

Update on Safe Routes, Fillmore stormwater projects

Wildish crew worked on installing a new sanitary sewer main down South Fourth Street last week and the crew worked on lowering a water main at South Sixth Street and Fillmore Avenue so the 27-inch storm drainage main could continue.

Crew also installed the 27-inch main as well as a storm drainage vault. This week work continued on installing the storm drainage main east to South Seventh Street on Fillmore Avenue. Concrete work was also performed by other Wildish crews, pouring the southern driveway approach for

Lincoln Middle School as well as half the main entrance at the school. Curb and gutter was poured at the intersection of South Fourth Street and Grant Avenue. Concrete work will continue with residential driveways and sidewalk placement.

Also, a crew will begin the final preparation of the road section. If there are concerns, questions, complaints or assistance needed through the construction, contact Zach Ireland or Ron Bradby at 541-942-3349.

Grove's Swinging Bridge project receives engineering award

The Swinging Bridge project has been awarded the 2020 Project of the Year Award by the Oregon Chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineers. Congratulation were extended to every citizen of

Cottage Grove who had the vision to realize the dream. Dana Merryday and the Friends of the Cottage Grove Swinging Bridge committee were thanked for their advocacy and fundraising for the resto-

ration project, as were Mayor Jeff Gowing, the Cottage Grove City Council and other decision makers who were integral in applying to the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department for \$200,000 in grant funds.

The design and construction professionals at The Ausland Group and Hamilton Construction were recognized as well for assembling the bridge.

COVID from AI

issued last week. "We are trending up toward a significant surge as we are now seeing our highest number of positive COVID-19 cases to-date."

A main point of contention that has continued among some residents has been the disagreement over the necessity of the mask-wearing mandate issued by Oregon Gov. Kate Brown, with some area residents and visitors to the area only grudgingly wearing masks in public spaces — or in some cases ignoring the requirement altogether.

The issue of masks has become a flashpoint for those dealing with the pandemic in their personal and business lives, and McGovern added his voice to the chorus of health professionals and scientists who continue to insist that mask wearing is one of the most effective tools the public

has at this point in protecting themselves and others — particularly those most vulnerable populations, such as individuals with pre-existing conditions or over the age of 50.

"This is not only our wakeup call; it is our call to action," McGovern said. "Now, more than ever, it is critical that each member of the community do their part to stop the spread: wear a mask, social distance and practice good hand hygiene. Avoiding large gatherings is also critical as they have contributed to the rise in cases."

Masks, face coverings or face shields are currently required statewide for offices and indoor public spaces (for example, grocery stores, pharmacies, public transit, personal services providers, restaurants, bars, retail stores, etc.).

Masks, face coverings or face shields are also required within outdoor public spaces when physical distancing of at least 6 feet is not possi-

ble. Children age 5 and up are required to wear a face covering. People with a disability or medical condition may request accommodation from the business if they cannot wear one.

"These are small actions that can have a huge impact — actions that are rooted in science and supported by the very people you entrust with your life," McGovern said. "Our hospitals and first responders are

prepared, but it will take each one of us within Lane County to do our part to protect our families, friends, neighbors and the community at large. From your trusted health partners — your doctors, nurses, nurse practitioners and other providers — we implore you to please do your part in helping keep Lane County healthy and safe."

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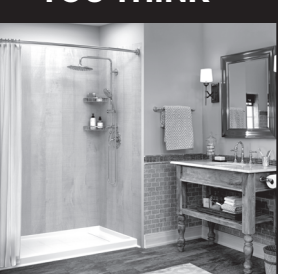
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