

City News

August 2025

Vehicle Leaks and Water Pollution

Did you know that just one drop of motor oil can contaminate up to 13 gallons of drinking water?

Stormwater runoff from roofs, pavements, and other hard surfaces flows into Veneta's storm drains and is not cleaned before it empties into local streams and rivers. This means that any pollutants that enter our storm drains enter our water system. Motor oil, gasoline, and

other vehicle fluids left on the surface of your driveway or street will eventually wash into the City's stormwater system. Containing and disposing of these fluids properly protects the Long Tom River, Fern Ridge Reservoir, and our other local waterways.

(See "Pollution" on page 3)



Bolton Hill Sports Complex Construction Underway!

Phase 1 of construction for the Bolton Hill Sports Complex officially began last week. What will ultimately become an improved site with six new soccer fields, two baseball fields, two softball fields, two T-ball fields, a new playground, and parking lots is starting off this summer. This initial phase includes the removal of existing on-site features, installation of new artificial turf, concrete pathways, new natural grass sports fields, an ac-

cess lane around the southern end of the property, and drainage systems. Also included will be the new backstops, dugouts, bullpens, protective netting, and other amenities.

The second phase is tentatively scheduled for next year pending funding. That phase will feature improvements to the west side of the property including new playground equipment and a

(See "Sports Complex" page 3)

Mayor's Corner

Veneta had an incredible July — thank you to everyone who came out for our Veneta 4th celebration, the Oregon County Fair, and our lively Pickleball Tournament! It's been a summer full of energy and connection. Don't you love our Veneta Downtown Farmers Market?



Looking ahead, August is packed with more ways to come together as a community: National Night Out – August 5 Join us for an evening of music, safety education, and fun for all ages — plus this year's event will help raise funds for updated police equipment. Veneta Park Run – August 9 Formerly the Celebration Run, this event includes a 10K, 5K, and a Kids Dilly-Dash, taking runners through seven beautiful Veneta parks! Whether you're walking, running, or simply cheering from the sidelines, we hope to see you there! See you in the parks — and shop local!

Mayor Robbie McCoy

CIVIC CALENDAR AUGUST 2025

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

2	Family Fun Swim at Veneta Community Pool 	2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.
5	National Night Out  City Park, 25190 E. Broadway	6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
6	Park Board Meeting	4:30 p.m.
9	Veneta Park Run, City Park  25190 E. Broadway	9:00 a.m.
11	City Council Meeting	6:30 p.m.
12	Planning Commission Meeting	6:30 p.m.
16	Movies in the Park City Park - Cancelled	
18	Economic Development Committee Meeting	2:00 p.m.
21	Municipal Court	8:30 a.m.
29	Business Assistance Committee Meeting	9:00 a.m.
29	Veneta Community Pool Closes for 2025 	7:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.

Department Updates

ADMINISTRATION

- Strategic planning work continued in July. The team of staff and Mayor McCoy reviewed internal survey results and translated them into a draft vision statement, draft mission statement, and draft priority areas. The survey of staff, council, and boards, including the chamber of commerce—in other words, nearly everyone involved in serving the community—showed “Safe” and “Thriving” are key elements of the City’s collective vision for Veneta. In the coming months we’ll finalize the draft before bringing this work to the Council for action.
- The City and Urban Renewal Agency adopted new budgets for the coming fiscal year starting July 1st. The big-ticket item is the \$5+ million Phase 1 of the Bolton Hill Sports Complex upgrade. Council awarded that construction contract to Ordell Construction, and work should start in August. Budgeted revenue changes include a \$3/month increase to the Public Safety Fee to \$9/month to close the funding gap for law and code enforcement, and rate-study recommended annual increases of 3% for water rates and 2% for sewer rates.
- We’ll soon be making significantly more interest on the Veneta Urban Renewal Agency’s checking account. The Agency has about \$4 million in the bank account and the current interest rate of 0.02% will change to 2.3%, a significant increase! Now, you may be thinking to yourself (or out-loud if that’s your habit), “Aren’t we going to spend most of that money on the Bolton Hill Sports Complex project that starts this summer?” Well as always, you’re correct! We will. That’s why we’ll take a fresh look at the City’s and Urban Renewal Agency’s banking relationships to ensure that we’re being good stewards of the taxpayers’ and ratepayers’ money.
- In case you were also wondering about law enforcement coverage for the City during Oregon Country Fair weekend, Sgt. Parker scheduled double shifts starting Thursday through Sunday. That double coverage cost is factored into the City’s LCSO contract as additional overtime cost of up to



Veneta Urban Renewal Agency



\$30,000. The double coverage roughly amounts to under half of that amount.

- The Veneta Zoning and Development Code now has its own quick-access button on the city website. Need to know what the rules are for building a fence or other addition to your property? Click on the Code button, see what it says, and if you have follow-up questions, give the Planning Department a call!

PUBLIC WORKS

- What does World-Class Small-Town service look like? One, it looks like Veneta’s Public Works Team—the whole team—quickly responding to a water main break east of Pine Street on E. Bolton after an underground-fiber installer broke the City’s water line. Two, it looks like the City front desk staff collaborating over the phone with a resident down the street from the main break to help get air out of the water line after the repair. Three, it looks like the Public Works Team restoring the driveway gravel, clearing the area with yard blowers, and new mulch at the resident’s property that was flooded with water. Taken all together, the City Staff taking care of residents gave them another reason to feel proud about small town Veneta. THAT’S World-Class Small-Town service!
- You may have noticed that there are a lot of utility trucks in the area. Most are either Douglas FastNet or Hunter Fiber installers. We’ve had up to 90 “locate” requests come through in one week recently. A “locate” is a request from a company wanting to work in the public rights-of-way to have all utilities—water, sewer, power, telecommunications—have a person go to the work area and spray-paint where their infrastructure is underground. Whew! It’s a busy summer.
- Here’s some GREAT news! The Oregon Department of State Lands (DSL) gave up on their demand for roughly \$1.6 million more of wetland mitigation credits from the City for the planned wastewater treatment plant expansion! You may recall that over the last six months the City’s been trying to convince DSL that requiring the City to pay over \$2 million in wetland mitigation credits doesn’t make sense when the “wetland” being put to use is



(See “Department Updates” on page 3)

Department Updates cont...

actually the City's old wastewater lagoon. In DSL's approval letter they acknowledged that the City had already made a good-faith effort to acquire all available credits for about \$628,000 and determined that the remaining credit requirement would be waived! This decision authorizes a new Removal-Fill Permit for the Veneta wastewater treatment plant lagoon work.

- On a related note, we also received good news at the end of June from the Oregon Legislature. The amended House Bill 5006 included: "City of Veneta, Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion Wetland Mitigation Credits: \$1,693,000." Thank you to House Speaker Julie Fahey and Senate President Pro Tempore James I. Manning, Jr. for advocating on behalf of Veneta's ratepayers! Because of the recent great news from DSL about the credits no longer being required, the City plans to ask to have that \$1.6 million state funding earmark applied towards construction. The estimated cost of the wastewater treatment plant expansion project is about \$35 million, so we're going to need all the help we can get!



Pollution cont...

Here are some tips to help protect our water supply from vehicle pollution:

- Inspect and maintain your vehicle regularly to prevent leaks.
- Properly dispose of vehicle fluids. Never pour on the ground or near a storm drain or drainage ditch. Take oil and other fluids to your local transfer station.
- Select a good location for vehicle maintenance. This could be in a garage, a carport, or

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

- Oak Island Park is expanding! The City closed on a lot purchase and land donation in early July. Congratulations, Veneta! The park will nearly triple in size from about $\frac{1}{2}$ of an acre to about 1.5 acres. The City will be pursuing grant funding to have a public engagement process to learn what residents would like to see with the additional land.
- City staff are reaching out to AirBNB and other similar rental outfits to ensure that they're collecting and paying the City's Transit Lodging Tax. The City has a 4% occupancy tax for overnight accommodations, in addition to any county and state lodging taxes.
- Community Development Director Kevin Urban submitted the City's application for an Oregon Department of Land Conservation & Development Housing Planning Assistance Grant, including support letters for the grant and an ODOT Transportation Management Grant that we also hope to receive. The City's trying to secure two grants, which could each stand alone, but we believe will be more successful if done in tandem. Fingers crossed!

Sports Complex cont...

small parking lot.

The third phase is tentatively scheduled for 2027 pending funding and will feature the main parking lot, concrete walkways, and other features for the complex.

Want to stay in the loop on the project's progress? Subscribe to "Notify Me" on the City website. Visit www.venetaoregon.gov, scroll down to the bottom of the main page, click "Notify Me", then select *Bolton Hill Sports Complex*. You can

on a flat, hard surface where spills can be cleaned up easily.

- Protect from spills by placing absorbent material under the vehicle like tarp, drop cloth, plywood, cardboard, etc., and use a drip pan under the vehicle when changing fluids.
- Clean up spills by absorbing them, not washing them. Use rags or materials such as cat litter, sawdust, or oil absorbent. Then put the soiled material in the trash.

receive email or text notifications and you'll receive notifications whenever new information is posted. You can also scan the QR code to the right, this will take you directly to the Bolton Hill Sports Complex web page.

For more details and ongoing updates, visit the Bolton Hill Sports Complex project page at <https://www.venetaoregon.gov/382/Bolton-Hill-Updates>



Veneta 4ths Fun

What an incredible event this year's Veneta 4th turned out to be! The water slide truly stole the spotlight, but we also had a fantastic time creating our 2025 mural, enjoying live music, parading through the park, and so much more! Shout out to the many volunteers who helped make this event a reality (Boy Scouts, Councilor David Voltz, Tim Cox and many others).



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

Public Safety Report - JUNE 2025

Incident Type	Calls			Cases		
	Calls	Prior Year	5-Year Average	Cases	Prior Year	5-Year Average
Property (Thefts, Criminal Mischief, Trespass, Fraud)	16	44	35	6	19	15
Person (Assaults, Menacing, Harassments)	32	28	28	6	6	5
Public Order (Disorderly Subject, Citizen Contact)	51	81	70	1	3	2
Individual Welfare (Welfare Checks/OD, Missing Persons)	15	32	23	0	6	4
Vehicle (DUII, DWS, Illegal Parking, Traffic Hazard)	18	24	23	1	2	3
Offense Against State (Drug, Warrants, Local City Ord)	2	23	7	2	3	3
Civil (Civil Service, Eviction Process)	16	13	10	0	0	0
Traffic Stops	17	0	0	0	0	0
Total	167	245	196	16	39	32

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
or scan the QR code to the right



City of Veneta
PARK BOARD



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