

# Falls City footbridge at end of life, in need of repair



**By Jolene Guzman**  
The Itemizer-Observer

**FALLS CITY** — The city of Falls City may have to get creative to come up with a plan to repair or replace the Dayton Street Bridge.

Built in 1963 as a walking bridge spanning the Little Luckiamute River that runs

through the center of town, it has reached the end of its useful life.

The problem is, it's essential for more than just providing a route over the river. The bridge carries water and sewer lines across the river as well.

The city was able to do minor repairs this year, but that won't be enough.

"We are developing a plan to where we could get three different agencies helping with grant money," Mayor Terry Ungricht said in a recent council meeting.

He's planning to apply to Oregon Parks and Recreation because it is a walking bridge, but also to the Infrastructure Finance Authority

and Department of Environmental Quality.

Ungricht said at first those two agencies said they don't assist with bridges. Their approach softened a bit when he told them it was a key piece of the city's water and sewer system.

If that doesn't work, the city will need to examine

other options, and soon.

"That is a bridge that we need to do something with because it carries those utilities across it," Ungricht said.

In the meantime, the city is considering installing posts to prevent people from driving small motorized vehicles over it, such as golf carts and all-terrain vehicles.

# HEALTH DIRECTORY

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Gynecological care is available in Dallas at the West Valley Surgical Specialty Clinic. **Gynecologist Keita Sakon, MD**, specializes in gynecology exams and procedures, including hysteroscopy and laparoscopy, as well as family planning, abnormal Pap evaluation, treatment of pelvic pain, symptom control for menopause and abnormal periods. Dr. Sakon works in Dallas on Friday afternoons from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. seeing patients at the clinic and performing gynecological procedures in the West Valley Hospital surgical suites. New patients are welcome! West Valley Surgical Specialty Clinic is located at 591 SE Clay St., Dallas. Call 503-831-0784 for an appointment. Visit [westvalleyhospital.org/specialtyclinic](http://westvalleyhospital.org/specialtyclinic).

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## PODIATRY SERVICES

• **WEST VALLEY SURGICAL SPECIALTY CLINIC** podiatrists **Dr. Ruben Pollak** and **Dr. Scott Berg** see patients at West Valley Surgical Specialty Clinic and provide procedures and surgeries for feet, ankle, bunions and plantar fasciitis at nearby West Valley Hospital's state-of-the-art surgery suites. Request one of these podiatrists and get your surgical care done locally. Dr. Berg sees patients at West Valley Surgical Specialty Clinic on Wednesdays, 8 a.m. - noon. Dr. Pollak sees patients on Wednesdays, 12:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. West Valley Surgical Specialty Clinic is located at 591 SE Clay St., Dallas. Visit [salemhealth.org/specialty](http://salemhealth.org/specialty).

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