CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting Minutes
November 9, 2026

Mayor Primmer called the regular meeting to order at 7:00pm. Present were Councilors Myers, McCarthy, Duron, Roberts, Kelso, and Barron. Councilor Hayward was excused and Councilor Linton was absent. City Staff in attendance included: City Manager Byron Smith, Deputy City Manager Mark Morgan, City Attorney Richard Tovey, Finance Director Ignacio Palacios, Police Chief Jason Edmiston, Planning Director Clint Spencer, Parks and Recreation Director Brandon Artz, Court Administrator Jillian Viles, and City Recorder Lilly Alarcon-Strong. Youth Advisor Kristian Llernas (exited at 8:08pm) and Jesse Kirkpatrick were present (exited at 8:22pm). The pledge of allegiance was given.

Citizen Input on Non-Agenda Items
None given.

Consent Agenda Items
Councilor Duron moved and Councilor McCarthy seconded to approve Consent Agenda items A-C to include:

A. Committee Vacancy Announcement
B. Minutes of the October 26 Solid Waste & Curbside Recycling Advisory Committee Meeting
C. Reappointment Recommendation of James Lafolette to the Faith-Based Advisory Committee, Position 1, 3-year term ending December 31, 2029

Motion passed unanimously 6-0 with Councilors Roberts, Myers, McCarthy, Duron, Kelso, and Barron voting in favor.

Items Removed from the Consent Agenda
No items were removed.

Public Hearing- 2026 Hermiston Transportation System Plan (Ordinance Nos. 2388 & 2389 & Resolution No. 2443)- Hearing no conflicts of interest from the Council, hearing guidelines were presented by Planning Director Spencer and Mayor Primmer opened the hearing at 7:05pm.

Planning Director Clint Spencer and Principal Planner Nick Foster from Kittelson & Associates, Inc presented information (attached) regarding the overall Transportation System Plan; Proposed projects, programs, plans, and code amendments; Public engagement processes; Pedestrian and Bicycle Systems; Public Works Standards, and the like.

Planning Director Spencer and Mr. Foster answered questions from the Council and Youth Advisor regarding round-abouts and their proven efficiency, capacity, and superior safety vs stop lights even when accommodating larger vehicles and trailers. Councilor Roberts spoke regarding the simulated software ODOT presented earlier this year and praised all those involved for all the work done on this project. Councilor Duron spoke regarding needed corrections on pages 2 and 13 of the documents.

Public Testimony
Neutral
Karyn Jones, 1010 W Highland Ave- stated she had a question regarding round-abouts. Mayor Primmer stated discussions and questions about round-abouts would not be had.

Hearing no Proponents or Opponents who wished to give public testimony, Mayor Primmer closed the public hearing at 7:36pm.

Councilor Roberts moved and Councilor Myers seconded to approve the Findings of Fact in support of the TSP Adoption. Motion carried unanimously 6-0 with Councilors Roberts, Myers, McCarthy, Duron, Kelso, and Barron voting in favor.

Mayor Primmer stated this item will be presented again during Ordinance No. 2388, Ordinance No. 2389, and Resolution No. 2443 for final action.

Ordinance No. 2388- Adopting the 2026 Hermiston Transportation System Plan
Mayor Primmer announced that this item was presented during the Public Hearing.

After City Attorney Tovey read the ordinance by title only, Councilor McCarthy moved and Councilor Myers seconded to adopt Ordinance No. 2388 and become effective 30 days after adoption. Motion passed unanimously 6-0 with Councilors Roberts, Myers, McCarthy, Duron, Kelso, and Barron voting in favor.

Ordinance No. 2389- Amending Chapters 154 and 157 of the Hermiston Code of Ordinances to implement Transportation Planning Standards- Mayor Primmer announced that this item was presented during the Public Hearing.

After City Attorney Tovey read the ordinance by title only, Councilor Duron moved and Councilor McCarthy seconded to adopt Ordinance No. 2389 and become effective 30 days after adoption. Motion passed unanimously 6-0 with Councilors Roberts, Myers, McCarthy, Duron, Kelso, and Barron voting in favor.

Resolution No. 2443- Amending the Revised City's Public Work Standards, Technical Specifications, and Standard Drawings Manual- Mayor Primmer announced that this item was presented during the Public Hearing.

Councilor McCarthy moved and Councilor Roberts seconded to adopt Resolution No. 2443 and lay upon the record. Motion passed unanimously 6-0 with Councilors Roberts, Myers, McCarthy, Duron, Kelso, and Barron voting in favor.

Resolution No. 2448 – Geer/Harper Rail Crossing Agreement
Deputy City Manager Morgan spoke regarding the proposed agreement as presented in the staff report.

Staff answered Council questions and Councilor Kelso praised city staff for their work and patience on this agreement. Councilor McCarthy moved and Councilor Duron seconded to approve Resolution No. 2448 and lay upon the record. Motion passed unanimously 6-0 with Councilors Roberts, Myers, McCarthy, Duron, Kelso, and Barron voting in favor.

Resolution No. 2449 – SE 10th Park Acquisition
Deputy City Manager Morgan and Parks & Recreation Director Artz presented information (attached) and from the staff report regarding proposed property acquisition for the SE 10th Street bridge and future park site.

Staff answered Council questions regarding easement access for the Hermiston Irrigation District, fencing, parking, and the overall trail system. Councilor McCarthy moved and Councilor Myers seconded to approve Resolution No. 2449 and lay upon the record. Motion passed unanimously 6-0 with Councilors Roberts, Myers, McCarthy, Duron, Kelso, and Barron voting in favor.

Cancel the December 28, 2026 City Council Meeting

City Manager Smith stated the Council has previously canceled the last meeting of the year due to the Holiday's and sparse Council and staff availability.

Councilor Roberts moved and Councilor McCarthy seconded cancelling the December 28, 2026 City Council Meeting. Motion passed unanimously 6-0 with Councilors Roberts, Myers, McCarthy, Duron, Kelso, and Barron voting in favor.

Committee Reports

Public Safety Committee: Mayor Primmer and Councilor Barron gave updates regarding: Chaplain changes, Activity Statistics including the significant increase in DUI's from last year to this year, efficiency and ease of electronic citations for both the public and staff alike.

(Youth Advisor Kristian Llernas exited the meeting at 8:08pm.)

Mayor's Report

Mayor Primmer gave his deepest condolences to the Spokane County Sheriff's Office and the families of Deputies Mason Acheson and Parker Perry who lost their lives responding to a domestic violence call on November 3, 2026.

Council President's Report

Council President McCarthy spoke regarding Veterans Day on November 11th and the Tree Lighting Ceremony on December 4th.

Council Reports

Councilor Duron spoke regarding the City's Christmas Express Workdays and when the public can pick up food baskets and toys for children and thanked all those involved in contributing to this event; Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting is scheduled next week; LOC Conference where City Manager Byron Smith was a panelist speaking about Data Centers and represented the City well; and her appointment to the LOC Board of Directors.

Councilor Roberts spoke regarding his attendance at the Umatilla County Commissioners' meeting and hearing west-end trail system updates; Congratulated the Hermiston High School Drama Club for their outstanding performance of Charlotts Web and encouraged the public to support this Club.

Councilor Barron spoke regarding the City Charter Ballot Measure passing and thanked all public members for their participation in the process.

Councilor Kelso also praised the HHS Drama Club and all teachers involved who help make these plays a success; thanked the Kiwanis Club and Good Shepherd Community Health Foundation for placing American Flags through Main Street and encouraged the public to volunteer; and the Festival of Trees Fundraiser.

Youth Advisory Report

Youth Advisor Jesse Kirkpatrick spoke regarding six youth advisors who will be attending the National League of Cities Conference in Washington DC; HHS Performing Arts Collective Fundraiser; Canned Food Drive for Christmas Express; and gave recognition to FFA and Cross-Country teams for their accomplishments.

City Manager's Report

City Manager Smith stated Charter changes will be brought before the Council in January.

(Youth Advisor Jesse Kirkpatrick exited the meeting at 8:22pm.)

Recess For Executive Session

At 8:22pm Mayor Primmer announced the City Council of the City of Hermiston will now meet in Executive Session in the Executive Session Room on the first floor for the purpose of discussing preliminary negotiations involving matters of trade or commerce and matters pertaining to litigation with legal counsel.

The Executive Session is held pursuant to ORS 192.660 (2) (g) and (h) which allows the Council to meet in Executive Session to consider preliminary negotiations involving matters of trade or commerce in which the governing body is in competition with governing bodies in other states or nations and to consult regarding the legal rights and duties of a public body with regard to current litigation or litigation likely to be filed.

Representatives of the news media and designated staff shall be allowed to attend the executive session. All other members of the audience are excluded. Representatives of the news media are specifically directed not to report on any of the deliberations during the executive session, except to state the general subject of the session as previously announced. No final decision may be made in executive session. At the end of the executive session, the council will return to open session which the audience may attend. The executive session will last approximately 20 minutes.

Reconvene and Adjourn

There was no other business and Mayor Primmer reconvened and adjourned the regular City Council meeting at 8:54pm.

SIGNED: _____
Doug Primmer, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Lilly Alarcon-Strong, CMC, City Recorder



HERMISTON TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM PLAN

City Council Adoption Hearing

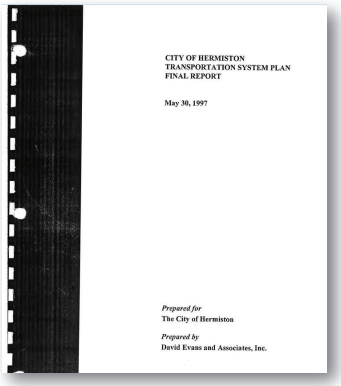
11/09/26

AGENDA

- Project Overview
- Projects, Programs, and Plans
- Code Amendments

WHAT IS A TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM PLAN?

- Long-range
- All transportation modes
- Vision and goals
- Needs
- Prioritized projects
- Potential funding sources


CITY OF HERMISTON
TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM PLAN
FINAL REPORT

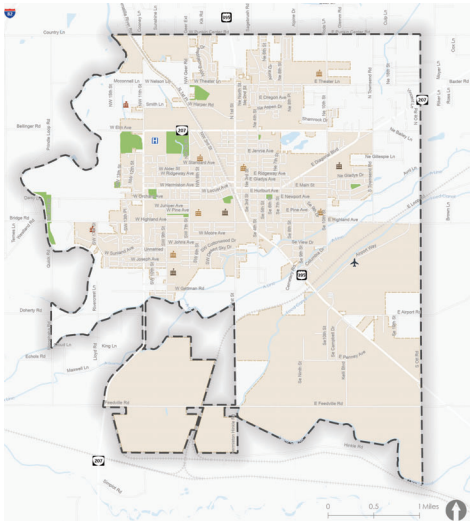
May 30, 1997

Prepared for
The City of Hermiston

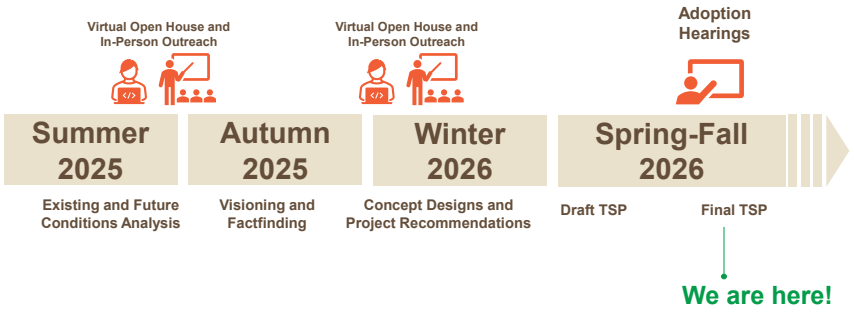
Prepared by
David Evans and Associates, Inc.

PROJECT SCOPE

- Public roads within Hermiston urban growth boundary
- Roadway owners
  - City of Hermiston
  - Umatilla County
  - ODOT



PROJECT PROCESS



VISION

Hermiston will strive towards a safe, efficient, and reliable transportation network that meets the needs of, enhances the quality of life of, and supports the mobility of all transportation users.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- Safety
- Mobility
- Connectivity
- Community
- Environment
- Fiscal Strategy

ENGAGEMENT AT A GLANCE

3	Outreach periods	**3**	Virtual open houses and surveys
5	In-person events	**264**	Survey responses/online comments
120+	People interacted with in-person	**3**	Technical Advisory Committee meetings



PROJECTS, PROGRAMS, AND PLANS

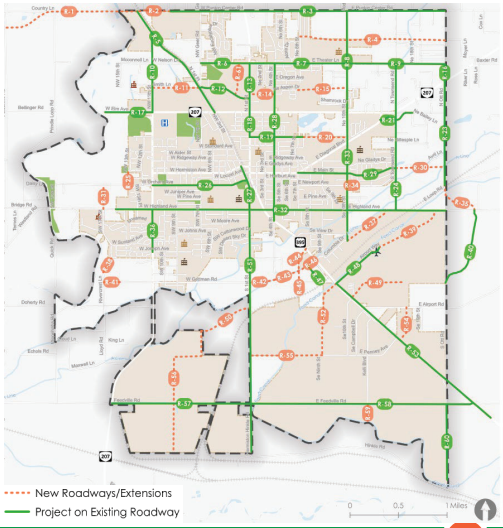
ROADWAY AND INTERSECTION PROJECTS

- All users
  - Prioritize activity centers and regional impact
- Bring streets up to modern standards
- Improve connectivity
- Incorporate 2025 TSAP
- Safe Routes to Schools



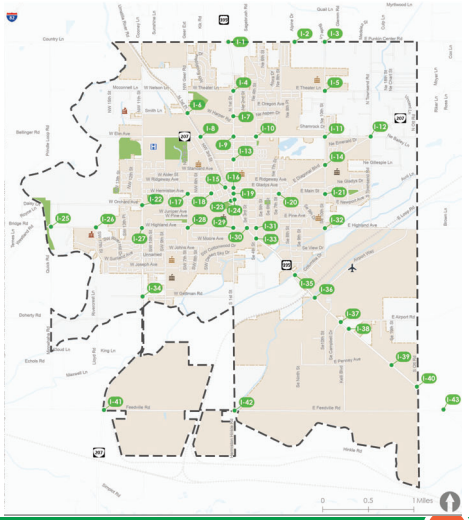
ROADWAY PROJECTS

- 61 projects
  - Modernization (24)
  - Street Extension (21)
  - New Street (8)
  - Safety/Access Management (4)
  - Realign (4)
- Active Transportation Elements
  - Bike Lanes (28)
  - Multi-Use Trails (11)
  - Sidewalks (40)



INTERSECTION PROJECTS

- 43 projects (not including roadway)
  - Safety (11)
  - Geometric (e.g., turn lanes, 11)
  - New Signal/Roundabout (17)
  - Bicycle/Pedestrian (3)
  - Stop Control (1)



ROADWAY PROGRAMS AND PLANS

- Functional classification changes
- Increase residential setbacks
- Street connectivity in development standards
- Permeable materials for off-street parking
- Cross-section updates
- Alternative Mobility Targets on US 395
- Update City TIA Threshold

PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE SYSTEM

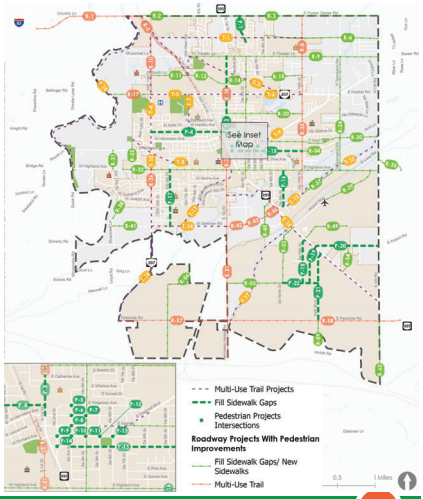
- Create complete streets for all users
- Fill in network gaps
- Leverage roadway projects to incorporate pedestrian and bicycle elements



Source: City of Hermiston

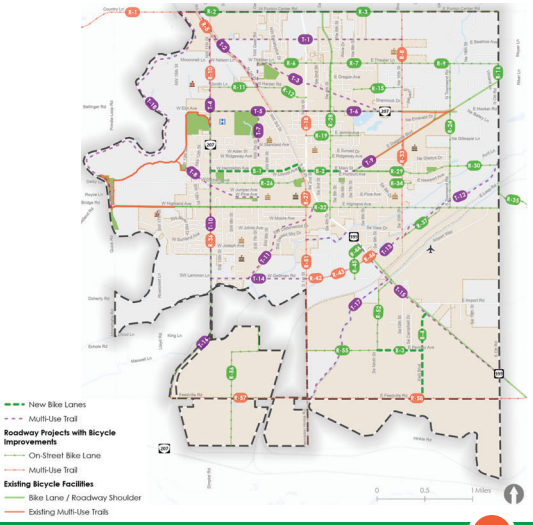
PEDESTRIAN SYSTEM

- Sidewalk gap filling projects (11)
- Curb extension projects (10)
- Additional pedestrian crossings (1)
- Roadway projects with pedestrian elements
  - Multi-Use Trails (11)
  - Sidewalks (40)



BICYCLE SYSTEM

- Bike lane projects (4)
- Trail projects (18)
- Roadway projects with bicycle elements
  - Bike Lanes (28)
  - Multi-Use Trails (11)



PEDESTRIAN/BICYCLE PROGRAMS & PLANS

- Update standard street cross-sections
- Develop and implement a process for filling in sidewalk gaps and enhancing crossings along walking routes to schools.


Source: Hermiston Herald

TRANSIT SYSTEM

- Four potential mobility hub locations
- Tri-Cities to Hermiston route
- Umatilla County Transit Development Plan identified a stop improvement



TRANSIT PROGRAMS

- Develop a program to prioritize and improve bus stops throughout the city.
- Maintain current taxi-based paratransit service and adapt as needed to evolving needs within the city.
- Continue to partner with Kayak for fixed-route public transit services.



Source: City of Hermiston

RAIL & PIPELINE

- No independent rail projects
  - Some projects may affect crossings
- No pipeline projects impacted



CODE AMENDMENTS

ZONING CODE AMENDMENTS

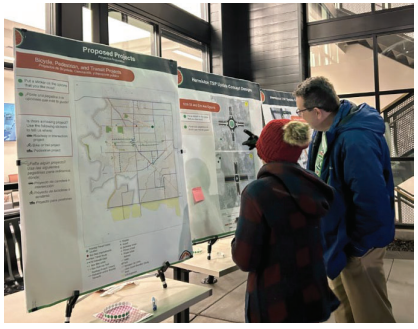
- TIA requirements -> Public Works Standards
- Cul-de-sac length – 200/350 feet
- Residential block length maximum – 350 feet

PUBLIC WORKS STANDARDS

- TIA requirements
  - Threshold: 1,000 trips -> 300 trips
  - Zoning code triggers imported
  - Residential development exemptions

QUESTIONS?







Resolution 2449- SE 10th Park

City Council: November 9, 2026

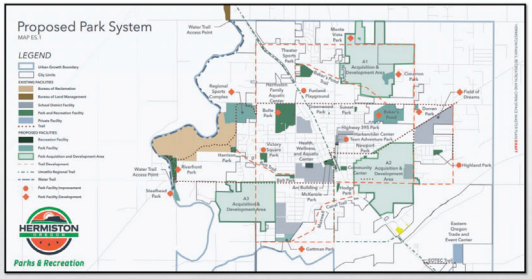
Resolution 2449

- Purchase Real Estate for Expansion of Future Park



Background

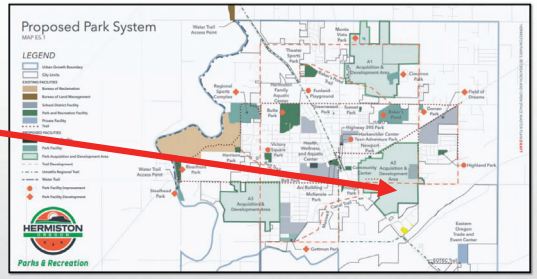
- 2020 Park & Open Space Master Plan





Background

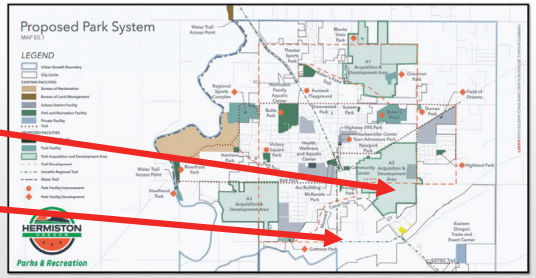
- 2020 Park & Open Space Master Plan
- SE Quadrant deficient in Parks/Open Space





Background

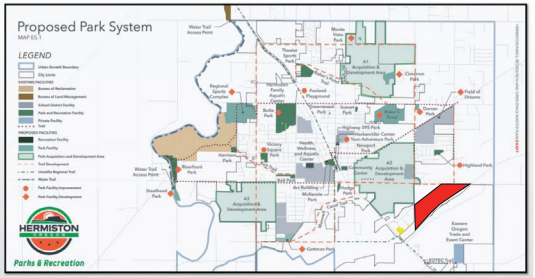
- 2020 Park & Open Space Master Plan
- SE Quadrant deficient in Parks/Open Space
- Future SE Quadrant Trails Called out





Subsequent Action

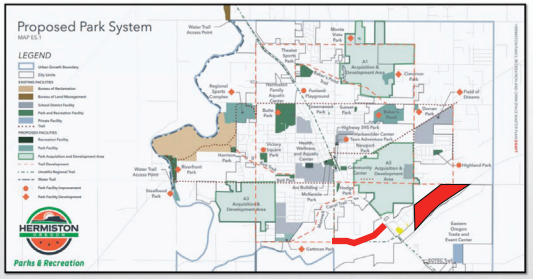
- HHW Annexation for ~200 Homes





Subsequent Action

- HHW Annexation for ~200 Homes
  - **Dedicated 4.5ac to City for future park/trail**
- Gettman Road Extension ROW Acquired









Financial

- $125,000 Street Construction Reserve
  - HHW Projected SE 10th Bridge Assessment
    - $100,000
- $77,500 Parks SDC
  - HHW Projected SDC's by Full Build-Out
    - $125,000



HERMISTON OREGON

QUESTIONS?

Where Life is Sweet™