a collaboration between the Veneta Downtown Farmer's Market, City of Veneta, Oregon Country Fair and the Fern

Ridge Chamber of Commerce.

"Our June Fourth Friday was a good start. We had the band Etouffee and they were a big success," says Pickett. "On a very hot day we saw over 300 visitors to the Farmer's Market supporting 20 vendors."

Pickett says she considers the entire month of June a success, with vendors and visitors both picking up right where they left off last September. That momentum continued into July, with 12 to 15 vendors weekly selling farm-fresh produce and crafts and 20-25 vendors committed to attending the Fourth Friday event.

The July event featured a performance by the band My Father's Ghost, which KRVM DJ Mike Meyers calls one of the best new bands in the PNW. July also featured a children's day at the Market, which has face painting every week.

In August, the Texas Toasters will bring their version of Western Swing and Jive to the Market and September features rockabilly from the band Atomic Junkyard. Tatiemo, a trio of local musicians, will play at the Market on the first Friday of both months.

For updates on upcoming activities, you can visit the Market's new Facebook page online at: <https://www.facebook.com/VenetasDowntownFarmersMarket>