

CPO 1 notes for June 12, 2018, meeting

Compiled by Mary D. Edwards, CPO 1 secretary

Following are the topics that were discussed in the meeting:

Note: Attendance was about 20.

- Washington County Sheriff spokesperson Doreen Rivera said the local area is experiencing “a quiet time,” meaning no burglaries or car thefts. She reminded the audience to watch for kids and others riding bicycles as school lets out for the summer. She took questions, one about homeless people. She says deputies refer them to county services. The other about cars that block intersections when they get marooned as lights turn red. She pointed out drivers can be ticketed for blocking intersections.
- THPRD report: Lindsay Bjork, spokesperson, reported that a family triathlon will be held on July 28, the outdoor pools are opening June 25, a meeting was to be held June 13 to consider uses for the Jenkins Estate, which she called underutilized. Also, on July 12, the summer outdoor concert season opens.
- Leahy Street resident Luke Leifeld spoke about his efforts regarding a Verizon cell tower planned for an area closely adjacent to his backyard. He asked the CPO 1 members to support a letter he’d written asking County Land Use and Transportation to follow development code to reduce visual impact from the antenna. Leifeld wanted the tower’s antenna to be flush mounted. The letter seeking that was unanimously approved.
- After the agency reports, the balance of the meeting was taken up with agencies and groups discussing the region’s watershed and flooding.
  - Ruby Buckles from the Tualatin River Keepers talked about the non-profit’s work to care for the river and streamside riparian zones and public education, including Discovery Day on June 23, guided trips and waste collection/river cleanup in September. The group has summer camps for kids and volunteer opportunities. In answer to a question about the Metro Greenspace Initiative to plant 1 million trees in the watershed, she said DEQ has said the effort is “making a difference” to cool the river.
  - Ann MacDonald from Clean Water Services and Melissa DeLyser gave an update on the Cedar Mill Creek Flood Remediation Collaborative. Members met with residents along the creek, from Mill Pond in Forest Heights to Walker Road in Beaverton to talk about the project. Residents were concerned about the flooding though upstream people were often unaware about flooding downstream, DeLyser said. There was strong support from residents for flood insurance and homeowner aid for flood mitigation. An open house is planned for July 18 at St. Andrew Lutheran Church.
  - MacDonald pointed out that as the creek area which has been “an almost fully developed” in the past 100 years is surrounded by homes and structures that wouldn’t be allowed today. “We can’t engineer our way out of flooding without removing structures,” she added. She also talked about the National Flood Insurance Program, saying the collaborative is exploring how the city of Beaverton and Washington County could help residents join the program and receive more affordable rates. She added in general the projects that could be undertaken would be based on the amount of money allotted to them. Those that would not involve buying or building structures were

estimated at \$500,000, while a “willing seller program” to buy up homes in the flooding areas would cost \$10-\$20 million. The collaborative’s final recommendations, called a declaration of cooperation, are expected by Labor Day. More information can be found at [cedarmillcreek.org](http://cedarmillcreek.org).

- The final speakers talked about the partnership of Tualatin Valley Water District and the upcoming Willamette River Water Supply to create a future water supply water for the growing city of Hillsboro. The project, which is due to be complete by 2026, involves installing pipes beneath roads as they are being repaved to minimize disruption. One resident, citing the recent news of toxic algae in water for the city of Salem, voiced similar concern. The TVWD spokeswoman, Andrea Watson, said the district screens for toxins, posting water quality reports on its website: [www.tvwd.org](http://www.tvwd.org).