

CG Community Center and Library set to re-open

With the statewide removal of the mask and distancing requirement, the city has set a date for the re-opening of the Cottage Grove Community Center and Library.

The Community Center and Library will re-open on Monday, Aug. 2, 2021.

The Community Center remodeling and repairs are not complete and will still be underway when it re-opens.

Staff met and coordinated ways to accommodate re-opening and the ongoing remodeling.

Until the new space for Senior and Disability Services is complete, they will be working from the Reception Hall. The Senior Center will not be ready for operations yet, either.

South Valley Athletics and the Cottage Grove Genealogical Society Library

will be able to open on their schedules.

The Shepherd Room and limited other spaces in the Community Center will be available for community use as well.

Anyone wishing to use the meeting room should contact Teresa or Jessica at 541-942-1185.

The library will open Aug. 2 with the temporary hours of 1 to 5 p.m. Monday

through Friday. Expanded hours will begin in September.

During July, the library will continue to hold Library in the Park on Tuesdays from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and the curbside pickup from 3 to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Staff looks forward to seeing people in the Community Center and Library again.

London Road becomes 'Safety Corridor'

The "Safety Corridor" designation on London Road became effective on July 4.

Both "Safety Corridor" and "Fees Double" signage have been installed. Public education postcards have been mailed to the entire Cottage Grove ZIP code inviting people to complete an on-line survey to help

develop a DUII prevention tool kit.

For more information, contact Lane County Senior Transportation Planner Becky Taylor by emailing becky.taylor@lanecounty.or.gov or by calling 541-682-6932.

Visit the project website at www.lanecounty.or.gov/LRSC.

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SHOWER from A1

Sharing at 1440 Birch Avenue.

Technically, the city owns the two-shower unit and Community Sharing is serving as a steward of the facility with some maintenance responsibilities divided between the two.

As a caretaker for the facility, Community Sharing is currently limiting access to the showers to once a week due to a shortage of volunteers, though Fleck said an uptick in staffing could increase the amount of access days.

"I will run it as many days a week as I can maintain volunteers," he said.

In addition to two showers, the facility includes amenities such as a toilet, sink, soap, air conditioning and a heater, giving it year-round usability. Community Sharing is also working to secure a constant supply of fresh socks and underwear for visitors.

The model of trailer was chosen in particular for its ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) feature, as one of the shower units has a gently sloping ramp and extra space inside.

The trailer is currently hooked to Community Sharing's electrical and sewage system. With a meter installed on the trailer, the city will foot the water bill for the facility, said



DAMIEN SHERWOOD/COTTAGE GROVE SENTINEL

The new mobile shower includes two shower units, one of which is ADA accessible.

Fleck, but he did not speculate on the monthly cost. The nonprofit will shoulder the extra electricity cost.

In case of emergencies, the "mobile" feature of the showers can be employed, allowing it to service sites for a limited time with 300 gallons of water.

Another potential use of the facility is the warming shelter site set up earlier this year at 224 N 12th St. When winter comes around again, Fleck said the showers could prove a useful addition to the warming site populated by Pallet shelters as plumbing and electrical hookups are already available.

Again, however, the ca-

capacity for Community Sharing to provide access to the trailer and run the

warming shelter would be dependent on the amount of volunteers the nonprofit

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- Support reaching goals
- Street outreach across the Cottage Grove area

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can secure, Fleck noted. "From a staffing standpoint ... it's more challenging," he said of relying on volunteers to staff the site.

As a new facility, rules for shower use are still being developed. Fleck said he is looking at other agencies who run similar facilities and is finding a compromise between the looser and stricter formats in order to maximize accessibility.

"And as I run across problems, I'll just adapt," he said.

The impact of the shower on those with hygienic needs is bound to be signif-

icant. "It'll be huge," said Fleck. "I would assume it would really help with self-esteem."

Providing an opportunity to stay hygienic can play a crucial role in many whose living situation does not afford such a luxury. Other showering options can cost precious dollars which the homeless and unemployed cannot spare.

"I would say there are between 30 and 40 truly homeless folks ... in our community year-round," speculated Fleck. "But that number can go up seasonally."

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