

# City News

July 2024

## Be Considerate to Your Neighbors on the 4th of July

As the nation prepares to celebrate the Fourth of July with traditional parties and fireworks, the City asks Veneta residents to be good neighbors. Be safe, clean up after yourself, take care of pets, and—with this year's Independence Day falling during the week—end the fireworks by 10 p.m. so those who must work in the morning can get some sleep.

Please pick up your fireworks debris, rather than leaving it in the streets. The



paper and plastics that go into fireworks, the metals, nitrates and sulfur that make them burst and light up, can easily pollute our streams when the firework residue is washed into storm drains, which in some areas flow directly into streams.

The City won't be providing extra street-sweeping services after the holiday, so it's up to residents to clean it up. Beyond that, not cleaning up your fireworks debris is

(See "4th of July" on page 3)

## Council Considers Residential Vehicle Parking and Storage Amendments

On June 10, 2024, Veneta City Council approved the first reading of Ordinance 585, which may change some of the vehicle parking and storage standards in the Veneta Municipal Code. The previous code did not allow any boats, trailers or RVs to be parked in front of a house. The new code changes may allow one vehicle (trailer, boat, RV, etc.) to be stored in the driveway or front-side yard of a property. Parking and storage would need to be on an improved surface and vehicles cannot be parked or stored on lawns or in landscape areas. Typical examples of improved surfaces are concrete, asphalt, compacted gravel, or pavers. Vehicles also could not en-

croach on the public right-of-way or block a sidewalk.

Some neighborhoods may already have restrictive covenants or HOA rules that prohibit vehicle storage in the front yard. While the City does not enforce these rules, you should still check to make sure your vehicle storage does not violate them.

The City Council has requested that we conduct this public outreach to educate residents in the City prior to more strict enforcement of vehicle parking and storage issues, which staff would begin later this year if Ordinance 585 passes.

(See "Storage" on page 3)

## Dog Waste and Waterways

Did you know that dog poop left behind on public or private property is a leading source of pollutants in urban streams and waterways?

Pet waste can include major pollutants like nitrogen, pathogens, bacteria, and even parasites, and can cause weed and algae blooms in our waterways which can pose a significant health risk. When someone leaves pet waste on the ground, stormwater runoff picks it up and deposits it into nearby streams, lakes, and rivers.

In Veneta, all stormwater drains flow northeast until it reaches Fern Ridge Reservoir, which thousands of fami-

## CIVIC CALENDAR JULY 2024

All meetings held at City of Veneta, 88184 8th St, unless otherwise noted

3	Park Board Meeting	4:30 p.m.
4	Independence Day City Hall and Veneta Community Pool will be closed for the holiday	 Closed
8	City Council Meeting	6:30 p.m.
10	Economic Development Committee	2:00 p.m.
18	Veneta Municipal Court	8:30 a.m.
19	Night Waves Teen Pool Party - 25190 E Broadway	 7:30 - 9:00 p.m.
22	City Council Meeting	Cancelled
26	Business Assistance Committee	9:00 a.m.

(See "Waterways" on page 3)

**SCOOP  
THAT POOP**

# Department Updates

## ADMINISTRATION

- Sergeant Tim Ware retired from the Lane County Sheriff's Office at the end of the month after serving the Veneta community most recently as our contract sergeant starting in October 2020. Did you know that he also served as a Veneta contract deputy in early 2000? We'll miss Tim, but he promised that he'd come back to help out at big Veneta events like National Night Out and the Light Parade.
- Welcome to Lane County Sheriff's Office Sergeant Colt Parker as Veneta's new contract sergeant! Sgt. Parker's a local Fern Ridge guy so we're excited to have him lead our community policing effort in Veneta.
- Lane County submitted a grant application for the Veneta-Elmira Multi-use Path project to the federal Active Transportation Infrastructure Investment Program. That path would connect pedestrians and bicyclists between Veneta and Elmira safely away from Territorial Highway. The estimated cost of the project is over \$9 million. Fingers crossed!
- The City renewed a longstanding intergovernmental agreement with Lane County for the City to issue permits for activities on the County's Rights-of-Way (ROW), specifically Territorial Highway. Since the County is the liable party for that ROW, it would normally be necessary to acquire an event permit for anything like a parade or banner over Territorial Highway. Want to hang your banner over Territorial Highway at the railroad tracks to promote your event? Give City Hall a call!



## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- You may not know that the City applied for a \$100,000 accessibility grant for the future "Bark & Whistle Dog Park" at Brooker Lane and Territorial Highway from the Oregon Parks & Recreation Department (OPRD). We heard back from OPRD that they had concerns about the 10-year renewable duration of the City's lease with the Coos Bay Rail

Line. They asked us to change the term from 10 years to 25 years and remove language that would close the dog park if repeat dangers occur. Our Coos Bay Rail Line friends were happy to change the term from 10 to 25 years but they, and the City, have concerns about dropping the language to close the dog park if it's a danger. We'll continue to work with OPRD to see if there's common ground to be found.

- We received a request for the City to surplus a 0.30 acre property located near the center of the Oakley Estates Subdivision development north of Jeans Road. The City originally acquired the property as a well site before it was decided to connect to EWEB for water. At the City Council's June 24<sup>th</sup> meeting, Staff recommended selling the property.
- The City has sold a surplus 0.20 acre property at the southwest corner of 7<sup>th</sup> & Hunter! The City received a wire transfer for \$64,2337.50 to complete the deal. Those funds will go into the General Fund to support economic development projects.



## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Last week we had our first official Veneta Enterprise Zone application submitted by Holte Manufacturing! They're applying for a temporary property tax break on equipment that they've installed in their Veneta facility. If approved by the state, that tax break would start in 2025 for 3 years.
- The League of Oregon Cities put out a street conditions survey to cities. The League uses the survey to get a snapshot of how street maintenance funding—largely through a city's share of state gas tax—is matching the cost of street maintenance. Veneta has a history of keeping our streets well-maintained to avoid spending more money re-building failed pavement. Our local gas tax and monthly Transportation Utility Fee (\$3/month on the City utility bill) contributes to the City's ability to keep our streets well-maintained.



(See "Department Updates" on page 3)

## No Increase to Monthly Stormwater Rate

City Council voted not to increase the Stormwater Rate for 2024





**AUGUST 17, 2024 \* 9:00 AM**  
**City Park - 25192 E Broadway**  
**~ Run or Walk ~**

Proceeds Benefit Veneta Parks

**DQ Dilly Dash Kids Run - FREE**

**FREE Health Fair**



**To Register for the Race**

visit Eclectic Edge Racing website:

[www.electicedgeracing.com](http://www.electicedgeracing.com) or

scan the QR code to the right



## 4th of July cont...

considered littering. Under the Veneta Municipal Code 9.05.290 Offensive Littering comes with a base fine of \$750.00, explained Code Enforcement Officer Teresa Warrick. "Also, make certain that the fireworks you are using are legal under Oregon Law and Veneta Municipal Code," Warrick continued. "Buy your fireworks from a legal fireworks stand and remember that, anything that lifts off the ground is illegal and more likely to cause a fire." For added safety, trim dry grass

and keep a hose handy.

Keep in mind that pets can become stressed by the additional noise and commotion of the holiday. "July 5 is one of the busiest days for animal control agencies," said Warrick. "Many animals become stressed and get lost as they try to escape the noise." Owners are encouraged to protect their pets by leaving them at home where they feel safe and are sheltered from the outside activities.

## Storage cont...

So, if you have any type of trailer or RV parked in front of your house, we highly recommend you take the time to review these potential new rules. The standards mentioned above are not a full list of the proposed regulations. For more detailed

information, please visit the Agendas and Minutes page of the City website at [www.venetaoregon.gov](http://www.venetaoregon.gov) and review the July 8th City Council packet.



## Waterways cont...

lies and children use to swim, kayak, paddleboard, or otherwise enjoy themselves.

So please, the next time you take your dog out, plan ahead and bring a bag or use one of

the City's pet waste stations that are available at all City parks. Always remember to scoop that poop! The health and safety of your neighbors – and your water – depends on it.

## Department Updates cont...

### PUBLIC WORKS

- The Veneta Fern Ridge Chamber of Commerce's Downtown Veneta flower basket program is in full bloom on W. Broadway! This year's baskets arrived already in bloom and a little heavier, too, but the Public Works team handled them safely and successfully. Take a slow drive or walk down W. Broadway this summer to enjoy the colorful streetscape in your hometown!



- The Veneta Community Pool is open! There were a few soft-open events before the official June 15<sup>th</sup> grand opening, including the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade pool party and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade pool party, oh and the 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade pool party. Having local students and young adults willing to work as lifeguards is a gift to pool patrons. Next time you're at the Veneta Community Pool, thank a lifeguard for making our community a better place to live because of their service.



## Public Safety Fee Increase July 1, 2024

This is a reminder that you will see an increase to the public safety fee on your July Utility Bill. Per Resolution 1412, the monthly rate will increase from \$4.00 to \$6.00. The increase will help fund a proactive Code Enforcement Program.



# CITY OF VENETA NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2024



AT CITY PARK NEXT TO THE POOL

AUGUST 6, 2024 6-8 PM

25192 E BROADWAY AVE, VENETA, OR 97487

Questions? Contact Information:

541-935-2191

Jthode@ci.veneta.or.us



TOGETHER, WE ARE MAKING COMMUNITIES SAFER, MORE CARING PLACES TO LIVE AND WORK

## Public Safety Report - May 2024

Incident Type	Calls			Cases		
	Calls	Prior Year	5-Year Average	Cases	Prior Year	5-Year Average
Property (Thefts, Criminal Mischief, Trespass, Fraud)	25	44	35	7	14	10
Person (Assaults, Menacing, Harassments)	25	22	28	5	9	5
Public Order (Disorderly Subject, Citizen Contact)	85	95	77	0	0	1
Individual Welfare (Welfare Checks/OD, Missing Persons)	37	18	24	9	3	4
Vehicle (DUII, DWS, Illegal Parking, Traffic Hazard)	23	19	23	4	2	3
Offense Against State (Drug, Warrants, Local City Ord)	4	4	6	2	3	4
Civil (Civil Service, Eviction Process)	11	18	11	0	0	0
Neighborhood Watch	0	0	0	0	0	0
Traffic Stops	14	0	0	0	0	0
Total	224	220	204	27	31	27

# Night Waves Pool Party

**Friday, July 19, 2024  
7:30pm - 9:00pm**

**Ages 13 - 17 only \* \$4.50 Entry**



**Music ☆ Dancing  
Prizes ☆ Water Contests**



**Guest DJ  
Barry MacGuire**

**Veneta Community Pool • 25190 E. Broadway St.  
Veneta, OR 97487 • 541-935-4390**



# VENETA SHUTTLE TO OREGON COUNTRY FAIR

For Local Residents

Friday July, 12 & Saturday July 13, 2024

No bus service will be provided on Sunday July 14th

Schedule To & From  
Carson Card Lock on Jeans Rd.  
and Oregon Country Fair

(Do Not Block the loop to the card lock or the pumps)

## From Veneta to Fair

- 10:30 am
- 11:30 am
- 12:30 pm
- 1:30 pm

## From Fair to Veneta

- 4:30 pm
- 5:30 pm
- 6:30 pm
- 7:30 pm

\*Departure times are approximate



When boarding the bus you must have a Fair ticket!

SPONSORED IN PARTNERSHIP BY  
CITY OF VENETA and OREGON COUNTRY FAIR  
For questions contact City of Veneta at 541-935-2191