

JULY 2020

THE CITY BUDGET IN THE AGE OF COVID-19

The City Budget Committee met in May and approved a budget that was adopted by the Council in June for the fiscal year 2021 that began on the 1st of July. The revenues projected in the budget were based on past years, even though we know our revenues will be far less than predicted. We did this because we have no real guess as to what the real revenues will be. The City Manager has been tasked with closely monitoring revenues and we will conduct a budget review in October, after the end of the first quarter in FY 21.



What do we expect to see? Well, we expect state gas tax revenues to decrease, and this will impact our street maintenance budget. We know our hotels have a lot of vacancies and this will decrease our revenues from room taxes. We projected \$738,000 in lodging taxes, and we know this figure is too high, but we have no idea what an accurate number might be. With Round-Up canceled and no tax dollars coming from the thousands of tourists who come to Pendleton each September, we expect some grim numbers at the end of September. Our Tourism Promotion fees help fund the Convention Center and Travel Pendleton, so those entities will also face a loss of revenues.

Expect to hear about some significant budget cuts as we get deeper into FY 21.

To help offset these revenue losses, we decided not to open the Aquatic Center this year. Even when running at full capacity, the Aquatics center loses about \$250,000 each summer, and we had budgeted \$607,000 to run it in FY 21. Much of that money will be saved to help with the gap in general fund revenues. Pendleton will also receive \$500,000 in CARES Act money which are Federal dollars passed through the State. The Council is discussing how to use those funds and we expect part of them to be used as grants to local businesses. We expect to have access to additional CARES Act funds that will be given to Umatilla County and some of these funds will be used for business grants that our citizens can apply for. A joint Cities-County working group will determine the best way to spend these grant dollars and put together a common application process.

To date, the City of Pendleton has provided grants of \$150,000 for businesses inside the urban renewal district (using urban renewal dollars from the taxes coming from the district) and another grant program using Business Oregon dollars will be used to help businesses that were not eligible for the urban renewal district grants. The goal will be to make sure all eligible businesses have a chance to receive a grant before other grant recipients receive a second award. The County ran a small grant program earlier and is a very helpful partner with Pendleton.

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COUNCIL MEETINGS

July 21 City Council 7 pm PDC Meeting 6 pm August 4 City Council 7 pm August 18 City Council 7 pm PDC Meeting 6 pm

> All meetings in the Council Chambers **FOR A FULL LIST OF MEETINGS VISIT** http://www.pendleton.or.us/

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor	541-922-8605
At Large	541-969-2252
At Large	541-276-7111
Ward I	541-310-1117
Ward I	541-276-0644
Ward 2	541-969-3345
Ward 2	541-310-7306
Ward 3	541-240-1117
Ward 3	541-969-1188
	At Large At Large Ward I Ward I Ward 2 Ward 2 Ward 3

CITY OF PENDLETON

Administration	541-966-0201	
Airport	541-276-7754	
Attorney	541-966-0206	
Convention Center	541-276-6569	
Community Dev.	541-966-0203	
Facilities	541-966-0201	
Finance	541-966-0207	
Fire	541-276-1442	
Library	541-966-0380	
Municipal Court	541-966-0209	
Parks/Rec/Cemetery	541-276-8100	
Police	541-276-4411	
Public Works	541-276-3078	
500 SW Dorion Ave. Pendleton. OR		



VIRTUALLY HELD via ZOOM. On Monday August 3rd, access code to be shared via website

The City Budget in the Age of COVID-19 continued

On a brighter note, paving contracts budgeted in FY 20 are either just beginning or wrapping up. The repair bill for SE Byers is more than a million dollars and I am sure the residents of that area are anxious to see their street repaired after enduring the 8th Street Bridge construction project for several years. Cheaper oil prices and lower than expected bids have allowed us to repair a lot more blocks of city streets than we originally thought.

The money provided by the FAA and the CARES Act is allowing major construction projects to proceed at the Airport, including a major runway paving project and infrastructure improvements. Also, the CARES Act dollars will allow the Airport to pay off the approximately \$2 million that it owes the City from an inter-fund loan. Those are not general fund debts however, so they can't be used to cover potential losses of general fund revenue in FY 21.

Masks: I am concerned with our rapidly growing number of COVID infections in Umatilla County and I ask for your continued cooperation by wearing a mask when indoors in public places. If our infection rates threaten to overwhelm our hospital capacity, we place ourselves in danger of being driven back into Phase I. This would have a very negative effect on local businesses, so let's work together to keep our masks, physical distancing, and handwashing measures in effect. If you think you might have the virus, don't go to work or out in public!

Stay Well,

Mayor John Turner



HOUSING IS A GOAL OF THE CITY COUNCIL

In 2017, the City Council determined that a lack of housing in Pendleton was acting as a brake on Pendleton's economy. The Council made housing one of its top priorities. While increasing housing for all levels of income is the goal, the Council realizes that Pendleton has a tremendous need for housing that is affordable for lower income families. Also in 2017, the Council established a goal of permitting 50 new housing units each year. Pendleton met this goal in 2017 and 2018, but fell short in 2019. We are on track to exceed the goal of 50 new housing units in 2020.



Here are some of the projects around town. The old Forest Service building on Southgate is being turned into market rate apartments. A new apartment complex is going up next to Roosters restaurant. Apartments are moving ahead with a multi-phased apartment complex on Westgate between EOCI and the College. Individual single-family homes are being built in many locations throughout Pendleton. The City is collaborating with a developer to build 80 affordable housing units in Pendleton, using money appropriated in March by the Emergency Board to help offset the affects of the February flood. Lastly, the Pendleton Development Commission (urban renewal board) is providing incentives for developing housing in the second story of downtown buildings and grants to make repairs on our older homes within the district.

Progress on building new housing units always seems to go slower than we want, and the COVID-19 pandemic has hindered 2020 construction projects. We are making considerable progress however, and years 2020-2021 are shaping up to be very positive for new housing.





BROWSE Appointments

ke an appointment to visit the library ca 541-966-0380 Times Available: Monday-Thursday 11-6:00pm Friday 11-4:00pm



HOW MAKE A COMPUTER APPOINTMENT

- Call the library at 541-966-0380 and request a timeslot between 10 am and 6 pm Mon-Thursday or 10 am and 4 pm Friday
- When you arrive for your appointment call the library from the parking lot and a staff member will let you in to the building
- Printing will be available free of charge up to 20 pages
- Appointments limited to 45 minutes

CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC

Current Offerings:

- Curbside Delivery of Holds
- Materials Menu (Tells us what type of items you want and we will mystery shop for you)
- Virtual Story Times
- Ebooks and Audiobooks
- Telephone Reference
- Printing
- Copy Machine Use by Appointment
- Computer Use by Appointment

Hours of operation: Monday-Thursday 10 am - 8 pm Friday 10-5 pm

 Computer use and copy machine access not available after 6:00 pm Monday or Thursday or 4 pm Fridays.

Call the library or visit our website for more information

541-966-0380

www.pendletonlibrary.com https://www.facebook.com/pendletonpubliclibrary

MASKS CONTRIBUTE TO A SAFE COMMUNITY

With local COVID-19 numbers on the rise and the recent state mandate, facial masks have become a necessity. For the last several months individuals and groups in Pendleton have taken to needle and thread to help supply essential workers and community members keep safe. For those skilled at crafting, making masks has been an activity that can thrive in a time of social distancing by sharing tutorials and resources, as well as give a sense of purpose.

At the Pendleton Center for the Arts, Executive Director Roberta Lavadour has overseen an effort that has produced 100's of masks to donate to St. Anthony's Hospital. Through trial and error the group has discovered the best designs and materials. A link to mask tutorials is available on their website: <u>https://pendletonarts.org/mask-making-info/</u>.

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends people wear cloth face coverings in public settings and when around people who don't live in your household, especially when social distancing is difficult to maintain. Serving as a simple barrier, masks help to help prevent respiratory droplets from traveling in the air and onto other people. They can help prevent people who unknowingly have COVID-19 from spreading the virus to others, reducing transmission when they are widely used by people in a public setting.

Help slow the spread. Working together we can all contribute to keeping our community safe and businesses open. Support a local that is making masks as an entrepreneur. If you're able to sew, consider making a few extra to share with your neighbors. Best of all, wear your mask, wash your hands, practice social distancing, and be kind to one another.

New Volunteers Darlene Abney

Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities*

*all volunteer activities are on hold until the "Stay Home" order has been lifted

New volunteers are required to complete an application and consent to background check. For more information contact the Volunteer Coordinator tiffany.hegarty@ci.pendleton.or.us

Interested in volunteering but not sure where? We can help find a good match for you. Call 541-966-0244 and speak to our Volunteer Coordinator Tiffany Hegarty. City of Pendleton volunteer applications are available at the library, City Hall administrative offices, or can be downloaded <u>HERE</u>.

WHAT IS YOUR WHY FOR WEARING A MASK?



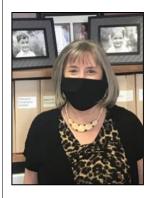
"I wear my mask because I want to be part of the solution, not the problem. It could help break the train of transmission that can help our businesses and schools open safely. My mask protects you; your mask protects me."

Tiffany Hegarty, Volunteer Coordinator



I wear my mask out of respect to those around me. I am choosing to take responsibility and do my part to help protect the most vulnerable members in our community. "

Donna Biggerstaff, Deputy City Recorder



I wear my mask because...the most current science tells us that masks are a valuable tool in helping to prevent/slow the spread of the virus. AND, the sooner I can hug my grandchildren again the better!!

Andrea Denton, Human Resources Manager





"I wear my mask because I care" Susan Doescher, Legal Assistant

Adult Soccer League Thursdays at 6pm



Starts July 16th

Thursday Evenings

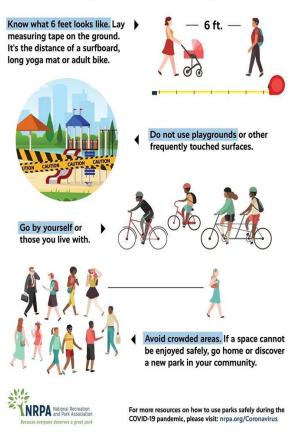
Community West Park

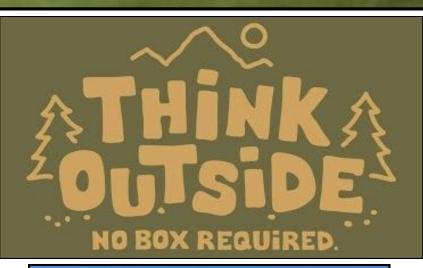
Register as an Individual and be assigned to a team

Cost \$40 per person

Contact Jon Bullard 541-966-0228 with any questions.

Tips for Physical Distancing In Parks





Children have a full time occupation. It's called Play! Let them be occupied by it from their early years until their twilight years.

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INTERLIBRARY LOAN UPDATE



ARE YOU TRYING TO PLACE A HOLD ON AN ITEM AND RECEIVING A NOTIFICATION That the library you are trying to borrow from is no longer fulfilling Holds?

THE STATUS OF WHICH LIBRARIES ARE SENDING OUT AND RECEIVING ITEMS Changes Almost Daily. To avoid coming up empty we suggest you call and speak directly to our ill coordinator, james.

WITH A LITTLE INFORMATION FROM YOU HE CAN HELP PLACE YOUR HOLD WITH A LIBRARY THAT WILL DELIVER.



541-966-0384

ATTENTION!

PENDLETON EARLY LEARNING CENTER EXPLORERS

Just because you can't look for the PELC animals in the library doesn't mean our adventure is over!

Fill out a mystery pack

order on our website or over the phone and receive a sticker to put on your reading log in place of the PELC animals.

NOW OFFERING:

Printing & Computer Use

HOW MAKE A COMPUTER APPOINTMENT

- Call the library at 541-966-0380 and request a timeslot between 10 am and 6 pm Mon-Thursday or 10 am and 4 pm Friday
- J)

THOSE

HANDS

- When you arrive for your appointment call the library from the parking lot and a staff member will let you in to the building
- Printing will be available free of charge up to 20 pages
- Appointments limited to 45 minutes

REQUEST PRINTING SERVICE

- Email the document you need printed to pendletonlibrary97801e gmail.com
- In the subject line enter "Print Job"
- In the body of the email indicate how many copies are needed
- Wait to recieve a confirmation from the library that your document was recieved and we were able to print it
- Arrive at the library during the service hours listed below and call from the parking lot for curbside delivery of your print job.
- Printing is free of charge up to 20 pages

HOURS OF SERVICE Monday-Thursday 10 am - 6 pm Friday 10am - 4 pm