

# THE TROUTDALE CHAMPION

JULY / AUGUST 2021

## City Council to Provide Incentives to Restaurants

The pandemic has had a profound effect on everyone. Whether it is school kids, employees, businesses, or just going out and enjoying time with friends and family, our lives have been adversely impacted. As we move into “life after COVID” the impact will continue. In addition to the local and national programs designed to help families and businesses, the Troutdale City Council has, and will continue to take steps to help in the recovery. Recently they decided to provide incentives to bring restaurants (including coffee shops, taverns, etc.) to Troutdale, or expand our current restaurants.

One of the significant costs to expand, or start a new restaurant, in any city, are System Development Charges (SDC). These charges make sure that new businesses and residential buildings contribute to the cost of expanding our water, sewer, roads, and parks infrastructure to meet the increased demand and pressure on these important systems caused by these new users. The City Council believes that by reducing part of the cost to expand a



A mouth-watering spread at Bandit's Bar & Grill.

restaurant, or start a new one, we will increase the likelihood of expanding the dining opportunities in your community.

On May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021, the City Council approved, and also increased, the restaurant SDC incentive program for the third year in a row. Any new restaurant, or current restaurant expanding, that gets a building permit before January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022, will receive a 60% reduction in their Sewer SDC's. Depending on the

size of the restaurant, this could be worth up to \$75,000 to \$80,000 off the normal cost to open a new eating establishment in the City. To ensure the financial viability of our utility system, the Council authorized the City's General Fund to repay the Sewer SDC fund for this cost. [UPDATE: At the July 13th Council meeting, the Council will also be voting to increase the subsidy for 2022.]

The Council is continuing to consider ways to help the recovery from COVID. If you have any suggestions, don't hesitate to call or email us at [info@troutdaleoregon.gov](mailto:info@troutdaleoregon.gov).

### TROUTDALE RECREATION

We are thrilled to announce that **Movies in the Park** is returning to Troutdale this summer! We'll be taking over the soccer field at Columbia Park to show a full-length feature on Friday, July 30<sup>th</sup>, and again on Friday, August 13<sup>th</sup>.



Also returning is the giant LED screen — so even though there will still be daylight when the movies begin, you won't have any problems enjoying them under the late-evening sun. Showtime is currently set for 8 p.m. each night, but stay tuned for more details. The movies will be announced in mid-July!

So get ready to pull out your picnic blankets and beach chairs. We can't wait to see you at the show!

For more information, go to: [troutdaleoregon.gov/moviesinthepark](http://troutdaleoregon.gov/moviesinthepark)



A perfect evening for First Friday. Photo by Jarrod Lyman.

## First Friday Returns July 2nd

You won't need fireworks to kick off your holiday weekend!

First Friday made its triumphant return to downtown Troutdale last month and was a huge success! Hundreds of people filled Columbia River Highway to check out the dozens of restaurants, businesses and vendors that took part.

And the next one will be even better.

Start off your Fourth of July weekend by joining us on July 2<sup>nd</sup> from 5 to 8 p.m. From the Centennial Arch all the way down to Glenn Otto Park, you'll find live music in Mayors Square, vendors selling local and handmade goods, a Kids Zone run by Shooting Star Adventures, as well as your favorite restaurants and watering holes.

Once again, we will shut down Historic Columbia River Highway between Buxton Avenue and Kibling Street from an hour before the event starts until an hour after it ends so everyone can have plenty of space to mingle, shop, eat and enjoy the summer evening. First Friday will continue all summer and into the fall with additional dates on August 6<sup>th</sup>, September 3<sup>rd</sup>, and October 1<sup>st</sup>.

You can find all the event information including a list of participating businesses, restaurants, and vendors by visiting [www.troutdaleoregon.gov/firstfriday](http://www.troutdaleoregon.gov/firstfriday)

## City Collaborates on Homeless Issues



Multnomah County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) Homeless Outreach and Programs Engagement (HOPE) team balances compassion while prioritizing public safety. Photo courtesy of MCSO.

All over the region the problem of responding to the ongoing issues of people experiencing homelessness is seen everywhere. You cannot travel downtown Portland without seeing the evidence on the sidewalks, freeways, and public spaces. It is a problem without easy solutions, and one that will not be improved without ongoing cooperation between many local government agencies. Additionally, the reasons that people are homeless is so nuanced and multifaceted, that not one, or even a handful, of solutions will lessen the problem. Finally, even if you have a solution for a particular individual, will they want to pursue it? Truly a problem with no easy answers.

In the City of Troutdale, both the Council and staff, are spending a significant amount of time working on the issue. When it comes to camping or parking RV's in Troutdale, we are taking a very aggressive approach in responding to the situation and working with the individuals to find an appropriate alternate solution for safe overnight accommodations. Federal Courts have complicated our response, and the Oregon Legislature has

(continued on Page 4)

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# Street and ADA Ramp Improvements are Coming Soon

This summer's street and ADA improvements projects are almost here. By the time you read this, the City will have awarded contracts to the low bidders and will be gearing towards construction. **The City has two separate projects on tap:**

**Street improvements** The City is focusing on one major reconstruct, NW Rogers Circle, located in the industrial area north of I-84. This ¼-mile long commercial/industrial street sees heavy truck traffic year-round and is in much need of repair. It has reached the point where our typical preservation techniques will no longer yield a positive cost/benefit ratio.

This street was selected carefully by our engineers using pavement inspection data, pavement history, and a sophisticated pavement condition computer model that is validated with field observations by the engineering and streets maintenance staff. The pavement design was chosen from a variety of options recommended by a geotechnical specialist consultant.

While the City typically uses preservation treatments to greatly extend the life of asphalt pavements to the maximum extent possible, there comes a point when an asphalt section becomes structurally damaged beyond the point of preservation and must be rehabilitated. Once the street is rehabilitated, its preservation life cycle will start anew.



**ADA Improvements** Twenty-one sidewalk ramps will be improved this year to meet current ADA standards. The sidewalk ramp ADA improvements are a prerequisite per federal law to the street reconstructions planned down the road.

The City understands that these projects are disruptive and hopes that residents and business owners understand how important it is to perform these improvements to ensure our streets remain in very good serviceable condition for years to come as cost effectively as possible, while also giving Troutdale pedestrians the safest and most accessible pedestrian routes possible. The City asks that you bear with us, secure in the knowledge that a few days of inconvenience pays off with years of good quality pavement and pedestrian routes serving your business or home. To learn more, go to [www.troutdaleoregon.gov/2021adaimprovements](http://www.troutdaleoregon.gov/2021adaimprovements)



*Expect to see sign notifications at least 24 hours in advance for No Parking areas, pedestrian detours, or other impacts. Schedules can change on very short notice due to weather, equipment breakdowns, etc., so please pay close attention to notifications and signage.*

For information on NW Rogers Circle Project: [www.troutdaleoregon.gov/nwrogers](http://www.troutdaleoregon.gov/nwrogers)  
For information on ADA Improvements Project: [www.troutdaleoregon.gov/2021adaproject](http://www.troutdaleoregon.gov/2021adaproject)

Questions? Contact Nick Massey, Engineering Associate/Project Manager  
[nick.massey@troutdaleoregon.gov](mailto:nick.massey@troutdaleoregon.gov)



## Urban Renewal Area Planning hits Milestone

The City of Troutdale and its consultants are continuing design work on the future Sandy Riverfront Park and Trail design. A significant milestone was hit in June when a 60 percent design status was achieved. This status means that the trail's location and general pathway are set and five associated areas along the trail have been identified for further design interest.

Of these five areas, three are expected to be outdoor play areas for children (and yes, maybe even adults too!). The City will work with the Parks Advisory Committee in the coming months to finalize the designs of these smaller spaces. The other spaces include a potential location for a future overlook of the river and a lawn area that can be used to spread out for picnicking, relaxing, congregating, or other non-defined use.

Getting to a 60 percent design also better positions the City to seek and obtain grant funding from a variety of public, private, and non-profits sources. It also enables coordination with the Union Pacific Railroad to accommodate the undercrossing of their railroad trestle to connect with the Depot area and downtown Troutdale.

## Troutdale Water Quality Report Available Now

This state-required yearly report gives the citizens of Troutdale important facts concerning Troutdale's water supply. **The report is available for viewing on our website at <http://troutdaleoregon.gov/waterquality>**

Printed copies of the 2020 Water Quality Report are available in the City Hall reception area and at the Public Works Shop. If you would like a copy post mailed or e-mailed directly to you, please e-mail [Tina.Leahy@troutdaleoregon.gov](mailto:Tina.Leahy@troutdaleoregon.gov) or call 503-674-3300.



## New Housing Development Hits Record Pace

As we turn to the second half of 2021, Troutdale is already on pace to eclipse last year's housing activity by a longshot.

As of July 1, about 20 homes have received their permits to begin construction, which is nearly double of what was permitted last year. Even more impressive is that there are about 20 units currently in review to obtain permits and another 40 to 50 that are expected to be submitted by the end of the year.

Housing activity helps to sustain the Community Development Department's building division's operations and staffing, which do not take appropriations from the City's General Fund. A healthy pace of building activity allows the department to review applications and inspect new projects. With the recent influx of housing applications, the City hired on an additional permit specialist to help with the workload.

## BRIEFS

### This July 4th: Have fun, but stay safe

This July 4th, we encourage Troutdale residents to be safe, courteous, and have a good time. In response to the many complaints of illegal fireworks reported to 9-1-1, the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office will put extra police officers on the street to specifically deal with these calls. These complaints are related to concerns about fire safety and possible injuries. If you need to report a safety issue regarding the use of fireworks, call the non-emergency dispatch at 503-823-3333. If there is a fire or life-threatening emergency, always call 9-1-1.

### City Volunteers Wanted!

Looking to make a difference in the community? The City of Troutdale is always looking for volunteer help. Whether it be something more formal like serving on a committee or something more casual like helping out at events like First Friday, the City can always use a hand.

With summer in full swing, event volunteers for our upcoming events are a terrific way to give back and to enjoy the outdoors during the best time of year. Please contact Kimberly Carl at 503-674-7256 or email [kimberly.carl@troutdaleoregon.gov](mailto:kimberly.carl@troutdaleoregon.gov) to see how you can help. You can also stop by City Hall at any time, but particularly at our table on First Friday to learn more.





# Summer tips that will help keep you, your family, and your neighbors safe

by Captain Steve Bevens  
Chief of Police – City of Troutdale  
Multnomah County Sheriff's Office



As we look forward to our summertime here in Troutdale, I would like to share with you a few public safety challenges for Multnomah County Sheriff's Office (MCSO) and some safety measures for you to consider.

**Water Safety:** The Sheriff's Office patrols over 100 miles of waterways in Multnomah County including the Sandy River. At Glenn Otto Park we will have paramedics from AMR on site along with an assigned Deputy for safety. Please remember that although temperatures can be hot, the Sandy River is cold, as it originates from a glacier (of the same name) near Mount Hood. Also, a friendly reminder that pets, alcohol and glass containers are not allowed in the family-friendly park at Glenn Otto.

**Animal Safety:** Be aware of the heat and how it affects your pets, specifically if they're left inside a vehicle on a hot day. Within minutes, a 70-degree day can turn into 100 degrees inside a vehicle.

**Heat impacts on our vulnerable population:** MCSO has two Deputies assigned to the HOPE team (Homeless Outreach and Program Engagement). These Deputies focus on



assisting the houseless and vulnerable populations in Multnomah County. During the summer months these Deputies, along with all MCSO Deputies, offer resources in extreme heat periods ranging from cooling centers to shelters to bottled water.

**Please keep an eye on your neighbors, friends and family who might need assistance this summer.**

**Vacation Home checks:** As the Covid-19 restrictions continue to be lifted you will hopefully be able to travel and enjoy some vacation time this summer. Remember that you can request MCSO to check your homes while out of town by calling 503-988-7300 or you can set this up online at <https://www.mcso.us/>, click the search icon and type 'vacation home checks'.

Have a great summer and stay safe!  
Steve

Out in the Parks with Tim Seery

## Young Resident Spearheads Clean-up Event

**Community Clean-Up Event**  
**Mayors Square, Historic Downtown**  
**July 24<sup>th</sup> • 8 a.m - Noon**  
**Hot Dog Lunch provided**

It started with a simple email. Then a meeting with young Troutdale resident Hannah Koetje in the Historic Downtown. Hannah asked what it would take to spruce up Mayors Square? Before I could answer, Hannah produced a long written list of improvements to the small park, right down to cleaning up "all the small cracks where little grasses and weeds grow". And the rest, as they say, is history.



We decided to hold a community event on Saturday, July 24<sup>th</sup> to include other like-minded volunteers. We plan to install a small retaining wall, spread bark dust, and plant numerous shrubs and perennials throughout the park.

A free Hot Dog Lunch complete with soda and chips will be provided at the close of the event. We hope you'll join Hannah and me at Mayor's Square on July 24<sup>th</sup>. And on behalf of the City, we thank Hannah for her civic call to volunteer.

**If you want to be involved, call 503-665-5175.**

## TROUTDALE RECREATION

Looking for summer activities for the kids? The City of Troutdale Recreation Department is excited to offer a pair of outdoor programs that will keep them active and entertained!

First up is our **Wilderness Skills Day Camp** at Sandee Palisades Park from July 12<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>. Kids will learn real-life wilderness skills to use the next time your family goes camping. They'll make fire with and without matches and learn to tend a fire safely and create delicious campfire snacks. Campers will build shelters and create fun and practical wilderness tools. They will also learn knife safety, wilderness

navigation techniques, native plant identification and basic wilderness first aid. The program will be led by staff from Shooting Star Adventures. Please register by July 5<sup>th</sup>.

Also coming up is a new program, **Pop-in Play**, on July 13<sup>th</sup> and August 3<sup>rd</sup> for kids aged 3-5 and 6-10. This is a fun and engaging, game-based physical program that offers kids a variety of exercises in an outdoor setting. The program will be held at Columbia Park and Donald Robertson Park in Wood Village and led by staff from our friends at PlayEast.

For more information, please visit [www.troutdaleoregon.gov/](http://www.troutdaleoregon.gov/)



## Troutdale Historical Society Museums Reopen!



Pictured above: WWII Navy Nurse Corp jacket worn by Betty Baldwin.

Would there have been a Troutdale without the railroad depot? The Depot Rail Museum opens for tours during the Troutdale First Friday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>. Come in to see the "barebones" renovation of the waiting room and station agent's office.

On July 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, the Barn Exhibit Hall and Harlow House Museum will reopen. Two new exhibits at the Barn Exhibit Hall feature Handy Bros. Service – Where Troutdale Met to Drink Bad Coffee, and Smelt in the Sandy. In the Harlow House are the World War II uniforms of Helen Dombkowski Otto and Elizabeth (Betty) Baldwin, two Troutdale women who served in WWII Army & Navy Nurse Corps.

## Cascadia Arts Association presents Fall Festival of the Arts 2021

Group seeks volunteers for current, future projects



The Cascadia Arts Association (CAA) is a new nonprofit arts organization that made its big public debut at First Friday on

June 4, 2021. The organization was formed during the COVID pandemic to organize the Fall Festival of the Arts (FFA). The Festival is an annual event occurring on the third weekend in September in Troutdale's Glenn Otto Park. CAA is organizing other local arts projects including First Fridays, The Community Trout Art Project 2021, and sculpture projects throughout Troutdale. Our hopes are to **Engage, Inspire, and Empower the Arts** in our communities in East Multnomah County. We are seeking volunteers and members to assist with First Fridays, the Community Trout Art Project, and Fall Festival of the Arts 2021. If you are interested, please contact either Martha Denham at [martdenham@gmail.com](mailto:martdenham@gmail.com), or Ellen Green at [egreenartist@gmail.com](mailto:egreenartist@gmail.com)







# 17th Annual Kiwanis Troutdale Cruise-In

Saturday, August 7th • 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.  
Downtown Troutdale / East Historic Columbia River Highway

From vintage classics to street rods, muscle cars, motorcycles and more, you'll find the coolest wheels at the 17th Annual Troutdale Cruise-In!

- Vendors, Raffle, and Cruisin' Tunes by the KISN Goodguys
- **This event is free for all spectators.**
- For entrants, registration begins at 7 a.m., fee is \$15. All makes, years, models and motorcycles welcome.
- All funds raised from this event go to children's programs and college scholarships for Youth in our community.

Car Show questions? Call John Leamy at 503-704-7653. For Vendor Info, call John Owen at 503-952-6680.

**Road Closure - 6 a.m. to 4 p.m.**  
East Historic Columbia River Highway, between Buxton and SE Kibling avenues will be closed to cars, as well as both Dora and Harlow avenues. Detour on 2nd Street.

## City Collaborates on Homeless Issues

(continued from Page 1)

now passed a new law on the topic, which handicaps cities response to unlawful camping. Despite that, we are still working to assist those individuals in finding alternate, safe locations that do not adversely impact other citizens. Our Code Compliance Officer, Community Resource Deputy, and the Sheriff's HOPE team (Homeless Outreach and Programs Engagement) are all working together to stay on top of the issue.

Just outside the City limits, where we have no authority, we are still impacted by camping in the Sandy River Delta (also referred to as "Thousand Acres"), on the east side of the Sandy River. The property is owned by the Oregon Department of State Lands and the United States Forest Service. With the complications of the pandemic, it is more difficult for those agencies to push for the moving of illegal campers. In the meantime, the City, both Council members and staff, are regularly meeting with those agencies, along with Metro staff and the Sheriff's office. The property owners are working to keep the garbage cleaned up and enforcing the "no fires" rule in that area. With the fire season approaching, this risk is very much on everyone's mind.

The City understands that there are no easy solutions, and with so many government agencies involved, each with a different view of the issues involved and how to solve them, our approach is to constantly push for collaboration and progress.

*If you have any questions or concerns on any issue related to homelessness, illegal camping or parking, please contact our Code Compliance Officer on the City's website, [www.troutdaleoregon.gov/commddev](http://www.troutdaleoregon.gov/commddev) or the HOPE Team at (503) 823-3333.*

## Checking in with Your Chamber of Commerce

### Wednesday Morning "Coffee Chat" going strong!

Join members of the West Columbia Gorge Chamber of Commerce for a "Coffee Chat" each Wednesday morning from 8 to 8:45 a.m. You'll find the link for this informational Zoom meeting on our website at [www.westcolumbiagorgechamber.com](http://www.westcolumbiagorgechamber.com), along with the name of the featured guest and topic. Help support the return of our business community and get to know your Chamber.

### Save the Date for an evening of Fun

On August 28<sup>th</sup> from 5 - 8:30 p.m., join us for a **Farm to Table** evening with the West Columbia Gorge Chamber of Commerce and our farmers in Corbett.

You'll enjoy fresh food from the farms



in the area, listen to stories around the Fire Pit, and dance under the stars with our Native American community. There's even a "Farmer's Market" so you can take home some of the fresh foods you will enjoy! For more information, check the Chamber website (see above) for details, or call Cindy at 503 658-5646.

*For the latest news and information, check out our website at:*  
**[www.troutdaleoregon.gov](http://www.troutdaleoregon.gov)**



## Landlord/Tenant Issues?

East County Resolutions can help



### East County Resolutions

During these times there are many uncertainties. For landlords and tenants, it may be shared concerns around rent and fees. East County

Resolutions is a **FREE** service that brings people together to work out solutions to their concerns - even proactively - so that together, they can meet halfway and mitigate problems from happening or getting worse later. Email [Mediate@GreshamOregon.Gov](mailto:Mediate@GreshamOregon.Gov) or call 503-618-3247.

### City Meetings

#### City Council Regular Meetings

Police Facility Kellogg Room - 7 P.M.  
July 13, July 27 (cancelled)  
August 10 (cancelled), August 24

*View Council meetings live on Comcast Channel 30 or Frontier Channel 38 at 7 p.m.; rebroadcasts are Fridays at 4 p.m. and Sunday at 9 p.m.*

#### Planning Commission

Police Facility Kellogg Room - 7 P.M.  
July 14, August 11

#### Parks Advisory Committee

Police Facility Kellogg Room - 7 P.M.  
July 21, August 18

#### Citizens Advisory Committee

Police Facility Kellogg Room - 7 P.M.  
July 7 (cancelled), August 4

#### Historic Landmarks Commission

Police Facility Kellogg Room - 7 P.M.  
**NOTE: Email:** [comdev@troutdaleoregon.gov](mailto:comdev@troutdaleoregon.gov) for details

#### Urban Renewal Agency

Police Facility Kellogg Room – 7 P.M.  
July 20, (if needed), August 17 (if needed)

*Find meeting agendas, Council packets and audio/video of Council meetings at [www.troutdaleoregon.gov](http://www.troutdaleoregon.gov)*

### City Offices

City Hall Main Number	503-665-5175
Building Permits	503-674-7229
Building/Parks Rentals	503-674-7297
Business Licensing	503-665-5175
Code Enforcement	503-491-4009
Fire Department (Gresham)	503-618-2355
Mayor & Council	503-674-7258
Multnomah County Sheriff's Office (MCSO)	
MCSO Business Office	503-988-7300
MCSO Records	503-988-7300
(press '0' for Police Records)	
Municipal Court	503-665-5175
Police & Fire	
Non-Emergency Dispatch	503-823-3333
Parks Department	503-674-7271
Planning/Zoning	503-674-7229
Public Works (Wastewater)	503-666-8377
Public Works (Water & Streets)	503-674-3300
Recreation Program	503-674-7206
Water/Sewer - Billing Questions	503-674-7232
Water/Sewer - Open/Close Acct.	503-674-7225

## CITY CALENDAR

### JULY

- 2**  
**1st Friday Art Walk**, 5-8 p.m. (see article Page 1)
- 3, 4**  
**Troutdale Historical Society museums reopen** (see details on page 3)
- 4**  
**Independence Day**
- 5**  
**Independence Day (Observed)**  
**ALL CITY HALL OFFICES CLOSED**  
For Police / Fire emergency - call 9-1-1,  
For Water / Sewer emergency - call 503-251-4163
- 30**  
**Movies in the Park**, Columbia Park Soccer Field (see Page 1 for details)

### AUGUST

- 6**  
**1st Friday Art Walk**, 5-8 p.m. (see article Page 1)
- 6**  
Troutdale Historical Society has **tentative** plans for a **Barnyard Concert** during First Friday. Check for updates at [www.troutdalehistory.org](http://www.troutdalehistory.org) or call 503-661-2164.
- 7**  
**17th Annual Kiwanis Cruise-In**, 9 a.m - 3.p.m. (see article this page)
- 13**  
**Movies in the Park**, Columbia Park Soccer Field (see Page 1 for details)
- 28**  
**Farm to Table** event, 5-8:30 p.m., presented by West Columbia Gorge Chamber of Commerce (see article this page)