



# The City Of The Dalles

October 2016

## State of The City

### INTRODUCING:



Our new **City Manager** Julie Krueger. Julie was appointed as Interim City Manager in September 2015, and hired as the City Manager in February 2016. Julie is not new to the City of The Dalles, she has served the prior 24 years as the City Clerk/General Services Director. Julie is a Past President of the Oregon Association of Municipal Records and held many offices and served as Chair on numerous committees for both the Oregon Association and the International Institute of City Clerks. She is a member of The Dalles Sister Cities Association and an ex-officio member of The Dalles Area Chamber of Commerce Board.



Our new **Chief of Police** Patrick Ashmore. Chief Ashmore was sworn in on August 1, 2016. Chief Ashmore grew up in The Dalles, and is a 1979 graduate of Wah-tonka High school. He attended Mt. Hood Community College for one term before enlisting in the US Airforce. He met his wife Silvia while stationed in Germany and they have been married for 29 years. Ashmore began his career in law enforcement as a Fish and Wildlife Cadet and later was assigned to Executive Security where he protected the Governor and his family. In 1988 he attended the OSP recruit school and thereafter was assigned to Portland in the Patrol Division. In 1990 he was assigned to the Portland Police/OSP Gang Enforcement Team. In 1993 he was assigned to the Criminal Division where he worked on several Narcotics Enforcement Drug teams in the Portland/Metro area, and in 2003 was promoted to Sergeant. In 1994 his daughter was born; 2004 they returned to The Dalles to raise their daughter in a small town and because he was promoted to Lieutenant as The Dalles Area Commander. In 2011 Ashmore was promoted to NW Region Captain in Salem, and in 2012 was promoted to Major, in charge of Police Services. In 2013 Ashmore was promoted to Deputy Superintendent until he retired in June of 2016.

Ashmore said "When Chief Waterbury called me just prior to my OSP retirement and asked me about the City's Chief of Police job, my wife and I agreed that it was a great opportunity to serve the community that we have called home. And as you now know, we said yes, and here we are! "



Our new **Human Resources Director** Daniel Hunter. Daniel was previously the Project Coordinator for the City. Daniel was raised in Beavercreek, Oregon. At age 24 he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force where he served honorably for four years, achieving the rank of Senior Airman. After his service, Daniel received his Bachelor's degree in Political Science from Linfield College in McMinnville. Daniel went on to earn his Master's in Public Administration with Human Resources concentration from American Military University in 2012. Daniel has worked in Construction, Transportation, Law Enforcement, and most recently in Economic Development as the City's Project Coordinator. He is a member of the International Honor Society in Social Sciences, Pi Gamma Mu and the father of two adult children, both of whom live in Montana.

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313 Court Street  
541-296-5481

Police Department  
401 Court Street  
541-296-2613  
Facebook page:  
City of The Dalles  
Police Department

Public Works  
1215 West First  
541-296-5401

The Dalles/Wasco  
County Library  
722 Court Street  
541-296-2815  
Library Facebook  
Page: The Dalles  
Wasco County  
Library

City Website:  
[www.thedalles.org](http://www.thedalles.org)

City Facebook page:  
City of The Dalles—  
City Hall

## INTRODUCING (con't)



Our new **Planning Director** Steve Harris. Steve Harris has more than 35 years of experience as a local government planner in California and New Mexico, including 23 years in a senior leadership role as a community development director. His most recent position was with the City of Yorba Linda, California.

In his role as a director, Steve has managed planning, building, engineering, code compliance, CDBG, redevelopment and economic development functions at both the city and county government level. His areas of expertise include land use planning, economic development, downtown revitalization, community outreach and operations assessments.

Steve holds a bachelor's degree in economics and a master's degree in urban planning from San Jose State University. He is a member of the American Planning Association (APA) and the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP). Steve was active in the Planning Directors Association of Orange County, serving as a board member and president, and was also active in the APA New Mexico Chapter serving on a statewide planning policy committee. He has overseen work that has been recognized by the California Chapter of the American Planning Association.



Our new **City Clerk**, Izetta Grossman. Izetta was hired as the City Clerk in February 2016. She had been the Executive Secretary to the City Manager and Assistant to the City Clerk since 2006. She was Executive Secretary for Northern Wasco Parks & Recreation District prior to coming to the City.

Izetta has spent most of her career in administrative assistant positions in various industries, including marketing, radio and real estate. She is an Ambassador for The Dalles Area of Chamber of Commerce, a member of Oregon Association of Municipal Records and the International Institute of Municipal Clerks, past Secretary of Home At Last Board, and a current Deacon at her church. Izetta is currently working on her Certified Municipal Clerk certification through Northwest Clerks Institute.

## MAYOR'S MINUTE:

By: Mayor Steve Lawrence

Our employees are our most important product. They are dedicated to providing services to the citizens of The Dalles. In order for management and the City Council to help them be as productive and happy as possible, we are committed to making sure they are fully trained, that their mission is clear and that supervision is there to help.

Congratulations to our employees, especially those working in Public Works, for reducing on the job accidents to an all time low. The City is committed to a safe work environment and sending our employees home without injury. It takes cooperation at all levels and most of all, it is the employee who makes sure he or she works safely that helps the most. Thank you for being a great team.



*photo dated 9/18/16*

**UPGRADES TO WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT:** We had a lot of questions regarding the Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrade. Public Works Director Dave Anderson has provided the following summary.

The City worked with a consultant to update the City's Wastewater Facilities Master Plan which was completed in 2013. Through that process, the City's wastewater collection and treatment systems were evaluated for capacity and regulatory compliance, and system improvement needs were projected over the next 20 years. The resulting updated Master Plan identified a series of capital improvement projects needed to meet regulatory compliance and accommodate residential, commercial and industrial growth needs over that 20-year period. A capital improvement plan was developed for the wastewater treatment plant that anticipated 3 projects over the next 10 years to provide needed improvements. The first project of that plan, which is currently underway, is needed primarily to address currently existing regulatory deficiencies – increase the capacities of the plant's influent pumping and screening systems and provide redundancy to the anaerobic digestion systems. As these systems are improved, they are being built to have enough capacity to serve the City's needs over the next 20 years. There was also a desire to improve the visual aesthetics of the plant within this project.

After the list of identified improvements was developed and City Council approved the resulting capital improvement plan (CIP), the consultants worked with City staff to develop a financial plan to cover the anticipated annual costs of operations and fund the CIP. Three different funding scenarios were presented to the City Council for consideration and they selected the scenario that anticipated the issuance of 3 bonds over a 10-year period because it provided the lowest rate impact to customers.

Since that time, annual inflation rates have been less than those which were anticipated in the financial analysis and wastewater flows have increased more than projected thereby providing more revenue. These two factors combined have allowed the City to bank more funds for the first phase of the wastewater treatment plant upgrades than anticipated. And since the current plant upgrade project is being completed under a "progressive design-build" process, there has been an opportunity to re-evaluate some of the planned improvements identified in the 2013 Master Plan and implement best-value cost-saving measures which have significantly reduced the projected 10-year CIP financial needs. As a result of lower-than-expected operational costs, greater-than-expected revenues, and best-value alternatives selection, the project is currently on track to be completed without the planned issuance of the first bond. For these same reasons, it has also been possible to avoid the last two previously-planned annual rate increases that were anticipated in the selected financial scenario.

The funds that were approved at the September 12 City Council meeting will pay for the engineering services to design the new pipeline and the Co-Gen systems; about 70% of the approved funds are related to the Co-Gen systems.

By: Public Works Director Dave Anderson

## **STUDIES UNDERWAY:**

**Downtown Parking Task Force:** The task force meets the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays of every month beginning in July. They had a field trip/walk about down 1<sup>st</sup> Street and back up 2<sup>nd</sup> Street to look at possible solutions for enhancing the parking on those streets. In a near future meeting Police Chief Pat Ashmore will be invited to attend discuss possible options and get his opinion on enforcing parking restrictions in the Downtown. We will be continuing our meetings until such time as we feel we have addressed everything and have multiple options/recommendations to present to the City Council.

**Transportation System Plan Update:** The first Transit Public Advisory Committee meeting is being scheduled soon, as the project is ready to begin the Transit Study portion of the project that was recently added. We will be holding three meetings with the Transit Public Advisory Committee over the next couple of months. Once the Transit Study portion of the project is near completion we will have one follow up meeting with the Transportation System Plan Update Public Advisory Committee group as well as the Technical Advisory Committee group. Upon completion of that meeting, the next step in the process will be to hold the joint City Council/Planning Commission meeting followed by a Planning Commission Public

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Hearing then a City Council Public Hearing. The project has a target complete of the first quarter of the 2017.

### **The Dalles Housing Needs Analysis and Residential Buildable Land Needs Assessment:**

The purpose is to comply with rule 10 of Oregon Planning Rules, assess the policies and building codes of the City to determine if they inhibit/promote housing and development to meet our current and future needs. The preliminary data from the consultant was presented to the Technical Advisory Committee. The final report and complete data will be presented to the Planning Commission and City Council by the end of 2016.

### **NEON SIGN MUSEUM UPDATE:**

A lot has been happening in the old Elks Building. The building permit was issued to the National Neon Sign Museum this April. Immediately deconstruction and demolition of the basement and main floor began. HVAC and electrical installation are in full swing, as well as, con-

struction of mock store fronts and fund raising. We are all eagerly anticipating the Grand Opening next year. For further information., updates or to get involved, contact David Benko at [\(360\)991-6676](tel:3609916676) or on the website at [info@nationalneonsignmuseum.org](mailto:info@nationalneonsignmuseum.org)

### **NEW CHILDREN'S WING AT THE LIBRARY**

If you haven't been to The Dalles-Wasco County Library lately, you really must come by. Lots of events are scheduled: Storytime's focused on age groups, Movies at the Library, Third Thursday Book Group, Mystery Book Group, End of Life Conversations, and Coloring for Adults to name a few.

Like them on Facebook:  
[The Dalles-Wasco County Public Library](#)



Jean Thomas, the major donor for the Children's Wing Addition, with her daughter, Helen Thomas, at the ribbon cutting ceremony.

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

**Please email or call anytime - we are happy to discuss your questions or concerns**

### **CITY STAFF**

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### **ELECTED OFFICIALS**

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