

# Columbia City Newsletter



## February 2022



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### COLUMBIA CITY NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH MEETING

The Columbia City Neighborhood Watch program continues to function as an active group within our community and is excited to announce its first meeting of 2022. The group will meet next on Tuesday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, from 6:00 p.m. until 7:30 p.m., at the Columbia City Community Hall; located at 1850 Second Street. City Administrator, Mike McGlothlin, will be on hand to provide information as well as answer questions. Due to state mandates, masks and social distancing standards will be required.

The group also encourages all who are interested to reach out via email, at [columbiacitywatch@outlook.com](mailto:columbiacitywatch@outlook.com), with questions or comments. They also encourage people to take time to meet a neighbor, review their property for areas of vulnerability, lock cars/outbuildings and to contact the Police Department via either "911" or the non-emergency line at 503-397-1521 should assistance be needed.

### BUSINESS LICENSE REMINDER

Contractors, plumbers, landscapers, pest control, painters, electricians, or anyone doing business within the city is required to obtain a current Columbia City business license prior to starting work. Some Portland area contractors think their "Metro License" covers them to work in Columbia City, but it does not. Many contractors come to our area to do specialty work, some of those jobs may only take a day or two, but they are still required to obtain a business license. The City recently reduced the temporary license fee to \$25, which is available for businesses whose job will be completed within 20 consecutive business days.

Business license applications are available on our website at [www.columbia-city.org](http://www.columbia-city.org). If you have any questions about business licenses or whether or not someone has a current business license please contact City Hall.

### VALENTINE RE-MAILING PROGRAM

Looking to add a little fun to your Valentine's card? Why not have it postmarked from the Sweetheart City of Loveland, CO?!?!?

To send your valentine through the Sweetheart City, simply follow these instructions:

- Address the valentine
- Stamp the valentine
- Place the valentine in a larger, first-class envelope
- Stamp and address the larger envelope to:



Postmaster – Attention Valentines  
446 E 29<sup>th</sup> Street  
Loveland CO 80538-9998

The US deadline is February 7<sup>th</sup>, so don't delay! Visit their website for more details: <https://loveland.org/programs/valentine-re-mailing-program>.

**Calling All Donors  
Blood Crisis**

To schedule your local appointment or for more information, please call 1-800-RED-CROSS

Or visit [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org)

## CITY OF COLUMBIA CITY

### Proposed Local Option Levy Re-Certification for Police Protection Services

**Why is the levy re-certification needed?** Police protection service costs have exceeded the permanent tax rate revenues for the last ten years, and the funding gap continues to grow. The City's permanent tax rate is among the lowest of all of the cities in the state, as shown in the chart at the bottom of this page. Passage of this levy will secure police protection services at **current** levels for the next five years.

**How will the taxes from the levy be used?** For police protection services. These taxes will sustain current-level police protection services that include:

- ❑ Seven day a week coverage with "on-call" protocol.
- ❑ Premise check services, traffic enforcement patrols, directed patrols, and other proactive community programs.
- ❑ Proactive criminal patrol and follow-up investigations.
- ❑ Continued partnerships with adjoining local law enforcement agencies.

**What will happen if the levy fails?** Department service levels will be **reduced**. Service level reductions could involve a combination of cuts such as:

- ❑ Reducing current staffing levels of Department personnel by as much as 160 hours per month or more.

- ❑ Reducing Department service levels by moving to a reactive approach in addressing dispatched calls for service.
- ❑ Programs such as premise checks, foot patrols, area patrols and community policing may be eliminated or incur a service fee.
- ❑ Physical criminal patrols and follow-up investigative activities could be reduced.

**How long will this levy last?** Five years.

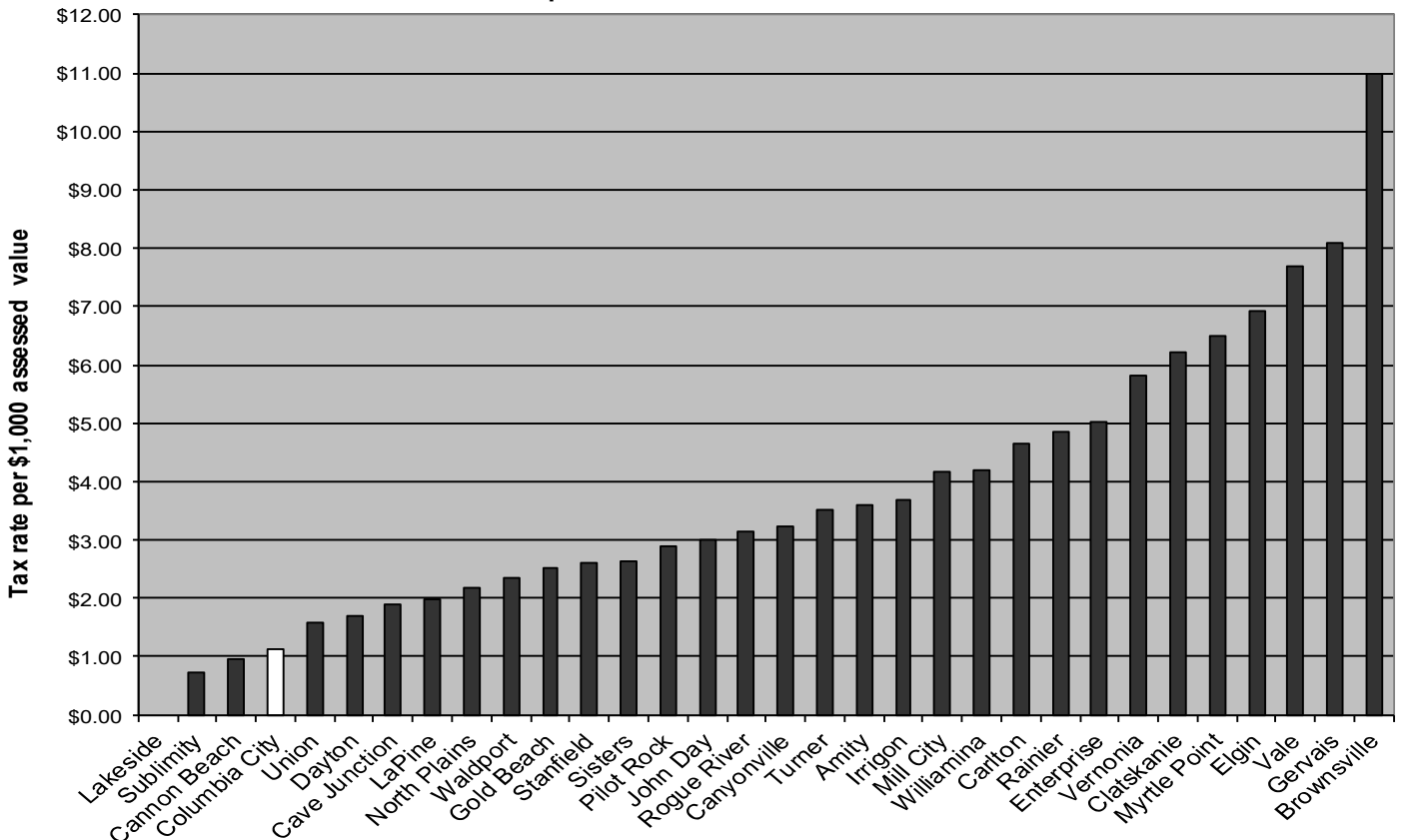
**When would I start to pay for this re-certification?** November 2022.

**What will the levy cost?** The levy will cost \$0.90 per \$1,000 assessed value. A home with an assessed value of \$200,000 would pay \$181.00 per year, or \$0.50 per day. If the levy is re-certified under this proposed rate property taxes will increase by an estimated \$47.00 per year.

**How much do I pay now?** The City levies a permanent tax rate of \$1.13 per \$1,000 of assessed value, plus the current \$0.67 per \$1,000 assessed value for the most current levy.

**When will I vote on the levy?** The levy will appear on the ballots for the May 17, 2022, primary election.

**Comparison of Permanent Tax Rates**



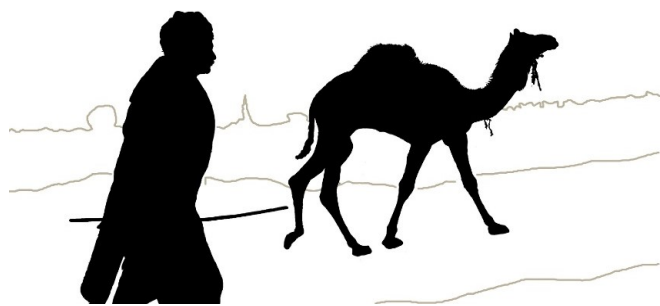
Oregon cities with populations ranging from 1,500 to 2,500

## LIBRARY NEWS

The library has received two grants in the last month, helping us be successful even without the City Celebration the last two years. We received grants from the Oregon Community Foundation Small Art and Culture and also the Columbia County Emergency Nonprofit grant. We are so grateful for our community support and pleased that other organizations recognize our importance to the community.

We are planning our City Celebration for August 13<sup>th</sup> this year, a month earlier than we have traditionally had it. We are hoping the earlier date will decrease the possibility of rain and encourage all those Show and Shine car show people to join us!

**Faces of the Silk Road.** In 2018, Kit and Chip Gardes set out to circle the globe without getting on an airplane; just boats, cars, trucks and buses. They spent six months traveling along the old Silk Road from China to Europe. During that time, they met some interesting folks: Buddhist monks, Tibetan bread makers, Chinese farmers, Uyghur merchants, Kyrgyz nomads, Kazakh and Uzbek war veterans, Georgian winemakers and Moldovan Orthodox monks. Traveling slow gave them a chance to get to know these individuals. On exhibit this month in the library you can see some of the people they met and read about some of their stories.



**Reader's Recommendation.** *The Lincoln Highway*, a novel by Amor Towles, is set in 1950's America. "Even though the book is long, I didn't want it to end. Towles is a master at breathing life into his characters as he takes five of them on a journey full of twists and turns." He is also the author of *A Gentleman in Moscow*.

**Books for Everyone!** We want to remind you again that we have an excellent collection of children's books, as well as classics. We'd love to see more homeschoolers using our library. Pass the word on to those who don't live in Columbia

City – anyone living in Columbia County can use our library free of charge!

**Books We've Added.** The recent additions include:

*The Stranger in the Lifeboat* by Mitch Albom (best seller)  
*Go Tell the Bees That I am Gone* by Diana Gabaldon (best seller)  
*The Love Hypothesis* by Ali Hazelwood (best seller)  
*It Ends With Us* by Colleen Hoover (best seller)  
*Credible Threat* by J.A. Jance  
*The Other Emily* by Dean R. Koontz  
*Wish You Were Here* by Jodi Picoult (best seller)  
*Faithless in Death* by J.D. Robb  
*The Order* by Daniel Silva  
*The Wish* by Nicholas Sparks (best seller)  
*Amazing Leonardo da Vinci Inventions You Can Build Yourself* by Maxine Anderson  
*Vega Jane* series by David Baldacci for young adults

### Library Hours:

Monday and Saturday 10 am to 2 pm  
Thursday 3 to 6 pm

### Columbia City Community Library

2000 Second Street / PO Box 189  
503-366-8020 / [ccclibrary@live.com](mailto:ccclibrary@live.com)

Website: [www.columbiacitycommunitylibrary.com](http://www.columbiacitycommunitylibrary.com)

### Reach our book catalog:

<https://columbiacitycommunitylibrary.follettdestiny.com>

## LOST AND FOUND

The following items were recently found and turned in to City Hall:

- A dog training remote by the school.
- A single key found at Datis Park.

If you think one of these items might be yours, contact City Hall at 503-397-4010.

## CAPLES HOUSE

**Friday Teas.** Stop by The Cottage on Fridays from 2 to 4 p.m. for a bottomless cup of tea and a dessert, only \$5, what a deal!



**Valentines' Tea.** "Love Makes the World Go Round" with food from around the world!!! Sunday, February 13<sup>th</sup> from 2 to 4 p.m. \$30 per person and reservations are **needed**, call 503-397-5390.

## SERGEANTS CORNER

**Phone Scams.** There has been an upswing in phone scam attempts in the local area. If you receive any type of phone call that you are asked to send money, or receive money and send part of that money back, it **is** a scam. Please remember, they are contacting you, and most likely you have never entered into any type of Lottery, Publishers Clearing House, or have any relative in jail, just to list a few reasons you may be contacted by phone. If any caller requests for you to provide credit card or bank information over the phone, **DO NOT** provide that information. Legitimate businesses will not reach out and make such requests over the phone. If any caller asks you not to contact Law Enforcement that should be a clear indication the call is a scam. Please let your local Law Enforcement Agency know when you receive these type of phone calls.

During the month of December, we have completed 13 new written reports and responded to the following calls: 2 abandoned vehicles, 2 audible alarms, 1 panic alarm, 3 animal complaints, 1 assist agency, 1 assault, 2 assist persons, 1 civil enforcement, 1 CPR/AED call, 1 death investigation, 1 DUII, 5 cold frauds, 4 follow ups, 2 fireworks calls, 2 hazard calls, 2 hit and run calls, 1 information call, 1 juvenile custody dispute, 2 littering calls, 5 cold theft calls, 95 premise checks, 7 traffic stops, 6 suspicious circumstances, 2 suspicious persons, 4 suspicious vehicles, 3 suicide threats, 45 vacation checks; all in support of the agency's community policing programs and initiatives. In total we handled 181 activities for the month of December 2021.

The Police Department would like to request your continued support in being our eyes and ears in the community. Please feel free to contact us via 9-1-1 (emergency), (503) 397-4010 (office), or (503) 397-1521 (non-emergency dispatch).

Best Regards ~ Sergeant Jerry Bartolomucci

## REGISTER EMERGENCY CONTACT WITH DMV

If you are in a crash or other situation where you can't communicate with emergency responders, a new service for Oregonians will help police contact your family faster.

With today's speed of online information, especially with mobile phone video and pictures through social media, there is a risk your friends and family could learn you're in an emergency before law enforcement can contact your family. That's a traumatic way to get such critical information – and possibly misinformation.

Oregon has setup emergency contact registries through DMV. Only Oregon law enforcement personnel will be able to access your emergency contact information.

To register, go to <https://dmv2u.oregon.gov/eServices/> and sign in to "Access My DMV Profile." You need to have an Oregon driver's license, permit or identification card to register with the service.

## ATTENTION LOCAL ARTISTS

The Oregon Arts Commission announced a second round of relief funding for artists.

Applications are available for the Artist Resilience Program, which is offered by the Oregon Arts Commission in partnership with the Oregon Community Foundation and the James F. and Marion L. Miller Foundation. The partnership, which began with 2020's Artist Relief Program, invests another \$1.5 million in support for artists' recovery from the pandemic.

Awards will generally range from \$1,000 to \$5,000 and will be determined by a peer review panel. Applications are due by 5 p.m. on Thursday, February 10<sup>th</sup>. For more information go to: [www.oregonartscommission.org](http://www.oregonartscommission.org).

## MONTHLY MEETING AND EVENT CALENDAR - FEBRUARY 2022

February 9 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 p.m.	Streets Committee Meeting at City Hall
February 10 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 p.m.	Municipal Court at City Hall
February 16 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 p.m.	Water and Sewer Committee Meeting at City Hall
February 15 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting via Zoom*
February 17 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 p.m.	Regular City Council Meeting via Zoom*
February 21 <sup>st</sup>	CLOSED	City Hall is closed on President's Day
February 22 <sup>nd</sup>	6:30 p.m.	Parks Committee Meeting at City Hall

\*For Zoom information contact City Hall.