

What now?

Parks and police fees begin in November, what will happen between now and then?

By **ERIC A. HOWALD**
Of the Keizertimes

Two weeks ago, the Keizer City Council approved the first fees for city services other than utilities.

The fees will total \$8 per month (\$4 for police and \$4 for parks) and begin in November. The fees will mean roughly an additional \$625,000 for each department per year.

Between now and November, not a lot is expected to change, said Chris Eppley, Keizer city manager.

“We are currently in a holding pattern until the effective date of the ordinance is reached,” Eppley said.

“For all (the reserves’) advantages, which are many, we desperately need Spanish-speaking officers”

— John Teague, KPD Chief



Even though the onset of the fees is a few months away, the ordinance is technically in effect beginning next month.

After the fee collection begins, it could be several months before the first new police officer is on the streets. Eppley said it will likely take 60-90 days to go through the recruitment process at any rate, but the city wouldn’t have to collect enough funds to pay for an officer’s entire salary before beginning to hire.

“Since the fee is collected

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Pot shop wants expanded hours

Budtender Lovelin Seacrest at Kush on River Road N. Business owner David Gor is asking city officials to ease restrictions on the hours marijuana shops can be open.

By **ERIC A. HOWALD**
Of the Keizertimes

The Keizer City Council will be dedicating more time to the issue of marijuana sales in the near future.

At the July 17 meeting of the council, David Gor, owner of Kush Dispensary of Oregon on River Road North, asked the council to reconsider limits on the times marijuana retailers can be open.

Under the current Keizer regulations on marijuana, retailers/dispensaries

can only be open between 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.



“A change in the current time to 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily will allow us to be competitive with other dispensaries in the Salem-Keizer area. About 25 percent of sales come after 7 p.m., according to my friends in the business,” Gor told the council.

The restrictions on time were the result of the original Oregon statutes governing medical marijuana sales, recalled Nate Brown,

Keizer community development director.

“Those have changed and it’s been an evolving situation,” Brown said.

Brown didn’t think the time restrictions on marijuana sales even came up during task force meetings on the subject, precisely because it had already been decided on the state level.

One of Gor’s employees also attended the meeting with a petition signed by about 200 of the business’ customers requesting the change. She told the council she collected all the signatures in the three days leading up to the meeting.

“We are trying to satisfy our

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Plans for Keizer schools in district's bond ask

By **ERIC A. HOWALD**
Of the Keizertimes

The Salem-Keizer School District released the final version of a Long Range Facilities Plan (LRFP) last week. The document details how a \$619.2 million general obligation bond would be used to upgrade school buildings and increase capacity at area high schools.

The Salem-Keizer School Board approved the bond request in June and it will be on the ballot in May 2018.

An 18-person committee of stakeholders and citizens

was assembled last year to recommend changes that would increase capacity at area schools. The group initially came up with a bond proposal of \$766 million, which would have increased property taxes by about \$3 per thousand of assessed value. After taking public input, the scope of some of the projects were narrowed and the \$619 million bond ask was approved. If voters approve the bond, property taxes would increase between \$1.28 and \$1.39 per

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Push is on for eclipse volunteers

By **ERIC A. HOWALD**
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With the Keizer Eclipse Festival less than a month away, the push is on for local volunteers to help with the efforts.

The Keizer Parks Foundation is hosting a campground at Keizer Rapids Park for visitors hoping to catch sight

of the total solar eclipse on Monday, Aug. 21. The Keizer Festival Advisory Board discussed many of the plans at a meeting Monday, July 24.

Volunteers are needed throughout the weekend for a variety of tasks, but also beforehand. Volunteer Allen

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Step outside and get to know your neighbors



Officer Tyler Wampler lets a National Night Out attendee try out his wheels at Clear Lake Elementary School in 2016.

National Night Out arrives Tuesday, Aug. 1, and neighbors are encouraged to step out and meet-up, share information, and connect with local public safety personnel.

In partnership with the National Association of Town Watch, the Keizer Police Department will be co-sponsoring the 34th annual National Night Out event citywide from 6 to 9 p.m. National Night Out is designed to: promote police-community partnerships, crime, drug and violence prevention, safety, and neighborhood unity.

Many neighborhoods will host a variety of special events such as block parties, cook-outs, potlucks, dessert socials and youth activities. Neighborhood Watch block captains are highly encouraged to organize

capitol auto group

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capitolauto.com

an event as an opportunity to contact their participants, meet new neighbors and update their rosters. All other neighborhoods are also encouraged to participate. To register your gathering, visit, www.keizer.org/nno-2017.

Salem-Keizer Health & Wellness Magazine

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New Chamber board

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All-city swim

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MOMMY & BABY PALOOZA

MUSIC, VENDORS, FOOD & FUN

AUGUST 5TH, 10AM-2PM

SANTIAM HOSPITAL

1401 N. 10th Ave., Stayton

FREE ADMISSION

We love our four-legged friends, but for safety reasons, please leave your pets at home.

RAFFLE PRIZES

Unique Mommy & Baby Items for Sale
Food & Beverage Carts
Music to Entertain Mom, Baby & Toddlers

Photos with Costumes & Backdrops
Face Painting & Balloon Art
Bounce House
Sensory Stations

Some vendors take cards, others are cash only.
No ATM machine at the hospital.