

**January 18, 2022**

You're invited:

Please mark this coming Saturday, January 22, 12 noon to 3:00 pm

Open House for community review of preliminary designs for new Carlton Civic Center.

Many of you will remember that in early summer of 2019 a series of "visioning" workshops was held at the city hall - or you may have visited the class at the George Fox campus.

The workshops were run as part of a hands' on class with George Fox University students.

The goal was to get information from our community on what we - as citizens - wanted to see in a new Community Civic Center.

We weren't able to track down the names of all the workshop attendees, so while this invitation is for all of our neighbors, I'm especially hoping those of you who participated in the workshops will be able to stop by and see the results from your comments.

If you're unable to attend the open house, an opportunity for online viewing will be available afterward.

This is a drop in event to encourage staggered attendance for COVID safety. All COVID safety protocols will be in place including the requirement to wear a mask.

Some good news,

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) was signed in March 2021, and distribution of the funds has been proceeding since mid-summer. In order to ensure the money gets distributed to all cities and counties, larger amounts were allocated to local governments, such as our county's Commissioners. The Commission then set up a grant program for the smaller local governments and agencies - for example, the City of Carlton.

Our staff worked hard to present a compelling case for our city's need for help funding required improvements to our sewer system.

Last Friday, we were notified that we have been awarded grant funds from the County's ARPA allocation as follows:

- \$112,500 for the planning/engineering component of improving the sewer collection system

- \$112,500 for the planning/engineering component of the headwork replacement project
- \$325,000 for the construction of the headwork replacement project

This makes a total of \$550,000 which will be used to defray our city's costs of completing the required upgrades.

We don't know IF of how much this might affect the monthly sewer rate that we all pay - the bulk of which is intended for covering costs such as these. But we will definitely be taking a close look to determine that. More on this project at a later date, but for now, please send a "Thank you" to our city staff who spent many hours researching and writing this grant request, AND to our County Commissioners for their generous award!