

POLICY GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

2022-23

1. Protect our community's quality of life and promote economic development

A. To seek voter approval of a five-year local option levy for police protection services to provide stable funding for current service levels.

Rationale: Police protection service costs exceed the amount of tax revenue collected from the permanent tax rate. A five-year local option levy and one five-year extension of the levy were previously approved by voters to fund the gap, but we are entering the last year of the most recent re-certification. An extension of the five-year local option levy is needed to continue funding current service levels.

Target completion date: May 17, 2022. (Moved to the May 17, 2022 Primary Election due to associated costs. All mandated processes have been completed and associated paperwork has been filed with the Columbia County Elections Office for addition to the May 17th ballot. If measure fails Council will need to decide if we go out again for the levy at the November 2022 General Election and/or if we implement necessary staffing reductions.)

B. To continue efforts to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk to human life, property, and the environment from natural or human-caused hazardous events and disasters.

Rationale: Emergency preparedness and hazard mitigation will help to reduce injury and damages that would otherwise result during hazardous events and disasters.

Target completion date: Ongoing.

C. To promote and maintain a safe and desirable living and working environment while at the same time maintaining and improving the quality of our community.

Rationale: The City Council has adopted City codes specifically designed to address blight, nuisances, and to maintain a clean environment for all citizens in our community. An emphasis will continue to be placed on code enforcement by administering a fair and unbiased enforcement program to correct violations through:

1. The facilitation of voluntary compliance with City laws and codes.
2. Public outreach programs.
3. Established priorities for enforcement.

Target completion date: Ongoing.

D. To complete the development of Phase I of the River's Walk Trail System with the assistance of a Recreational Trails Program grant.

Rationale: Completing the first phase of the trail system within the McBride Creek riparian area between Highway 30 and the north end of Sixth Street will provide public access to this beautiful riparian area. Residents have expressed a high interest in walking and hiking opportunities.

Target completion date: June 30, 2023.

E. To continue to raise the funds needed to make the necessary repairs and improvements to the Columbia City Community Hall - A Legacy to Treasure.

Rationale: The proper maintenance of this vital community facility is essential to its sustainability. Potential fund-raising efforts, in conjunction with the use of funds received through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021, will provide the City with the resources that are needed to properly maintain and improve the facility.

Target completion date: Ongoing. (The roofing project for the Community Hall has been completed. An additional project for improving the hall's electrical system is currently in the planning stages.)

F. To continue to complete planning work associated with the River's Walk Trail System with technical support from the National Park Service.

Rationale: The River's Walk Trail System is a proposed hiking trail spanning approximately 2 miles in length, extending from the site of the community's Veterans Park in the far northwest corner of the city and through the riparian corridor of McBride Creek that wraps around the northwest perimeter of the city, which offers a pleasant, forested atmosphere that bursts with trillium in the spring. The trail will then traverse along the side of the hills to the west of the city, offering spectacular views of the Columbia River and snow peaked mountains, and it will ultimately lead to an existing pedestrian system in the far southwest corner of Columbia City.

Target completion date: Phase I from Veterans Park to 6th Street – June 30, 2023. Subsequent phases – Ongoing.

G. To implement recommendations resulting from the Department of Homeland Security 2018 Vulnerability Assessments of the Columbia City Water System and City Hall facilities.

Rationale: The Department of Homeland Security conducted specialized field assessments to identify vulnerabilities and make recommendations to mitigate risk. Efforts should continually be made to implement the recommendations as resources permit.

Target completion date: Ongoing. (The City Administrator is also coordinating with CIS Risk Management services for an updated site security survey of city facilities.)

H. To update the September 6, 2001, Parks Master Plan.

Rationale: Well-planned parks and recreation systems can increase property values, foster job creation, and provide a foundation for place-based economic development. The City of Columbia City Parks Master Plan dated September 6, 2001, needs to be updated to accurately reflect project needs for the next twenty-year planning period. This project shall be contingent upon grant funding.

Target completion date: June 30, 2023. (Will be dependent upon grant funding to accomplish.)

I. To update the January 17, 2002, Park System Development Fee Study.

Rationale: The City of Columbia City System Development Charges for the Parks System recommendations dated January 17, 2002, need to be updated to help ensure that Columbia City's quality of life keeps pace with its growth and changing needs by providing additional parks and recreation facilities needed to accommodate growth.

Target completion date: June 30, 2023. (Will be dependent upon grant funding to accomplish.)

2. Place an emphasis on street and storm drain maintenance and improvements

A. To update the Columbia City Transportation System Plan (TSP) with the assistance of a Transportation Growth Management (TGM) Grant.

Rationale: The Columbia City TSP was completed in 1998 and has not been updated since that time. We need an updated TSP that extends the planning horizon to 2038, identifies the most needed transportation improvements to the transportation system, including new streets and roadway improvements, pedestrian and bicycle facilities, transit, and financing for implementation. The plan will also address needed roadway facilities, including rail and water, for the 93-acre Port of St. Helens industrial site. The city is currently working with the Oregon Offices of the Department of Transportation (OPDOT) and Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) to compete for grant funding procurement.

Target completion date: June 30, 2023. (Will be dependent upon grant funding to accomplish. This project has been estimated to cost approximately \$150,000.00 to complete and the City Administrator is applying for grant funding in March 2022 for this project through a State of Oregon funding opportunity.)

B. To place a concentrated emphasis on pavement preservation efforts.

Rationale: Preserving our existing infrastructure is essential. Proper maintenance, including consistent vegetation removal, crack sealing, patching, and fabric and pavement overlays can extend the life expectancy of existing improvements.

Target Date: (See noted completion dates.)

- Crack seal work - east side of City - October 31, 2022

- C, H, and Calvin Streets Pavement Restoration – is planned for the 2023-24 Budget Year. (The City Administrator will be applying for a grant from the State of Oregon in June 2022.)
- E Street Improvements Project (Sixth Street to Highway 30) – is planned for the 2024-25 Budget Year.

C. To complete underground injection control (UIC) system and drainage swale maintenance services.

Rationale: Due to limited resources, some of the routine maintenance services outlined in the City's Storm Water Management Plan for the City's UIC system and drainage swale systems have been postponed for several years. Periodic routine maintenance is essential to insure optimum performance of the system.

Target Date: September 30, 2022.

D. To continue to investigate and pursue alternative funding opportunities for street and storm drain maintenance and improvements.

Rationale: Current resources available for street maintenance and improvements received from State gasoline tax and street system development charges fall short of meeting the City's basic street maintenance needs and providing for necessary street improvements. The city has no current funding source for storm maintenance. The city will continue to pursue grant funding and investigate the establishment of a street and/or storm water utility fee.

Target completion date: Ongoing.

E. To update the November 22, 2002, Transportation System Development Charge Study.

Rationale: The Columbia City Transportation System Development Charges Methodology Update Report and Study; dated November 22, 2002, needs to be updated to accurately reflect current capital project needs, costs, and recent boundary changes to ensure that new development pays for its share of growth-related transportation facility costs.

Target completion date: June 30, 2023 – in conjunction with TSP Study update.

F. To develop a Storm System Master Plan.

Rationale: The City of Columbia City does not have a current Storm System Master Plan. A Master Plan should be developed to accurately identify storm system capital improvement needs for the next twenty-year planning period.

Target completion date: December 31, 2023. (Will be dependent upon grant funding.)

G. To update the July 1991 Storm Drainage System Development Charge Study.

Rationale: The City of Columbia City, Columbia County, Oregon System Development Charges Rate Study; dated July 1991, pertaining to Drainage & Flood Control and Storm Drainage Development Charges, needs

to be updated to accurately reflect current capital project needs, costs, and recent boundary changes. This will ensure that new development pays for its share of growth-related storm drainage facility costs.

Target completion date: December 31, 2023 – in conjunction with the aforementioned Rate Study.

3. Water and sewer system maintenance, improvements, and standards are a high priority

A. To eliminate 31 steel septic tanks remaining within the sewer system.

Rationale: The steel septic tanks that were incorporated into the City's Septic Tank Effluent Gravity (STEG) system have reached the end of their life expectancy. These tanks have been targeted for removal and/or replacement. Tank replacement has been prioritized based upon physical inspection of tank conditions. Scope of work and preliminary engineering have been completed for the below identified first phase. Resolution for funding has been amended and the project completion date has been re-set.

Target completion date: (Projected completion dates updated below.)

- 16 tanks (located in the area to the north of E Street, south of A Street, west of Highway 30 and east of Sixth Street): October 31, 2022.
- 7 tanks (locations to be determined): June 30, 2025.
- 8 tanks (locations to be determined): June 30, 2027.

B. To complete the replacement of 2500 linear feet of sewer main in the area to the north of E Street, south of A Street, east of Highway 30 and west of Sixth Street.

Rationale: Upsizing the sewer mains within the service area will allow for the standard gravity flow of sewer and the abandonment of septic tanks within that service area. The project includes the addition of 10 new manholes, 10 new cleanouts, and the replacement of 540 linear feet of sewer laterals.

Target completion date: June 30, 2026.

C. Reduce inflow and infiltration (I&I) in the sewer collection system.

Rationale: I&I costs money - it increases sewer treatment costs and wastes valuable system capacity. Increases in sewer flows during periods of heavy rain are an indication of I&I. Completing investigations to identify problems that are contributing to I&I and taking corrective action to repair those problems could prove to be very cost effective.

Target completion date: June 30, 2025

D. Reduce water system leakage.

Rationale: Water leakage costs money. It increases pumping costs, water purchase requirements, and treatment costs, and it reduces system capacity. Identifying and repairing leaks within the system can prove to be very cost effective. City crews will use leak detection equipment to help identify leaks as needed and make every effort repair leaks as they are discovered in a timely manner.

Target completion date: Ongoing.

E. Continue to implement the source water protection strategies as outlined in the City of Columbia City Source Water Protection Plan dated February 2014.

Rationale: Every effort should be made to prevent the release of hazardous substances and reduce the risk of contamination of the City's drinking water.

Target completion date: Ongoing.

F. Complete improvements to the K Street Pump Station to provide it with a firm capacity of 160 gallons per minute at a total dynamic head of 57 feet to convey wastewater under the highest total dynamic head condition. Project includes providing a remote connection to the city's supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) system to permit online viewing a pump operation, notification of alarm conditions, and logging of data.

Rationale: This project will reduce add necessary system capacity and reduce annual maintenance costs associated with emergency response and emergency pumping related to the current inadequate system capacity of the pump station.

Target completion date: June 30, 2025.

G. To update the November 2004 Sanitary Sewer and Water Systems Development Charge Study.

Rationale: The City of Columbia City Systems Development Charge and Capital Improvement Plan Update for Sanitary Sewer and Water Systems; dated November 2004, needs to be updated to accurately reflect current capital project needs and costs and recent boundary changes. This will ensure that new development pays for its share of growth-related sanitary sewer and water system facility costs.

Target completion date: June 30, 2023.