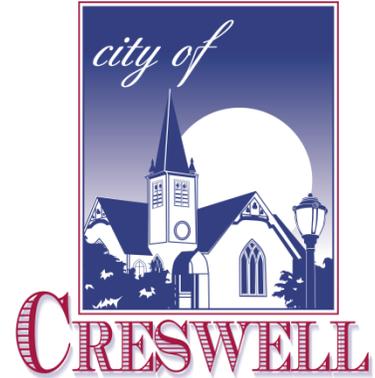


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Creswell State of the City Address
Mayor Bob Hooker
February 7, 2011

Hello everyone and thank you for coming tonight. This will be my third state of the city address and my second term as mayor of Creswell. I want to thank the citizens of Creswell for their faith in electing me to another term and I really look forward to continuing the great progress we have made over the last three years.

Thank you to all the councilors that worked so hard last year to make it one of the smoothest years the Creswell City Council has had in a long time. I would like to congratulate Jean McKittrick and Mike Anderson on their re-election. I would also like to welcome our newest council member A.J. O'Connell. I know we are all looking forward to a positive and successful year.

Thank you to Mark Shrives and the whole city staff for all their hard work and inspiration during 2010.

And as always, a very special thank you to all the volunteers in the community. We truly appreciate everything you do and I think I can speak for everyone when I say that Creswell would not be the great city it is without you.

In my state of the City address last year, one of my main goals for 2010 was for it to be our stabilization year. My goal was to keep Creswell at the forefront of technology and communication and to focus on getting us back on track for updating the 1982 Comprehensive Plan. The council and city staff has really stepped up to accomplish this goal.

Additionally, we completed some construction projects that have received admiration from other communities throughout the state.

We were finally able to move into the new city hall building in February 2010 so this month marks our one year anniversary. The water treatment plant project was completed and we can pride ourselves on being a small community at the forefront of technology. We have received attention from cities all over the state, large and small, for our accomplishments.

Another part of our focus in 2010 was to build partnerships with other governmental agencies to accomplish some of the multifaceted projects we were interested in.

One of these was the first annual Earth Day Celebration. We partnered with the Creswell School District, the Coast Fork Watershed Council and many other organizations throughout Lane County.

Another was to create a much needed school crosswalk in front of the new middle school. The city partnered with the Creswell School District and created a crossing area that is safe for all school children.

One of the most exciting and well received partnerships we developed in 2010 was the Creswell Youth Advisory Council. I am very proud that the young people of our community want to be involved in local government and make a contribution to the city where they live.

Another important partnership was with EPUD. We transferred the ownership of EPUD owned streetlights to the city which will have a positive impact of approximately \$25,000 per year in savings on our energy costs.

Communication in 2010 was another of our focus points. We continued our relationship with Rick Dancer Media Services who has done an outstanding job conveying the best of Creswell. We launched a social media network on Facebook, Twitter and YouTube. We established the on-line bill pay system for water, sewer and airport bills. We also launched an online Citizen Request Program on the city website. This new program allows you to enter a request, look up answers to frequently asked questions, submit an opinion or participate in a poll. We feel that this, in conjunction with our

quarterly newsletter, has created a significant information base for the community.

One of the most exciting and extremely positive things for Creswell in 2010 was the League of Oregon Cities annual conference that was hosted by the city of Eugene. The city of Creswell was asked to host one of the tours for the participants. The tour we provided showcased the new middle school, the water treatment plant, city hall, Garden Lake Park, the airport and the golf course. There were almost 30 participants who had nothing but very positive things to say about Creswell.

In 2010 the airport fire suppression project was finally completed which led to the removal of the building moratorium. We also had a car donated by Mr. Dave Wellman who is a longtime user of the Creswell airport. The car is now being used as an airport courtesy car which provides the ability for visiting pilots to patronize our local businesses during their stay.

As always 2010 was another outstanding year for events and celebrations in Creswell. Our 4th of July parade is still noted as one of the best in the state. Our annual greet and treat allows the community kids to have a safe and fun Halloween. The tree lighting ceremony in 2010 took on a new look. We had the first annual Festival of Trees which showcased the great creativity of the tree decorating teams and created an even more festive outdoor holiday event. The quilt for the new city hall was dedicated and is now displayed at city hall. If you haven't been by to see it, the workmanship and detail is just remarkable. The city is very thankful to have been given such a wonderful gift.

So what do we do and where do we go in 2011.....

We will continue with our past partnerships and create new ones to benefit Creswell. One of those new partnerships will be with a lobbying firm in Washington D.C. They will assist us in our quest for federal funding dollars to build more airport hangars and to do much needed street improvements among other things.

The continued fluctuation in the construction industry has enabled us to install the elevator in city hall well ahead of schedule and we have begun the design work to complete the second floor. This will include a combination City Council Chamber/Municipal Courtroom, a conference room, a restroom and additional staffing and storage spaces.

We are proceeding with updating the Creswell sign code. This update is intended to develop and implement a sign code that focuses on the interests of the business community as well as providing for orderly and safe signage around the city.

We will also continue to annually define and refine our city comprehensive plan to ensure a solid vision for the future of Creswell.

In closing....We are all aware that times continue to be tough for cities and counties across Oregon and the country. I am very happy to report that the future is bright for the City of Creswell. We can be proud that the solid financial decisions that have been and are continuing to be made will mean the continuation of a strong lasting foundation for our children's future.

Thank you.