

For Immediate Release
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City of St. Paul and St. Paul Rodeo Association Sign Management Agreement

St. Paul, Oregon, February 13, 2020. The City of St. Paul and St. Paul Rodeo Association representatives signed a historic agreement between the City and the Rodeo Association under which the Association will manage the St. Paul Rodeo Complex and the City Park on behalf of the City. The City Council approved the agreement at its February 12th regular monthly meeting.

At the same meeting, the City Council also improved the Association's request to make approximately \$450,000 in capital improvements to the Complex and replace the existing stadium lighting. New lighting will be added inside the City Park, too.



The final management agreement is the result of more than two and one-half years of negotiations and will usher in a new level of cooperation between the City and the Association. It has strong support from community stakeholders including the St. Paul School District, St. Paul Fire District, St. Paul Parish, and the St. Paul Jaycees. Public comment was also sought on the draft agreement to ensure the public had a chance to weigh in.

Both organizations and the community will benefit from the agreement, which has a 50-year term and replaces the current Use Agreement that expires in 2036. The long term will allow the Association to keep producing a world class rodeo event and facilitate future improvements to include new stadium lighting and bleachers. The Association will maintain the facility and assume responsibility for year around maintenance of the City Park to reduce City expenses and provide an improved and accessible community park. The agreement protects the established uses of the Park by the Jaycees, Parish, and community organizations, allows them to continue to benefit from activities there, and continues the use of the Rodeo Arena for high school football.



The City will benefit from revenue sharing provisions in the agreement, as well. The City will receive a base annual revenue share which increases every year by the change in the Consumer Price Index, plus an additional share of certain ticket sales and fees collected at non-St. Paul Rodeo events at the Complex, if they occur.

There's good news for City residents, as well. The agreement allows the City to connect its municipal water system to the Association well, subject to final approval by the Oregon Health Authority and other regulators. The well would replace one of the City's aging wells, alleviate the City's water system problems and improve fireflow. Association President Kevin Smith and Mayor Martin Waldo signed the agreement on February 13, 2020.

The St. Paul Rodeo Board offers its sincere thanks the City Council for its efforts and cooperation. Special thanks are extended to the members of the City and Association negotiation teams for their work and the many long hours they invested in the project with the promise of a brighter future for the St. Paul Rodeo and the City.

The St. Paul Rodeo Board will now turn its focus to preparing for the 85th Annual St. Paul Rodeo which will be held on June 30 – July 4, 2020.