1333 NW Eastman Parkway
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May 20, 2025

To: City Council

From: Eric Schmidt, City Manager

Subject: City Council Business Meeting –City Manager Report

Good evening Mayor, Council President and Councilors,

Following is my monthly City Manager report this evening:

Police Department:

2025 Kids Safety Fest

- Police Department and Youth Services participated in the 2025 Kids Safety Fest at Gresham Station Old Navy. Staff members Emon Ghassemi and Officer Gomez were recognized by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children for their commitment, support and dedication to child safety.

Overall Note of Appreciation

- A note of appreciation for the Police Department investigators and public safety partners who have been greatly challenged over the past few weeks with multiple complex investigation resulting from gun violence. They have worked many hours, overnight, and over the weekends, working tirelessly to forge case resolutions and bring justice to those impacted by violence crimes.

Recruitment Update

- A bit of good news for the Police Department, our recruiting efforts are paying off and we hired four new officers and offered jobs to another three officer applicants this past month. The recruiting and hiring team's goal is to be single digit vacancies by the end of August.

Retail Theft Mission

- Last Thursday officers conducted a retail theft mission, resulting in 6 custodies (5 for theft, 1 warrant), 2 vehicles impounded and $734.94 worth of stolen merchandise recovered

Fire Department:

Academy Update

- The entry-level firefighter academy is progressing well. This week, the cadets are set to participate in live fire training at the Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) center in Salem.

LA Fire Reimbursement

- The State Fire Marshal's Office has approved the reimbursement for the Gresham Fire incident in Los Angeles, amounting to $267,000. The funds are now being processed and routed to California.

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Indoor Air Sampling (all stations)

- Air quality testing at the fire stations is going very well, with pressure differential testing completed at all stations.
- Carbon sampling has been completed and is being processed by a lab before results are submitted to the City in a final report, anticipated in June.

PFAS Groundwater Monitoring (Fire Training Center)

- Groundwater Solutions Inc. (GSI) is now on contract to sample groundwater and develop a monitoring plan, which should be completed in the next month.
- 3 groundwater monitoring wells will be installed at the Fire Training Center in June.

Station 73 Workout Trailer and SCAB Storage

- The project is wrapping up with minor loose ends to complete.

Station 72 Second Story Addition

- The building permit has been submitted by the design-build team and is now in review.
- The crew will be relocated in July when construction is anticipated to kick off.

Fire Training Center Tower Replacement

- The demolition of the old tower is anticipated to happen by the end of July.

EMOPI Update

- Staff received over 50 applications for a recent Request for Proposal (RFP). Proposals are currently under review and deliberations are still ongoing. Staff is working with Finance and Procurement to align on timeline flexibility based on state budget outlook as well as ensuring we have providers lined up beginning July 1st.

Federal Affairs

- Congresswoman Maxine Dexter advanced 3 of our 5 Community Project Funding requests—this is the strongest showing we've had to date. Submitted projects include: EMOPI expansion pilot, Real-Time Information Center, and Wastewater Nitrification Phase 2.

State Budget Forecast (May 2025)

- The state's May Revenue Forecast projects a $798 million reduction in available resources for the 2025–27 biennium. Our team is tracking this closely and preparing for potential adjustments depending on outcomes from the June legislative session

General Updates:

- Metro Council approved the allocation of Affordable Housing Bond interest earnings to the local implementation partners. Gresham will receive $1.26 million
- The Urban Flood District Safety Fee was launched on utility bills this month.
- Staff are engaging with the new auditors in preparation for year-end. On-site field work with the auditors will begin in June
- The proposed FY 20225/26 budget was approved by the Budget Committee in late April. The next step will be for the City Council to adopt the budget, which is scheduled for June 17 for an effective date of July 1, 2025.