



CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA

MONDAY, JULY 13, 2026

Where Life is Sweet

COUNCIL CHAMBERS - 180 NE 2ND ST.

Meetings are always open to the public in-person. Other ways of viewing or participating in live meetings are as follows:

View live meetings on YouTube at: <https://bit.ly/HermistonYouTube>

To participate in live meetings through Zoom, registration is required no later than 8am the day of the meeting by emailing meetings@hermiston.gov and providing participants full name and place of residence. The City Recorder will respond to sender with Zoom meeting details prior to the start of the meeting.

Submit written electronic comments to meetings@hermiston.gov . For written comments to be part of the official record, sender must provide their full name and place of residence and comments must be received within the time frame given for the item under discussion. The City Recorder will respond/confirm to sender that their electronic comment was received and will be made part of the record; or, if their electronic comment is not able to be made part of the record, the City Recorder will respond to the sender and state the reason(s) why.

1. CALL REGULAR MEETING TO ORDER – 7:00 PM

2. DECLARATION OF QUORUM

3. FLAG SALUTE

4. CITIZEN INPUT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Anyone wishing to bring anything before the council that is not on the agenda is asked to please do the following: 1. Please limit comments to not more than FIVE minutes; 2. State your name and place of residence; 3. Direct your comments to the Chair.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Award Funding through the Transient Room Tax (TRT) Recreation Projects Grants.

B. Committee Vacancy Announcements

C. Confirm Appointment of Erick Peterson to Position 4 of the Library Board for a four-year term ending June 30, 2030

- D. Confirm Appointment of Hawley Hawkes to Position 4 of the EOTEC Advisory Committee for a three-year term ending June 30, 2029
- E. Confirm Appointment of Hawley Hawkes to Position 9 of the Budget Committee for the remaining three-year term ending December 31, 2027
- F. Confirm Re-Appointment of Jessica De La Cruz to Position 2 of the Hispanic Advisory Committee for the three-year term ending June 30, 2029.

G. Final Plat- Fieldstone Crossing Phase 2 4N2815CA Tax Lot 1300- 1653 SW 9th St

H. Minutes of the June 22nd, Regular Meeting of the City Council

6. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

7. RESOLUTIONS

A. Resolution No. 2435- Lift Station #7 Contract Award.

B. Resolution No. 2436 –Amendment to IGA for IT services with the City of Pendleton.

8. OTHER

A. League of Oregon Cities (LOC) Legislative Priorities Discussion and Recommendation

B. 2026 Council Goal Setting Update.

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. City Committee and Liaison:

Airport Advisory, Budget, Hispanic Advisory, Library Board, Parks and Recreation, Planning Commission, Recreation Projects Fund, Faith-Based Advisory, Community Accountability, Public Safety, Public Infrastructure, Transit Planning, EOTEC, Stepping Stones Alliance (not a City Committee), Public Finance, Sanitary Disposal & Curbside Recycling, Vacancy Review

B. Mayor's Report

C. Council President's Report

D. Council Report

E. Manager's Report

10. ADJOURN

**** AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT NOTICE****

Please contact Hermiston City Hall, 180 NE 2nd Street, Hermiston, OR 97838 (Phone No. 541-567-5521) at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting time if you need an

accommodation. TTY and TDD users please call Oregon Telecommunications Relay Service at 1-800-735-2900 or 711.



Where Life is Sweet

Mayor and Members of the City Council
STAFF REPORT
 For the Meeting of July 13, 2026

Title/Subject

Award Funding through the Transient Room Tax (TRT) Recreation Projects Grants.

Summary and Background

The Recreation Project Fund Advisory Committee met on June 16, 2026 to review twelve proposals submitted for the 2026-27 allocation. Present at the meeting were Committee members Hunter Tibbals, James Whalley, David McCarthy, and Helen Nevin; staff present was Brandon Artz. Budgeted in FY 26/27 for distribution is \$125,000 and the total application amount was \$231,160.

Application packets were sent to prior applicants and known parties of interest and made available on the City's website. The distribution criteria for applicants is as follows.

TRT Funding Criteria and Eligibility

- Total budgeted project fund allocation for 2026/2027 is \$125,000.
- Projects must be within the City of Hermiston.
- Applicants must have a non-profit tax status.
- Projects that benefit Hermiston through enhanced tourism, promotion, marketing, and lodging will be given highest consideration.
- Projects that benefit the greatest number of participants will be given greater consideration.
- Projects that represent a broad base of other support shall be given greater consideration.
- Funded projects are required to submit a breakdown of expenditures on how the funds were spent including receipts prior to reimbursement.

Applicants were allowed 10 minutes to describe their project proposals and answer questions from the Committee. After review of the applications, the Committee discussed each proposal in detail and through consensus, settled on the award amounts in the following table.

The TRT Recreation Projects Grants Committee officially recommends the following allocation of grant awards:

Applicant	Description	Committee Award
Hermiston Downtown District	Melon Fest	\$10,000
Cinco de Mayo	2026 Cinco de Mayo Event	\$10,000
Inland Northwest Musicians	Orchestra Events	\$1,440
Hermiston Parks & Recreation	Annual Free Community Events	\$15,000
Hermiston Parks & Recreation	Mobile Video Trailer	\$30,000
Hermiston Sports Commission	Hermiston Sports Commission	\$7,000
Hermiston Basketball Club	Tournament Awards	\$8,000
541 Pickleball Club	Pickleball Enhancements	\$560
Hermiston Rotary Club	2026 Pickleball Tournament	\$5,000
Eastern OR Women's Business Lab	EO Women's Business Summit	\$20,000
Made to Thrive	Program Funding	\$3,000
Hermiston Jr Bulldogs	Youth Football Program	\$15,000
	Total Requested \$231,160	Total Award Recommendation \$125,000

Tie-In to Council Goals

The awards of the TRT Recreation Projects Grants ties in to all four Council goals.

Goal 1 - Growing & Prosperous

Goal 3 - Sustainable

Goal 2 - Safe & Healthy

Goal 4 - Connected & Engaged

Fiscal Information

The Recreation Projects Funds project is identified in the 2026/2027 City Budget.

Alternatives and Recommendation

Alternatives

The City Council may choose to approve, deny, or modify the funding allocations recommended by the Committee.

Recommended Action/Motion

Motion to approve the TRT Recreation Projects funding allocations as recommended by the Committee.

Submitted By:

Brandon Artz, Parks & Recreation Director



Where Life is Sweet

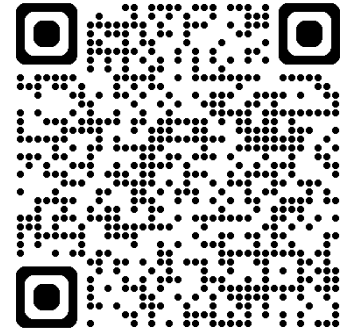
PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

The City is accepting applications for the following Committees:

1. [Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center Advisory Committee](#) (Advertised 04/22/2026)
 - o Position 3, Representing the Greater Hermiston Hospitality and Tourism Committee with a 3-year term ending June 30, 2029
2. [Hispanic Advisory Committee](#) (Advertised 04/22/2026)
 - o Position 2, 3-year term ending June 30, 2029

Deadline to apply for Committees: Open Until Filled

Applications and more information about these and all other City Committee's, Board's, and Commission's can be found on the City's website at: <https://hermiston.or.us/volunteer> or by using the QR Code. Have questions or are interested in applying? Reach out to Lilly Alarcon-Strong at: City Hall, 180 NE 2nd Street, Hermiston, at llalarcon-strong@hermiston.gov, or at 541-567-5004.



Proposed appointment(s) and confirmation(s) of these positions are made by the City Council. All appointments to city boards and commissions shall be made in accordance with the ordinances and city charter. Appointees shall not be full-time employees of the city, shall not be elected officials of the city, shall not be appointed to more than two boards or commissions at a time, and shall not sell to the city or its boards and commissions over which the council has appointive powers and budget control either directly as a prime contractor or supplier, or indirectly as a first-tier subcontractor or supplier. Sales shall be construed to mean sales, services or fees aggregating \$20,000 or more in any one calendar year. Preference for appointees shall be given to city residents.



Where Life is Sweet

Mayor and Members of the City Council
STAFF REPORT
 For the Meeting of July 13, 2026

Title/Subject

Final Plat- Fieldstone Crossing Phase 2 4N2815CA Tax Lot 1300- 1653 SW 9th St

Summary and Background

PBS Engineering has submitted a final plat for Fieldstone Crossing Phase 2 on behalf of the Hermiston School District. The subdivision is located on 9 acres of Low Density Residential (R-1) zoned land located at the northeast corner of SW 9th St and Gettman Road. The plat contains eleven residential lots intended for single or two-unit development and one oversize lot of 5.51 acres to be reserved for future residential use or additional school use.

It is the school district's intent to continue designing and building homes as vocational training for high school students. The Fieldstone project has been successful and popular with Hermiston High School students. Students work in architecture, wiring, framing, and many other trades in each house. One house is built per year, and one house is nearing completion. The school district and their contractors have completed installation of civil improvements, and the final plat is now ready for approval by the city.

The approval of the preliminary plat was subject to nine conditions of approval, all of which are applicable to the final plat. The criteria that are applicable to the decision to accept the final plat are contained in 154.46 of the Hermiston Code of Ordinances, governing final plat preparation.

As part of the review of the final plat, the Hermiston Irrigation District submitted a letter stating that the plat properly reflects a buried pipe easement fifty feet in width in SW 9th Street and that the district has no objections to the plat. A copy of the June 16, 2026, letter is attached to this report.

Tie-In to Council Goals

Approval of plats is a matter of administration of city ordinances.

Fiscal Information

The 12 low density residential lots results in 11 new homes each selling in the \$500,000 range. At full build-out the development will generate approximately \$38,000 in revenue to the city each year.

Alternatives and Recommendation

Alternatives

The city council may choose to approve or deny the final plat.

Recommended Action/Motion

Staff recommends the city council approve the final plat.

Submitted By:

C.F. Spencer, Planning Director



Legend

- Area of Proposed Subdivision
- Property Line
- City Limits
- Urban Growth Boundary

0 200 400 600
Feet

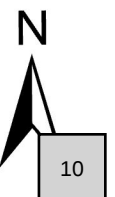


EXHIBIT A

Conditions of Approval & Final Plat Requirements

Fieldstone Crossing Phase 2 Subdivision

July 13, 2026

The preliminary plat was approved on March 13, 2024, subject to the following conditions of approval. The status of each condition is denoted below..

1. Applicant shall work with and receive certification from the Hermiston Irrigation District prior to final plat approval. Applicant should be aware that the City of Hermiston will not sign the final plat until the irrigation district has been satisfied and signs the final plat. **The property is located within the boundary of the Hermiston Irrigation District. The district is required to certify the plat per the requirements of ORS 92.090.**
2. Applicant must sign an improvement agreement and shall install grading, storm drainage, curb and gutter, sidewalks, street paving, and all service utilities for this development. All improvements for each phase shall comply with city standards and specifications and shall receive final approval from the city engineer. **All improvements have been installed and accepted by the city.**
3. Streetlights shall be installed at the applicant's cost. Once installed, the City will assume the monthly service charges. **The applicant has met this condition of approval.**
4. Applicant shall comply with all provisions of 92.12 of the Hermiston Code of Ordinances (relating to the control of blowing dust) during all phases of construction. **The applicant has met this condition of approval.**
5. All streets shall be designated in accordance with §94.22 of the Hermiston Code of Ordinances as detailed in the findings of fact for Chapter 94. The new cul-de-sac shall be labeled as SW Fieldstone Ct on the final plat. **The applicant has met this condition of approval.**
6. Applicant shall improve W Gettman Road frontage of the property with sidewalk to the end of the existing curb and gutter (a distance of approximately 460 feet), and with curb, gutter, sidewalk, drainage improvements, and paving improvements to minor collector status from the terminus of existing curb and gutter to the east end of the development site (a distance of approximately 140 feet). **The applicant has met this condition of approval.**
7. Water and sewer mains shall be extended in W Gettman Road from their current terminus at the paving/chip seal boundary to the east line of Lot 7, a distance of approximately 140 feet. **The applicant has met this condition of approval.**
8. Easements of at least 10' shall be provided along all street frontages. **The applicant has met this condition of approval.**
9. A notation shall be placed on the plat stating Lots 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 shall not establish driveways onto W Gettman Road. **The lot numbering for the affected**

lots has changed to Lots 19 through 23. The required notation is not on the final plat and the surveyor shall add this restriction prior to city signature of the plat.

Final Plat

Per §154.46 of the Hermiston Code of Ordinances, the final plat shall show:

- A) The boundary lines of the area being subdivided, with accurate distances and bearings. **Shown as required**
- B) The lines of all proposed streets and alleys with their width and names. **Shown as required**
- C) The accurate outline of any portions of the property intended to be dedicated or granted for public use. **Shown as required**
- D) The line of departure of one street from another. **Shown as required**
- E) The lines of all adjoining property and the lines of adjoining streets and alleys with their widths and names. **Shown as required**
- F) All lot lines together with an identification system for all lots and blocks. **Shown as required**
- G) The location of all building lines and easements provided for public use, services or utilities. **Shown as required**
- H) All dimensions, both linear and angular, necessary for locating the boundaries of the subdivision, lots, streets, alleys, easements, and other areas for public or private use. Linear dimensions are to be given to the nearest 1/10 of a foot. **Shown as required**
- I) All necessary curve data. **Shown as required**
- J) The location of all survey monuments and benchmarks together with their descriptions. **Shown as required**
- K) The name of the subdivision, the scale of the plat, points of the compass, and the name of the owners or subdivider. **Shown as required**
- L) The certificate of the surveyor attesting to the accuracy of the survey and the correct location of all monuments shown. **Shown as required**
- M) Private restrictions and trusteeships and their periods of existence. Should these restrictions or trusteeships be of such length as to make their lettering on the plat impracticable and thus necessitate the preparation of a separate instrument, reference to such instrument shall be made on the plat. **Shown as required**

- N) Acknowledgment of the owner or owners to the plat and restrictions, including dedication to public use of all streets, alleys, parks or other open spaces shown thereon, and the granting of easements required. **Shown as required**
- O) Certificates of approval for endorsement by the city council and certificate indicating its submission to the planning commission, together with approval for endorsement by other local, county and/or state authority as required by Oregon statutes. **Shown as required**

HERMISTON IRRIGATION DISTRICT



366 E Hurlburt Ave
Hermiston, OR 97838-2445
Phone: 541-567-3024
E-Mail: Office@HermistonID.org
Website: www.HermistonID.org

June 15, 2026

City of Hermiston
Planning Department, Director Spencer
180 NE 2nd St
Hermiston, OR

RE: Fieldstone Crossing Phase 2

Director Spencer,

Hermiston Irrigation District (HID) has reviewed the proposed subdivision for Fieldstone crossing Phase 2. The parcel for the proposed plat is within the Districts Federal boundary and do not have water rights. However, there is a 50' federal easement listed correctly on the plat. HID has no objection to the proposed subdivision.

HID appreciates the opportunity to comment on the proposed projects. If you have any additional questions, please me call at the number listed above.

Respectfully,

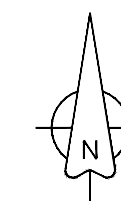
Karra

Karra Van Fossen
District Manager



LEGEND

FIELDSTONE CROSSING PHASE 2
A SUBDIVISION OF LOT 13 OF FIELDSTONE CROSSING
SUBDIVISION FILED AS INSTRUMENT NO. 2014-6230216 IN BOOK
16 OF PLATS AT PAGE 06, RECORDS OF UMATILLA COUNTY,
LOCATED IN THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHWEST
QUARTER OF SECTION 15, TOWNSHIP 4 NORTH, RANGE 28 EAST,
WILLAMETTE MERIDIAN, UMATILLA COUNTY, OREGON
A CITY OF UMATILLA



BASIS OF BEARINGS

N00°54'08"W BETWEEN THE 2" ALUMINUM CAP
MONUMENT AT THE INTERSECTION OF SW COYOTE DR
AND SW 9TH ST AND THE 2" ALUMINUM CAP
MONUMENT AT THE INTERSECTION OF SW 9TH ST
AND W GETTMAN RD

DISTANCES SHOWN HEREON ARE GROUND DISTANCES.
TO CONVERT TO GRID DISTANCES, SCALE BY A
FACTOR OF 0.99993875537877.



For Review

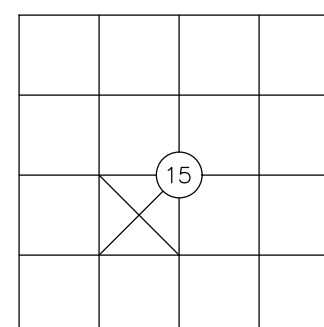
04/16/2026 2:09:57 PM
GREGG
JUNE 30, 1997
GREG E. FLOWERS
02820LS

RENEWS 12/31/2027

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A TRUE AND EXACT COPY OF THE ORIGINAL PLAT.

GREG FLOWERS, PLS OR 02820

SECTION DIAGRAM
T04N, R28E, W.M.



PBS Engineering and Environmental Inc.
5 N Colville St, Ste 200
Walla Walla, WA 99362
509.956.3026
pbsusa.com

CLIENT: HERMISTON SCHOOL DISTRICT		PROJECT NO.: 68186
SURVEYOR: GREG E. FLOWERS		DATE: 04/16/2026
CALC BY: RP	DRAWN BY: AA	SCALE: 1" = 40'
SECTION: 15	TOWNSHIP: 4 NORTH	RANGE: 28 EAST
CITY: HERMISTON	COUNTY: UMATILLA	SHEET <u>2</u> OF <u>3</u>

SURVEYOR’S CERTIFICATE

I, GREG FLOWERS, HEREBY CERTIFY THAT I HAVE SURVEYED AND MARKED WITH PROPER MONUMENTS THE LANDS REPRESENTED ON FIELDSTONE CROSSING PHASE I, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

LOT 13 OF FIELDSTONE CROSSING SUBDIVISION FILED AS INSTRUMENT NO. 2014–6230216 ON NOVEMBER 17, 2014 IN BOOK 16 OF PLATS AT PAGE 06, RECORDS OF UMATILLA COUNTY, OREGON.

SAID SUBDIVISION IS LOCATED IN THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 15, TOWNSHIP 4 NORTH, RANGE 28 EAST, WILLAMETTE MERIDIAN. THE INITIAL POINT, BEING A 5/8” REBAR WITH A YELLOW PLASTIC CAP STAMPED "STRATTON AAD 85050", MARKS THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF LOT 13 OF SAID SUBDIVISION, BEING ALSO THE NORTHEAST INTERSECTION OF THE RIGHTS OF WAY OF W GETTMAN ROAD AND S 9TH STREET, AND THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF LOT 23 OF FIELDSTONE CROSSING PHASE 2.

GREG FLOWERS PLS OR 02820

CITY OF HERMISTON PLANNING COMMISSION AND CITY COUNCIL

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THIS PLAT HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THIS PLANNING COMMISSION AND THIS CITY COUNCIL WHO HAVE REVIEWED IT THOROUGHLY AND ACKNOWLEDGE THAT IT MEETS ALL THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE SUBDIVISION ORDINANCES AS ESTABLISHED BY THE CITY OF HERMISTON, OREGON AND IS NOW READY FOR FILING IN THE RECORD OF TOWN PLATS OF THE COUNTY OF UMATILLA, STATE OF OREGON.

THIS ____ DAY OF _____, 20____ CHAIRMAN OF THE HERMISTON PLANNING COMMISSION

THIS ____ DAY OF _____, 20____ MAYOR OF THE CITY OF HERMISTON – CITY COUNCIL

UMATILLA COUNTY SURVEYOR

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT I HAVE REVIEWED THIS PLAT AND I HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGE THAT IT COMPLIES WITH THE STANDARDS SET FORTH IN ORS CHAPTER 92 AND I THEREFORE APPROVE THIS PLAT TO BE ACCEPTABLE FOR FILING IN THE "RECORD OF TOWN PLATS" OF THE COUNTY OF UMATILLA, STATE OF OREGON.

THIS ____ DAY OF _____, 20____

UMATILLA COUNTY SURVEYOR

UMATILLA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT WE HAVE REVIEWED THIS PLAT AND IT IS HEREBY APPROVED FOR FILING IN THE "RECORD OF TOWN PLATS" OF THE COUNTY OF UMATILLA, STATE OF OREGON.

THIS ____ DAY OF _____, 20____

CHAIRMAN

COMMISSIONER

COMMISSIONER

UMATILLA COUNTY ASSESSOR AND TAX COLLECTOR

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT WE HAVE REVIEWED THIS PLAT AND HAVE FOUND THAT ALL TAXES AND LIENS HAVE BEEN PAID ON THE LANDS PORTRAYED IN THIS PLAT AND WE HEREBY APPROVE THIS PLAT TO BE FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY RECORDS.

THIS ____ DAY OF _____, 20____

UMATILLA COUNTY ASSESSOR UMATILLA COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR

HERMISTON IRRIGATION DISTRICT

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT WE HAVE REVIEWED THIS PLAT AND HEREBY APPROVE THE SAME TO BE FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY RECORDS.

THIS ____ DAY OF _____, 20____

HERMISTON IRRIGATION DISTRICT

FIELDSTONE CROSSING PHASE 2

A SUBDIVISION OF LOT 13 OF FIELDSTONE CROSSING SUBDIVISION FILED AS INSTRUMENT NO. 2014–6230216 IN BOOK 16 OF PLATS AT PAGE 06, RECORDS OF UMATILLA COUNTY, LOCATED IN THE NORTHEAST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 15, TOWNSHIP 4 NORTH, RANGE 28 EAST, WILLAMETTE MERIDIAN, UMATILLA COUNTY, OREGON CITY OF UMATILLA

OWNER/DEVELOPER

HERMISTON SCHOOL DISTRICT #8
305 SW 11TH STREET
HERMISTON, OR 97838

OWNER’S DECLARATION AND DEDICATION

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENT THAT I, _____, REPRESENTATIVE OF SCHOOL DISTRICT #8, OWNERS OF THE LANDS SHOWN HEREIN, HAVE WITH OUR FREE CONSENT AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH OUR DESIRES CAUSED THE SAID TO BE SURVEYED AND PLATTED AS SHOWN HEREON; DO HEREBY DEDICATE THOSE STREETS AND/OR ROAD RIGHTS–OF–WAY AND ALL EASEMENTS DESIGNATED AS PUBLIC UTILITY EASEMENTS (P.U.E) SHOWN HEREON. THIS SUBDIVISION SHALL HEREAFTER BE KNOWN AND DESIGNATED BY THE NAME FIELDSTONE CROSSING PHASE 2. THE LEGAL DESCRIPTION FOR THIS LAND IS AS FOLLOWS:

LOT 13 OF FIELDSTONE CROSSING SUBDIVISION FILED AS INSTRUMENT NO. 2014–6230216 ON NOVEMBER 17, 2014 IN BOOK 16 OF PLATS AT PAGE 06, RECORDS OF UMATILLA COUNTY, OREGON.

REPRESENTATIVE DATE

PRINT NAME

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

STATE OF _____

COUNTY OF _____

BEFORE ME THIS ____ DAY OF _____, 20____, APPEARED _____, REPRESENTATIVE OF SCHOOL DISTRICT #8 AND TO ME PERSONALLY KNOWN, WHO ACKNOWLEDGED THE FOREGOING SUBDIVISION AND DEDICATION OF LAND TO BE A FREE AND VOLUNTARY ACT AND DEED.

WITNESS MY HAND AND OFFICIAL SEAL THIS ____ DAY OF _____, 20____

NOTARY PUBLIC
FOR THE STATE OF _____

RESIDING IN _____

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES _____

REGISTERED
PROFESSIONAL
LAND SURVEYOR

For Review

04/16/2026 2:00:48 PM
OREGON
JUNE 30, 1997
GREG E. FLOWERS
02820LS
RENEWS 12/31/2027

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A TRUE AND EXACT COPY OF THE ORIGINAL PLAT.

GREG FLOWERS, PLS OR 02820



PBS Engineering and Environmental Inc.
5 N Colville St, Ste 200
Walla Walla, WA 99362
509.956.3026
pbsusa.com

CLIENT: HERMISTON SCHOOL DISTRICT		PROJECT NO.: 68186	
SURVEYOR: GREG E. FLOWERS		DATE: 04/16/2026	
CALC BY: RP	DRAWN BY: AA	SCALE: N/A	
SECTION: 15	TOWNSHIP: 4 NORTH	RANGE: 28 EAST	
CITY: HERMISTON	COUNTY: UMATILLA	SHEET _3_ OF _3_	



CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting Minutes

June 22, 2026

Mayor Primmer called the regular meeting to order at 7:01pm. Present were Councilors Hayward, Roberts, Myers, McCarthy, Duron, Kelso, and Barron. Councilor Linton was absent. City Staff in attendance included: City Manager Byron Smith, Assistant City Manager Mark Morgan, City Attorney Richard Tovey, Finance Director Ignacio Palacios, Police Chief Jason Edmiston, Planning Director Clint Spencer, Court Administrator Jillian Viles, and City Recorder Lilly Alarcon-Strong. The pledge of allegiance was given.

Presentation- Hermiston School District Updates for the 2025-26 School Year

Assistant Superintendent Jake Bacon gave updates for the 2025-26 School Year as follows: enrollment increase at an average of 5% for the last four years, the many State and National competitions competed in extracurricular activities, increased trade programs that are being pursued with an emphasis on these classes building homes, play houses that are auctioned, and other community projects, Army JROTC program has grown rapidly and will be hiring a second instructor, Education Pathways program, recognition in financial reporting, receiving a summer learning grant, rejoining ESD, one-year partnership with Umatilla County Health Department to provide health services at HHS, the many scholarships that were awarded, and the very successful 2025-26 school year had.

Mayor Primmer thanked the HSD for the updates and commended their efforts for the increase in trade programs and accomplishments.

Citizen Input on Non-Agenda Items

Virginia Rome Garcia, City Resident- Thanked the City for participating in the Juneteenth Event stating the event was successful in the clean city park and thanked the Hermiston School District for offering so many programs for kids to be involved in.

Consent Agenda Items

Mayor Primmer removed Consent Agenda item G. Councilor McCarthy moved and Councilor Hayward seconded to approve Consent Agenda items A-J, with the exception of G, to include:

- A. E Theater Lane Dedication Deed – 4N 28 02BC TL 2300 – Horizon Project Inc.
- B. Committee Vacancy Announcements 1
- C. Recommend Appointment of Erick Peterson to Position 4 of the Library Board for a four-year term ending June 30, 2030
- D. Recommend Appointment of Hawley Hawkes to Position 4 of the EOTEC Advisory Committee for a three-year term ending June 30, 2029
- E. Recommend Appointment of Hawley Hawkes to Position 9 of the Budget Committee for the remaining three-year term ending December 31, 2027
- F. Recommend Re-Appointment of Jessica De La Cruz to Position 2 of the Hispanic Advisory Committee for the three-year term ending June 30, 2029.
- H. Minutes of the May 14th Budget Committee Meetings for the City and Hermiston Urban Renewal Agency
- I. Minutes of the May 26th, Regular Meeting of the City Council
- J. Minutes of the June 8th, Regular Meetings of the City Council and Hermiston Urban Renewal Agency

Motion carried unanimously with Councilors Hayward, Roberts, Myers, McCarthy, Duron, Kelso, and Barron voting in favor.



CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting Minutes June 22, 2026

Items Removed from the Consent Agenda

G. Certifying the Ward Councilors and Municipal Judge Primary Election Results

Mayor Primmer stated Councilor Roberts discovered a number discrepancy from the Umatilla Election Division Results that should be shared with the public for transparency purposes.

City Manager Smith read aloud the following email explanation from Umatilla County Election Manager Kim Lindell,

"The difference between the statistical votes cast and the total number of votes per race is one.

We have ballots that are called "permanent limited" that are issued to Overseas Individuals whose return to the State of Oregon is uncertain. This is also referred to as a "Federal Only" ballot. The only races on those ballots are US Senator and US Representative.

One of these ballots was returned and showed in the statistics for ballots cast totals for the precincts included in the City of Hermiston, yet the City of Hermiston races were not on the ballot itself."

Councilor McCarthy moved and Councilor Hayward seconded to approve Consent Agenda item G. Motion carried unanimously with Councilors Hayward, Roberts, Myers, McCarthy, Duron, Kelso, and Barron voting in favor.

Mayor Primmer congratulated all who were elected into office and all those who ran, stating running for office is a very difficult thing to do and should be commended.

Resolution No. 2433- Renewal of IGA for IT Services with Cities of Milton-Freewater and Pilot Rock, Morrow County, and Umatilla Rural Fire Protection District and amendment to IGA for IT services with the City of Echo.- City Manager Smith stated this resolution allows the City to renew IGA's with organizations where IT Contracts will soon be expiring.

Councilor Kelso stated it is clear that the IT Department does a great job as organizations continue to want to renew their contracts. Councilor Hayward moved and Councilor McCarthy seconded to approve Resolution No. 2433 and lay upon the record. Motion carried unanimously with Councilors Hayward, McCarthy, Roberts, Myers, Duron, Kelso, and Barron voting in favor.

Resolution No. 2434- Refer Amendments to the Charter to the November 3, 2026 Election.

City Manager Smith reviewed the recommended charter amendments with the recommendation to refer the amendments as one proposal to the voters at the November 3, 2026 election made by the Charter Review Committee.

After comments from the Council, Councilor Duron moved and Councilor Hayward seconded to approve Resolution No. 2434 and lay upon the record. Motion carried unanimously with Councilors Hayward, Roberts, Myers, McCarthy, Duron, Kelso, and Barron voting in favor.



CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting Minutes

June 22, 2026

May 2026 Monthly Financial Report

Councilor McCarthy moved and Councilor Hayward seconded to accept the May 2026 Monthly Financial report as presented by Finance Director Ignacio Palacios, Assistant City Manager Morgan, and City Manager Smith (PowerPoint Presentation attached). Motion carried unanimously with Councilors Hayward, Roberts, McCarthy, Myers, Duron, Kelso, and Barron voting in favor.

Committee Reports

Recreation Projects Fund Advisory Committee- Councilor McCarthy stated the Committee heard presentations and will be presenting recommendations at the next City Council meeting.

EOTEC Advisory Committee- Councilor Kelso stated the Committee did not have a quorum but was presented with Placer AI cell phone intelligence data, and heard information regarding Fair planning, HEROS, RV Project, and water rights.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee- Councilor Duron and Myers spoke regarding new parks and recreation staff members- specifically those hired for the Aquatic Center, 1,200 trees were disbursed at the Arbor Day Tree Giveaway event, Belt Parks new bridge built and donated by the HHS Metal Class, 2nd Grade Swim Lessons where Kiwanis Club provided free goggles and more, Stars and Stripes 4th of July event, and planning for Melon Fest in August.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Primmer spoke regarding:

- Many events that took place in the City to include: Juneteenth at McKenzie Park, the Disability Walk, and CarTunes Music Festival at EOTEC. City Manager Smith stated the CarTunes event was described by EOTEC General Manager Al Davis as "a great event that no one saw".
- Many upcoming events that are taking place in the City to include: Grand Re-Opening of the Cozy Tavern on June 28th, Watermelon Slam Pickleball Tournament on Saturday, June 27th, Stars and Stripes Shootout 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament on July 4th at Funland Park as well as other 4th of July activities, vendors, and fireworks, and Free Summer Movies in the Park starting in July at Butte Park
- Thanked the HSD for the Updates.

Council Presidents Report

Council President McCarthy encouraged the public to view community events posted at Hermiston Live and participate in these events such as the Chamber of Commerce Chamber Mixer and more.

Council Reports

Councilor Hayward reminded the community about the speed reduction on HWY 395, fire safety in this dry climate, and the 2001 High School Class Reunion.

Councilor Barron asked City Manager Smith if the City would be doing anything special for the 4th of July, commemorating the 250th Anniversary.

City Manager Smith stated the Parks and Recreation Department will be selling special 250th Commemorative Coins and enhancing fireworks and other festivities at the 4th of July Butte event.



CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting Minutes

June 22, 2026

Councilor Roberts spoke regarding the Special Meeting of the Pendleton City Council regarding their Resting Ordinance and making sure the City of Hermiston continues on the right path.

Councilor Duron spoke regarding her attendance at the OLLG Meeting stating it was the first time this type of LOC meeting was held on this side of the state and stated she will be attending an LOC Board meeting in La Pine on Thursday.

Councilor Kelso spoke regarding the Good Shepherd Community Health Foundations Scramble for Scholarships Golf Tournament was a great success which raises money for students in the medical field.

City Manager's Report

City Manager Smith announced the Peace Pole from the Rotary Club will be unveiled Thursday at noon and the Council and Community were welcome to attend.

Councilor Kelso stated the Cozy Corner grand reopening is immediately after and it seems like a natural migration to attend this event after the unveiling.

Adjourn

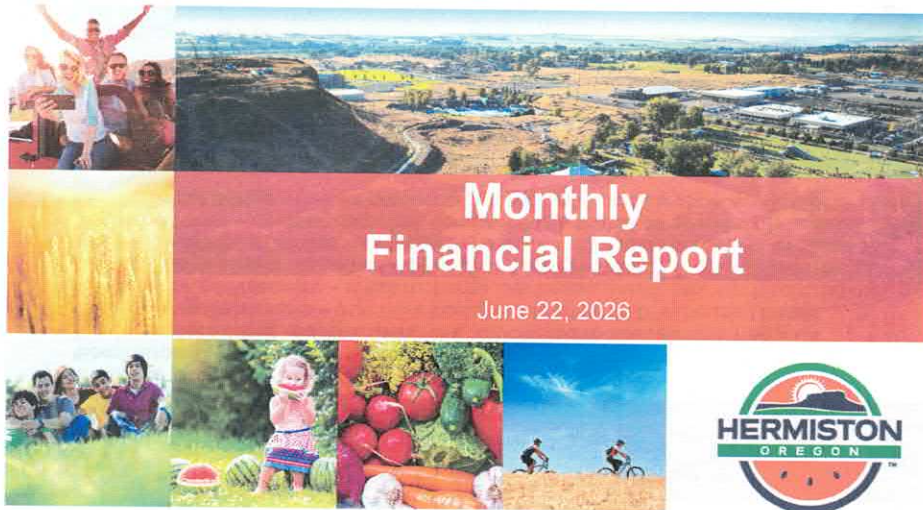
There was no other business and Mayor Primmer adjourned the regular City Council meeting at 7:54PM.

SIGNED:

Doug Primmer, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lilly Alarcon-Strong, CMC, City Recorder



Hermiston Urban Renewal Agency (HURA)

- Hermiston URA
 - **92% through current fiscal year**
- North Hermiston Urban Renewal Area – ROW acquisition complete, design finalizing, bidding anticipated fall/winter 2026.



General Fund

- Eleventh month (or 92.0%) of 2025-26 fiscal year
- Monthly Revenues ended over projection by ~\$1.8 million
 - **Primarily due to receipt of property taxes and franchise fees**
 - **Revenues meeting expectations**



General Fund

- Monthly Expenses were under projection by ~\$379k
 - **Several Departments are 'over' projected budget (City Council, Finance, PS Center & Non-Departmental) and were further evaluated**
 - **City Council and Non-Departmental are over budget due to annual LOC membership and transfer to building inspection fund, respectively.**
 - **Public Safety Center over budget due to single time purchases for PD building renovation.**



Special Revenue Funds

• Observations:

• EOTEC

- revenues reflect partial reimbursement from campground project
- RV project underway



Utility and Street Funds

• Observations

- Regional Water Fund ~\$201k under revenue projections and expenditures are ~\$449k under projection.



Capital Projects

• A number of projects in design:

- Geer/Harper Realignment – project underway
- NW 2nd Street Paving – contract awarded, anticipated to start summer/fall 2026
- RWS Backup Generators – purchase contract awarded, 2027 estimated install
- Aquifer Storage/Recovery – initial recharge has begun, anticipated April completion
- Orchard Water Line replacement – project underway anticipated completion late fall
- Well #6 Chlorination Structure – project underway anticipate completion by late fall
- Dogwood Street – contract awarded, construction anticipated summer through fall 2026
- SE 10th Street Bridge – design proceeding, anticipated construction winter '26-'27 during off-season
- E. Evelyn Avenue gravity sewer line – project underway continuing through fall
- Lift Station #7 Rebuild – bid package released, construction anticipated summer/fall

• TBD (budgeted and part of CIP):

- Well #4 Controls – delays may require rescheduling project
- Lift Station #5 – design to begin



Capital Projects

• Sherman Park – Bid package in review





Discussion Questions?

Where Life is Sweet



Where Life is Sweet

Mayor and Members of the City Council
STAFF REPORT
 For the Meeting of July 13, 2026

Title/Subject

Resolution 2435: Lift Station #7 Contract Award.

Summary

This resolution will authorize staff to award a contract to reconstruct sewer lift station #7.

Background

Sewer Lift Station #7 is located on the west side of NW 11th, approximately north of the Good Shepherd Home Medical Equipment facility.

The existing mechanical and electrical components in Lift #7 were installed in 1981 (45 years) and are operating beyond their useful life.

This project will also move the station slightly to the west, in to an existing easement. The move will have the ancillary benefit of removing the existing large round concrete structure that currently creates an obstruction on the sidewalk.

Tie-In to Council Goals

City Facilities: Public facilities that meet the community needs of today and the future

Fiscal Information

Bids were opened on June 23 as follows:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| - C&E Trenching: | \$500,795 |
| - Crestline Construction: | \$699,895 |
| - Granite Construction: | \$773,380 |
| - Silver Creek Contracting: | \$807,867 |
| - <i>Engineer's Estimate:</i> | <i>\$887,000</i> |

This project was included in the recently adopted FY27 budget, and will be paid for with normal sewer utility fee revenue as part of the CIP. Based on the Engineer's estimate of \$887,000, the project was budgeted at \$950,000. The low bid from C&E Trenching will therefore save approximately \$450,000. C&E is well qualified, and has completed multiple projects for the

City in recent years, including several similar lift stations and is also the contractor on the nearby Orchard Avenue Water Line Replacement Project, which likely helped them save on costs related to this bid.

Alternatives and Recommendation

Alternatives

1. Approve Resolution 2435
2. Reject Resolution 2435
3. Table Resolution 2435

Recommended Action/Motion

Approve Resolution 2435

Submitted By:

Mark Morgan

RESOLUTION NO. 2435**A RESOLUTION AWARDDING A CONTRACT FOR THE LIFT STATION NO. 7
RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO SIGN THE
CONTRACT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY**

WHEREAS, the City of Hermiston ("City") desires to reconstruct sewer lift station No.7 (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, the Project will reconstruct and replace existing mechanical and electrical components that were installed in 1981 and are operating beyond their useful life; and

WHEREAS, the Project will move the lift station into an existing easement which the movement will remove an existing obstruction in the sidewalk; and

WHEREAS, the project has been designed and a request for bids was issued; and

WHEREAS, notice was published, and bids were received from multiple bidders with C&E Trenching LLC being the lowest responsive and responsible bidder at \$500,795.00; and

WHEREAS, the City has funds available for this project.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY OF HERMISTON RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

1. That the contract for the lift station no. 7 reconstruction project is awarded to C&E Trenching LLC.
2. That the City Manager be, and is, hereby authorized to execute and deliver a contract for the lift station no. 7 reconstruction project to C&E Trenching LLC with such changes, additions, deletions, and modifications as the City Manager may approve.
3. That this resolution is effective immediately upon its passage.

PASSED by the Common Council this 13th day of July 2026.

SIGNED by the Mayor this 13th day of July 2026.

Doug Primmer, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Lilly Alarcon-Strong, CMC, CITY RECORDER

June 23, 2026

Mark Morgan
 180 N.E. 2nd Street
 Hermiston, Oregon 97838

RE: City of Hermiston, Oregon - Lift Station No. 7 Reconstruction - Bid Results

Dear Mark:

Bids for the Lift Station No. 7 Reconstruction project were received on June 23, 2026. Four bids were received. A bid tabulation is attached for your review.

The apparent low bidder is C&E Trenching LLC, with a total bid price of \$500,795.00. A summary of the total bid amounts is provided below.

Bidder	Total Bid Price
C&E Trenching LLC	\$500,795.00
Crestline Construction	\$699,895.00
Granite Construction Company	\$773,380.00
Silver Creek Contracting LLC	\$807,867.00

The apparent low bid from C&E Trenching LLC is lower than the Engineer's Estimate of \$887,000.00.

Anderson Perry & Associates, Inc., has performed a limited review based on publicly available information of the bid documents submitted by the apparent low bidder for general conformance with the requirements of the Contract Documents. Based on this review, the bid appears to be responsive. A review of publicly available licensing information indicates that C&E Trenching LLC currently holds an active contractor license. We recommend that the Owner perform an independent review of the bid prior to award to comply with state law. The Owner has the right to reject any or all bids, including without limitation, nonconforming, nonresponsive, unbalanced, or conditional bids. The Owner has the right to waive all minor bid informalities not involving price, time, or changes in the Work.

Should the Owner decide to award the contract for the Lift Station No. 7 Reconstruction to C&E Trenching LLC in the amount of \$500,795.00, a Notice of Intent to Award (NOIA) is attached for signature. The NOIA should be issued immediately, which will initiate a seven-day protest period from the date the NOIA is issued. If no responsive protests are received and the Owner elects to proceed, the Owner may issue the Notice of Award and associated contract paperwork.

Next Steps

Following award, the anticipated next steps include:

1. Contractor submits bonds and insurance

Mark Morgan
June 23, 2026
Page -2-

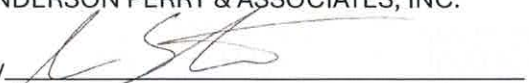
2. Execute the Agreement and Contract forms
3. Issue the Notice to Proceed
4. Schedule the preconstruction conference

These steps may be modified at the Owner's discretion. If you have any questions, please contact me at 541-963-8309.

Sincerely,

ANDERSON PERRY & ASSOCIATES, INC.

By


Andrew Stone, Construction Administrator

AS/jg

Encl.

cc: File No. 736-188-055 (w/encl.)

MorganBidResults_Hermiston_LiftStationNo7_736-188-055.docx

BID TABULATION											
PROJECT:				OWNER:							
City of Hermiston, Oregon				City of Hermiston				180 N..E. 2nd Street			
Lift Station No. 7 Reconstruction				Hermiston, Oregon 97838							
BID Opening: 11:00 a.m., June 23, 2026, via QuestCDN Online Bidding Service				BIDDERS							
Item	Description	Unit	Amount	Engineer's Estimate		C&E Trenching LLC		Crestline Construction		Granite Construction Company	
				Unit Price	Total	Unit Price	Total	Unit Price	Total	Unit Price	Total
1	Mobilization/Demobilization	L.S.	1	\$43,000.00	\$43,000.00	\$52,550.00	\$52,550.00	\$71,000.00	\$71,000.00	\$68,000.00	\$68,000.00
2	Temporary Protection and Direction of Traffic/Project Safety/Quality Control	L.S.	1	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$15,700.00	\$15,700.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
3	Job Photos	Each	50	\$10.00	\$500.00	\$10.00	\$500.00	\$10.00	\$500.00	\$10.00	\$500.00
4	Demolition	L.S.	1	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$13,700.00	\$13,700.00	\$22,200.00	\$22,200.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
5	Erosion and Sediment Control	L.S.	1	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00	\$12,500.00	\$12,500.00	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
6	Site Work	L.S.	1	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$12,250.00	\$12,250.00	\$28,000.00	\$28,000.00	\$9,000.00	\$9,000.00
7	Bypass Pumping, Piping, and Controls	L.S.	1	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$34,400.00	\$34,400.00	\$55,000.00	\$55,000.00	\$49,500.00	\$49,500.00
8	Groundwater Dewatering	L.S.	1	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$5,300.00	\$5,300.00	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00
9	Wastewater Lift Station	L.S.	1	\$400,000.00	\$400,000.00	\$208,500.00	\$208,500.00	\$315,000.00	\$315,000.00	\$365,000.00	\$365,000.00
10	Repair of Unmarked Utilities	Each	2	\$4,000.00	\$8,000.00	\$1,400.00	\$2,800.00	\$1,750.00	\$3,500.00	\$11,000.00	\$22,000.00
11	Asphalt Surface Restoration	S.F.	60	\$100.00	\$6,000.00	\$33.00	\$1,980.00	\$53.00	\$3,180.00	\$78.00	\$4,680.00
12	Concrete Sidewalk Restoration	S.F.	300	\$20.00	\$6,000.00	\$23.00	\$6,900.00	\$28.00	\$8,400.00	\$72.00	\$21,600.00
13	Concrete Curb and Gutter Restoration	L.F.	40	\$50.00	\$2,000.00	\$65.00	\$2,600.00	\$71.00	\$2,840.00	\$220.00	\$8,800.00
14	10-inch Gravity Sewer Line	L.F.	140	\$150.00	\$21,000.00	\$84.00	\$11,760.00	\$195.00	\$27,300.00	\$140.00	\$19,600.00
15	4-inch Pressure Sewer Line	L.F.	115	\$100.00	\$11,500.00	\$57.00	\$6,555.00	\$125.00	\$14,375.00	\$220.00	\$25,300.00
16	48-inch Diameter Manhole	Each	2	\$10,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$6,800.00	\$13,600.00	\$9,500.00	\$19,000.00	\$15,000.00	\$30,000.00
17	Wetwell Conversion to Manhole	L.S.	1	\$40,000.00	\$40,000.00	\$20,800.00	\$20,800.00	\$17,000.00	\$17,000.00	\$45,000.00	\$45,000.00
18	Pressure Sewer Cleanout	Each	1	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00	\$5,900.00	\$5,900.00	\$3,600.00	\$3,600.00	\$4,400.00	\$4,400.00
19	Storm Drain Replacement	L.S.	1	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$3,400.00	\$3,400.00	\$6,500.00	\$6,500.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
20	Electrical and Instrumentation Work	L.S.	1	\$150,000.00	\$150,000.00	\$49,500.00	\$49,500.00	\$65,000.00	\$65,000.00	\$37,000.00	\$37,000.00
21	Operation and Maintenance Manual, Record Drawings, and Closeout	L.S.	1	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$12,600.00	\$12,600.00	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
			TOTAL BID PRICE		\$887,000.00		\$500,795.00		\$699,895.00		\$773,380.00



Where Life is Sweet

Mayor and Members of the City Council
STAFF REPORT
 For the Meeting of July 13, 2026

Title/Subject

Adoption of Resolution No. 2436 –Amendment to IGA for IT services with the City of Pendleton.

Summary and Background

The City of Pendleton renewed their IGA in 2024 with the term ending in 2027 and have asked to amend the IGA related to the term, consideration, and the Statement of Work required.

Tie-In to Council Goals

N/A

Fiscal Information

The City of Pendleton is modifying their needs from a blended support model to an engineering only support model. Support hours will change to 16 hours per week from the previous 24 hours a week.

Alternatives and Recommendation

Alternatives

1. Adopt Resolution No. 2436 and attached Amended IGA without modification.
2. Adopt Resolution No. 2436 and attached Amended IGA with minor modifications.
3. Direct staff to make major changes to Resolution No. 2436 and/or the attached Amended IGA and return at a later date.

Recommended Action/Motion

Adopt Resolution No. 2436 and attached Amended IGA without modification.

Submitted By:

Richard Tovey

Byron Smith

RESOLUTION NO. 2436**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AMENDMENT OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF PENDLETON FOR THE CITY OF HERMISTON TO PROVIDE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES AND TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO SIGN ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS ON BEHALF OF THE CITY**

WHEREAS, the City of Hermiston (City) has established a full-service internal Information Technology (IT) department; and

WHEREAS, the City has the means to provide ongoing IT services to additional agencies outside of the City; and

WHEREAS, the City and the City of Pendleton entered into an Intergovernmental Agreement for Ongoing Information Technology Services commencing on July 1, 2024, and expiring on June 30, 2027 (the "Agreement"); and

WHEREAS, the City and the City of Pendleton have proposed to amend the Agreement, to include changes to the term, consideration, and the statement of work, a copy of the amendment agreement (the "Amendment") is attached and herein incorporated by this reference; and

WHEREAS, City staff believe it is in the best interest of the City to approve and execute the Amendment.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY OF HERMISTON RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

1. That the Amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Hermiston and the City of Pendleton to provide ongoing IT services is hereby approved.
2. That the City Manager is authorized to sign the Amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement.
3. That this resolution is effective immediately upon its passage.

PASSED by the Common Council this 13th day of July 2026.

SIGNED by the Mayor this 13th day of July 2026.

Doug Primmer, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Lilly Alarcon-Strong, CMC, CITY RECORDER

AMENDMENT TO INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT FOR ONGOING INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

This Amendment to Intergovernmental Agreement for Ongoing Information Technology Services (“Amendment”) is made and entered into as of the last date signed below, (“Effective Date”) by and between the City of Hermiston (“COH”) and the City of Pendleton (“PENDLETON”).

RECITALS

This Amendment is made with reference to the following facts and circumstances:

- A. COH and PENDLETON are parties to that certain Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Hermiston and the City of Pendleton for Ongoing Information Technology Services commencing on July 1, 2024 and expiring on June 30, 2027 (the “Agreement”).
- B. The section titled “Term of Agreement” describes the timeframe that COH will provide IT services to PENDLETON.
- C. The section titled “Consideration” describes the amount of that PENDLETON will be charged monthly for IT service performed by COH.
- D. The parties wish to amend, pursuant to Section 17 of the Agreement, the Sections titled “Term of Agreement” and “Consideration” of the Agreement.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Now therefore, in consideration of the mutual covenants hereinafter set forth, and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the parties hereby agree that the above recitals are made a part of this Amendment and otherwise do hereby agree as follows:

1. Term. Effective July 1, 2026, the Section titled “Term of Agreement” is hereby amended and restated in its entirety as follows:

Terms of Agreement. This Agreement shall be for a term of three (3) years commencing on July 1, 2026 and expiring on June 30, 2029. Upon expiration of that term, this Agreement shall automatically renew for successive one (1) year periods unless either party provides written notice of non-renewal to the other party at least ninety (90) days prior to expiration of the then-current term.

2. Consideration. Effective July 1, 2026, the Section titled “Consideration” of the Agreement is hereby amended and restated in its entirety as follows:

Consideration. This amendment replaces the previous 24 hours per week blended support model with an engineering-only support model as defined in the revised Exhibit A. COH will provide engineering support services averaging up to 16 hours per week.

The hourly rate will be structured as a 3-year stepped rate as follows:

- Year 1 (July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027): \$180 per hour
- Year 2 (July 1, 2027 – June 30, 2028): \$190 per hour
- Year 3 (July 1, 2028 – June 30, 2029): \$200 per hour

Beginning July 1, 2029, the hourly rate will be adjusted annually based on the agreed-upon Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA). Services will be delivered through a combination of remote and onsite support as defined in Exhibit A and will not be tied to a fixed onsite schedule.

Service levels defined in the original agreement remain in effect and will be applied in alignment with the revised scope of services and available support hours under this amendment.

All other terms of the original agreement shall remain in effect unless otherwise amended herein.

3. Miscellaneous. As expressly amended and modified by this Amendment, the terms and provisions of the Agreement are hereby ratified and affirmed in their entirety. This Amendment may be amended only by an agreement in writing, signed by the City of Hermiston and the City of Pendleton. This Amendment shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of Oregon, and without regard to any principles of conflict of laws. This Amendment may be signed in any number of counterparts, each of which shall be deemed to be an original and all of which taken together shall constitute one and the same instrument. Any such counterpart may be executed by facsimile or electronic transmission. This Amendment constitutes the entire agreement of with respect to the amendment of the Agreement, and all prior or contemporaneous agreements or communications between the parties on this matter are superseded in entirety by this Amendment.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the City of Hermiston and the City of Pendleton, by their respective duly authorized representatives, have executed this Amendment on the date shown below.

CITY OF PENDLETON

Signature: MWA Title: City Mgr
 Name (print): Robb Corbett Date: 7-8-24

CITY OF HERMISTON

Signature: _____ Title: _____
 Name (print): _____ Date: _____

Exhibit A – Statement of Work (Revised)

Overview

The City of Hermiston (COH) will provide engineering-level information technology support services to the City of Pendleton focused on infrastructure, systems, and platform administration. This agreement reflects a transition away from end-user help desk services to an engineering-focused support model.

Scope of Services (Included)

COH will provide support for the following systems and services:

- Server infrastructure (on-premises and cloud-hosted)
 - Network infrastructure (firewalls, switching, wireless, VLANs, site-to-site connectivity)
 - Microsoft 365 services (Exchange Online, Teams, SharePoint, OneDrive, Intune, Entra ID)
 - Security, patching, and system health monitoring
 - Backup and disaster recovery systems
 - Vendor coordination related to infrastructure and platform systems
 - Infrastructure-related project work and system improvements
-

Scheduled Maintenance

- COH will perform routine maintenance, patching, and system updates for infrastructure systems as needed.
 - These activities may occur outside of normal business hours and are typically performed remotely to minimize operational impact.
-

Service Delivery Model

- Support will be provided through a combination of remote and onsite services based on operational priorities.

- Onsite support will continue on a regular coordinated schedule, with remote and after-hours work performed as needed based on operational priorities. Any such work will be applied toward the weekly support hours under this agreement.
 - Onsite presence will be scheduled in advance and focused on planned engineering work, project tasks, or high-priority issues.
 - Work will be prioritized based on infrastructure stability, security, and operational impact.
-

Items Not Included (Out of Scope)

The following services are not included under this agreement and are the responsibility of Pendleton's internal IT staff:

- End-user desktop support and troubleshooting
 - Workstation setup, imaging, and deployment
 - Software installation for end users
 - Printer support and peripheral devices
 - Direct end-user training or support
 - Coordination or support of vendor-managed end-user systems
-

Service Requests and Communication

- All requests for IT support or work to be performed by COH shall be submitted through the designated helpdesk system or approved communication channels.
 - Direct requests to individual COH staff (including text messages, or informal communication) are discouraged and may be redirected to the helpdesk system to ensure proper tracking, prioritization, and documentation of work.
 - In emergency situations involving critical system outages, direct contact is appropriate; however, a corresponding helpdesk ticket shall be created as soon as reasonably possible.
-

Coordination with Pendleton IT Staff

- Pendleton IT staff will serve as the primary point of contact for end-user issues and will triage requests prior to escalation to COH, including providing sufficient detail for COH to effectively respond.
 - COH will coordinate with Pendleton IT staff as needed to support systems covered under this agreement, but is not responsible for training or ongoing development of Pendleton staff.
-

Change Management / System Responsibility

To ensure system stability and accountability:

- COH will serve as the primary technical lead for infrastructure systems covered under this agreement.
- Coordination between Pendleton IT staff and COH is required prior to either party making significant changes to core systems including:
 - Server configuration
 - Network configuration
 - Microsoft 365 tenant settings
 - Security or identity systems
- COH will document engineering-level changes to core systems through the appropriate ticketing or documentation process. Documentation will generally include the system affected, an overview of the work performed, and the reason for the change. Requests from Pendleton IT staff should be submitted through the designated support process with sufficient detail to allow the work to be tracked and documented appropriately.
- Upon request, COH will provide Pendleton IT staff with an inventory and overview of core systems supported under this agreement, subject to available support hours and prioritization. This information is intended to identify major systems, their general purpose, and how they relate to the supported environment, and to support general system awareness and planning, not detailed system administration.
- COH will not be responsible for issues resulting from uncoordinated changes made outside of this process.

After-Hours Support

- After-hours support will be provided for critical, widespread outages impacting core infrastructure systems.
 - After-hours support does not include individual user issues or non-critical service requests.
-

Additional Services

- Work outside the defined scope will require prior agreement between both parties before being performed.



Where Life is Sweet

Mayor and Members of the City Council
STAFF REPORT
 For the Meeting of July 13, 2026

Title/Subject

League of Oregon Cities (LOC) Legislative Priorities Discussion and Recommendation

Summary and Background

Each even-numbered year the LOC appoints members to serve on the following seven policy committees:

- Housing, Land Use and Community Development
- General Government and Human Resources
- Energy and Environment
- Finance, Taxation and Economic Development
- Telecommunications, Cybersecurity, and Artificial Intelligence
- Transportation
- Water and Wastewater

These policy committees are the foundation of the LOC's policy development process. Composed of city officials, these committees are charged with analyzing policy and technical issues and recommending positions and strategies for the LOC.

Each committee provides a list of recommended policy positions and actions for the LOC to take in the coming two-year legislative cycle. This year, each of the seven committees identified 3 to 5 legislative policy priorities to advance to the full membership and LOC Board of Directors for a total of 27 policy priorities. Each city is now being asked to review these recommendations from the seven policy committees and provide input to the LOC Board of Directors as it prepares to adopt the LOC's 2027 legislative agenda.

Attached you will find first an LOC document with a full explanation of all 27 policy priorities listed by committee. Second, you will find a copy of the last council goal setting report. I worked to find ties to the council's adopted values and goals in the list of policy priorities that I highlight below. At the end of each summary there is a page number referring to the LOC document followed by a statement of the **applicable values** and if possible, the **applicable council goal areas**. I also asked staff to review the priorities and their input is reflected in the recommendation mentioned below.

Finally, out of the nine policy priorities that I have placed in this report, I have **highlighted** the five that I suggest might be the most important.

1. MAINTAIN LOCAL CONTROL OF A SAFE, MODERN RIGHT OF WAY

RECOMMENDATION: The LOC will oppose any legislation seeking to preempt local control of municipal rights-of-way (ROW). The LOC will also support legislation aimed at codifying home rule management of the local ROW and the revenue derived from use of the ROW, while encouraging ROW users to timely upgrade and replace their infrastructure lost to natural disaster. (Livability) (City Facilities)

2. SUPPORT MUNICIPAL CYBERSECURITY PROFICIENCY

RECOMMENDATION: The LOC opposes unfunded mandates and will advocate for technical support and funding to give all cities access to innovative technology, enhanced state programs, cybersecurity notification resources and assistance protecting critical infrastructure and data during cyber-attacks. (Fiscal Prudence) (City Facilities)

3. PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW CLARITY

RECOMMENDATION: The LOC will advocate for a comprehensive statutory reset of the Oregon Public Meetings Law to restore operational functionality and practicality for local governments while protecting public transparency. This priority includes the following provisions:

- Establishing an Intentionality Requirement: Limit serial meeting violations strictly to actions taken "knowingly and intentionally" to protect volunteer elected officials from penalties for good-faith, inadvertent errors.
- Streamlining Complaint Enforcement: Authorize the Oregon Government Ethics Commission (OGE) to immediately dismiss incomplete, trivial, or bad-faith complaints.
- Holding the Right Entity Accountable: Shift personal liability for purely administrative errors—such as delayed meeting notices—away from individual elected officials and onto the public body as an institution.
- Expanding the "Cure" Process: Provide flexible, accessible avenues for local governments to address and correct procedural complaints, including decision rescission or public acknowledgement with a corrective action plan.
- Right-Sizing Training Requirements: Reform mandatory compliance training to occur once per elected term rather than annually, while allowing incoming officials to complete the requirement prior to being sworn in. (Engagement) (Good Governance)

4. FUNDING AND COORDINATION FOR SHELTER AND HOMELESS RESPONSE

RECOMMENDATION: The LOC opposes cuts to the state shelter system funding and supports continued state investments in a comprehensive homeless response system to fund eviction prevention, shelter, and rehousing. These investments should include:

- Strengthening our coordinated regional homeless response;
- Funding a range of shelter types in cities across the state, including alternative shelter models, safe parking programs; and
- Funding eviction prevention, rapid rehousing, outreach, case management, staffing and administrative support, and other related services. (Inclusive)(Housing)

5. LAND AVAILABILITY AND LAND USE STREAMLINING

RECOMMENDATION: The LOC supports updates and streamlining statutes to better support good land use planning and land availability for all needs. This includes:

- Refining land use statutes to provide more clarity and legal certainty for cities;
- Clarifying wetland statutes and inventories to allow efficient and orderly urbanization of land within urban growth boundaries (UGBs);
- Streamlining UGB expansion and swap processes for residential, commercial, and industrial land;
- Improving urban reserves process and land prioritization; and
- Funding for technical assistance for code audits and updates to comply with new state statutes. (Livability) (Housing)

6. TARGETED PREVAILING WAGE CHANGES

RECOMMENDATION: The LOC will advocate for targeted changes to prevailing wage requirements that:

- recognize urgent needs for Oregon communities;
- consider the impact of inflation; and maintain the original intent of Oregon's prevailing wage law.
 - This includes supporting reoccurring legislation to exempt publicly financed facilities aimed at addressing the housing crisis (affordable housing, shelters, day centers) and the lack of childcare,
 - as well as efforts to address mounting infrastructure needs impacting housing and economic development.

The LOC will support additional clarity around split determination issues that are impacting growth, ensuring cities can proactively prepare for growth without impacting future, private developments. (Fiscal Prudence) (Fiscal)

7. ALCOHOL REVENUE MODERNIZATION

RECOMMENDATION: The LOC will advocate for alcohol tax revenue modernization that generates increased shared revenues for cities. This includes support for recommendations from the HB 3610 Task Force on Alcohol Pricing to increase beer and wine taxes while preserving the existing 34% revenue-sharing distribution to cities. This may also include legislation removing the preemption on local alcohol taxes. (Fiscal Prudence) (Fiscal)

8. EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION SYSTEM RESOURCES

RECOMMENDATION: The LOC will support legislation enhancing the effectiveness of the state's emergency communications system through an increase in the 9-1-1 tax. Inflationary factors have lessened the impact of the emergency communications tax. State estimates indicate that this revenue covered 40% of dispatch center costs, but that figure is inaccurate, with some communities receiving as little as 20-25%. (Fiscal Prudence) (Fiscal/Public Safety)

9. STRENGTHENING ECONOMIC AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

RECOMMENDATION: The LOC will support efforts to modernize and strengthen Oregon's existing economic development programs while advocating to maintain local

flexibility and autonomy over local revenues. The LOC's advocacy includes strengthening and increasing funding for current state programs like Enterprise Zones (EZ), Long Term Rural Enterprise Zone (LTREZ), the Strategic Investment Program (SIP), the Industrial Site Loan Fund, Brownfield programs, and infrastructure programs, as well as new efforts to support a healthy economy.

The LOC will also support efforts to strengthen Oregon's workforce development initiatives that help to meet critical workforce shortages experienced by public and private employers throughout the state. The LOC will advocate for policies and investments that strengthen local talent pipelines, expand access to workforce education and training, and help communities recruit and retain the skilled workforce needed to support and grow a healthy economy. (Livability) (Fiscal)

10. INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING

RECOMMENDATION: The LOC will advocate for increased and sustained investments in drinking water, wastewater, stormwater, and water reuse infrastructure needed to support housing production, economic development, public health, and environmental protection. This includes: expanding flexible, low-cost financing tools that reduce ratepayer burden; supporting infrastructure capacity needed for housing and economic development; investing in aquifer storage and recovery projects; protecting system development charge authority; and sustaining infrastructure financing programs, including the Special Public Works Fund, which help communities address critical infrastructure needs.

The LOC will advocate for policies that recognize the increasing costs associated with regulatory compliance, environmental protection, and workforce needs. (Fiscal Prudence) (Fiscal)

11. WATER REUSE

RECOMMENDATION: The LOC will advocate for policies and investments that support the development and expansion of water reuse projects throughout Oregon. This includes: funding for planning, design, and construction; clear and predictable regulatory pathways; and technical assistance for local governments. The LOC will support maintaining local flexibility to implement community-specific reuse solutions that protect public health and environmental quality. (Livability) (City Facilities)

12. WATER WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

RECOMMENDATION: The LOC will advocate for investments in workforce development programs that support the recruitment, training, certification, and retention of drinking water and wastewater professionals. This includes: support for operator-in-training and apprenticeship programs; certification and reciprocity improvements; regional training opportunities; and funding that helps communities develop and maintain a qualified water workforce. (Fiscal Prudence) (Fiscal)

Tie-In to Council Goals

See the above list.

Fiscal Information

N/A

Alternatives and Recommendation

Alternatives

1. Adopt City of Hermiston recommended policy priorities as presented.
2. Amend and adopt City of Hermiston recommended policy priorities.
3. Request additional information and delay action.

Recommended Action/Motion

Adopt City of Hermiston recommended policy priorities as presented.

Submitted By: Byron D. Smith



League of Oregon Cities

2026 Member Voter Guide
2027-28 LOC Legislative Priorities

TABLE OF CONTENTS

2026 Member Voter Guide.....	3
Background	3
Ballot/Voting Process:.....	3
Broadband, Cybersecurity, AI, and Telecommunications Committee.....	4
Promote the Equitable Development of Sustainable Telecom Infrastructure	4
Maintain Local Control of a Safe, Modern Right of Way	4
Support Equitable Access to Technology	4
Support Responsible Municipal Use of Technology	5
Support Municipal Cybersecurity Proficiency.....	5
General Government Committee	6
Administrative Procedures Act Reform.....	6
Public Meetings Law Clarity	7
Housing, Land Use, and Community Development Committee	8
Funding and Coordination for Shelter and Homeless Response	8
Full Funding And Streamlining For Housing Production	8
Land Availability And Land Use Streamlining.....	9
Energy and Environment Committee	10
Invest In Community Energy Resilience/Disaster Planning.....	10
Support Expedited Local Renewable Energy Generation	10
Support Increased Energy Transmission Capacity.....	11
Maintain Affordable Energy While Supporting Grid Hardening and Modernization	11
Resource Programs For Energy Efficiency Planning and Project Development	11
Support Administrative Capacity	12
Finance, Taxation, and Economic Development Committee	12
Targeted Prevailing Wage Changes	12
Alcohol Revenue Modernization.....	13
Emergency Communication System Resources.....	13
Strengthening Economic and Workforce Development	14
Transportation Committee	15
2027 Transportation Package	15
Cautious Adoption of Autonomous Vehicles.....	16
City Supported Street Sign Traditions	17
Water and Wastewater Committee	18
Infrastructure Funding	18
Water Reuse	18
Ratepayer Assistance.....	19
Water Workforce Development.....	19

2026 Member Voter Guide

Background: The LOC [policy committees](#) are the foundation of the League's policy development process. Each even-numbered year, the LOC appoints city officials to serve on these committees. They receive informational briefings, analyze policy and technical issues, and ultimately recommend positions and strategies for the upcoming two-year legislative cycle. We want to acknowledge officials that dedicated their time and expertise to develop the priorities – *thank you* for supporting the LOC in crafting a strong agenda to support our legislative work.

This year, seven committees identified 27 legislative policy priorities to advance to the full membership and LOC Board of Directors. It's important to understand that the issues that do not rise to the top based on member ranking are not diminished with respect to their value to the policy committee or the LOC's advocacy. These issues will still be key components of the LOC's legislative portfolio for the next two years.

Ballot/Voting Process: Each city is asked to review the recommendations from the each of the policy committees and provide input to the LOC Board of Directors, which will formally adopt the LOC's 2027-28 legislative agenda. While each city may have a different process when evaluating the issues, it's important for cities to engage with their mayor and entire council to ensure the issues are evaluated and become a shared set of priorities. During its October meeting, the LOC Board will formally adopt a set of priorities based on the ranking process through the survey and their evaluation.

Each city is permitted **one** ballot submission. **Once your city has reviewed the proposed legislative priorities, please complete the electronic ballot to indicate the top five (5) issues that your city would like the LOC to focus on during the 2027-28 legislative cycle.** The lead administrative staff member (city manager, city recorder, etc.) will be provided with a link to the electronic ballot. If your city did not receive a ballot link or needs an alternative way to vote, please reach out to Meghyn Fahndrich at mfahndrich@orcities.org and Nicole Stingh at nstingh@orcities.org.

Important Deadline: The deadline for submitting your city's vote is **5 p.m. on Friday, September 25, 2026.**

Broadband, Cybersecurity, Artificial Intelligence (AI), and Telecommunications Committee

LOC Contact: Greg Miller, gmliller@orcities.org

PROMOTE THE EQUITABLE DEVELOPMENT OF SUSTAINABLE TELECOM INFRASTRUCTURE

RECOMMENDATION: The LOC recognizes and has prioritized broadband access, and telecom infrastructure more broadly, as an “essential service” and will advocate for affordable, safe, reliable, high-speed infrastructure development and access in every city. This includes but is not limited to: supporting expansion of service options for municipalities; increasing rural cellular infrastructure; and maintaining open access to networks that provide choice to community members.

Background: Advancements in telecommunications technology have ushered in unprecedented investments in infrastructure development aimed at providing broadband access and other communication modalities to all. Deploying infrastructure in Oregon must be done equitably across the state’s diverse landscape and focus on addressing current coverage gaps as well as statewide infrastructure that serves all.

MAINTAIN LOCAL CONTROL OF A SAFE, MODERN RIGHT OF WAY

RECOMMENDATION: The LOC will oppose any legislation seeking to preempt local control of municipal rights-of-way (ROW). The LOC will also support legislation aimed at codifying home rule management of the local ROW and the revenue derived from use of the ROW, while encouraging ROW users to timely upgrade and replace their infrastructure lost to natural disaster.

Background: Home rule authority and local ROW management allow local governments to safely manage ROW issues that arise after work is complete, and when the ROW work-related permit may no longer be in effect. It ensures that utilities installing facilities in the ROW have financial protections like insurance in place, which help protect the public using the ROW and other entities whose infrastructure may be damaged during utility work. It ensures that local taxpayers will not have to pay costs associated with utilities’ use of the ROW. It also ensures accountability through a variety of enforcement mechanisms.

SUPPORT EQUITABLE ACCESS TO TECHNOLOGY

RECOMMENDATION: The LOC will support policies such as the Oregon Lifeline Program to ensure digital inclusion. The LOC will also continue to monitor implementation of the

U.S. Department of Justice’s website accessibility rule implementation and support municipal resource opportunities for accessibility. Finally, the LOC will support funding for programs that increase digital skills, equity, and adoption.

Background: All individuals regardless of physical, financial, or any other barrier have a right to access advancements in telecom technology.

SUPPORT RESPONSIBLE MUNICIPAL USE OF TECHNOLOGY

RECOMMENDATION: The LOC will support legislation that acknowledges forward-thinking regulations, taking into account the rapid evolution of telecom systems. The LOC may also support agency policy options that include municipal telecom resilience and concepts such as municipal AI assessments, and an “AI Sandbox” to further understanding of AI risks and other technological advancements in a controlled environment. In this work, the LOC will work to prevent unfunded mandates.

Background: Advancements in technology, including but not limited to AI, have demonstrated operational efficiencies, yet those come with risks if not implemented correctly and used safely. The LOC is cautiously optimistic about the use of AI and other tools that increase service and operational efficiency, but recognizes that some regulation may be necessary to define appropriate municipal uses and foster an atmosphere of responsibility and data safety.

SUPPORT MUNICIPAL CYBERSECURITY PROFICIENCY

RECOMMENDATION: The LOC opposes unfunded mandates and will advocate for technical support and funding to give all cities access to innovative technology, enhanced state programs, cybersecurity notification resources and assistance protecting critical infrastructure and data during cyber-attacks.

Background: Cybercriminals target municipalities as vulnerable systems holding valuable personal data and financial records. Historical underfunding of cybersecurity, antiquated system architecture, and lack of cybersecurity training contribute to the increasing trend in municipal cyberattacks. Cyberattacks can impact services with dire consequences for residents. Hackers typically look for the easiest entry path, and local governments often lack the resources to respond.

General Government Committee

LOC Contact: Charlie Conrad, cconrad@orcities.org

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES ACT REFORM

RECOMMENDATION: The LOC will advocate for the comprehensive modernization of the Oregon Administrative Procedures Act (APA) to restore regulatory transparency, strict alignment with legislative intent, and meaningful public accountability across all state agencies. This advocacy should include:

- Standardizing the rulemaking process across all state agencies to eliminate regulatory fragmentation;
- Strengthening public and expert participation in all rulemaking and workgroup processes;
- Establishing independent oversight and auditing of fiscal impact statements;
- Limiting and restricting the use of emergency rulemaking to actual crises; and
- Reforming judicial deference standards to ensure state agencies remain answerable to elected leaders and voters.

Background: Established in 1971, the Oregon APA is the legal framework that dictates how state agencies create regulations. However, the system has not seen a major update in decades, resulting in an unpredictable regulatory environment. Because there is no single standard for all agencies, different departments often pass conflicting rules that make compliance incredibly difficult for organizations on the ground. Furthermore, many key agencies report to independent boards rather than the governor, which creates an accountability vacuum. Recent state court decisions have compounded the issue by granting agencies broad leeway, ruling that their regulations do not strictly have to align with the original legislative intent.

This regulatory breakdown directly impacts local governments. When uncoordinated state agencies issue overlapping or conflicting rules, cities are left trapped in the middle—forced to navigate a maze of contradictory mandates that drain municipal staff time and stretch city budgets. Furthermore, because recent court rulings have stripped away traditional checks on administrative reach, cities have lost the ability to challenge flawed, 'one-size-fits-all' state regulations that ignore local realities. This loss of local control and financial stability necessitates reform. Protecting municipal home rule, ensuring local voices are actually heard during the rulemaking process, and restoring a sense of predictability and fairness to how state policies are implemented on the ground is necessary.

PUBLIC MEETINGS LAW CLARITY

RECOMMENDATION: The LOC will advocate for a comprehensive statutory reset of the Oregon Public Meetings Law to restore operational functionality and practicality for local governments while protecting public transparency. This priority includes the following provisions:

- Establishing an Intentionality Requirement: Limit serial meeting violations strictly to actions taken "knowingly and intentionally" to protect volunteer elected officials from penalties for good-faith, inadvertent errors.
- Streamlining Complaint Enforcement: Authorize the Oregon Government Ethics Commission (OGEC) to immediately dismiss incomplete, trivial, or bad-faith complaints.
- Holding the Right Entity Accountable: Shift personal liability for purely administrative errors—such as delayed meeting notices—away from individual elected officials and onto the public body as an institution.
- Expanding the "Cure" Process: Provide flexible, accessible avenues for local governments to address and correct procedural complaints, including decision rescission or public acknowledgement with a corrective action plan.
- Right-Sizing Training Requirements: Reform mandatory compliance training to occur once per elected term rather than annually, while allowing incoming officials to complete the requirement prior to being sworn in.

Background: Oregon's Public Meetings Law prohibits local elected officials from deliberating in private, a rule that includes a ban on "serial meetings," where separate, smaller discussions are held over time that may add up to a quorum. Recent Oregon Government Ethics Commission (OGEC) rules and training on this topic have created widespread confusion, leaving public officials deeply uncertain about how they can communicate with each other, their residents, or the media. A diverse work group of local leaders and legislators spent months negotiating a bipartisan fix during the 2026 legislative session, but Governor Kotek ultimately vetoed the bill, calling for stakeholders to return to the drawing board for the 2027 session. Today, the interpretation of this law remains highly contentious, and ongoing discrepancies create massive structural ambiguities and political tensions, making it incredibly difficult for local leaders to effectively govern.

To make the public meetings law workable, several practical fixes are urgently needed to save taxpayer resources and provide clarity to local officials. The current system: forces volunteer leaders to face personal liability for minor staff mistakes like late meeting notices; offers no clear way for cities to self-correct simple procedural errors; and requires repetitive annual training. To keep local governments functioning, the state

must shield individual officials from administrative liability, allow the OGEC's staff to quickly dismiss trivial or bad-faith complaints, create a clear path for cities to self-correct honest mistakes, and right-size compliance training to once per elected term.

Housing, Land Use, and Community Development Committee

LOC Contact: Alexandra Ring, aring@orcities.org

FUNDING AND COORDINATION FOR SHELTER AND HOMELESS RESPONSE

RECOMMENDATION: The LOC opposes cuts to the state shelter system funding and supports continued state investments in a comprehensive homeless response system to fund eviction prevention, shelter, and rehousing. These investments should include:

- Strengthening our coordinated regional homeless response;
- Funding a range of shelter types in cities across the state, including alternative shelter models, safe parking programs; and
- Funding eviction prevention, rapid rehousing, outreach, case management, staffing and administrative support, and other related services.

Background: The LOC recognizes that to end homelessness, a cross-sector coordinated approach to delivering services, housing, and programs is needed. Cities are not social service providers and largely do not have the additional revenue sources to fund new services outside their core services, amid ongoing budget cuts. Despite historic legislative investments in recent years, communities continue to struggle to support and rehouse Oregonians experiencing homelessness. In 2025, the Legislature passed HB 3644, which created the Statewide Shelter Program, a comprehensive funding program for state supported local shelters based in regional coordination. In addition to the statutory framework, the Legislature passed a funding package of \$204 million to support sheltering efforts in the 2025-2027 biennium, with \$102 million as the new baseline level of funding for all biennium through 2034. In a tight budget environment, the Legislature's ability and interest in continuing these investments is unclear.

As Oregon continues to face increasing rates of unsheltered homelessness, the LOC is committed to strengthening a regionally based, state-supported homeless response system to ensure all Oregonians can equitably access stable housing and maintain secure, thriving communities. Regional coordination is key to the system's success, and the state, cities, and counties must be part of the solution together.

FULL FUNDING AND STREAMLINING FOR HOUSING PRODUCTION

RECOMMENDATION: The LOC will seek opportunities to address structural barriers to

production of different housing options at the regional and state level. This includes:

- Streamlining state agency programs, directives, funding metrics, and grant timelines that impact development;
- Accurate tracking of units produced on the ground, rather than units unlocked;
- Aligning state programs with local capital improvement and budget timelines; and
- Increasing connections between affordable housing resources at Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) with the land use directives in the Oregon Housing Needs Analysis (OHNA) and Climate Friendly and Equitable Communities (CFEC) programs at the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD).

Additionally, the LOC will advocate maintaining and increasing state investments to support the development and preservation of a range of needed housing types and affordability, including:

- Publicly supported affordable housing and related services;
- Affordable homeownership;
- Permanent supportive housing;
- Affordable modular and manufactured housing;
- Middle housing types; and
- Moderate-income workforce housing development.

Background: Recent legislation and executive orders have made significant changes to the state's land use planning process, including new housing production directives for cities and counties. And yet, housing production levels remain below our state's current needs. The state should prioritize implementation, funding, and coordination of existing programs in the 2027-2028 legislative sessions before considering any new policies, including direct funding for housing production to address the underlying economic challenges that prevent production.

LAND AVAILABILITY AND LAND USE STREAMLINING

RECOMMENDATION: The LOC supports updates and streamlining statutes to better support good land use planning and land availability for all needs. This includes:

- Refining land use statutes to provide more clarity and legal certainty for cities;
- Clarifying wetland statutes and inventories to allow efficient and orderly urbanization of land within urban growth boundaries (UGBs);
- Streamlining UGB expansion and swap processes for residential, commercial, and

industrial land;

- Improving urban reserves process and land prioritization; and
- Funding for technical assistance for code audits and updates to comply with new state statutes.

Background: Oregon's land use system has undergone substantial change over the past decade, without revisions to the underlying structure. Years of layering legislation with different requirements and new interpretations of existing law have increased regulatory complexity that cities must navigate to be compliant within Oregon's land use system. Complying with state land use laws has become expensive, time-consuming and confusing, and prevents cities from having sufficient land for all needs (housing, industrial, and commercial). This has created challenges for ensuring that communities have sufficient supplies of land for all types of development, impacting other the housing and economic development priorities of the state.

Energy and Environment Committee

LOC Contact: Greg Miller, gmliller@orcities.org

INVEST IN COMMUNITY ENERGY RESILIENCE/DISASTER PLANNING

RECOMMENDATION: The LOC will engage in efforts to provide planning resources, technical assistance and funding to cities preparing to withstand, maintain and recover their energy needs in the event of a disaster. This includes resources for energy efficiency and/or local energy generation like biomass, solar, hydro, biogas, and generators. It also includes virtual power plants, microgrids, energy storage, and other solutions that help cities and their communities increase energy resilience.

Background: Frequency and severity of natural disasters and growing regional energy shortages have demonstrated the potential to cripple Oregon communities during an emergency. Intentional disaster planning and community energy resource development can be costly, but will contribute to Oregon cities' resilience and ongoing viability during floods, seismic events, drought, wildfires, and energy brown/blackouts.

SUPPORT EXPEDITED LOCAL RENEWABLE ENERGY GENERATION

RECOMMENDATION: The LOC will continue to support traditional large renewable energy development and transmission projects while mitigating impacts on local control. To support Oregon clean/renewable energy targets and increased capacity, the LOC also supports local initiatives to develop alternative/renewable energy sources that fit the needs of each city.

Background: Recent studies of projected Pacific Northwest energy load growth in the next five years show a projected shortfall of 3GW (3,000,000kw) by 2030. That shortfall compounds by 2035. Viability of Oregon cities depends upon increased reliable energy generation.

SUPPORT INCREASED ENERGY TRANSMISSION CAPACITY

RECOMMENDATION: The LOC will explore and support initiatives that increase renewable energy transmission while mitigating impacts on local control.

Background: Large scale renewable energy is largely produced east of the Cascade divide. Maximizing current transmission and developing new capacity to make renewable energy available to all regions is an important factor in achieving equitable community energy resilience while meeting Oregon decarbonization and climate goals.

MAINTAIN AFFORDABLE ENERGY WHILE SUPPORTING GRID HARDENING AND MODERNIZATION

RECOMMENDATION: The LOC will support initiatives that balance necessary grid modernization against manageable rate increases for cities and residents.

Background: Growing and modernizing Oregon's aging electric grid is necessary. However, upgrades and increased capacity are challenging. Utilities are not insulated from recent inflation and face unprecedented increases in equipment and infrastructure costs. Customers are also seeing increased rates due to rising utility infrastructure costs and spending on wildfire mitigation.

RESOURCE PROGRAMS FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY PLANNING AND PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

RECOMMENDATION: The LOC will support legislation that further supports Community Renewable Energy Programs, Green Bank Concepts, Home Energy Rebates, Solar and Storage Rebates, Electrification Incentives.

Background: Oregon's 241 incorporated cities are at the forefront of delivering on Oregon's climate and energy goals: building decarbonization, energy efficiency and renewable energy generation. These mandates, while important, fall largely upon local governments that are perpetually constrained financially. Continued legislative allocations to support climate/energy programs and local governments will be paramount to continue taking the incremental steps necessary to achieve the state's 2030 greenhouse gas reduction targets and 2040 emissions elimination goals.

SUPPORT ADMINISTRATIVE CAPACITY

RECOMMENDATION: The LOC will support state budgets that increase targeted agency capacity needed to adequately and efficiently provide technical assistance, permitting and resources to municipalities related to state and federal energy and climate goals. This includes fully funded and staffed local programs dedicated to implementation of state climate and decarbonization initiatives, especially those related to guidance derived from federal agencies.

Background: Looming large in the Pacific Northwest are concerns about federal energy policies and utility capabilities to meet Oregon’s clean energy targets. Additional capacity at the state level will support communities that are navigating changing guidance and requirements.

Finance, Taxation, and Economic Development Committee

LOC Contact: Colette Tipper, ctipper@orcities.org

TARGETED PREVAILING WAGE CHANGES

RECOMMENDATION: The LOC will advocate for targeted changes to prevailing wage requirements that: recognize urgent needs for Oregon communities; consider the impact of inflation; and maintain the original intent of Oregon’s prevailing wage law. This includes supporting reoccurring legislation to exempt publicly financed facilities aimed at addressing the housing crisis (affordable housing, shelters, day centers) and the lack of childcare, as well as efforts to address mounting infrastructure needs impacting housing and economic development. The LOC will support additional clarity around split determination issues that are impacting growth, ensuring cities can proactively prepare for growth without impacting future, private developments.

Background: Prevailing wage rates are minimum hourly rates a contractor must pay its employees under public works contracts; and while there are federal and state prevailing wage rates, the recommendation above impacts state prevailing wage laws. The wage rates vary by occupation and region, with the rates being set by the Oregon Bureau of Labor & Industries (BOLI). Oregon law requires prevailing wages to be paid on a project if it hits one of two specific triggers: the public agency trigger or the public funding trigger:

1. Public Agency Trigger - If a project meets the definition of a “public works” under ORS 2798C.800(6)(a) and the total cost of the project is \$50,000 or more. Examples of qualifying projects include roads, buildings, and improvements – whether it’s new construction, renovation, painting, demolition, or the removal of hazardous waste. The \$50,000 threshold was set in 2005. If adjusted for inflation, the threshold would be roughly \$86,000.
2. Public Funding Trigger - A project might be private, but it uses \$750,000 or more of

taxpayer money. The same types of projects qualify for the public funding trigger. Note: there are very specific exceptions of public money being used that do not trigger prevailing wages (see ORS 279C.810(1)(a) and OAR 839-025-0004(11)(b)). The \$750,000 threshold was set in 2007. If adjusted for inflation, the threshold would be roughly \$1.2 million.

Additionally, Oregon law states that in the case of public-private partnerships, BOLI shall divide the project to separate the private and public aspects of the project. The public aspects of the project will be subject to prevailing wage, while the private aspects will not. [This recently impacted developments in the Willamette Valley](#). Developable lots with publicly funded infrastructure should not mean that private projects automatically prevail.

ALCOHOL REVENUE MODERNIZATION

RECOMMENDATION: The LOC will advocate for alcohol tax revenue modernization that generates increased shared revenues for cities. This includes support for recommendations from the HB 3610 Task Force on Alcohol Pricing to increase beer and wine taxes while preserving the existing 34% revenue-sharing distribution to cities. This may also include legislation removing the preemption on local alcohol taxes.

Background: Cities have significant public safety costs related to alcohol consumption and must receive revenue commensurate to the cost of providing services related to alcohol. In considering an increase, the LOC will balance the economic and consumer pressures impacting breweries across the state.

Oregon is a control state and the Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission (OLCC, formerly known as the Oregon Liquor Control Commission) acts as the sole importer and distributor of liquor. Cities and other local governments are preempted from imposing alcohol taxes. In exchange, cities receive approximately 34% share of net state alcohol revenues. The OLCC has also imposed a 50-cent surcharge per bottle of liquor since the 2009-2011 biennium, which is directed towards the state's general fund. Oregon's beer tax has not increased since 1978 and is \$2.60 per barrel, which equates to about 8.4 cents per gallon, or less than 5 cents on a six-pack. Oregon's wine tax is 67 cents per gallon and 77 cents per gallon on dessert wines. Oregon has one of the lowest beer taxes in the country ([source](#)) and the wine tax is closer to national average ([source](#)).

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION SYSTEM RESOURCES

RECOMMENDATION: The LOC will support legislation enhancing the effectiveness of the state's emergency communications system through an increase in the 9-1-1 tax. Inflationary factors have lessened the impact of the [emergency communications tax](#). State estimates indicate that this revenue covered 40% of dispatch center costs, but that

figure is inaccurate, with some communities receiving as little as 20-25%.

Background: Oregon's 9-1-1 tax was increased to \$1.00 per line or prepaid transaction effective January 1, 2020, and further increased to \$1.25 effective January 1, 2021. Before this change from 2019's HB 2449, the rate had been 75 cents since 1995. The new tax increase on 9-1-1 expires January 1, 2030. Most cities will not receive this state shared revenue directly, as the city share is directed to the public safety answering point (PSAP) provider connected to the statewide network, and most of these are managed by counties or a regional entity, rather than a city. The PSAPs are only partially funded through the state's Emergency Communications Tax, with the balance of operating costs coming primarily from property taxes. Local governments receive approximately 60% of 9-1-1 taxes, but the taxes generally covered less than 25% of the costs of total PSAP operations before the recent rate increases. Ratios of individual PSAP costs to taxes received vary. The local government share of the state tax is distributed 1% to each county, with the remainder distributed per capita.

STRENGTHENING ECONOMIC AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

RECOMMENDATION: The LOC will support efforts to modernize and strengthen Oregon's existing economic development programs while advocating to maintain local flexibility and autonomy over local revenues. The LOC's advocacy includes strengthening and increasing funding for current state programs like Enterprise Zones (EZ), Long Term Rural Enterprise Zone (LTREZ), the Strategic Investment Program (SIP), the Industrial Site Loan Fund, Brownfield programs, and infrastructure programs, as well as new efforts to support a healthy economy.

The LOC will also support efforts to strengthen Oregon's workforce development initiatives that help to meet critical workforce shortages experienced by public and private employers throughout the state. The LOC will advocate for policies and investments that strengthen local talent pipelines, expand access to workforce education and training, and help communities recruit and retain the skilled workforce needed to support and grow a healthy economy.

Background: Communities across the state have leveraged local economic development incentive programs (Enterprise Zones (EZ), Long Term Rural Enterprise Zone (LTREZ), Strategic Investment Program (SIP), etc.) to support strong local economies, community investment, and long-term economic growth. These programs are intentionally designed to provide local governments with flexibility to attract and retain industries that align with local economic priorities, infrastructure capacity, and workforce needs. The EZ and LTREZ programs provide local governments the option to offer a temporary full exemption from property taxes for qualified new business investment, while the SIP program allows local governments to offer a 15-year partial exemption on the value of new property exceeding a specified investment threshold.

These incentive programs are critical tools for maintaining Oregon’s national competitiveness and generating substantial long-term benefits through job creation, enhanced economic activity, infrastructure investment, and increased tax revenues. Local governments absorb the primary impact of temporary property tax exemptions and provide the infrastructure and public services necessary to support development, while the state realizes significant revenue gains through increased income tax collections and broader economic activity generated by these investments. As the state increasingly benefits from local economic development efforts, it should also be a stronger financial partner in supporting and sustaining these programs. Preserving local discretion, predictability, and flexibility within economic development programs remains essential to ensuring communities can effectively compete for and support major economic development opportunities.

Public and private employers across the state are having trouble filling critical workforce needs. As an example, Oregon respondents to the [2025 Associated General Contractors of America Workforce Survey](#) indicate that 56% expect to hire new employees and 54% have increased headcount in the last year. However, 52% of respondents report trouble hiring due to a lack of qualified and credentialed candidates. This challenge rings true for cities. Cities have reported trouble filling wastewater treatment positions due to lack of qualified candidates, while community colleges are neglecting to start programs because of the high cost of running them.

Transportation Committee

LOC Contact: Nicole Stingham, nstingham@orcities.org

2027 TRANSPORTATION PACKAGE

RECOMMENDATION: The LOC supports a robust transportation package that supports Oregon's multi-jurisdictional, multi-modal, and safety-oriented transportation system. Recognizing that Oregonians don't always know who owns what route they rely on, any revenue should support our shared transportation system. The LOC believes this is most effective through a statewide revenue source rather than more administratively burdensome and inequitable local revenue methods that are unable to ensure that all users pay their fair share (including through user fees).

Cities and locally owned transportation systems rely on a strong state partner to meet our shared goals of a system that moves people from “point a to point b” safely and effectively. In addition, the conditions of state and county routes impact cities by both directing additional traffic on city streets and affecting how residents get to where they need to go safely. This requires system expansion to be secondary to restoring funds in grant programs and transit services, protecting existing programs, and an overall focus on operation and maintenance.

Background: After a failed package in 2025, efforts are underway on a 2027 package to address the known need for state, county, and city infrastructure. The State Highway Fund (SHF) is the primary revenue source for the state's transportation infrastructure, and comes from various sources, including gas and diesel tax, weight mile tax, vehicle registration fees, vehicle title fees, and driver's license fees. These funds are distributed using a 50-30-20 formula, with 50% going to the state, 30% to counties, and 20% to cities. Continued investment in transportation infrastructure is critical for public safety objectives such as the Safe Routes to Schools and the Great Streets programs. In addition to those grant programs, local communities rely on the Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund and Oregon Community Paths resources. These programs are essential in cities to support efficient, convenient, safe, cost-effective transportation systems that are open to all members of our communities.

CAUTIOUS ADOPTION OF AUTONOMOUS VEHICLES

RECOMMENDATION: The LOC will advocate for necessary tools to support communities as autonomous vehicles (AVs) come to Oregon, particularly for private for-hire AVs. Cities are proactively and cautiously preparing for new technology, like autonomous vehicles, and it's crucial to get the regulations right to ensure proper coordination, alignment between all stakeholders, and flexibility as the technology is evolving rapidly.

AVs will impact city goals and requirements, ultimately impacting their transportation system plans. Cities must not be preempted in their ability to permit (as it relates to private for-hire AVs) and regulate the use of this new technology on city infrastructure. Cities should have the ability to:

- Ensure AVs follow the rules of the road and can receive traffic violations like human drivers, and that law enforcement officials are trained on ways to disengage an AV;
- Require geofenced areas to have operational standards based on the local needs or goals (like limiting 0 passenger trips), to accommodate special events, or to address infrastructure challenges that prevent safe deployment of technology;
- Allow revenue generation to offset costs for training law enforcement and first responders; and
- Limit the number of AVs that are allowed to operate in a city, potentially scaling up as predetermined performance benchmarks are reached.

At the same time, the LOC supports federal authority to determine if and when an AV is street ready. In addition, the state should determine cyber safety standards, insurance requirements, vehicle registration, and other activities.

Background: With new technologies comes new and unforeseen challenges and opportunities. AVs offer the ability to improve traffic safety by limiting human error, as

industry data shows. AVs could also promote other economic activity and create access to our transportation system. At the same time, there are key risks to mitigate as we learn lessons from cities across the nation that have operated with AVs. One lesson – a slow rollout will help companies identify and address issues as they arise. From navigating weather to power outages, San Francisco transportation officials have learned a lot and shared that with the LOC’s Transportation Policy Committee. Despite AVs being in operation for years, the California Department of Motor Vehicles recently created rules around traffic citations for AVs nearly two years after their state legislature passed authorizing legislation. Oregon would benefit from waiting until the technology has advanced, being a fast follower rather than an early adapter. In addition, Oregon should balance support for industry and competition with public trust and public good.

In addition, for more than 40 years, the state of Oregon has recognized that for-hire services like taxis and other vehicles for-hire are a necessary part of the transportation system and has left regulation to local authorities (see ORS 221.485, ORS 221.495). Private for-hire AVs should have higher standards for city regulation versus privately owned vehicles.

CITY SUPPORTED STREET SIGN TRADITIONS

RECOMMENDATION: The LOC will advocate to allow cities to support community activities and fundraisers through signs on light poles. Many cities hang signs on street light poles to recognize holidays, and in some cases these signs are sold as a fundraiser to support chambers, downtown organizations, or other community causes (examples include Mother’s Day flowers and Christmas ornaments). State statute prevents this if the sign is visible from a state highway. The LOC will work to create flexibility for cities to support these fundraisers even if they are visible from a state highway.

Background: State statute prevents “advertising signs” within view of state highways, even if they are not on state right-of-way. The state considers advertising to be any exchange of compensation, regardless of its intended purpose. While this is a long-standing statute that is not actively consistently enforced, it has recently prevented one community from supporting a fundraiser for their downtown association. The LOC Transportation Policy Committee is flexible on the solutions and has directed staff to work with the Oregon Department of Transportation on bill language to address this in the least administratively burdensome manner, which will likely include a waiver for fundraising efforts that are endorsed by a city.

Water and Wastewater Committee

LOC Contact: Michael Martin, mmartin@orcities.org

INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING

RECOMMENDATION: The LOC will advocate for increased and sustained investments in drinking water, wastewater, stormwater, and water reuse infrastructure needed to support housing production, economic development, public health, and environmental protection. This includes: expanding flexible, low-cost financing tools that reduce ratepayer burden; supporting infrastructure capacity needed for housing and economic development; investing in aquifer storage and recovery projects; protecting system development charge authority; and sustaining infrastructure financing programs, including the Special Public Works Fund, which help communities address critical infrastructure needs. The LOC will advocate for policies that recognize the increasing costs associated with regulatory compliance, environmental protection, and workforce needs.

Background: Water infrastructure (drinking water, wastewater, stormwater, and reuse) is essential to supporting housing production, economic development, public health, and environmental protection in communities across Oregon. Cities own and operate drinking water, wastewater, stormwater, and water reuse systems that require ongoing investment to maintain reliability, comply with state and federal regulations, and serve existing and future residents.

The 2024 LOC Infrastructure Survey identified approximately \$6.4 billion in water infrastructure needs statewide. Cities continue to face increasing costs associated with aging infrastructure, regulatory compliance, environmental requirements, workforce challenges, and inflationary factors.

Without adequate infrastructure capacity, communities may struggle to accommodate needed housing development and economic growth. State investments should support direct infrastructure projects and proven financing programs that help communities plan, construct, and upgrade critical facilities. State programs like the Special Public Works Fund play an important role in helping communities address critical infrastructure needs.

WATER REUSE

RECOMMENDATION: The LOC will advocate for policies and investments that support the development and expansion of water reuse projects throughout Oregon. This includes: funding for planning, design, and construction; clear and predictable regulatory pathways; and technical assistance for local governments. The LOC will support

maintaining local flexibility to implement community-specific reuse solutions that protect public health and environmental quality.

Background: The Legislature has recognized the value of water reuse through [House Bill 2169 \(2025\)](#). Despite growing interest in water reuse, many communities face financial, technical, and regulatory barriers that limit the development of water reuse. Cities need funding, technical assistance, and regulatory certainty to evaluate and implement reuse projects that meet local needs. As Oregon continues to invest in water infrastructure and community resilience, water reuse should be recognized as an important tool that complements existing water management strategies and helps communities achieve long-term sustainability goals.

RATEPAYER ASSISTANCE

RECOMMENDATION: The LOC will advocate for improved affordability for drinking water and wastewater customers while maintaining the financial stability necessary to operate, maintain, and improve local utility systems. This includes state-supported water and wastewater ratepayer assistance programs, and policies that consider affordability impacts on residents.

Background: Cities face the challenge of balancing affordability for residents with the investments necessary to maintain safe and reliable utility systems. State-supported ratepayer assistance programs and increased participating in infrastructure funding can help reduce financial burdens on households while preserving the financial sustainability of local utilities and ensuring continued access to essential water services. In 2025, the Legislature introduced [House Bill 3527](#), which requested \$11 million to continue funding the program, but the bill did not advance out of the budget committee.

WATER WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

RECOMMENDATION: The LOC will advocate for investments in workforce development programs that support the recruitment, training, certification, and retention of drinking water and wastewater professionals. This includes: support for operator-in-training and apprenticeship programs; certification and reciprocity improvements; regional training opportunities; and funding that helps communities develop and maintain a qualified water workforce.

Background: Oregon cities depend on certified operators and other utility professionals to provide safe drinking water, protect water quality, maintain regulatory compliance, and operate increasingly complex infrastructure systems. Water utilities across the state face growing challenges of recruiting, training, and retaining qualified personnel.

Investments in workforce development, training infrastructure, and career pathways will

help ensure communities have the skilled workforce necessary to operate and maintain critical water infrastructure systems. The Legislature recently recognized the importance of this workforce with [House Bill 4007 \(2026\)](#), which established a “Water Professionals Appreciation Week” annually in October.

CITY OF HERMISTON 2026 CITY COUNCIL GOALS + ACTION PLAN

2026





INTRODUCTION

The City of Hermiston is pleased to present a summary of its January 2026 Council Retreat.

On January 22–23, 2026, the City Council and leadership team met to gain a deeper understanding of the current community and organizational landscape. The goal was to refine strategic goals that would guide the organization over the next year.

To facilitate this process, the City engaged SSW Consulting, a professional facilitation and strategic planning firm.

The retreat aimed to achieve the following:

- Ground everyone in shared context and realities
- Build trust, alignment, and working norms
- Create space for hard conversations without letting them dominate
- Produce clear, fiscally grounded priorities the Council can stand behind together

Before the retreat, SSW Consulting conducted individual outreach interviews with members of City Council, as well as a leadership team survey. This information helped shape the retreat agenda to ensure a productive and engaging experience.

During the retreat, staff and Council members worked to refine last year's goals, considering progress made and emerging priorities. They collaborated to assess the community and organizational context and develop clear and measurable goals.

The City appreciates the engagement and participation of the Council and staff. The team looks forward to working together to advance these goals, aligning them with the community's vision.

CONTENTS

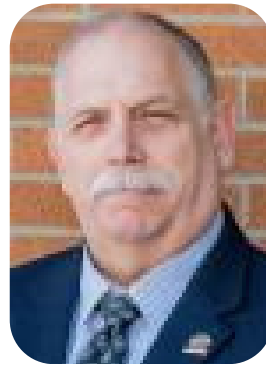
TEAM	03
HERMISTON 2040 VISION, VALUES + GOALS	04
TBD	05
2026 COUNCIL RETREAT	06
GOAL REFINEMENT PROCESS	08
GOALS, OBJECTIVES + ACTIONS	09
IMPLEMENTATION + PROGRESS REPORTING	13
TEAM AGREEMENT	14
COUNCIL GROUND RULES	15



PHOTO CREDIT:
CITY OF HERMISTON, HERMISTON PARKS + REC, @TRAVELHERMISTONOREGON, @THAT_HERMISTON_LIFE

TEAM

HERMISTON CITY COUNCIL



Doug Primmer
Mayor



Jackie Linton
Ward 1



Roy Barron
Ward 2



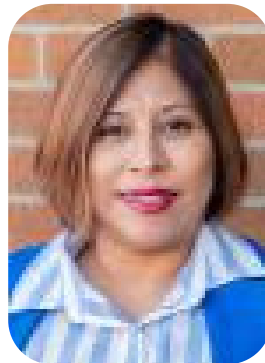
Jackie Myers
Ward 3



David McCarthy
Ward 4



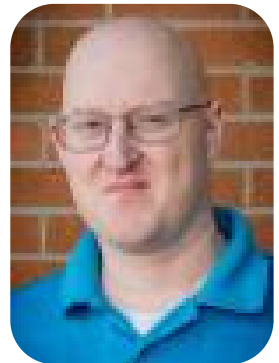
Jeff Kelso
At Large



Maria Duron
At Large



Josh Roberts
At Large



Allen Hayward
At Large

HERMISTON LEADERSHIP TEAM

Byron Smith, City Manager
Mark Morgan, Assistant City Manager
Richard Tovey, City Attorney
Lilly Alarcon-Strong, City Recorder
Ignacio Palacios, Finance Director
Al Davis, EOTEC General Manager
Nate Rivera, HES
Crystal Inners, HR Specialist

Jordan Standley, IT Director
Mark Rose, Library Director
Jillian Viles, Municipal Court
Brandon Artz, Parks + Recreation Director
Clint Spencer, Planning Director
Jason Edmiston, Police Chief
Cameron Meade, Street & Capital
Improvement Projects Manager

HERMISTON 2040

VISION, VALUES + GOALS

Building on the Hermiston 2040 Vision and Action Plan, adopted in 2022, the 2026 Council goals are strategically aligned with its vision statements, goal areas, and guiding values. The 2040 plan, a product of broad community and organizational engagement, provides a 20-year framework for strategic decision-making and resource allocation, addressing current and future community needs.



HERMISTON 2040 GOAL AREAS

VALUES: WHAT GUIDES US



FISCAL PRUDENCE

We are responsible stewards of the City's financial resources and exercise discretion in decision-making.



ENGAGEMENT

We facilitate constructive relationships between the City and constituents to build trust and support equitable and sustainable decision-making.



INCLUSIVE

We are committed to building an inclusive environment that values and respects the contributions of all people.



PARTNERSHIPS

We collaborate with community organizations to leverage expertise and resources to best serve the public.



LIVABILITY

We promote diverse housing options, convenient and accessible community assets, a healthy environment, and high-quality education.



COMMUNITY VISION REFLECTION

The Hermiston 2040 Community Vision continues to serve as the foundation for Council and staff decision-making, guiding priorities, resource allocation, and long-term planning. During the 2026 goal-refinement process, the team intentionally grounded discussions in the community vision, ensuring that annual priorities remain aligned with the 2040 goals

Growing + Prosperous Hermiston
Safe + Healthy Hermiston
Connected + Engaged Hermiston
Sustainable Hermiston

Throughout 2025, Council and staff advanced initiatives that continue to reflect the community values: People, Inclusion, and Partnership.

2025 WINS

1.1 The City expanded the urban growth boundary and city limits by 823 acres to support future heavy industrial development, positioning Hermiston for long-term job growth and economic opportunity. This milestone was made possible through strong coordination across City administration, planning, engineering, water, sewer, and street teams, along with regional partners including Umatilla County, DLCD, and ODOT.

1.5 Council advanced mobility efforts by re-advertising contracts for subsidized Senior/Disabled and workforce taxi services while evaluating future rideshare opportunities. Staff, leadership, and the review committee recommended continued local service delivery while allowing rideshare markets to mature for future consideration.

3.2 The completion of the Hermiston Library renovation represents a significant investment in lifelong learning, accessibility, and community connection. Library staff, facilities, leadership, and project partners worked collaboratively to deliver an updated space that supports a connected and engaged Hermiston.

3.5 While operating from multiple temporary locations during a facility renovation, the Police Department navigated significant staffing transitions and expanded services through a new partnership with Good Shepherd Health Care System.

3.6 Council reviewed the Transient Room Tax formula during the budget process and recommended maintaining the current structure while expanding collaboration with the Greater Hermiston Chamber of Commerce and the Hermiston Senior Center Board. Finance staff, leadership, and community partners worked together to explore new ways to strengthen services and partnerships.

4.4 Council led a comprehensive review of City boards, committees, and commissions engaging advisory group chairs about their roles and impact. Supported by staff, this process resulted in the creation of a new Council-only committee, and improved understanding of advisory group contributions.

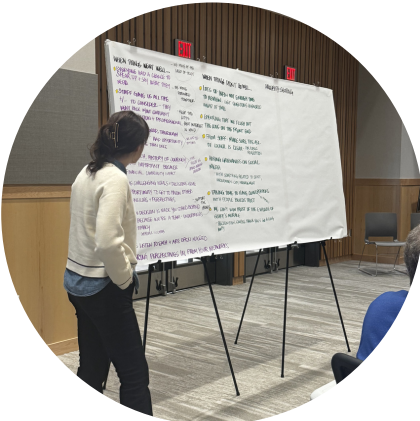
2026 COUNCIL RETREAT

RETREAT DAY 1

Day 1 of the City of Hermiston's 2026 Council Goals Retreat focused on building shared understanding, grounding the conversation in fiscal realities, and setting the stage for deeper priority-setting on Day 2.

The evening began with a welcome and agenda review, followed by a community and organizational context briefing designed to get everyone on the same page. Council and staff established shared working norms emphasizing openness, collaboration, honesty, and respectful dialogue, with a clear commitment to speaking as one body and focusing on consensus-driven priorities.

Staff then provided a high-level financial overview to frame the Council's work. This briefing included an initial look at franchise fee revenue projections, enterprise zone insights, and other key revenue considerations, along with discussion of broader fiscal pressures such as housing and homelessness demands, service expectations, state and federal uncertainty, and unfunded mandates. The Council acknowledged both challenges and opportunities and noted the need for continued, more detailed financial review as part of the overall goal-setting process.



Following a short break, the Council conducted a Council Priority Review. Existing goals were reviewed, with time dedicated to celebrating completed actions and recent wins. Councilors also identified goals and topics that require further discussion, clarification, or refinement, flagging them for deeper exploration on Day 2. Emerging context themes included communication challenges, balancing growth with amenities, and considering the long-term impacts of today's decisions.

The evening concluded with a wrap-up discussion and preview of the Day 2 agenda. By the end of Day 1, the Council had established a shared foundation of fiscal context, reaffirmed working norms, and clearly identified focus areas to advance into more detailed prioritization and decision-making during the next session.



RETREAT DAY 2

Day 2 of the City of Hermiston's 2026 Council Goals Retreat focused on strengthening team dynamics, finalizing priorities, and establishing clearer decision-making norms.

The morning began with a substantive discussion on team dynamics and decision-making norms. Council members reflected on what's working well—including open dialogue, thorough staff preparation, listening to diverse perspectives, and standing united behind decisions. Areas for improvement centered on information flow and timing, with Council noting the need to receive materials earlier, clarify staff asks before public meetings, and ensure pros and cons are thoroughly vetted on the front end. The group also addressed the importance of maintaining appropriate boundaries with City management and avoiding social media conflicts, emphasizing that building community trust shouldn't come at the expense of staff morale. Key themes emerged: "We move at the speed of trust" and "Leaders bring the weather."

Following the break, the Council worked to confirm their 2026 Priority Framework, reviewing goals across all four strategic focus areas and determining which items should move forward, which require further discussion, and which should be removed or modified. This priority refinement continued after lunch.

The afternoon included discussion on decision-making, information flow, and Council process, establishing clearer protocols for future collaboration. The retreat concluded with a wrap-up and next steps discussion.

By the end of Day 2, the Council had refined their 2026 goals, strengthened internal working agreements, clarified communication expectations, and reaffirmed their commitment to moving forward as a unified body with clear, fiscally responsible priorities.



GOAL REFINEMENT PROCESS

Hermiston City Council and staff meet annually to refine the Council goals, providing policy direction for the next year. These goals serve as a foundation for the City's budget and department work plans, ensuring alignment of resources and staff capacity.

During the retreat, the team collaboratively reviewed the 2025 goals and supporting actions. Drawing on insights from the past year of progress, fiscal context briefings, and community challenges identified through their discussions, the Council evaluated each goal to determine what should move forward, what required further discussion, and what could be removed or celebrated as complete. These updates reflected the work accomplished in 2025 and incorporated new opportunities and partnerships for 2026.

The team then worked to finalize their 2026 Priority Framework, ensuring goals were fiscally grounded and aligned with the Council's commitment to moving forward together with clear, achievable priorities the entire body could stand behind.

2026 GOALS



Growing + Prosperous



Safe + Healthy



Sustainable



Connected + Engaged





GOAL AREA | Growing + Prosperous

Hermiston is cultivating a vibrant community with a thriving economy, assortment of housing opportunities, high-quality education, and support services to preserve the small-town feel

OBJECTIVE | Economic Development: Expand, strengthen, and diversify the local economy

ACTION		PROJECT LEAD	TIMELINE
1.1	Update downtown Urban Renewal Plan to improve downtown core	Planning	1-2 years
1.2	Pursue additional retail investments and educate on retail efforts and processes	Planning/City Manager's Office	1-2 years
1.3	Explore/ evaluate strategies to increase tourism and entertainment in Hermiston	City Manager's Office	1-2 years
1.4	Partner with Chamber to evaluate how the City can support a workforce pipeline	City Manager's Office	1-2 years

OBJECTIVE | Transportation: Improve mobility and transportation

ACTION		PROJECT LEAD	TIMELINE
1.5	Complete Transportation System Plan Update (will include sidewalks)	Planning/City Manager's Office	1-2 years
1.6	Update the City's sidewalk plan and prioritize student travel	City Manager's Office	1-2 years
1.7	Continue to pursue safe streets grant	Planning/City Manager's Office	1-2 years
1.8	Work with regional partners to improve transportation access and circulation	Planning/City Manager's Office	3-4 years

OBJECTIVE | Housing: Increase senior, workforce, and affordable housing, market rate rentals, and prevent people from becoming unhoused

ACTION		PROJECT LEAD	TIMELINE
1.9	Attract market-rate rental housing developments to increase middle housing inventory	Planning/City Manager's Office	Ongoing
1.10	Continue to fund infrastructure improvements to support new housing and other developments	Planning/City Manager's Office	Ongoing
1.11	Evaluate a commercial/retail incentive opportunities	City Manager's Office	Ongoing



GOAL AREA | Safe + Healthy

Hermiston ensures a healthy and safe environment for all through abundant recreation and wellness opportunities, high-quality health care, collaboration with community partners, and a healthy and attractive built environment

OBJECTIVE | Wellness: a healthy community

ACTION		PROJECT LEAD	TIMELINE
2.1	Complete the feasibility analysis of the HAWC + determine next steps with partnerships and securing land	Parks and Recreation/City Manager's Office	1-2 years

OBJECTIVE | Public Safety: Improve traffic safety and align public safety resources with community needs

ACTION		PROJECT LEAD	TIMELINE
2.2	Complete street light study	Planning/City Manager's Office	1-2 years
2.3	Develop a security plan for parks + trails (cameras, lighting, etc.)	Parks and Recreation/City Manager's Office	1-2 years
2.4	Implement red light photo enforcements along Hwy 395	Police/City Attorney	1-2 years



GOAL AREA | Sustainable

Hermiston responsibly plans and invests in community infrastructure and the built environment to support the critical needs of daily life and sustainable growth for the future

OBJECTIVE | City Facilities: Public facilities that meet the community needs of today and the future

ACTION		PROJECT LEAD	TIMELINE
3.1	Conduct public engagement to identify use scenarios, evaluate all options, and finalize plan for Carnegie Building	City Manager's Office	1-2 years
3.2	Finalize water allocation for EOTEC	City Manager/EOTEC	1-2 years
3.3	Finalize data and seek Council direction on next steps related to digital infrastructure	City Manager's Office	1-2 years

OBJECTIVE | Fiscal: Maintain service levels, strengthen internal operations to support sustainability, accountability, and transparency

ACTION		PROJECT LEAD	TIMELINE
3.4	Develop five-year financial plan to support sustainable staffing and operations	City Manager/Finance	1-2 years
3.5	Finalize records digitization	City Manager's Office	1-2 years
3.6	Evaluate Senior Center partnerships to align with the needs of the aging community	Parks and Recreation/City Manager's Office	1-2 years
3.7	Evaluate partnership with the Greater Hermiston Chamber to align with business needs	City Manager's Office	1-2 years
3.8	Study potential general fund projects and funding streams	City Manager's Office/Finance	1-2 years



GOAL AREA | Connected + Engaged

Hermiston provides opportunities for strong social connections, celebrates diversity, and honors our historic and cultural heritage to foster a welcoming and inclusive community for all

OBJECTIVE | Community Engagement: Improve engagement and connection with the community

ACTION		PROJECT LEAD	TIMELINE
4.1	Develop a communication and engagement plan identifying goals and metrics	City Manager's Office	1-2 years

OBJECTIVE | Good governance: Evaluate core governing documents and processes

ACTION		PROJECT LEAD	TIMELINE
4.2	Finalize charter review	City Manager's Office	1-2 years



IMPLEMENTATION + PROGRESS REPORTING

The Council and staff have developed the following process to support accountability and transparency in the implementation of the goals and actions.

City staff will present quarterly updates to City Council on the goals and actions. These updates will include any progress to advance the goals, reporting on success measures, challenges to be addressed, and areas needing clarification and/or further direction from Council. Additionally, staff will highlight any goals and actions in relevant staff reports. Staff will continue to provide real-time updates to Council on relevant projects and include any pertinent developments in weekly updates to Council.

The team will revisit the goals annually to assess progress, refine existing goals as needed, and develop new goals to reflect community and organization priorities.



TEAM AGREEMENT

THE HERMISTON CITY COUNCIL IS COMMITTED TO...



COLLABORATION

The Council is committed to working together, collaborating for the benefit of all. We approach the work with an open mind, considering all options and listening and valuing the diverse perspectives in our community.



PARTNERSHIP

The Council is committed to their partnership with City staff, providing clear direction and exercising patience as the team pursues the implementation of community goals and Council priorities. We acknowledge the various factors at play in implementing the goals and we recognize that certain things will be outside of staff's control. Open communication is critical to this partnership and we are committed to proactive and collaborative two-way flow of information.



PREPARATION

The Council is committed to being prepared and informed to support policy making to serve the shared interests of the Hermiston community. We will work with the City Manager to address any questions and gather additional information needed in advance of Council meetings. We will put aside our personal agendas to serve the larger community. We value the individual strengths and perspectives we bring to the role, and we will work with our team to support the consensus and/or majority position of the team.



FOCUS

The Council is committed to their shared goals and priorities. We will stay on point in advancing the community's vision and supporting staff in implementing the goals. We will share our positions on "the why" behind the goals, yet be succinct and clear in our communication. We will be intentional with our requests to staff to support organizational efficiency and shared outcomes.

THE HERMISTON CITY STAFF IS COMMITTED TO...

- **Partnership:** City staff is committed to their partnership with the City Council. We will be transparent about timelines and priorities in the work plan. We will be direct and clear in our communication to support the Council in their policy making. We will provide all data and options available to Hermiston for City Council's consideration.
- **High-Performing Organization:** City staff is committed to cooperating and collaborating with the Council, community partners, and regional organizations to implement the goals and deliver high-quality services to the people of Hermiston. We will speak up to ensure we have the direction needed to continue advancing the goals and community vision. We will respect and offer full support of the direction of the Council.

COUNCIL GROUND RULES

The Hermiston City Council ground rules are our commitments to each other so we can govern effectively in service of the Hermiston community.

1

We Lead as One Body

Once a decision is made—by consensus or majority—Council honors the decision and moves forward as a governing body, even when individual perspectives differ.

2

Respect the role of the City Manager and staff

Council does not manage staff directly or air staff-related concerns publicly. Concerns follow established channels through the City Manager.

3

Do the Work Early for better public decision-making

Council members review materials in advance, ask clarifying questions ahead of meetings when possible, and focus public meetings on decision-making—not discovery.

4

We debate ideas, not people

Disagreement is expected and respected. Critique ideas, impacts, and trade-offs—not motivations or individuals.

5

We don't litigate decisions on social media

Councilors do not relitigate Council decisions or air internal disagreements on social media or other public forums.

6

We value context, history, and community impact

Council decisions are informed by research, historical context, and long-term community impact—not just immediate pressure or reaction.

7

We move at the speed of trust

Councilors commit to direct, respectful communication with one another and invest time in relationship-building beyond formal meetings.

8

Leaders bring the weather

Councilors are mindful that their tone, behavior, and language set the climate for staff, colleagues, and the community.

CITY OF HERMISTON

180 NE 2nd Street, Hermiston, OR 97838
(541) 567-5521
Hermiston.gov



SSW CONSULTING

Prepared by SSW Consulting

Sara Wilson, Owner/Principal
Ashley Sonoff, Facilitation + Strategy Associate
Sasha Konell, Communications + Engagement Associate
Alex Logue, Communications + Engagement Associate
Kelsey O'Halloran, Communications & Engagement Strategist



Where Life is Sweet

Mayor and Members of the City Council
STAFF REPORT
For the Meeting of July 13, 2026

Title/Subject

2026 Council Goal Setting Update.

Summary and Background

Attached is a report including status updates on council goals formulated in a 1.5-day retreat held January 22-23, 2026 at Hermiston City Hall.

Tie-In to Council Goals

N/A

Fiscal Information

N/A

Alternatives and Recommendation

No action needed provided as information only.

Submitted By:

Byron D. Smith

Hermiston City Council Goals 2026

rev. 7/3/2026

2040 Vision Goal Area	Focus Area	Action	Council Prioritization	Project Lead	Timeline (1-2 years, 3-4 years, 5+)	Status
Growing + Prosperous						
Hermiston is cultivating a vibrant community with a thriving economy, assortment of housing opportunities, high-quality education, and support services to preserve the small-town feel	Economic Development: Expand, strengthen, and diversify the local economy	1.1 Update downtown Urban Renewal Plan to improve downtown core		Planning	1 -2 years	Established a review committee.
		1.2 Pursue additional retail investments and educate on retail efforts and processes		Planning/City Manager's Office	1-2 years	Working with various developers on potential projects.
		1.3 Explore/ evaluate strategies to increase tourism and entertainment in Hermiston		City Manager's Office	1-2 years	Updating EOTEC Strategic Plan.
		1.4 Partner with Chamber to evaluate how the City can support a workforce pipeline		City Manager's Office	1-2 years	In Process
	Transportation: Improve mobility and transportation	1.5 Complete Transportation System Plan Update (will include sidewalks)		Planning/City Manager's Office	1-2 years	In final stages of plan development.
		1.6 Update the City's sidewalk plan and prioritize student travel		City Manager's Office	1-2 years	In Process
		1.7 Continue to pursue safe streets grant		Planning/City Manager's Office	1-2 years	Evaluating various projects.
		1.8 Work with regional partners to improve transportation access and circulation		Planning/City Manager's Office	3-4 years	In Process
	Housing: Increase senior, workforce, and affordable housing, market rate rentals, and prevent people from becoming unhoused	1.9 Attract market-rate rental housing developments to increase middle housing inventory		Planning/City Manager's Office	Ongoing	Working on projects around The Hub development.
		1.10 Continue to fund infrastructure improvements to support new housing and other developments		Planning/City Manager's Office	Ongoing	In process
		1.11 Evaluate a commercial/retail incentive opportunities		City Manager's Office	Ongoing	In Process

Hermiston City Council Goals 2026

rev. 7/3/2026

2040 Vision Goal Area	Focus Area	Action	Council Prioritization	Project Lead	Timeline (1-2 years, 3-4 years, 5+)	Status
Hermiston ensures a healthy and safe environment for all through abundant recreation and wellness opportunities, high-quality health care, collaboration with community partners, and a healthy and attractive built environment	Wellness: a healthy community	2.1 Complete the feasibility analysis of the HAWC + determine next steps with partnerships and securing land		Parks and Recreation/City Manager's Office	1-2 years	Public outreach and financing study in progress. Fall 2026 report.
	Public Safety: Improve traffic safety and align public safety resources with community needs	2.2 Complete street light study		Planning/City Manager's Office	1-2 years	In Process
		2.3 Develop a security plan for parks + trails (cameras, lighting, etc.)		Parks and Recreation/City Manager's Office	1-2 years	In Process
		2.4 Implement red light photo enforcements along Hwy 395		Police/City Attorney	1-2 years	Final RFP draft preparing to be released.
Sustainable						
Hermiston responsibly plans and invests in community infrastructure and the built environment to support the critical needs of daily life and sustainable growth for the future	City Facilities: Public facilities that meet the community needs of today and the future	3.1 Conduct public engagement to identify use scenarios, evaluate all options, and finalize plan for Carnegie Building		City Manager's Office	1-2 years	Working on building evaluation and finalizing operational agreement.
		3.2 Finalize water allocation for EOTEC		City Manager/EOTEC	1-2 years	First draft of plan of permanent irrigation water rights.
		3.3 Finalize data and seek Council direction on next steps related to digital infrastructure		City Manager's Office	1-2 years	Individual reports to council nearly complete.
	Fiscal: Maintain service levels, strengthen internal operations to support sustainability, accountability, and transparency	3.4 Develop five-year financial plan to support sustainable staffing and operations		City Manager/Finance	1-2 years	In Process
		3.5 Finalize records digitization		City Manager's Office	1-2 years	Part-time records clerk starts July 16.
		3.6 Evaluate Senior Center partnerships to align with the needs of the aging community		Parks and Recreation/City Manager's Office	1-2 years	Updated agreement approved with the Senior Board.
		3.7 Evaluate partnership with the Greater Hermiston Chamber to align with business needs		City Manager's Office	1-2 years	Updated agreement nearly complete.
		3.8 Study potential general fund projects and funding streams		City Manager's Office/Finance	1-2 years	In Process
Connected + Engaged						
Hermiston provides opportunities for strong social connections, celebrates diversity, and honors our historic and cultural heritage to foster a welcoming and inclusive community for all	Community Engagement: Improve engagement and connection with the community	4.1 Develop a communication and engagement plan identifying goals and metrics		City Manager's Office	1-2 years	Initial draft completed.
	Good governance: Evaluate core governing documents and processes	4.2 Finalize charter review		City Manager's Office	1-2 years	Proposed Changes on November 2026 ballot.