

Our Town

A Publication of The City of Coburg

September/October 2020 Issue

Mayor's Corner Planning In Our Town

Ray Smith, Mayor

On August 20, 2020, the Coburg City Council held a public meeting to hear an appeal to the Planning Commission's approval (with conditions) of a proposed development on the North End of Coburg. After presentations from all parties and much discussion by City Councilors, the applicant chose to withdraw the application for the subdivision.

Most (nearly all) of the discussion was regarding transportation. Many options were presented and discussed. Even the Appellants stated they were not opposed to the development in general, just the traffic created by the development. Street access to the proposed development was the key issue. All traffic to and from the 46-home subdivision would be on two streets. One proposal would have only one street bear all the traffic. Here is the tricky part: present national standards allow

our engineer and fire district to deem this acceptable. The Coburg Comprehensive Plan states the city needs to be cognizant of the effects on existing neighborhoods.

Needless to say, this would have a profound effect on the city park area as well as the residents living on this street.

This was the friction in the decision the Councilors needed to consider when arriving at their decision.

We should all be proud of how our City Councilors listened, and represented the concerns of all citizens in the recent appeal hearing. My thanks to the City Councilors, and staff for their dedication.

HISTORY

As I listened to the discussion



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City Council Brief

Highlights of actions and topics the Coburg City Council has recently addressed and issues likely to be discussed in the next couple of months.



JULY 2020

- Approved Intergovernmental Agreement with Lane Council of Governments to manage Information System
- Presentation to Council on Utility Rate Study
- Approved Ordinance A-111-D Granting a 10 Year Exclusive Franchise to Coburg Sanitary Service
- Approved Resolution 2020-16 Raising the Wastewater Rate Service Fee
- Approved Contract Eugene Sand Construction, Inc. for Pavement Repair on Roberts Road
- Approved Agreement with State of Oregon ODOT for West Van Duyn Sidewalks Project

Upcoming
City Council
Meetings

Tuesday, October 13
Tuesday, October 27

AUGUST 2020

- Council Held an Executive Session Per ORS 192.660 to conduct deliberations with persons designated to negotiate real property transactions
- Council heard the Appeal of the Planning Commission's decision to approve SUB-01-20. Applicant withdrew application during this meeting

Ballots will be mailed out on October 15th for the November 3, 2020 General Election. Coburg has the positions of Mayor and three Councilors on the ballot.

There is an official drop sites located outside of City Hall and NO POSTAGE Required!



Coburg Committee Highlights

Updates on what the Coburg Committees have recently accomplished or are currently addressing.

Planning Commission

July/August

- Reviewed & Approved SUB-01-20

Park/Tree Committee

July/August

- Johnny Diamond Park seating chosen: bench style and porch swing style for reflection area

Heritage Committee

July/August

- Ongoing grant work – including historic resource survey update
- New member recruitment

Budget Committee

July/August

- No meetings held

Finance/Audit Committee

July/August

- Introduced new Finance Director, Tim Gaines
- Reviewed City finances through May



Find Out More: Heritage Committee

Do you cherish the historic character of the Coburg community? Want to help with preservation? Now is the time to get involved with the Heritage Committee!



New and exciting projects will soon be underway and your shared passion will contribute to the reinvigoration of the Heritage Committee.

Did you know the City of Coburg is a Certified Local Government (CLG)?

The CLG program is designed to promote historic preservation at the local level. It is a federal program (National Park Service) that is administered by the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). The Heritage Committee's work will use this designation in conjunction with the Main Street Program to leverage local assets, resources and technical assistance to preserve Coburg's historic charm and create a vibrant, enjoyable community.

Chamber Update



The dog days of Summer are upon us. Fall is around the corner and even though Covid has put more than a few wrinkles in our normal routines, life is marching on. I have missed seeing all the Chamber members in their usual seats at our monthly meetings and even though we have had to put the meetings on hold the Chamber has been active in our community. We recently put the Grant Committee to bed, through which we were able to help not only businesses, but residents with some financial help. It was well received by our

many downtown businesses and residents. We are now hosting the Economic Development Committee (EDC) which was also on hold during the shutdown. Several of us felt it was time to get back to it because we are going to need it more than ever after Covid. You may remember attending a meeting at City Hall over 3 years ago with a representative from the Oregon Main Street (OMS) Program. It is a program which helps with the revitalization of historic downtowns in Oregon. The City decided at that time that we needed to complete our visioning process before inviting Main Street to our community.

Well, the time has come to now extend that invitation. The EDC has agreed to focus on projects with the help of Main Street. We are meeting on Zoom and discussing different projects for Coburg to make us a destination for outsiders and making the community even more enjoyable and liveable for our residents. We are now in Tier 2 of the Main Street program. You will hear more about it and what we are accomplishing as we go along. If you have any questions please feel free to call Sharyl Abbaspour 541.521.1717. President of Coburg Chamber of Commerce

Main Street Program

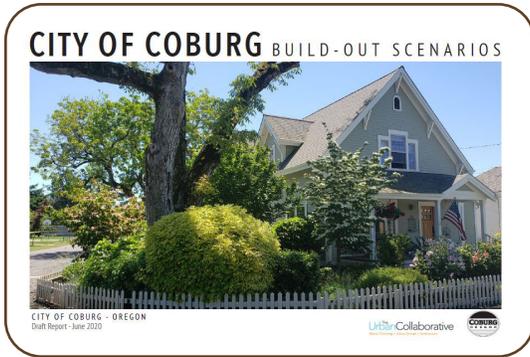
Main Street America™ has been helping revitalize older and historic commercial districts for more than 35 years. Oregon Main Street is a Main Street America™ Coordinating Program. We help communities participating in our Network to make use of the time-tested Main Street Four-Point Approach® to downtown revitalization developed by Main Street America™ which includes:

- Sustainable Organization
- Effective Promotion
- Quality Design
- Economic Vitality

This Approach is a unique preservation-based economic development tool that enables communities to enhance downtown and neighborhood business districts. It is a comprehensive, incremental strategy that addresses the variety of issues and problems that challenge traditional commercial districts. Oregon Main Street helps communities thrive by connecting them to this customizable framework to focus local efforts, energy, and resources to create a more vibrant downtown. To learn more or get involved, contact Megan Winner at megan.winner@ci.coburg.or.us or 541.682.7862.



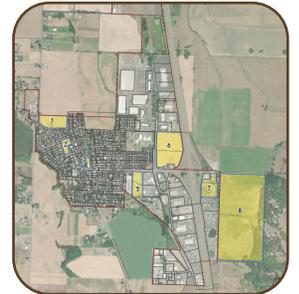
Build Out Scenarios Project Update & LIVE SURVEY



In light of population projections that show growth will happen in Coburg, the City of Coburg is exploring some very different development scenarios.

These are hypothetical and are only intended to show what could happen on several open parcels of land around Coburg if developers just followed the current code requirements. These scenarios, for better or worse, help the city envision different

development types and development densities. The scenarios address the projected increase in population with existing buildable land in order to meet additional housing demand and employment needs over time. While you may like or dislike some of the scenarios, they all could be built today following the current code. In the survey noted here, we ask what you like and dislike so that, in the future, we may be able to modify our code to ensure what gets built is closer to what the community envisions for Coburg consistent with applicable laws and regulations.



Now is your time to weigh in!
Take the survey and let us know what you think: Live survey link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DV6B8QV>

New Lamppost Banners

Coburg's lampposts are getting a makeover! The 24 new banners, purchased by the Coburg Car Classic in partnership with the City of Coburg, will line Willamette Street through the downtown corridor and feature a Penny-farthing bicycle.



Inspired by former Mayor Jim Broughton (pictured below), the Penny-farthing bicycle has become an iconic Coburg symbol and is also featured on the Loop Path signage.

The Public Works Department is working hard to have the banners installed before Labor Day.

What Is a Penny-Farthing?

The penny-farthing, also known as a high wheel, high wheeler or ordinary, was the first machine to be called a "bicycle." It was popular in the 1870s and 1880s, with its large front wheel providing high speeds (owing to it travelling a large distance for every rotation of the legs) and comfort (the large wheel provides greater shock absorption). The name came from the British penny and farthing coins, the former being much larger than the latter, so that the side view resembles a larger penny leading a smaller farthing.



Food Pantry News



Greetings from the Coburg Pantry! Things here are running smoothly. With the continued donations from this wonderful community we are confident that we have

residents. Please keep those donations coming. We love our Coburg community and truly couldn't do it without you!

Peggy Wells - 541 345-6645

Patty Yarr - 831 345-3866

the stock and volunteers to handle anything that comes through our doors! Please help us spread the word that we are open the second and fourth Mondays from 2:00-4:00. If getting to the pantry is a problem, please let us know. We have volunteers who are available to deliver boxes to Coburg

*Coburg Food Pantry Hours:
2nd and 4th Monday of the
month from 2pm-4pm*

Parks Update



The swing set for Johnny Diamond Park is almost ready! We're impressed (and very proud) of the Public Works Department for constructing nearly 100% of the swing set in house, including the design of Diamond Peak and Diamond Lake on the side panels.

Community members will soon be able to enjoy this beautiful amenity once the park opens, which is anticipated in October once the grass is established.

Jacob Spores Park is being remodeled with new trees, planter beds, recreation area, and a gravel parking area. Plus, a solar-powered street light is being installed where Sarah Lane meets the Coburg Loop Path. If people like them, more may be coming to illuminate the multimodal path.

Brian and Ty test the swing set for safety (and a little fun, too)



Coburg Community Foundation

Fall is here and so are we! We are excited to be a part of this year's scarecrow competition and look forward to seeing everyone's creativity around town. Our office is located at the United Methodist Church, take a picture with our scarecrow and tag Coburg Community Foundation!

If you have not liked our Facebook Page or Instagram Page, make sure to like us to stay up to date on what the foundation is doing around town! We will be posting our latest adventure, the CCF Scavenger Hunt starting this fall. Details including rules and prizes will be updated regularly on our Facebook page.

And, coming this winter: Trashy Tree 2020!

As times continue to be hard for families and individuals in our community, we are continuing to collect cash donations for the Coburg Food Pantry. To support our local pantry and community you can donate through our Facebook page or directly to the foundation.

Coburg Community Foundation
PO Box 8104
Coburg, OR 97408
www.coburgfoundation.org
coburgcf@gmail.com

Scarecrow Festival 2020

by Terry Dawson

This article ran in last year's Our Town just as the scarecrow wave caught on. We're hoping for another year of inventive and creative displays and want everyone to know about the origin of this fun (pandemic-approved) tradition.



I grew up in Talent, Oregon, which at the time was a very small, historic town much like Coburg. One of my enduring

memories of growing up there was our annual Harvest Festival. From first grade when I rode my bike as part of a float in the parade, through my young adult-years playing water-ball as a fire department volunteer, the Harvest Festival made Autumn a very thankful season, and Talent a bountifully special place.

However, in Coburg, after a summer full of fun celebrations, most of our community-celebrating ends at fall with our great Antique Fair.

Enter the scarecrows.

With just a little impetus, I was curious (and hopeful) to see if we Coburgians might experience the season of thankfulness that Talent participates in annually. So, I asked my daughter to brainstorm a couple of special scarecrows to get us started, and she along with some of our friends helped create the first creative scarecrow ideas. Then, during the

summer, I invited five friends who also happen to be merchants in Coburg, to join us in officially welcoming fall by adding their own creative scarecrows to our downtown landscape. I had hoped, and still do, that this might give us the opportunity to celebrate fall in a bigger way in the future, and have a lot of fun doing it.

It has been an encouragement to see our community catch the Scarecrow-bug. And it seems, from reading I Love Coburg! and the rest that we've been having a lot of fun as Scarecrow-fever has spread.

Coburg is always special, but this fall is being made even more special as neighbors join together to be thankful and celebrate. There's still plenty of time to join in.

We're already thinking about next year's scarecrows...



For more information on this year's Scarecrow Festival 2020 rules, guidelines and contest, please visit coburgscarecrows.com

Police Update

The Coburg Police Department has had several officers recently attain certifications that reflect commitment to public service and have received distinctions that reflect positively upon the Coburg Police Department and the City of Coburg.



Four officers recently graduated Reserve Officer Basic Mandate Training. The Reserve Officer Basic Mandate Academy began in September of 2019 and culminated on July 11,

2020 with their graduation ceremony.

The Reserve Basic Mandate Academy was hosted and facilitated by the Lane County Sheriff's Office with officers in attendance from many agencies. Those officers who graduated include: Ofc. Levi Gray, Ofc. Daniel Mattingly, Ofc. Jeremiah Rupe and Ofc. Jason Smith.

Special awards were received by the following officers from academy staff: Ofc. Daniel Mattingly received both the High Academic Award and the Overall Physical Fitness Award (he broke many academy fitness records), Ofc. Jeremiah Rupe received the Most Improved Physical Fitness Award (for having set, met and exceeded his fitness goals), and Ofc. Levi Gray received the High Firearms

Award. All of these officers are now in their Field Training and Evaluation phase.

Additionally, we had Sergeant David Gregory attend and graduate the Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards & Training (DPSST) Police Career Officer Development Course (PCOD). In part, the PCOD Course is designed to grant Oregon licensure to out of state law enforcement transfer applicants that hold law enforcement certifications in other states, meet certain licensure requirements for Oregon, and attend and successfully pass the Oregon DPSST PCOD Course. Sgt. Gregory met or exceeded all licensure requirements, and attained 100% on most all of his tests and exams associated with the PCOD Course.



Sgt. David Gregory

Sgt. Gregory is a retired law enforcement officer from the state of Georgia who joined the Coburg Police Department in 2016.

We'd like to congratulate all of these officers on jobs well done and on their exceptional performance in the course of their studies.

Get Involved!

The City of Coburg's Historic Preservation Committee is now accepting applications! Call City Hall 541-682-7850 for details.



Locomotive of the Oregon and California railroad.

CCCS Update



Welcome back!

As our summer comes to a close, we are gearing up for another school year that will look a little

different than normal. CCCS will be moving to Comprehensive Distance Learning through the end of the calendar year. Once metrics allow, we'll move towards a Hybrid Learning Model. Keeping our students, staff and community safe is our top priority.

We want to thank our families and the community for their patience and support as we work through this pandemic. We cannot wait for the day when we will be greeting families at the door each morning with a huge smile and tons of gratitude for all being together again, or walking through our small town visiting different businesses on our field trips. We miss you so much!

How You Can Help

Community involvement & support is incredibly important to us at CCCS. Here are a few ways you can support us in these uncertain times:

- Amazon Smile: Log onto your amazon account and choose Coburg Community Charter School as your non-profit of choice, and a portion of your purchases is donated to CCCS!
- Blue Bag Fundraiser: Email community@coburgcharter.org to pick up some blue can bags! We will even take them back for you, just ask!
- Direct Donations: All direct donations can be mailed to 91274 N. Coburg Road, Coburg, OR 97408

Find more information at www.coburgcharter.com

PCS Questions? pcs@coburgcharter.org

Volunteer & Community Questions?

community@coburgcharter.org

Coburg Community Grange Update

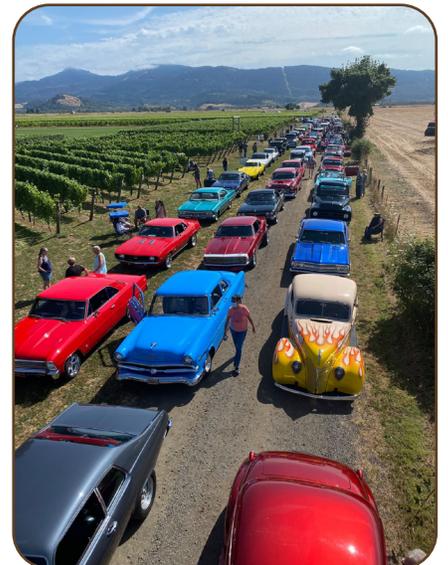
We hope everyone is doing well with the Covid-19 and not going too crazy. The Coburg Grange is up and running albeit, a little slower, but we wanted to let you know its available for rentals. The Grange helped with the Car Classic Cruise on August 1st

The cars showed up out at Haworth Estate Wines and were greeted with smiles and music as they signed in and lined up to cruise Coburg. We had 148 entries and we put the cars in four groups, as not to plug up Coburg. We thought it went well and from all of the smiles from the folks in town it seemed to be a hit.

We are now gearing up for the scarecrow season and as we all know its a fun time to see all of the different displays. As always, (most months LOL), we have started First Friday poker again so 7 pm is the start time with a \$20 buy in.

If you want to rent the grange call 541-520-3901 and we will help you out. Our meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7pm so come see what The Grange is about. You might be surprised at what happens and we try to keep the meetings to no more than an hour. We can always use new members and even just volunteering for events. We hope to see you soon.

- Terri Morneau



from page 1 - Mayor's Corner

in the meeting, I thought of the long process and the financial impact involved in keeping plans updated as required by the state.

In 2000, work began on updating the UGB (urban growth boundary), as well as The TSP (transportation system plan). The state requires cities to undertake this process.

The frustration with the UGB stems from the fact that public input was given through the required public hearing process.

The City worked with The Planning Commission, Coburg City Council, Lane County Board of Commissioners and the Department of Land Conservation and Development. All of these agencies must formally accept the plan through multiple public hearings.

After much time, effort, money, and collaboration with DLCD, a citizen who does not live in our city, along with Lane County Land Watch filed an appeal. LUBA (Land Use Board of Appeals) remanded it back to the City, we appealed the decision to the Court of Appeals. The Court essentially upheld the LUBA remand which invalidates the adoption of the plan.

Space prohibits me from going into the details of the LUBA remand, but essentially the state goals and desires overrode our local desires and goals.

This meant we were back to ground zero, time and money was lost, and we would have to begin the process again.

Nearly \$50,000 was spent from 2013-2017. This does not take into account planning costs in years prior to 2013. The costs for updating data and reports needed for the work to be done usually starts at about \$25,000, and escalates rapidly.

Even if the City Council took the shortest route and

updated the plans to address just the concern in the appeal, it would cost tens of thousands of dollars.

The City Council chose to wait for the official population estimates to be released in 2021 before taking any further action. The population figures have a profound effect on how the City moves forward.

I am not making excuses but want citizens to understand how difficult and exhausting this process is.

Hopefully, you can understand the frustration we feel when we speak with our elected representatives and they acknowledge work needs to be done to fix the process, but year after year little to nothing changes.

I share this info with you because I believe it is important for our citizens to understand that our appointed and elected officials, and the City Of Coburg staff have worked diligently for many years to protect our citizen's wants and needs with thoughtful plans supported by codes and ordinances that provide protection of the safety and livability of our city.

I want to assure you we will all continue to work with Lane County and State Agencies to try and remedy the issues we face as a city, and avoid the issues we are currently dealing with in the future.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ray Smith".

Mayor Ray Smith, City of Coburg

541-729-7045, mayor@ci.coburg.or.us

***Our Town** is a publication of the City of Coburg. If you'd like to be added to our newsletter mailing list, email Megan Winner (megan.winner@ci.coburg.or.us.)*

Calendar



STANDING MEETINGS

2nd Mondays

CCCS SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

6:00 pm

4th Mondays

COBURG FIRE DISTRICT BOARD MEETINGS

7:00 pm, Fire Hall

2nd Tuesdays

CITY COUNCIL

7:00 pm, Coburg

Contact, Sammy Egbert, City Recorder

541-682-7852

3rd Tuesdays

PARKS/TREE COMMITTEE

6:00 pm, City Hall

Contact, Brian Harmon, Public Works Director

541-682-7857

4th Tuesdays (or as scheduled)

CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSIONS

6:30 pm, City Hall

Contact, Sammy Egbert, City Recorder

541-682-7852

2nd Wednesdays

GRANGE MEETING

7:00 pm, Coburg Community Grange

HERITAGE COMMITTEE

Contact, Megan Winner

541-682-7850

3rd Wednesdays

PLANNING COMMISSION

7:00 pm, City Hall

Contact, City Planner

541-682-7858

3rd Wednesdays

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Noon, City Hall

1st Thursdays

METROPOLITAN POLICY COMMITTEE

11:30 am (usually at the Eugene or Springfield library)

Contact, City Administrator

541-682-7871

2nd Thursdays

SEW 'N SEWS QUILTING GROUP

6:30 pm, Coburg Community Grange

1st Fridays

POKER NIGHT

6:30 pm Registration, 7:00 pm game begins

Coburg Community Grange

541-746-8655

3rd Saturdays

ODDFELLOW MEETING

11:00 am, I.O.O.F Hall

Do you have a community event to share?

Call 541-682-7850

or email megan.winner@ci.coburg.or.us



Our Town

*A Publication of
The City of Coburg*



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Coburg, OR 97408*

*Phone: 541-682-7850
Fax: 541-485-0655
coburgoregon.org*

Address Correction Requested

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Questions About City Happenings?



We work for you! The City wants you to get the information you need and care about. Currently, Our Town, the Coburg website coburgoregon.org, the 'City of Coburg, Oregon' Facebook page, 'Coburg Police Department' Facebook page, monthly utility bills, the Post Office (Dari-Market), and City Hall are all places to get information about what is happening in and around Coburg. Council and committee meetings are also great resources.

What do you want to hear about? How do you like to get information? Let us know.

- Coburg City Staff