



PENDLETON

Working every day to be the premier city in Eastern Oregon

June 2020

MAYOR'S MUSINGS

A lot has happened in the past month, so this month's column is really just a collection of my random thoughts. First, I think the COVID pandemic has created a lot of negativity in the thinking and writings of many of our fellow citizens, so it might be helpful to talk about some of the positive things that have come out of it. First of all, I want to point out the recent rallies held in Pendleton to protest the murder of George Floyd by police in Minneapolis. These rallies were conducted peacefully and without any of the violence associated with other protests in larger cities. While the physical distancing guidelines we are trying to enforce were violated by these rallies, the participants responsibly exercised their right to free speech and their right to assemble. They coordinated their actions with the Police Department before they acted, and I think the rallies were positively accepted by most of us.



This leads to a discussion of police professionalism. The Pendleton Police Department has been accredited by the Oregon Accreditation Alliance and Oregon Excellence in Policing Boards since 2009. Only 48 of the 184 law enforcement agencies in the State have achieved this high standard and our Department was the 15th to receive this designation. Accreditation means that the Pendleton PD follows a set of "Best Practices" that are measurable and verified by an independent body. Our officers receive mandatory training in cultural diversity and racial bias that is provided in-person by subject matter experts and teaches our officers to be mindful and respectful of minorities. This is in addition to four hours of annual ethics training. I believe we have all witnessed the professionalism of our police officers as they interact daily with all of our citizens from diverse walks of life and I am quite proud of them and their conduct.

We are still working on getting relief from the damage done by the February floods. You may recall that the Legislature Emergency Board appropriated \$7.5 million (now cut to \$6.86 million due to lack of State funds) back in March for affordable housing in Umatilla County. We have been working closely with the County, the CTUIR, CAPECO, and state agencies to build a plan to spend these dollars. I expect the E-Board to approve this plan late in June and we will then be able to eventually build more than 100 units of affordable housing in Pendleton and on the CTUIR Reservation. FEMA has also provided about \$1.4 million in Individual Assistance to people with flood damage.

A lot of street work is going on and we expect to approve a bid to fix SE Byers at the City Council meeting on June 16th. The good news is that street bids have been coming in lower than our engineer estimates and that means our street repair dollars are fixing more streets than we initially thought we could. The budget for street repairs in the fiscal year is \$1.2 million and the Council is still committed to growing the street budget to \$2.2 million.

Finally, our parks and playgrounds have reopened and I want to highlight our Summer Adventure Camp that will take place in two of our city parks. Registration for children in grades 1-6 begins on June 22nd and the Camp is expected to fill up quickly.

Stay Well,

Mayor John Turner

COUNCIL MEETINGS

June 16

City Council 7 pm
PDC Meeting 6 pm

July 7

City Council 7 pm

July 21

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

John Turner	Mayor	541-922-8605
Jake Cambier	At Large	541-969-2252
Paul Chalmers	At Large	541-276-7111
Becky Marks	Ward I	541-276-9147
Carole Innes	Ward I	541-276-0644
McKennon McDonald	Ward 2	541-969-3345
Chuck Wood	Ward 2	541-310-7306
Dale Primmer	Ward 3	541-240-1117
Linda Neuman	Ward 3	541-969-1188

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



COFFEE with the 
8-10 am CITY

We hope to resume at a later date. At this time, there will not be a meeting.

WHAT DOES "PHASE" MEAN REGARDING COUNTIES OPENING?

In Umatilla County **Phase 2 means** *After 21 days in Phase 1*, counties that meet specific prerequisites may be able to enter Phase 2. Subject to public health guidelines, physical distancing, gathering size limits, and sanitization guidelines, this includes: recreational sports; pools; venues like movie theaters, bowling alleys, and arcades; some additional in-office work; bars and restaurants able to stay open until midnight; social, civic, and faith-based gatherings can meet in larger, physically-distanced groups.

Phase 3 means; Holding large gatherings and events are not possible until a reliable treatment or prevention is available. As a result, these are cancelled or significantly modified through at least September.

This is related to Concerts, conventions, festivals, live-audience sports (tentative & subject to change)

Reopening Guidance Governor Kate Brown's framework for Reopening Oregon will help Oregonians restart public life and business while maintaining healthy Oregon communities. The framework outlines actions Oregonians must take to move forward safely. As the state reopens, it's important to remember the risks. We must all do our best to protect ourselves and one another. If we all follow these actions, we will help save the lives of our colleagues, neighbors, friends, and family members.

These actions include:

- Stay home if you are sick.
- To avoid exposure to COVID-19, people who are at risk for severe complications (over age 60 or have underlying medical conditions) should stay home even if you feel well.
- If you become symptomatic (cough, fever, shortness of breath) while in public, please return home and self-isolate immediately. Contact your health care provider if you need medical attention.
- Practice good hand hygiene with frequent handwashing for at least 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer (60-95% alcohol content).
- Cover coughs/sneezes with elbow or tissue. If you use a tissue, immediately discard tissue in garbage and your wash hands.
- Avoid touching your face.
- Practice physical distancing of at least six (6) feet between you and people who you do not live with.
- Use cloth, paper or disposable face coverings in public. As Oregon is reopening and restrictions are being lifted on businesses and public spaces, it may be difficult to ensure that you can stay six (6) feet away from others at all times. Please review Mask and Face Covering Guidance for Business, Transit and the Public.

These simple steps can help prevent the spread and save lives



STAY AT HOME



WASH YOUR HANDS



WEAR A MASK



PRACTICE SOCIAL DISTANCING

- Stay close to home. Avoid overnight trips and minimize other non-essential travel, including recreational day trips to destinations outside the community where you live. Travel the minimum distance needed to obtain essential services; in rural areas, residents may have to travel greater distances for essential services, while in urban areas, residents may only need to travel a few miles for those services.

THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL SET GOALS EVERY BIENNIUM.

OUR CURRENT GOALS FOR 2020-2021 ARE:

GOAL 1- SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING FOR BUILDINGS, ROADS, AND UTILITIES;

GOAL 2- INCREASE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES AND BLIGHT REDUCTION;

GOAL 3- DEVELOPMENT OF QUALITY COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL, AND RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES; GOAL 4- INCREASE AVAILABLE HOUSING.

Our focus for the month of June is Goal 3: Development of Quality Commercial, Industrial, and Residential Properties. This goal provides opportunities for the City of Pendleton to play a role in new projects that will benefit our community. When reading this goal, a word that stands out is “quality” and this is something that our city departments have used to dictate current and future planning. When selecting this goal the council thought about “quality” as an adjective defined as producing or providing products or services of high quality or merit. We want to invest in a product or asset that will spur private development and investment in Pendleton. Each month the City Council meets to vote on new projects that fall under this goal. Our hope is that with strategic planning and solid relationships we can continue to provide developers with a desirable and financially solid place to do business.

The COVID-19 Pandemic has impacted some aspects of development in our community. Many projects that were under way have been slowed or halted until a date in the near future. However, we remain optimistic that Pendleton will continue to be a place that developers see as viable in the years to come. The City of Pendleton does not own all of the developable land within the Urban Growth Boundary, but we are always looking for ways that we can partner with landowners to entice new projects. We would like to provide a quick overview of where we stand in each area included in this goal.

Commercial:

The City of Pendleton has partnered with local building owners to help market their properties to developers. Development within the Urban Renewal District has been supported through various Pendleton Development Commission programs including grants for Facade, Fresh Start, Second Story, Demolition and Jump Start loans. To date the Pendleton Development Commission has invested approximately \$5 million into private and public projects. About \$2.4 million has been spent on private buildings, \$2 million on public infrastructure, \$420,000 supporting the growth or startup of new businesses, and the balance on miscellaneous projects. There are 13 projects in progress funded by Urban Renewal, with 12 being private property projects and 1 public building project.

Industrial:

Our main area of focus has been the industrial land at the Eastern Oregon Regional Airport and Industrial Park. The airport received \$16.9 million from the CARES Act to invest in new infrastructure and buildings. This investment will allow the airport to have shovel ready ground to help attract new businesses and industry to the airfield and surrounding land. The new buildings will provide homes for businesses and revenue for the city to help maintain this asset. Currently, there are 3 private hangars on the way and 5-10 new city-owned buildings or hangars that will be available to lease.

Residential:

There are a handful of residential projects underway in our community. The city looks for opportunities to partner with developers regarding land, utilities, or road infrastructure to make the project viable. As of June 2020, there are 4 multi-family complexes with 41 units under construction and approximately 265 units in the permitting or planning phase with projected completion dates in the next few years. These are a combination of projects in Downtown Pendleton and residential neighborhoods. The City of Pendleton continues to discuss possible subdivision development with landowners in our community and we remain positive on future expansion.

As a council, we have committed to investing in infrastructure expansion projects (water, sewer, telecommunications, and roads) to make development of the available land possible. Moving forward, the City of Pendleton is dedicated to diversification of industry, a focus on customer service, and providing a developer friendly environment. Often growth and new opportunities require up front investment and the willingness to take a risk. We see the potential for what the future could hold for Pendleton and are focused on doing all we can to help support growth and prosperity. Providing a “quality” product, environment, and experience remain top priorities as we move forward in 2020 and beyond!

*Provided by McKennon McDonald, Ward 2, Becky Marks, Ward 1, Jake Cambier, At-Large
Pendleton City Council Members*

Volunteering During Uncertain Times – Get Outdoors!

Volunteers share the common thread of a deep desire to help and support others. It is understandable that during these uncertain times it can feel uncomfortable and scary. Despite that, many are still moved to ask, “How can I help?”

With the warmer weather finally upon us, getting outdoors in nature may be a way to give back to our community while being safe (using best practices for social distancing). The City of Pendleton’s Adopt-A-Park and Adopt-A-Parkway volunteer programs allow for individuals, families, local groups, and businesses to get involved and help keep our city’s parks and river parkway safe and clean. With over 25 parks and landscaped areas, and 1.5 miles of parkway along the Umatilla River, there are ample opportunities to enjoy the outdoors while helping maintain these assets for the benefit of our community. Adoptees commit to helping the Parks Department by picking up litter and reporting graffiti and vandalism. For more information on volunteering with the Parks Department and the Adopt-A-Park and Adopt-A-Parkway programs, contact Tiffany Hegarty, Volunteer Coordinator (541-966-0244 or tiffany.hegarty@ci.pendleton.or.us).



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 [HERE](#).

Pendleton Parks and Recreation



Summer Adventure CAMP

THE DECISION TO CLOSE THE POOL THIS SUMMER WAS A VERY DIFFICULT DECISION TO MAKE.

The City understands the importance of the pool in this community. However, due to social distancing regulations put upon the pool to protect our citizens from COVID and the reduction in revenue this would have, it became a necessary decision to make.

The cost to run the pool is the same, no matter how many paying customers we have. Current state regulations for Phase II re-opening would put a maximum occupancy for our aquatic center at 100 people allowed at any one time, which is significantly less than we can handle and need to offset our costs. Staff looked at a variety of cost saving options including: only opening one of the pools, reducing hours, not heating the pools, and reducing staffing. But a large financial gap still remained.

In the coming fiscal year, the total cost of running the Pendleton Aquatic Center was budgeted at \$607,300. The aquatic center also generates revenue from multiple sources including: season passes, general admission, swimming lessons, and concessions. These revenues are budgeted to total \$335,000. Taking the projected revenues and deducting the budgeted expenditures gives you the net subsidy for the pool, which for this coming budget year would be \$272,300. Attendance restrictions due to COVID would dramatically increase this subsidy.

During the last recession, many cities saw reduced general fund revenue due to people falling behind on their property taxes. It is likely we will see some of that as a result of this pandemic. To what extent we are not sure. The City also expects to collect less transient room tax from hotel lodging that is anticipated to be reduced due to the cancellation of some large tourist events in town. This means that like many cities across the nation, the City of Pendleton is looking at cuts to the current budget to balance these anticipated losses in revenue.

Parents, have you registered your children 1st - 6th grade for Summer Adventure Camp?

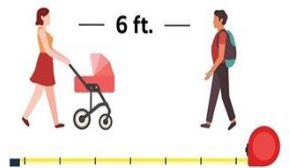
Monday through Thursday, 9am - 3pm,
your children can enjoy fun activities
and time outdoors at either Pioneer Park or
Community Park.

Follow the link below to register.
Space is limited, so please register early.

[https://apm.activecommunities.com/
pendletonparksandrec/Activity_Search](https://apm.activecommunities.com/pendletonparksandrec/Activity_Search)

Tips for Physical Distancing In Parks

Know what 6 feet looks like. Lay measuring tape on the ground. It's the distance of a surfboard, long yoga mat or adult bike.



Do not use playgrounds or other frequently touched surfaces.

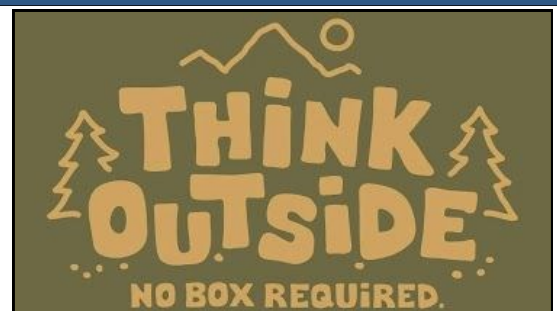
Go by yourself or those you live with.



Avoid crowded areas. If a space cannot be enjoyed safely, go home or discover a new park in your community.



For more resources on how to use parks safely during the COVID-19 pandemic, please visit: nrpa.org/Coronavirus



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.

CALL FOR ASSISTANCE:
541-966-0384



WASH THOSE HANDS



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
- 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 pendletonlibrary97801@gmail.com
- In the subject line enter "Print Job"
- In the body of the email indicate how many copies are needed
- Wait to receive a confirmation from the library that your document was received 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

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.

