

City Manager's Report



March 5, 2024 – By Lily Morgan

1. Upcoming Meetings/Projects – Council Look Ahead

March 28 – Defensible Space Workshop with Oregon State Fire Marshall's office at Library

April – Partnership with American Red Cross volunteers will be canvassing to offer home assessments for wildfire danger as part of Fire Adapted Gold Hill project

May – Fire Adapted Gold Hill Community Assessments for Defensible Space and Wildfire Risk

April 25-26 – League of Oregon Cities Spring Conference in Klamath Falls

May 11 – Yardin' in the Hill

May 18 – Community Clean Up Day & Fire Adapted Gold Hill work day

2. Grant Updates

1) OSFM – Community Wildfire Reduction Grant: We have purchased a chipper and several additional power tools to assist in community and parks for fuels reduction and increasing defensible space for a Fire Adapted Gold Hill

2) CIS (City Insurance Service) Wildfire Grant. We received a grant to reduce wildfire risk around our water intake and will be requesting bids over the next week.

3) CIS Cyber Risk Reduction Grant – We received notice of a grant to reduce our cyber risk and am working with TekManagement, our new technology services contractor, to fulfill the grant.

4) USDA – ECWAG Grant – Water Intake – Final paperwork was turned in today. Next step is to advertise for bids via our engineering firm, Adkins Engineering

5) Biz Oregon – Awarded a new grant to complete the environmental assessments at the Brownstone / Powerplant project site, with DEQ handling the project management.

6) Biz Oregon – We have applied for a SIPP grant to study our rates and System Development Charges (SDC's). Still awaiting a reply.

3. Water Funding

With the help of Representatives Christine Goodwin and Emily McIntire, I applied for capital construction funds through the legislature. Southern Oregon Water Tech helped me develop a list of critical improvements needed to our water system. These improvements are necessary for us to meet increased housing needs in our city. Funds have been allocated to the City of Gold Hill in SB 1530, which passed both chambers and is awaiting signature of our governor. We will be using the funds from this allocation to replace and upsize our main water line, and do repairs and improvements to our Water Plant and system.

4. Strategic Planning

We had a successful day of strategic planning and goal setting on Friday, March 1, 2024. Thank you to all the community members that took part in the process. Facilitator Joe Schmidt did a fantastic job. We'll have more finalized to you at the next meeting.