

VOTE *from A1*

In 2001, the city council created two districts for a three-year period subject to extension for additional terms not to exceed five years. The current districts will expire this year unless extended.

Under the proposed extension, the EID would continue to operate as a two-tier district.

Tier 1 property owners would pay 5 cents per square foot a year with a maximum of \$500 and a minimum of \$100. Tier 2 property owners would pay 2 cents per square foot a year with a maximum of \$300 and minimum of \$100.

The BID is proposed to increased its flat rate from \$50 to \$100 per business per year.

If the property owner and the business owner are the same, then they are not part of the BID and do not pay the \$100 assessment, only paying the EID assessment.

Roughly, Tier 1 comprises mainly of the Historic Downtown district, extending north and south by a few additional blocks and across the Coast Fork of the Willamette River to I Street. Tier 2 extends beyond downtown southward down Highway 99 and east down Main Street to Gateway Boulevard.

Though participation is voluntary, business and property owners must remonstrate, or opt out, in writing.

In order for the council to be prohibited from approving the extension and collections of fees, at least 33 percent of businesses within the two districts must have remonstrated.

Of 124 properties and owners in the tiered districts, there were a total of 21 remonstrations, or

about 15 percent by the time of the vote. Three additional businesses in the BID remonstrated as well, but total numbers fell well below the required 33 percent.

No public comments were made at Monday’s city council meeting, but a second public hearing will be held prior to the second vote.

The next step in the process will be for city staff to notify all property and business owners who have not remonstrated of the exact amount of the assessment for their property or business 30 days prior to the next public hearing.

In other city council news:

Federal Fund Exchange Agreement

The city council voted to authorize the city manager to sign a three-year Master Agreement for the Fund Exchange Program created by the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT).

The agreement is anticipating a significant upcoming change as the fund exchange rate will drop from 94 cents on the dollar to 90 starting Jan. 1, 2022. ODOT is recommending that cities draw down their funds to zero to take advantage of the current four cents on the dollar through the agreement.

The City of Cottage Grove currently has funds of \$132,186 in federal gas tax money.

The State of Oregon receives federal gas tax under current ODOT regulations and a percentage of that is allocated to cities based on population.

Cottage Grove currently has 18 identified streets which are identified as federal aid roads, meaning projects on those streets can receive a dollar-to-dol-

lar exchange rate by meeting certain criteria. By “de-federalizing” the money through the exchange rate, however, the city can do projects on any street inside city limits.

Staff recommended that, if the city “de-federalizes” this money by using the exchange rate before the end of the year, it will receive about \$125,000 for projects.

The newly-formed Master Agreement is not project specific, meaning it will allow the city to be “progressive” rather than “reactive,” said City Engineer Ron Bradsky.

“We can request the money ahead of time and then spend it on projects versus their old reimbursement style,” he said.

Councilor Greg Ervin asked if any part of the agreement was negotiable, but City Manager Richard Meyers said it was “essentially a take-it-or-leave-it” agreement, adding that the League of Oregon Cities worked with ODOT to put the agreement together.

Councilor Mike Fleck expressed his disapproval of the new agreement.

“The fact that ODOT has us over barrel and it would be more expensive for us to do it and it would limit the scope of the projects we could do,” he said. “That they’re really raising this to 10 cents on the dollar for pass-through administrative expenses is just appalling. And I actually would like to know how it is the League (of Oregon Cities) ended up endorsing this. I mean, I must be missing something.”

Public Works and Development Director Faye Stewart said that the city not approving the agreement and trying to negotiate on its own would most likely lead to losing another four cents on the

exchange rate.

Amendment to City Manager Employment Agreement

The city council voted unanimously to approve an amendment to the city manager employment agreement to reflect a 4 percent COLA (Cost-of-Living Adjustment), bringing the city manager’s base yearly salary to \$144,799.20.

The adjustment goes into effect retroactively from July 1, 2021.

On Oct. 11, the city council held an executive session evaluating City Manager Richard Meyers, giving him an “excellent” rating.

Public Comment

During public comment, area resident Duane Taddei addressed sidewalks he had noted as substandard in certain parts of town.

In light of a recent sidewalk order the council issued to residents on Taylor Avenue, Taddei requested that the city and council respond to the problem areas he noted, which included a degraded sidewalk in front of City Hall itself.

Taddei urged the council to revisit its Taylor Avenue decision and reconsider how it addresses sidewalk issues.

He also asked that city be more attentive to its up-loading of public meetings to YouTube to improve public access.

During Concerns from Council, councilors and staff responded to the sidewalk inquiry. The

group discussed the need to more proactively educate property owners on municipal code and responsibilities as well as develop a more codified way to prioritize bike and pedestrian needs.

City council meetings for Nov. 22 and Dec. 27 are canceled.

The next regular council meeting is scheduled for Nov. 8, 2021, at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall.





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COTTAGE GROVE: 6th & Gibbs Church of Christ 195 N. 6th St. • 541-942-3822 10:00am Christian Education: Pre-K through 5th Tim Baker, Senior Minister www.6thandgibbs.com	First Baptist Church 301 S. 6th st • 541-942-8242 Pastor: David Chhange Sunday School 9:30am Worship Service 10:30am Youth Wednesday 6:30pm cgfirstbaptist.com	St. Andrews Episcopal Church 1301 W. Main • 541-767-9050 Rev. Lawrence Crumb “Scripture, Tradition, Reason” Worship: Sunday 10:30am All Welcome
Calvary Baptist Church 77873 S 6th St • 541-942-4290 Pastor: Riley Hendricks Sunday School: 9:45am Worship: 11:00am The Journey: Sunday 5:00pm Praying Thru Life: Wednesday 6:00pm	First Presbyterian Church 3rd and Adams St 541-942-4479 Rev.: Karen Hill Worship: 10:00am Sunday School: 10:00am fpcgrove.com	Seventh-day Adventist Church 820 South 10th Street 541-942-5213 Pastor: James D. Boram Bible Study: Saturday, 9:15 am Worship Service: Saturday, 10:40 Mid-week Service: Wednesday, 1:00
Church of Christ 420 Monroe St • 541-942-8565 Sunday Service: 10:30am	Hope Fellowship United Pentecostal Church 100 S. Gateway Blvd. 541-942-2061 Pastor: Dave Bragg Worship: 11:00am Sunday Bible Study: 7:00pm Wednesday www.hopefellowshipupc.com “FINDING HOPE IN YOUR LIFE”	Trinity Lutheran Church 6th & Quincy • 541-942-2373 Pastor: James L. Markus Sunday School & Adult Education 9:15am Sunday Worship 10:30 am Comm. Kitchen Free Meal Tue & Thur 5:00pm TLC Groups tlccg.com
Church of Christ Non-Denominational 1041 Pennoyer Ave 541-942-8928 Preacher: Tony Martin Sunday Bible Study:10:00am Sunday Worship:10:50am & 5:30pm www.pennoyervecoc.com	Living Faith Assembly 467 S. 10th St. • 541-942-2612 Worship Services Sundays: 9a & 11a Youth Worship Sundays: 11a (all ages welcome) Mondays: 5:30p (6th-12th grades)	United Methodist Church 334 Washington 541-942-3033 Worship 10am umcgrove.org
Cottage Grove Bible Church 1200 East Quincy Avenue 541-942-4771 Pastor:Bob Singer Worship 11am Sunday School:9:45am AWANA age 3-8th Grade, Wednesdays Sept-May, 6:30pm www.cgbible.org	Our Lady of Perpetual Help and St. Philip Benizi Catholic Churches 1025. N. 19th St. 541-942-3420 Father John J. Boyle Holy Mass: Saturday Vigil – 5:30 pm Sunday – 10:30 am For weekday and Holy Day of Obligation schedule see website OLPHCG.net Confession: 4 PM to 5 PM Saturdays or by appointment St. Philip Benizi, Creswell 552 Holbrook Lane Sunday 8 am	“VICTORY” Country Church 913 S. 6th Street • 541-942-5913 Pastor: Barbara Dockery Worship Service: 10:00am Message: “WE BELIEVE IN MIRACLES”
Cottage Grove Faith Center 33761 Row River Rd. 541-942-4851 Lead Pastor: Kevin Pruett www.cg4.tv Full Children’s Ministry available Services: 9:00am & 10:45am	Delight Valley Church of Christ 33087 Saginaw Rd. East 541-942-7711 • Pastor: Bob Friend Two Services: 9am - Classic in the Chapel 10:30am - Contemporary in the Auditorium	CRESWELL: Creswell Presbyterian Church 75 S 4th S • 541-895-3419 Rev. Seth Wheeler Adult Sunday School 9:15am Sunday Worship Service 10:30 am website www.creswellpres.org



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