



CITY OF SILVERTON

SUMMER 2018

Mayor's Corner

Homeless Issue a Local Issue

An issues that appears to be high on the minds of many of our citizens is a proposal to create four very simple locking sleeping pods for four women (only) who would be heavily screened and would use the structures as a very transitional form of housing while they get back on their feet and out of homelessness.



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St. Edwards Church on Fairview Street has made the proposal, along with many individuals who helped dream it up.

Reactions appear to be politically polarized and if there's been any takeaway for me as an observer, it's that most of us neither understand the general issue of homelessness or to what extent we are facing that in our greater community.

While Planning Commission and City Council consideration of any specific project (including the one at St. Edwards) hasn't yet occurred, both bodies are in the process of considering code language changes which would make such projects able to be proposed. Three public hearings have been conducted, and at least one more is planned on Aug. 6.

My intent here isn't to endorse either the language change or any project, but to address questions that seem to be circulating. According to service providers in our community (SACA and the Warming Shelter), over 30 homeless persons are regularly served by their agencies.

Additionally, the Silver Falls School District, using a slightly different definition, typically reports between 50-90 school-age children and teens without traditional housing.

On both counts, these people are known - in large numbers - to be Silverton natives or long-time residents.

Commonly, people tend to assume they are either those who've chosen to live this

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City Staff Presents Plans to Meet Council 2018-19 Goals

The Silverton City Council goals for Fiscal Years 2018-2019 were adopted at the April 2 City Council meeting. To review all the Council goals, visit the city's website at www.silverton.or.us/176/City-Council.

To support the Council's goals, city staff developed the following work programs:

Finance Department

- Update the five-year financial plan
- Provide financial guidance on Public Works five-year Utility Rate Study
- Provide financial guidance on a System Development Charge (SDC) methodology
- Close out Fiscal Year 2017-2018 books and prepare for the annual audit
- Prepare for the new payroll transit tax that takes effect July 1, 2018

Public Works

- Finalize the Complete construction of the Silver Creek Overlook and the design of the McClaine Street Improvement Project
- Complete the replacement of all City water meters to state of the art, radio read meters

- Update street signage
- Complete the installation of the Sludge Dewatering and UV Replacement Projects as well as begin design on the Water Treatment Plant Upgrade Project

Police Department

- Provide input on the new Police Department/Civic building
- Continue training and development of sergeant and police officers
- Enhance police outreach and presence in the community
- Continue presence and interaction with the youth population in the Silverton schools through the School Resource Officer

Community Development

- Public Outreach Process to determine the general site programming and design of the Eugene Field Site, funded by a State grant
- Housing Needs Analysis, funded by the State
- Master Plan of the Pettit Property, grant funding pending.

City Accepting 2018 Election Candidate Filings

The positions of Mayor and three City Councilors will appear on the Nov. 6, 2018 General Election ballot. The filing period for Individuals interested in serving on the Silverton City Council is now open. A person may File by Fee or File by Petition with the City of Silverton Elections Officer.

FILE by FEE

To File by Fee, a person must file SEL 101 Candidate Filing – Major Political Party or Nonpartisan and pay the required \$50 Election Filing Fee. **The deadline to File by Fee with the City Elections Officer is Aug. 28, 2018.**

FILE by PETITION

To File by Petition a person must complete and submit the two forms listed below and submit to the City Elections Officer prior to gathering any sig-

natures and well in advance of the Aug. 28 deadline. No filing fees are required to run for the City of Silverton offices by this method.

SEL 101 – Candidate filing – Major Political Party or Nonpartisan

SEL 121 – Candidate Signature Sheet – Nonpartisan

The deadline to File by Petition, including signature verification, must be completed and delivered to the City Elections Officer by 5:00 p.m., Aug. 7, 2018.

A Candidate Application Packet is available from the City Elections Officer at City Hall located at 306 S. Water St., Silverton.

For information or questions, please contact the City Manager, Christy S. Wurster at cwurster@silverton.or.us or 503-874-2205.

Police Department Brings Three Officers Onboard

Silverton Police Department has been busy hiring police officers. These are previously funded positions in which officers are being hired to replace officers who have left the organization for other career opportunities.

Noe Martinez: Officer Martinez is a three-year lateral police officer from Mt. Angel.

Before that, he was a Reserve Deputy with the Marion County Sheriff's Office. Martinez' early goal was to be a police officer. He now sees his position with Silverton as his dream job, and said "I really enjoy helping people, and truly believe that police officers have the ability to really make a difference in their communities."



He said he joined Silverton Police Department because of the great teamwork and the positive relationship between the police and the community that he observed while assisting Silverton as a Mt. Angel officer.

Martinez speaks fluent Spanish which will be a benefit to the community. He was born in Portland and grew up in the Salem/Keizer area. He is married and has four children.

Michael Crabtree: Officer Crabtree spent the last few years working security for the Boeing Company at Renton Airfield near Seattle, Washington. Prior to that he was an Active-Duty Staff Sergeant serving as an Infantry Squad leader at Joint Base Lewis-McCord in Washington.



Crabtree served two terms as a combat Veteran of Operation Enduring Freedom in Southern Afghanistan as an Infantryman. He is skilled in Veteran Services and will be a benefit to our growing veteran community.

He is excited to work in Silverton, and said he, "really enjoys being a problem solver on complex issues and being a help to people in need."

Crabtree believes that police officers have the ability and duty to think outside of the box and go the extra mile to ensure a positive outcome to any issue. He said he joined Silverton Police because of the great community support and relationship between the department and the community.

He was born in Lincoln City and grew up in Depoe Bay. He is married and has two children.

Chandler Miranda: Officer Miranda was hired in May. He came to the Silverton Police from Salem Police Department where he attended and graduated from the DPSST Basic Police Academy.



Officer Miranda gained patrol experience and exposure before moving to private security.

Prior to law enforcement Miranda worked in technical support and various service-oriented retail positions. He joined the Silverton Police Department because of the positive relationship with the community he witnessed during a ride-a-long.

Miranda believes every problem has a unique solution, and said he is excited to work with the community to tackle any issues that arise.

Miranda was born in Tucson, Arizona, but grew up in the Salem area. He graduated from Western Oregon University with a Bachelor's of Science degree in history. Miranda is married with two children

Grants Aim to Aid Police in Traffic Safety Efforts

The Silverton Police Department has been awarded three grants for a total of \$11,463 for traffic enforcement and public awareness efforts to prevent traffic related deaths and injuries.

The department will use these funds as part of the City's ongoing commitment to keep our roadways safe and improve the quality of life through both enforcement and education.

"These funds assist the department in handling traffic safety and pedestrian crosswalk complaints, issues and crashes that have occurred," Silverton Police Chief Jeff Fossholm said. "Our department is committed to keeping our roads safe, and educating the public on the risks of distracted driving."

Crosswalk Enforcement Operation Statistics

DATE	LOCATION	VIOLATIONS
May 4, 2017	N. First & High streets; N. Water & High streets	10
June 2, 2017	Oak & N. Second streets; Pine & Grant streets	15
July 28, 2017	N. First & Park streets; N. Water & High streets	22
Aug. 29, 2017	C & James streets; W. Main & Fiske streets	11
March 19, 2018	N. Water & Park streets; N. First & Park streets	15
April 26, 2018	S. Water & Jersey streets; N. First & Park streets	8

Activities that the grant funds include:

2018 Seatbelt Grant - \$2,000

Funding for this program is from the Oregon Department of Trans-

portation.

Requirements of the grant direct that it be used to enforce seatbelt and proper child restraint use throughout the year, specif-

ically during the following dates: Feb. 5 – 18, May 14 – 27, and Aug. 20 – Sept. 2. This will be done in an effort to increase traffic safety and decrease the chance of injury during a crash

By getting the word out early it is the city's sincere hope that citizens make sure to properly wear their seatbelts and use proper child restraint equipment.

If you need help with determining if you have the correct safety seat or with the installation please contact the Silverton Police Department at 503-873-5326.

Oregon law states:

- Children must ride in rear-facing safety seats until they are two years old.

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Volunteers Guide Many City Decisions

The volunteer spirit of the City of Silverton is an essential part of what makes our city so wonderful. Eight boards and commissions made up of community volunteers meet to gather and analyze information for the purpose of presenting options and recommendations to the City Council.

Currently, there is a vacancy on the Urban Renewal Advisory Committee (URAC). If you are interested in applying please fill out an application on the City's website, www.silverton.or.us/109/Boards-Commissions.

To review meetings, agendas, minutes, and members of the following boards, committees, and commissions visit the City website at www.silverton.or.us/109/Boards-Commissions :

Budget Committee: The Budget Committee recommends the proposed City budget to the City Council. The Committee meets annually between April and June to complete the budget process. It is made up of 14 individuals, consisting of all seven members of the City Council and an equal number of appointed members from the community.

City Council: The mission statement reads, "To provide exceptional public service that ensures safety, maintains infrastructure, preserves our unique heritage, and protects natural resources while proactively pursuing emerging opportunities to enhance our quality of life."

Environmental Management Committee (EMC): Established in 2015, this advisory committee makes recommendations to the City Council on issues of recycling, solid waste management, and other environmental issues. The EMC meets monthly to handle matters referred to it by the Council, the Public Works Director, or the City Manager. The committee consists of seven members and one Ex-Officio member.

Historic Landmark Commission (HLC): The HLC was created to help oversee the preservation of the city's historic heritage. The commission identifies, evaluates, and designates historic resources as landmarks, and creates a process to assist in the perpetuation of these resources through review of alteration, moving, or demolition of designated landmarks, con-

tributing historic resources, and historic resources of statewide significance. The HLC is a five-member body appointed by the Mayor and City Council.

Planning Commission: The Planning Commission recommends and makes suggestions to the City concerning a multitude of issues such as parking, street locations, setback lines, zone designations and other Land Use issues. The Commission meets monthly and consists of seven members. Five of the members must reside inside the City limits and two members may reside within the City's Urban Growth Boundary.

Tourism Promotion Committee (TPC): The TPC meets as needed, to review and provide recommendations to the City Council regarding grant applications promoting tourism in Silverton. The grant funds come from a percentage of the Transient Occupancy Tax the City receives through City ordinances and state statute. The TPC is made up of eight seats consisting of one representative from the Silverton Mural Society, Homer Davenport Community Festival, Silverton Chamber of Commerce, Silverton Fine Arts Association, Bed & Breakfast Owner/Operator, Hotel Owner/Operator, a City Council Member, and an At-Large Appointee. Members serve for a three-year term.

Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC): Reviews and provides recommendations to the City Council on transportation related issues such as traffic and circulation elements, legislation affecting Silverton, bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure systems and establishing an annual work plan. The TAC consists of seven voting members to be appointed by the Mayor with the approval of the City Council.

Urban Renewal Agency: The intent of the Urban Renewal Agency is to promote valuation growth within the Silverton urban renewal district, improve the aesthetics in downtown, update infrastructure within the renewal area boundaries, promote economic development, and expand the city's employment base.

Urban Renewal Advisory Committee: Established in 2015, this committee makes recommendations to the Urban Renewal Agency.

Conserve Water Now

The City of Silverton Public Works Department closely monitors the raw water sources that serve our residents, businesses and visitors.

As part of the Water Conservation and Management Plan adopted in 2016, we follow a system of 5 alert triggers. Based on the most recent readings of the Abiqua and Silver Creeks, and the long term weather forecasts for the region, we are anticipating issuing preliminary alerts in the coming weeks.

These early alert levels do not result in any mandatory actions (e.g. use reduction, etc.). However, residents and businesses are strongly encouraged to make every effort to reduce their water usage.

Some easy measures are reducing your irrigation and eliminating unnecessary outdoor water usage (car washes, patio washing, etc.). These measures will not only decrease the likelihood of mandatory conservation actions but will have an additional benefit of reducing your monthly water bill.

The Silverton Public Works Department will be implementing conservation measures in the coming weeks, such as suspension of hydrant flushing, irrigation of City facilities and vehicle wash downs.

Visit the City website for updates on this issue. If you have questions or concerns, contact Public Works at 503-873-8679.

Silverton City Council



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Mayor *From page 1*

way, suffering from mental illness, or criminals. No doubt, at the same approximate percentage as our homed population, there may be some who fit into those categories and may be difficult to help.

However, many represent those fleeing from domestic violence, acute job loss, sudden and insurmountable medical bills, or other issues. If there's any trend, and there are few, it's a lack of a present support system of family and/or friends who could help them avoid an unsheltered circumstance.

This is not a Silverton issue, it's an everywhere issue and those who fear that any attempt to help will only attract more are unaware of studies that debunk that theory. I've heard some say we don't want to bring them into our community and become Salem or Portland. Nor do I, which is why action of some kind is needed now and not when the population grows unmanageable.

We have had encampments in, and close to, neighborhoods throughout Silverton for some time. Some churches have long allowed some of these folks to sleep on their property. Our homeless population isn't represented by the one very visible and not very respectful gentleman who concerned many of us last year. Our homeless population is nearly invisible. These folks are working in our community, shopping alongside us, and in many cases, parenting children here. In short, they are us, and have not just arrived looking for a handout.

These folks have all taken a unique route to homelessness, and they will each require a unique plan of assistance to transition back to stability. There simply is no single solution.

Last year, the Council approved my request to form a Homeless and Housing

Task Force, and that body – comprised of representatives of service agencies and known activists – has been meeting to identify what can be done. The Task Force, however, has not proposed a specific plan, nor do I think that our government is the answer. Government can play a supportive role when possible, but this requires an organic, local, citizen response.

Silverton Sheltering Services, Inc. has recently formed and will be offering assistance, casework, and resource referral for those who can be reached and helped (and want help). I appreciate their compassionate efforts on behalf of these citizens of Silverton and I know that those who oppose such changes in our code do not lack compassion.

I urge all of our citizens to respectfully express their opinions on these or any other subjects in writing at Council meetings, by email to Publiccomment@silverton.or.us, or if possible, come in person and testify.

I feel like this issue has been split by those on the left and those on the right, with some expressing considerable disrespect toward one another. That's not productive or representative of the Silverton I'm proud to consider home.

Like the rest of the Council, I look forward to hearing all of your respectful thoughts on the subject, followed by a decision that we think will best fit our community and our needs. It won't be a liberal decision or a conservative decision. It will simply be a decision that reflects doing our best to wade through another complicated issue. We hope you're with us along the way.

As always, feel free to tell me what's on your mind at Kpalmer@silverton.or.us 503-932-8550, or by Facebook message!

Safety Grants *from page 2*

- Children older than two years old can ride in a forward facing safety seat, but must continue to use it until they weigh at least 40 pounds.
- Children who weigh more than 40 pounds must use a child safety seat or booster seat until they are eight years old or 4 feet 9 inches tall, and the adult lap and shoulder belt fits them correctly.

Note: Never use a booster seat with just a lap belt. When the rear seats of a vehicle have lap belts only, Oregon law exempts children from the requirement to use a booster seat, but requires they be secured by the lap belt.

2017-2018 Pedestrian Safety Grants from Oregon Impact - \$4,163

This is the second grant received from Oregon Impact which helps with Police Department efforts to ensure enforcement of the vehicle code sections involving right-of-way in crosswalks and to educate citizens about the causes of pedestrian crashes throughout the city.

Oregon Impact Grant for DUII / Impaired Driving Enforcement - \$5,300

The Silverton Police Department was awarded a 2017/2018 driving under the influence of intoxicants (DUII) grant through Oregon Impact. The enforcement occurred during the 2017 Christmas Holiday and New Year's 2018. The department will target Independence Day and Labor Day during 2018.

Oregon law states:

- 1) A person commits the offense of driving while under the influence of intoxicants if the person drives a vehicle, while the person:
 - 2) Has 0.08 percent or more by weight of alcohol in the blood of the person as shown by chemical analysis of the breath or blood of the person.
 - 3) Is under the influence of intoxicating liquor, a controlled substance or an inhalant; or
 - 4) Is under the influence of any combination of intoxicating liquor, an inhalant and a controlled substance.

City Calendar

Meetings are held in the Silverton City Council Chambers 421 S. Water St. unless otherwise noted.

JULY

- July 2 – City Council 7 pm *
- July 4 – Independence Day
City Offices Closed
- July 10 – Planning Commission 7 pm
- July 16 – City Council Work Session
6 pm
- July 17 – Environmental Management
Committee 3 pm

AUGUST

- Aug. 6 – City Council 7 pm *
- Aug. 14 – Planning Commission 7 pm
- Aug. 20 – City Council Work Session 6 pm
- Aug. 21 – Environmental Management
Committee 6 pm



* Denotes meetings available on SCAN TV

SEPTEMBER

- Sept. 3 – Labor Day
City Offices Closed
- Sept. 10 – City Council 7 pm *
- Sept. 11 – Planning Commission 7 pm
- Sept. 17 – City Council Work Session
6 pm
- Sept. 18 – Environmental Management
Committee 6 pm