

Council Agenda Packet

Tuesday, July 22nd, 2025 | 7:00 p.m. | Council Chambers

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Council Meeting

Tuesday, July 22nd, 2025
Location: Council Chambers

AGENDA

Regular Session

7:00 p.m.

- 1) CALL TO ORDER
- 2) ROLL CALL
- 3) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- 4) ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO AGENDA
- 5) MINUTES: June 30th, 2025
- 6) PUBLIC HEARINGS OR PRESENTATIONS:
 - A. Cyber Security Awareness
- 7) DEPARTMENT REPORTS:
 - A. Sheriff
 - B. Public Works
 - C. Administrator
 - D. Planning
 - E. Library
 - F. Office
 - G. Council
- 8) CITIZEN COMMENTS (Non-agenda & Agenda items)
 - ★ Council asks that comments be limited to three minutes per audience member. Please state your name and address prior to commenting for the public record.
- 9) LEGISLATIVE:
- 10) ACTION ITEMS:
 - A. Authorize Staff to proceed with a City Hall Painting Project agreement
- 11) DISCUSSION ITEMS:
 - A. Canal Company Meeting Outcome



B. June Financials

12) COUNCIL QUESTIONS & COMMENTS

13) ADJOURN

Please visit [**www.ci.brownsville.or.us**](http://www.ci.brownsville.or.us) for the meeting agenda, agenda packet and other City information.

Council will hold a Council retreat immediately following this meeting. The retreat is for Council and Staff members only.



Council Retreat Session

Tuesday, July 22nd, 2025

When: Immediately following Council Meeting

Where: Council Chambers

What: Council Members Training

Note: There will be no public allowed during this meeting.



June 30th, 2025

ROLL CALL: Mayor Craven called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with Councilor Chambers, Councilor Eversull (7:06 p.m.), Councilor Hansen, Councilor LaCoste, Councilor Winklepleck, and Councilor Solberg present. Administrative Assistant Jannea Deaver, Administrative Assistant Tammi Morrow, Superintendent Karl Frink, and City Administrator Scott McDowell were also present.

ABSENT: None.

PUBLIC: Sravya Tadepalli, Jack Alsman, Chelly Bouferrache (*The New Era | Sweet Home*), Michael Humphreys, Steve VanSandt, Steve Hood, Troy Jones (*Friends of Gap Road*), and Steve Frambes, (*Linn County Sheriff's Office*).

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS: Additions included: 10) B. Pebble Street Closure. McDowell reported that also on the dais tonight was a certified letter from Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) requiring the City to perform a shade study, and the Linn County Commissioners adoption of their annual budget.

NEW CITIZEN'S COMMENT PROCEDURE: Mayor Craven reviewed the newly implemented procedure for Citizen's Comments, and the signup sheet was passed around.

MINUTES: Councilor Solberg made a motion to approve the May 28th, 2025 meeting minutes as presented. Councilor Hansen seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING | PRESENTATIONS:

1. **Muddy Creek Solar Park | Troy Jones.** Mr. Jones provided an update outlining the progress that has been made with the siting of the Muddy Creek Solar Park. Jones shared several instances where Q Cell had not followed proper procedure or made conclusions on studies that proved inconsistent with State Law. Jones was complimentary of the State agencies working on the siting project because they were attempting to get the requirements met. Jones said that Q Cell was granted a one-time extension until May 16th, 2026 to submit all the required plans. Jones explained the measures that Marion County has taken to protect EFU lands and said that the Linn County Commissioners are considering their legal options. To learn more and track progress, visit <https://www.friendsofgaproad.com/>.
2. **Proposed Use of State Revenue Sharing Hearing | FY 2025.2026.** Mayor Craven opened the public hearing and asked for comments or discussion. No comments were forthcoming; the public hearing was closed.
3. **Budget Public Hearing | FY 2025.2026.** Mayor Craven opened the public hearing and asked for comments or discussion. No comments were forthcoming; the public hearing was closed.

Councilor Hansen made a motion to adopt the FY 2025.26 annual budget as presented. Councilor Winklepleck seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.



DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

1. **Linn County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) Report | Sergeant Steve Frambes.** Sergeant Frambes reported there have been strange incidents around town including two domestic situations, one involving a firearm and the other involving a vehicle used as a weapon. Charges are pending on both cases. The LCSO has been busy with hiking accidents that have claimed the lives of several area teenagers. Deputies are preparing for the Fourth of July celebrations throughout the County with Harrisburg and Mill City being the largest celebrations. Deputies will be in town for Brownsville's celebration.
2. **Public Works (PW).** Superintendent Frink reported that the team has been busy preparing for summer events. PW addressed a water leak discovered in the middle of the night on Spaulding Avenue. The Park Caretakers are doing a good job taking care of Pioneer Park.
3. **Administration.** Administrator Scott McDowell reported the City's Standard & Poor's (S&P) rating review is this week. McDowell is hopeful that the City will retain or improve its stellar rating of AA-.

A three-year contract has been signed with the Linn County Sheriff's Office to continue providing police services. Ms. Morrow hand delivered the contract to Sergeant Frambes.

Preparations are being made for all summer events. Staff will be locating light towers for exit safety during the 4th of July fireworks event. Sweet Home Sanitation and the Assembly of God provide support to Public Works for this event. Connect Linn County, a newly formed nonprofit entity, will be doing some kid events in the park this year.

Weeds and nuisance season is in full swing. Staff has heard several complaints regarding neighbor disputes, which the City will not engage in. Overall, the City has had good cooperation from folks attaining compliance with the weeds and nuisance ordinance. Staff only had two locations that had to be mowed by the City's contractor.

McDowell reported on the several complaints we receive each week surrounding the downtown restrooms. The nature of this beast is the fact that the restrooms will always be vandalized, from graffiti, to feces on the walls and ceiling, etc. It seems to just be part of the public condition, a total disregard for the common good. Staff will continue to monitor the situation.

The City is working on building a new City website with CivicsPlus.

Staff will put out a proposal for the painting of City Hall soon.

Council is working on committees to complete recommendations for Council goals. Please check in with Mr. McDowell if you are unclear about your committee assignments.

4. **Planning.** No comments.
5. **Library.** No comments.
6. **Office.** No comments.
7. **Council Comments.** Councilor Winklepleck reported that he will be meeting with the American Legion this upcoming Tuesday, July 1st. This project is designed to recognize local veterans on Veteran's Day by hanging memorial banners. Mayor Craven and Councilor Solberg are also on this committee.



8. **Citizen Comments.** Michael Humphreys expressed concern about the public comment period change recently made by Council. Humphreys thought it would be better to have the comment period after the legislative items. Craven and McDowell explained that as it stands, citizens have the opportunity to share concerns prior to any item being adopted. The process does require citizens to read through items they may be concerned about. The last comment period was rarely used. Regardless of how the City changes the comment period, certain people will complain. The City experienced many meetings being hijacked by comment periods that repeated previous testimony and grandstanded on things that were not necessarily City issues. McDowell said that over the last two decades, there have been two legislative items removed due to public comment. The first comment period provides an effective opportunity for citizens to voice their concerns in a constructive manner.

Jack Alsman expressed concern about the public restrooms on Spaulding Avenue. Staff reiterated the reality of having public restrooms and facilities. Unfortunately, many people do not respect public facilities, which often leads to vandalism.

LEGISLATIVE:

1. **Resolution 2025.09 | Water Rates Annual Adjustment.** Councilor LaCoste moved to approve R 2025.09 as presented. Councilor Hansen seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
2. **Resolution 2025.10 | Sewer Rates Annual Adjustment.** Councilor Winklepleck moved to approve R 2025.10 as presented. Councilor Chambers seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Councilor Winklepleck said that no one likes to raise rates, but it is necessary.
3. **Resolution 2025.11 | Adopting FY 2025.2026 Annual Budget.** Councilor Hansen moved to approve R 2025.11 as presented. Councilor Winklepleck seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
4. **Resolution 2025.12 | Year End Transfers.** Councilor Winklepleck moved to approve R 2025.12 as presented. Councilor LaCoste seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. **Approve Delinquent Assessments.** Councilor Hansen moved to approve the delinquent accounts assessment to turn over to the Linn County Assessor's Office to be placed as a lien against the property. Councilor LaCoste seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
2. **Pebble Street Closure | Ashley Lobaugh.** Mr. McDowell reported that Ashley Lobaugh is requesting a street closure for a block party on the 4th of July from 12:00 p.m. – 10 p.m. on behalf of the River's Edge Homeowners Association. Six or seven homes will be affected. She has obtained signatures from those folks. Staff are still waiting on the insurance certificate.

Councilor Winklepleck moved to approve the street closure with the contingency that the insurance certificate is received by the City. Councilor LaCoste seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. **Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission (OLCC) | Local Licenses.** McDowell shared the new process implemented by the State two years ago. Liquor licenses are now done online. Council approved all licenses for 2025. Any inquiries or complaints need to be directed to Staff, and will be



handled administratively. Violations include fines, fees, and revocation in bad cases. Historically, Brownsville businesses have been very responsible in following OLCC rules and requirements.

2. **Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) | TMDL | Shade Study.** The City received a certified letter from the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) requiring the City to conduct a shade study on the Calapooia River. Council referred the matter to the Communications Committee to develop a response. Councilor Winklepleck asked about the letter. McDowell shared the general parameters of the letter sharing his concern that 44 miles of river are do not fall under the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) authority, but the 1/8 of a mile the City owns is causing the temperature in the river to rise – it's preposterous.
3. **May Financials.** No comments.

COUNCIL COMMENTS. Councilor Chambers commented that July 4th symbolizes the historic day when the Declaration of Independence was established. Please remember to honor our legacy of freedom fighters, and to live with courage and integrity. Happy Fourth of July to everyone!

Mayor Craven stated that his son's bicycle helmet was recently found in Pioneer Park and returned to City Hall. This act of kindness reminds us all that our community is full of folks looking out for each other, our kids, and our community. He also asked to observe a moment of silence for the firefighters recently killed in Idaho.

ADJOURNMENT: *Councilor Hansen moved to adjourn at 8:21 p.m. Councilor LaCoste seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.*

City Administrator S. Scott McDowell

Mayor Adam Craven



City Administrator Report

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July 22nd, 2025

From: S. Scott McDowell
To: Mayor & Council
Re: General Business

Note: The first section of this report follows the Council meeting agenda and provides an overview of topics to be discussed the night of Council. If an item title is **highlighted in green**, that means the item is part of Council Goals. When you see this symbol, ☐, it means more information will be provided at the meeting.

“Whatever you are not changing, you are choosing.”
~ Laurie Buchanan, Therapist

“You don’t have to learn everything the hard way – wisdom is listening before it hurts.”
~ Laya Saul, Author

“Choose your battles – not everything is worth your energy.”
~ Anonymous



AGENDA ITEMS DISCUSSION

The following items follow the order of the Agenda

6) PUBLIC HEARINGS OR PRESENTATIONS:

- A. **Cyber Security Review** – CIS coverage requires Staff to review cyber security measures and impact twice a year.

9) LEGISLATIVE:

10) ACTION ITEMS:

- A. **City Hall Paint Project** – Authorize Staff to proceed with an agreement.

What is Council being asked to do?

Council is being asked to authorize Mayor Craven and City Administrator McDowell to award and execute an agreement with a contractor for the painting of City Hall. The project is included in FY 2025.2026 Budget.

11) DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- A. **Canal Company Meeting Outcome** ☐ – Member of the Canal Company met on Thursday, June 17th, 2025, in the Community Room to discuss and consider the agreement Council approved in April. Staff will provide an oral update Tuesday evening.





City Administrator Report

B. June Financials

UPDATES, INFORMATION & HAPPENINGS

Linn County Sheriff's Office Monthly Report | [G1] – The City is under contract for 200 hours per month. The eighteen-month average looks like this:

LCSO Month-to-Month Comparison (18 months)

<i>Year</i>	<i>Month</i>	<i>Traffic Citations</i>	<i>Traffic Warnings</i>	<i>Hours</i>
2025	June	1	11	185
2025	May	6	12	217
2025	April	16	16	229
2025	March	16	13	204.75
2025	February	46	32	208.5
2025	January	30	45	203.25
2024	December	7	17	201.75
2024	November	13	23	200
2024	October	17	16	204.75
2024	September	15	17	202
2024	August	17	17	201.75
2024	July	15	23	296.75
2024	June	33	51	200
2024	May	36	32	200
2024	April	10	22	201.25
2024	March	17	28	209.25
2024	February	19	66	212.75
2024	January	13	34	204
	<i>Subtotal</i>	327	475	3781.75
	Total Average	18.17	26.39	210.1
		<i>Cites</i>	<i>Warnings</i>	<i>Hours</i>

LCSO Quarterly Meeting – Light attendance led to light conversation at the latest edition of the quarterly meeting. Sheriff Duncan shared concerns caused by the Oregon Leave Act. The LCSO is still in labor negotiations. Several cities were short on hours this month due to the amount of personnel resources needed for seven fatalities that happened throughout the County in June. Cities shared events and operational needs for the upcoming months. Overall, everyone present was satisfied with the service received. Sheriff Duncan moved the next meeting to September 10th, 2025 with the consent of the group. Millersburg will be hosting a drone show on the 25th of July and the LCSO will take on the Benton County Sheriff's Office in a charity softball game at Goss Stadium on July 30th.

Communications Committee – Mayor Craven, Councilor Chambers and Councilor Hansen met with City Administrator McDowell to discuss several issues around the Committee's focus. The session was about sharing ideas and thoughts that could be implemented by Council to better serve the public,



the Council and Staff. The meeting mainly served as an information sharing session. The group plans on meeting toward the end of summer to finalize any recommendations that they may choose to render. The group briefly discussed the TMDL Shade Study and are not ready to make any recommendations due to the lack of information to make a proper decision.



Completed: Budget Preparations – Administrative Assistant Tammi Morrow and I entered all the necessary data into Microfund for FY 2025.2026. All documents were delivered to the Linn County Clerk's Office and the Linn County Assessor's Office. Staff were presented with the budget documents for their use this fiscal year.

From 06.30.2025: Staff continues completing requirements for the proper adoption of the budget. Resolutions have been filed with ODR. Upon the passage of the budget, Staff will enter the new numbers into the general ledger system and submit all necessary documents to the Linn County Clerk's Office and the Linn County Assessor's Office. Preliminary items will be completed for FY 2026.2027.

Fourth of July Report – The Assembly of God Church, Sweet Home Sanitation, the Brownsville Rural Fire Department and Public Works did an amazing job with this event this year. We had record attendance due to displays being cancelled at the last minute in Springfield and Eugene.

City Hall Painting – Staff released the RFP for this project. Quotes are due August 8th, 2025.

S & P Review ☒ – Every three years S & P thoroughly reviews the financial condition of the City and our regions economic forecast. Caroline Baird and Treasure Walker conducted the interview this year. Baird said they would have a decision as to the City's rating by Friday, July 18th. I hope to share this information with Council Tuesday evening.

S&P Global

Alyrica Equipment Report – Pending equipment install.

From 06.30.2025: Alyrica has been working on relocating equipment from the City Hall storage room and upgrading their equipment on the roof of the building.

Insurance Report – Staff completed the annual Request For Coverage (RFC) process. All coverages were bound for the upcoming coverage year and Mr. Frink has distributed all insurance cards to covered vehicles in the City's fleet. McDowell cleared up a billing concern with the City bond insurance for McDowell. Flood coverage was also bound for the City Shop.



Active: REAL Meeting ☒ – McDowell and Hart worked to finalize the agreement with Nate Conroy to further the strategic plan.

From 06.30.2025: Staff worked on contracts with Nate Conroy and RAIN alongside Kelly Hart from Lebanon.

From 05.28.2025: REAL is moving forward with a consulting agreement to help move the strategic plan forward. Cities are in the process of ratifying IGA's to continue this economic development work.

REAL↑COMMUNITY



City Administrator Report

From 04.29.2025: This agreement is between the cities that comprise REAL. The group recently completed their marketing plan, which was part of their strategic goals, 2023-2027. See above. *From 03.25.2025:* The meeting was held the day the agenda packet was published. I will provide an oral report.

ACTIVE, PENDING, STALLED & COMPLETED

Pending: James Land Lease Agreement – Staff worked with Surveyor John Wise to determine the property line. The City still waiting for the James family to officially sign the agreement.

From 06.30.2025: Staff met with the James family to discuss logistics.

From 05.28.2025: Last summer, the City experienced a hiccup with a land lease the City has had with the James family. Council appointed Councilor Chambers, Public Works Superintendent Frink and City Administrator Scott McDowell to meet with the James family and work on details about creating a new lease. McDowell and City Attorney Ross Williamson have drafted a new agreement to address concerns raised last summer.

From 01.30.25: Staff met to discuss the details of the agreement. McDowell will be drafting an agreement for all parties to review soon.

From 12.17.2024: Time did not allow for any further developments on this matter.

From 11.26.2024: Council approved McDowell's request to include Council President Lynda Chambers in a meeting with Cozetta and Joseph James. Frink, Chambers and McDowell met with James' family and are currently exploring what the options look like for resolving this issue.

Active: Linn County Housing Rehabilitation Program (LCHRP) – *From 10.24.2023:* The City collaborates with the communities in Linn County to help low-income homeowners to make improvements to their houses using Federal money (HUD). The City has been a member of this organization for over forty years. Cities take turns being the lead recipient and DevNW manages the funds received. Brownsville had its turn a few years ago. Currently, the City of Lebanon is taking the lead on the current funding request.

Active: Rec Center Renovation Project – *From 04.29.2025:* Public Works Superintendent ordered the floor scrubber for the maintenance of the new floor. Frink also fixed the low voltage system that was causing so many problems since installed. Bransen Floors made repairs to the carpet squares in the Meeting Room. Frink continues working on chair storage and future table & chair storage solutions.

From 02.25.2025: Staff worked on repairs and logistical issues.

From 01.30.25: Staff reviewed several issues with the Parks & Open Space Advisory Board at their recent meeting. The low voltage fix and the exterior paint continue to be the two most pressing issues. Staff will continue to streamline the requirements for using the building. Right now, there are a lot of 'moving parts' for someone renting the building. We will work through 2025 to iron out the process to make it as user friendly as possible. The Brownsville Senior Center started walking in the mornings in the Rec Center. Community volleyball has also started. Central Linn Recreation Association's Basketball Season is in full swing.





Active: Canal Company Agreement Update – Staff provided the maps at the request of President Mike Nehrer for the Canal Company meeting. No City Staff attended the meeting. After Staff members were attacked by people at the meeting who had no facts, the Company showed how much they valued the City's partnership. Several past members of the Board contacted McDowell to discuss next steps and what the future looks like with the agreement currently on the table.

From 05.28.2025: Staff forwarded the operations agreement to the Canal Company but has not heard anything from their leadership.

From 04.29.2025: Brownsville Canal Company President Mike Neher conducted a board meeting on April 10th, 2025. Shortly after opening the meeting, several people took control of the meeting who were not interested in any agreement between the Canal Company and the City. The Board collected membership dues from those wanting to join the Company. The membership voted not to enter into the proposed agreement between the Canal Company and the City. According to Neher a few days after the meeting, certain people were upset about a provision in the agreement regarding assessments. I explained to Neher that paragraph was in the agreement because it is part of the Company's bylaws.

Ultimately, the City has spent too much time and money on this effort through the years. The City does not have a partnership agreement with the Brownsville Canal Company. The City has spent tens of thousands of dollars since 2007 attempting to resolve the long-standing historical battle between the Company and certain people – to no avail. The Brownsville Canal Company plans to send out another mailing and hold a meeting soon.

I am recommending Council authorize the new operations agreement found in the agenda packet. The new agreement will require the Company to bore the costs associated with operating the Company's pumps. The City has paid for the electricity costs for nearly twenty years with no reimbursement. The City has allowed Public Works to operate and maintain the pumps and electrical service at no cost to the Canal Company. Last year, the City paid \$400 to cover the cost of the annual insurance premium. It is long overdue for the Company to pay its own bills.



What is Council being asked to do?

Authorize the simple operations agreement between the Canal Company for operations.

From 03.25.2025: Staff have been working with the Canal Company Board to prepare for the upcoming vote on whether to enter into an agreement with the City for the financial support needed to operate the Canal/Mill Race. The meeting is scheduled for April 10th, 2025, in Council Chambers at 7:00 p.m.

From 03.25.2025: Details continue being ironed out before the next Canal Company meeting. Speculation and heresay continue to swirl.

From 02.25.2025: Setup mailing list. Updated the webpage. Update and prepare the agreement for review with the Board. Met with the Canal Company Board to iron out agreement details and make plans for the next Board meeting. The Company will hold a Board meeting and vote on whether to move forward with the agreement with the City.



City Administrator Report

Pending: Central Linn School District & Central Linn Recreation Association IGA – The Central Linn Recreation Association has requested several additions to the agreement. Staff will address the items as time allows.

From 06.30.2025: Staff recently met with Central Linn Recreation Association leadership who had several things to add to the agreement. Staff were not pleased with the additions since the agreement took over a year to complete. The City will revisit the additional requests with the new interim superintendent this summer.

From 05.28.2025: The City will meet with the Central Linn Recreation Association Board to discuss the details and operational requirements.

From 04.29.2025: School Board member Garrett Leabo recently invited staff to address the facilities agreement. Staff have another meeting with interim School Superintendent Cathy Hurowitz scheduled for May 5th, 2025.



From 01.30.25: Yet to hear from the School District, but with the loss of their Superintendent they have other issues to manage. I will be checking in with them again soon.

Pending: Geider Development – *From 06.30.2025:* Hostilities continue according to the LCSO. Pending court dates on the lawsuit and counterclaims filed.

From 04.29.2025: Geider has filed a lawsuit against Banuelos.

From 03.25.2025: The issue was turned over to the the City Attorney's Office. After spending the last eight months attempting to work out a reasonable compromise based on the Brownsville Municipal Code and general practices of the City, the parties hit a substantial impasse. The City extended several courtesies that were not met with cooperation.

Completed: Legislative Advocacy & Policy Committee (LAPC) Meeting – *From 05.28.2025:* Staff will review on Tuesday evening.

From 03.25.2025: The Committee met to discuss issues and strategies moving forward on City items. McDowell reviewed LAPC purpose, history, and what the future looks like in terms of the City's grassroots. McDowell will provide them with links to follow and weigh in on the issues like Recreational Immunity and HB 3115. The approved policy directives were given to the members for review.

Approve Goals Strategy & Timeline | Goal Setting 2025.2026 – *From 04.29.2025:* McDowell will share slides that are found in the agenda packet. please take note as you may be listed to serve on a committee for one or more of the goals Council identified.

Small Municipalities Advocacy Coalition (SMAC)

Small Municipalities Advocacy Coalition (SMAC) ☑ – *From 06.30.2025:* SMAC will be reassessing several components moving through the summer and fall.

From 05.28.2025: Still working on progressing the two bills. The group has been experiencing serious hurdles.

From 04.29.2025: The group continues having success pushing two bills concerning grant funding and lagoon certification.



City Administrator Report

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From 03.25.2025: The group has been busy providing testimony for the two bills being pushed by SMAC for this legislative session. A formation meeting was held and steps for moving forward were discussed.

From 02.25.2025: Worked on a plan moving forward with the collective group due to Sean Tate recently resigning. Tate will stay on through the current legislative session.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "SM", representing S. Scott McDowell.

S. Scott McDowell
City Administrator

Please visit the City website at <https://www.ci.brownsville.or.us> for all kinds of information pertaining to the City's business & operations.

★ *Kirk Avenue History* ★ *Calapooia Riverbank* ★ *Plus much more*

PLANNING AT A GLANCE

July 2025

Permits *Building, Plumbing, Mechanical, Fence, Etc.*

• Structural	Commercial Exterior Remodel	313 Washburn St
• Structural	Interior Remodel	850 Pebble St
• Mechanical	Ductless HP	227 E Bishop Way 1
• Mechanical	Ductless HP	835 NP Loop
• Mechanical	Ductless HP	227 E Bishop Way 2
• Mechanical	Ductless HP	227 E Bishop Way 3
• Plumbing	Commercial Bathroom Remodel	128 Spaulding Ave
• Mechanical	Commercial Mini-Split	128 Spaulding Ave
• Plumbing	Bathroom Addition	719 Kirk Ave
• Mechanical	AC Replacement	1135 Filbert St
• Fence		100 School St
• Construction	Commercial Exterior Remodel	313 Washburn St
• Fence		305 N Main St
• Fence		715 Kirk Ave
• Accessory Structure 12x16 Storage Shed		221 Galbraith St

OTHER:

FEMA

Oregonians for Floodplain Protection Update: Lawsuit Stayed

Joint court filing of Plaintiffs' & Defendants' until July 29th, 2025 for an opportunity to negotiate.

5.22.2025: No current changes to speak of:

4.29.2025: Oregonians for Floodplain Protection Update: Per Oregonians for Floodplain Protection site, Oregon US District Judge Michael Simon has scheduled a hearing on the preliminary injunction for May 29th, 2025.

Land Use Applications:

Conditional Use Permit Application for 114 Holloway Heights to allow overnight accommodation through the Airbnb platform. **Decision: Approved.**

Thank you,

Elizabeth E. Grewen



LINN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Michelle Duncan, Sheriff

1115 S.E. Jackson Street, Albany, OR 97322

Albany, OR. 97322

Phone: 541-967-3950

www.linnsheriff.org

2025

MONTHLY REPORT TO THE CITY OF BROWNSVILLE FROM THE LINN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

FOR THE MONTH OF: JUNE

TRAFFIC CITATIONS: -----	1
TRAFFIC WARNINGS: -----	11
TRAFFIC CRASHES: -----	0
ARRESTS MADE: -----	5
COMPLAINTS/INCIDENTS INVESTIGATED:-----	80

TOTAL HOURS SPENT: BROWNSVILLE
185 hours

CONTRACT HOURS = 200 HOURS

**Michelle Duncan,
Sheriff, Linn County**

By: Sgt. Steven Frambes



Library Advisory Board

Librarian's Report

June 2025

Here are a few facts about our Library for the month of June 2025. We have received 44 new books for the library. Volunteers donated 102.75 hours to our library. There were 875 materials checked out. 270 adult fiction books; 89 adult non-fiction books; 53 audio books; 215 children's books; 157 junior books; 38 junior reference books and 53 large print books.

There was a total of 248 electronic materials checked out. 163 adult fiction books; 42 adult non-fiction books; and 43 junior books. Of these 69 were eBooks and 179 were eAudiobooks.

In June, we held 4 children's programs with 73 participants. There were 4 programs for adults with 19 participants.

Attached please find the Library Statistical Spreadsheet that I share a couple times each year. I use this as a reference on how the overall circulation is running at the Library. The one statistic that is missing from this chart and report are the amount of our community members that are recognizing and checking out the Cultural Passes – Oregon Gardens, State of Oregon Parking Passes, Central Cascade Wilderness Permit, A.C. Gilbert House Children's Museum, and University of Oregon Museum of Natural and Cultural History. This past year we checked out these passes 40 times. The year before it was only 17. A win-win for our community.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sherri Lemhouse".

Sherri Lemhouse
Librarian

Librarian Report
June 2025
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[illegible]



Commissioners approve Public Health agreements

By Alex Paul

Linn County Reporter

ALBANY — Public Health program agreements were front and center at the July 15 meeting of the Linn County Board of Commissioners.

Public Health Administrator Todd Noble presented the commissioners with four requests, all of which were approved.

The county approved an Intergovernmental Agreement with the city of Lebanon. Linn County will pay for public transportation services for individuals with disabilities. Linn County will reimburse the city \$23.18 per eligible ride.

The agreement is contingent on Linn County receiving funding from the Oregon Department of Human Services. The total is not to exceed \$500,000 for the contract which runs from July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2027.

The commissioners approved an agreement with the Oregon Health Authority for the Intoxicated Driver Program Fund. Linn County will provide services to individuals who have been adjudicated in local courts for Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants. OHA will provide Linn County funding not to exceed \$100,116 for services provided between July 1, 2025, and June 30, 2027.

The commissioners approved an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Oregon Health Authority to provide Problem Gambling Prevention Services to increase public awareness of problem gambling. OHA will provide Linn County with funding not to exceed \$403,000 for services from July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2027.

The commissioners approved an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Oregon Health Authority to provide services for the CHOICE Model Services program. OHA extended the original expiration date from June 30, 2025, to December 31, 2025, and added funding, not to exceed \$170,214.85.

In other business, the commissioners:

- Approved an agreement to provide 21 beds at the Linn County Jail for Oregon Department of Corrections inmates. The bed rate will increase from \$103 per day to \$110 per day per bed. The agreement will run through June 30, 2027.
- Learned there were 45 births in June, 22 females and 23 males. There were 93 deaths, one of which was of a person more than 100 years old.



- Were told there were 77 land use permits, and 324 total permits issued in June. Of those, 38 were for dwellings — six single-family units and seven manufactured units. There were 14 permits issued for dwelling additions/alterations. Planning & Building Director Steve Wills told the commissioners there are four openings on the Planning Commission.
- Were asked by Troy Jones, a member of Friends of Gap Road, to pass a local resolution that would ban commercial solar facilities and large-scale battery storage operations on farmland zoned Exclusive Farm Use, much like neighboring Marion County has done. Friends of Gap Road is a grassroots group that opposes development of a proposed solar facility near Harrisburg.
- Announced that all three commissioners will be at the Linn County Fair at 2 p.m. on Thursday, July 17, as they serve ice cream to senior citizens at the Sponsor Pavilion, a fair tradition.
- Appointed James Page to the Alcohol and Drug Planning Committee.
- Reappointed Hans Coon to Position 2 on the Historic Resource Commission.

Media contact: Alex Paul, Linn County Communications Officer, 541-967-3825 or email apaul@co.linn.or.us.



Local food programs seeing increased demand

By Alex Paul

Linn County Reporter

ALBANY — Food programs sponsored by the Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments are experiencing increased use, Executive Director Ryan Vogt told Linn County Commissioners Roger Nyquist and Will Tucker Tuesday morning.

Commissioner Sherrie Sprenger was not present.

Vogt introduced new agency director Paul Egbert. Vogt said Egbert is taking on more internal management duties and Vogt will work more with member governments and outreach efforts.

Vogt presented the commissioners with the organization's annual report, which shows that in Linn County, Linn Benton Food Share provided food boxes to 4,337 households (12,811 individuals) in 2022 and 7,767 households (31,291 individuals) in 2025.

The report also noted that food distribution increased 37% from February to May 2025, increasing from 99,743 pounds to 136,642 pounds.

The Meals on Wheels program served 163,800 meals and made 156,690 home deliveries. The program also provided 685 food boxes. There are four meal sites in the county that served 9,425 in-person dining meals.

The Meals on Wheels program is active in Albany, Brownsville, Lebanon, Halsey, Harrisburg, Mill City, Sweet Home, Sodaville and Tangent.

The Adult Protective Services staff received 1,943 calls, of which 457 resulted in investigations.

The Senior Health Insurance Benefits Assistance Program helped 662 clients and the Foster Grandparent Program has 26 volunteers.

The Cascades West Ride Line provided 86,774 trips totaling 2.9 million miles.

The Council of Governments provided \$700,000 for generators to support safe drinking water and public works programs.

In 2024, staff participated in 19 community events in Linn County.

Since March, the Utility Assistance program helped 467 households and 1,065 individuals.



From March to May, the housing assistance program helped 474 individuals (232 households) with rental assistance and in obtaining rental units.

COG is now leasing space in the Sweet Home City Hall to provide more accessible services to area residents.

Commissioner Nyquist said local food programs are vital and he encouraged utilizing the mid-valley's large agricultural base — which includes many fresh food items — as part of the food distribution programs.

Vogt said Linn Benton Food Share partners with the area gleaning programs that work with local farmers.

In other business, the commissioners:

- Were told by Veterans Services Director Dee Baley-Hyder that her office has helped local veterans and their families recover \$596,616.90 in benefits from April through June 2025, compared to \$409,185.03 for the same quarter in 2024. The total amount recovered over the past fiscal year is \$2,472,079. Baley-Hyder added that the number of veterans and family members being served has increased to 9,840, including 387 new accounts filed since the department moved into its new office about a year ago. There are an estimated 10,076 veterans in Linn County.
- Accepted an easement along Lulay Road for the Lulay Road Cross Culvert Replacement Project. Grantor is Gregory Shook and cost is \$300. Approved the purchase of a Leeboy 8520 paver from Pape' Machinery for \$273,817.74.
- Approved a contract with the Oregon Department of Transportation not to exceed \$531,774 in 5311 Funding for the 2025-2027 biennium. The funds will support the Senior Citizens of Sweet Home, Linn Shuttle and Dial-A-Bus programs. 5311 funds support rural transportation programs.

Approved Resolution and Order 2025-241, making a correction to the amount shown on Resolution and Order 2025-200, budget adoption, correcting an error in the budget total from \$279,995,597 to \$279,718,287.

Media contact: Alex Paul, Linn County Communications Officer, 541-967-3825 or email apaul@co.linn.or.us.

admin@ci.brownsville.or.us

From: Oregon Secretary of State <Oregon.SOS@public.govdelivery.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 9, 2025 10:07 AM
To: admin@ci.brownsville.or.us
Subject: Secretary of State Audit: Oregon Must Do More to Ensure Contracts, Purchasing Get the Most Value for Oregonians' Tax Dollars

PRESS RELEASE

Date: July 9, 2025
Contact: Tess Seger | tess.seger@sos.oregon.gov

Secretary of State Audit: Oregon Must Do More to Ensure Contracts, Purchasing Get the Most Value for Oregonians' Tax Dollars

SALEM, OR — The State of Oregon can be doing more to manage contracts, oversee purchasing, and get the most value for Oregonians' tax dollars, [according to an audit released today by the Secretary of State Audits Division](#).

"Right now, Oregonians are stretching every dollar, and the state should too," said **Secretary of State Tobias Read**. "We're spending billions of dollars on contracts and procurements every year, and every one of those choices needs to be looked at closely. These audit recommendations will help the state spot and stop risky decisions and get Oregonians the most for their money."

Government agencies regularly engage in procurement and contracting practices to purchase goods and services. These can range from buying office supplies and paying for janitorial services up to complex, multi-million-dollar IT projects developed by outside vendors. In fiscal year 2024, the state's eProcurement system, OregonBuys, alone housed more than 40,000 transactions totaling \$2.14 billion.

But, poorly managed contracts and purchases can undermine the most well-intended projects, waste Oregonians' tax dollars, and tie up state resources for years at a time.

Auditors had three major findings:

1. Oregon lacks a centralized compliance program to identify or prevent risky procurement and contracting decisions. DAS has the authority to perform compliance reviews of most contracts, but there's no comprehensive program to ensure those reviews are happening.
2. DAS State Procurement Services needs to be doing more to provide consistent and high-quality customer service to help state agencies comply with regulations and make sure procurements are working as effectively as possible.
3. OregonBuys is performing most of its intended functions, but a significant gap remains: the eProcurement system does not capture all state spend, limiting DAS's ability to make informed, strategic sourcing decisions.

Auditors had eight recommendations for DAS to support the effective administration of public contracts, improve and resource the support services it provides to state agencies, and ensure OregonBuys is fully operational and maximizing benefits to the state. Several of these recommendations require reporting progress and updates to the Legislature.

Read the full report [on the Secretary of State website](#).

###

From: Oregon Department of Revenue <oregondor@public.govdelivery.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2025 9:04 AM
To: admin@ci.brownsville.or.us
Subject: As extension period nears mid-way point, those who haven't filed 2024 income taxes are urged to do so as soon as possible

News Release



July 10, 2025

Even with an extension, file as soon as you can

Salem, OR— With the halfway point of the income tax filing extension period approaching, the Oregon Department of Revenue wants to remind taxpayers who haven't yet filed their 2024 tax return to do so as soon as they can.

"July 15 may be just the halfway point of the extension period, but for most people who haven't yet filed their tax year 2024 return there's no reason not to file now," said Department of Revenue Director David Gerstenfeld.

Some people may not have filed because they didn't have money to pay what they owe, but an extension to file is not an extension to pay any tax owed. Those who didn't file and haven't paid are only racking up additional late payment penalties and interest by waiting.

"Even if they can't pay the full amount they owe, they should pay what they can as soon as they can to help lower penalties and interest," the director said. "For those who can't pay all they owe, filing a return offers them the opportunity to [set up a payment plan](#) with the state."

Besides not being able to pay, people file for an extension for all kinds of reasons. Some are waiting on additional information or documents. Others are experiencing hardship in the days before the deadline and have to direct their attention elsewhere. Some people just put it off or forget.

"Whatever the reason, as soon as they have what they need, they should file," Gerstenfeld said.

For some taxpayers, filing can mean receiving a refund.

Several [free filing options](#) and in-person tax assistance options remain available during the summer months.

One of those options is [Direct File Oregon](#). More than 13,000 Oregon taxpayers filed their state returns with Direct File Oregon this year. Nearly 4,700 of those filers connected to Direct File Oregon after first filing their federal returns through IRS Direct File, which is still available through the end of the filing season.

So far in 2025, the department has processed more than 2.05 million of an expected 2.2 million returns. That leaves approximately 150,000 Oregon taxpayers who still need to file their tax year 2024 returns.

"Some tax situations are complex and require extra time—even months—to prepare, but most aren't," he said. "Filing as soon as you can makes good sense. It can save money and provide some peace of mind."

Taxpayers with questions can call 800-356-4222 toll-free from an Oregon prefix (English or Spanish) or 503-378-4988 in Salem and outside Oregon. For TTY (hearing or speech impaired), the department accepts all relay calls.

admin@ci.brownsville.or.us

From: Oregon Department of Transportation <odot@service.govdelivery.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 3, 2025 9:14 AM
To: admin@ci.brownsville.or.us
Subject: Plan Ahead: I-5 Exit 209 Ramp Closures Start July 7



Road Work Alert

I-5 Exit 209 Nighttime Ramp Closures

Our crews have been working hard on [paving I-5](#) and bringing you a smoother drive.

Next, we're working at night to pave and install striping on the I-5 Exit 209 to Diamond Hill Road on and off-ramps during the following dates:

- July 7 through July 11.
- August 3 through August 8.

You can detour around the closed ramps by using the exit before or after, depending on where you're going.

We plan to keep the ramps open during the day and will only close one ramp at a time.

You can expect:

- Crews working mostly at night, Sunday through Thursday from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m.
- Some daytime work as needed.
- Single lane closures between 7 p.m. to 5:30 a.m.
- Construction noise and delays.
- A reduced speed limit to 55 mph in the work zone.
- No lane changes allowed where there are double white lines.

Visit the [I-5 Paving: Halsey to Lane County Line](#) webpage to learn more.

Funding information

The Oregon Legislature did not provide the funding or spending flexibility necessary to avoid layoffs at ODOT. While the funding crisis is having a profound effect on ODOT's maintenance and operations, most construction projects will continue as planned.

These projects are typically funded through separate capital programs, often with state or federal funds that are legally restricted to projects development and cannot be redirected for maintenance or day-to-day operations. Delays may still occur due to a reduced workforce. Fewer available staff for traffic control, inspections and project oversight could slow down timelines or introduce challenges in project delivery.

Check out what we're building in and around your community

See what else is being constructed on the roads around your community by visiting our [webpage](#). Explore our interactive map to see what we're working on.



Pay attention in work zones, slow down and move over – imagine this is where you work! Always drive safely, watch for construction signs and workers.

Remember that fines double in all Oregon work zones, whether workers and signs are present or not.



Know before you go

For 24/7 road conditions and traffic alerts visit TripCheck.com or call 5-1-1.



Flying this summer? Travelers 18 and older now need federally accepted ID to board a commercial U.S. flight. [Be REAL ID ready](#).

admin@ci.brownsville.or.us

From: Oregon DEQ News <ordeq@public.govdelivery.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 1, 2025 9:10 AM
To: admin@ci.brownsville.or.us
Subject: Oregon leads the nation in implementing the Plastic Pollution and Recycling Modernization Act



State of Oregon
DEQ Department of Environmental Quality

NEWS RELEASE

Oregon leads the nation in implementing the Plastic Pollution and Recycling Modernization Act

Date: July 1, 2025

Oregon leads the way as the first state in the U.S. to implement a packaging and paper extended producer responsibility law providing statewide access to consistent and high-quality recycling. The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality's Materials Management Program has been collaborating with interested parties through several years of rulemaking to establish the program.

The Recycling Modernization Act is an update to Oregon's recycling system that expands recycling opportunities in communities throughout the state, upgrades the facilities that sort recyclables, and establishes accountability mechanisms to ensure materials are recycled responsibly. The improvements are funded through fees paid by companies that sell packaging, paper, and food serviceware into Oregon.

"Oregon's recycling system has set a national standard," Governor Kotek said. "Implementation is just the start. The Recycling Modernization Act will make sure of a future with less waste and pollution, holding producers responsible for their part in waste prevention."

The program officially launches July 1, 2025, and will be implemented across the state over time as investments and new programs come online. Over the next few years Oregon residents and businesses can expect to see the following improvements:

- Expanded recycling collection in many communities, especially in rural areas. Producer funding will cover the cost of new equipment, facilities, and transporting recyclables long distances.
- A consistent list of recyclable materials.
- New collection opportunities for recyclables that can be hard to sort at recycling facilities.
- Additional information and resources to let communities know how and when they can access this improved recycling system.

The RMA also directs producer funding toward improvements at the facilities that sort recycling. They will pay workers a living wage and supportive benefits. They will also report where they market the sorted recyclables and send materials to places that can meet a new standard for responsible end markets.

“Under the RMA, people in Oregon can be confident the materials they recycle are actually recycled and in a way that does not harm people or the environment, here or abroad,” said DEQ Director, Leah Feldon. “The RMA brings transparency and accountability to Oregon’s recycling system.”

Producer fees will also help fund a new waste prevention and reuse program that could yield even more environmental benefits than recycling through investments in low-impact manufacturing and Oregon’s reuse economy.

On July 1, obligated brands and producers will begin paying fees to Circular Action Alliance, the producer responsibility organization responsible for distributing producer funding to recycling facilities and communities across the state. Circular Action Alliance is required to implement its [DEQ-approved plan](#) to manage and administer the program.

Visit the [Plastic Pollution and Recycling Modernization Act web page](#) for more information about how the program works. To get the latest updates by email, sign up through [GovDelivery](#).

admin@ci.brownsville.or.us

From: Oregon Department of Agriculture <ODA@public.govdelivery.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 1, 2025 1:27 PM
To: admin@ci.brownsville.or.us
Subject: Oregon Announces \$2.15 Million in Awards to Projects that Strengthen Food Supply Chain Infrastructure



News Release: July 1, 2025

Oregon Announces \$2.15 Million in Awards to Projects that Strengthen Food Supply Chain Infrastructure

Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) is announcing an additional \$2.15 million in awards for seven infrastructure projects made possible through the Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure Program (RFSI) Cooperative Agreement with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS). RFSI aims to build resilience across the middle of the supply chain and strengthen local and regional food systems. The middle of the supply chain refers to the processing, aggregation, storage, wholesaling, or distribution of food products.

"Agriculture is a cornerstone of our state's economy," Governor Kotek said. "These grants will help farm and food businesses in Oregon develop and diversify local and regional market options, creating more economic opportunities for our communities across the state. We take pride in everything we grow and produce in our great state."

ODA is the administrator of the federal funds and has selected 24 projects recommended by an advisory committee, representing a total investment of \$4M that will directly support middle-of-the-supply-chain infrastructure.

Funded Projects include:

- Bohemia Food Hub in Cottage Grove is a co-working commercial kitchen, food truck pod, retail space, and storage facility serving Lane and Douglas Counties. This project involves constructing a new two-story building to store all refrigerated and frozen produce. One-third of the new building will include a climate-controlled dry

storage area, expanding economic opportunities for producers and food businesses in Lane and Douglas Counties.

- Fry Family Farm in Medford is a women-owned, small family farm that provides over 40 different varieties of organic vegetables, grains, and fruits. This project will create the first designated organic milling facility in Southern Oregon by expanding and refurbishing existing silos and milling room as well as purchasing milling equipment.
- Manitou in Warm Springs is a small vegetable farm that distributes regional and culturally relevant foods to tribal members of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. Funding will be used to construct a 30' x 40' metal warehouse, a walk-in cooler, and a delivery/supply truck to support local producers and distribution networks.
- Mora Mora Farm in Springdale is a small vegetable farm with processing capabilities and a storage facility. The project entails the construction of a modular washing and packaging area, increased crop storage with two modified 40' shipping containers, and converting an existing shipping container into an on-site commercial kitchen space.
- Mt. Hope Farms in Molalla is a small, diverse family farm that will build a regional food processing facility to expand capacity and strengthen the middle of the supply chain.
- The Food Science Pilot Plant (FSPP) at Oregon State University in Corvallis is a co-manufacturing facility that supports small to medium-sized food, beverage, and agricultural companies throughout Oregon, aiming to decrease costs and control risks during their scale-up process. This funding will bring the facility up to current Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) standards. Renovations will include repairs and modifications to the current facility, purchasing a canning line and washing station, constructing food ingredient storage, and acquiring new packaging materials.
- Sitting Bull Farms in Elgin will build a food hub and shared kitchen to provide a space for aggregation, processing, manufacturing, storing, wholesaling, and distribution of regionally produced produce and food products in Northeast Oregon.

"Thank you to the applicants who made this process so competitive," said ODA Director Lisa Charpilloz Hanson. "The successful projects are creative, focusing on increasing the supply of locally sourced food products available in Oregon markets."

This awarded funding is part of the \$420 million available through the Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure grant program to build capacity within the middle of the supply chain and support local and regional producers funded by the American Rescue Plan of 2021. Through this program, AMS has entered into cooperative agreements with state agencies, commissions, or departments responsible for agriculture, commercial food processing, seafood, or food system and distribution activities or commerce activities in states or U.S. territories.

For more about RFSI activities in Oregon or to view the complete list of projects, visit ODA's [Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure webpage](#).

admin@ci.brownsville.or.us

From: Glang, Patrick <Patrick.Glang@mail.house.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, July 8, 2025 5:30 PM
To: Glang, Patrick
Cc: Weiss, Olivia
Subject: Oregon 05's District Update Newsletter

Hello Friend,

The District office is hearing on the phones, in the field, and directly from many of you that the "One Big Beautiful Bill" is a top-line issue. With the passage of the BBB, Representative Bynum and her team are working hard to be fully prepared for any changes in the state or at the district level.

The representative introduced 6 amendments to minimize fallout from cuts to Medicaid on rural hospitals, individuals with disabilities, immigrant communities, addressing inflation, and protecting consumers from fees. At every step, Congresswoman Bynum fought to reduce costs and protect Oregonians' health care, services, and access to their providers. These amendments were voted down. We welcome all conversations on how we can continue to work collaboratively on behalf of Oregonians through any new changes.

We are excited to introduce our newest district team member, Field Representative Olivia Weiss. She will be focused on Marion, Multnomah, Clackamas, and Linn Counties. (Her email is CC'd)

Reminders:

[Congressional App Challenge](#) – The deadline for submission is October 30th, 2025
[Service Academy Nomination](#) – Nomination packet for applicants coming soon!

Upcoming Events with Representative Bynum

- Wednesday, July 16th – Social Security and Medicare Telephone Town Hall – RSVP [here](#)
- Monday, July 28th – Town Hall in Molalla – Venue TBA
- Saturday, August 2nd – Town Hall in Silverton – Venue TBA

More details about events will be announced [here](#).

District Wins

Celebrating Local Success

- **Over \$2.2 Million in Manufacturing Funds Headed to Oregon Manufacturing Extension Partnership (OMEP)** – These funds will ensure that OMEP can continue to support local manufacturers across the state. Read more [here](#).

- **\$9.7 Million in Federal Grants Allocated for Rural Airports Across Oregon** – These funds will go towards infrastructure improvements to taxiways, fencing, aircraft storage, and more at airports throughout Oregon, including \$8.38 million for Roberts Field in Redmond. Read more [here](#).
-

Casework Updates

Helping Constituents Every Day

Our office resolved a variety of individual cases in the month of June — ranging from veterans' benefits to expediting passports.

Weekly highlight: We successfully helped a constituent recover \$135,444.25 from the IRS.

Need help? Contact us at (503) 387-8651 or fill out our Privacy Release Form [here](#).

Out in the Field

Ahead of the wildfire season, Congresswoman Bynum organized a meeting with the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs, state and federal forest service workers, BLM fire staff, and representatives from the Deschutes National Forest to discuss how to best prepare. The safety of our communities is the Congresswoman's top priority, and she looks forward to working together on behalf of CD5 to navigate the upcoming months.

After the passage of the “Big, Beautiful Bill,” Congresswoman Bynum met with providers at the Neighborhood Health Clinic in Oregon City to hear their concerns and needs to continue to care for their patients in light of funding changes. These on-the-ground conversations shape the Congresswoman's work in Oregon and inform her actions when she returns to Washington.

Want to invite Congresswoman Bynum to an event or meeting in Oregon? Send the information [here](#).

Grant Opportunities

Funding Resources for Your Community

- Explore and discover grant opportunities [here](#)
 - [Local Law Enforcement Grants for Enforcement of Cybercrimes Program](#) – Deadline: 08/07/2025 – Supports efforts by States, Tribes, and units of local government to prevent, enforce, and prosecute cybercrimes against individuals with a focus on adult and young adult cybercrime victims.
 - [Partners for Fish and Wildlife \(PFW\) Program](#) – Deadline: 09/30/2025 – This program helps private landowners restore and protect habitats for fish and wildlife. It offers both technical assistance and financial support, mainly through cooperative agreements.
-

Legislative Updates

Three Bipartisan Bills Passed in the House

The three bills, the [Access to Small Business Investor Capital Act](#), the [Encouraging Local Emerging Ventures and Economic Growth Act \(ELEVATE\) Act](#), and the [Expanding Access to Capital for Rural Job Creators Act](#), all benefit small businesses to help them get off their feet and hit the ground running. The three bipartisan bills now head to the Senate to be voted on.

New Bipartisan Bill to Expand Access to Mental Health Services for Children in Schools

This month, Congresswoman Bynum co-sponsored the [Connecting Students with Mental Health Services Act](#), aiming to help schools connect students with the mental health services needed to succeed and thrive. This legislation seeks to ensure all students, particularly those in underserved communities and under-resourced school districts, have access to appropriate and timely care.

Landmark NIL Legislation Introduced to Protect and Preserve College Athletics

Congresswoman Bynum recently introduced the [College Student-athlete Protections and Opportunities through Rights, Transparency, and Safety \(College SPORTS\) Act](#). This comprehensive bipartisan bill will establish national standards for how college athletes can earn compensation from their name, image, and likeness (NIL). The bill also strengthens academic, health, and financial protections for collegiate athletics.

Contact: (503) 387-8651 | bynum.house.gov

Share your story: [How has the passage of the Big, Beautiful Bill impacted you?](#)

Best,
Patrick

Patrick Glang | District Director

Office of Congresswoman Janelle Bynum
502 7th Street, Oregon City Suite 203
Patrick.Glang@mail.house.gov
(541) 233-1319

admin@ci.brownsville.or.us

From: NWYC <research@nwy.com>
Sent: Monday, July 14, 2025 7:30 AM
To: Scott McDowell
Subject: Crypto Regulations and Defense Spending



NWYC Recess Report

Provided by Adam Craven

Scott McDowell,

Crypto regulations and defense spending will headline votes on the House floor this week.

Ban U.S. 'Digital Dollar'

The House will also consider H.R.1919, the Anti-CBDC Surveillance State Act, which prohibits the Federal Reserve from issuing a central bank digital currency (a CBDC, i.e., a "digital dollar") to individuals, or from using any substantially similar digital asset to implement Fed monetary policy. ([Voice Your Opinion](#))

\$9.4 billion Rescissions

Over in the Senate, the focus will be on the House-passed (214-212) H.R.4, the Rescissions Act of 2025, which rescinds \$9.4 billion in previously appropriated funding, including \$8.3 billion in foreign aid and \$1.1 billion provided for the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. ([Voice Your Opinion](#))

Cryptocurrency Regulatory Framework

The House will also consider H.R.3633, the Digital Asset Market Clarity Act. The bill provides for the regulation of certain cryptocurrencies (defined as "digital commodities"), statutorily affirms the infrastructure for trading such digital commodities under CFTC oversight, and establishes a process for digital asset developers to more freely raise funding for new digital commodity products while narrowing Securities and Exchange Commission regulation of digital assets that qualify as securities. ([Voice Your Opinion](#))

Stablecoin Bill

This bill (S.1582), the GENIUS Act, which passed the Senate on June 17 by a 68-30 vote, establishes a national regulatory framework for dollar-based payment stablecoins that are pegged on a 1:1 basis to financial reserves, establishing specific criteria for issuer eligibility, reserve standards, oversight, and national security compliance requirements that would facilitate the expansion of the use of stablecoins for private transactions.. ([Voice Your Opinion](#))

Defense Appropriations

The bill (H.R.4016) provides a total of \$831.5 billion in net discretionary funding for the Pentagon and intelligence agencies, equal to current funding (although up to \$119 billion is also expected to be available from the recently enacted GOP reconciliation bill). It provides 4% more for weapons and other procurement, operation and maintenance activities, and military research and development, but 2.5% less for military personnel. ([Voice Your Opinion](#))

admin@ci.brownsville.or.us

From: NWYC <research@nwyc.com>
Sent: Monday, July 7, 2025 7:30 AM
To: Scott McDowell
Subject: Tax Provisions in the One Big Beautiful Bill (H.R.1)

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged



NWYC Recess Report

Tax Provisions in the One Big Beautiful Bill (H.R.1)

Provided by Adam Craven

Scott McDowell,

The following is a summary of the tax provisions that would be enacted under the GOP's tax, immigration, energy, and healthcare proposals in the sweeping reconciliation bill (H.R.1), which allowed them to bypass Democratic opposition.

The measure would make permanent lower tax rates from Republicans' marquee 2017 tax law that expires at the end of the year and increase the debt limit by \$5 trillion. It also would provide hundreds of billions of dollars for border security, immigration enforcement, and defense; expand oil and gas leasing; and extend key commodity support programs under the Farm Bill, which also expires at the end of the year.

The cost of those policies would be partially offset by limiting eligibility and federal funding for Medicaid and food assistance benefits, modifying student loan repayments, rolling back clean energy tax credits from Democrats' 2022 tax and climate law, and imposing new immigration fees.

The measure would increase the deficit by \$3.3 trillion over 10 years, according to a June 20 estimate from the Congressional Budget Office and Joint Committee on Taxation on an initial Senate substitute amendment. That assumed a \$4.5 trillion decrease in revenue using the traditional "current law" baseline, as well as a \$1.2 trillion decrease in spending.

Republicans also requested a controversial "current policy" baseline estimate that assumes the expiring tax provisions continue permanently. Using that baseline, the bill would save \$507.6 billion over 10 years, according to the budget scorekeepers.

The Senate passed the bill 51-50 on July 1, with Vice President JD Vance casting a tie-breaking vote. Three Republicans — Collins (ME), Tillis (NC), and Paul (KY) — voted against it. The House passed the Senate version 218-214, with two Republicans, Fitzpatrick (PA) and Massie (KY), voting against it.

Debt Limit & New Funding

The bill raises the statutory limit on national debt by \$5.0 trillion, and it appropriates more than \$448 billion in mandatory funding for Trump administration priorities and other needs — including \$153 billion for defense, \$89 billion for immigration enforcement, and \$89.5 billion for border control and security.

Other major amounts provided include \$24.6 billion for the Coast Guard, \$12.5 billion for the Federal Aviation Administration, \$10 billion for NASA, \$10.2 billion for Pell Grants, and \$50 billion for a rural hospital support fund.

2017 TAX LAW PERMANENCE

The measure would permanently extend provisions of Republicans' 2017 tax law that are set to expire Dec. 31. Absent an extension, tax changes would revert to pre-2017 levels.

Marginal Tax Rates: The measure would permanently extend the 2017 law's lower rates for individuals beginning in 2026.

It would provide an additional year of inflation in the cost-of-living adjustment for the lowest two income tax brackets — 10% and 12%.

Standard Deduction: The measure would permanently extend the enhanced standard deduction, which is annually adjusted for inflation and allows taxpayers to reduce their federal taxable income if they don't itemize their deductions.

The 2017 law nearly doubled the deduction for filers beginning in the 2018 tax year. For example, the changes boosted the amount individual filers could write off to \$12,000, from \$6,500, that year. The standard deduction for tax year 2025 is currently \$15,000 for individual filers.

Starting in tax year 2025, the measure would increase the standard deduction to \$15,750 for individual filers and \$31,500 for joint filers. The amounts would be adjusted for inflation.

State and Local Tax Deduction: Taxpayers who itemize their deductions can reduce their tax liability by writing off certain state and local taxes paid — known as the SALT deduction. The 2017 law limited the amount that could be claimed to \$10,000 for most filers until 2026, after which it will revert to an unlimited deduction.

The bill would increase the cap to \$40,000 for households with income under \$500,000. In 2026, the thresholds would increase by 1% — to \$40,400 for households with income under \$505,000. The thresholds would continue to increase by 1% each year through 2029, after which the SALT limit would be permanently reduced to \$10,000.

For income exceeding the threshold, the deduction would phase down by 30% until it reaches a

minimum of \$10,000.

The SALT cap has been a sticking point among Republicans, with lawmakers in high-tax states pushing for a larger deduction.

Personal Exemptions: The bill would permanently terminate the personal exemption that filers could claim for spouses or dependents to lower their taxable income, which the 2017 law suspended through 2025. Before the changes, taxpayers could deduct \$4,050 for each personal exemption.

Child Tax Credit: The bill would increase the maximum amount of the child tax credit — which the 2017 law doubled to \$2,000 from \$1,000 — by an additional \$200 starting in tax year 2025. It would be permanently indexed to inflation. The child tax credit allows eligible households to reduce their federal income tax liability by a certain amount for each qualifying child.

Lower-income filers can receive some or all of the credit as a refund if the amount exceeds their tax liability — known as the additional child tax credit. The 2017 law increased the maximum refundable portion to \$1,400, from \$1,000. The measure would make permanent the enhanced ACTC, which would be indexed to inflation as it is under current law.

The 2017 law also expanded access to the credit by increasing the income thresholds to claim the credit before it phases out. The measure would make those thresholds permanent at \$200,000 for single filers and \$400,000 for joint filers.

Under the measure, taxpayers would have to provide their Social Security number as well as their spouse's if filing jointly. Current law only requires the Social Security number of each qualifying child.

Alternative Minimum Tax: The 2017 law modified the alternative minimum tax, which is designed to ensure higher income households pay a minimum tax based on either regular income tax rules or AMT rules — whichever results in a higher tax liability.

The bill would permanently extend an increased exemption set under the 2017 law, which reduces the amount of income that's subject to special AMT rules.

Estate & Gift Tax: The exemption for the estate and gift tax would be permanently extended and increased to \$15 million, from \$10 million, for individual filers starting in tax year 2026. The exemption would be indexed to inflation.

Pass-Through Business Income: Unlike corporate income, pass-through business income — from a partnership, limited liability company, S corporation, or self-employed individuals — is taxed according to individual rates or “passed through” to its owners or shareholders.

The 2017 law allowed pass-through businesses to deduct up to 20% of their qualified business income from their taxable income through 2025. The bill would permanently extend that rate beginning in tax year 2026. It would increase the income phase-in thresholds to \$75,000 from \$50,000 for individual filers.

The measure also would create a new minimum deduction of \$400 for eligible taxpayers with at least \$1,000 of pass-through income beginning in 2026. The deduction and income threshold would be adjusted for inflation.

Foreign Income: The measure would permanently reduce the deduction for foreign-derived intangible income (FDII) to 33.3%, from 37.5%, and the deduction for global-intangible low-taxed income (GILTI) to 40%, from 50%. It also would rename FDII to “foreign-derived deduction eligible income” and GILTI to “net CFC tested income.”

The deductions are designed to encourage domestic companies to hold intangible assets, such as intellectual property, within the US as well as discourage shifting profits from such assets to low-tax foreign jurisdictions.

The measure also would permanently increase the rate of the base erosion and anti-abuse tax (BEAT), aimed at limiting profit shifting by large multinational corporations, to 10.5%, from 10%.

Charitable Deductions: The measure would create a permanent deduction of up to \$1,000 in qualified charitable contributions for individual filers who don’t itemize deductions.

Paid Leave: The 2017 tax law’s paid family and medical leave tax credit for employers would be made permanent under the measure. The credit allows employers to claim nonrefundable credits ranging from 12.5% to 25% of the wages paid to workers on paid leave.

The measure would allow employers to claim the credit to pay premiums for insurance policies that provide paid leave. Employers could also claim the credit for workers who’ve been employed for a minimum of six months, rather than at least one year.

Other Permanent Extensions: Several other expiring provisions in the 2017 tax law would be made permanent under the measure, including:

- Restricting noncorporate taxpayers from deducting “excess business losses.”
- Lowering the mortgage interest deduction to the first \$750,000 of home mortgage debt, from \$1 million.
- Allowing deductions for disaster-related personal casualty losses, limited to losses from federally and state-declared disasters.
- Allowing additional contributions to Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) accounts for people with disabilities — with a \$100 boost starting in tax year 2027 — as well as a \$1,000 maximum tax credit for ABLE contributions and tax-free rollovers from 529 plans into ABLE accounts.
- Excluding from taxable income the discharge of student loans due to death or disability.
- Deducting gambling losses up to 90% of their reported gambling winnings.

NEW TAX DEDUCTIONS

Tip Deduction: The measure would create a deduction for qualified tips for tax years 2025 through 2028. The deduction would be capped at \$25,000. Employees would need to have a

work-eligible Social Security number.

The deduction would phase out for income that exceeds \$150,000 for individual filers and \$300,000 for joint filers.

Tipped income would include cash tips earned in an occupation where tipping is customary, would have to be paid voluntarily, and would be determined by the payer. Tips couldn't be earned in a specified service trade or business, such as law, health care, consulting, financial services, athletics, and performing arts.

It also would expand the Federal Insurance Contribution Act tip credit to beauty services, such as hair and nail salons, esthetics, and spas. Employers with tipped employees can claim the credit for the amount of employer Social Security and Medicare taxes paid on workers' tipped income. The credit is currently available to employers in the food and beverage industry.

Overtime Deduction: The bill would establish a deduction for overtime compensation for tax years 2025 through 2028 structured similarly to the tipped deduction, but overtime pay would exclude qualified tips. Under current law, overtime pay is generally included in a taxpayer's gross income and is subject to federal income and payroll taxes.

The deduction would be capped at \$12,500 for individual filers and \$25,000 for joint filers, with the same income phaseouts as the tip deduction.

Enhanced Deductions for Seniors: Taxpayers ages 65 and older would be able to deduct an additional \$6,000 from their taxable income for tax years 2025 through 2028.

The credit would phase out at a 6% rate for individual filers whose income is more than \$75,000 or joint filers whose income exceeds \$150,000. Taxpayers and their spouses would have to provide their Social Security numbers to claim the deduction.

The provision is seen as a parliamentary workaround to fulfill Trump's campaign vow of abolishing taxes on Social Security payments, which would likely have violated budget reconciliation rules that prohibit changes to Social Security policy.

Auto Loan Interest Deduction: The measure would create a deduction up to \$10,000 for interest payments on auto loans for tax years 2025 through 2028. It would stipulate that the deduction could be claimed for vehicles whose final assembly is in the US. Loans to finance fleet sales, loans to buy a commercial vehicle for nonpersonal uses, and lease financing wouldn't be eligible for the deduction.

The deduction would be reduced for modified adjusted gross income that exceeds \$100,000 for individual filers or \$200,000 for joint filers.

BUSINESS PROVISIONS

Research & Development: The research and development tax credit allows businesses to deduct the cost of certain research and experimental expenses, such as researcher pay and

facility costs. The 2017 tax law modified the tax break and required companies, beginning in tax year 2022, to write off domestic R&D expenses over five years, or over 15 years for research conducted outside of the US, rather than in the year incurred.

The measure would reverse the change and allow businesses to immediately deduct the cost of their domestic research expenses in the year paid or incurred for tax years 2025 onward. The requirements for foreign R&D expenses wouldn't be modified.

Deductions would be allowed for software development expenses and would be prohibited for property acquisitions or oil and gas exploration.

Business Interest Expenses: Before the 2017 law, businesses were allowed to deduct the full amount of interest paid or accrued on valid debt in a tax year. The law limited the deduction to 30% of a taxpayer's "adjusted taxable income," with some exceptions.

The measure would allow businesses to calculate their ATI without including deductions for depreciation and amortization beginning in tax year 2025.

Depreciation Deductions: Before the 2017 tax law, businesses could immediately deduct some of the costs of qualifying depreciable property. The law modified the 100% bonus depreciation rate to gradually decrease before being zeroed out after 2026. The measure would permanently restore the 100% bonus depreciation rate for certain property if it was placed in service on or after Jan. 19, 2025.

The bill also would let taxpayers immediately deduct 100% of the cost of qualified production property that is put in service before 2031 and is an integral part of production, such as manufacturing or refining. It would exclude office or administrative spaces, research activities, lodging, or parking lots.

The measure would increase the maximum amount that could be deducted for certain depreciable business assets to \$2.5 million, from \$1 million. It would be phased out for costs of qualifying property that exceeds \$4 million, instead of \$2.5 million.

Chip Manufacturing: The measure would increase the credit for advanced manufacturers to 35%, up from 25%, of investments in plants put into service starting 2026. The provision is seen as a potential boon for semiconductor manufacturers.

Opportunity Zones: The measure would modify and make permanent the Opportunity Zone program, which provides tax incentives to businesses to invest in lower-income or economically distressed areas in the US. The 2017 law created the program, which allows temporary deferrals of taxes on capital gains and related "basis" benefits.

New Markets Tax Credit: The bill would permanently extend the New Markets Tax Credit for private sector investments in low-income communities designated by the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund. The credit can be currently claimed for 39% of initial investment amounts over seven years.

Employer-Provided Child Care Credit: The measure would permanently hike the maximum amount of the nonrefundable credit that businesses can claim for child care services to employees to \$500,000, from \$150,000. It also would increase the share of child care expenses that can be claimed to 40%, from 25%.

The measure would allow eligible small businesses to claim a higher share of expenses — up to 50% of eligible child care expenses for a maximum credit amount of \$600,000. Eligible businesses would need to spend at least \$1.2 million to receive the full credit, according to the Senate Finance Committee summary.

Payments to third-party child care services would be treated as qualifying child care spending.

Low-Income Housing Credit: The measure would make permanent a 12% increase to the 9% low-income housing tax credit's ceiling on annual state allocations starting in tax year 2026. The program primarily helps fund construction of housing for lower-income renters, along with preserving affordable rental housing.

The measure also would lower the bond-financing threshold for the 4% LIHTC to 25%, instead of 50%, for projects financed by bonds starting in 2026.

Corporate Charitable Donations: Corporate taxpayers could deduct charitable contributions between 1% to 10% of taxable income. The measure would allow contributions beyond the cap to be carried forward for as long as five tax years.

TRUMP ACCOUNTS

The measure would provide \$410 million to create a tax-advantaged “Trump account” — structured like an individual retirement account — effective one year after enactment.

Under the bill, a Trump account could only be created on behalf of an individual who's under 18 and has a Social Security number. Funds in the account would be distributed after the beneficiary turns 18, and money deposited into the account wouldn't be considered as part of the beneficiary's gross income.

EDUCATION TAXES

Scholarship Granting Organizations: The bill would create a new tax credit for an individual's charitable donations to qualifying tax-exempt organizations that provide scholarships to elementary and secondary school students to cover tuition, fees, tutoring, books, supplies, uniforms, and computers at public, private, or religious schools.

529 Plans: The measure would expand the 529 “qualified tuition program” — which allows tax-free withdrawals to cover eligible higher education costs such as tuition, books, and room and board — to be used for additional expenses for K-12 education. Currently, 529 plans can be used for elementary and secondary school tuition costs.

School Endowment Tax: The measure would modify the existing 1.4% excise tax on annual

net investment income of private college and university endowments. The tax currently applies to higher education institutions with at least 500 tuition-paying students and total investment assets of at least \$500,000 per student in a tax year.

OTHER TAX CHANGES

Gun Tax: The measure would reduce to \$0, from \$200, a transfer tax on firearms that aren't machine guns or destructive devices, as defined by the National Firearms Act. It would also repeal a \$200 tax for the manufacture of such products.

Adoption Credit: The measure would make the adoption tax credit partially refundable up to \$5,000 beginning in tax year 2025. The refundable portion would be adjusted for inflation.

International Money Transfers: The measure would impose a new 1% excise tax on all remittance transfers sent from an individual in the US to a recipient in a foreign country using a financial institution.

'De Minimis' Exemption: The measure would repeal the de minimis privilege, which allows commercial merchandise entering the US valued under \$800 to be exempt from tariffs. Trump repealed the policy for merchandise from China and Hong Kong by executive order in April.

Small Business Stock Gains: The measure would allow gains on qualified small business stocks to be excluded from gross income on a tiered level. For stock acquired after the bill's enactment, taxpayers could exclude 50% of their qualifying gains after they've held it for three years, 75% after four years, and 100% after five years.

The measure also would increase the per-issuer cap on the exclusion to \$15 million, from \$10 million, and adjust it for inflation beginning in 2027.

E-File: The bill would direct the Treasury Department to report on using public-private partnerships to provide free tax filings to replace the IRS's direct file program.

Other Tax Provisions: The bill also would:

- Create tax incentives specific to Alaska, including excluding qualified fisheries in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands from corporate taxes and increasing — to \$50,000, from \$10,000 — charitable deductions to support subsistence whaling by Native Alaskans.
- Allow food and beverage provided to employees on fishing vessels or fisheries to be fully deducted as a business expense, instead of 50%. The change would apply to businesses north of the 50th parallel — effectively limiting the higher deduction to those in Alaska.
- Repeal the reporting threshold for third-party settlement organizations for 1099-K forms, unless the value of transactions for a payee is more than \$20,000, and the number of transactions is more than 200.

- Increase the threshold to \$2,000, from \$600, at which businesses would have to report payments for services performed by a contractor.
 - Expand the application of the excise tax on excess compensation of highly paid employees at tax-exempt organizations to cover any employee with compensation in excess of \$1 million since 2017.
 - Permanently expand a deduction of up to \$150,000 for film, TV, and theater production costs to include sound production expenses.
 - Permanently extend the exclusion from gross income any employer payments toward a worker's qualifying student loans. The current \$5,250 cap on the exclusion would be adjusted for inflation beginning in the 2026 tax year.
 - Treat spaceport property on federal land under exempt facility bond rules.
 - Permanently increase the minimum tax on imported distilled spirits.
-

S. Scott McDowell

From: Lisa Trevino <LTrevino@orcities.org>
Sent: Tuesday, July 15, 2025 10:45 AM
To: Lisa Trevino
Subject: League of Oregon Cities Survey: DEIA Toolkit

Good morning,

The League of Oregon Cities (LOC) is currently partnering with a Portland State University Fellow to develop a **Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility (DEIA) Toolkit**. The goal of this Toolkit is for cities to have access to an effective and meaningful resource that will enable them to increase their awareness of diverse cultures, backgrounds, and lived experiences.

As part of this initiative, we're asking city managers and CAOs to share information about their current DEIA work and any areas where additional support is needed.

We would greatly appreciate it if you could take a few minutes to complete a brief 12-question survey by **Friday, July 18:**

[Survey Link](#)

Your input is essential in helping us create a toolkit that is practical, relevant, and responsive to the needs of Oregon's cities.

If you have any questions or feedback about the survey, please don't hesitate to contact me directly.

Kind regards,



Lisa Trevino, *Member Engagement Director*

503-588-6550 direct: 971-428-7276

1201 Court St. NE, Suite 200, Salem, OR 97301-4194

www.orcities.org





Goals 2025-2026

1. Focus on the Fundamentals.

- ★ *Carefully manage Brownsville's treasury.*
- ★ *Foster productive relationships both internally & externally.*
- ★ *Administer civic partnership agreements focusing on deliverables.*
- ★ *Focus on proactively dealing with State preemptions, unfunded mandates, and laws that force unwanted expenditures and requirements on citizens.*

2. Organizational Development.

- ★ *Modify Council Rules and meeting procedures.*
- ★ *Create a communications plan.*
- ★ *Implement social media strategies.*
- ★ *Build positive & effective Council and Staff relations.*
- ★ *Recognize City volunteers and continue developing elected and non-elected officials.*
- ★ *Recognize practical impacts of external relationships that cause harm to City operations.*

3. Capital Improvements Plan.

- ★ *Continue planning for new sewer lagoon and treatment improvements.*
- ★ *Plan for construction of a new playground.*
- ★ *Paint City Hall.*
- ★ *Plan for the Water Treatment Plant project that includes a new reservoir and the replacement of critical distribution lines.*
- ★ *Share with citizens the challenges related to projects such as Kirk Avenue, sidewalks, and riverbank restoration.*

4. Community Development Plan.

- ★ *Refine the Brownsville Municipal Code to reflect actual practice where needed.*
- ★ *Consider adopting rules for storage containers, election signs, and property identification.*
- ★ *Develop a plan to preserve & further the historic aesthetic of Brownsville.*
- ★ *Continue local & regional emergency preparedness efforts.*
- ★ *Support youth activities in partnership with the Central Linn Recreation Association.*



5. Economic Development Plan.

- ★ *Participate in regional efforts and opportunities with partner cities.*
- ★ *Support and implement the Rural Economic Alliance's (REAL) 5-year strategic plan.*
- ★ *Complete and implement the Land Use inventory project.*

6. Water Rights.

- ★ *Explore possible additional water source options.*
- ★ *Continually work on monitoring and perfecting City water rights.*
- ★ *Implement the State required Water Management & Conservation Plan.*

7. Advocacy Plan.

- ★ *Develop the Legislative Advocacy Policy Committee (LAPC) to effectively participate in the State legislative process and in the Federal legislative process when appropriate.*
- ★ *Focus on home rule with other stakeholders, partnerships, and other regional efforts to strengthen City policy positions and authority.*
- ★ *Monitor new laws, tort limits, system development charges, and recreational immunity protections for taxpayers, ratepayers, and to protect local amenities.*
- ★ *Market and promote the Small Municipalities Advocacy Coalition (SMAC).*



2025-2026 Council Values

Council Vision Statement

The Brownsville City Council works collaboratively and effectively with each other, staff, and community partners to preserve the historic character and economic health of our town and to create a high quality of life for our citizens.

A Vision for Brownsville

For a tiny rural Oregon community, Brownsville has a huge presence. It is well known throughout the state for its friendly welcome and for being a safe, clean, and attractive town. It is clear that residents value its historic character and make special efforts to preserve and enhance it. Talk to business owners in the thriving north and south business areas and you will find that it is the creative working relationships between city government and private, county, state, and federal partners that sustain our economic health and well-being. Residents participate in Brownsville's inclusive process of growing and enhancing our high quality of life. Brownsville citizens care about healthy city finances, they expect infrastructure that delivers, and they elect a City Council that works for the benefit of the community. Public spaces are a vital part of Brownsville's sense of place; citizens' and city government's attention to the appearance and cleanliness of parks, streets, and neighborhoods adds to the town's livability.

Tag line

Brownsville: Where People Care, Business Thrives, and History Lives

Who we are?

Brownsville is a City that is proud of its past while constantly improving toward the future for the benefit of our citizens. We are a group of citizens that honor each other by carefully balancing the social contract (Brownsville Municipal Code) to keep peace and order. The Brownsville Municipal Code and Comprehensive Plan help define the role of the City. Organizational transparency is a focus of Council. Council is working closely with Staff, volunteers, civic organizations, appointed officials and the citizenry to execute identified goals and carry out the responsibilities of the City.

Brownsville has a tremendous sense of place and synergy between City Hall and our residents. Active citizens are the true strength of Brownsville as evidenced by the volunteers who give freely of themselves to provide many municipal functions and civic services. Many civic organizations implement their missions actively in our community which provides a quality of life and vibrancy that is uncommon. Community events are planned and designed to invite people into town to share what Brownsville has to offer.

Council recognizes that many civic organizations and the City government are working diligently on implementing organizational development concepts in order to more efficiently provide services. Council recognizes that we are in a transition period between an authoritative model and are collectively moving toward a new, participatory approach within the organization and throughout the community.

What do we want for Brownsville?

Brownsville should honor the past, maintain a healthy present and strive to assure a dynamic future by focusing on fundamental municipal services such as:



- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Treasury Health | 7. Contract Administration |
| 2. Water | 8. Personnel |
| 3. Sewer | 9. Police Protection |
| 4. Capital Improvements | 10. Municipal Court |
| 5. Parks | 11. Library Services |
| 6. Streets | 12. Planning & Zoning |

Organizational Development

1. *Elected & Appointed Officials.* People who understand their role and responsibilities for the City as policy & decision makers. People who have a tremendous amount of pride and caring about the future of Brownsville. People who understand the financial nuances of local government in Oregon. People who understand and respect the significant contributions of Staff. People who are focused on the greater good they can collectively make in the community. People who understand the mission of the City and who can explain City policy and issues with the general public. People who represent Brownsville citizenry as well as City Staff.
2. *Staff.* People who understand their multiple roles and responsibilities. People who love coming to work. People who are interested in creating the best possible work environment that is full of respect and compassion for the citizens and is honest and trusting among all the ranks of the organization. People who don't complain about what they cannot control but people who are interested in creating practical, cost-effective solutions for those issues they can control. People who expect more than the ordinary from themselves and from each other.
3. *Organizational Axiom.* Creating, developing and maintaining effective relationships with individuals, other civic organizations, County, State & Federal government personnel. Understanding that the number one priority of the City is relationship building. The City shall honor relationships and the ordinances and laws of the land. The City shall be ever mindful of the importance of the social contract of government and the order that it strives to preserve for the sake of freedom.
4. *Civil Rights Act of 1964.* The City creates an environment of equal access to opportunities for all individuals in Brownsville. The City is committed to equal access through Federal and State laws, but also through local practice principled in the elimination of bias and barriers that may exist in the community and from developing in the City's organization. Council shall continue to consider implications of new and past policies that may create unnecessary barriers for members of minority groups, women, veterans and vulnerable populations.

NOTES: Council has discussed many organizational theories & objectives as well as identifying important critical thinking models that will serve as a guide for making better decisions. Below are a few of those models:

THE PROCESS OF PROGRESS

1. Recognize & Identify
2. Accept & Agree
3. Strategize & Develop Action Steps



2025-2026 Council Values

4. Implement & Execute
5. Review Outcomes

LEXIPOL'S 10 FAMILIES OF RISK MODEL

1. External Risks
2. Legal & Regulatory Risks
3. Strategic Risks
4. Organizational Risks
5. Operational Risks
6. Information Risks
7. Human Resources Risks
8. Technology Risks
9. Financial and Administrative Risks
10. Political Risks

How are expectations set in City Government?

- ◆ Laws & Municipal Code
- ◆ Standards
- ◆ Requirements & Rules
- ◆ Memoranda of Understanding
- ◆ Contracts
- ◆ Agreements
- ◆ Employee Handbook
- ◆ Societal Norms
- ◆ Cultural Nuances
- ◆ Public Opinion

**Acceptable
Conduct**
vs.
**Unacceptable
Conduct**

MONTH END FINANCIAL RECAP

		JUNE 2025		YTD	%	Unexpended	
		REVENUE	EXPENDITURES				
1	GENERAL	\$ 66,799.89	\$ 116,111.31	\$ 1,084,347.37	29.96%	\$ 2,534,507.63	1
2	WATER	\$ 46,555.81	\$ 31,938.71	\$ 523,307.57	46.46%	\$ 603,092.43	2
3	SEWER	\$ 44,658.45	\$ 20,657.25	\$ 343,721.33	30.73%	\$ 779,078.67	3
4	STREETS	\$ 20,205.15	\$ 34,790.96	\$ 207,298.07	50.70%	\$ 201,551.93	4
5	DEBT SERVICE (CLRC BOND)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 57,996.99	96.66%	\$ 2,003.01	
6	WATER BOND	\$ 227.63	\$ -	\$ 46,318.96	91.90%	\$ 4,081.04	5
7	SEWER BOND	\$ 1,027.98	\$ -	\$ 300,120.39	60.91%	\$ 192,579.61	6
8	SEWER DEBT FEE	\$ 12,654.62	\$ -	\$ 149,094.45	106.50%	\$ -	7
9	BUILDING & EQUIPMENT	\$ 654.34	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ 191,600.00	8
10	WATER RESERVE	\$ 2,710.30	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ 204,000.00	9
11	HOUSING REHAB	\$ 788.01	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ 231,100.00	10
12	WATER SDC	\$ 799.66	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ 62,500.00	11
13	SEWER SDC	\$ 2,648.97	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ 793,500.00	12
14	STORMWATER SDC	\$ 972.50	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ 291,000.00	13
15	BIKEWAY/PATHS	\$ 361.21	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ 69,070.00	14
16	LIBRARY TRUST	\$ 27.17	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ 7,920.00	15
17	CEMETERY	\$ 29.59	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ 98,292.00	16
18	TRANSIENT ROOM TX	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	17
19	SEWER CONSTRUCTION	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	18
20	LAND ACQUISITION	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ 9,985.00	19
21	COMMUNITY PROJECTS	\$ 262.60	\$ -	\$ 21,903.76	28.75%	\$ 54,296.24	20
		\$ 201,383.88	\$ 203,498.23	\$ 2,585,014.44			

Key Bank Account

General Checking	\$ 81,453.93
Oregon State Treasury	
General Account	\$ 6,372,243.23
Community Improvements	\$ 38.91
Project Escrow Holding	\$ 110,580.66
CLRC Renovation Acct	\$ 618.94
TOTAL OST / LGIP	\$ 6,483,481.74

Annual Bond Payment

Water	\$ 46,319.02
Wastewater	\$ 280,030.98
Total	\$ 326,350.00

2024-2025 YTD % of Total

Appropriated	\$ 491,050.00	29.01%
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Total Bonded Debt

Rec Center Gap Debt Payment is \$57,996.99

Total Bonded Debt is \$5,958,952 (Principle Only)

Total Bonded Debt is \$8,343,239 (Principle & Interest)

Previous Month Court Revenue \$ 693.10