

Council Agenda Packet

Tuesday, October 28th, 2025 | 7:00 p.m. | Council Chambers

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★	Please visit: https://www.ci.brownsville.or.us/citycouncil to review additional documents: 1) Ford Family Foundation Annual Report (<i>Oregon by the Numbers</i>).



Council Meeting

Tuesday, October 28th, 2025

Location: City Hall in 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: September 23rd, 2025
- 6) PUBLIC HEARINGS OR PRESENTATIONS:
 - A. Nick Droback | *TLC Non-Profit*
 - B. Brownsville Art Association Annual Report
- 7) DEPARTMENT REPORTS:
 - A. Sheriff
 - B. Public Works | *811 Overview*
 - C. Administrator
 - D. Planning | *E. Coleman*
 - E. Library | *S. Lemhouse*
 - 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:
 - A. **Resolution 2025.15:** Utility Accounts Write-off
 - B. **Ordinance 809:** Public Streetlight Application (*First Reading*)

This Agenda is a specific list of the subjects to be discussed at the meeting. Should you need assistance in any way, please notify S. Scott McDowell, City Administrator, at (541) 466-5880 in advance. Thank You!



C. **Ordinance 810:** Public Street Closure Application (*First Reading*)

10) ACTION ITEMS:

- A. Award City Hall Paint Project
- B. Appointed Officials | *Openings & Reappointments*
- C. Move November Council Meeting | *November 18th*
- D. Approve Council Meeting Schedule | *2026*

11) DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- A. Pacific Power Videos
- B. Franchise Agreements | *Lumen & Sweet Home Sanitation*
- C. September 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 Minutes

September 23rd, 2025

ROLL CALL: Mayor Craven called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. with Councilor Chambers, Councilor Hansen, Councilor Winklepleck, Councilor LaCoste, and Councilor Solberg present. Administrative Assistant Tammi Morrow, Administrative Assistant Jannea Deaver, Administrative Assistant Elizabeth Coleman, and City Administrator Scott McDowell were also present.

ABSENT: None.

PUBLIC: Sravya Tadepalli & Sharon Banks (*The Brownsville Times*).

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS: Mr. McDowell reported that there are several handouts on the dais tonight including a report from Public Works Superintendent Karl Frink and a flyer from NW Natural Gas. Mr. McDowell would like to add 10) D. Chamber Agreement to the agenda as well.

NEW CITIZEN'S COMMENT PROCEDURE: Mayor Craven reviewed the newly implemented procedure for Citizen's Comments, and the signup sheets were distributed.

MINUTES: Councilor Hansen made a motion to approve the July 22nd, 2025 meeting minutes as presented. Councilor Winklepleck seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING | PRESENTATIONS: None tonight.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

1. **Linn County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) Report | Sergeant Steve Frambes.** Sergeant Frambes reported that the numbers for July & August remained low, which is great. No major crimes, no fights. One couple had broken into the Christian Church, and there was a hit & run involving a parked car which was solved. The Sheriff's Office has fifty-one deputies split into four teams for patrol. He said that it is getting harder to find people who can pass the background check, the physical aspects required, and the extensive training required to become a deputy. Councilor Winklepleck asked for tips for Fall. Frambes recommended locking your car, leaving no valuables in your car, being aware of scams, consider installing a Ring doorbell or other security cameras, and consider leaving your porchlight on because it helps with patrols.
2. **Public Works (PW).** Superintendent Frink shared that several waterlines were repaired over the summer, two in the last two weeks. Staff have been juggling pumps to ensure that water continues to flow. Frink briefly explained the State's 811 program. The City is responsible for marking the City's utilities in the right-of-way, not on private property. If the City does not have utilities, then no marks are made. The City is required by law to mark in the time frames allowed by law. Frink encouraged everyone to call 811 when digging anywhere on their property, explaining that you can call 811 or generate a ticket at the 811 website: <https://digsafelyoregon.com/>. If you have an emergency, you must call the phone number for service. Frink is the President of the local chapter for 811. The Public Works report is on the desk for Council review.
3. **Administration.** Administrator Scott McDowell reminded Council of the new OLCC procedures, completely in electronic format now. If complaints are received, they will be processed through Mr. McDowell.

Mr. McDowell reported the City's Standard & Poor's rating is A+ after this last review. Implemented State policies have lowered ratings across Oregon according to S & P.

Mr. McDowell reported that the annual audit is scheduled for October 6th – 8th, 2025 this year. Staff have been preparing and submitting documents in preparation.



Council Minutes

McDowell reported that work continues with the Rural Economic Alliance (REAL) group. REAL is putting on an intern and a consultant to assist with the implementation of the strategic plan and the marketing plan. The group has signed an agreement with Nate Conroy to implement the marketing and strategic plan.

Mr. McDowell recently installed computers at the Library for the Librarian and for the circulation desk and the Administrator's computer at City Hall.

McDowell reminded Council that several agreements are coming up for review again soon as several are in the works.

Staff are working on reviewing the new website for potential launch in mid-October. McDowell encouraged Council to review the FEMA EIS rules. Public comment ends October 6th, 2025. LOC is hosting a webinar to go over the details on September 30th from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. The rules could dramatically impact certain areas of town.

The Linn County Clerk's Office is no longer located in the Court House; their new address is 421 Water Avenue NE, Suite 1300, Albany. The LCSO will place a renewal levy request on the November ballot.

The TMDL Shade Study requirements are estimated to cost around \$14,500 according to City Engineer Ryan Quigley. McDowell shared his concern about several Federal and State requirements that are going to seriously impact our citizens. He is also disturbed over the lack of coverage around these issues. These are not political issues; these are requirements that will greatly impact every taxpayer and rate payer in the State and make it more difficult for small cities to meet service needs. McDowell called out the irresponsible reporting by the Albany Democrat-Herald over the last few years.

LOC recently put out a summary of recent bills. McDowell will place the summary online for Council review. Councilor Winklepleck encouraged the newspapers to use their pens to help fight against all these unfunded mandates and requirements being pushed onto small cities and their ratepayers.

Connect Linn County sent the City a nice thank you for Council's support of their recent events.

4. **Planning.** No comments.
5. **Library.** No comments.
6. **Office.** No comments.
7. **Citizen Comments.** Sharon Banks, *The Brownsville Times*, reported that the newspaper had been resurrected on June 5th, 2025, as a vital part of Brownsville's heart and history. She encouraged everyone to continue to support the paper by subscribing, donating, contributing stories, and encouraging businesses to donate. Their website is brownsvilletimes.org.

LEGISLATIVE:

1. Resolution 2025.13 | Update Machinery, Materials & Human Resource Rates.

Councilor LaCoste made a motion to approve the new rates as presented. Councilor Winklepleck seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

2. Resolution 2025.14 | Planning Fees.

Councilor Hansen made a motion to approve the new planning fees as presented. Councilor Lacoste seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.



Council Minutes

3. **Arbor Day Proclamation.** Mayor Craven declared October 2025 as the month celebrated for Arbor Day this year.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. **Authorize City Hall Painting Project.** Council authorized Mr. McDowell to move forward with reissuing the City's RFQ as soon as possible.
2. **Pioneer Park Playground Equipment.** Council authorized Staff to move forward with the Park Board to initiate an RFP for replacement equipment as provided for by the Budget Committee.
3. **Rural Economic Alliance Intern (REAL).** *Councilor Hansen moved to authorize the City Administrator to serve as the fiduciary agent for REAL and to serve as the Intern Administrator with Linn Benton Community College. Councilor Solberg seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.*

4. **Chamber of Commerce Agreement.** McDowell recommended exercising the extra one-year option, and renewing the Chamber of Commerce agreement for one more year. Staff reported a few hiccups with the Antique Faire event this year, so a few issues will need to be addressed.

Councilor Hansen moved to authorize Staff to proceed with extending and renewing the Chamber Agreement for one more year. Councilor Solberg seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Mayor Craven suggested that it might be a good time to review the Calapooia Food Alliance (CFA) agreement, further stating that the organization is proving to be solvent and solid as an organization, and are doing well. Their agreement is coming up in November, and Mayor Craven recommends not renewing that agreement.

Councilor Solberg made a motion to discontinue this agreement. Councilor Chambers seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. **Proposed Ordinance 809| Public Streetlight Application.** Council reviewed an application process for streetlights as recommended by Staff. Council will entertain a first reading next month.
2. **Proposed Ordinance 810 | Public Street Closure Application.** Council reviewed an application process for the closure of public streets. Council will have a first reading next month.
3. **Pacific Power Outages Report.** Council reviewed the information provided by Regional Manager Scott Salazar looking into why the City has been experiencing power outages. Councilor Winklepleck urged Council to reach out to Pacific Power to get some better answers about these power interruptions. Council agreed by consensus.
4. **Vineyard Machines Warning.** Mayor Craven reminded everyone that the machines will start again as morning temperatures fall under 38° F to protect the grapes.
5. **July & August Financials.** No comments.

COUNCIL COMMENTS. Councilor Hansen said that Council unanimously endorsed Jami Cate's bid for the State Senate. Councilor Winklepleck said that considering recent tragedies it is important to remember that we all have far more in common, than not. Mayor Craven recalled high school debate class when students were required to argue both sides of issues. Craven hoped that people would choose to share meaningful dialogue about issues facing Oregon and the Nation.



Council Minutes

ADJOURNMENT: *Councilor Winklepleck moved to adjourn at 8:17 p.m. Councilor Chambers seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.*

City Administrator S. Scott McDowell

Mayor Adam Craven



City Administrator Report



October 28th, 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.

“There are two ways to be fooled. One is to believe what isn’t true; the other is to refuse to believe what is true.”

~ Soren Kierkegaard, *Philosopher*

“No is a complete sentence.”

~ Anne Lamott, *Novelist*

“Before your body moves, your mind has already made the decision. Before you quit, your thoughts have already surrendered.”

~ Egbeoror Favour



AGENDA ITEMS DISCUSSION

The following items follow the order of the Agenda

6) PUBLIC HEARINGS OR PRESENTATIONS

9) LEGISLATIVE:

- A. Resolution 2025.15: Utility Accounts Write-off** | Periodically, Staff reviews delinquent or uncollectable amounts that are “on the books.” Administrative Assistant Jannea Deaver has identified a handful of charges that the City will never be able to collect for a variety of reasons. Staff recommends that Council eliminate those amounts for bookkeeping purposes.

What is Council being asked to do?

Consider passing this resolution to remove uncollectible debts from the general ledger.

- B. Ordinance 809: Public Streetlight Application (First Reading)** | Council will give this ordinance a first reading this evening.



From 09.23.2025: Staff are recommending a more streamlined process for streetlight requests. Past practice has run new, non-emergency ordinances through the discussion process before a first reading.

What is Council being asked to do?

Give the ordinance a first read. Ask any questions, suggest any edits, modifications or otherwise.



City Administrator Report

- C. **Ordinance 810: Public Street Closure Application (First Reading)** | Council will give this ordinance a first reading this evening.

From 09.23.2025: Staff are recommending formalizing the street closure process. Past practice has run new, non-emergency ordinances through the discussion process before a first reading.

What is Council being asked to do?

Give the ordinance a first read. Ask any questions, suggest any edits, modifications or otherwise.



10) ACTION ITEMS:

- A. **Award City Hall Paint Project** | The City forwarded several invitations for the project at the end of September with an October 24th, 2025 deadline. The City received several quotes. Public Works Superintendent Frink and I reviewed the quotes, and the results will be shared at Council meeting.

From 09.23.2025: The City received no bids from any of the contractors by the RFP deadline. Staff will republish the RFP late winter, early spring. Council will make the final decision once the proposals are tabulated by Staff.

- B. **Appointed Officials** | Annually, Staff reviews appointed official's terms, and the following members would like to be considered for reappointment:

Budget Committee

Dayna Hansen | Matt Shoemaker

Openings

One for Planning Commission.

What is Council being asked to do?

Consider the reappointment of these officials and authorize Staff to advertise for openings.

- C. **Move November Council Meeting** | Staff is requesting the November 25th, 2025 Council meeting to be moved forward one week to November 18th, 2025.

What is Council being asked to do?

Consider moving the meeting forward one week to accommodate the Thanksgiving Holiday.

- D. **Approve Council Meeting Schedule | 2026** | Annually, Council approves the Council meeting schedule for the upcoming year. You will notice the April Budget Committee meeting, the May meeting moved back after Memorial Day, the August recess, and an early meeting for November & December, on the 2026 proposed calendar. The retreats have also been included. The only meeting yet to be scheduled is the goals review meeting that typically happens at the end of January or the beginning of February.



What is Council being asked to do?

Consider approving the schedule. Council may make modifications as deemed necessary.



City Administrator Report

11) DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- A. **Pacific Power Videos & Report** | District Manager Scott Salazar provided the new, enclosed report for Council review. Staff requested videos for the upcoming meeting.
- B. **Franchise Agreements | Lumen & Sweet Home Sanitation** | Staff are currently working to update agreements as needed.
- C. **September 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)

Year	Month	Traffic Citations	Traffic Warnings	Hours
2025	September	5	3	200
2025	August	12	12	202.75
2025	July	22	5	231.5
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
<i>Subtotal</i>		317	367	3790
Total Average		17.61	20.39	210.6
		Cites	Warnings	Hours

LCSO Quarterly Meeting ☐ | Council President Chambers may provide a report.

From 07.22.2025: 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



City Administrator Report

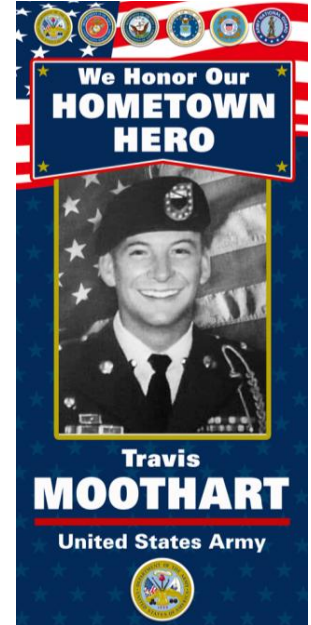
needed for seven fatalities that happened throughout the County in June. Cities shared events and operational needs for the upcoming months. Overall, everyone present was satisfied with the service received.

American Legion | Banners Report ☑ | Staff has worked on completing the design for the Hometown Heroes banner with ArtPlus in Albany. The City has ordered ten (10) banners to be hung in time for Veteran's Day. The American Legion and a Council subcommittee worked together to honor community veterans.

From 09.23.2025: The Banner Committee met with members of the American Legion to identify local heroes to honor as part of a street banner program. The project is currently in the design phase. The City hopes to hang the banner for Veterans Day.

TMDL | Shade Study | Staff will have more on the implications of the requirements being added to the City's TMDL Plan next month as it is the required TMDL talk. Council continues to spend an inordinate amount of time on this one issue due to the financial implications of this program.

From 09.23.2025: Dyer Partnership's Ryan Quigley projects a ball park figure of \$14,500 to complete the shade study recently order by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ).



Open Enrollment | Employees finished enrolling for benefits earlier this month.

Computer Upgrades | Staff will soon be replacing the two public computers at the Library and installing two new computers for the Volunteer Staff.

From 09.23.2025: Staff installed new computers for the City Administrator, Library and the Circulation station. Staff also repaired the backup system with the help of Harris Computers. Librarian Lemhouse replaced several old printers at the Library as well. The City will look to replace the public computers early 2026.

REAL Meeting ☑ | McDowell has been busy working with partners in REAL and activating new LBCC intern Elise McConnell. McDowell and McConnell have attended meetings in Sweet Home and Harrisburg recently. McDowell met with Philomath's City Manager, Chris Workman, to discuss details for the contract with Nate Conroy. A lot of progress is being made!



Rural Economic Alliance Intern – *From 09.23.2025:* Staff would like authorization to serve as the fiduciary agent for the Linn-Benton Community College intern for the Fall and Spring terms. The other communities in REAL will reimburse the City for their portion of the related expenses. McDowell will also serve as Intern Administrator with LBCC.

From 09.23.2025: The group has offered an agreement to Nate Conroy to work on the Marketing and Strategic Plan. McDowell has worked on behalf of REAL with LBCC to secure an intern to help with the projects as well. It is exciting to see things start to move forward! Kelly Hart has accepted a new position and will no longer be with the City of Lebanon. Kelly has been instrumental in working on REAL issues through the years and she will be deeply missed. We wish her all the best in her future endeavors.



City Administrator Report

From 07.22.2025: 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.

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.

Communications Committee | *From 09.23.2025:* The Committee met September 8th, 2025 to review several items. Council process and interaction information will be provided at the Retreat immediately following the meeting Tuesday. The Committee has not formalized any official policy concepts for Council's consideration to date.

ACTIVE, PENDING, STALLED & COMPLETED

Active: Pioneer Park Playground Project | Staff have reached out to an Oregon playground equipment company for a possible design for the new playground slated for Spring 2026. Once Staff can gather a proposal, Parks & Open Space Advisory Board will review plans for a Council recommendation. Staff hope to be able to provide this for Council by the November Council meeting.



From 09.23.2025: The Park Board and Staff will work on an RFP this Fall. Staff will proceed with the project as planned with the Park Board coming to Council as needed.

Active: James Land Lease Agreement | Fencing has been installed. Staff will be reaching out to Joe James to finalize the work and the agreement for the lease of this land from the City.

From 09.23.2025: Staff is working with Cozetta James to complete the agreement and reinstall the fencing.

From 07.22.2025: 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 concerned raised last summer.

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.



City Administrator Report

Recycled Complaints | *From 09.23.2025:* Councilor Chambers reported that people are still complaining about the playground equipment in Pioneer Park. Council has covered this concern multiple times over the last two years. Public Works Superintendent Frink explained that the slide is on back order, but given the age of the equipment the manufacturer will not fill enough orders to manufacture the piece needed. The City is planning a new playground for 2026. It is also to remember the details of the Pioneer Park Riverbank Erosion and the status of Kirk Avenue. A complaint about the crossing on Bishop Way/Highway 228 recently resurfaced. The ODOT is in charge of any improvements or modifications to those crosswalks. The City has received one complaint since the traffic calming devices were removed a few years ago. It is also important to note that the DOT has a sizeable deficit and has announced the closure of the Sweet Home location which should cause concern for snow removal this winter.



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.

Pending: Canal Company Agreement Update | *From 07.22.2025:* 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.



City Administrator Report

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.

Pending: Central Linn School District & Central Linn Recreation Association IGA | Central Linn School District Superintendent Rob Hess recently stopped into discuss the agreement modification. Staff need to review the requests with the Central Linn Recreation Association leadership before reintroducing the changes to Dr. Hess.

From 09.23.2025: Staff met with new interim Superintendent Rob Hess. The two have agreed to modify the agreement this Fall.

From 07.22.2025: 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.



Active: Alyrica Equipment Report | Staff are in the process of having internet services installed at the Rec Center and the Water Treatment Plant.

From 07.22.2025: 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.



Completed: Rec Center Renovation Project | *From 09.23.2025:* J.E. John finally glazed the family bathroom windows and painted the window on the front of the building.

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.



City Administrator Report

Small Municipalities Advocacy Coalition (SMAC)

Small Municipalities Advocacy Coalition (SMAC) ☑ | Staff was asked to provide reformation documents for this effort. Several cities have met to review these documents. Next step includes bringing in elected officials to begin moving the project forward. SMAC's grant bill looks like it could be moving through the short-session of the State Legislature.

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.

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,

S. Scott McDowell
City Administrator

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

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



Public Works Report October 22, 2025

Water:

- *Billing Support*- Follow through on customer service support and requests.
- *Meter reading* – Water meters have been read for the month of October.
- *Distribution System* – There was a total of six water leaks in the last month.
- *Cross Connection Program*- The Cross Connection Control Program has been reviewed and revised to include updated rules and regulations. Public works will be going out for bid for backflow device testing soon.
- *Water Treatment Plant* –All instruments have been calibrated to factory specifications. One distribution pump failed and is currently being repaired. The annual generator maintenance and load test is complete.
- *Misc.* –Monthly reports and sample results have been submitted to OHA. The annual water use report has been submitted to OWRD. The generator at the GR-12 pump station had the annual maintenance and load test completed.

Sewer:

- *North Lagoons* – Nothing to report this month. Preparations for annual discharge of this facility are under way. The annual generator maintenance and load test is complete.
- *South Lagoons*- This facility has been partially mowed. Preparations for annual discharge of this facility are under way. The annual generator maintenance and load test is complete.
- *Misc.* Monthly Discharge Monitoring Report has been submitted to DEQ.
- *Mowing/Tree Maintenance* –Public Works has been mowing all right of ways though out town. Public Works will begin tree trimming throughout town soon.
- *Asphalt/ Gravel Road Maintenance* –Public works will be grading all gravel streets as soon as our equipment returns from repairs.
- *Storm Drainage* – Nothing to report this month.
- *Misc.* – Street sign work continues as time allows. A complete evaluation of all street signs is complete, and several signs will be replaced soon. We will be creating a map showing all the areas in town public works mow and maintain.

Parks:

- *Pioneer Park* – The park has been very busy. Public Works have assumed all duties of the park. One broken water line has been repaired. Leaf cleanup has begun.
- *Blakely Park* – This park is mowed and maintained weekly. The playground timber border has been replaced.
- *Kirk's Ferry Park* – This park is mowed and maintained weekly.
- *Remington Park* – This park is mowed and maintained weekly.

Cemetery:

- *Grounds* – The cemetery will be mowed and trimmed prior to Veteran's Day.

Library:

- *Grounds*- This facility is mowed and maintained weekly.
- *Buildings*- Nothing to report this month.

Downtown

- *Restrooms* – This facility is cleaned every Friday, or more often needed.
- *Garbage cans* – Downtown garbage cans are emptied every Friday, or more often as needed.
- *Parking Lot* – Nothing to report this month.
- *Misc.* – The Gateway area is mowed and maintained weekly. We will be trimming the Gateway trees soon.

City Hall:

- *Buildings*- Nothing to report this month.
- *Grounds* –The grass is mowed and maintained weekly.
- *Community Center*- Nothing to report from this facility this month.

Rec. Center:

- *Grounds*- The grass is mowed and maintained weekly.
- *Buildings*- Public Works has been performing all custodial maintenance work as the custodian has been unable to work for health reasons.

Public Works:

- *Grounds*- This facility has been mowed and maintained as needed.
- *Buildings*- Cleaning and organizing continues as time allows.
- *Misc.* – Preventative maintenance is performed on all the vehicles and equipment. All the equipment at public works has been repaired or in the process of being repaired to prepare for use.
- *Equipment Repair*- Several pieces of equipment have broken down and have been repaired. We are still waiting on repairs for our tractor to finish up. The hydraulic pump failed and has been on backorder for several months.
- *Training*-Nothing to report this month.

Respectfully Submitted,



Karl Frink, Public Works Superintendent

PLANNING AT A GLANCE

October 2025

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

• Structural	Change of Use Garage Conversion	719 Kirk Ave
• Structural	16x30 Deck	781 Pebble St
• Mechanical	Mini Split	102 E Kisling Ave
• Plumbing	Install New Water Heater	926 Oak St
• Plumbing	Second Bathroom	719 Kirk Ave
• Mechanical	Ductless HP w/2 AH	315 Stanard Ave
• Plumbing	Water Repipe & WH Replacement	620 Calapooia Ave
• Construction	Accessory Structure 8x15	917 Ash St
• Fence		917 Ash St
• Construction	Accessory Structure 10x17 Roof Cover	190 Kirk Ave
• Fence		783 Pebble St
• Fence		185 N Main St
• Structural	Carport/Shop 60x30	640 Washburn St

OTHER:

DLCD: Model Code for Small Cities in the process of being updated.
Update to be provided at Council.

FEMA

Update to be provided at Council.

10.06.2025: Staff submitted comments to FEMA regarding the draft EIS.

09.11.2025: Staff scheduled to attend a virtual public meeting related to this issue. Staff will also likely attend a virtual public meeting on 9.30.2025. Opportunities to provide comment on this issue will be available until October 6th, 2025. Draft EIS & Updated Draft Implementation Plan can be found on the Oregonians for Floodplain Development website.

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.

Thank you,

Elizabeth E. Grewer

Michelle Duncan, Sheriff

Albany, OR. 97322

www.linnsheriff.org

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

SEPTEMBER

COMPLAINTS/INCIDENTS INVESTIGATED:----- 68

200 Hours

**Michelle Duncan,
Sheriff, Linn County**

By: Sgt. Steven Frambes



Library Advisory Board

Librarian's Report

September 2025

Here are a few facts about our Library for the month of September 2025. We have received 40 new books for the library. Volunteers donated 100.75 hours to our library. There were 1,056 materials checked out. 364 adult fiction books; 81 adult non-fiction books; 40 audio books; 237 children's books; 194 junior books; 50 junior reference books and 90 large print books.

There was a total of 283 electronic materials checked out. 180 adult fiction books; 57 adult non-fiction books; and 46 junior books. Of these 82 were eBooks and 201 were eAudiobooks.

In September, we held 4 children's programs with 41 participants. There were 6 programs for adults with 32 participants. At Story Time we talked about bears, hedgehogs, and apples. Our song of the month was about Douglas Fir Trees. Did you know that New Zealand tried to plant Douglas Fir Trees in their country, and they didn't grow there! Douglas Fir Trees have a symbiotic relationship with mycorrhizal fungi to help each live. Join us for Story Time each Friday from 11 – Noon. You never know what you might learn!

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sherri Lemhouse".

Sherri Lemhouse
Librarian



RESOLUTION 2025.15

A RESOLUTION TO WRITE OFF LONG-TERM, OUTSTANDING BALANCE ON CERTAIN UTILITY ACCOUNTS

WHEREAS, the City charges monthly utility usage to its customers; and,

WHEREAS, the City has on its books a delinquent accounts for past due utility payments and/or fees disputed; and,

WHEREAS, the Council recognizes that the ability of the City to effectively collect on these historical outstanding payments and/or overdue fees has become a cumbersome activity, and the likelihood of collecting is extremely minimal; and,

WHEREAS, many of the delinquent accounts for outstanding payments and/or fees are still maintained as available revenue on the accounts receivable ledgers of the City; and,

WHEREAS, it is the desire of City Staff and Council to clean up the financial records and books of the City and avoid the carry-over of accounts receivables as available revenue, which stand a minimal possibility of collection; and,

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that writing off delinquent accounts receivables would clear up the books and financial records of the City; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE BROWNSVILLE CITY COUNCIL, does hereby authorize Staff to take appropriate action to write-off the account listed below:

- ★ Christina Hays | Deceased | \$72.48
- ★ Alicia LeGore | Unknown | \$92.75
- ★ Joshua James | Unknown | 2004 | \$12.50
- ★ Angela McCoy | Repossession | 2011 | \$403.60
- ★ Kim Hoyer | Repossession | 2016 | \$294.00
- ★ Kevin Robb | Repossession | 2010 | \$728.98
- ★ Total Amount = \$1,604.31

Introduced and adopted this 28th, day of October 2025.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

S. Scott McDowell
City Administrator

Adam R. Craven
Mayor



ORDINANCE NO. 809

AN ORDINANCE ADDING SECTION 12.10.45, APPLICATION FOR PUBLIC STREETLIGHT INSTALLATION TO THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE CITY OF BROWNSVILLE, OREGON

WHEREAS, Title 12 of the Brownsville Municipal Code (BMC) defines Streets & Sidewalks, and;

WHEREAS, Council wishes to add language to direct requests for the addition of public streetlights; and,

NOW THEREFORE, the City of Brownsville ordains as follows:

Section 1. The following Section 12.10.045 is added as follows:

12.10.045 Application for Public Streetlight Installation.

Any citizen can apply for the installation of a public streetlight. The applicant will be responsible for all fees related to the installation and operation of the streetlight, if approved. The Public Works Superintendent and the City Administrator will evaluate the application to ensure it meets the Public Works Standards and assess the need for the streetlight. The Council will set and periodically review all fees associated with the streetlight installation by resolution.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL AND APPROVED BY THE MAYOR,
this ____th day of November 2025.

Attest:

Approved:

S. Scott McDowell
City Administrator

Adam R. Craven
Mayor



Streetlight Installation Application

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Proposed Location of Streetlight: _____

Please identify the utility pole number: _____

Describe the Public Safety need or state reasons for the installation:

Applicants will be responsible for all permits, fees, and installation costs associated with the installation of a new streetlight including the first year of service. Pacific Power sets the charges and rates for streetlights. The City will pass on direct costs plus a 20% administrative fee for processing the request.

Signature: _____



ORDINANCE NO. 810

AN ORDINANCE ADDING SECTION 12.10.46, APPLICATION FOR PUBLIC STREET CLOSURE TO THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE CITY OF BROWNSVILLE, OREGON

WHEREAS, Title 12 of the Brownsville Municipal Code (BMC) defines Streets & Sidewalks, and;

WHEREAS, Council wishes to add language to direct requests for the closure of a public street; and,

NOW THEREFORE, the City of Brownsville ordains as follows:

Section 1. The following Section 12.10.046 is added as follows:

12.10.046 Application for Public Street Closure.

Any citizen can apply for the closure of a public street. The applicant will be responsible for any related fees related to the closure including providing an application, providing an insurance certificate naming the City additionally insured at the prescribed coverage amounts required and shall collect signatures from effected neighbors notifying them of the details of the proposed closure. The Council may set and periodically review all fees associated with street closure requests by resolution.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL AND APPROVED BY THE MAYOR,
this ____th day of November 2025.

Attest:

Approved:

S. Scott McDowell
City Administrator

Adam R. Craven
Mayor

NOTE: Applicants for private event closure will be subject to a \$200.00 street closure fee.



Street Closure Application

Today's Date: _____

Organization: _____

Full Address: _____

Purpose of Closure: _____

Contact Person: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____

Street(s) to be closed: _____

Date(s) to be closed: _____

For all street closures, 1) it is your responsibility to contact all residents and business owners in the immediate area to determine if they have any special concerns; please use the format provided below, 2) attach a map of the immediate area with the residences/businesses marked that were contacted, 3) attach a map showing how you propose to reroute traffic or use traffic control that may be needed, 4) include an insurance certificate naming the City of Brownsville as additionally insured in the amounts as required by the City, and 5) make arrangement with City Staff for Street Closure Signs and any related devices.

All applications must be received sixty (60) in advance of the event.

Email completed forms and additional documents to admin@ci.brownsville.or.us.

Business/Residence	Address	Contacted		Concerns	Email to send permit
		Yes	No		

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

☐ **Approved** ☐ **Not Approved** Date: _____ Permit #: _____

If not approved, reason: _____

TLC Non-Profit | *Nick & Ericka Droback*

OUR SUPPORT SERVICES

EDUCATE DEPARTMENTS WITH CRITICAL INCIDENT STRESS MANAGEMENT:

Teaching firefighters how to deal with the tough calls during and after the call by walking alongside them during and after the actual call.

PRIVATE COUNCIL WITH FIREFIGHTERS & EMERGENCY MEDICAL RESPONDERS:

We often discuss family and marriage issues as well as work conflicts etc.

PRIVATE COUNCIL WITH COMMAND STAFF:

Sometimes the Chief and other officers need to vent and talk through their stresses of management.

PRIVATE COUNCIL WITH COMMUNITY MEMBERS IN TIMES OF TRAGEDY AND LOSS:

After the death of a spouse, child or other loved one people often times need a listening ear and some tools to help them move forward in a healthy way. Other times it's bystanders who witnessed a horrific accident and need help in working through the trauma.

ON SCENE STABILIZATION OF COMMUNITY MEMBERS IN CRISIS:

This can mean literally helping someone breathe during a call as they hyperventilate or keep them warm in a safe vehicle away from the accident while firefighters do their job. I also coordinate with the Red Cross and homeowners insurance to get those resources in motion as quickly as possible.

SUPPORT FIREFIGHTERS ON SCENE AND WATCH FOR CRITICAL INCIDENT STRESS:

Once I'm familiar with a person's emotional baseline I can watch for increased changes that are effecting them negatively and offer tools and support to deal with it in a healthy way.

COORDINATION WITH SCHOOLS, WORKPLACES AND OTHER OUTSIDE GROUPS AS NEEDED FOR INDIVIDUALS IN CRISIS:

Sometimes the family needs me to call their deceased loved one's workplace to inform them of the death. Another example is working with the school if one of their students were affected by a call.

COORDINATING SCENE CLEAN UP OF SUICIDES AND OTHER MESSY CALLS:

Unfortunately suicides and other deaths can create extremely messy scenes and require professional services to restore a room or rooms. I coordinate with the homeowner's insurance company and biohazard cleaning service so that the

TLC Non-Profit | *Nick & Ericka Droback*

family can focus on working through their grief. I often stay on scene or return with the family as they return home.

END OF LIFE SUPPORT WITH FAMILIES:

Bedside care, prayer and reading of scripture as their loved one dies.

WALKING FAMILY THROUGH NEXT STEPS AFTER THE DEATH OF A LOVED ONE:

I coordinate with the funeral home and Sheriff's office and help transfer the remains of the deceased. This can be physically helping in removing a body from a vehicle on the highway or from a home in a natural death.

DELIVER DEATH NOTIFICATIONS:

At the request of a sheriff's deputy or State trooper these are done in person at the family home, place of business or school. Informing the next of kin that their loved one has died.

OFFICIATE FUNERAL OR MEMORIAL SERVICES:

On occasion the family will not have prepared and are lost as to what to do with services. At their request I will officiate the service and help coordinate with the funeral home or cemetery.

OFFICIATE WEDDINGS:

I am here for the happy times as well, It is my honor to help first responders with pre-marital counseling and wedding officiation.

I hope and pray that by sharing the details of this mission, individuals will understand the importance of our work and recognize that it relies entirely on consistent financial support from the communities we serve—churches, businesses, and generous families in Central Linn and Monroe. As a self-employed chaplain licensed through [First Baptist Church of Brownsville](#), there are no outside grants or other funding sources; we depend solely on those we serve to provide the support needed to continue operating.

WHO WE ARE

I was born and raised in San Diego, California and grew up in Ocean Beach spending most of my time with friends, surfing, skateboarding and making music. Erika and I met while she was still in college attending Point Loma Nazarene University and I was a GSA contractor with the Navy. Our relationship was solidified while I was overseas and we were married shortly thereafter in 2004.

We quickly moved to Oregon, knowing that this is where we wanted to begin to raise our family. We have made our home in Brownsville for the last 12 years. As the family grew we needed more space and found a great spot in our town and an amazing church family at First Baptist Brownsville.

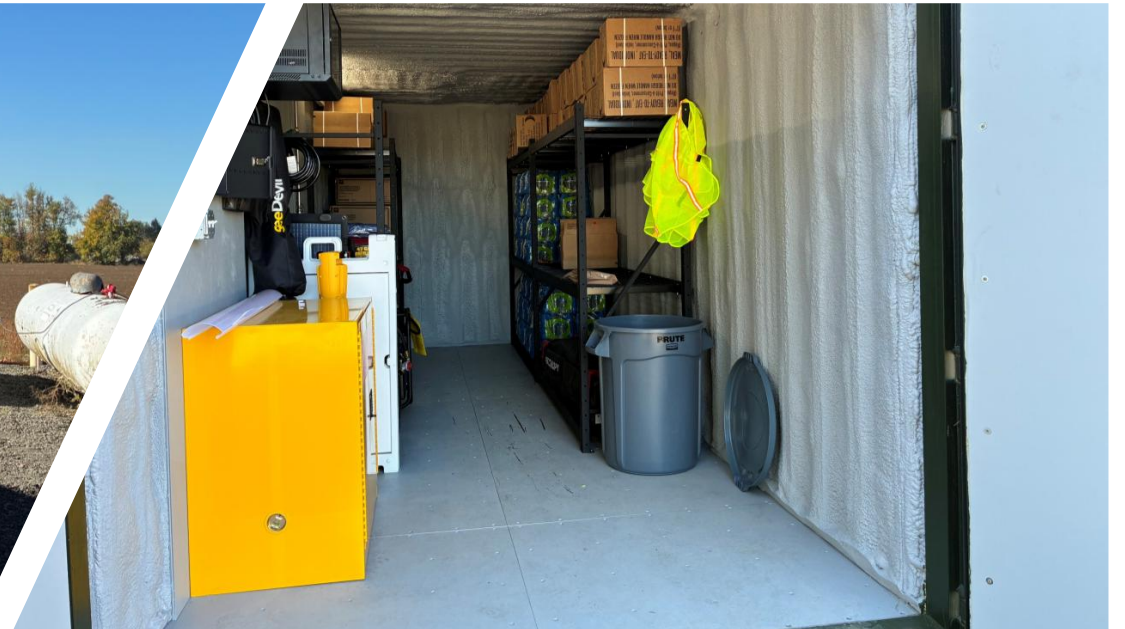
My wife, Erika and I have seven children with several of them coming through amazing adoption stories. There are two areas that we have focused on in serving others. One is fostering young children with the goal of helping to teach them healthy attachments and lead them into healthy lives. The other area is first responder chaplaincy.

As a volunteer firefighter for several years and serving in church ministry for over 28 years, we recognized the call into full-time ministry serving first responders and their communities in crisis. As a chaplain, my mission is to serve alongside first responders and help them walk through all of the challenges that life has including difficult calls and the critical incident stress that is produced by them. I want to see them live healthy, successful, and resilient lives both in their careers and their families. The other side of first responder chaplaincy is serving the public experiencing life-changing crisis and working to stabilize them and walk-through the difficult next steps. No one should have to walk through those dark days alone.

In our free time, we enjoy camping and traveling as a family. We appreciate getting to explore as much of the US as possible and learning about each area including the history and food culture too! In the fall, I like to recharge my batteries in Solitude by getting into the woods to hunt and enjoy God's creation.

With the support of our family, church, fire family and community we intend to do our best to fulfill our calling found in James 1:27 and 2 Cor. 1:3-4 in serving our mission field.

Chaplain Nick and Erika Droback



Council Meetings 2026



January

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

February

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

March

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

April

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			1	2	3	4
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

May

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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

June

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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

July

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

August [Recess]

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

September

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

October

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

November

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

December

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Yellow are Regularly Scheduled Council Meetings.

Green is the Budget Committee Meeting.

January, April, July & October are Council Retreats.



Linn County Commissioners OK transportation agreements

By Alex Paul

Linn County Reporter

ALBANY, Ore. — Linn County Commissioners Roger Nyquist, Sherrie Sprenger and Will Tucker approved three transportation agreements during their September 30 meeting.

The agreements were presented by Reagan Maudlin, Linn County Special/Rural Transportation Coordinator.

The commissioners approved an amendment to the Rural Veterans Healthcare Transportation Grant, increasing its budget by \$25,000 and extending the project period through the end of the calendar year. The original grant of \$50,000 was secured in April 2024.

Funds are used to help Linn County Veterans Services provide rides for veterans. So far, the grant has funded 217 healthcare-related rides for veterans who live in rural Linn County.

The commissioners approved a Subrecipient Agreement with the Senior Citizens of Sweet Home, Inc. to receive Federal Section 5310 funding, not to exceed \$197,406 for the 2025-2027 biennium, through a contract with the Oregon Department of Transportation.

The agreement allows the 5310 funds to be used to support the Linn County Special Transportation Program by contracting services with the Senior Citizens of Sweet Home, Inc./Linn Shuttle.

The commissioners also approved an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Albany/Call-A-Ride. The program will receive up to \$335,026 for the 2025-2027 biennium through a contract with ODOT. The funds are from the 5310 Small Urban category and the City of Albany is the only provider in Linn County that meets the designation.

In other business, the commissioners:

- Approved First-Time Youth Wage Grant Agreements with Phelan Enterprises and Irvinville, LLC.
- Announced there are three vacancies on the county's Mental Health Advisory Board. Terms are for three years and there can be up to 15 members.



- Presented retired Roadmaster Wayne Mink with a plaque honoring his 25 years of service to the residents of Linn County. An engineer by training, Mink held several positions with the Linn County Road Department from December 1999 to September 2025. He served as Roadmaster the last five years of his career.
- Announced that an Elected Officials meeting will be held from 12-2 p.m. on Wednesday, October 1, in Conference Room 4 at the Linn County Fair & Expo Center.
- Received an update from Troy Jones from the Friends of Gap Road group, which opposes the proposed 1,600-acre Muddy Creek Solar Park near Harrisburg.

Continued a Public Hearing from September 2, voting to deny an appeal and uphold the Linn County Planning Director's interpretation regarding whether a property has functional road access. At issue was whether a property off Scravel Hill Road near Albany has a recorded easement. The commissioners determined there is no recorded easement on file with the county and therefore, the property does not have recognized access under Linn County Code.

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



Planning & Building Department's September Activity Reported

By Alex Paul

Linn County Reporter

ALBANY, Ore. — The Linn County Planning & Building Department issued 84 land use permits in September, Director Steve Wills told Linn County Commissioners Will Tucker and Sherrie Sprenger at the October 14 board meeting.

There were 339 total permits issued last month, including 44 for dwellings. Of those, 10 were for single-family homes, four for manufactured homes, 23 for additions or alterations and seven for accessory buildings.

Six commercial permits were issued.

Of the 339 permits issued, 48 required plan reviews.

The Planning & Building Department issued 41 permits for contract cities in September. Of those, one permit was for a new home and nine were for additions or alterations.

There were eight commercial permits issued.

Seven permits required plan reviews.

Code enforcement opened 13 new cases and closed 13 cases for the month.

In September 2024, there were 50 land use permits, 294 total permits and 18 contract city permits issued.

In other business, the commissioners:

- Approved the purchase of a Ford F550 truck with a utility box by the Road Department. The unit will be leased to the Parks and Recreation Department and repaid over five years. This will be a cooperative purchase for \$93,619.06 from Northside Ford in Portland through the OregonBuys statewide procurement program.
- Approved a refund of \$1,052.43 from the Planning & Building Department to Spaniols Inc. of Stayton for plumbing permit fees that had been paid twice.

Appointed Robert Shepherd to Position No. 6 and Cheryl Hanslovan to Position No. 9 on the Linn County Planning Commission. All nine Planning Commission positions are now filled.

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

S. Scott McDowell

From: LOC <loc@orcities.org>
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2025 2:35 PM
Cc: jberney@smw16.org
Subject: Assistance for Cities to Upgrade Publicly Owned Buildings
Attachments: NW Regional Council of SMART.pdf

Good afternoon,

The LOC is sharing a wonderful opportunity for cities that are looking to upgrade their HVAC systems, have air quality projects, or install solar carports in their publicly owned buildings. Attached is the information from the Northwest Regional Council of SMART on how you can take advantage of federal subsidies and tax credits to make changes at no out-of-pocket costs.

If you have questions, please contact Mike Bahr at mike.bahr@cssgrants.org.

Thank you,

Chien



Chien Crisp, *Administrative Assistant/Receptionist*

503-588-6550

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

www.orcities.org



Northwest Regional Council of SMART

SHEET METAL | AIR | RAIL | TRANSPORTATION

11831 Beverly Park Rd
Bldg 82
Everett, WA 98204



Ph: 425-697-9100
Fc: 425-493-5901

Dear Mayor and City Manager,

I write to you today about a window of opportunity that is closing soon for upgrades to certain publicly owned buildings requiring no out-of-pocket costs. These upgrades include HVAC repair or replacement, air quality projects, and solar carports (that can include energy storage, EV car chargers, asphalt repaving, lighting, and security for parked cars).

The unions in the Northwest Regional Council of SMART (the International Association of Sheet Metal, Air, Rail and Transportation Workers) in the Pacific Northwest have invested \$1 million of our money to help secure grant writing through a 501(c)(3) nonprofit for these federal subsidies and tax credits for public buildings, including right here in Oregon. Partnering with the grant writing nonprofit, Community Systems Solutions (or "CSS"), we started working with Oregon school districts (70 to date) and are now letting you know about the opportunity for projects that begin by June 2026.

The federal subsidies and tax credits are about to expire, but they have not expired yet. This initiative is a no risk, win-win opportunity for government owned buildings statewide. It will only take a few minutes to navigate to the CSS's website to see if you can take advantage. The link to that page is: <https://cleanenergybuildings.com/>

Additionally, our nonprofit partner is bringing new opportunities for communities with identified redevelopment projects by accelerating the path from concept to project to create jobs, strengthen local economies, and maximize underutilized assets.

I encourage you to visit their website and set up an appointment to see if you can take advantage of this rare opportunity to upgrade buildings and increase equity in publicly owned assets with no out-of-pocket requirements. If you have any questions, please feel free to email them at: mike.bahr@cssgrants.org

Thank you,

Russell Brown
Financial Secretary Treasurer
NWRC of SMART

Two Burrs in a saddle

Published 12:46 pm Thursday, September 18, 2025

By Carolyn Campbell



Ben Gates stands of bluff overlooking Deschtues River where he and Urban Patterns business partner planned to build affordable housing in Maupin, Ore. (Carolyn Campbell)

A city-based developer and a rural old-timer call for affordable housing before it's too late.

Rod Woodside, owner of Richmond's Service in Maupin, Ore., stood with his arms crossed over his black overalls and grease-stained gray T- shirt. Pushing 70, at over six feet, dirt under his nails, wild gray hair, and a large barrel chest, Woodside could be a mill worker, a rancher, a fabricator, or a mechanic. He's been all of them. As well as a computer programmer. Considered the patriarch of the town by many, Woodside could be intimidating if it weren't for the twinkle in his eye.



Rod Woodside at his Richmond's Service Station in Maupin, Ore. (Carolyn Campbell)

Once a thriving mill town, now a rafting destination along the Deschutes River, Woodside's town of Maupin is changing fast. Some old-timers say too fast. Newcomers and young folks say it's not fast enough. Pointing to the rotting boards dangling from the overhang of his gas station, he grumbled. "I'm told those need to be torn down and the support beams replaced. I'm kind of regretting it. I'm gonna be trying to pump gas while everything is torn apart."

Ben Gates, the owner of Maupin Works, the town's Business Accelerator, talked Woodside into this 'facelift' and helped him apply for a "Main Street Match Grant."

Walking through his station, Woodside listed the necessary repairs, including a new roof, a new service bay door, and an updated waste oil heater converting used car oil to heat and cool the building.

When asked whether he liked the changes Gates recommended, Woodside stated gruffly, "If I didn't like 'em, they wouldn't happen." Looking across to city hall Woodside added, "I grew up raising Cain over there, bucking all the time trying to get new things. Now I've become one of the old guys. I remember being the burr in the saddle. Now I watch the new burrs."



Richmond's Service Center owned by Rod Woodside, Maupin, Ore. (Carolyn Campbell)

Gates, a newcomer, came to Maupin 2017 when the city council put out a call for a 'developer with a heart' to purchase the old City Hall and Library. An architect and developer with a national reputation for his collaborative community-focused approach to development, Gates converted the property into a business incubator/accelerator dedicated to increasing opportunities for area businesses.

Gates, in his own understated way, is a modern-day burr. Beneath his calm demeanor, button-down shirt, and city-centric haircut, Gates too is bucking the system, the larger system where historic and systemic issues have resulted in lagging employment opportunities and a crippling housing crisis both here and in rural communities across the country.

Since founding Urban Patterns in 2015, Gate has been a fierce advocate of economic development and affordable housing, forging stakeholder partnerships, procuring funding that serves the community as much as the developer, recognized for his partnering approach to earning (rather than expecting) community support and respect.

Unlike most of Gates' projects where he is hired as the designer/ developer, Gates owns the Maupin Work Campus featuring a 1,000-square-foot co-working space and additional work spaces currently housing a fitness gym and a boutique coffee roaster.

Explaining his decision to own the business, Gates stated, "There's a different type of personal investment and commitment when you own a business in a frontier community. I wanted Maupin Works to not only uplift small businesses but also support organizations and schools invested in growing an entrepreneurial economy."

Working in collaboration with state and regional funding agencies, Maupin Works offers high-speed internet, workspaces, classes, and a paid business 'navigator.' In collaboration with CO.STARTERS, a national business development program for emerging entrepreneurs, Maupin Works launched over a dozen new businesses including the town's only coffee shop, a fitness gym, a direct-to-consumer coffee roaster, the only tribal market on any reservation in Oregon, a local newspaper, and a pilot program for the local high school's youth entrepreneurship curriculum. They also provide workspace for the Chamber of Commerce, and incubator members including Grayson Morelli, a regenerative rancher selling 100% grassfed beef online.

Gates acknowledged that though they've had their naysayers, "As the demographic shifts from older folks to younger people wanting to launch their business, supporting emerging business owners while also helping older folks like Rod procure funding for long overdue repairs has been particularly rewarding."

While forging partnerships across the region, discussions about cultivating entrepreneurial mindset quickly morphed into conversations about the current housing crisis.



Maupin, Ore. (Carolyn Campbell)

Mark Ensley, principal of South Wasco High School, stated, "What we're facing is the 'chicken or the egg' syndrome. Nearly 50% of our prospective teachers rescind their offer due to lack of housing. If you don't have housing, you can't get employees. If you don't have businesses, developers are reluctant to build." Ensley cautioned, "If your school starts to fail, a county's stability falters quickly. We are doing everything we can to ensure that doesn't happen here."

This year, when a housing project with the Columbia Gorge Housing Corporation fell through, regional leaders turned to Gates and his business partner James Lee, asking them to consider purchasing the land and building affordable housing. After numerous meetings with regional stakeholders, this spring Gates and Lee secured funding for a land feasibility study to identify potential risks and threats, with the hopes of securing financing.

Momentum was building. Partners like Principal Ensley hailed the efforts. Memberships at Maupin Works were increasing.

Then came funding cuts to small business development programs.

In August, Maupin Works lost its business navigator, their sole employee. Without reliable, ongoing funding or an employee, Gates found himself facing similar challenges to those he aimed to serve.

"It's been tough," Gates stated. Acknowledging that his financial stress pales in comparison to many businesses in the region, Gates added, "It's helped me better understand the struggles many here face."

Unlike many developers who'd cut their losses, leave town, and turn their attention to more stable propositions — as has historically happened in this community — Gates and Lee doubled down their efforts, intent on securing funding to build affordable housing on the bluff overlooking the Deschutes River.

Explaining his decision, Gates stated, "I'm proud of what Maupin Works has accomplished with our community and funding partners. It will morph as it needs to, but if we can't solve the housing crisis, South Wasco County will continue to falter."

When Woodside was asked about the project, he stated, "It might already be too late." After his signature patriarch's chuckle, he continued. "It's never too late as long as you're willing to pick up your bootstraps. That's what we do out here. But getting affordable housing out here is long overdue."

Though Woodside and Gates may not see eye to eye on many issues, when it comes to building affordable housing for teachers, nurses, and everyday folks living in the community, these two burrs, generations apart, are in full agreement. "If we are to solve our housing crisis and uplift our remote rural town, we need public and private partnerships. We need long-term funding from governmental agencies and community foundations."

S. Scott McDowell

From: RatebookList <ratebooklist-bounces@omls.oregon.gov> on behalf of Rate Books <ratebooklist@omls.oregon.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 25, 2025 11:42 AM
To: ratebooklist@omls.oregon.gov
Subject: BOLI: Listening Sessions for House Bill 2866 - Relating to the Application of a Prevailing Rate of Wage to Off-site Bespoke Work

Hello,

The [Bureau of Labor and Industries](#) (BOLI) is soliciting suggestions on the implementation of House Bill 2688 (2025).

BOLI is charged with enforcing this new law, which applies the prevailing rate of wage to certain off-site, bespoke work that is fabricated, preconstructed, assembled or constructed in accordance with specifications for a particular public works. Here is a link to the bill for more information:

<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2025R1/Measures/Overview/HB2688>

The law will go into effect on July 1, 2026 and BOLI will promulgate administrative rules prior to that date. In advance of the formal rulemaking process, BOLI will hold a series of listening sessions to gather the perspectives of interested parties. These listening sessions are a great way to communicate any questions or suggestions you have related to this legislation.

BOLI will hold three listening sessions to gather feedback from interested parties, with each session focused on parties directly impacted by implementation of the law. These sessions will be held virtually via Microsoft Teams, and any member of the public may attend any of the three meetings.

If you are unable to attend one of these meetings, but wish to submit feedback you can submit your commentary online by [clicking this link](#). Please clearly describe your suggestion, concern or question. If applicable or known, please provide any relevant support in the legislative record. For example, at least one interested party has suggested the following and provided the Governor's signing letter as supportive documentation: Governor Kotek has indicated that House Bill 2688 should not apply to modular housing or mass timber products that are purchased from a manufacturer based on a common set of standards. These products should be classified as manufacturing that is exempted from the definition of public works.

There will be future opportunities to provide feedback before rules are adopted. The last day to provide written feedback in response to this solicitation is Friday, November 7, 2025.

Meeting	Date	Time	Meeting Link	Add to Calendar
Listening Session for Contractors, Manufacturers, and other Employers	10/28/2025	2:00 PM – 3:30 PM	Meeting Link	Add to Calendar
	10/29/2025		Meeting Link	Add to Calendar

Listening Session for Worker Advocates and Unions		9:00 AM – 10:30 AM		
Listening Session for Public Agencies	10/30/2025	1:30 PM – 3:00 PM	Meeting Link	Add to Calendar

Thank you,



Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industries

Wage and Hour Division – PWR Unit

[Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industries](#)

Direct line: (971) 245-3844 option 2

PWR.Email@boli.Oregon.gov

BOLI is located at – [1800 SW 1st Ave, Suite 500, Portland, OR 97201](#)

S. Scott McDowell

From: Oregon BOLI <oregon.BOLI@public.govdelivery.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 25, 2025 9:17 AM
To: admin@ci.brownsville.or.us
Subject: Immigration Enforcement: What Oregon Employers Need to Know



Immigration Enforcement: What Oregon Employers Need to Know

Join us October 1st as we reprise our recent rundown of what employers can do to prepare in response to immigration enforcement action.

You've read the stories and seen the images. You know that immigration enforcement is on the rise. Get the information you need to navigate the intersections of civil rights law and heightened federal immigration action.

We'll be covering:

- Oregon as a sanctuary state and what this means for your business
- Steering clear of national origin discrimination complaints and hiring pitfalls
- Preparing for a potential I-9 audit, including mandatory notification of employees
- What to do during and after an ICE audit or raid
- Additional links and resources.

This session is free but requires [advance registration](#)

October 1, 9:00 AM – 10:00 PM

Want more?

BOLI will be hosting a panel discussion on *Navigating Discrimination and Immigration Enforcement* as part of our **Annual Employment Law Conference**.

Join us November 6th and 7th for a fantastic lineup of sessions on the employment law topics most likely to impact your organization this year.

Check out our [conference page](#) for the full agenda and registration information.

S. Scott McDowell

From: Oregon Secretary of State <Oregon.SOS@public.govdelivery.com>
Sent: Saturday, September 27, 2025 11:50 AM
To: admin@ci.brownsville.or.us
Subject: Oregon Secretary of State Urges Unity Against Trump's Distraction Tactics

PRESS RELEASE



Date: September 27, 2025
Contact: Tess Seger | tess.seger@sos.oregon.gov

Oregon Secretary of State Urges Unity Against Trump's Distraction Tactics

PORTLAND, OR — In response to President Trump's [announcement](#) that he is sending federal troops into the Portland community, Secretary of State Tobias Read released the following statement:

"My fellow Oregonians, the president is baiting you. The President wants a spectacle, not solutions—he's targeting our communities to distract from his own failures at home and abroad. Don't give him what he wants: stay peaceful, stay united, stay focused."

"Stay focused on what our communities actually need: real leadership that keeps families safe, strengthens our economy, and respects our democracy. We all know it's wrong for the President to turn the military against American communities like this. This is a moment for Oregonians, regardless of our personal politics, to stick together and starve this administration of the one thing it craves most: attention."

"I stand ready to work with the Governor, our federal delegation, and all Oregon leaders to protect Oregonians rights and safety."

S. Scott McDowell

From: Oregon DEQ News <ordeq@public.govdelivery.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 30, 2025 4:00 PM
To: admin@ci.brownsville.or.us
Subject: DEQ issues seven penalties in August for environmental violations



State of Oregon
DEQ Department of Environmental Quality

NEWS RELEASE

DEQ issues seven penalties in August for environmental violations

Date: September 30, 2025

Statewide, Ore.— The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality issued seven penalties totaling \$105,755 in August for various environmental violations. A detailed list of violations and resulting penalties is at <https://ordeq.org/enforcement>.

Fines ranged from \$4,000 to \$29,600. Alleged violations included a particleboard manufacturing facility failing to reduce methanol emissions as required by their permit, a commercial real estate and development firm operating construction activities without a permit, and a general contractor conducting unlicensed asbestos abatement and failing to properly package and dispose of asbestos containing waste material.

DEQ issued civil penalties to the following organizations:

- Amazon Data Services, Inc., Hermiston, \$10,400, water quality
- Central Transport, LLC & Crown Enterprises, LLC, Portland, \$29,600, stormwater
- MPC Builders, LLC, Philomath, \$4,000, cleanup
- Nusan General Contractors Inc., Salem, \$28,800, asbestos
- Performance Contracting Inc., Portland, \$8,000, stormwater
- Willamette Egg Farms, LLC, Canby, \$9,355, stormwater
- Woodgrain, Inc., La Grande \$15,600, air quality

Recipients of DEQ civil penalties must either pay the fines to the state treasury or file an appeal within 20 days of receiving notice of the penalty. They may be able to offset a portion of a penalty by funding a supplemental environmental project that improves Oregon's environment. Learn more about these projects at <https://ordeq.org/sep>. Penalties may also include orders requiring specific tasks to prevent ongoing violations or additional environmental harm.

DEQ works with thousands of organizations and individuals to help them comply with laws that protect Oregon's air, land and water. DEQ uses education, technical assistance, warnings and penalties to change behavior and deter future violations.

Media contact: Antony Sparrow, public affairs specialist,
antony.sparrow@deq.oregon.gov, 503-877-9113

S. Scott McDowell

From: Oregon BOLI <oregon.BOLI@public.govdelivery.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 18, 2025 10:22 AM
To: admin@ci.brownsville.or.us
Subject: New Requirement for Legal Hiring



New Requirement for Legal Hiring

The Oregon Legislature placed a new sideboard on legal hiring processes. Effective **September 26, 2025, [HB 3187](#)** (2025) generally prohibits an employer, prospective employer, or employment agency from requesting or requiring an applicant to disclose:

- Their age, or date of birth, or
- When they attended or graduated from any educational institution.

This prohibition applies until the completion of an interview or a conditional offer of employment (where there is no interview).

An exception applies if requesting age-related information is required to:

- Affirm the applicant meets bona fide occupational qualifications; or
- Comply with any provision of federal, state or local law, rule, or regulation.

New Legislation Rundown

Interested in other new laws from the 2025 Legislative Session? BOLI has posted a [summary of employment-related laws](#) affecting workplaces across the state.

Access plain-language summaries, effective dates, and links to full bill text, along with guidance on how changes may impact your operations.

S. Scott McDowell

From: WOOLVERTON Priscilla * DEQ <Priscilla.WOOLVERTON@deq.oregon.gov>
Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2025 1:59 PM

Cc: WOOLVERTON Priscilla * DEQ; TUGAW Heather * DEQ
Subject: DEQ: Save the Date! Introductory webinar on Willamette Subbasins Temperature Replacement TMDL Implementation 9/30/2025

Good afternoon,
 Please save the date - Tuesday September 30th, 10:00am-noon for an introductory webinar about the Willamette Subbasins and Lower Columbia-Sandy Temperature Replacement TMDLs. Join us to learn more about new and existing TMDL requirements for Designated Management Agencies.

The webinar will include three sections:

1. Introduction to TMDL implementation and DMA responsibilities
2. Overview of new requirements included in the WQMP
3. Question and answer session with basin coordinators

This will be the first in a series of webinars. Future meetings will be focused on technical aspects of implementation including detailed guidance on the streamside evaluation, and monitoring requirements for large reservoir operators. Invitations to subsequent webinars will be sent separately.

If you are unable to attend but would like information from the webinar, materials including slides will be available on the DEQ TMDL website following the webinar.

This virtual meeting can be accessed using the link and call-in information below:

Microsoft Teams [Need help?](#)

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 213 508 759 958 2

Passcode: 8Z8fP9tK

Dial in by phone

[+1 503-446-4951,,629114288#](#) United States, Portland

[Find a local number](#)

Phone conference ID: 629 114 288#

For organizers: [Meeting options](#) | [Reset dial-in PIN](#)

Priscilla Woolverton | Willamette Basin Coordinator

DEQ Western Region | 165 E. 7th Ave., Ste. 100, Eugene, OR 97401-3049

priscilla.woolverton@deq.oregon.gov | 503.688.8801

pronouns: she/her

S. Scott McDowell

From: Oregon Department of Agriculture <ODA@public.govdelivery.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 7, 2025 9:36 AM
To: admin@ci.brownsville.or.us
Subject: Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Confirmed in Wallowa County



**OREGON
DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE**

News Release: October 7, 2025

Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Confirmed in Wallowa County

On October 6, 2025, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) National Veterinary Services Laboratory (NVSL) confirmed Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in a backyard flock of ducks and chickens in Wallowa County. This is the first confirmed case of HPAI in Wallowa County. Samples from the flock were first taken to the Oregon Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (OVDL) at Oregon State University (OSU) for testing. OSU confirmed the presence of HPAI on October 3, 2025, and NVSL confirmed the results three days later. Additional cases are currently being investigated, and more information will be made available as results are confirmed.

The Oregon Department of Agriculture's (ODA) State Veterinarian, Dr. Ryan Scholz, placed the Wallowa County farm under quarantine and a team from ODA humanely euthanized all poultry on the property. None of the animals on the farm entered the food supply chain, nor were they intended for the commercial food market. It's important to note that when properly prepared and cooked, HPAI does not affect meat or egg products, and these food items remain safe. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) also recommends choosing pasteurized milk and dairy products to protect your health.

HPAI detections are higher in the fall and spring because wild waterfowl spreading the virus are migrating to their seasonal homes. Since May 2022, three commercial poultry flocks and 47 backyard flocks have been affected in Oregon.

Death or illness among domestic birds should be reported immediately to ODA. Please report by calling 503-986-4711.

To report the death of wild birds, don't hesitate to contact the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW). Please do not collect or handle the birds; instead, call 1-866-968-2600 or email Wildlife.Health@odfw.oregon.gov.

Here are some actions bird and livestock owners can take to help stop the spread of the virus.

Biosecurity measures can include:

- Preventing exposure of domestic poultry and livestock to wildlife, especially wild waterfowl
- Limiting the co-mingling of different species of livestock, especially poultry and pigs
- Wash your hands before and after handling your flock
- Cleaning vehicles, tools, or equipment
- Limiting unnecessary visitors
- Sanitizing shoes in clean foot baths
- Changing clothes upon contact with birds.

For more tips on protecting backyard flocks, please visit ODA online at [Avian Influenza](#).

S. Scott McDowell

From: Senate Republican Leader Bruce Starr <orstateg@service.govdelivery.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 7, 2025 11:24 AM
To: admin@ci.brownsville.or.us
Subject: Senator Bruce Starr Bi-weekly Clips - October 2025



Replies to this message are sent to an unsupervised mailbox.
 To contact me, click here: Sen.BruceStarr@oregonlegislature.gov

Bi-Weekly Clips: News that Matters to Oregon

Welcome back to another edition of Bi-Weekly Clips. We cut through the noise to bring you news that impacts our state, nation, and daily lives. My predecessor, Brian Boquist, began Bi-Weekly Clips and I'm continuing to compile news that matters.

As always, thank you to our readers for staying informed and engaged - it is critical to our republic and daily lives.

News Alert: Salem politicians pass massive road tax on Oregon drivers; voters asked to weigh in

Oregon's Senate just passed a transportation package that slams Oregon drivers and businesses with a 6¢ gas hike, increased registration, title, and EV fees, while doubling the payroll tax. **This road tax transfers the burden of the Governor and Democrat majority's failure of every driver and business across the state.** It is a final blow to a long road tax fight where compromise was ignored, policy changes were left off the table and protecting struggling Oregonians from new taxes was not an option.

We offered solutions - solutions that funded core services while not leaving taxpayers to hold the bag. The supermajority gloated at the beginning of this year's session about the ability to raise taxes on residents regardless of opposition -- and they are making good on their promise.

But voters have an off-ramp to this reckless road tax and state law allows residents to have a say on legislation they do not agree with. **Stay tuned these following**

weeks on how you can take a stand against this tax increase at the pump, DMV, on the road and more.

OREGON NEWS

[Statesman Journal](#). 10/2/25. **"Republicans ready to refer transportation package to Oregon voters:** Jason Williams, director of the Taxpayer Association of Oregon, Senate Minority Leader Bruce Starr, R-Dundee, and Rep. Ed Diehl, R-Stayton, said they will be the chief petitioners of a referendum to roll back tax increases approved during the Oregon special session on transportation funding. *When Salem refuses to listen, voters deserve a say when they are taxed without any bipartisan work. Oregonians should not be saddled with higher gas and payroll taxes by a supermajority that fails to prioritize existing budgets, fix the mismanagement and support reforms that make everything cost more. A \$4.3 billion tax package rushed through during a special session deserves full public input.*

[KATU Channel 2](#). 10/1/2025. **"Oregon House Republicans elect Elmer, replacing Drazan, as leader:** Oregon House Republicans elected Rep. Lucetta Elmer, R-McMinnville, to be their new leader on Wednesday night, replacing Rep. Christine Drazan, R-Canby, who is looking to move to the Senate." *Representative Elmer has proven herself to be a strong voice for Oregonians and will bring energy, focus, and determination to this important role. I look forward to working alongside her as we present an alternative vision that restores affordability, strengthens public safety, and creates prosperity across our state."*

[Oregon Capital Chronicle](#). 10/3/25. **"Oregon begins rolling out federal SNAP work requirements in six counties:"** "The state of Oregon is starting to roll out new changes to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program as required under a massive Republican-led budget law President Donald Trump signed in July." *Work requirements are a return to accountability and empowerment. By ensuring able-bodied adults contribute through work or volunteering, we strengthen the integrity of the program and protect resources for families truly in need.*

[Central Oregon Daily](#). 9/30/25. **"Oregon transportation bill drivers ODOT fees:** House Bill 3991 would raise about \$4.3 billion over the next 10 years to fund road maintenance and operations by raising the gas tax by six cents, nearly doubling most vehicle registration fees and doubling the payroll tax used to support public transit from 0.1% to 0.2% of a paycheck — among other fee hikes for electric vehicles. *This vote reinforces the same broken model: spend first, ask later -- at the expense of everyday Oregonians.*

[OregonLive](#). 9/29/25. **"Oregon is enduring a historic wave of job cuts — here's where the layoffs are:** Since the start of 2024, more than 11,000 Oregonians have lost jobs across sectors like manufacturing, services, and tech." *These aren't economic storms—they're manmade. When costs climb too high and rules stack too deep, companies shrink and people suffer. It's time to reverse course and foster a climate where jobs grow—not evaporate.*

[OregonLive](#). 9/22/25. **"A third of Oregonians say they couldn't cover a \$400 emergency:** About one in three Oregonians say they would be unable to pay a \$400 surprise expense without credit cards, loans, or personal sacrifices." *When a*

\$400 expense can destabilize families, it shows how fragile life is for too many. When we are breaking the bank at the pump, at the store and at every turn - we are leaving families who need it most behind. We need to do better.

[OregonLive](#). 9/17/2025. **“Oregon chip industry supplier will lay off 140:** Semiconductor industry supplier Edwards Vacuum notified workers Tuesday that it plans to shut down production at its Hillsboro site and lay off 140 workers, the latest in a historic spate of Oregon job cuts.”*Losing tech jobs in the heart of Oregon’s innovation ecosystem is a red flag, as tech is bringing industry back to states across the country. If we are going to remain competitive, we must listen to our industries.*

[OregonLive](#). 9/14/2025. **“Oregon mass layoffs approach Great Recession levels:”** Oregon employers have reported more than 11,000 layoffs since the start of last year, a torrid pace of job cuts amid the steady deterioration of the state’s labor market.”*These aren’t natural market shifts—they’re policy failures. When regulation and cost burdens spike, companies respond with cuts.*

[OregonLive](#). 9/15/25. **“Why are Oregon gas prices so high? Confluence of factors sends prices skyrocketing:** A stroke of bad luck has sent gas prices in Oregon rocketing 15 cents upward in the past week — to \$4.28 per gallon, the second largest price increase in the nation over the last week, according to AAA.”*Local policy matters. Overregulation and fees only amplify volatility. Oregon needs an energy policy that stabilizes costs for everyday drivers, not hikes that punish them.*

[Willamette Week](#). 9/21/25. **“Readers respond to Oregon’s stagnation:** Oregon readers criticized leaders for dragging the state into legislative gridlock, low growth, and burdensome policy choices while residents suffer under high costs. *When readers say the system is failing, you don’t dismiss them—you listen. Stagnation isn’t inevitable; it’s fueled by leadership that prioritizes rhetoric over results. We must blend bold vision with real accountability to move Oregon forward.*

NATIONAL NEWS

[The Epoch Times](#). 9/30/25. **“Government Shuts Down After Lawmakers Fail to Reach Funding Deal:** Republicans ask for a simple, short-term spending extension while Democrats seek extensive changes in health care funding.”*This topic demands intellectual honesty. For example, when states like Oregon make poor policy choices on healthcare -- resulting in high premiums and long wait times for their residents -- the federal government shouldn’t be forced to bail them out. Strip away the rhetoric and it becomes clear: financial mismanagement—whether in Salem, Washington, or anywhere else—is never good for the nation.*

[Bloomberg](#). 9/25/25. **“U.S. economy grows at fastest pace in nearly two years on consumer:** The U.S. economy grew at a revised 3.8 % annualized pace in the second quarter, bolstered by stronger consumer spending.”*When consumers lead the rebound, it’s proof that growth grounded in everyday activity is more sustainable than hype. Smart policy empowers citizens—not overtaxes them.*

[Fox Business](#). 9/11/25. **“Gasoline’s burden on Americans’ wallets lightest since 2005:** Drivers are expected to spend less than 2% of their disposable income on gasoline in 2025—the lowest share since 2005—thanks to falling oil and

gas prices." *When Americans spend less on gas, they can save for college, emergencies, and the future. Lower energy costs fuel economic freedom—giving families breathing room and strengthening our entire economy from the bottom up. It's too bad our Governor and Democrat supermajority have driven up gas prices in Oregon.*

[NRF](#). 9/18/25. **"NRF Consumer Survey Finds Halloween Spending to Reach Record \$13.1 Billion:** Whether it's dressing in costume or carving a pumpkin, more consumers plan to take part in Halloween activities and traditions." *Spending on family traditions shows that when people aren't overtaxed, they can invest in community, family memories, and local business—things that build the social fabric and the economy.*

[Reuters](#). 9/18/25. **"S&P 500, Nasdaq futures hit record high after Fed points to further rate cuts:** U.S. stock index futures, particularly those tied to the S&P 500 and Nasdaq, reached record highs on Thursday, a day after the U.S. central bank delivered a quarter-point interest rate cut." *Markets are responding to smart policy—lower rates and bold policymaking unlock investment, confidence, and growth. Strong markets mean strong retirements and secure futures for Americans.*

[CNBC](#). 9/16/25. **"Mortgage rates drop to 3-year low ahead of Fed meeting:** Mortgage rates fell to their lowest levels in nearly three years amid investor optimism ahead of the Federal Reserve meeting." *Lower borrowing rates shouldn't surprise us—they're the byproduct of responsible economic decisions at a federal level. With rates this low, Americans have room to buy homes, invest, and build generational wealth.*

PARTING THOUGHTS

Oregon is at a turning point. Across our state, families are struggling under the weight of skyrocketing gas prices, record job losses, and constant uncertainty. The latest road tax vote is yet another reminder that some leaders see Oregonians as little more than a revenue source.

Oregon families are feeling the pinch at the pump, store and at every turn -- and saying they can't even save \$400 for an emergency. Mass layoffs are approaching Great Recession levels and our tech sector and other industries are being hollowed out while national competitors grow. These aren't random trends—they're the direct result of decisions being made in Salem. **This week's road tax vote shows, once again, how tone deaf our state politicians have become.**

But there is hope. The federal government is attempting to rein in program mismanagement and the waste of taxpayer dollars. Nationally, gas prices are at their lowest share of household income since 2005, mortgage rates are down, and markets are hitting record highs. Americans across the country are starting to feel like they can breathe again—saving for college, emergencies, and the future. These results show what's possible when the government focuses on empowering people rather than expanding bureaucracy.

Oregon can get there, too, but only if we demand it. The voices of everyday Oregonians—parents balancing their budgets, small business owners fighting to

keep their doors open, workers worried about the next round of layoffs—must demand sound policy decisions and results.

Yours truly,

Senator Bruce Starr
Senate District 12

email: Sen.BruceStarr@oregonlegislature.gov | phone: 503-986-1712
address: 900 Court St NE, S-303, Salem, OR, 97301
website: <http://www.oregonlegislature.gov/starr>

I am the state senator for District 12, which includes rural Yamhill and Polk counties. The two state representatives within District 12 are [Rep. Anna Scharf](#) and [Rep. Lucetta Elmer](#) - who also produce newsletters and the signups are on their pages.

S. Scott McDowell

From: Allstate Identity Protection <support@email.allstateidentityprotection.com>
Sent: Saturday, September 27, 2025 10:02 AM
To: admin@ci.brownsville.or.us
Subject: Don't get tricked into laundering money

Allstate Security Pro®**Allstate®**
IDENTITY PROTECTION

Hi Stephen,

One of scammers' latest schemes involves tricking people into moving stolen money. It might start with a job offer, romantic message, or heartfelt plea, but behind the scenes, it's all part of a larger plan to cover their tracks.

Often called money mules, victims are used to disguise the flow of funds and make it harder for authorities to trace the crime. If you know what to look for, you can stop this scam before it starts.

get the latest

3 signs you're being recruited as a money mule

The job sounds too easy. If someone offers high pay for vague tasks like “transferring funds” or “courier services,” it’s likely a scam.

They want access to your bank account. Scammers may ask you to open a new account or use your existing one to move money.

They ask you to buy gift cards or crypto. If someone wires you money and asks you to convert it into gift cards or cryptocurrency, it’s often part of a laundering scheme.

get more tips



Allstate Identity Protection is offered and serviced by InfoArmor, Inc., a subsidiary of The Allstate Corporation.

7350 N Dobson Rd, Suite 101, Scottsdale, AZ 85256 USA

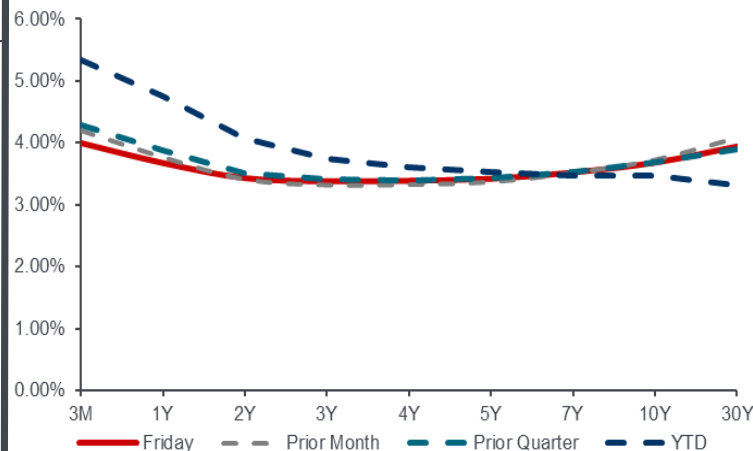
[Privacy Statement](#) | [Terms and Conditions](#) | [Communication Preferences](#)

Interest Rate Risk Management Weekly Update

September 29, 2025

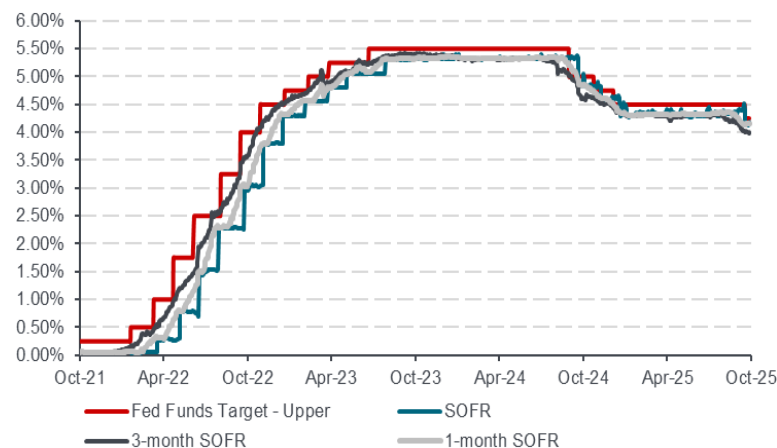
Current Rate Environment

	Friday	Prior Week	Change
SOFR	4.16%	4.14%	0.02% ↑
1-Month SOFR	4.16%	4.15%	0.01% ↑
3-Month SOFR	4.00%	4.01%	(0.01%) ↓
Fed Funds	4.25%	4.25%	0.00% ○
Fed Discount	4.50%	4.50%	0.00% ○
Prime	7.25%	7.25%	0.00% ○
US Treasury Yields			
2-year Treasury	3.64%	3.57%	0.07% ↑
5-year Treasury	3.77%	3.68%	0.09% ↑
10-year Treasury	4.18%	4.13%	0.05% ↑
Swaps vs. SOFR			
2-year	3.43%	3.33%	0.10% ↑
5-year	3.42%	3.31%	0.11% ↑
10-year	3.68%	3.61%	0.07% ↑

USD Swap Curve Activity¹:

1) Data sourced from Bloomberg. The curves were constructed using 3M daily SOFR and USD mid-market swap rates, which are not executable levels

- Swap rates increased across the 2-10yr curve – closing 7-11bps higher than the previous week.
- The U.S. Economy, as measured by the annualized GDP (QoQ), grew at a revised pace of 3.8% in the 2nd quarter - the fastest pace in nearly two years. The report followed a contraction of 0.6% through 1Q25.
- Consumer Spending (QoQ), the primary catalyst of growth for the economy, advanced at a 2.5% annualized pace vs. the forecast of 1.7% through 2Q25.
- Initial applications for jobless benefits fell to 218k for the week ending Sept. 20 (forecast: 233k). The decline points to a labor market that has endured limited layoffs despite cooling.

SOFR Activity¹

- SOFR was up 2bps last week, closing at 4.16% on Friday.
- The next FOMC meeting will be held on October 28th – 29th where the market is pricing in an 89% chance the fed will cut interest rates by 0.25%.
- Currently, the market is fully pricing in one more 0.25% rate cut through YE 2025.

1) Data sourced from Bloomberg



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The Week Ahead

- This week's slate of economic data is heavy, including Conf. Board Consumer Confidence, ADP Employment Change, ISM Manufacturing, Initial Jobless Claims, & the Change in Nonfarm Payrolls.
- Officials from the Federal Reserve will have increased engagement this week with remarks on the economic outlook, foreign relations, and payments. Officials will additionally participate in several moderated discussions this week.

Date	Indicator	For	Forecast	Last
30-Sep	Conf. Board Consumer Confidence	Sep	96	97.4
1-Oct	MBA Mortgage Applications	26-Sep	--	0.60%
1-Oct	ADP Employment Change	Sep	50k	54k
1-Oct	S&P Global US Manufacturing PMI	Sep F	52	52
1-Oct	ISM Manufacturing	Sep	49	48.7
2-Oct	Initial Jobless Claims	27-Sep	225k	218k
2-Oct	Durable Goods Orders	Aug F	2.90%	2.90%
2-Oct	Factory Orders	Aug	1.40%	-1.30%
3-Oct	Change in Nonfarm Payrolls	Sep	50k	22k
3-Oct	Unemployment Rate	Sep	4.30%	4.30%



Fate, Texas, USA

The Fate of Our Streets— A Billion Dollar Journey Ahead

A small town's street replacement plan is focused on strategic funding and proactive maintenance to extend road life and minimize future financial burdens.

BY MICHAEL KOVACS, OMAR WILLIAMS,
AND BERLYNN WIRTZBERGER

Nearly \$1 billion in road infrastructure obligations is an alarming number to fathom for a small town. But that's the estimated cost to replace all 103 road miles of streets in the city of Fate, Texas, USA, over the coming decades.

Like many communities, Fate has postponed long-term planning for road repairs as infrastructure was built out. Now, with rapid growth

adding more infrastructure and older streets nearing the end of their lifecycle, it was crucial to develop a sustainable, strategic plan to address these challenges.

To get ahead of this issue, the city developed the first phase of its street replacement plan that outlines the estimated costs of replacing all its roads, highlights ongoing efforts to extend road lifespans, and identifies conceptual funding strategies to prepare for future maintenance and reconstruction. The goal is to ensure that Fate is positioned to meet these infrastructure demands without placing an unmanageable financial burden on future generations.

A unique challenge for Fate and its neighboring cities is the expansive nature of the soil. The soil's swelling (water

absorption) and shrinkage (contraction due to extreme heat) causes significant ground movement. Additionally, poor infiltration due to these soils contributes to the instability and shifting around

foundations and roadways. These environmental factors create engineering challenges that are both costly and difficult to predict.

The city's expansive soils significantly shorten pavement lifespans. This accelerates subgrade failures and edge deterioration, leading to costly repairs and full replacements sooner than expected. Given these challenges, Fate's street replacement plan prioritizes proactive maintenance and strategic funding to extend road life and delay reconstruction wherever possible. For this analysis, we used a 40-year road life span, consistent with our asset life for roads in our annual comprehensive financial report.

What Is Considered a Failed Road?

A failed road is one that has significantly deteriorated to the point where it no longer meets safety, functionality, or aesthetic standards. Two major characteristics of a potentially failed road:



Compromised edges: Cracking, crumbling, or the loss of structural integrity at the road's sides create safety hazards and accelerate the needs for repairs or replacement.

Subgrade failure: This is caused by shifting soil and poor drainage. Once the base has failed, anything on top will also deteriorate, leading to pavement cracks, potholes, and further structural damage.



Understanding the Cost of Road Replacement

To project future replacement costs, city staff used GIS mapping to determine road lengths and calculated reconstruction expenses based on an estimated \$4.2 million per 12-foot lane mile, as recommended by the city engineer. This estimate accounts for paving, drainage, water and wastewater lines, and other essential infrastructure like sidewalks and/or adjacent roadway trails.

Applying this methodology to Fate's 103 road miles, the total projected cost to replace

all roads is \$973,584,729—a staggering number that underscores the necessity of a long-term funding strategy.

Ongoing Maintenance Efforts

As new neighborhood phases throughout Fate expand to their authorized levels, the new road infrastructure grows, leading to increased road-related expenses. Roads built to support these developments will eventually require regular maintenance and, ultimately, reconstruction.

Recognizing that preventative maintenance is the most cost-effective way to extend pavement life, the city has ramped up its road maintenance program. In fiscal year (FY) 2025, the budget includes \$1.9 million for road maintenance. Over the past decade, Fate has steadily increased



road maintenance funding, understanding that every dollar spent on preservation saves multiple dollars in future replacement costs. Methods of road maintenance that the city has used include:

Replacing Concrete Panels: Precast or cast-in-place concrete panels are placed in roadways to repair or replace damaged sections. This method is fast,

minimizing disruption to traffic, and it offers a durable, long-term solution.

Polyurethane Foam Injection: Polyurethane foam is injected beneath concrete slabs to fill voids, lift sunken sections, and stabilize the pavement. It's a quick solution that provides almost immediate traffic return.

The city is also leveraging new pavement condition

software and asset management tools to better assess which roads need attention, what level of treatment is appropriate, and how resources should be allocated as the FY 2026 budget is being considered. It is likely that continued six or seven figure annual increases in maintenance funding will be needed to maintain pavement conditions.

Challenges and Considerations

One of the biggest challenges in planning for road replacement is Fate's development history. Many of the city's existing streets were built with traditional suburban development patterns that do not generate enough tax revenue to support long-term infrastructure obligations. The city is actively working to align land-use decisions with fiscal sustainability, encouraging higher-density, mixed-use developments that contribute more to the tax base per acre. The city's new development fiscal analysis tool is available at fate.tx.gov/473/Fiscal-Analysis. Additionally, Fate's expansive soils remain a major contributor to premature road failure. Up to 90% of road failures in Fate are linked to soil movement, making it critical to incorporate improved materials and design methods in future road construction.

Long-Term Planning and Next Steps

With road replacement costs expected to surge in the coming decades, Fate is taking proactive steps to address long-term funding needs. Fortunately, the city council recognizes that this is not a challenge that can be deferred to future generations and fully supports the staff's efforts to further develop a detailed sustainable strategy that will become the second phase of the plan.

To mitigate financial impact and distribute costs over time, several key funding strategies are under consideration:

Capital Reserve Funds—Establishing dedicated savings for road replacement to reduce reliance on debt. Fate has dedicated reserves for water and

sewer infrastructure replacement equal to annual depreciation costs in its utility fund budget, but nothing in its general fund budget now for streets.

Debt Issuance—Evaluating options for future bond measures to finance major replacements.

Water and Sewer Coordination—Aligning street replacement with underground utility projects to maximize capital replacement funds.

Together, these approaches form a multi-pronged strategy to responsibly manage infrastructure costs while minimizing future taxpayer burden.

While these measures do not eliminate the need for significant future investments, they provide a framework for managing costs strategically. To ensure that Fate's road network remains viable, the city is committed to a data-driven approach, including phased funding strategies to spread financial impact over time and minimize strain on future budgets.

Conclusion

As shown in the Street Replacement Obligations graph (Figure 1), there are several periods where a significant concentration of road replacement obligations will arise. To proactively address this, the city has made considerable efforts to build up its road maintenance funding, and the public works department routinely performs maintenance that extends the lifespan of roads, delaying the need for full replacements. These efforts will intensify with the use of new asset management software to integrate pavement



Figure 2. Pavement Condition Assessment Map
The map uses a color-coded system to indicate Fate road conditions. Green: Roads in good condition with minimal wear. Yellow: Roads showing moderate deterioration, likely requiring maintenance soon. Orange/Red: Roads in poor condition, with significant wear, cracks, or structural failures, likely requiring major repairs or full reconstruction.

conditions with scenario tools to recommend asset management strategies and funding allocations to maximize pavement life.

The city of Fate is at a pivotal point in planning for its street infrastructure future. With a clear understanding of replacement costs, funding challenges, and ongoing maintenance needs, the street replacement plan provides a roadmap for sustainable infrastructure investment.

While the financial road ahead is steep, the city's commitment to proactive planning, engineering adaptation, and strategic investment lays the groundwork for a resilient and

fiscally responsible transportation system. **FM**

Adapted and expanded from an article originally published in Texas Town & City, a publication of the Texas Municipal League.

MICHAEL KOVACS
is city manager of Fate, Texas, USA.

OMAR WILLIAMS
is assistant to the city manager of Fate, Texas, USA.

BERLYNN WIRTZBERGER is a city manager's office intern, Fate, Texas, USA.



Figure 1.



S. Scott McDowell

From: Smart Cities Dive <newsletter@divenewsletter.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 14, 2025 9:00 AM
To: S. Scott McDowell
Subject: Oct. 14 - Texas county sues EPA over canceled solar grant | Chicago suburb debuts electric paratransit fleet

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Resident-first communication strategies

Fort Smith, AR & Pueblo County, CO, leaders share resident communication strategies to drive digital adoption in our Oct 21 webinar. [Register Now.](#)

Harris County, Texas, sues EPA over canceled Solar for All funds

County officials say the loss of \$54 million in clean energy grants jeopardizes staffing, planning and partnerships built around the program, forcing major adjustments to local operations and budgets.

Chicago suburb debuts electric paratransit fleet

Schaumburg, Illinois, joins transit agencies in New York City and San Francisco in providing zero-emission transportation for older adults and people with disabilities.

UPDATED**Senate advances landmark affordable housing legislation**

“This is a historic and long-overdue step forward,” U.S. Conference of Mayors Housing Task Force Chair Andrew Ginther said.

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How digital twins empower cities and engage citizens

AI-powered digital twins are revolutionizing how cities tackle aging infrastructure while keeping budgets in check. Learn how these 3D models streamline design processes and accelerate project timelines in [this playbook](#).

UPDATED**Judge temporarily blocks federal troop deployment to Chicago**

A federal judge found “no credible evidence” of a rebellion brewing in the city and noted that National Guard troops are not trained in de-escalation and law enforcement.

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October 2025

Municipal Market Bulletin

by Government Capital Corporation

your public finance partner

The Fed Finally Blinks

After months of holding steady, the Federal Open Market Committee cut interest rates by 25 basis points at its September meeting, continuing the gradual easing cycle that began in late 2024. Inflation continues to cool, economic growth has steadied, and the Federal Reserve has hinted that additional rate cuts could arrive before year-end if current trends continue. For municipalities, this latest cut reinforces a slow but steady shift towards more favorable borrowing conditions.

Market Recap – Q3 2025

Fed Rate Cuts Signal Confidence in Inflation Progress – The quarter-point reduction in September was widely anticipated, but nonetheless significant. It confirmed that the Fed sees inflation as largely under control and is therefore comfortable easing interest rates without fear of stoking inflation. Markets are now anticipating two more 25bp cuts by year-end if these trends continue.

Rate Environment: Gradual Decline, Not Freefall – While the Fed's September rate cut confirmed a shift toward easing, much of the market's movement had already occurred in anticipation of the actual decision. Yields across short- and mid-term maturities drifted lower throughout the quarter as investors priced in a softening economy and growing confidence that inflation was under control. For municipal entities, the result has been a modest but steady improvement in financing terms. Although rates remain well above pre-pandemic levels, their direction is finally beginning to work in issuers' favor.

Market Sentiment: Cautious Optimism – Confidence is slowly returning to the municipal lending market. With inflation easing and the Fed signaling a measured path forward, lenders are showing renewed interest in well-structured municipal loans. Activity levels picked up modestly in late Q3 as investors have expanded their allocations for tax-exempt financings. Still, most lenders remain cautious, favoring shorter term loans, for essential-use assets, and issuers with up-to-date financials. The tone has shifted from "wait and see" to "cautiously optimistic," signaling that the market is stabilizing even if enthusiasm remains tempered.

What This Means for Municipal Issuers

Stay Ready to Move – With more rate relief potentially around the corner, now is the time to ensure capital projects have been properly scoped and planned. Municipalities that can act quickly as the market shifts will be best positioned to move quickly to lock in lower interest rates.

Think in Terms of Flexibility – While some lenders are still cautious about longer term fixed-rate loans, many are open to prepayment features or shorter amortizations that allow for refinancing if rates decline. Structuring with flexibility in mind can help municipalities take advantage of any opportunities that emerge down the road to refinance debt at even lower rates should they become available.

Start Planning for 2026 – The current interest rate environment presents a window of opportunity to modernize fleets, upgrade infrastructure, and address deferred capital projects. Even modest interest rate reductions can translate into substantial savings when paired with a well-timed financing strategy.

Article by Jared Noblitt, Senior Placement Agent

GOVERNMENT CAPITAL
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Recent Closings

Texas Emergency Services District
Facility Construction
\$8,585,000 | 20 years

Tennessee City
Water Meter and AMI System Project
\$1,498,921 | 10 years

Arkansas School District
LED Scoreboard Project
\$561,233 | 5 years

Texas Appraisal District
Facility Acquisition & Renovation
\$2,528,750 | 20 years

Oregon Fire District
Fire Apparatus
\$749,411 | 5 years

Oklahoma County
911 Technology Upgrade
\$687,049 | 5 years

Kentucky City
Police Vehicles & Equipment
\$282,000 | 3 years

Texas Economic Development Corp.
Real Estate Acquisition
\$6,800,500 | 20 years

Kansas School District
Track Resurfacing
\$1,288,106 | ? years

Mississippi Water Association
Water Meter Project
\$401,995 | 10 years

Michigan University
Coachliner
\$375,666 | 7 years

Texas School District
Energy Conservation Project
\$609,659 | 8 years

Louisiana Parish
Public Works Vehicles
\$571,630 | 3 years

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S. Scott McDowell

From: Smart Cities Dive <newsletter@divenewsletter.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 30, 2025 8:55 AM
To: S. Scott McDowell
Subject: Sept. 30 - Prepare for disasters with less FEMA help | Illinois leaders push back against troops in Chicago

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5 steps to disaster-proof your city as FEMA pulls back

FEMA is stretched thin, a GAO report warns. Its author offers advice for local leaders to respond strategically and build resilience now.

Illinois officials condemn federal troop request for Chicago

Gov. JB Pritzker says DHS has requested 100 military personnel be sent to Chicago and calls the action an “unconstitutional occupation.”

NYC launches effort to rescue at-risk affordable co-ops

The two-year pilot program offers loans and technical support to help co-ops pay off debts, settle government arrears and renovate vacant units.

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Beyond CJIS compliance: Reducing access friction while strengthening security

Already CJIS compliant? Discover how to reduce access friction and strengthen security - without slowing down your teams.

HUD cuts multifamily mortgage insurance premiums

The agency also eliminated three mortgage insurance premium categories for green and affordable housing that it said were not aligned with Trump’s policy agenda.

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Millions Could Lose Housing Aid Under Trump Plan

 LOS ANGELES TIMES

‘Now there is nothing for us’: Towns disappear when wildfire survivors can’t rebuild

S. Scott McDowell

From: Smart Cities Dive <newsletter@divenewsletter.com>
Sent: Monday, October 6, 2025 10:16 AM
To: S. Scott McDowell
Subject: Oct. 6 - Legal battles over National Guard in Portland, Chicago | Affordable housing lawsuit dismissed in N.J.

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DAILY DIVE

Oct. 6, 2025 | Today's news and insights for smart city leaders

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NYC's Congestion Charge: Data Insights

NYC's congestion charge has changed traffic, but Altitude data uncovers a nuanced story about commercial vehicles and idling behavior. [Read the full story.](#)

Court again blocks National Guard deployment in Portland; Chicago and Illinois file similar suit

The city and state suits say the president is exceeding his authority and violating the Constitution and the Posse Comitatus Act in deploying out-of-state National Guard members.

Court upholds New Jersey affordable housing mandate, dismisses suit from cities

The 27 cities vow to continue their legal challenges to the state law.

How Boston transit leaders fixed a failing transit system

The Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority recovered from safety lapses that prompted the Federal Transit Administration to oversee the agency's transit rail system in 2022.

S. Scott McDowell

From: NWYC <research@nwy.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 1, 2025 7:31 AM
To: Scott McDowell
Subject: Make Healthcare a Civil Right



National *Write Your Congressman*
ACTION ALERT

Provided by Adam Craven

Mr Scott McDowell

Equal Health Care for All Act (S.2347)

“Everyone deserves equal access to comprehensive, high-quality health care, free from discrimination.”

Congress has introduced legislation that aims to make equal access to medical care a protected civil right to help address the racial inequities and structural failures in America’s health care system that have led to higher mortality rates in communities of color. The Equal Health Care for All Act would establish a definition for inequitable health care to help ensure that hospitals provide the same high-quality health care services to all patients, regardless of race, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, age, or religion.

*Should Congress pass
S.2347, the Equal Health
Care for All Act?*

Voice your opinion!

S. Scott McDowell

From: Smart Cities Dive <newsletter@divenewsletter.com>
Sent: Friday, October 17, 2025 8:41 AM
To: S. Scott McDowell
Subject: Oct. 17 - Detroit to build multimodal transit hub | States sue EPA over Solar for All grants

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Detroit to build new multimodal transportation hub

The proposed intercity bus and Amtrak station next to the restored Michigan Central Station “will grow our regional economy,” said Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer.

States sue EPA over canceled Solar for All grants

In the third lawsuit filed about the grants this month, 22 states and the District of Columbia contend the agency illegally revoked \$7 billion in clean energy funds awarded to local governments.

Florida county turns to AI to trim zoning review process

Swiftbuild says its AI tool trimmed the zoning review process in Hernando County, Florida, from 30 days to two.

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How digital twins are transforming city planning

AI-powered digital twins are revolutionizing how cities tackle aging infrastructure while keeping budgets in check. Learn how cities cut information access costs by 95% with digital twins in [this playbook](#).

Republic, Teamsters end strikes that hit city trash routes nationwide

A final contract in Cumming, Ga., concludes months of labor unrest that disrupted trash collection in multiple cities.

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 THE NEW YORK TIMES

What New York Can Do to Survive Flooding

 NPR

Should the bus be free? Not everyone is on board

 DATA-SMART CITY SOLUTIONS

What Mayors Need to Know About SNAP

S. Scott McDowell

From: Smart Cities Dive <newsletter@divenewsletter.com>
Sent: Monday, October 20, 2025 10:21 AM
To: S. Scott McDowell
Subject: Oct. 20 - Commuter rail faces looming insurance increases | How the stadium boom impacts taxpayers

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Oct. 20, 2025 | Today's news and insights for smart city leaders

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Steep insurance cost increases loom for commuter rail

With liability insurance costs expected to rise nearly 24% next year, a bipartisan bill would give Amtrak, Brightline and commuter rail operators more time to obtain it.

As stadium boom resumes, 'private funding' often comes with public strings

Cities eager to tout privately financed sports stadiums are still spending big through tax breaks, land deals and public financing that shift costs back to taxpayers.

New York City is having an office-to-housing conversion boom. Could Chicago be next?

Chicago has a higher downtown office vacancy rate than the Big Apple. Housing advocates say those buildings could help address the affordable housing shortage.

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 THE NEW YORK TIMES

154,000 New York City Students Were Homeless Last Year, a Record Number

S. Scott McDowell

From: Smart Cities Dive <newsletter@divenewsletter.com>
Sent: Saturday, September 27, 2025 4:02 AM
To: S. Scott McDowell
Subject: Weekender: Cities and states split on EPA proposal to repeal endangerment finding



TRENDLINE

How Cities Are Increasing Street Safety

U.S. cities are making streets safer through innovative design and policy changes. Explore how the city of Philadelphia cut crashes on one of its most dangerous roads in **this Trendline**.

Cities and states split on EPA proposal to repeal endangerment finding

On the final day of public comment, mayors and attorneys general submitted opposing letters on the rule that has shaped federal climate policy since 2009.

5 takeaways from Harvard's Unlocking the Missing Middle housing report

The university's Joint Center for Housing Studies is examining "missing middle" housing in Massachusetts.

5 forces driving building retrofits and how cities can lead the shift

With nearly 1.5 billion square feet of aging stock in sustainability-focused markets, local governments are positioned to accelerate decarbonization, a JLL report finds.

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Why procurement professionals are essential in the age of AI

Discover why procurement pros are leading the AI revolution in state offices at the NASPO/PPA Exchange Conference 2026.

How transit leaders learned to handle multibillion dollar megaprojects

"The expectation going in is that you better spend that money wisely," said the leader of the \$16 billion Hudson Tunnel project in New York and New Jersey.

Republic Services and Teamsters reach 5-year agreement in Boston

The new collective bargaining agreement brings an end to a monthslong strike that triggered a wave of labor action in other cities this summer.

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 ABC7 CHICAGO

Chicago ‘Granny flats’ proposal moves forward as council, aldermen reach compromise

 ROUTE FIFTY

A national blueprint for responsible AI in government



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:



2025-2026 Council Values

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| 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

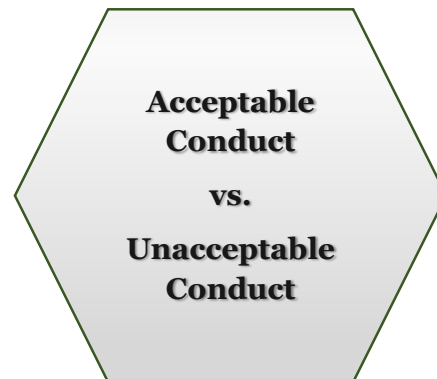
4. Implement & Execute
5. Review Outcomes

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



MONTH END FINANCIAL RECAP

		SEPTEMBER 2025		YTD	%	Unexpended	
		REVENUE	EXPENDITURES				
1	GENERAL	\$ 17,261.35	\$ 114,298.14	\$ 282,108.35	8.62%	\$ 2,990,396.65	1
2	WATER	\$ 60,514.70	\$ 29,418.36	\$ 117,616.54	10.98%	\$ 953,983.46	2
3	SEWER	\$ 48,462.56	\$ 18,050.70	\$ 94,618.46	7.27%	\$ 1,207,761.54	3
4	STREETS	\$ 22,343.27	\$ 14,311.02	\$ 54,969.96	12.17%	\$ 396,880.04	4
5	DEBT SERVICE (CLRC BOND)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ 58,000.00	
6	WATER BOND	\$ 99.01	\$ -	\$ 34,482.87	68.97%	\$ 15,517.13	5
7	SEWER BOND	\$ 12,790.35	\$ -	\$ 209,742.13	52.14%	\$ 192,507.87	6
8	SEWER DEBT FEE	\$ 1,322.02	\$ -	\$ 4,091.88	25.93%	\$ -	7
9	BUILDING & EQUIPMENT	\$ 791.58	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ 207,200.00	8
10	WATER RESERVE	\$ 2,945.18	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ 241,500.00	9
11	HOUSING REHAB	\$ 997.59	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ 257,500.00	10
12	WATER SDC	\$ 346.55	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ 124,500.00	11
13	SEWER SDC	\$ 3,637.23	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ 940,000.00	12
14	STORMWATER SDC	\$ 1,341.79	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ 370,300.00	13
15	BIKEWAY/PATHS	\$ 415.50	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ 75,000.00	14
16	LIBRARY TRUST	\$ 36.87	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ 9,450.00	15
17	CEMETERY	\$ 399.22	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ 101,450.00	16
19	SEWER CONSTRUCTION	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	18
20	LAND ACQUISITION	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ 9,985.00	19
21	COMMUNITY PROJECTS	\$ 246.74	\$ 4,850.00	\$ 10,552.38	13.43%	\$ 67,997.62	20
		\$ 173,951.51	\$ 180,928.22	\$ 804,090.69		\$ 8,219,929.31	

Key Bank Account

General Checking	\$ 123,856.77
Oregon State Treasury	
General Account	\$ 6,076,812.29
Community Improvements	\$ 39.36
Project Escrow Holding	\$ 111,867.69
CLRC Renovation Acct	\$ 626.15
TOTAL OST / LGIP	\$ 6,189,345.49

Annual Bond Payment

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

2025-2026

YTD	% of Total
Appropriated \$ 475,829.99	8.91%

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 \$ 942.50

