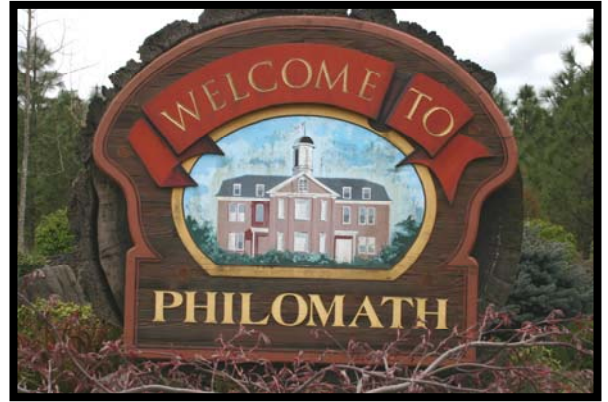


City News



Published for the citizens of Philomath, Oregon
Summer 2008

2008-09 Budget Message

PHILOMATH IN GOOD SHAPE AGAIN

I was once again honored to chair the City of Philomath Budget Committee this year and pleased to announce the City Council just passed the 2008-09 budget that our committee recommended.

The City's annual operating budget is approximately \$4.6M for 2008-09, which comes primarily from property taxes, franchise fees, court fines, and water, sewer, and storm drain fees. In addition to the usual expenditures (managing the city, providing the police and courts, maintaining our parks and streets, and providing water and sewer services), the city also added an additional full-time police officer this year. This was a goal of the Council for this year, and we are pleased to have been able to fund this position.

In addition to the operating budget, the city has a capital budget for purchasing equipment and making infrastructure improvements. This year we are seeing a substantial jump in these capital expenditures, from ~\$1.5M last year to just over \$5.3 M this year. This jump is caused by two issues. First, we scaled back normal work on streets, water, and sewers last year because we did not want to disrupt the city any more than what the Couplet project was going to do. The second reason for the jump in spending is being driven by another Council goal which is to begin a multi-year project to replace the city's aging sewer system which was installed in the 1950's. We will be spending \$4.1M in 2008-09 for this sewer system rehabilitation. \$1.8M will come from cash saved over several years, and \$2.3M will come from new loans the city will take out - to be paid back over the next ten years through existing taxes and sewer fees. In addition to this, the city will be replacing the Philomath Connection bus (\$120K), building a storage building at the Police Department (\$74K), undertaking a Main Street beautification project (~\$500K, funded by an ODOT grant), and completing the usual, smaller capital projects. Even after these projects, the City should end 2008-09 with \$925K in the capital accounts for future needs.

With no outstanding bonds, the city will once again only assess the permanent tax rate of \$5.3005 per \$1,000 of assessed property value for the 2008-09 budget year.

As chair of the Budget Committee for the past several years, I continue to be pleased with how effectively our tax dollars and utility fees are being used. The city is in very sound financial shape for today and years to come.

Tom Klipfel, Citizen Budget Committee Chair

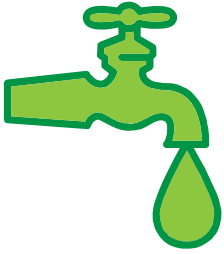
NEW WATER SOURCE AVAILABLE

Connection of the Rock Creek water line has been completed, giving the City access to an additional source of treated water. Originating on Marys Peak, this mountain stream produces high quality water in sufficient quantities to provide the City with all of its daily water needs. The Marys River will continue to be Philomath's main source of drinking water. Rock Creek will provide supplemental water as needed or serve as a main source during those times when the water treatment plant is undergoing maintenance.



Around the City

UTILITY RATE UPDATE



Utility rates for the new fiscal year will see a modest increase beginning July 1. Water will increase 10

cents for each unit used. For sewer, there will be a 10 cent increase in the base rate and a 10 cent increase in the unit rate. A unit of water or sewer equals 748 gallons. There will be no increase in the storm drain or street utility fee during the next 12 months.

PHILOMATH CLASSIC CRUISES INTO TOWN JULY 5

The 12th annual Philomath classic car show will be here on Saturday, July 5, at the Philomath City Park (23rd and Applegate). Spectators are asked to park at the middle school or high school parking lots and make the short walk as there is very little parking available within the park. The 2007 car show was the largest ever for the second straight



year, with approximately 200 vehicles showing. This year's classic will also include, for the first time, a cruise through Philomath. Cruise-only participants will be asked to register (with fee) at the Nazarene Church at 20th and Applegate Streets, with registered car show entrants being allowed with their entry sticker.

The cruise will start at approximately 4 p.m. and the route will be as follows: Starting at 19th and Main, heading west on Main Street in the northern lane to 12th Street, heading north on 12th Street, then heading east on College Street to 19th Street, heading to the south on 19th back to Main Street, and then repeating the same route until approximately 6 p.m.

The best cruise viewing will be on the north side of Main Street and all along College Street. The vehicles will be in the far right lanes all along the cruise as to keep all local and west-bound traffic moving smoothly.

Car Show Hours:

7 a.m.-10 a.m.	Car registration
10 a.m.-3 p.m.	Public Welcome
3 p.m.	Awards
4 p.m.-6 p.m.	Cruise

For information, please visit the website at:
www.philomathclassic.com

FOUR LEGGED NUISANCES?

Cat owners are asked to be considerate of how their pets' free roaming activities create problems for their neighbors.



Visiting a freshly planted flower bed, walking across a recently washed car, and stalking song birds that frequent your neighbor's fountain are all examples of typical feline activities that create hostile feelings.

Some recent articles on this subject suggest that the health and longevity of domestic cats is best served by keeping them indoors unless under owner supervision when outside. Given the presence of an active coyote population on the fringe of our city, leaving your cat to roam at night is not in their long term interests.

For the sake of your cat and out of respect for your friends in your neighborhood, please consider what steps you can take to address this situation.

PHILOMATH ADDRESSES ENVIRONMENT

By Mayor Chris Nusbaum



Congratulations to all who brought local and global environmental issues to the forefront of awareness. Philomath residents have consistently proven that the family enjoyment of natural resources play a major role in our decisions to live here.

Philomath municipal government continues to improve the way we do business to enhance and preserve our environment. Examples of the City's environmental protection efforts include:

- Our city was the first in Benton County to participate in Allied Waste's enhanced recycling program. Larger recycling bins have diverted more material away from landfills and into recycling plants.
- This year's 2008 City-wide Cleanup Program netted 11 tons of recyclable junk metal. Much of this metal came from backyards and lots, out of the natural environment and again into recycling plants.
- The latest energy audits of City buildings and sanitary sewer pumps show maximum efficiency of electrical energy usage.
- Philomath will continue our quest to raise public education and awareness regarding the impact of surface water drainage into the Mary's River.
- Our public transit system to Corvallis is getting a larger fuel efficient bus that can now seat up to 18 people at a time. Up from 12 with our old bus. Bus ridership continues to increase as gasoline prices continue to climb.
- Our priority numbers One and Two Sanitary Sewer Capital Improvement Plan Infrastructure projects will be fully funded and are being implemented. These plans address the replacement and maintenance of our infrastructure with emphasis on our 1950's era sewer lines. The majority of Philomath's antiquated sewer lines are scheduled to be replaced over the next eight years.
- Our land use codes continue to maintain standards to protect wetlands and riparian corridors adjacent to creeks within the city.
- Pretty to look at, the Camas flower is a native species that continues to thrive in the rich environment of Mary's River Park. The park maintenance schedule is modified around the Camas flowering cycle to protect its health and allow it to thrive.
- PHS Students have worked with City Hall to plant trees along Main and Applegate Streets. Philomath students have also restored natural riparian zones along the Mary's River and Newton Creek. These efforts have provided shade trees and native plant life for stabilizing banks, preventing erosion runoff and cooling the water. In short, they have created a healthy fish and wildlife ecosystem. (Thank you Philomath School System!)
- Thanks to the community efforts of many organizations and individuals, we have been awarded the Tree City USA designation for the 14th consecutive year.



On any given summer day, one only has to visit the soccer, baseball and softball fields at the Middle and High School to understand why we take a healthy environment seriously. It is here you will find youth of all ages wearing different styles of sport uniforms with the word "Philomath" printed in bold letters. You will find families visiting with each other around the ball fields with Mary's Peak in the background.

Clean air and water mixed with healthy exercise is what a small community is all about. We wouldn't have it any other way.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR CHILDREN'S PROJECT

My name is Melinda Smallwood and my family and I love our city. As a mom with young children, I would like to challenge our community to do something very special for our children.

We'd like to see a new playground for the Philomath City Park! This well deserved project will take time and effort. We can use help with writing grants, organizing functions, fundraising etc. Even if you would like to volunteer at just one fundraiser or write letters to add to the Philomath City Bulletin/website. All help is welcome!

The City has committed to partner with us to make our vision a reality, but we will need to demonstrate that there is solid support for this project. We are asking anyone who would be interested in taking part to please contact us. This will be fun and so rewarding!

You can contact me directly at Melinda.smallwood@yahoo.com.

I am looking forward to hearing from and working with each of you on this exciting project for our kids.

FROLIC TIME APPROACHES



Some might think the Philomath Frolic and Rodeo is a bunch of neighbors who get together every year, put on their cowboy boots and hats, and give big smiles to everyone they meet. For those who know, this 2nd weekend in July community happening has something to do with cowboys but **everything** to do with community pride. It also has to do with community volunteering and a love for the community. A special thanks to all the volunteers and the numerous businesses and donators for their generous support. This year will be the 55th Frolic and 25th Rodeo. Come on down and join the fun!

**INSIDE: Positive Budget Message
City Takes Steps to Protect the Environment**