

# City of Central Point NEWS FROM CITY HALL

## 2016 State of the City Address

*By Mayor Hank Williams*

This is my annual Mayor's statement to the citizens of Central Point and I am pleased to report that Central

Point remains in excellent overall condition. The following activities and issues are currently taking place in our city:

**Leadership and Continued Stability:** Based on local news media coverage, most of you are likely aware that sound leadership and executive management in public sector agencies is no longer a guarantee. However, it is my pleasure to report that the City of Central Point has a seasoned management team that continues to provide organizational/community stability and is committed to serving our local citizenry & business community. Central Point continues to be at the forefront of finding innovative solutions for both business and developers seeking commerce in the Rogue Valley.

**Major Infrastructure Projects:** Through sound fiscal management, opportune grant fund procurement, and public/private partnerships, the City of Central Point is on the verge of tackling some major transportation infrastructure projects in the next 12-18 months, including the following:

1. Table Rock Road. Table Rock Road (Biddle to Airport Way) will be improved and widened to 5 lanes. This project has been long-planned by the Jackson County Roads Department; however, the proposed Costco development has increased the project's priority and construction is now anticipated for 2017/2018.
2. Twin Creeks Rail Crossing. The Twin Creeks Rail Crossing is in the final design stages and should begin construction in mid-2017. This project will provide a vital transportation connection from the city's west side to Highway 99.



3. Pine Street Streetscape. Finally, the Central Point City Council/Development Commission is in the process of designing the Pine Street Streetscape Project. This project will add coordinated traffic signals, wider sidewalks, decorative street lights, street trees and urban furniture to our downtown (Pine Street, 1st Street – 6th Street). This project will be largely funded by the city's urban renewal district and is intended to revitalize our main street – small business district. Construction for phase I of this project is slated for Summer 2017.

Continued on page 2

# State of the City Continued....

**Urban Growth Expansion:** After processing an Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) expansion into the Tolo area this past year, we are now working on our second major UGB expansion known as “CP-3” in the regional problem solving (RPS) planning document. The addition of CP-3 will provide area for future growth east of Interstate 5, which should accelerate commercial development in the city. The boundaries of CP-3 are depicted in Figure 2 .

**Fairgrounds (EXPO):** The city’s relationship with the fairgrounds/ Expo continues to be mutually advantageous. The city’s historic sponsorship of the Central Point Wild Rogue Pro Rodeo and Oregon Quarter Horse Association’s Annual Southern Oregon Show are examples of past successful partnerships. With the Jackson County Expo hosting next Summer’s Country Crossings Music Festival, local economic benefits stand to increase significantly. The Country Crossings Music Festival will be an exciting event that will funnel new tourism revenues into the region and ultimately benefit local business. As I offered in my testimony to the Jackson County Board of Commissioners on the associated mass gathering permit “a rising [economic] tide is good for all ships” and the Country Crossings Music Festival is no exception.



**School District #6 - Public Safety:** The city’s relationship with School District 6 continues to be both positive and productive. One of the strongest aspects of the relationship between School District 6 and the City involves a commitment to public safety. A little more than one year ago the Central Point City Council and Budget Committee approved a \$1.00 public safety fee aimed at providing an enhanced public safety presence in our city and local school system. Inasmuch, the City has appropriated additional resources and added a second full-time school resources officer (SRO) position. As it currently stands, one SRO is dedicated full-time to Crater High School and a second full-time SRO shares time between the elementary schools, and middle school.



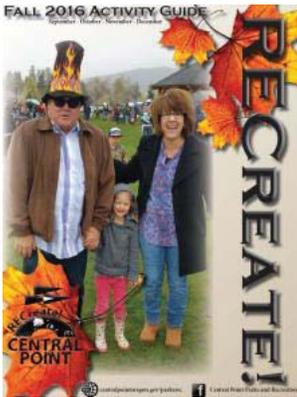
Additionally, School District 6 continues to be very proactive by employing an “in-house” school security agent that works with the City’s Police Department to ensure a safe and secure atmosphere for everyone attending Central Point Schools.

The SRO positions are becoming more popular on a national level. Past Central Point citizen surveys have continually emphasized a local desire for increased public safety to maintain our small town atmosphere. In my time as Mayor, I have seen no greater success in the area of public safety than intervention by our School

Resource Officers in the Central Point school system. These officers provide our children with positive role models and invaluable education on potential pitfalls like drug use (DARE Program) and socially irresponsible behavior. Asking Central Point residents to commit financially to public safety in our schools is not something that I take lightly; however, I believe the return on investment that comes with making a positive impact on our youth is dollars well spent.

In my opinion parents should raise their children, and not the government. That said, the Central Point Police Department's efforts to build positive relationships with local youth continues to be a worthwhile endeavor.

**City Parks & Recreation:** Parks and recreation services are often cited in surveys as one of the most important



factors in determining quality of life for Central Point residents. Although not often considered a crucial service, parks and recreation programs remain critical to the future success of our community. These programs generate revenue directly from fees, but more importantly, they provide significant indirect revenues to local and regional economies from sports tournaments and special events such as food, music, and holiday festivals. These beneficial economic events are frequently an opportunity for partnership between the City of Central Point and the Central Point Chamber of Commerce.

Additionally, I am pleased to report that the City's Parks Department is currently completing a parks system master plan. The master plan, created with the help of community members, staff and council, is important for determining future growth and development needs for parks and recreation programs, as well as improving opportunities for the City to take advantage of additional parks and recreation funding sources. Making our parks enjoyable for all citizens, including those who live with physical challenges, is something that I intend to support indefinitely.

**Building Activity:** The 2015-2017 City of Central Point Budget included projections of increased economic activity and I am very happy to report that both our commercial and residential building activity are exceeding budgetary expectations. In fiscal year 2016 the city issued 53 single family dwelling permits with a total value in excess of \$11.8 million dollars. On the commercial side, the city issued 54 commercial building permits valued at \$4.3 million dollars. In 2017, major commercial projects will include a new Costco membership warehouse (\$14.4 million valuation) and a new veterinary clinic (\$1.4 million valuation).

**Financial Excellence:** The Certificate of Achievement for excellence in financial reporting has just been awarded to the City of Central Point for its June 30, 2015 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA).

This award is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management.

The CAFR is judged by an impartial panel to meet the high standards of the program, including demonstrating a constructive "spirit of full disclosure" to clearly communicate the City's financial story.

I am very thankful for the city's strong financial position which includes extremely low per capita debt. More specifically, with the exception of our newly constructed water reservoir near Don Jones Park, the city is a few years away from ending the majority of our long-term debt commitments. This conservative financial approach has provided the city with a very strong credit rating which allows us to secure lower interest financing for our future infrastructure needs.

God speed and please don't hesitate to contact me with comments or concerns at [Hank.Williams@centralpointoregon.gov](mailto:Hank.Williams@centralpointoregon.gov). I welcome your input!

*Mayor Hank Williams*

## Flood Insurance 101

Federally backed flood insurance is available to anyone living in the city limits regardless of whether property is in a low, moderate or high risk flood zone. Provided below are some important highlights about the National Flood Insurance Program's (NFIP) flood insurance coverage:

- There are two types of coverage: structural and contents. Structural coverage includes walls, floors, insulations, furnace and other items permanently attached to the structure. Contents coverage for items inside the structure. Discuss coverage limitations with your insurance agent.
- Since July 1, 1997 all NFIP policies include Increased Cost of Compliance (ICC) coverage. ICC provides up to \$30K in financial assistance to bring structures into compliance with current building standards, such as elevating the lowest floor of a building 1-foot above the base flood elevation.
- Remember to buy your policy before you think you are going to need it. There is a 30-day waiting period for your coverage to take effect after the date of purchase.
- Flood insurance - specifically structural coverage equal to the amount of the loan or maximum coverage amount (\$250K for single family residences) is required for insurable structures located in the SFHA when there is a loan from any federally affiliated lending institution. Items that are not eligible for flood insurance coverage include: vehicles, business expenses, landscaping and vacant lots.



*Christmas Lights Parade*

*Saturday December 3rd, 2016*

**CENTRAL POINT**

*Parade 5:15pm*  
*Tree Lighting 5:50pm*

The NFIP imposes penalties on banks that do not enforce the mandatory flood insurance purchase requirement. This means that SFHA property owners who have slipped through the cracks may be notified of the requirement to obtain coverage. If this happens to you, act fast and obtain an NFIP policy. Failure to act within the specified 45-day period can result in a policy being "force-placed" by your lender at a significantly higher rate.

The City works diligently to help make flood insurance more affordable for Central Point residents by promoting flood awareness and requiring sound floodplain management practices. These efforts have earned an automatic 20% discount on flood insurance premiums through a voluntary program called the Community Rating System (CRS). For more information about flood insurance, please contact the City Planning Department or your local insurance agent.

## Central Point Senior Center 123 N. 2nd Street

The Senior Center is open from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and offers a variety of community activities and events. Home-cooked, nutritious and delicious lunches are served up for only \$3.50, Monday through Friday. Join them on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the Month for Bingo, or just drop by for a cup of coffee and meet some new friends.

- **Sunday Brunch Fund Raiser:** Twin Creeks will host a Sunday Brunch Fund Raiser for the Center on October 16, 2016. Tickets can be purchased at the Senior Center.
- **Senior Center Thrift Shop:** The Senior Center Thrift Shop is a great place to get good quality, gently used items. The Thrift Shop is open from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- **Holiday Bazaar:** The Senior Center will be hosting a Holiday Bazaar on November 19th from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

# FREE Smoke Alarm INSTALLATION

CALL  
**503-528-5783**  
to schedule an appointment.



The American Red Cross has launched a national campaign to reduce the number of fire deaths and injuries by 25 percent over the next five years.

- Fire-related deaths and injuries are **highest in homes without smoke alarms.**
- Last year the Red Cross responded to **nearly two home fires each day in our area.**
- More than **60 percent of fire deaths** occur in homes without a working smoke alarm.

Fire experts agree that people may have as little as  
**2 MINUTES**  
to escape a burning home before it's  
**too late to get out.**

Get your free smoke alarm(s), installed by trained Red Cross volunteers, by calling:

**503-528-5783**

or by sending an email to:

[preparedness@redcross.org](mailto:preparedness@redcross.org)

or by completing an online form at:

[www.redcross.org/cascadeshfpc](http://www.redcross.org/cascadeshfpc)

Residents will receive an appointment window.



For more information about the Home Fire Preparedness Campaign or to volunteer for this important outreach effort, visit:

[www.redcross.org/cascadeshfpc](http://www.redcross.org/cascadeshfpc)



**American Red Cross**  
Cascades Region

In Oregon, this campaign is in partnership with the Office of the State Fire Marshal.

## Dates to Remember

### October

- 4 - Planning Commission (6 pm)
- 6 - Parks and Rec Open House (6:30 pm)
- 11 - Citizen Advisory Committee (6 pm)
- 13 - City Council Meeting (7 pm)
- 19 - Study Session (6 pm)
- 22 - City Council Meeting (7 pm)
- 31 - Halloween

### November

- 1 - Planning Commission (6 pm)
- 8 - Election Day
- 12 - City Council Meeting (7 pm)
- 11 - Veterans Day \*
- 16 - Leaf Pick up
- 17 - Parks and Rec Commission (6:30 pm)
- 24 - City Council Meeting (Cancelled)
- 24, 25 - Thanksgiving Holiday \*

\* City Hall Closed

Meetings are subject to change, please check our website for more information.

# City Directory

**City Manager**  
541-423-1026

**Building Permits**  
541-423-1973

**Code Enforcement**  
541-423-1034

**Community Development**  
541-423-1973

**Library (Central Point Branch)**  
541-664-3228

**Police (Non Emergency)**  
541-664-5578

**Parks and Recreation**  
541-664-3321 ext. 130

**Public Works**  
541-423-1028

**Public Works After Hours**  
1-800-726-6476

**Utility Billing**  
541-664-3321 ext. 204

**CALL 911**  
**for Fire, Medical and**  
**Police Emergencies**

City Hall hours are 8:30 am to 4:30 pm  
Monday – Friday. Feel free to drop in  
with questions, pay a bill, or just say  
“hello.”

## Storm Drains Provide an Important Community Service

There is an extensive network of drainage pipes located beneath our community called storm drains. The purpose of the City's storm drain system is to move excess surface water, (stormwater runoff), out of the City and into our local waterways. This helps to reduce localized flooding as land is developed and creates impervious areas that prevent the soil from doing its job of naturally soaking up rainfall. To help the storm drains do their job and keep our local streams and rivers safe, there are a couple of things that we can all do:

1. Keep autumn leaves and all other forms of litter out of the streets to prevent drains from becoming blocked. Blocked drains can cause big problems for surrounding properties in a big storm. When we all do our part, we protect our community from unnecessary flooding.
2. Remember that our storm drains lead to natural streams, not a wastewater treatment plant. Never dump anything down the drain. Make sure that all oil, paint, chlorinated water, and other pollutants and waste materials are disposed of properly to keep our families and local wildlife safe. If you see any illegal dumping into a storm drain, contact the Police Department at 664-5578.

The City's storm drain system provides an important service to our community, especially during intense winter storm events. We appreciate your help to keep them clear of debris and free of harmful pollutants to keep our residents, visitors and downstream neighbors safe. If you have any questions about stormwater stewardship, contact the Environmental Service Coordinator at 664-3321, Ext. 243.



## Contact Your **Council**

email: [info@centralpointoregon.gov](mailto:info@centralpointoregon.gov)



**Mayor**  
Hank Williams  
541-994-0066



**Council President**  
Bruce Dingler  
541-324-1842



**Ward II**  
Michael Quilty  
541-621-4853



**Ward III**  
Brandon Thueson  
503-930-7057



**Ward IV**  
Allen Broderick  
541-951-7253



**At-Large**  
Taneea Browning  
541-890-8377



**At-Large**  
Rick Samuelson  
541-664-1878

If you are not sure who your representative is call 541-423-1026