

## CITY of LA GRANDE THE HUB OF NORTHEASTERN OREGON

## Staff Report November 2014

City Manager's Top Priorities for 2014

Item No.	Date of Change in Status	Item	Comments	Lead Department
1	Updated November 25, 2014	Continue to manage the City's finances within limited resources to provide highest possible level of service to the City of La Grande	In the process of conducting mid-year budget reviews with Directors to assure we are on track.	City Manager
2	No Change	Implement the 10- Year Urban Renewal Plan	See items listed below with the CEDD Economic Development as the Lead Department	CEDD Economic Development
3	Updated Nov. 30, 2014	Develop and implement an incentive program for non-retail new business development	URA Budget containing \$200,000 incentive was approved by Agency Budget Committee on May 12 and adopted by the Agency in June. UCEDC and City staff attended the SiteLink event in Pendleton May 7-9. A site selector (Don Schjeldahl) visited La Grande & Union County on May 16, 2014. A new incentive program policy was drafted, reviewed by the URAC and approved by the Agency on Sept. 10. Policy has been placed on the City's website and will be included in new marketing materials. The City/ URA and UCEDC will be participating in the TEAM Oregon Advanced Manufacturing program in 2014-15, which included attendance at the FABTech trade show in Atlanta in November. Staff attended a TEAM meeting in Salem and a 2-day IEDC marketing course in Atlanta in August. A second TEAM meeting in Portland will be attended in December.	CEDD Economic Development
4	Updated Nov. 30, 2014	Develop and implement a targeted retail business attraction program	Assisting owner/developer of Marketplace to identify prospects to occupy the new project and secure project financing for the new businesses; staff is attending regular business team meetings to aid in project success. We have been awarded a \$25,000 USDA RBEG grant to assist in funding a future retail analysis. We hope to launch this body	CEDD Economic Development

Item	Date of Change	Item	Comments	Lead
No.	in Status			Department
			of work in 2015. Staff is working with Main Street and EOU student on a reworked incentive program to attract EOU students, faculty & staff to shop downtown. The Agency has approved funding for a new grocery store project downtown. Staff attended an ICSC event in Skamania, WA on July 24. Staff attended a 3-day NBIA training in Portland Oct. 6-8 related to enhanced assistance to the Market Place.	
5	Updated November 25, 2014	Conduct a Police Facility Needs Analysis	The City Manager formed a committee to assist in a facility needs analysis for the LG Police Department. The Committee has toured the existing facility. The Chief of Police has completed his needs assessment and we will schedule a meeting for after the Holidays to continue to work.	City Manager

## 2014 COUNCIL REGULAR and WORK SESSIONS SCHEDULE

Wednesday, December 10 REGULAR SESSION

Monday, December 15 WORK SESSION
La Grande Main Street

Wednesday, December 17 HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE 4:30 – 6:00 P.M.

**2015** 

Thursday, January 1 HOLIDAY – City offices closed

Wednesday, January 14 REGULAR SESSION

Friday, January 16 EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION BANQUET

No Host bar, 6:00 p.m.; Dinner, 6:30 p.m.

Monday, January 19 HOLIDAY – City offices closed

Monday/Tuesday, January 26/27 COUNCIL RETREAT

Monday, February 2 WORK SESSION

Wednesday, February 4 REGULAR SESSION

Monday, February 16 HOLIDAY – City offices closed

Friday, February 20 CHAMBER BANQUET

Item	Date of Change in Status	Item	Comments	Department
1	Updated	Monthly activity	October 2014 Stats/Fiscal Year Comparison	CEDD
1	November 19,	(October)	Permit Type Total Permits Fee Totals Valuation	Building
	2014	Fiscal Year to Date	Building 27 \$23,964.47 \$1,973,576	Dunding
	2011	Comparables	Demolition 2 \$190.00	
		Comparables	Electrical 43 \$5,761.23	
			Mechanical 42 \$2,905.28	
			MF Homes 1 \$366.00	
			Plumbing 17 \$18,300.94	
			Farm Exempt 6	
			Totals 138 \$33,603.70 \$1,973,576	
			Total Inspections Performed October 2014 244	
			1 out inspections retroimed october 2011 211	
			2014-2015 Stats/Fiscal Year Comparison Yr. to date	
			Permit Type Total Permits Fee Totals Valuation	
			Building 98 \$143,295.96 \$13,055,116	
			Demolition 2 \$190.00	
			Electrical 206 \$24,394.50	
			Mechanical 160 \$8,634.43	
			MF Homes 7 \$2562.00	
			Plumbing 71 \$18,300.94	
			Farm Exempt 14	
			Totals 558 \$197,377.83 \$13,055,166	
			Total Inspections Fiscal Yr to date 2014/15 957	
			October 2013 Stats/Fiscal Year Comparison	
			Permit Type Total Permits Fee Totals Valuation	
			Building 27 \$22,597.03 \$1,638,349	
			Demolition 1 \$120.00	
			Electrical 64 \$7,368.74	
			Mechanical 69 \$7,196.06	
			MF Homes 3 \$5,577.39	
			Plumbing 18 \$2,213.68	
			Farm Exempt 0	
			Totals 182 \$38,802.16 \$1,638,349	
			Total Inspections in October 2013 300	
			2013-2014 Stats/Fiscal Year Comparison Yr. to date	
			Permit Type Total Permits Fee Totals Valuation	
			Building 113 \$90,038.06 \$7,060,127	
			Demolition 2 \$240.00	
			Electrical 234 \$34,514.24	
			Mechanical 168 \$19,866.09	
			MF Homes 11 \$4,026.00	
			Plumbing 83 \$15,127.68	
			Farm Exempt 11	
			Totals 622 \$163,812.07 \$7,060,127	
			Total Inspections Fiscal Yr to date 2013/14 1009	
2	No Change	Building Inspection	The proposal will be based upon the administration	CEDD
	March 18, 2014	Proposal to adjust	costs of processing, filing, and tracking permits as	Building

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3	Updated Nov. 25, 2014	Fee Rates  URA projects fund updates Fiscal YTD	well as the true cost of an inspector in the field. This fee adjustment may lower some fees and it may increase others. We are still in the investigation phase of this project. When all the info has been gathered the building division will present the results along with the proposed fee adjustment to the City Council and the County Commissioners. After that if permission is granted we will present the proposal to the State of Oregon Building Codes Division and the appeal period will start.  Ten projects were awarded funding by the Agency in July 2013. Six of these projects are completed.			CEDD Economic
			Three of the remainiunderway. Three protects is already counderway. The IOO holding costs. A determade regarding alloproject funds.  Project: IOOF Holding Cost Remaining Call for Projects	ojects were awar ojects round. On ompleted and the F building conti- ermination has r	ded funding in the of these the other two are nues to accrue not yet been	Development
			2013: Stephen McClean Phoenix Bldg. DRCs RM Scarfo Liberty Sign/Canopy Call for Projects 2014:	\$ 75,000 \$ 46,290 \$ 9,789 \$ 50,800 \$ 5,000	\$ 75,000 \$ 32,393 \$ 6,789 \$ 0	
			Bowling Alley Arritola storage A-1 Storage Totals	\$ 100,000 \$ 50,000 \$ 50,000 \$ 389,879	\$ 29,450 \$ 37,500 \$ 50,000 <b>\$ 231,240</b>	
4	Updated Nov. 25, 2014	Façade grant program updates Fiscal YTD	Seven projects have and two are in progr the marketing and m to Main Street, per to Project Alegre Travel Golden Crown** Sommer Hotel* Liberty design** Liberty facade Granada doors Ranch-N-Home Totals	ess. Staff will be anagement of th	e transitioning his program over	CEDD Economic Development

Item	Date of Change in Status	Item	Comments	Department
			*completed project	
			**project in progress	
5	Updated	Key Employer visits	Staff has identified six of the City's key employers	CEDD
	Nov. 25, 2014		to set up visits with staff and members of the	Economic
			Council in 2014. Five visits have been accomplished	Development
			with Moda Health, Anderson Perry, Grande Ronde	
			Hospital, EOU and most recently Boise. UPRR has	
			not yet been scheduled but will take place later in	
	YY 1 . 1	N. G. G.	fall 2014 or winter 14/15.	GEDD
6	Updated	New Grocery Store	On March 31, 2014 the URA in a public work	CEDD
	Oct. 2, 2014	Project Downtown	session heard a presentation from a development	Economic
			team to transform the former Blockbuster Video	Development
			building into a new locally-owned grocery store and	
			to seek a \$500,000 investment from the URA. On	
			May 7 the Agency voted to move forward with	
			funding agreement negotiations. By a 4-3 vote, the	
			Agency approved funding on August 20. The	
			funding agreement was finalized the week of Oct. 1.	
7	Undatad	Calendar YTD	The store operator must also still secure financing.  October 2014	CEDD
/	Updated November 25,			
	2014	Planning Statistics	Land Use Applications: 3 Zoning Approvals: 3	Planning
	2014		New Business Permits: 0	
			Revenue (Land Use Fees): \$175	
			Revenue (Zoning Approvals): \$75	
			Revenue (Park SDC): \$1050	
			Revenue (Fark SDC). \$1050	
			October 2013	
			Land Use Applications: 8	
			Zoning Approvals: 4	
			New Business Permits: 3	
			Revenue (Land Use Fees): \$1975	
			Revenue (Zoning Approvals): \$100	
			Revenue (Park SDC): \$0	
			July 2014 to October 2014 (Fiscal Year to Date):	
			Land Use Applications: 18	
			Zoning Approvals: 15	
			New Business Permits: 9	
			Revenue (Land Use Fees): \$3385	
			Revenue (Zoning Approvals): \$375	
			Revenue (Park SDC): \$2625	
8	No Change	Taylor Creek	Concurrently with the Gekeler Lane Project in 2008,	CEDD
	December 18,	Floodplain Mapping	a section of Taylor Creek, between 16th Street and	Planning
	2013		20th Street, was relocated further to the South	
			within a large channel which resulted in a	
			significant change to the Taylor Creek floodplain.	
			At the time, a "post" floodplain analysis was not	
			conducted in accordance with FEMA requirements.	
			As a result, the Planning Division and Public Works	
			are working with the Army Corp. of Engineers	
			(USACE) to conduct the analysis and pursue	

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	III Status		amendments to the FEMA maps. USACE received partial funding in their 2013-2014 budget for this project, which will allow for a hydrologic analysis to be completed. USACE will be seeking funding in their 2014-2015 budget to complete any remaining analysis and preparing a report for FEMA. Once this is complete, USACE will provide the report to the City. The City will be responsible for submitting an application to FEMA to amend the floodplain maps. The earliest this project may be completed, including FEMA map updates will be 2016.	
9	Updated December 1, 2014	Rules for MMJ Dispensaries	During the October 1, 2014, Regular Session of the City Council, the Council adopted Ordinance 3215, establishing rules governing the location of both medical and recreational marijuana facilities. In accordance with our Joint Management Agreement with Union County, the proposed rules were presented to the Union County Board of Commissioners during their November 12, 2014, meeting for co-adoption implementation within the City's Urban Growth Boundary. The Board of Commissioners chose to not hold a public hearing and Tabled the request for an indefinite period of time. As a result, there are currently no adopted rules governing marijuana facilities within the City's Urban Grown Boundary and such industry may located in the UGB, subject only to State Law requirements.	CEDD Planning
10	Updated December 1, 2014	Riverside Park to Spring Creek Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan	The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) is conducting a planning project to develop a "Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan" to identify a new bicycle and pedestrian facility starting at Riverside Park to Hilgard (exit 248) and then to Spring Creek (exit 243). At this time, this project is limited to the development and consideration of a "Plan." In the future, when constructed this facility will be an extension of the Greenway Project, which runs East from Riverside Park along the Grande Ronde River. This Plan is to be completed by June 2015. At that time, the City and County may be asked to adopt the Plan as an amendment or addendum to the local Transportation System Plan.	CEDD/ Planning
11	Updated December 5, 2014	Adams Avenue Street Scape (formerly Big H Phase II)	The Urban Renewal Agency adopted a budget for FY 2014-15 that includes funding for the continuation of the Big H improvements along Adams Avenue with the same general design. The intent, within funding limits, is to tie in the improvements on 4 <sup>th</sup> Avenue to the Big H along Adams Avenue and continue to Island Avenue. There are no plans to do any of the side streets at this time. The Agency indicated support for moving	District/City Manager

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			forward with the project and the City Council and URA will take action regarding securing funding at their December 10, 2014, meeting. See Public Works section below regarding design status.	
12	Updated November 19, 2014	Water and Sewer Franchise Fee Ordinances	The City Council met on November 17 <sup>th</sup> to discuss franchise fees for water and sewer. The December 10, 2014 Council meeting will include the first reading of an Ordinance to replace the Resolutions that imposed the Franchise Fees on Water and Sewer.	City Manager
13	Completed October 29, 2014	Marijuana Sales Tax	The City Council conducted a second reading of an Ordinance for the imposition of a Sales Tax on marijuana at a Special Meeting October 29, 2014, and imposed a tax of 0% on medical and 25% on recreational marijuana.	City Manager
14	New Item November 20, 2014	Frontier Franchise Agreement Renewal	The Franchise for telephone services currently provided by Frontier Communications needs to be renewed. The Franchise Fee is already set at 7% and we have a draft Ordinance to review. If we opt to use an attorney to assist, we will use the same firm that assisted with the Avista renewal.	City Manager
15	New Item November 20, 2014	Council and Commission Training	With the election and seating of new members of the City Council, it would be beneficial to have training on a variety of topics. We have also discussed the possibility of training related to the Landmarks Commission that would be joint training with the City Council. Additionally, with the current lack of a quorum on the Planning Commission, joint training for the Planning Commission and City Council on land use would be timely. We will work on scheduling this training beginning after the first of the year.	City Manager
16	New Item November 20, 2014	IOOF (Odd Fellows) Building Disposition	The City acquired the IOOF building about two years ago for the purpose of applying for grant funding to abate nuisances in the building. (it is actually two buildings) The transaction included a Right of First Refusal which would allow the prior owners to pay a set amount, plus holding costs, to re-acquire the property if there was not a sale within 24 months of the completion of the cleanup. Formal action on this will occur at either the January or February Agency Meeting.	City/District Manager
17	New Item November 20, 2014	Public, Education, Government (PEG) Cable Channel Policy	Charter Communications is in the process of transferring the equipment used to manage the content of the PEG Channel used to broadcast City Council meetings to the City of La Grande. With this comes the responsibility for programming. Staff is developing a draft policy regarding the use, with the intent of limiting use to Government programming only.	City Manager
18	Updated November 19,	Marijuana Ban	The City Council opted not to direct the Staff to make any revisions to the Land Development Code	City Manager

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	2014		or imposition of regulations prohibiting businesses from operating which violate federal law during the November 12, 2014, Regular Council Meeting, but instead deferred such a discussion until after the new Mayor and City Councilors take office in January. The Council did direct the Staff to bring forward for a first reading a moratorium on siting marijuana facilities in the City of La Grande. The proposed moratorium would take effect either in January or February if the Council imposes it.	
19	No Change February 15, 2013	Transportation SDC	The Staff will explore a Transportation System Development Charge that could be imposed on new development to be used for improvements to the transportation system in La Grande. Such a charge could not be used for maintenance.	City Manager
20	Updated November 19, 2014	Charter Cable Franchise Agreement	A number of Oregon cities, including La Grande, are working together on a draft standard franchise agreement to present to Charter in an effort to save costs and preserve local government interests. A revised draft was provided to the cities with the negotiating team's perspective on the few remaining issues the week of September 15 <sup>th</sup> and subsequently forwarded to the Charter negotiating team for review. Meeting to follow.	City Manager
21	No Change September 23, 2014	Eastern Oregon Fire Museum Lease	The current agreement between the City and the Volunteers states that the Volunteers will sublet the property and use the revenues from the rent to maintain the building. The agreement was recently extended and currently the Volunteers have asked for assistance in funding a project to create as-built drawings and other design work for the possibility of subletting the building for a commercial operation. We have approved funding for this work and the work in in progress.	City Manager
21	Updated November 19, 2014	Council Work Sessions Schedule	The next Council Work Session is scheduled on December 15, Main Street update. Councilors Elect will be joining the currently seated Council.	City Recorder
22	Updated Nov. 19, 2014	Advisory Commission Vacancies	Applications for Advisory Commission vacancies are non-existent at this time! The following table outlines the existing vacancies. The City Manager will ask to be reappointed to the UCEDC Board during the January Regular Session.    Advisory Commission   Vacancies	City Recorder

Item	Date of Change in Status	Item	Comme	ents	Department
			Parks and Recreation Planning UCEDC Board Union County Tourism Urban Renewal	1/7 3/5 0/4 2/2 0/7	
23	No Change September 11, 2014	Council Elections	As you are aware, the follow were elected to fill the follow Position:  Mayor  Position No. 2 (2 yrs.)  Position No. 5  Position No. 6  T	ring Council Candidates	City Recorder
24	Updated December 5, 2014	Statistics	For the month of SEPTEMB Monthly Revenue (all funds) Monthly Revenue (general fund) Monthly expenses amount (a Monthly expenses (general fund) for Accounts Payable Check of Payroll Checks issued: Monthly Payroll expenses: # of Water accounts billed: # of LID accounts billed: # of NSF checks the City rec Pieces of mail processed	BER 2014:  \$ 1,393,015  und) \$ 268,036  all funds) \$ 1,523,843  fund) \$ 660,656  ks issued: 232  141  \$ 746,076  5,516  8	Finance
25	Updated December 5, 2014	Statistics	For the month of OCTOBER Monthly Revenue (all funds) Monthly Revenue (general funds) Monthly expenses amount (a Monthly expenses (general funds) # of Accounts Payable Check of Payroll Checks issued: Monthly Payroll expenses: # of Water accounts billed: # of LID accounts billed: # of NSF checks the City rec Pieces of mail processed	\$ 1,377,437 and) \$ 489,824 all funds) \$ 2,196,663 and) \$ 767,197 ks issued: 248 134 \$ 733,811 5,509 8	Finance
26	Completed September 30, 2014	Personnel Policy Manual/Employee Handbook	A local college student has updating these manuals as will be working with Hun project. The term of his waspend 150 hours on this project has been completed is now going through review Resources. Human Resources completed at the time an entite Handbook is completed.	his senior project. He man Resources on this work will allow him to ect. eted by the student and process in Human es will integrate work	Finance
27	No Change May, 2014	Updating Finance Tech II and III Job Descriptions	Current job descriptions do n appropriate job duties. These be updated and reviewed bies	e job descriptions will	Finance
28	No Change March, 2014	Risk Management Best Practices	This process is an ongoing co year. CIS reviews our practic		Finance

Item	Date of Change	Item	Comments	Department
	in Status	Review	include Employment Liability, Council training in Ethics, Building Codes, Fleet Safety, Special Events and much more. CIS is also performing site inspections and have completed City Hall, Library, Public Works offices, Fire Department and Aquatics facility and as these progress, CIS will make recommendations for modifications to bring the working environment to a safer level.	
29	No Change June, 2014	Annual Audit	Audit preparation has begun. Some field work has been completed. The major portion of the field work is scheduled for October	Finance
30	Updated Nov. 26, 2014	Response Statistics	Response statistics for October, 2014  Total Calls: 212  (217 in Sept. 2013)  Medical: 131  Motor vehicle crashes: 2  Car vs Pedestrian: 1  Fire/Other: 78 (2 vegetation fires, 4 dumpster/rubbish fires, 3 PD Assist, 21 assist invalid, 15 public assist service calls, 2 illegal burn complaint calls, 1 smoke removal, 19 cancelled on scene or in route, 1 Hazmat, 2 Burn permit checks, 5 smoke or fire alarm activations with no fire, 1 CO detector activation, 2 false alarms.)	Fire
31	Updated Nov. 26, 2014	Fire Code Inspections	New inspections: (1) Re-inspections: (1)	Fire
32	No Change August 12, 2014	Juvenile Fire Setter	0 Intervention(s) conducted in July.	Fire
33	Updated Nov. 26, 2014	Child Safety Seat Installations and Bicycle Helmets	October  (8) Families instructed in proper car seat installation with (1) being provided with reduced price child safety seats.  (1) Families instructed in proper bicycle helmet use with (2) bike helmets being provided.	Fire
34	Updated Nov. 26, 2014	Multi-Disciplinary Team Meeting	October Participated in (0) Multi-Disciplinary Team meeting on Child and Elderly abuse cases in Union County.	Fire
35	Updated Nov. 26, 2014	Traffic School	October (19) Students instructed resulting in \$950.00 in revenue from student fees.	Fire
36	No Change Dec. 30 2013	Development of Fire Training Facility	The training tower has siding on it and will be painted when it warms up in the spring. There are a few other little things that still need to be finished but we have been using the tower in our training exercises and have found it to be a great asset to our firefighting preparation.	Fire
37	Updated Oct 27, 2014	Weed/Tall Grass Complaints	Throughout the summer, 31 weed complaints were received and investigated with 31 property owners given notice to cut and remove the vegetation from their property. 3 properties were cut by a City hired contractor. Liens have been placed on 2 of the properties for reimbursement of the City's costs.	Fire

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38	Updated Nov. 26, 2014	Fire Station Tours and Safety Presentations	October 3 fire station tours were given to Central elementary classes	Fire
39	Updated November 21, 2014	Literacy Center	Some statistics:  1. 11 new families  2. Tutoring requested for 4 new students  3. GED assistance for 2 adults requested  Visit from the EOU Continued Education  Coordinator to establish some cooperative efforts  Another contact was from the CHD for ESL  services  Wildflower requested reading and writing help for  residents; following up on this; one of our services  to GRR several years ago was enlarging print on  various crossword, mind and mystery puzzles which  were then copied and enjoyed by the elderly there.  We will offer some literacy and historical  presentations for winter months as well  (Bev has presented programs on Madame Dorion to  the DAR and early settlement of GR Valley to  teacher and church groups.)  Several parents of prospective Kindergarten students  have been in to pick up the packets we have to help  make sure their children are ready for school next  year.  One of our volunteers finds our materials useful in  her tutoring of an autistic child  As usual, we continue to have patrons of the library  pop in with the comment: "What IS the room? I  walk by all the time and see you busy, but never  know what this is" then "neatexcellentI will  recommend" Always heartening.	Library
40	Updated November 21, 2014	Page Turners Book Club	Book Club discussed <i>The World According to Bertie</i> by Alexander McCall Smith in October. Book Club does not meet in December so, will resume in January. Meetings are held the second Tuesday of the month at 1:00 in the Archives Room.	Library
41	No Change December 18, 2013	Archives	Two new volunteers have joined the Archives staff. One has been trained in Past Perfect software which is specialty software used by museums and archives.	Library
42	Updated November 21, 2014	Statistics	Current         Last           10,608         10,717         Circulation           29,501         25,461         Door count           14,750         15,532         Card holders           177         173         Overdue notices           894         884         Library2 Go titles checked out           36         15         Events in community room           18         23         Adult program attendance           499         542         Children's program attendance           n/a         82         Volunteer hours           849         745         Total Sage ILL	Library

Item	Date of Change in Status	Item	Comments	Department
43	Updated November 21, 2014	Children's/Young Adults	The library hosted another successful Teen After Hours Party on November 14. There's nothing like playing tag in the dark at the library to draw a good crowd! This time we added karaoke, balloon volleyball, mini-golf, and black out poetry to our list of party activities. The highlight of the evening was Fear Factor Foods, which included putting the contents of two Happy Meals in a blender and daring the teens to drink it!  Jan Brett will be coming on December 11th to the Blue Mountain Conference Center to give a 15-minute presentation and sign books. The Bookloft from Enterprise will be on hand with plenty of books for purchase. The first 100 families in line will receive a free poster.  The Animals' Santa scavenger hunt is going on right through the end of November. People of all ages are invited to pick up a riddle sheet at the library and find the hidden books around town at participating downtown businesses. Turn the completed sheet in to be entered to win a copy of The Animals' Santa, and be first in line to meet Jan Brett!  The library's Santa Storytime will be on Thursday, December 18th at 11:30 am. We will read stories, sing songs, make a craft, and be visited by Santa! Children will receive a special gift as well!  Looking forward to hosting a Disney's "Frozen" party sometime in January, details at a later date!	Library
44	Updated November 21, 2014	Adult Programs	At the October 22nd Book Art Workshop, we had 18 attendees who made wreaths.  Pendleton poet, editor and teacher, Shaindel Beers, was this month's visiting writer for the Roundhouse Reading Series. She read with local poet and EOU professor of English and Writing, Nancy Knowles. Shaindel Beers' poetry, fiction, and creative nonfiction have appeared in numerous journals and anthologies. She is currently an instructor of English at Blue Mountain Community College in Pendleton and serves as Poetry Editor of Contrary. Her first full-length poetry collection, <i>A Brief History of Time</i> , was released by Salt Publishing in 2009. The first half of Beers' most recent book, <i>The Children's War</i> (Salt Publishing, 2013), looks at artwork done by and about child survivors of war, embodying the voices of the children, their families, and the humanitarian aid workers sent to help them. From there the book opens out into an exploration of the war at home and the war within ourselves, exploring violence in mythology, domestic violence, and the wars that occur, sometimes, within our own bodies.	Library

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	Th States		These poems act as a survival guide, showing that hope exists even in the darkest of places and that perhaps poetry is the key to our healing.  The Third Wednesday reading was at 7 p.m. on November 19 <sup>th</sup> at Looking Glass Books (1118 Adams Ave., La Grande) and is a continuing series sponsored by Blue Mountain Writers and made possible by grants from Union County Cultural Coalition, Maxine Cook Public Library, and Libraries of Eastern Oregon.	
44	Completed November 24, 2014	Arts Commission	The 2014 Season's Faire was held on November 1 <sup>st</sup> , with 34 artists donating a piece of their work for the auction. An additional 70 local businesses contributed food, beverages, prizes for our raffle and table decorations, all of which contributed immensely to a great event and successful fundraiser for the Arts Commission. Monies will be used primarily to support Arts for All this spring	Parks Admin
45	Updated November 24, 2014	Training	No training this month.	Parks Admin
46	Updated December 1, 2014	Park Events	DRIVE FOR YOUR CONCESSION STAND/BLEACHER REPLACEMENT  On November 22, our local Legacy Ford Lincoln dealership graciously volunteered to host a fundraising event to help raise the monies needed to replace the bleachers and concession stand on Optimist Field in Pioneer Park. We recently secured grants to upgrade many areas of the park, but this last piece is badly needed. The event raised over \$4000. A community group has organized to continue fundraising and will work closely with the City to accomplish the long term goal.  TEEN BONFIRE On December 19, the Youth Advisory Board will sponsor a teen bonfire in the parking lot behind Optimist Field, beginning at 7:00 pm.	Parks Admin
47	No Change October 20, 2014	Pioneer Park Renovation	Notification was received that our Land Water Conservation Grant application was tentatively approved in the amount of \$44,260, which will give us the funding needed for the replacement of the playground, restroom rehabilitation and a paved connector trail behind Optimist Field. Other funding that has been approved includes a Wildhorse Foundation grant for \$10,000, Soroptimist grant for \$4,000, and a \$1,000 donation from Legacy Auto Group.	Parks Admin
48	Updated December 1, 2014	Pioneer Park Basketball Courts	Staff met with the Collman family of RD Mac last month and they expressed interest in partnering with the Parks & Recreation Department to construct basketball courts in the old tennis court area at	Parks Admin

Item	Date of Change in Status	Item	Comments			Department
	III Status		Pioneer Park. Since then, two funding proposals have been prepared and submitted; one to the Wildhorse Foundation and one to Ash Grove Cement. If project receives funding, construction will begin spring 2015.			
49	Updated November 24, 2014	Birnie Park Playground	MODA Health approached the City last spring with the funding for additional playground equipment at Birnie Park. Installation was completed and on October 21 <sup>st</sup> representatives from the Portland Trailblazers and MODA held a celebration while kicking off the 2014 "Rip City Relay." The Blazers also conducted workshops at several area schools and held a block party in front of the MODA Health office in the evening.			Parks Admin
50	Updated November 24, 2014	Riverside Restrooms	Work is underway on to project. New steel doo locks have been install After the interior is paid installed. This project capital outlay budget.	Parks Admin		
51	Updated November 24, 2014	LED Light Project	The LED lights were installed in the natatorium on October 23 <sup>rd</sup> . With OTECC donating an incentive grant in the amount of \$17,400, the cost to the City will only be \$7,480. Staff estimates our total O&M savings will be \$3,595. Based on these figures, our estimated simple payback will be two years or less.			Parks - Aquatics
52	Updated November 24, 2014	October Pool Statistics	ATTENDANCE FY TO DATE REVENUE FY TO DATE # OF RENTALS	FY 13-14  1,461  10,418  \$4,377  \$41,061	FY 14-15 3,166 11,369 \$8,313 \$39,494 5	Parks - Aquatics
53	Updated November 24, 2014	Pool Update	<ul> <li>Slide is completely refurbished and operational.</li> <li>The La Grande Swim Club hosted a swim meet at the pool on October 25 &amp; 26m with 70 participants from Baker City, Pendleton, Caldwell, Tri Cities and La Grande</li> <li>47 Home School students participated in swim lessons this year, an increase of 16 from last year</li> </ul>			Parks - Aquatics
54	Updated November 24, 2014	Parks Maintenance	<ul> <li>All seasonal Staff has been laid off for the winter.</li> <li>Only about one-third of the leaves had been removed when the first snow fell. Staff has continued to work on them between snow falls.</li> <li>Due to the early snow fall, Staff was not able to accomplish other planned projects such as the renovation of the Kory Vaughn Field and repairs to Optimist Field.</li> <li>Current maintenance projects include snow removal, snow sign repair and equipment repair.</li> </ul>			Parks Maintenance
55	Updated	Adult Recreation	• The Women's V			Parks -

Item	Date of Change	Item	Comment	ī.S	Department	
	in Status October 20, 2014	Program	organizational meeting on	organizational meeting on October 14 <sup>th</sup> , with 10		
	October 20, 2014	Fiogram	teams represented.  Lotus Self-Defense is offer Thursday nights throughou Students work at their own pac time. Cost is only \$20 per qua	ed on Tuesday and t the school year ce and may join at an	1 :	
56	Updated November 24, 2014	Children's Recreation Program	<ul> <li>Save the Date for the Daughter Dinner Dance, Details to follow.</li> <li>Gymnastics for children held on Fridays throughou</li> <li>The Recreation Department recreational youth basketbe.</li> <li>The Recreation Department youth leadership programs students called the Youth goal is to engage youth it and advocacy.</li> <li>Lotus Self-Defense is of through adult on Tuesday throughout the school year their own pace and may juis only \$20 per quarter.</li> </ul>	Recreation  e  v  t  t  t  t  t  t  t  t  t  t  t  t		
57	Updated November 24, 2014	Community Outreach	The Urban Forestry Staff, Greenwood Elementary Sch and the local American I dedication ceremony on No replacement of a Victory Way at the School. In 1923, 250 V planted along Spruce Street returning from World War I original trees remain.	Forestry  a e e e e s		
58	Updated November 24, 2014	September Statistics	STATISTICS  Street Trees Planted Park Trees Planted Street Trees Removed Park Trees Removed Park Trees Removed Street Trees Pruned Park Trees Pruned Community Responses Nuisance Responses Nuisance Responses Ordinance Enforcement Actions Tree Service Permits Site Plan Reviews Community Volunteer Hours	OCT         FY 15           22         34           11         11           6         23           2         6           10         37           8         45           22         110           3         12           17         72           2         5           0         2           1         3           79         85	Parks Urban Forest#364	
59	Updated Dec 1, 2014	Operations Division Statistics 2014	Case Reports Turned In Total Traffic Arrests  5	Oct. 88	Police	
60	Updated Nov. 24, 2014	Detective Division abuse statistics.	Physical Abuse cases Sexual Abuse cases	Oct. 0 2	Police	
		These cases are	Neglect cases	14		

Item	Date of Change in Status	Item	Comments				Department	
		mostly DHS referred cases and not all of them require further investigation	(also includes children exposed to drug activity and dirty homes)					
		investigation	Total number of child abuse cases	16				
			Total number of Senior and People with disabilities reports	2				
			Total number of Domestic Violence and SART cases	16				
61	Updated Nov.24,	Communications		Oct			Police	
	2014	Division Statistics	Traffic/Air	344			Tonec	
			All Calls	3290				
			Legitimate 911 calls for service	329				
			Case Reports LGPD/UCSO	223				
	2014		The SWAT team had a four hour block of training. One officer attended the SFTS/DID 3 day training at DPSST.  COMMUNICATIONS TRAINING: One dispatcher attended the NW Crisis Negotiations Conference in Portland				Police/Comm	
	Updated Oct. 28,	Crime Statistics	Type of Crime	June	July	Aug	Police	
	2014		Crimes against persons (assaults, robbery, sex crimes)	7	7	9		
			Crimes against property (burglary, vehicle theft, NSF/acct. closed)	52	49	41		
			Crimes against society (drug laws, DUII, liquor laws, disorderly conduct)	12	23	16		
			Traffic Crimes (DWS, Hit & Run, eluding, reckless driving)	4	5	8		
63	New Item	Detective Division	Types of Cases		Oc	et	Police	
	November	Street Crimes Unit Started on 10/23/14	Drug Investigations  Fugitive Investigations  Gang Related Investigations  Property Crime Investigations  0					
	24,2014	Started 011 10/23/14						
					i			
				c				
			Property Crime Investigation	S	0			
			Property Crime Investigation Person Crime Investigations		0			
			Property Crime Investigation		0			

Item	Date of Change in Status	Item	Comments	Department
64	No Change July 1, 2014	Communications Strategic Plan	We had a very mild winter so we were unable to fully assess the need for a third site. Aside from this the system is working well and we have some equipment on hand to proceed with a third site if that becomes necessary.	Police
65	Updated Dec 1, 2014	Department Activities	Due to a number of factors, the Drug Task Force has been reorganized into a Street Crimes Unit. This expands their focus to not just drugs but crime sprees and major crime investigations. This has been a successful approach and the unit has been integral in recent investigations.	Police/Comm
66	No Change February 17, 2009	NPDES permit	NPDES permit with DEQ has been submitted. Application is in to DEQ for review.	Public Works
67	No Change December 17, 2009	'B' Avenue Right-of- Way	The 'B' Avenue right-of-way is being evaluated as a result of The Ridge development. Property owners are being visited with for right-of-way dedication.	Public Works
68	No Change September 8, 2014	Water, Sewer and Storm water Master Plans	Staff has been working with the consultant to update the Water, Sewer and Storm water Master Plans. It has been over 10 years since the last update. The Water Master Plan is complete. On the Storm water Master Plan, the consultant is evaluating the area west of 12 <sup>th</sup> Street for the first time. The storm water easterly portion has been reviewed by the City Council. This will take a lengthy period of time.	Public Works
69	No Change October 28, 2014	Fourth St. and 'N' Avenue Intersection	The plan to redevelop this intersection would require the purchase of property on the southeast corner of this intersection along with reconstruction of the road. Because of the of the negative impacts to the adjoining property and the high cost for the level of improvement to this intersection staff has at this time elected not to proceed with any further action and will be eliminated from the next month's report.	Public Works
70	No Change August 20, 2014	Beaver Creek Fish Passage	Plans are being developed for the design of the fish passage over the dam. Funding applications have been applied for from four (4) different sources and an additional funding source is being evaluated. Only one application has offered funding in the amount of \$150,000. The environmental review is complete. Estimated cost is \$1,500,000. Staff is working with the Corps of Engineers to possibly construct this project.	Public Works
71	No Change October 28, 2014	Storm Sewer Line on 'J' Avenue between 12 <sup>th</sup> & 14 <sup>th</sup> Streets	During the summer street projects, 'J' Avenue was identified as not having any storm sewer system. A new line was scheduled to be installed in the Spring of 2013. Since that time a higher need for the available funding was needed for the 20 <sup>th</sup> Street storm sewer line. Money was allocated for that project to eliminate future liability and help facilitate the 20 <sup>th</sup> Street grant project. This project will be reconsidered when funding is available and will be	Public Works

Item	Date of Change in Status	Item	Comments	Department
			eliminated from the next month's report.	
72	No Change October 28, 2014	20th Street Grant	Staff has prepared a grant application for the street improvement from Gekeler Lane to Adams Avenue. It has been submitted and presented to the review committee. If successful, funding would be available 2015 through 2018. This project is being reviewed to be done in 2016. Estimated cost is \$3,500,000. This project is currently the top project for Eastern Oregon Region 5 and is on the recommended 100% list. Staff is working with ODOT on details. OTC approval should happen in November and Federal approval in February.	Public Works
73	No Change February 11, 2013	Energy Study	Staff is researching opportunities that may be available to capitalize on hydro, thermal, solar and other potential energy sources.	Public Works
74	No Change May 21, 2013	Truck Route	Staff is reviewing the Parking, Traffic Safety and Street Maintenance Advisory Commission's recommendation to establish a truck route on Jefferson Avenue from Hemlock Street to Third Street.	Public Works
75	Updated November 24, 2014	2014-15 CIPP Project	Staff is reviewing projects for this budget year's program. The contract documents are signed and the contractor is doing the work.	Public Works
76	No Change September 8, 2014	WWTP Aeration System	The aging aeration system at the Wastewater Treatment Plant is in need of replacing due to extended use. This system is being evaluated for what is available and the long term economics in those systems. This project will be done in multiple phases.	Public Works
77	Updated November 24, 2014	2014-15 Street User Fee Projects	Staff is preparing to overlay various streets throughout town. This work will cost over \$200,000 and is budgeted. This work will be done by City staff. Tenth Street is complete and the other projects will be done in the spring.	Public Works
78	No Change August 20, 2014	Street Maintenance	Street crews have been doing routine maintenance of filling potholes and sealing cracks	Public Works
79	No Change October 28, 2014	Adams Avenue Streetscape	Staff has almost completed the construction plans and is beginning the field review with business and property owners to address the improvements to their property/business.	Public Works
80	No Change October 28, 2014	Becker Development	Staff is preparing plans for the water extension to the Becker property across from Wal-Mart. This is being done for future commercial development.	Public Works
81	No Change October 28, 2014	Tsiatsos Development	Staff is working with Gust Tsiatsos on his subdivision creating 15 lots. Staff is planning water and sewer to serve this development.	Public Works
82	New Item November 24, 2014	Gekeler Lane Ditch	Construction crews will begin cleaning the ditch along Gekeler Lane from Highway 30 to 20 <sup>th</sup> Street once all permits are in place.	Public Works