

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

### AUGUST 5 – SPARKLAB

SparkLab is a learning center focused on delivering STEM invention, education, and career connected learning to Lane County youth from marginalized populations. It was created by Connected Lane County to further computer science & digital literacy across Lane County Schools through work with Lane STEM Hub. It was created out of regional advisory conversations with education, industry, and community.

Justin Thibedeau is the project coordinator for Connected Lane County covering SparkLab programming.

### AUGUST 19 – SPRINGFIELD DRIFTERS

Louis “Jamie” Christopher, the General Manager of The Springfield Drifters Baseball Club, a new baseball franchise of the West Coast League, which will have their inaugural season starting in June of 2022, will talk about the club’s plans. The West Coast League is a premier collegiate summer baseball league with teams in Oregon, Washington, and British Columbia Canada. The Drifters will be the 16th team in the

*SCHEDULE CONTINUED ON PAGE 2*

Growing up in Springfield in the 1970s, the only public art I remember is the iconic Oregon Statehood Memorial sculpture by Charles Forrester, called “The White Horse,” that greets travelers coming in from Eugene along Main Street. The pioneer on horseback seemed to keep guard at the entrance of the city and even as a young girl, I was keenly aware of the concept of public art as placemaking.

In 1986, the Springfield City Council established the Springfield Arts Commission and asked the commission to promote and inspire the creation and exhibition of public art in the community. The first Arts Commission project was Art Alley, a series of outdoor murals in downtown Springfield.

Since then there has been an explosion of beautiful, thought-provoking public art installations all over Springfield – everything from murals, to sculptures to mosaics to exhibits in a variety of venues, including the Springfield Public Library & City Hall. [An online brochure](#) showcases all the public art on exhibit around town and offers art lovers a self-guided tour.

In addition to the work of the Arts Commission, the City Manager’s Office Community Art Program led a five year public art plan that has already resulted in the Simpson’s Mural, the Ken Kesey Mural, the Oregon Women Veterans Sculpture and the largest public art piece in the state of Oregon, the Springfield Flame, among many other works.

In 2019, a new round of public art exhibits will be installed, beginning with the installations of decorative crosswalks in downtown Springfield, communicating public safety messages in an artful manner. More art initiatives will be implemented through 2023, establishing Springfield as a premiere public art destination.

Why does public art matter? According to Americans for the Arts, public art is an important way a community expresses its identity and provides meaning to visitors and residents alike. Public art becomes a part of the local landscape and “...humanizes the built environment.” Public art is accessible to all people, no matter your race, gender, age, economic circumstances or education level. Public art is a great equalizer.

PAIGE SHARPE  
PRESIDENT

### PUBLIC CALENDAR

All items are tentative and subject to change. For current information, click on the agency name which will redirect you to the appropriate web site.

#### [City of Springfield Council](#)

225 Fifth Street  
Springfield, OR 97477  
(541)726-3700

**August 18, 2021 5:30 p.m. SEDA Board**  
Review/Approval of RFQ Document

#### [Lane County Board of Commissioners](#)

125 Eighth Avenue  
Eugene OR 97401  
(541)682-4203

#### **August 10, 2021**

First reading –Fireworks Ban

#### **August 17, 2021 – No MEETING**

#### **August 24, 2021 9:00 a.m.**

PH Lane Code Modernization

PH – Fireworks Ban

County Administrator's Performance Review

#### **August 31, 2021**

Legislative Update

Floodplain Zone Amendments

Planning Commission Appointments

#### [Lane Transit District](#)

3500 E. 17th Avenue  
Eugene, OR 97403

(541)687-5555

**August 4, 2021 3:30 p.m**  
Directors Work Session

School District 19 Board of Directors

640 A Street  
Springfield, OR 97477  
(541) 726-3201

**August 9, 2021 7:00 p.m.**  
Board Business Meeting  
**August 23, 2021 5:00 p.m.**  
Board Work Session

Springfield Utility Board

250 A Street  
Springfield OR 97477  
(541)746-8451

**August 11, 2021 6:00 p.m.**  
Board Meeting

Willamalane Park and Recreation District

320 S. 32nd Street  
Springfield, OR 97478  
(541)736-4544

**NO MEETING**

Lane Regional Air Protection Authority

1010 Main Street  
Springfield, OR 97477  
(541)735-1056

**August 12, 2021 12:15 p.m.**  
Board Meeting

*SCHEDULE CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1*

league and will be made up of collegiate baseball players from throughout the Northwest. The West Coast League is the West's premier summer collegiate baseball league. Encompassing Oregon, Washington, and British Columbia, the WCL showcases pro prospects from major conferences around the nation. Every summer, the league features unparalleled fan and player experiences, with the best summer weather in North America. Last year's MLB amateur draft began with former Corvallis Knight Adley Rutschman selected with the overall No. 1 pick by the Baltimore Orioles. Also in 2019, 317 WCL alums appeared or were active in affiliated professional baseball, including 45 in the major leagues. In 2019, overall member attendance in the West Coast League increased to nearly half a million.

Mr. Christopher is committed to creating an amazing and affordable family experience with the Drifters. Combining his skills in management, operations, law, business development, sales, and marketing he in a great position to bring help build a successful baseball franchise.

RECENT MEETINGS

**July 8 – Springfield Land Development Code**



The City of Springfield has entered the crucial public input stage of the first attempt to do a comprehensive update of the City's development code, originally put in place in the 1980's,

according to Mark Rust, Principal Planner and Interim Current Development Supervisor for the City. For many years the city has made modest updates to meet particular circumstances but now, facing the need to implement new State law requirements to encourage increased residential density, the task has taken on some urgency.

Begun some four years ago, the project was originally envisioned to take three years. "That was optimistic," Rust said. Now both the pandemic and the need to adapt to the changes imposed by the state under House Bill



**THANK YOU!**

<https://bit.ly/DevCodeUpdate>

[mrust@springfield-or.gov](mailto:mrust@springfield-or.gov)  
[541.726.3654](tel:541.726.3654)



2001 – designed to encourage the "missing middle" in housing, the City has completed a draft of the changes to the Phase I residential part of the code and created an online open house for public comment. The open house is open throughout July and August and may be reached [HERE](#). A community survey is available [HERE](#).

The City is also working on Phase II of the project, which deals with employment lands, those zoned for commercial and industrial uses, and still planning a third phase this winter which will deal with follow ups to the outcomes in Phases I and II.

While there are changes throughout the code designed to simplify and make the Code easier to understand and implement, the major interest for the public is undoubtedly the changes designed to increase residential density. Rust was quick to explain that these changes do not require the City to increase housing density; rather they are designed to prevent the City from restricting those property owners who wish to develop their properties at higher densities than are presently permitted in the code.

The most fundamental change is a requirement that the City not deny permission to build multiple units – duplexes, triplexes, fourplexes and townhomes--- on lots zoned for single family residences. Developers and property owners can still build single family homes, but now they must be permitted to build duplexes on any residential lot, not just those on corners as the present

code permits. Similarly, with some restrictions based on lot size, and subject to meeting building codes for safety and utility codes to provide utility service, the City will be required to allow more multiple units as well as “townhomes” – which are multiple attached units separated only by a firewall. Triplexes could be built on any lot of more than 5,000 square feet, and fourplexes must be allowed on any lot of more than 7,000 square feet.

The new code will also permit the conversion of existing homes to multiplexes, although this could be a complicated and expensive process since the conversion would be required to meet all building code standards and would also have to enable separate utility service to each unit – a potentially very expensive process for converting an existing single-family residence. In many cases these conversions would also involve converting the building into a condominium, so that each unit could be owned by a resident.

Several other changes are designed to meet the requirements of HB 2001. These include reducing the minimum legal lot size from 4500 square feet to 3,000 square feet, increasing the height limit from 30 feet to 35 feet and allowing structures to cover 60 percent of a lot, rather than the 45 percent limit which now exists.

Rust said that the public involvement phase of the project will continue through the summer, with public hearings before the planning commission and the City Council in the fall. There is some sense of urgency to wrap up Phase I, since under state law if the City does not change its codes to allow development of the “missing middle” housing, it will be forced to operate under a state adopted model code beginning in July 2022. While Springfield has participated extensively in developing that code, Rust said, it would still be highly preferable for the City to take its own steps rather than work with a one size fits all solution.

In the last session, the Legislature added a new wrinkle to the housing requirements by passing legislation that would require that cities permit properties with multiplex units to divide the legal lots so each property sits on a legal lot and can be sold separately. Rust noted that, like converting existing units, this could be a very expensive process since the property owner would be required to meet all building code and utility standards, as is the case in converting existing homes.

While Rust said that originally the Council had decided that the code update would be enacted in a form to be consistent with the City’s existing comprehensive Plan, the changes required by meeting HB 2001 now appear to dictate the need for some revision of Comprehensive Plan policies. The City still hopes to keep the changes in the employment land code provisions policy neutral as respects the Comprehensive Plan so that no Plan amendments would be required to accommodate those changes.

A questioner noted that the City had recently moved to permit the construction of accessory dwelling units (ADUs) in an effort to promote more density and asked how this change would affect those. Rust said that the major change would be that the City would not require additional parking to be provided for an ADU. The new state law, and the proposed City code, “blur the distinction between ADUs and duplexes.”

Rust was also asked about the impact of covenants, conditions, and restrictions (CCR) which are in place in some subdivisions to, among other things, restrict density increases. While HB 2001 provides that no such future CCRs may be required, that law does not invalidate those that already exist. Vacating those conditions, he said, is a private matter in which the City would not become involved.

### July 15 – Legislative Update

The 2021 session of the Legislative Assembly was perhaps the most unusual ever. Throughout the session, the Capitol was closed to the public. Legislative hearings and committee meetings were conducted virtually. Floor sessions were originally scheduled so that each house met on a different day, and the “floor” of the House of Representatives had to be redefined in the rules so that all members could be present on the floor when it was time to act, according to Representative John Lively (D-Springfield). As the session neared its end, some of the restrictions were relaxed and both the House and the Senate could meet in the Capitol on the same day. Legislative activity was down; only about 40 percent of the normal number of bills were considered.



Senator Lee Beyer (D-Springfield) pointed out that there did turn out to be at least one advantage to conducting hearings and committee meetings remotely – ordinary Oregonians had as much access to legislators as lobbyists and it was much easier for them to participate in the process since they did not have to drive to Salem. He said he expected some part of those changes to become permanent in future sessions of the Legislature even after all restrictions on meeting disappear.

*MEETINGS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3*

Rep. Lively pointed to several areas where he saw accomplishments, although he noted that the effect of many of the changes won't be seen until at least next year. He noted changes to the rules on how to apply the cost of unemployment insurance to save businesses costs from the pandemic as well as legislation offering rent relief. He said the Legislature dedicated \$200 million in marijuana tax revenue to supporting behavioral health measures. He cautioned that while this year adequate revenue probably exists, in future years that action may be drain on the General Fund. He said \$350 million had been appropriated to communities to provide access to behavioral health



services, but that there remains a shortage of qualified workers. Sen. Beyer praised those improvements, noting that if behavioral health issues are treated in the community, the federal government will pay for 50 percent of the cost, but for Treatment in the State hospital they will pay nothing. The Legislature also appropriated \$530 million to address housing affordability, \$200 million to wildfire risk reduction, all because revenues this year were much greater than normal because of an infusion of federal pandemic related funding.

Sen. Beyer pointed to three bills he said were important. One would force private utilities to move all electricity generation to clean sources by 2040, a second would require producers to assume, over time, about one-third of the cost of recycling and a third would build out the base of charging infrastructure to serve electric vehicles. He said there will be a major shift to EVs over the next decade, not because of policy choices by the Legislature, but because that is where the auto industry is moving.

Rep. Lively agreed that with a shift of more remote participation in the legislative process, the ability to support rural broadband becomes even more critical. While the legislative goal is to assure that every school has high speed broadband, it is probably unfeasible to extend fiber optic cable to every part of the state." We have to get the technology right," he said, adding that the technology is changing faster than it can be installed. Sen. Beyer pointed to the Starlink service, which consists of many low orbit satellites as one private sector technology that may be better than running cable. He urged the public to think of this task in the same way the nation thought of rural electrification in the 1930s. The concept is the everyone should be able to pay the same rate, no matter where they lived.

Rep. Lively said that the legislature combined the two departments the oversee childcare issues in an effort to make the support for those services more efficient. He said there is substantial federal money to support childcare but that there simply are not enough facilities and an inadequate and underpaid workforce.

When asked about redistricting and the addition of a new congressional seat for Oregon, both legislators said that the State would use a process similar to that used in 2011. They expect the Legislature will receive census data on August 16 and have already scheduled a special session in September to act before an October deadline.

They added that the Legislature is likely to take up the issue of System Development Charges in a coming session. Sen. Beyer pointed out that before the property tax laws were changed as a result of Measure 5 and Measure 49/50, most cities paid for infrastructure to serve growth out of property taxes. The property taxer educations imposed in the 1990s, he said, forced cities to look elsewhere for that revenue and they implemented system of charges on development to pay for the cost of future development. A legislative study to be done in 2022 might lead to discussion of alternatives.

Finally, the legislators discussed how they had designated ARPA federal money. Rep. Lively pointed to investment in a broadband hotel in downtown to improve telecommunications services, a study to try and find a solution to improve the current railroad bridge in Glenwood, and some funding for affordable housing projects and the 42<sup>nd</sup> Street levee.

Sen. Beyer said he had designated the Lane County Board of Commissioners as a fiscal agent to allocate the funds, with several recommendations like improving emergency radio service and support for Food for Lane County.

Finally, Sen. Beyer announced this would be his last term in the Legislature.

MINUTES  
 BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
 SPRINGFIELD CITY CLUB  
 JUNE 23, 2021 – ZOOM

PRESENT:

HEATHER MURPHY	KRISTIN DENMARK	BOB FONDREN	LEN GOODWIN
TERRY BEYER	TOM BOYATT	TIFFANY EDWARDS	MERLYN HOUGH
NICK NELSON	PAIGE SHARPE		

Absent: Nick Nelson

The meeting was called to order at 11:35 a.m.

The minutes were reviewed. By motion made by Paige and seconded by Len they were approved unanimously.

Bob presented the Financial Report. He noted that there was significant spending this month, but for one-time expenses, like the annual business license, the Club’s business license and the membership in the Chamber of Commerce. He reported that the Chamber had given City Club a one-time discount of \$95 on dues because of COVID. He also reported that the one-time expense of \$365 covered the annual fee for website maintenance.

Bob advised that after the report was prepared, we received \$1,000 in business memberships. Those will be reflected in the June report. This included CASA, the Central Lane Labor Council, School District 19 and Thorp, Purdy.

The Board discussed how several members, both business and individual reported never receiving invoices. Bob agreed to check with Denise on the accuracy of the addresses she has. In particular, Len will reach out to Aaron Donley at Sanipac, and Heather will reach out to Eric Geyer or Rebecca Taylor at Roseburg to confirm if they wish to continue as members and if they got invoices.

On a motion by Len, seconded by Tom, the financial report was approved unanimously.

The Board also agreed to reach out to individual members about renewal.

Len will contact, Kori Rodley, Jamie Porter and Joe Berney. Tom will contact Bob Duey and John Tamulonis. Heather will contact Mark Molina. Terry will contact Gino Grimaldi and Phil Barnhart. Paige will contact Joe Cavanaugh and Todd Mann. Kristin will contact Michael Reeder.

Several names on the current list should be removed because they are no longer in town. These include Mackenzie Karp, Therese Lang, and Liz Butterfield. Wendy Werner is no longer at Banner Bank, and Marion Malcom has been a long-time member of Eugene City Club so we would not expect here to pay dues to Springfield as well. We might also just send Chris Klein another invoice in case he is still interested.

Len presented a proposed slate of candidates for officers and directors with a list of the current incumbents. After discussion the Board agreed to act as a nominating committee of the whole and recommend the slate. (which is attached). The Board agreed that because of the exigent circumstances of the pandemic the slate would be sent out after Thursday, assuming that the constitutional amendment to increase the size of the Board is approved, with instructions to return a ballot by July 10. The Board agreed that those elected would be deemed to take office effective retroactively to July 1.

Kristin reviewed the constitutional amendment which has been sent to the members. The Board agreed that the vote on the amendment would occur at the end of the June 24 program, with club members being asked to stay on the Zoom call past the end of the program to cast their vote. Various means of voting were discussed. The Board agreed that members on Facebook should vote by posting a Facebook a comment and that any member could, in the alternative, cast a vote by email by the close of business on June 24.

The Board reviewed upcoming programs.

Tomorrow Comm. Joe Berney will be the feature speaker. He will be accompanied by County Administrator Steve Mokrohisky and Budget Committee member for Springfield Bruce Webber. Heather will do the welcome and Nick the intro and Q&A.

*MINUTES CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5*

On July 8 the program will be Mark Rust from Springfield discussion the Springfield Land Development Code update. Heather will do the welcome Tom the intro, and Len will manage Q&A.

The second July program will be Sen. Beyer, Rep. Lively and (if he is not deployed on fire duty) may include Rep. Hayden. Paige may do the welcome assuming the election is complete, Terry will do the intro and Len will handle Q&A.

For August Kristin will check with Todd Hamilton to see if the School District will be ready to present a program on the coming year. Further in the future we may want to schedule a program on the LCC advanced tech program (Paige will check), and Tom will investigate a possible program on the Springfield And SUB downtown fiber project. Further into the future we should look to schedule an update on the in-can and on-body cameras (probably in October).

The Twin Rivers Rotary Club has invited City Club to present at one of the upcoming meetings. The Board discussed having Heather, Len, and Paige present. Bob will confirm.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Len Goodwin,  
Secretary

**CITY CLUB BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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