

# City News

July 2025

## Keep Your Pets Safe This Fourth of July

The Fourth of July is around the corner. While planning Independence Day celebrations, people should bear in mind that pets can become distressed by the additional noise and commotion of the holiday. The City of Veneta encourages pet owners to protect their pets from harm by following these safeguards.

- Leave your pet at home. Fireworks displays can be disorienting and frightening to most pets.



- Leave your pet in an area where they feel safe, comfortable and sheltered from the outside noise.
- Never leave pets outside and unattended. Even in a fenced yard, panic can lead to injured pets, if they attempt to escape. Make sure that your pet is wearing current identification. In the unfortunate event that your pet is lost, an updated

*(See "Fourth of July" on page 3)*

## Welcome Jordan Myers!

Welcome to Jordan Myers, who joined the City in late June as an Accountant.

Jordan grew up in Lane County and brings 10 years of accounting experience with him after earning an accounting degree from Bushnell (back not so long ago when it was called Northwest Christian University). He's currently finishing up his MBA in Finance at Bushnell.

## Mayor's Corner

Veneta is alive with energy! Summer is here and I love the sounds of the season! From kids laughing at the City playgrounds and splashing in the community pool, to the rhythm of pickleball on the Territorial Park courts, and dogs enjoying themselves at the Bark & Whistle off-leash park. The Territorial Sports Program's baseball season finale is in full swing, and families are out cheering their young athletes. Our skatepark is buzzing, too. It's all part of what makes Veneta feel like home.

Councilor Coy, Councilor Voltz, and I attended the League of Oregon Cities conference in Coos Bay. It was a great opportunity to connect with leaders from across the state, share ideas, and learn about new resources and strategies to support our community.

We celebrated National Public Works Appreciation Week. I had the pleasure of joining our hardworking Public Works team for lunch at Ixtapa. These dedicated folks are out there every day maintaining the infrastructure that

Two interesting facts about Jordan: He's a former Springfield police officer (his brother is a current Springfield officer and his dad is retired from the Springfield Police Department), and he's one of the most efficient 3-point shooters to ever play for Churchill High School. We're excited to welcome Jordan to the team!

CIVIC CALENDAR July 2025		
All meetings held at City of Veneta, 88184 8th St, unless otherwise noted		
1	Planning Commission Meeting	6:30 p.m.
2	Park Board Meeting	4:30 p.m.
4	July 4th Holiday - City Hall and Veneta Community Pool Closed	Closed
4	Veneta 4ths Community Event City Park - 25192 E. Broadway Avenue	3:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.
14	City Council Meeting	6:30 p.m.
17	Veneta Municipal Court	8:30 a.m.
18	Night Waves Teen Party	7:30 p.m. - 9:00 pm.
21	Economic Development Committee	3:30 p.m.
25	Business Assistance Committee	9:00 a.m.
26	<b>MOVIES IN THE PARK</b> <b>MOANA</b> (movie starts at dusk)	7:00 p.m.
28	City Council Meeting	Cancelled

*(See "Mayor" on page 3)*

# Department Updates

## ADMINISTRATION

- As the Veneta Park Board swings into summer event season, the City will be creating Facebook event pages as a central location for event information. The first event is Veneta 4<sup>th</sup>s. Come celebrate the Fourth of July with your neighbors from 3-7 p.m. at Veneta City Park!
- Lane Fire Authority is hosting a retirement event for Lt. Tressa Miller on Friday, July 11<sup>th</sup> at 3 p.m. in the Veneta Station. Tressa currently serves as the Veneta Park Board Chair and gives a lot of her time to the Veneta and Fern Ridge community. Stop by and congratulate her on a career of care and service!



## PUBLIC WORKS

- The City awarded the Bolton Hill Sports Complex Phase 1 construction project to Ordell Construction. There was a total of six bidders, which was a good response rate. The bids generally centered around the \$4.5 million to \$5 million mark. Construction will start this summer!
- The Veneta Fern Ridge Chamber of Commerce's Flowers on Broadway is back and beautiful! The Chamber took on the responsibility for hanging the banners, with the daily watering being done by the Public Works Team. Those flower baskets will get bigger and better throughout the summer. High Fives to the Chamber and the Public Works Team!
- We received a progress update from city engineer Civil West on the development of the Wastewater Facilities Plan (WWFP) and concept design to address the City's current and future wastewater treatment needs, ensure regulatory compliance, and support long-term system reliability and capacity. They've assessed existing infrastructure and its limitations, identified alternatives, and developed recommended improvements consistent with state and federal guidelines. Currently, they're gathering cost estimates and design parameters with vendors to finalize detailed discussion on alternatives, costs, and the suggested design alternative. Once complete, the WWFP will be subject to review by City



Staff, the City Council, and then Oregon DEQ. Acceptance of this document will lend itself to the concept design phase. The early estimated cost is almost \$38 million.

- The City received some good news about the Middle-Mile Fiber project. Lane County required an environmental survey for any protected plant species be done along the 1.75 miles of K.R. Nielsen Road where fiber would be hung on poles. We had concerns about State-protected Bradshaw's lomatium, but we heard from the contract biologist that after two separate site visits, there were no rare species found! We'll work with Douglas FastNet to get the work done and offer that fiber to any internet service providers that want to serve Veneta. More providers should lead to more competitive pricing.

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- Lane County Transportation reached out last week to update the City on some promising project activity in our area. Territorial Highway from Fir Grove to Clear Lake was elevated as a safety priority based on crash data in Lane County's Transportation Safety Action Plan update process underway. They're drafting concepts for shoulder widening of that section and a roundabout at Territorial/Clear Lake. Also, Warthen Road was elevated as a Safety priority, so they'll draft concepts for a sidewalk project from Territorial to Falcon, which the school district previously requested. Look for community meetings this summer on these draft concepts. If there's community support on the concepts, then those designs would be ripe for future grant funding for construction.
- Separately, the City met with Lane County Transportation and ODOT to talk about future options for the Jeans Road & Territorial Highway intersection and the Territorial & OR126 intersection. Here's ODOT's perspective: The intersections are currently 300 feet apart, which is less than the 350-foot minimum called for in the Oregon Highway Plan. The length of the existing southbound left-turn lane at OR126 is substandard because it can't store the volume of traffic and can't be extended into the Jeans Road intersection.



(See "Department Updates" on page 3)



## Public Safety Fee Adjustment, July 1, 2025

This is a reminder that you will see an increase to the public safety fee on your July Utility Bill. Per Resolution 1442, the monthly rate will increase from \$6.00 to \$9.00. The increase is to cover funding our 4 Lane County Sheriff deputies and 1 sergeant.

## Mayor cont...

keeps Veneta running smoothly — Thank you!

The 2025–2026 Veneta Budget has been approved by the Budget Committee and City Council. Thank you to everyone who participated in the process — transparency and community input are key to building a strong future.

Have you seen the flower baskets downtown?

They're beautiful! Huge thanks to the Veneta-Fern Ridge Chamber of Commerce, our generous sponsors, and Public Works for keeping them looking great all summer long.

Savor Summer! Shop Local!

Mayor Robbie McCoy



## Fourth of July cont...

Dog License greatly increases your chance of being reunited.

If your pet fears loud noises such as thunder, consult your veterinarian before July 4 on how to lower your pet's stress level.

It's understandable that people want to in-

clude their pets in their holiday celebrations; however, most pets are more likely to enjoy their comfortable routines. Save the fireworks and fanfare for your human companions and have a safe and fun holiday.

## Department Updates cont...

We're just starting the conversation with ODOT and the County, but it's good to know that ODOT sees the bigger problem too, so that they can be part of the solution.

- Veneta-Elmira Multi-Use Path project update: We received promising news last week that the Oregon Bike/Ped Advisory Committee recommended \$5,053,000 of Oregon Community Paths grant funding! That's funding for half of the Project starting at Suttle Road. While we probably shouldn't start celebrating yet, I think it's okay to start stretching out your muscles just so you don't hurt yourself celebrating if the funding does come through. ☺ This recommendation still needs to be approved by the Oregon Transportation Commission who may either fund this year some of the recommended projects based on project readiness and available funds, or next year, again, depending on funds. Two years ago, the Project also made the list but tied with two other projects at the bottom of the

priority list, and didn't get funded due to a lack of funds. At least this year the Project landed at Priority #8 out of twelve.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Lane County sent us their required annual Enterprise Zone report for 2025. Veneta has one Enterprise Zone property tax abatement participant, Holte Manufacturing. Holte had \$1,296,910 of property that was placed into the Enterprise Zone property tax deferral program last year. The County listed the taxes that would have been imposed on that property as \$22,542. The Enterprise Zone economic development incentive program is a statewide, temporary, property tax exemption designed to encourage companies to invest in production improvements. After three to five years the value of that property can go on the tax roles to support the local community.



## City Council Adopts 2025-2026 Budget Effective July 1<sup>st</sup>

The Veneta City Council adopted an annual budget at the end of June. The biggest ticket item is Phase 1 of the Bolton Hill Sports Complex Upgrade project at about \$5 million dollars. Phase 1 will upgrade the playing fields. Ordell Construction will start construction this summer. The City is pursuing a grant for the Phase 2 playground on the westside of the park.



## Volunteers Needed



Are you looking for an opportunity to volunteer in your community? A new local non-profit called Veneta Serves is organizing volunteers to help around our community and at community events. This is a great opportunity to make a difference while gaining valuable experience and meeting new people. If you're interested in learning more, contact Alexa Benson at [venetaserves@gmail.com](mailto:venetaserves@gmail.com)

## Summer Driving Safety: Protecting Kids, Pets, and Pedestrians

Summer brings more people outdoors—especially children on bikes, dog walkers, and pedestrians. Drivers should stay alert in neighborhoods and near parks. Kids on bikes may swerve or ride unpredictably, so slow down and give them extra space. At intersections, always check twice for cyclists and pedestrians before proceeding.

Parents can help by teaching kids bike safety: always wear helmets, ride on the right side of the road, and use hand signals. Make sure bikes are the right size for each rider and in good working condition. Encourage children to make eye contact with drivers before crossing streets.

Dog walkers are often out during



cooler hours, watch for dogs on leashes that may extend into the road.

In Oregon, drivers must stop and remain stopped for pedestrians in any crosswalk—marked or unmarked—when the pedestrian is in their lane, an adjacent lane, or within six feet of the lane into which they are turning. This includes when any part of the pedestrian or their equipment, such as a stroller, wheelchair, or cane, enters the roadway with intent to cross. Yielding isn't optional, it's the law and it saves lives. Stay distraction-free and drive slowly in residential areas.

A little caution goes a long way. Together, drivers and parents can make summer safer for everyone.

## Public Safety Report - May 2025

Incident Type	Calls			Cases		
	Calls	Prior Year	5-Year Average	Cases	Prior Year	5-Year Average
Property (Thefts, Criminal Mischief, Trespass, Fraud)	22	25	33	7	7	8
Person (Assaults, Menacing, Harassments)	30	25	28	3	5	5
Public Order (Disorderly Subject, Citizen Contact)	60	85	73	1	0	1
Individual Welfare (Welfare Checks/OD, Missing Persons)	14	37	20	1	9	3
Vehicle (DUII, DWS, Illegal Parking, Traffic Hazard)	26	23	22	2	4	3
Offense Against State (Drug, Warrants, Local City Ord)	4	4	6	4	2	4
Civil (Civil Service, Eviction Process)	10	11	12	0	0	0
Traffic Stops	24	14	14	0	2	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>24</b>

# Night Waves

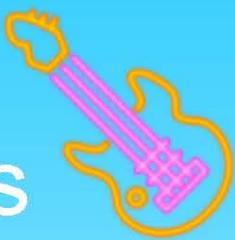
## Pool Party

**Friday, July 25, 2025**  
**7:30 pm - 9:00 pm**

**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 Community Pool**

**Saturday, August 2, 2025**

**2:00 pm to 4:00 pm**

**Bring your whole family and join us  
for games and plenty of fun!**

**Normal family swim rates apply**

**Kiwanis will be onsite with food to purchase**



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

# CITY OF VENETA



**AUGUST 5, 2025 6-8 PM**

At Veneta City Park

25192 E Broadway Ave, Veneta, OR 97487

JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OF FAMILY FRIENDLY FUN AS WE  
CELEBRATE THE MEN AND WOMEN THAT KEEP OUR  
COMMUNITY SAFE.

**THIS YEAR'S ACTIVITIES WILL INCLUDE:**

- LANE COUNTY SHERIFF'S MOUNTED POSSE AND K9 DEMO
- LANE FIRE AUTHORITY'S WATER MISTER AND SLIDE
- SHERIFF VS LANE FIRE/FORESTRY BATTLE OF THE AGENCIES!
- DEPUTY DUNK TANK AND DONUT EATING CONTEST
- TUG-O-WAR
- PIE EATING CONTEST
- POTATO SACK RACE
- AND LIVE MUSIC!



*Proudly Sponsored by*





Proceeds Benefit Veneta Parks

AUGUST 9, 2025  
9:00 AM - Run or Walk  
City Park - 25192 E Broadway



Dilly Dash Kids Run - Free

To Register for the Race

visit Eclectic Edge Racing website: [www.eclecticedgeracing.com](http://www.eclecticedgeracing.com)  
or scan the QR code to the right

