



City of Loveland

City Manager's Weekly Report

July 7, 2023



Independence Day Parade sees large crowds throughout the route and especially Downtown

Administration

Tuesday's Independence Day Celebration was a huge success. New items such as a pie eating contest, Yankee Doodle dog parade, splash zone, and bingo were all a big hit. Special thanks to the Special Events Committee including Misty Clark, Krista Rose, Becky Noel, Nancy Duff, Sherry Seperelakis-Fenning, Vickie Larcom, Erin Harper, Mandy Gillmer, Patti Peditini, Christina Jeranek, Adam Jeranek, Danielle Kamerud, and Robin Geohegan. Also, thanks to Customer Service Specialist, Mandy Lucas for donning the frog costume and leading the dog parade.

As always our emergency services were in full force throughout the event and the parade. Hands down, LSF's Wet-Zone along the parade route is a favorite with all of the kids, especially on a hot day. LPD got a chance to show off the latest addition to their fleet, as Lieutenant, Mike Szpak led the parade in the new Dodge Durango police cruiser. Last, but certainly not least, our Public Works Crews worked for days setting-up for the event, and was quick to break it all down afterwards.



This week at the Chestnut Street property, removal of downed vegetation and stumps continued. Work progresses to continue final clean up on site, which should be complete in the next 30-45 days. Sampling and monitoring work continues in pursuit of the VAP remediation plan.

Work continues to advance on the State Route 48 Turn Lane Project. Last week, electricians reviewed existing conditions in preparation to move and relocate existing underground electric serving the street lighting. Additional power points will be included for future beautification efforts on the corner of the intersection. Duke Energy will need to relocate the primary utility pole, which is still in process. As mentioned previously, utility relocations can often delay projects for a considerable period of time, since the utilities work independently from the primary road contractor.

Finance

As the calendar turned to July, work on the 2024 Operating Budget and Capital Improvement Program (CIP) is now in full-swing. Working with a new budgeting software, the budget team is starting with collecting information on capital projects. Looking at a five year window and gauging outside funding sources, this is a real group effort, and takes considerable planning. While we are still learning the intricacies of the new software, it is safe to say that it will have a significant impact on budget presentations, provide greater public access and will improve our ability to forecast.

Public Works

The Harrison Avenue Widening Project went out for bid this week. This is an important downtown project with positive implications including pedestrian improvements, public safety, traffic flow and the creation of a new roadway to the future parking lot.

The restroom renovations at McCoy Park are now generally complete, with the exception of a couple of items related to the heating and ventilation improvements located there.

At Lever Park, emergency repairs were completed to the exterior trim and siding of the restroom building. While the structure has served the community well, over time, rain and elements have taken their toll on the exterior boards and siding. Damaged boards were replaced, along with damaged siding, and new drip edge was applied. This repair will be beneficial to extending the service life of the structure.



At Village Anniversary Park, the relocation of the pollinator garden is now complete, and the area around the gazebo is now ready for a new planting plan that will transition the plantings from the pollinator garden to a more formal landscaping area.

Also, on Thursday of this week, Public Works Director Scott Wisby, Assistant Public Works Director Shawn Hartness, Assistant City Manager Wright, and City Manager Kennedy met with representatives from Urban Canopy Works to discuss the initial steps and processes to kick off the City's Tree Program. Urban Canopy Works is a regionally respected urban forestry firm, specializing in providing municipalities with guidance regarding the development and enhancement of urban forestry and arboriculture activities. As a designated "Tree City USA" city, the City will be taking multiple steps to build the tree program from the ground up. The approach could include regulations aimed at protecting existing trees and new robust land use regulations aimed at enhancing the City's landscaping and tree lawn requirements for new development and redevelopment sites. In addition, Staff explored other strategies, such as continuation and evolution of the City's Tree Giveaway program, and the utilization of geographic information systems and software to help the City to inventory and implement the tree program.

Upcoming Meetings & Events

City Council will meet in Council Chambers on Tuesday, July 11, at 7:00 pm.

The Tree and Environment Committee will meet in City Hall on Thursday, July 13, at 7:30 pm

I will be out next week on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. In my absence, Cory Wright, will serve as Acting City Manager.
