



City Manager's Report

12.5.2023

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE:

- The all-staff City luncheon will take place on December 6.
- **Emergency Management Coordinator:**
 - Met with Rogue Food Unites, contract development for responder support (meals) during disasters.
 - ADS adoption of SRP (Iloveyouguys foundation)
 - Coordinated messaging with Ashland High School and Ashland Police Department during incident at AHS Nov 13th (hoax emails and "Secure" Action)
 - New evacuation signs for each zone have been purchased and likely be installed this spring.
 - Disaster prep for senior citizens, regional meeting on December 7.
 - Oregon Shakespeare Festival safety team coordination meeting on November 15, focusing on wildfire preparedness for their employees.
 - Coordinated with the Ashland School District, Transportation Division, on becoming bus drivers in an evacuation.
- **December News:** The December 2023 newsletter is available online at ashland.or.us/Communications, and will be mailed out in City Utility Bills during the month of December. The newsletter contains January happenings.

FINANCE:

- Annual Financial Audit continues, will be finalized in December.
- Reminder that Utility Billing is open for in-person service at The Grove on Fridays, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Utility Assistance Program underway, applications are found at: [Utilities Assistance Programs – Utilities Customer Services – Finance – City of Ashland, Oregon.](#)

FIRE:

- Donated a fire engine to the Greensprings Rural Fire District – View news release on [City website](#).
- Welcomed new employees:
 - **Mark Shay**, Deputy Chief Fire Marshal
 - **Tom McGowan**, Division Chief of Training
- Chief **Ralph Sartain** and Battalion Chief **Lance Menold** will be traveling to Washington, December 17 and 18, to pick up a new ambulance.
- The process to hire four more single role-EMS providers has begun.

PARKS & RECREATION:

- The Ashland Rotary Centennial Ice Rink in Lithia Park opened November 18 – The gala opening celebration, FIRST FROST, is scheduled for December 16, ashland.or.us/IceRink.
- APRC staff attended the Oregon Recreation and Parks Association (ORPA) conference November 6–8. They brought home three ORPA awards: Volunteer Service Award for Senior Services volunteer Kathy McNeal, Private Sector Partner Award for [Rogue World Music](#), and Section for Older Adult Resources Award for Outstanding Management Staff for **Isleen Glatt**!
- Parks Commissioners unanimously approved staff pursue a parks system-wide Salmon Safe certification in partnership with SOU's (Southern Oregon University) Institute for Applied Sustainability. This Portland-based regionally focused organization will support APRC's goals of enhancing existing





City Manager's Report

land management practices to better protect salmon habitat as well as reduce erosion, increase water efficiency and improve stormwater management.

- The Conversation Clusters project launched on October 31. The news release generated attention from Channel KDRV Newswatch 12, and a Facebook post spread the word on social media. The survey will remain open until December 17.
- The Senior Services Division thanks Ashland Firefighters Local 1269 for a lovely afternoon of pie and seasonal beverages at Ashland Senior Center on November 20. The firefighters donate their personal time and funds to continue this annual tradition. Photos of the event are posted on the Ashland Parks and Recreation [Facebook](#) page.
- Seniors are invited to a festive Holiday Party at Ashland Senior Center on December 22, 2-3:30 p.m. Event sponsor Village at Valley View will provide festive treats, cookies and beverages. OLLI's (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute) French Caroling class will perform familiar Christmas Carols in French, and Rotary Club of Ashland will provide gifts to the first 60 people who register. Sign up at 541.488.5342.

WHAT'S COMING UP?

- **Butler-Perozzi Fountain Talk** on December 6, 5:30 p.m. at the Ashland Library
- **Project FeederWatch** at North Mountain on alternate Saturdays at 8 a.m., beginning December 9
- The [Siskiyou Singers](#) will hold their holiday concerts December 8-10 at the Southern Oregon University Music Recital Hall
- December 15-17, the [Rogue Valley Symphony](#) offers "Home for the Holidays" at the Bowmer Theatre and the [Southern Oregon Repertory Singers](#) hold their performances, "In Times of Softest Snow," at the SOU Music Recital Hall