NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING
CITY OF ALBANY
CITY COUNCIL
Council Chambers
333 Broadalbin Street SW
Wednesday, October 12, 2016
7:15 p.m.

AGENDA

OUR MISSION IS

"Providing quality public services for a better Albany community."

OUR VISION IS

"A vital and diversified community that promotes a high quality of life, great neighborhoods, balanced economic growth, and quality public services."

Rules of Conduct for Public Meetings

1. No person shall be disorderly, abusive, or disruptive of the orderly conduct of the meeting.
2. Persons shall not testify without first receiving recognition from the presiding officer and stating their full name and residence address.
3. No person shall present irrelevant, immaterial, or repetitious testimony or evidence.
4. There shall be no audience demonstrations such as applause, cheering, display of signs, or other conduct disruptive of the meeting.

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

3. ROLL CALL

4. SCHEDULED BUSINESS

   a. Business from the Public
      1) Tobacco-free zones at Albany Public Libraries – Arwen McGilvra, Library Board Member. [Pages 2-10]
      Action: _____

   b. Adoption of Resolution
      1) Revising the low-income assistance program for all customers receiving residential water service from the City of Albany and repealing Resolution No. 5451. [Pages 11-14]
      Action: _____ RES. NO. _____

   c. Adoption of Consent Calendar
      1) Approval of Minutes
         a) August 10, 2016, Regular Session minutes. [Pages 15-18]
         b) August 22, 2016, Work Session minutes. [Pages 19-21]
         c) August 24, 2016, Regular Session minutes. [Pages 22-24]
      Action: _____

   d. Report
      1) Weekly yard debris pickup. [Pages 25-27]
      Action: _____

5. BUSINESS FROM THE COUNCIL

6. NEXT MEETING DATE: Work Session: Monday, October 24, 2016
   Regular Session: Wednesday, October 26, 2016

7. ADJOURNMENT

City of Albany Web site: www.cityofalbany.net

The location of the meeting/hearing is accessible to the disabled. If you have a disability that requires accommodation, advanced notice is requested by notifying the City Manager's Office at 541-917-7508, 541-704-2307, or 541-917-7519.

Roten, Holly

Subject: FW: Library Tobacco Free Zone

From: Arwen McGilvra [mailto:the.tech.chef@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, September 30, 2016 10:38 AM
To: Kopczynski, Ray; EXTERNAL - Coburn, Bill; Gallagher, Ed; kurrutia@co.linn.or.us
Subject: Library Tobacco Free Zone

To the City Councilors in Ward II,
CC: to Ed Gallagher, Library Director
CC: to Kacey Urrutia, Tobacco Program Coordinator Smoke Free Oregon

My name is Arwen McGilvra and I sit on the board of the Albany Public Library. Over the course of the last year the board has occasionally talked about making our libraries tobacco free campus'. At our meeting on Sept 27th we concluded that we should take the further steps necessary to make this a reality.

Ed advised us that the city council would be the place to bring this issue and to begin working on a solution.

I intend to attend the Oct 12th city council meeting and would like to discuss this issue with the council. Bringing attention to this issue to the full council.

Over the past 7 years the number one complaint to the library staff has been the smokers that tend to gather outside the entry way underneath the overhang. While technically 10 feet away from the entry the smoke tends to linger and is bothersome to those coming and going from the Library.

As a place of education, children's events, and a community gathering spot I believe it is in the best interests of the health of our community to make the Library campus' tobacco free.

I believe there is plenty of precedent for this move. Below are just a few examples from our community. I hope you will join me in working towards a tobacco free and healthy public library.

Sincerely,
Arwen McGilvra
1810 Hill St. Apt A
Albany, OR 97322
541-974-5725 (cell)
541-791-4568(home)

Both OSU and U of O are smoke free campus'. http://studentlife.oregonstate.edu/smokefree and https://uonews.uoregon.edu/archive/news-release/2012/8/uo-becomes-smoke-and-tobacco-free-university-sept-1

Our GAPS school district also has tabacco free campus'. Samaritan Health service has gone smoke free.

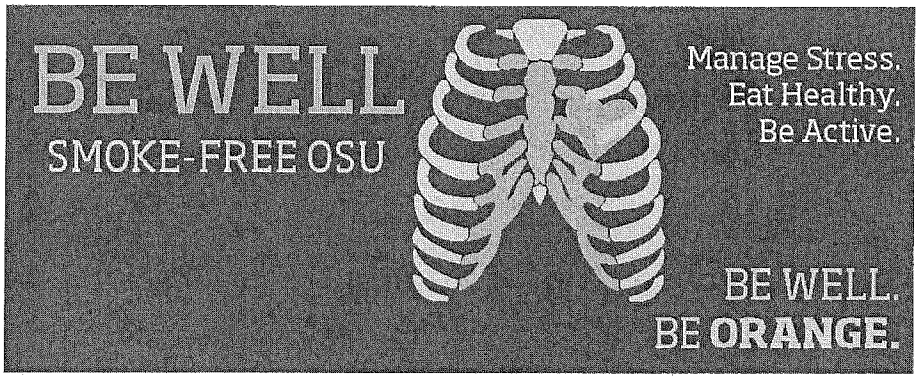
Oregon State parks are smoke-free. http://oregonstateparks.org/index.cfm?do=v.page&id=51 In addition Portland, Salem, Lebanon and many other communities around the state have banned smoking in their parks.

Please also see: http://smokefreeoregon.com/what-you-can-do/linn-county-2/ and http://www.surgeongeneral.gov/library/reports/50-years-of-progress/consumer-guide.pdf

DISCLAIMER: This e-mail may be a public record of the City of Albany and may be subject to the State of Oregon Retention Schedule and may be subject to public disclosure under the Oregon Public Records Law. This e-mail, including any attachments, is for the sole use of the intended recipient(s) and may contain confidential and privileged information. Any unauthorized review, use, disclosure, or distribution is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please send a reply e-mail to let the sender know of the error and destroy all copies of the original message.

Smoke-free OSU

Smoke-Free OSU



Contact Us

Smoke-Free OSU
Send Email
Phone: 541-737-2715

Download the OSU Guide

Welcome to Our Nonsmoking Campus

Oregon State University's President's Office officially announced in February 2011 that smoking will no longer be allowed on OSU's Corvallis campus, effective Sept. 1, 2012 (OAR Chapter 576, Division 040).

This Oregon law is enforceable by the Department of Public Safety on campus year-round, including game days. It is our collective hope that our OSU community, affiliates and visitors will be well-educated of the policy and enjoy the health benefits of being in a smoke-free environment.

With this policy change, OSU joins hundreds of campuses in the Pacific Northwest and around the United States that have already enacted such bans.

Last spring, an OSU Smoke Free evaluation was conducted on campus, engaging all students, faculty and staff at Corvallis and Cascades campus. The Executive Summary (PDF) and graphs for Corvallis campus are available for download. Thank you to the thousands in our community who responded.

Contact Info

Office of Student Life
Corvallis, OR 97331

Please see information at right to make direct contact with department.

Copyright ©2016 Oregon State University
Disclaimer

Facebook

ASOSU Office of Advocacy
325 Student Experience Center
(541)737-9200
Send Email

Center for Fraternity & Sorority Life (CFSL)
306 Student Experience Center
(541)737-5432
Send Email

Childcare & Family Resources (CFR)
211 & 213 Avery Lodge
(541)737-4906
Send Email

Corvallis Community Relations (CCR)
150 Snell Hall
(541)737-8606
Send Email

Disability Access Services (DAS)
A200 Kerr Administration Building
(541)737-4098
Send Email

Human Services Resource Center (HSRC)
Avery Lodge
(541)737-3747
Send Email

Military & Veteran Resources
142 Snell Hall
(541)737-7662
Send Email

New Student Programs & Family Outreach (NSPFO)
A150 Kerr Administration Building
(541)737-7627
Send Email

Office of Student Life
150 Snell Hall
(541)737-8748
Send Email

Student Conduct & Community Standards (SCCS)
150 Snell Hall
(541)737-3656
Send Email

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

Media Relations

UO becomes a smoke- and tobacco-free university Sept. 1

EUGENE, Ore. -- (Aug. 30, 2012) --The University of Oregon's annual cigarette butt clean-up events may be history after the university becomes smoke and tobacco free on Sept. 1, 2012.

The new change, made official by Oregon Administrative Rule 571-050-0005, bans the use of all tobacco products on property owned or controlled by the UO, including its primary campus footprint in Eugene, the UO in Portland at the White Stag Block, the Oregon Institute of Marine Biology in Charleston and the Pine Mountain Observatory near Bend. The change applies to buildings, athletic and entertainment facilities (both indoor and outdoor), sidewalks, roadways, parking lots and grounds.

In the fall of 2010, the UO was the first Pac-12 institution to announce intentions to become a smoke- and tobacco-free university. The decision was made to reduce the risks of second-hand smoke exposure and to provide a healthier environment for students, faculty, staff and visitors.

"The University of Oregon is now a healthier campus," said UO President Michael Gottfredson. "I appreciate the leadership of the governor, and the hard work of our students and other campus and community members in getting us to this day."

For the past two years, health and wellness professionals on campus have prepared for the transition with education campaigns and cessation support for users of tobacco products. The UO provided 167 students with cessation products in the past year from the University Health Center. In addition, faculty and staff were provided with support if they wished to stop using tobacco products. Support included free nicotine replacement products and cessation counseling, and will continue as the ban goes into effect.

"As I recently affirmed with the decision for all state facilities to become smoke free, tobacco use is an important public health issue in Oregon," said Gov. John Kitzhaber. "I'm pleased that the University of Oregon is making important changes to make a healthier environment for students, faculty, staff and visitors."

Beginning Sept. 1, exterior signage will be updated to reflect the new policy, information will be distributed campus wide, including several versions in non-English languages, and a partnership with Lane Transit District will begin to educate mass transit patrons about the change. Sept. 1 is the first home football game at Autzen Stadium and is an opportunity to inform fans about the change that impacts athletics venues as well.

Led by the University Health Centerand the recently launched Healthy Oregon, the goal for the first year is to provide education and awareness about the important change to encourage compliance with the new policy. Enforcement may include a $30 fine for repeated violation of the policy.

"Tobacco use is the number one preventable killer of Oregonians, causing approximately 25 percent of all deaths in our state," said Dr. Patrick F. Luedtke, senior public health officer and medical director at the Community & Behavioral Health clinics of Lane County's Department of Health and Human Services. "The University of Oregon's decision to go tobacco free is a bold and timely step that numerous studies and real world experience shows will decrease lung cancer, heart disease, stroke and respiratory illnesses such as asthma and lung infections in staff, students and the community."

In addition to the public health benefits of becoming smoke and tobacco free, the change will mean less litter on campus. Each year, the University Health Center staff and peer health educators volunteer for cigarette butt clean-up efforts across the 295-acre campus and collect approximately 7,000 butts in a day, and more than 18,000 each year.

"As a graduate of the University of Oregon, I am proud of the university and its students, faculty and staff for sending an important message about the value of cleaner air for all and the support in place to help individuals make healthy choices," said Congressman Peter DeFazio (D-Ore.).

For more information, visit http://tobaccofree.uoregon.edu or call the Oregon Quit Line at 1-800-QUIT NOW (784-8669), www.quitnow.net/oregon/.

About the University of Oregon

The University of Oregon is among the 108 institutions chosen from 4,633 U.S. universities for top-tier designation of "Very High Research Activity" in the 2010 Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education. The UO also is one of two Pacific Northwest members of the Association of American Universities.

MEDIA CONTACT: Julie Brown, UO media relations, 541-346-3185, julbrown@uoregon.edu

SOURCES: Paula Staight, director, UO Health Promotion, 541-346-2728; and Marci Torres, director, UO HealthyOregon, 541-346-8817.

Note: The University of Oregon is equipped with an on-campus television studio with satellite uplink capacity, and a radio studio with an ISDN phone line for broadcast-quality radio interviews.

###

Parks
Park Tour
Park Hours
Park Reservations
FAQ
Dogs In Parks
Urban Forestry
Volunteers
Community Service
Parks Revenue and Master Plan Update
Fairview Park Master Plan
River Currents

Salem Parks Go Smoke-Free August 22

Effective August 22, 2015, smoking is prohibited in all City parks, including parking lots located on park property and the area around Mirror Pond at the Civic Center. The smoking ban includes e-cigarettes and marijuana or cannabis products. This is consistent with Measure 91, which legalized recreational marijuana but specifically prohibits smoking marijuana in a public place.

Most smokers, once made aware that smoking is prohibited, are likely to comply with the smoke-free regulations. Enforcement will be primarily complaint-based and can involve a police officer issuing a warning or citation. Police response to complaints will be based on the priority of other calls for service. Fines for smoking in the parks will start at no more than $50 for the first offense and be as high as $250 for the third offense.

State law already prohibits smoking within 10 feet of a public entrance to a building. Visitors to the Civic Center Complex will be allowed to smoke in the area around City Hall and in the Peace Plaza area between the Library and City Hall, remaining 10 feet away from building entrances.

Following City Council's discussions of testimony from community members received in-person at public hearings and via email, on July 13, 2015, Salem City Council took this action to prohibit smoking in all of the City's 92 park properties. The prohibition on smoking includes linear parks or connector trails (like the Edgewater Parkway, Croisan Trail, or Union Street Railroad Bridge), historical areas (like the Deepwood Estate and Pioneer Cemetery), and special use facilities (like Center 50+).

Questions & Answers

What Is Not Allowed Areas Where Smoking Is Not Allowed Enforcement About the Policy

1. **Does the smoking prohibition apply to electronic cigarettes?**

   Yes. *Salem Revised Code* Chapter 45 defines smoking to be "the possession of any lighted pipe, lighted cigar, the use of an electronic cigarette or a similar device intended to emulate smoking, which permits a person to inhale vapors or mists that may or may not include nicotine, or lighted cigarette of any kind, or the lighting of a pipe, cigar, or cigarette of any kind, including, but not limited to, any tobacco or cannabis product, or any other weed or plant capable of being smoked."

2. **Does the smoking prohibition apply to marijuana?**

   Yes. In *Salem Revised Code* Chapter 45, the definition for "smoking" specifically includes cannabis products, weeds, and any plant capable of being smoked.

3. **Will anything change now that Measure 91 has become effective, legalizing marijuana?**

   No. Measure 91, which legalizes recreational marijuana and became effective July 1, 2015, specifically prohibits smoking marijuana in a "Public Place."

   > "Public Place" is defined as "a place to which the general public has access and includes, but is not limited to, hallways, lobbies, and other parts of apartment houses and hotels not constituting rooms or apartments designed for actual residence, and **highways, streets, schools, places of amusement, parks, playgrounds** and premises used in connection with public passenger transportation." (Emphasis added.)

4. **Can one still use smokeless tobacco in City parks?**

   Yes. *Salem Revised Code* Chapter 45 is silent on smokeless tobacco products such as chewing tobacco, snuff, and tobacco-laced lozenges or strips.

Where can I smoke?

Where am I allowed to smoke in State Parks?

Smoking in Oregon State Parks is allowed only in your vehicles and personal camping units, campsites and portions of day use parks designated as safety rest areas. Smoking is allowed on the ocean shore; however Oregon State Parks is asking anyone who smokes on the ocean shore to properly dispose of their cigarette butts and any other litter.

Why did State Parks restrict smoking?

The governor issued an Executive Order that asked all state agencies to look at ways to restrict smoking on public property in Oregon. State Parks proposed a restriction and sought public comments on it. Based on that public comment, State Parks adopted rules that address the issue in a responsible way for the properties we own and manage.

Does this restriction apply to things like e-cigarettes, chewing tobacco and medical marijuana?

The restriction applies to smoking of tobacco products only. Park visitors can use e-cigarettes and chewing tobacco, but the medical marijuana laws prohibit its use in view of the public, so it cannot be used in any public area of a park.

May I smoke in day use areas?

Portions of 27 day use areas have been designated as safety rest areas by the Oregon Department of Transportation through an agreement with State Parks. The safety rest area portion of those properties is excluded from smoking restrictions, so you can smoke in those specific areas. Parks with designated safety rest areas are listed below.

- Valley of the Rogue
- Koberg Beach
- Hilgard Junction
- Ontario
- Van Duzer Corridor
- Casey
- Tub Springs Wayside
- Ben & Kay Dorris
- J B Harris
- Catherine Creek

- Red Bridge Wayside
- Unity Lake
- Ellmaker Wayside
- Clyde Holliday
- Bradley
- Peter Skene Ogden
- Collier
- Tolovana Wayside
- Oswald West
- Neskowin
- Boiler Bay
- Driftwood
- Carl G Washburne
- William Tugman
- Ophir Wayside
- Harris Beach
- Cline Falls

What will happen if I smoke in those places where smoking is prohibited?

We want to make sure people are aware of and understand the new restrictions, so in 2014 we will be working to educate our visitors. Park staff will not be issuing citations in 2014 for smoking; instead we will be asking for voluntary compliance and may occasionally reinforce the request with a written warning.

If you are concerned about smoke, why didn't you ban campfires?

This effort was prompted by a governor's order that asked us to look at smoking of tobacco, so that is what we addressed.

TO: Albany City Council

VIA: Wes Hare, City Manager

FROM: Jeff Blaine, P.E., Public Works Engineering and Community Development Director JB
Jeff Babbitt, Public Works and Community Development Business Manager JB

DATE: October 5, 2016, for the October 12, 2016 City Council Meeting

SUBJECT: Water Utility Low-Income Assistance Program Revision

Action Requested:

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt the attached Low-Income Assistance Program Resolution for water customers effective January 1, 2017.

Discussion:

At the August 22, 2016, City Council Work Session, staff discussed current funding levels and qualification criteria for the Water Utility's Low-Income Assistance Program (LIAP). A comparison of LIAP revenues and expenditures for the last three calendar years indicates that there are opportunities to relax qualification criteria and extend credits to more of Albany's water customers.

As discussed at the Work Session, City and Community Services Consortium (CSC) staff does not have the data necessary to calculate estimated financial impacts of proposed changes to qualification criteria. Council was reluctant to make changes without supporting data, and CSC staff offered to conduct additional research through the state. Based on the CSC's research, if the LIAP criteria were modified to mirror that of energy assistance programs (state vs. county average income, less stringent income limit, anyone in house is senior or disabled), the program would expand by 1,350% and far exceed available revenues. However, energy program guidelines vary from the City's low-income assistance program in multiple aspects, and this comparison should only be considered as an indicator that a wholesale shift in qualification criteria is not financially feasible.

Staff recommends that if Council would like to move forward with expanding the program, to start by implementing small changes and evaluate the impacts during future annual rate increase discussions. Staff recommends that the low-income threshold be increased from 50 percent (50%) or less to 70 percent (70%) or less of the Linn County median income based on family size from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), effective January 1, 2017. A January 1 implementation date provides time for staff to update flyers with the new program eligibility criteria inserted into utility bills each November; it also coincides with the annual recertification date of the program.

Current Water Utility Low-Income Assistance Program

The current structure of the Water Utility's Low-Income Assistance Program is based on the recommendations of the Mayor's Water Task Force, which was approved by Council and implemented in January 2006. To qualify for the program an individual needs to meet the following four criteria:

1. Low income – Customer's annual income must be 50% or less of the Linn County median income based on family size from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The chart below represents the 2016 eligibility requirements:

Family Size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Over 8
Annual Income	$19,700	$22,500	$25,300	$28,100	$30,350	$32,600	$34,850	$37,100	+$2,250 for each additional family member

2. Senior Citizen – 60 years old and older; or Disabled – must have a medically documented physical or mental condition that has prevented or will prevent an individual from working for more than 12 continuous months.

3. Water bill must be in the qualifying person's name.

4. Qualifying person must be at least 18 years old.

If all four qualifying criteria are met, customers can receive a credit for up to their first four units of water consumption on each monthly bill. The current rate is $3.99 per unit, so each qualified customer could potentially receive a credit up to $15.96 per month. The base charge, LIAP residential surcharge, and all charges for consumption greater than four units still apply. Unused credits cannot be banked, saved, or carried forward to be used in any subsequent month.

The administration of the LIAP is handled by the Community Services Consortium (CSC). Customers wanting to apply for the credit must fill out an application on an annual basis with the CSC, who then verifies whether the applicant meets all four criteria. If all criteria are met, the CSC passes on the customer information to the City prior to each January 1, in order to apply the credit to the customer's bill for the upcoming calendar year. New participants can also qualify mid-year through application to the CSC.

The program is funded through a surcharge that is applied to all residential water bills. Currently the surcharge is $0.35 per month and is designed to cover the costs of providing the credit and the administrative fees.

Budget Impact:

The budget impact will depend upon how many additional customers sign up for the low-income assistance program after any revisions are implemented.

JB:rk

RESOLUTION NO._____

A RESOLUTION REVISING THE LOW-INCOME ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR ALL CUSTOMERS RECEIVING RESIDENTIAL WATER SERVICE FROM THE CITY OF ALBANY AND REPEALING RESOLUTION NO. 5451 (A RESOLUTION REVISING THE LOW-INCOME ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR ALL CUSTOMERS RECEIVING RESIDENTIAL WATER SERVICE FROM THE CITY OF ALBANY).

WHEREAS, the Mayor's Water Task Force reviewed the needs of, and funding for, the City's water system from September 2001 to September 2004; and

WHEREAS, the Water Task Force's proposed Water Financial Plan was adopted by the Albany City Council on October 13, 2004; and

WHEREAS, the Water Financial Plan included recommendations from the Mayor's Water Task Force to implement a low-income assistance program for qualifying water customers; and

WHEREAS, City staff received direction on program specifics from the Albany City Council on May 11, 2005, June 11, 2007, and October 12, 2016; and

WHEREAS, the City Council recommends relaxing qualification criteria to expand the program and provide further assistance to Albany water customers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Albany City Council that Resolution 5451 is hereby repealed as of the effective date of this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Low-Income Assistance Program, including credits and surcharges, as described in Exhibit A (attached hereto) is hereby adopted; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall take **effect January 1, 2017**.

DATED THIS 12TH DAY OF OCTOBER 2016.

_____
Mayor

ATTEST:

_____
City Clerk

EXHIBIT A

DEFINITIONS

Disabled: Persons who are unable to engage in any substantial paid activity by reason of any documented, medically determinable, physical, or mental impairment that can be expected to last for twelve continuous months or longer. A statement of disability benefits may be considered proof of disability for an applicant.

Senior Citizen: Persons who are at least 60 years old.

Low-Income: Defined as 70 percent of Linn County's median income, for the respective family size, as determined by the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) income limits defined by their Policy Development and Research Information Service.

QUALIFICATION CRITERIA

- Low income and a senior citizen, or
- Low income and disabled.
- Water bill must be in qualifying person's name.
- Qualifying person must be at least 18 years old.

LEVEL OF ASSISTANCE

Qualifying customers shall receive a credit for up to their first four units of water consumption for each monthly bill. Base charge, residential surcharge, and all charges for consumption greater than four units still apply. Credits cannot be banked or saved. Credits not used in any particular month may not be carried forward to be used in any subsequent month.

RECERTIFICATION

Qualifying customers will be required to re-certify annually.

PROGRAM FUNDING

The program will be funded through a surcharge on residential customer's water bills. The surcharge is designed to cover the cost of providing the credit and administration fees. The surcharge will be established in water rate resolutions.

The surcharge will be adjusted annually to maintain adequate revenue to cover actual program costs.

CITY OF ALBANY
CITY COUNCIL
Council Chambers
Wednesday, August 10, 2016
7:15 p.m.

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Sharon Konopa called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Konopa led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

ROLL CALL

Councilors present: Mayor Sharon Konopa and Councilors Rich Kellum, Bill Coburn, Ray Kopczynski, Dick Olsen, and Floyd Collins.

Councilors absent: Councilor Bessie Johnson was excused.

SCHEDULED BUSINESS

Legislative Public Hearing

CP-01-16, Comprehensive Plan Text Amendment to the Transportation System Plan.

Konopa said the next agenda item is a legislative public hearing regarding CP-01-16, a Comprehensive Plan Text Amendment to the Transportation System Plan (TSP).

Konopa opened the legislative public hearing at 7:17 p.m.

Konopa said for those wishing to testify there is a signup sheet at the table.

Staff Report

Planner II Melissa Anderson gave a PowerPoint presentation (see agenda file). She explained that the decision making criteria for a Comprehensive Plan amendment are under Albany Development Code (ADC) 2.220(1-2). The City Council initiated the action on March 9, 2016. Legal notices were completed on May 10, 2016, and the newspaper notice was published on June 8, 2016.

There was no one on the signup sheet (see agenda file).

Anderson said this will amend the Transportation System Plan (TSP) by extending Somerset Avenue to Timberridge Street and will update the funding list.

Transportation Systems Analyst Ron Irish described the four reasons to change the TSP: 1) to provide a better connection to neighborhoods; 2) to provide for a potential new development to the north with a secondary vehicle connection; 3) since the alignment is over the top of a sanitary sewer main, this new road will allow maintenance access to the main; and 4) it would be easier to justify to the Division of State Lands (DSL), creating a road through wetlands when it is listed in the TSP.

Anderson explained criteria 1 and 2 as outlined in the PowerPoint presentation. The Planning Commission recommends approval of the application.

Councilor Ray Kopczynski asked if the potential development that was being considered in the area did not go through because of this access issue. Irish said that Myles Breadner was interested in the property, but he is awaiting the outcome of this decision. Irish said that Breadner is following the TSP process carefully.

Konopa said, if anyone wishes to enter an exhibit into the record as part of your testimony, please briefly describe the exhibit and present it to the City Clerk.

Konopa asked, does anyone with to testify on the proposed amendments? No one did.

Konopa asked, does any staff member wish to respond to any testimony presented? No one did.

Konopa asked, does anyone have procedural questions they would like to raise at this time? No one did.

Konopa closed the public hearing at 7:27 p.m.

City Attorney Jim Delapoer read the ordinance for the first time in title only: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 4447, WHICH ADOPTED THE CITY OF ALBANY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AND MAP BY AMENDING THE ALBANY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN TEXT OF THE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM PLAN, AND ADOPTING FINDINGS.

MOTION: Kopczynski moved to have the ordinance read for the second time in title only. Councilor Bill Coburn seconded the motion and it passed 5-0.

Delapoer read the ordinance for a second time in title only.

MOTION: Kopczynski moved to adopt the ordinance and Councilor Bill Coburn seconded it. The motion passed 5-0 and was designated Ordinance No. 5874.

Konopa said, a legislative decision of the City Council may be appealed to the Land Use Board of Appeals by filing a Notice of Intent to Appeal not later than 21 days after the decision becomes final.

Konopa said, within five days of the adoption of an amended or new land use regulation, the Director shall forward to the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) a copy of the adopted text and findings and notify the DLCD of any substantial change which may have occurred in the proposal since any previous notification to the DLCD.

Business from the Public

Paul Edminister, 1973 Wright Place, Albany, said he wants to have a micro pig, which is another name for a pot-belly pig. He spoke to Public Information Officer/Management Assistant Marilyn Smith who informed him that it was not allowed by the Albany Municipal Code (AMC). He wants to get the AMC changed so he can have a pig that would be less than 25 lbs. Konopa said the Council will check with staff to see how other cities regulate pot-belly pigs. Discussion followed about the mannerisms and care of pot-belly pigs.

Adoption of Consent Calendar

1) Approval of Minutes
   a) June 20, 2016, Work Session minutes.
   b) June 22, 2016, Regular Session minutes.

MOTION: Coburn moved to adopt the Consent Calendar as presented. Councilor Rich Kellum seconded the motion and it passed 5-0.

Reports

City flag contest update.

Smith gave a presentation that described the flag designs and how the contest was conducted (see agenda file). The flags were narrowed down from 40 to the 5 flags in the presentation. Design No. 3 was the winner in the public survey.

Cole Pouliot from West Albany High School (WAHS) was in the audience for questions.

Kellum said that he is torn because he is not sure he wants to pick a flag; he doesn't think any of these flags represent Albany. He asked if the flag chosen will be flown officially, or only for special occasions. He asked how they know what the flag is supposed to represent. Discussion followed.

Kopczynski said he has enjoyed the process and has no problem picking a flag tonight. To Kellum's comments, Kopczynski said he thinks the flag they choose will grow on them and will come to be identified with Albany. Discussion followed about how other cities use their city flags.

Coburn said he has no issue with declaring the winner based on the public survey.

Hare noted that staff has invested a lot of time on this contest and he hopes that the Council will select one tonight.

Kopczynski suggested that a small flag could be made to present to the winner.

MOTION: Collins moved to select Design No. 3 as the City Flag. Coburn seconded the motion and it passed 5-0.

Pouliot said this is the flag that was created by the Vexillogical Association. Their intent was to be creative; they don't necessarily want the prize money. The students had already decided that if they won that they would donate the $100 back to the City as seed money for the flag program. The name of the flag is "Confluence and Crossroads."

Smith said it was an interesting process and she is pleased with the choice.

ST-13-04, Main Street Reconstruction property transfer.

Engineering Manager Staci Belcastro Staci said staff worked on this transfer with the understanding that the property would be deeded to the property owner.

MOTION: Collins moved to authorize the transfer of property for Main Street reconstruction. Kopczynski seconded the motion and it passed 5-0.

ODOT Funding for Pedestrian Sidewalks

Public Works Engineering and Community Development Director Jeff Blaine recalled that at a Work Session they discussed that the City has been bumped from some ODOT funding for pedestrian crossing improvements. Blaine had asked Council if they were still interested in pursuing improvements if staff could identify funding. Council had asked staff to bring back all the possible crossings.

Blaine provided two maps to show the five different locations for proposed lighted crossings locations (see agenda file). Blaine said when considering available reserves in the budget, Public Works thinks they think they could accomplish 2-3 of the crossings. Collins asked when the next ODOT cycle of money would be available; Blaine said it is a three-year cycle for this particular funding. Blaine explained how it is based on crash data for specific timeframes. Discussion followed about the crash history at the various locations.

Konopa discussed the kids who were crossing near schools on Ermine Street. She wonders how to rank the crossings by priority. Irish said that when applying for grants, staff looks for projects that will look good to ODOT. Therefore, staff looked for corridors where there were crossings, and which of those had actual crashes.

The Council discussed the cost of a typical installation.

Kellum said there is one crossing where a child was hit, and that is the one they should focus on. Coburn agreed with Kellum. He said, if we have the money, we should do the one on Grand Prairie and the one on Waverly Drive.

Hare said, we designed these projects based on what we thought we could get from ODOT. He asked, would it be better to have Irish analyze what the Council believes to be the most appropriate crossings that are the biggest threat to pedestrians? Rather than prioritizing based on what looks good to ODOT, they would be prioritizing on what the City would consider most important. Discussion followed about why staff presented it this way in terms of what ODOT looks for.

Collins thinks that having a pedestrian crossing component in the CIP would be a valid approach. Then the City could submit applications if funding becomes available. For example, the North Albany Road gets used a lot. The objective is to protect the pedestrians.

Konopa noted that the crosswalk on the map showing 34th Avenue and Columbus Street is circled; a pedestrian light may or may not help in that location, but something needs to be done at that intersection.

MOTION: Kellum moved to select Project Location 2, Waverly Drive crossing to Grand Prairie Park, and to have staff prioritize additional crossing locations and funds in a manner that creates the safest avenues for pedestrian crossings. Coburn seconded the motion and it passed 5-0.

BUSINESS FROM THE COUNCIL

Councilor Floyd Collins asked Hare for an update on the recruitment process. Hare said he had not been very involved and is letting Human Resources (HR) handle it. Hare said the HR Director told him that he spoke with the consultant the Council selected, and they suggested meeting with the Council after the first of the year. Discussion followed about whether it was appropriate for this Council or the next one, to make the hiring decision.

Collins said if they wait until after January to have their first discussions with the consultants, they will compress the time. He likes the school district's hiring process where they met with the public. He thinks that the Council should meet with the consultant early in order to at least discuss the process, although he has no issue with the future Council making other decisions. Discussion followed. The Council concurred that they would like to meet the consultants in November.

Hare discussed his recent trip to China.

Konopa spoke about the ground-breaking ceremonies at the new Police Station and Fire Station 11.

Konopa spoke about the Fun in the Park event at Swanson Park. There were 300 kids. Parks & Recreation did a great job coordinating the event.

NEXT MEETING DATE: A Work Session on Monday, August 22, 2016; and a Regular Session on Wednesday, August 24, 2016.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary A. Dibble, MMC
City Clerk

Reviewed by,

Jorge Salinas
Assistant City Manager/CIO

CITY OF ALBANY
CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
Municipal Court Room
Monday, August 22, 2016
5:00 p.m.

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Sharon Konopa called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Councilors present: Mayor Sharon Konopa and Councilors Rich Kellum, Ray Kopczynski, Floyd Collins, Dick Olsen, Bill Coburn, and Bessie Johnson.

Councilors absent: None.

BUSINESS FROM THE PUBLIC

None.

PARKWISE FEES

Transportation Systems Analyst Ron Irish explained the request to increase the fees for parking citations, as outlined in the letter from ParkWise Executive Director Peggy Burris. ParkWise is contracted to enforce downtown parking restrictions and impose fines and fees as set forth in the Albany Municipal Code (AMC).

Councilor Ray Kopczynski stated that he is willing to explore potential increases, but he needs to see additional information related to revenue and expenditures.

In response to questions from Council, Burris explained that the additional revenue is needed to update their ticketing system, which is outdated and no longer supported by the software provider, and to budget for pay increases for parking enforcement employees. Burris will bring information back to Council outlining how the increased fees would affect their budget.

City Attorney Jim Delapoer noted that all other fines and fees provided for in the AMC have increased over the last eight years, while this section of the AMC has remained static. He voiced concern that such low fines could reduce the rate of successful enforcement because the penalty for violation is not steep enough.

Councilor Rich Kellum asked questions related to collection of unpaid fines. Burris stated there over $18,000 worth of citations currently uncollected by ParkWise. Discussion followed. Burris noted that occasional violators tend to pay; repeat offenders are the ones with whom they have so many issues. Kellum said the larger issue appears to be the number of people who can dismiss their tickets without recourse. He would like to see the fine increase dramatically after a certain period, 60 days for example, so that tickets are taken more seriously and more likely to be enforced.

Councilor Bill Coburn agreed, saying it sounds like there's more of an enforcement issue than a revenue issue, and he doesn't believe increased fees are a good idea for downtown business. Discussion followed related to other options for enforcement including filing suit against the debtor in Municipal Court or, even, the City resuming administration of parking enforcement. Delapoer believes that once a major judgment is filed against a debtor, the word will spread and people will begin to take their citations more seriously.

Konopa voiced support for the increase and believes it is needed to continue with a successful ParkWise program, which she feels is able to run much more cost-effectively than if the City were to handle parking enforcement.

Councilor Floyd Collins questioned whether some of the issues stem from a lack of parking spaces available to employees. Burris explained that there are lease spaces in the Bridges lot, located off NW Water Avenue, between NW Ellsworth and N Lyon Streets, as well as employee permit parking throughout downtown. Discussion followed. Kellum and Councilor Dick Olsen also voiced support for raising fees.

MOTION: Olsen moved to direct staff to prepare an ordinance outlining the increase in fees. Kopczynski seconded.

Coburn said it is premature to support the motion. He is unable to make a decision without more information related to the number of tickets issued for each type of violation, how that figure is represented in overall ticketing, etc. He sees no value in raising fees for tickets that are hardly ever issued. On the other hand, if 95% of the tickets issued are for parking over four hours, perhaps the fee needs to be increased for only that category. Discussion followed. Councilor Bessie Johnson agreed that more information is needed before making a decision.

VOTE: Konopa called for a vote on the motion and it failed 4-2 with Collins, Johnson, Kellum, and Coburn voting no.

Burris distributed a current profit and loss report (see agenda file). She noted that there is $21,000 carry over from the previous fiscal year, as they billed in June and weren't paid until July.

LOW-INCOME UTILITY ASSISTANCE REVIEW

Public Works Senior Accountant Jeff Babbitt reviewed the current qualification criteria for the Low Income Assistance Program (LIAP), as outlined in the staff report. He explained that revenues exceed expenses by roughly $27,000 per year, and there are opportunities available to relax the qualification criteria and expand the program.

Public Works Customer Services Supervisor Patty McInnes agreed that there is definitely room to relax the qualification criteria; there are a number of citizens who are just outside the income threshold, so that is one possible adjustment to be made.

Peggy McGuire, Director of Housing and Energy Services for the Community Services Consortium (CSC), said that Albany's LIAP has been a model for other communities in the area. She apologized that specific figures were not available at the meeting as to how certain changes to the qualification criteria might affect the program's available funds, but CSC staff will do some additional research and bring that information back to Council. Discussion followed.

Collins noted that when LIAP was first established, the idea was to keep it extremely simple. He would propose that instead of using 50% of the median income, that could be adjusted to include 67%; Council could then reevaluate each year and see where they're at with program funding.

Kopczynski questioned whether there was a demonstrable need to expand the program, or perhaps it is appropriate to reduce the surcharge, since the program is more than paying for itself.

Kellum would like more information about current enrollment as well as prospective enrollment if changes were implemented. Babbitt stated that the historical high figure for enrollment is 208, low is 113, and the average enrollment is roughly 150 households per month.

Coburn believes that all low-income persons should be eligible, not just senior citizens and disabled adults, and there are also changes that could be made to the income requirement or age requirement. He is not interested in changing the surcharge amount.

Konopa voiced concern over raising the income level; she sees a greater benefit in reducing the age minimum for seniors.

Robin Johnson, CSC's Energy Assistance Manager, recommended a slight change to the criteria. She believes it would be appropriate to mirror other federal programs so that if the household includes someone with a disability, a child for example, then the household would be eligible.

Collins does not want to change the surcharge amount either. Coburn said he is not in a position to make changes without more information, and he believes that staff is in a better position to determine what changes should be made.

Public Works Engineering & Community Development Director Jeff Blaine suggested that Council direct staff to bring back a resolution with staff's proposed changes; the item can then be incorporated into the annual review and reporting on water rates that Public Works staff already brings to Council. There was general agreement from Council to have staff return with a resolution as well as additional information from CSC.

BUSINESS FROM THE COUNCIL

Kellum shared with the Council an idea to resolve parking issues in the downtown area. He would propose making the City-owned property off Water Street, between the Lyon Street and Ellsworth Street bridges, available to developers at a drastically reduced rate in exchange for the requirement that they double the parking spaces in that area, and then the developer could dictate what is developed above the parking structure. He asked that Councilors think about his suggestion and he will bring it up again later once they've had time to consider the idea.

Kopczynski reviewed the packet for the August 24, 2016, City Council Meeting and doesn't believe the application they're being asked to consider for the Planning Commission has been filled out completely, which is concerning to him for such an important position. He would prefer to see applicants list their contact information. Management Assistant/Public Information Officer Marilyn Smith explained that applicants are given the choice of what contact information is made available to the public, and any Councilor who would like contact information for an applicant should contact the City Manager's Office. Delapoer noted that applicants are given the choice because the thought is that people will be less likely to provide information needed for City business if they fear that it won't be kept private, thinking it might subject them to spam or fraud.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

Smith provided a list of candidates who have filed to run for 2016 election to City Council. Candidates include Sharon Konopa, Charlie Smith, and Laura Fisher for Mayor; Terence Virnig, Mike Sykes, Michael Thomson, and Zachary Gilliland for Ward I; Bill Coburn, Rebecca Winters, and Sean Bates for Ward II; and Rich Kellum and Trė Mork for Ward III.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Holly Roten
Administrative Assistant I

Reviewed by,

Wés Hare
City Manager

APPROVED: DRAFT

CITY OF ALBANY
CITY COUNCIL
Council Chambers
Wednesday, August 24, 2016
7:15 p.m.

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Sharon Konopa called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

Konopa led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

ROLL CALL

Councilors present: Mayor Sharon Konopa and Councilors Rich Kellum, Bill Coburn, Bessie Johnson, Ray Kopczynski, Dick Olsen, and Floyd Collins.

Councilors absent: None.

SCHEDULED BUSINESS

Business from the Public

There was none.

Adoption of Resolution

Modifying downtown parking regulations.

Transportation Systems Analyst Ron Irish said that the request is to change one parking space on Lyons Street to a 10-minute, customer only space, to accommodate the return of BoMack's to the downtown area. It will be used for their take-out business so will have a high rate of turnover.

Councilor Bessie Johnson asked, have other restaurants that offer take-out asked for their own space? Would this be setting a precedent? Irish said he is not aware of another downtown restaurant that focuses on take-out similar to BoMack's; no others have made a similar request. He described usage of spaces downtown.

Kendra Knebel, 30119 Berlin Road, Lebanon, representing BoMack's, said there will be limited seating and eventually, a large conference room that will seat 50-60. She is concerned that with the limited seating, customers may want to take their orders to go, so the parking space would help during the transition.

MOTION: Councilor Bill Coburn moved to approve the resolution and Councilor Rich Kellum seconded it. The motion passed 6-0 and was designated Resolution No. 6529.

Adoption of Consent Calendar

1) Approval of Minutes
   a) July 11, 2016, Work Session minutes.
   b) July 13, 2016, Regular Session minutes.
2) Granting a 10-foot-by-50-foot underground electric power easement on City property to Pacific Power as part of the new police station development project. RES. NO. 6530
3) Accepting the following from Samaritan Health Services as part of the Samaritan Medical Development Project for Tax Lot 11S-04W-01AD-00200:
   a) A 56-foot-wide right-of-way dedication deed. RES. NO. 6531
   b) A variable width storm drainage easement. RES. NO. 6532
   c) Two 7-foot-wide Franchise Utility Easements. RES. NO. 6533
4) Interlocal Participation Agreement for cooperative purchasing through BuyBoard National Purchasing Cooperative.

MOTION: Kopczynski moved to adopt the Consent Calendar as presented and Kellum seconded it. The motion passed 6-0.

Appointment

Appointing JoAnn Miller to the Planning Commission.

MOTION: Kellum moved to appoint JoAnn Miller to the Planning Commission. Kopczynski seconded the motion and it passed 6-0.

Reports

Designating a Voting Delegate and Alternate for the 2016 League of Oregon Cities Conference.

MOTION: Kellum moved to appoint Konopa and Assistant City Manager/Chief Information Officer Jorge Salinas as the Voting Delegate and Alternate for the 2016 League of Oregon Cities Conference . Kopczynski seconded the motion and it passed 6-0.

November and December 2016 Council meeting dates.

ACTION: The Council concurred with the calendar as presented.

BUSINESS FROM THE COUNCIL

Kellum reminded the Councilors to be thinking about parking availability on city property.

Kopczynski said he talked to Linn County Clerk Steve Druckenmiller about why they do not produce a Voter's Pamphlet. Then Druckenmiller gave Kopczynski a tour of their new electronic vote-counting system. Kopczynski said the process is fascinating, and Druckenmiller invited the Councilors to tour the facility at any time.

Konopa said that Springhill Drive residents have been complaining about speed. The neighbors didn't want two lanes. She asked Irish if there were speed counts conducted on Springhill Drive. Irish gave an update about what Benton County has done to measure the speed and what they plan to do as a result. Konopa thinks 40mph is too fast and that we should do whatever we can to calm the traffic.

Collins said he had wanted to keep the traffic circle and the double left turn lane, but both were defeated. He thinks Springhill Drive volumes and speed are both too high, and with so many driveways and turns there will be accidents there. He lives on Quarry Road and he described the traffic volumes and speeds he has noticed in the area. He does think they need to keep residential speeds at or below 40 mph.

Hare said a proven strategy to lower speeds is increased enforcement. The Police Department has been short-staffed for a while now. Chief Mario Lattanzio plans to increase and reinstate traffic patrols.

Coburn said that another option is the photo red-light cameras. Irish said that it used to be that Oregon did allow cities to utilize photo red-light enforcement, but that may have changed - he will check.

Konopa reminded the Council about the upcoming Northwest Art and Air Festival. She is appreciative of all the volunteers.

Hare reported that a truck hit the railroad trestle on 1st Avenue. The City has investigated the possibility of partnering with ODOT Rail or the Portland & Western Railroad to do better signaling. He doesn't think they can eliminate the problem, but perhaps they could put in an enhanced warning system. Irish said that the system they investigated would involve an infra-red beam mounted on the poles in advance of the crossing, and if an over-height vehicle broke the beam it would (prompt) a flashing light on the trestle. ODOT did this in Harrisburg and it was fairly successful. It cost about $50,000 4-5 years ago. Vendors have quoted the materials at a little less than that. Another option is to contact ODOT Rail; Irish gave an update on the contacts that he has made so far.

Irish said he was concerned that if the City put up a sign, and the sign broke so an over-height vehicle traveled through, the City might incur liability. Discussion followed about the mechanics and placement of the flashing lights. Konopa noted that it is being hit more frequently because people are using their GPS and following it, and don't notice the signs. Her concern is that if they are distracted, drivers aren't going to notice flashing lights either. Irish described the signaling system that Bend uses. Discussion followed about using signage to redirect trucks away from the trestle. Irish said there are some issues with GPS directing vehicles through there.

Coburn asked if there has been any damage to the trestle. He thinks that if the trestle had been damaged, the railroad would be more interested in partnering with the City to provide better signals. Irish said no; the structure is robust.

Delapoer asked if there is a history of personal injury, or if it is damage to the vehicles. He said, the more we do to prevent it, the more liable we become. There is a balance in what we try to protect. If there is a public safety risk, we should intervene; but if it is just damage to a vehicle, then that would be less of a reason to intercede.

Hare asked, whose problem is it? If it is the driver's, then should we as a City be assuming the cost for it? Coburn said it would cost more than just the initial installation, because there would be expenses for power and maintenance, including regular inspections to make sure the system is actually working correctly.

Konopa asked if longer chains or more chains would help. Irish said the chains sometimes don't hit the cab, and by the time they hit the trailer, it is too late. Discussion followed about how information gets into GPS. Collins suggested that ODOT Trip Check may be able to flag this trestle for potential drivers in the same way that they flag construction zones.

Staff will look into options and bring the information back to the Council.

Hare said he will be talking to the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) on Friday about City of Albany and DEQ partnerships.

Public Information Officer/Management Assistant Marilyn Smith reported on the request for an ordinance on pot belly pigs. In her research she found two cities in Oregon (Portland and Springfield) that regulate pigs; the others do not allow swine. Both cities have size and weight limits and Springfield requires neutering. Other cities do not differentiate between potbelly pigs and swine.

Collins is not interested in allowing them, and Coburn and Johnson agreed. Konopa commented that enforcement could be difficult.

Smith gave an update on the City of Albany flag project. There are nine flag poles at City buildings; she asked, do you want them made for every flag pole? Building Maintenance suggested having 2-4 extra flags. Elmer's Flag and Banner would charge $1,300 for 11 flags, and $1,500 for 13 flags.

Hare recommends that they do not have flags on every building, because it does commit the City to more expense over time in terms of replacement and staff time. He supports the idea of a City of Albany flag, he just wants the Council to consider the cost and maintenance involved.

Smith said that the winner of the $100 prize for the winning flag donated the funds to go towards the cost of the City's flags.

ACTION: The Council directed staff to order three City of Albany flags.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary A. Dibble, MMC
City Clerk

Reviewed by,

Wes Hare
City Manager

Albany Service Increase Proposal

9/26/2016

Republic Services is proposing the addition of weekly yard debris collection within the City for all Albany customers.

Current Yard Debris Program

- There are approximately 14,675 residential customers in Albany.
- Yard Debris is collected every other week and is green waste only (no food scraps.)
- Approximately 54% of our customers have responded in a survey that they are willing to pay $3.00 per month to have weekly yard debris collection.

OBSTACLES:

- Customers put overflow yard debris that won't fit in cart in trash cart. Material goes to the landfill.
- Food Scraps are not allowed in the yard debris cart due to odor concerns with bi-weekly collection.
- Customers who want more capacity now pay $8.84 per month for additional cart.

COST:

$8.84 per month for extra yard debris service.

Proposed Mixed Organics Program

- **Weekly** curbside yard debris service for all Albany residential customers, effectively doubling organic capacity, beginning March, 2107.
- Program includes food scraps, with are estimted to be up between 15 and 40% of all waste in Oregon.
- With a no rate adjustment in 2016 and a very low adjustment for 2017 (0.3%), this is an appropriate time to add this service.

BENEFITS:

- Fair & consistent service for all Albany residential customer.
- All residential customers pay the same amount and receive the same service.
- Increased recovery rate for Albany.
- Customers may be able downsize trash cart & cost.
- Includes Food Scraps
- Convenient, with all weeks available for cart set-out.
- Helps City meet Oregon DEQ goals for increased organics collection by 2020.

COST:

$3.00 per household

REPUBLIC SERVICES

Oregon
Kate Brown, Governor

Department of Environmental Quality
Environmental Solutions Division
811 SW 6th Ave
Portland, OR 97204-1390
(503) 229-5696
FAX (503) 229-5675
TTY 711

October 4, 2016

Rachel Snyder
Republic Services
110 NE Walnut Blvd
Corvallis, OR 97330

Environmental benefits of food and yard debris composting

Dear Rachel:

The City of Albany is considering changing residential collection services from every-other-week collection of yard debris to weekly collection of yard debris and food.

Such a proposed change is expected to benefit the environment in several regards.

Compost produced from yard and food debris offers a number of important benefits. It can improve soil fertility and health. Soils treated with compost have improved water retention abilities, conserving water during our dry summers and potentially reducing runoff. In certain applications, compost can allow for reductions in fertilizer and pesticide use. Compost also serves to return carbon to soils, and has excellent erosion control properties.

While the composting process can be a small source of greenhouse gas emissions, composting serves to reduce emissions from landfills. Republic's Coffin Butte Landfill is a state leader in methane gas controls and energy recovery, yet it remains a net source of greenhouse gases. Food in particular produces large amounts of methane if landfilled, and no landfill captures all of its methane. Some eventually escapes to the atmosphere; pound-for-pound, methane has 34 times the global warming impact when compared to carbon dioxide, over a 100-year period.

A common misunderstanding is that fuel impacts make recycling and composting programs not worth the effort. Republic Services is proposing running yard (+food) trucks down residential streets every week, as opposed to the current practice of every other week. Using fuel estimates that you provided to me, I estimate that this extra fuel use will contribute between 70 and 80 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent per year. This includes direct emissions from your trucks as well as "well to pump" emissions in the supply chain. However, diverting food waste from landfill avoids landfill methane emissions, and when we look at the full picture (including transportation, compost vs. landfill facility emissions, soil carbon storage, and avoided landfill carbon storage and energy recovery benefits), I estimate that the net effect of the proposed program will be a *reduction* in greenhouse gas emissions of approximately 343 to 353 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent. On the low end, this is equivalent to the emissions from burning almost 800 barrels of oil, or 38,500 gallons of gasoline.

In addition, collecting food waste and composting it will also help Oregon achieve its goal of 25 percent recovery of food waste by 2020, a goal that was set by the Oregon Legislature in 2015 (Senate Bill 263). This statewide goal for food waste was set in recognition of the significant potential for environmental benefits that can be achieved through composting or other recovery of food waste.

I would be happy to answer any questions you or representatives from the City of Albany might have regarding this issue. Please reach out to me at (503) 229-5479 or allaway.david@deq.state.or.us if there are any questions.

Sincerely,

David Allaway
Senior Policy Analyst
Materials Management Program

c: Cathie Rhoades, DEQ