

City of Scappoose Newsletter ~ March 2016

I want to offer the City's appreciation to the approximately 200 local residents who took time on a Saturday morning to attend our first Annual Town Meeting. The primary topic of the meeting was to collect citizen input to help create a community vision statement. During the opening breakout session, we asked local residents to answer three questions: 1) What do you like about Scappoose? 2) What would you want to see more of? 3) What would you like to change? We have attached the responses we received to all three questions for your consideration.

Also, the City asked for citizen input on six major issues identified as areas of primary concern to the community in the recently completed citizen survey. Because of the volume of information we received from these breakout sessions, we couldn't include the results in our newsletter, but you can find them on our website at www.ci.scappoose.or.us or on our Facebook page.

The City received a lot of great information from the citizens who attended the meeting, and this will be invaluable in helping us design our community vision statement. 43 citizens have signed up to help develop this statement and we will be forming this committee soon. In addition, our City Councilors will consider all the information and ideas received from the meeting during their Annual Goal Setting retreat in March. We will keep everyone informed about our progress. Once again, thank you for taking time to share your ideas and thoughts about how we can make Scappoose an even better place to live.

City Manager Michael J. Sykes

2016 Annual Town Meeting Where are we now? Where are we going?

What do you like about Scappoose?

The people	Access to city staff
Small town feel	Recreational opportunities for kids
Great place to raise a family	Good schools / key part of community
Heritage Park	Forward looking
The setting / connection to wildlife	Well kept city park strip
Urban / rural divide	Medical facilities
The City is open to change	History / heritage
Best commute in metro area	Low stress
Dog park	Good community police
Recreational opportunities	Crown-Zellerbach Trail
Safety	Access to river
	Self-contained / Close to Portland

What do you want to see more of?

Parks	Pedestrian friendly
Recreational space for kids	Beautification of Highway 30
Expanded trails	Beautification of storefronts
Community recreation center w/ pool	Diverse and clean industry
Downtown core / main street	Communication on disaster preparation
Shopping / restaurants	Safer rail corridor
Trail along Scappoose Creek	Pedestrian overpass
Family wage jobs	More Christmas decorations
Sidewalks	Public transportation
Promotion / marketing	More bike friendly
Tourism	Educational capacity
More small business	Traffic lights
Official protection of wetlands and wild places	Code enforcement / remove junk cars
Climate change focus	Affordable housing
Collaboration between developers and city	Evacuation plans
More community involvement	Stop oil trains
More things for teenagers	More connection to regional axis
Education for all ages	Promotion of small businesses
	More festivals / Farmer's Market

What would you like to change?

Development of downtown core
 Move middle school to other side of tracks
 Improve city customer service
 Upgrade Crown-Zellerbach Trail - more parking
 Adult education opportunities
 More police in parks
 More public information online
 More pedestrian friendly
 Services for elderly
 Traffic control on side streets
 Improve traffic near schools
 Regional cooperation
 More community volunteers
 More reliable bus service
 Synchronize lights
 Urgent care

Improved community website / facebook
 Art on back of bi-mart
 More public art
 Protection of water supply
 Place for vets to gather
 More education of public officials
 More road repairs
 Jobs for high schoolers
 Economic development
 More jobs
 Homeless
 Rent control
 Reduce vacant commercial space and empty buildings
 Increase local ownership of business space
 Address traffic problems due to growth
 Eliminate vacant houses
 Mission statement

Spring is on its way, and so is the season for remodeling and home improvement projects! The Community Development Center would like to remind homeowners to avoid the following common mistakes, as listed on the Oregon Construction Contractors Board website:

Top Five Mistakes

Not checking a contractor's license ~ A license is required for any construction business that advertises, offers, bids, arranges for, or performs any construction, alteration, home improvement, remodeling or repair work. You lose the ability to recover damages through a bond and get CCB help mediating a dispute if you use an unlicensed contractor.

No written contract ~ A written contract protects you and the contractor. Construction agreements for more than \$2,000 must be in writing. The CCB recommends that all agreements, including all changes to the contract, be in writing.

Not getting more than one bid/automatically accepting the lowest bid ~ Getting more than one bid can help you get a feel for what your project should cost. The old saying "you get what you pay for" generally applies here. A higher bid may be worth the price in better materials, workmanship and reliability.

Not checking references ~ Check with previous customers. Were they satisfied with the work? Was the work finished within a reasonable time? Did the contractor return phone calls? If the person had problems with the contractor, ask how the contractor responded. Look at examples of the contractor's work.

Not doing your homework ~ Plan your project carefully. Consider your budget. Find pictures of styles and products you like. Write down brand names and models. Show them to your contractor. High-quality faucets or ivory paint may mean something different to you and your contractor. Walk with your builder through a finished project and explain what you like and don't like. Get accurate plans or blueprints and make sure they show your project accurately. (2/5/16, < <http://www.oregon.gov/CCB/homeowner/Pages/mistakes.aspx>>)

Storm Water Management Fee

Do you have questions about our new Storm Water Management Fee? Please visit our website to view additional information showing how the fee is calculated and examples of how the fee will be used.

If I Were Mayor Contest ~ due by 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 12, 2016

For more information visit the City website at
www.ci.scappoose.or.us
 Email ~ sreeves@cityofscappoose.org or call 503-543-7146

To report a street light out

Email ~ sreeves@cityofscappoose.org
 Please list the address that the street light is in front of or the nearest cross street.

City of Scappoose
33568 East Columbia Avenue
Scappoose, Oregon 97056
503-543-7146

Visit our website - www.ci.scappoose.or.us

Mark your Calendar

City Council retreat March 5, in the back room at Varsity Grill

City Council meeting on March 7, at 7 pm

Planning Commission meeting on March 10, at 7pm

Chapman Landing Ad Hoc Committee on March 11, at 11am

"Tip a Cop" with Scappoose Police Department at Ixtapa, March 12, from 5 pm to 9 pm

Economic Development Committee mtg, March 17, at noon

Park & Rec Committee meeting, March 17, at 6:30pm

Sign up now for the Scappoose Police Citizens Academy ~ applications on line at www.ci.scappoose.or.us

All meetings are held in the Scappoose City Council Chambers located at 33568 East Columbia Avenue

Utility Bills are due the 15th of each month

For more information call 503-543-7146