

# City of Monmouth

## City Manager's Report

*A Report on City of Monmouth News, Happenings, Successes and Other Items*

*July 29, 2014*

### 2014-15 Council Goals

Monmouth has seen a great deal of progress over the past few years. Much of this is based on the ambitious goals that have been set by the City Council. This year is no different. Official City Council goals for 2014-15 are:

- Obtain Additional Street Funding
- Complete the Transportation SDC Update
- Evaluate Visioning Alternatives – schedule if project approved
- Begin Construction of Senior Center Expansion Project
- Determine Preferred Option for Improving the City Hall facility
- Select Development Plan for Warren St. Project
- Construct the New Police Station

### Police Station

Speaking of Council goals, after struggling with funding and design issues, our project team has been working diligently to develop the final design plans for our new Police Station. These plans have been submitted for plan review. After they are routed through the relevant City departments for comment, final tweaks will be made and we will then be ready to line up our construction subcontractors. Groundbreaking is getting closer.....

### Madrona Park Groundbreaking

And speaking of groundbreaking, we held an eventful groundbreaking at Madrona Park to kick off that project. The Madrona Park improvements will be the largest park project undertaken by the

City. In addition to construction of a new 8-foot wide asphalt perimeter trail around the park, the project includes:

- An arboretum with 90 new trees;
- A native plant garden with more than 1,200 plants;
- Nature trails with interpretive signage in a native plant garden;
- Irrigated recreation fields;
- A permanent restroom; and
- Playground improvements.



The cost for the project is \$620,000. Monmouth received two grants totaling \$412,000 from the Oregon State Parks Department to help fund the project. In addition, the Monmouth Garden Club and Monmouth Power & Light each contributed \$10,000 and the local Elks Club donated soccer goals. The remaining \$188,000 for the project will be paid using Parks System Development Charges (SDCs). Ten organizations stepped up to support the project. Construction is underway.

## Talmadge Road Pedestrian Improvements

## 2014-15 Budget

Periodically, concerns have been expressed about the pedestrian safety of the stretch of Talmadge Road, just north of Madrona St. to the smaller Talmadge Rd. Typically, sidewalks are built when property is developed. Since no development has happened in this segment, no sidewalks were built. This has led to pedestrians using a bike lane, which isn't the best situation.

The City of Monmouth and Polk County have been working for some time to improve pedestrian safety in this area. I have heard some comments that it should be a simple and quick fix to just build a sidewalk. Projects we work on are rarely simple. In this case, our first task was to acquire the right-of-way needed to expand the roadway to accommodate a sidewalk. This expansion requires the relocation of utilities and revision to the stormwater system. After the right-of-way was acquired, the improvements needed to be designed. Design included consultation with all of the utilities affected.

Then there's the issue of how do you pay for said improvements. For this project, the City of Monmouth and Polk County are splitting construction costs. Polk County is taking care of right-of-way acquisition, design and planning and construction management. This partnership was approved through a written agreement. Excluding the planning and construction management and some other items, this "simple" project will cost about \$180,000. We really appreciate the County's leadership and support on this important project.

Preliminary construction work has been completed on the project already. The project starts in earnest this week. Please note that this road segment will be closed through the end of August. A detour will be set up using Madrona St. and Edwards Road.



The City starts the budget year in very good shape. Except for the Street Fund, all of our Funds are financially sound. Capital projects are scheduled to keep making Monmouth better and better. We also had the opportunity to add funds to the Library budget to enhance their ability to attend training and added an administrative support position to the Police Department. Also, because we are fiscally conservative, we were able to allocate reserve funds to cover possible unanticipated costs for the new Police Station. Most cities wouldn't have been in the position to do this. All in all, we'll just keep providing great services and improving the town.

## Election

The City holds elections for City Council every two years. This year is an election year. The Mayor's seat and three City Council positions will be decided in November. If you are interested in running for office, please contact Phyllis Bolman at 503-751-0145. She can walk you through the procedures to run for office. City staff or a current member of Council can help you understand what it means to be a Mayor or City Councilor. The filing deadline for this year's election is August 26.

If you have any questions about items in this report or anything related to the City, please call me at 503-751-0146 or e-mail me at [smcclure@ci.monmouth.or.us](mailto:smcclure@ci.monmouth.or.us).

**Scott McClure**  
City Manager

