



Mayor
Ron Holthusen

Councilors
Margaret Bradburn
Leith Hayes
Gary Hughes
Bill Kyle

**City of Shady Cove
Voice of the Mayor and City Council
January, 2010**

In January of 2009 your newly elected Mayor and City Council committed to serve the best interests of the residents of Shady Cove. At that time we outlined some of the initiatives we wanted to pursue. As we look back I would like to give a progress report on our work as a City Council this last year and a look toward 2010.

2009 Initiatives

- ❖ Schedule joint workshops with the Planning Commission: We held two planning sessions to develop a framework for guiding future growth and development. Specifically the City Council committed to a review of the decision process and the Planning Commission committed to a study of design and architectural standards. This process will continue into 2010. To facilitate this effort the Planning Commission has committed to regular twice-monthly meetings.
- ❖ Continue the work of floodplain management and FEMA compliance: The city has continued to remain in compliance, and garnered complimentary feedback from FEMA administrators. We scheduled an open house to provide homeowners an opportunity to meet with FEMA officials and learn more about floodplain requirements. For 2010 we will need to expand the scope of our efforts to the remaining properties along the river. This process begins with an evening Council study session to review the scope of work with our contractor, Public Works Management.
- ❖ Participate in funding opportunities offered through Stimulus Programs from the State and Federal Governments: We submitted projects that were “shovel ready”; however, we were not awarded any substantial amounts. What became clear is that a city must have an ongoing effort to secure grants from both private and public sources. For 2010 we are putting together a volunteer team and a professional firm to develop an ongoing program. We will identify and prioritize needed projects and then look for public and private assistance as a city or in partnership with other agencies.
- ❖ Utilize multiple means to communicate city business: We have attempted to increase the opportunities for all citizens to interact with staff and elected officials by:
 - . Increasing the number of hours and days City Hall is open to the public.
 - . Allowing for more citizen input at City Council meetings and study sessions.
 - . “Meet the Mayor” the second Thursday of the month at the library.
 - . Scheduling Town Hall meetings to garner public feedback and input.
 - . Including a “Voice of the Mayor” segment in the Monthly Insider to share information.
- ❖ For 2010 we have a new web site host, (shadycove.net). The new format includes recordings of the City Council study sessions and meetings plus other valuable information including our soon to be updated municipal code.

- ❖ Open up the budget process for more transparency: For 2009 we expanded the amount of time devoted to analysis and preparation and worked with staff to generate a monthly financial report. For 2010 we will expand this process through a Town Hall meeting in January, an additional meeting in March and two meetings in April. We will also give some consideration to having evening meetings to allow for greater citizen opportunity to attend the budget meetings.

More City Council action in 2009

- ❖ The City Council increased from 60% to 100% the amount of System Development Charges assessed to developments to fund our Capital Improvement Plan.
- ❖ The City Council spent over four months analyzing the option of contracting with the Jackson County Sheriff for law enforcement coverage. On January 21st the City Council authorized the Mayor to sign the contract with the JCSO.
- ❖ Worked with staff to complete the landscaping and update the appearance of City Hall.
- ❖ Councilor Margaret Bradburn developed a revision to the public contracting ordinance that lowers the threshold for Council review of purchasing decisions from \$10,000 to \$5,000.
- ❖ Councilor Gary Hughes has a revision to the Street ordinance in the works that will give the Planning Commission more authority to require a developer to complete infrastructure as a condition of approval.

Looking Forward to 2010

- ❖ Complete a master plan for guiding communitywide water resources.
- ❖ Shady Cove is scheduled to actively partner with Avista to promote sustainable building practices.
- ❖ Encourage and support the newly formed Eagle Point and Upper Rogue Chamber of Commerce as a means of encouraging tourism.
- ❖ Complete the hiring of a new City Administrator.
- ❖ Develop a plan for funding the improvement of city streets.
- ❖ Implement a comprehensive program for writing grants.
- ❖ Budget adequate amounts for contingencies and reserve funds.
- ❖ Enhance livability through adequate design and lighting standards.
- ❖ Upgrade the city hall telephone system and the appearance of Council Chambers.

Respectfully, Mayor, and City Council