

**MISSION STATEMENT: TO CREATE A HEALTHY, SAFE, DIVERSE, AND PROSPEROUS CITY
BY ENGAGING COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO DEVELOP AN ENRICHED QUALITY OF LIFE.**



**COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
CITY COUNCIL – CITY OF ONTARIO OREGON
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2025, 6:00 PM, MT**
[Zoom Link](#)

Pursuant to the Public Meetings Laws and Rules within the Oregon Revised Statutes, the City Council has the authority, ability, and standing to take action on any items on the Agenda, or add items to the Agenda, during the Study Session or Regular Meeting, as long as all public meeting notice requirements have been met.

1) CALL TO ORDER

Roll Call: Susann Mills _____ Michael Braden _____ Ken Hart _____ Adrianna Contreras _____ John Kirby _____
Council President Penny Bakefelt _____ Mayor Deborah Folden _____

2) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

This Agenda was posted on September 5, 2025. Copies of the Agenda are available from the City Hall Customer Service Counter and on the city's website at www.ontariooregon.org.

3) MOTION TO ADOPT THE AGENDA

4) CONSENT AGENDA

A) Adoption of Council Meeting Minutes: Aug 26, 2025

5) PUBLIC COMMENTS Citizens may address the Council; however, Council may not be able to provide an immediate answer or response. Out of respect to the Council and others in attendance, please limit your comment to three (3) minutes. Please state your name and city of residence for the record.

6) OLD BUSINESS

A) Ordinance #2840-2025: Repealing OMC Title 2 Chapter 14 and Dissolving the Diversity Advisory Committee

7) NEW BUSINESS

A) Proclamation: Hunger Action Month

8) DEPARTMENT HEAD UPDATES

A) Community Development: Quarterly

9) HAND-OUTS

A) Minutes: County Court 08/13/2025, 08/20/2025, 08/27/2025; Parks 06/19/2025; Airport 08/04/2025

B) Packet - V&C Board

10) CORRESPONDENCE, COMMENTS AND EX-OFFICIO REPORTS

11) EXECUTIVE SESSION

A) ORS 192.660(2)(f): Attorney/Client Privilege

12) POSSIBLE ACTION FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION

13) ADJOURN

The City Council may recess/adjourn to Executive Session under ORS 192.660(2) as follows: (a) Employment of Public Officers, Employees, or Agents; (b) Discipline of Public Officers, Employees, or Agents; (c) Labor Negotiations; (d) Real Property Transactions; (e) Exempt Public Records; (f) Trade Negotiations; (g) Litigation [Current or Potential]/Consult with Legal Counsel; (h) Performance Evaluation of Public Officers and Employees; (i) Trade Negotiations; and/or (j) Labor Negotiations.

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CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES August 26, 2025

The scheduled meeting of the Ontario City Council was called to order by Mayor Deborah Folden at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 26, 2025, in the Council Chambers of City Hall. Council members present were Deborah Folden, Ken Hart, Susann Mills, John Kirby, Michael Braden, and Penny Bakefelt. Adrianna Contreras was excused.

Staff present were Dan Cummings, Tori Barnett, Corinna Hysell, Clint Benson, Kari Ott, Tatiana Burgess, Jason Cooper, Al Haun, and Marshall Pierce.

The meeting was recorded, and copies are available at City Hall.

AGENDA

This Agenda was posted Friday, August 22, 2025. Copies of the Agenda are available from the City Hall Customer Service Counter and on the city's website www.ontariooregon.org.

HART moved, MILLS seconded, **TO ADOPT THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED**. Roll call vote: Mills-yes; Braden-yes; Hart-yes; Contreras-out; Kirby-yes; Bakefelt-yes; Folden-yes. Motion carried 6/0/1.

CONSENT AGENDA

KIRBY moved, MILLS seconded, **TO ADOPT THE CONSENT AGENDA, WHICH CONSISTED OF ADOPTION OF THE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF JULY 22, 2025; SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF AUGUST 4, 2025; PROCLAMATION #2025-102: NATIONAL RECOVERY MONTH, SEPTEMBER 2025; AND LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATION: CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP – ROMIO'S PIZZA AND PASTA**. Roll call vote: Mills-yes; Braden-yes; Hart-yes; Contreras-out; Kirby-yes; Bakefelt-yes; Folden-yes. Motion carried 6/0/1.

Mayor Folden read Proclamation #2025-102 National Recovery Month into the record:

Mental health challenges, substance use, and harmful gambling behaviors affect individuals and families throughout our nation—including right here in Ontario. These struggles touch people from all walks of life, but recovery is possible and happening every day. It begins with hope, grows with support, and thrives through connections. With the right tools, treatment, and encouragement, people can rebuild their lives and find purpose and joy again. This September, the City of Ontario joins the national observance of Recovery Month to celebrate the resilience and healing journeys of those in recovery. The need for awareness and action is urgent. Over 40 million Americans live with substance use disorders, and tragically, over 100,000 families lose loved ones to overdose annually. Here in Oregon, nearly 13 percent of residents report life alerting substance misuse use past month—well above the national average—and rates of anxiety and depression are approximately 3 percent higher than nationwide figures. Gambling disorder also affects thousands, with an estimated 88,000 adults and youth meeting clinical criteria and another 180,000 at risk. These numbers are not just statistics—they represent our neighbors and loved ones. This reality calls us to expand prevention, treatment, and support so no one faces these challenges alone. Recovery Month reminds us all to break down stigma, recognize the signs of mental health and substance use struggles, and offer compassion and support to those who need it. By coming together as a community to share resources and celebrate every step forward, we strengthen the foundation of recovery. This journey is not one anyone takes alone—it is made possible by the dedication of healthcare providers, peer mentors, families, friends, and advocates whose care and commitment help make healing possible for so many. Therefore, we, the City of Ontario, Oregon, hereby proclaim September 2025 as Recovery Month for Mental Health, Substance Use, and Harmful Gambling Behaviors. We invite all citizens to observe this month with compassion, understanding, and action—celebrating those in recovery, supporting those still struggling, and building a community where healing is always within reach.



PUBLIC COMMENTS

Billy Carter, Ontario, stated: *Madam Mayor and Council. My name is Billy Carter, and I do live here in the City of Ontario. As I look up on that diasia [sic] tonight, the City Council is more diverse than it's ever been, or probably will ever be. We even have a female Mayor, which is very good. I mean, phenomenal. Therefore, I find it absolutely astonishing that under this administration the Diversity Advisory Committee may be made up of tax-paying citizens, that volunteer their time to support the City Council on behalf of the tax-paying citizens of Ontario, is being considered for disbandment. I simply ask you to listen and seek out more input for the engaged tax-paying citizens of Ontario before you make such a critical, historical, decision to disband the Diversity Advisory Committee. I ask you to further consider historical financial impact data and not to just use subjective information in this decision making process.*

Kathie Collins, Ontario, stated: *I'm Kathie Collins, a resident of Ontario and member of the Diversity Advisory Committee. When we saw that on the agenda, yeah, we were just concerned a little bit that it may be up for consideration to disband and we certainly hope that's not the case. I don't know that it, we don't know if it was, I mean, weren't sure. But, we really encourage the City Council to fully embrace the Diversity Advisory Council, Diversity Advisory Council. We're, we live in a really unique area, actually, and I'm a journalist at heart, and I like to tell we're unique, but when you have the ethnicity makeup we do of a large Latino population, there are Basque, Japanese, it is kind of unique. You can't find that anywhere else. Not only that, but our community, for being rural, and I'm a grant writer, I tease my Portland counterparts quite a bit because we have a reputation here in Ontario that the county meets kind of the redneck country folk, but really we're, I think in some ways, more liberal than good old Portland, because I remind them that in the 40s they had the no Japs allowed signs over their pools, where we welcomed the Japanese community here, so, I think that, historically, we set a precedent. We are a very, very proud of our diversity, and not only in terms of ethnicity, but for a rural community, we have LGBTQ+ community that is not afraid. They are out, and I think that helps. I think that wasn't always the case in Malheur County or Ontario. But, yeah, I just think it's really great. And again, we have a female Mayor. I think, especially with what's going on with our federal administration right now, diversity is sort of, museums are being told don't tell the truth about our history, we want to whitewash everything. This is not the time to do that here. We want to really be proud, and be one of those communities, whether it's the fact that we have a large, I mean, gosh, diversity means everything, too. A large homeschooling population, I mean we have charter schools, we have public schools, we have, we're not, we're just diverse, and we're very proud of that and we want to embrace that. So, I encourage you to support the DAC anyway you can. Thank you.*

Lynn Johnson, Ontario, stated: *Thank you, Madam Mayor and members of the Council, and assembled guests. My name is Lynn Johnson, and I'm a resident here in Ontario. I spent my career in health care management and then I volunteered as a Parks Commissioner here for three years, and now I serve on the Budget Committee. I stand to support and encourage the growth of diversity in the local government and community involvement. We can remember back to our experiences in World War II, when the Japanese community was significantly ostracized, and if we fast forward to today, we could still find some of those same types of prejudice within the Hispanic population, where they feel disenfranchised and both sides of the discussion have expressed certain fears. TVCC's Hispanic population in 2022 was 27%. That held consistent in 2023 at 26.7%. Yet, if we look back, in the 1950s, we certainly had prejudices, and now we have the opportunity to enhance our integration within this community. As we look at government within a community, I'm reminded by many politicians in the past that all government is local. Change starts local. I encourage integrated relationships. As an example, with my family, we were raised in Lilywhite Canyon County. And, at an early age, we were exposed to significant prejudices. But now, within my immediate and extended family, we have same-sex marriages, I've been in a biracial relationship here for the past eight or nine years, and my two daughters have also married Hispanics and live throughout the country. In keeping with that, if we review the facts for Ontario in the 19, 'scuze me, in the 2020 census, there's 49% Hispanic and Latino population. 18% of the population is comprised of two or more races. 96% of Ontario are US citizens. So, if we ask the question, what percentage of minorities are elected or appointment to city government positions and/or employment. It is my belief that regardless of what that number is, we could do better. I am also reminded that in the 1990s, I participated in a number of business conferences, which included leaders from Japan industry. Their comment to us in a large*



forum was that the US had an advantage over Japan in that we had a very diverse melting pot population and we're gathering ideas from all cultures and backgrounds, whereas the Japanese felt that they were too homogenous, and they felt that that was a distinct advantage for us. So I'd like to ask, how many minorities are here tonight? Just a show of hands, very quickly. We have a few, but it's certainly not 49% of the population. So, we need to continue to engage and ask what if, what if city government in Ontario was 50% minority? What other ideas could we derive from that input to try and help improve our city? In conclusion, I wish to urge the members of the Council and department heads to strive to be more inclusive of minority voices within our local government functions. I urge you to keep and enhance the Diversity Committee's role in Ontario city government. Thank you for this opportunity.

Andi Walsh, Ontario, stated: Good evening, all. My name is Andi Walsh. I'm an Ontario resident. I also serve as the Senior Health Policy Advisor for The Children's Institute, an organization that serves statewide to address health and education needs for our youngest Oregonians. I also serve as the Co-Chair of the Health Equity Committee for the Oregon Health Authority. And I'm here on, to speak in support, again, for the Diversity Committee. You heard me speak before, and I provided some of my story in that, in those comments. For me, I grew up with a very challenging family situation, with two parents with severe mental illness. I was really touched to hear the Proclamation that was read out loud tonight around National Recovery Month. I lost one of my parents to his mental illness, and that anniversary is in a week, and so I think a lot about my experience and growing up we were not represented by our local government. We didn't hear a Proclamation like that, for example. But, I think this committee keeps getting stuck on the word diversity because that's the word that's being attacked at the federal level, when really what this committee's about is about belonging. It's about a government that believes everyone in the city belongs, and believes that you should hear voices from everyone who belongs. There's speculation the Diversity Committee is on the chopping block tonight, and I think that makes sense to me, per what I've seen. This is a Council meeting that isn't being livestreamed on Facebook. The last Council meeting there was comments around wanting to review paperwork that was not, I don't think, given to the public around what was being reviewed or on the Diversity Committee, and my appointment to the Diversity Committee was tied to that review, that paperwork, which makes it feel like the Diversity Committee itself is on the chopping block. I do hope we're wrong in that, and that this, this Council is going to make the right decision about making sure to uphold the rights of all of its citizens and to show that we all belong. I came from Chicago, and just yesterday the Illinois Governor made an extremely powerful speech at the threat of US military being deployed to Chicago streets, and in the end of his comments, he commented that Martin Luther King, Jr. mentioned, talks about how the arc of justice is long, I forget the exact quote, but that it bends towards justice. But he made another comment that it doesn't just bend because it bends, it bends because we have to continue to push it that way. We have to push towards justice. We have to push towards belonging, towards equity, and not get caught up on words that are now suddenly being said they're bad words. It's about the values of our city, so I want to be respectful of time, and so I just really hope that you keep the Diversity Committee and give it a chance to really show what it could do. Thank you.

OLD BUSINESS

DAC Committee Discussion

Councilor Braden stated: The City Council is the governing body that establishes and dissolves committees. I have read the summaries of Executive Order 14151 - Ending Radical and Wasteful Government DEI Programs and Preferences. I have read summaries of Executive Order 14173 - Ending Illegal Discrimination and Restoring Merit-Based Opportunity. At City Council on March 25th, I was present for Executive Session discussion under attorney-client privileges where the City Attorney discussed the possible legal issues the Council should consider. At City Council on July 8, 2025, I voted to approve the second reading of Ordinance #2838-2025, which adopted the updated language of Title 2, Chapter 14 as prepared by legal counsel. I have reflected persistently upon this July 8th vote and Council decision, weighing this decision in light of upholding and protecting the well-being of the City of Ontario and its citizens. I strongly believe that at present time the operation of a city sponsored Diversity Advisory Committee comes with potential funding losses and/or costly litigious risks that would damage the city's well-being. In mitigating these risks I ask the City Council to dissolve the Diversity Advisory Committee.



BRADEN moved, MILLS seconded, THAT THE CITY COUNCIL DISSOLVE THE DIVERSITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED UNDER ONTARIO MUNICIPAL CODE ("OMC") TITLE 2, CHAPTER 14, AND DIRECT CITY STAFF TO PREPARE AND PRESENT TO THE COUNCIL AN ORDINANCE DISSOLVING THE DIVERSITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND REPEALING OMC TITLE 2, CHAPTER 14 IN ITS ENTIRETY. No vote.

Councilor Hart stated: *I don't know what meeting I missed, but I guess I missed the meeting. Last time we had talked about it, we asked Council, we asked staff, to go and get input from our attorney, to make changes, and I know that we sent this information to the DAC committee. I don't think that the DAC committee necessarily approved of all the changes, but we adopted them, and we made those changes, and I believe that it was a good compromise between the fear of impact on the city from the federal government, but also trying to recognize that the committee, how could we change the language and be as safe as we could possibly be as a Council, as fiduciaries. And so, and I know that I've had a chance to talk to a couple of you about this, and I'd just like to read two highlights of what the current ordinance says that the Diversity Committee is supposed to do. One: In Ontario, we operate as one team, one community, fostering a community that values, supports, and develops people of all backgrounds and experiences. To this end, the committee shall serve as a liaison between all community members and the Council, on issues concerning diversity, equity, and inclusivity. In another section: The committee may assist in compiling and distributing materials that are intended to promote an equitable, inclusive, welcoming, diverse, and enriching community in a cultural environment. The committee may review policies and programs, and advise the Council on such policies and programs that are intended to promote equitable, inclusive, welcoming, diverse, and enriching community in a cultural environment. This includes gathering data and information to form a recommendation to the Council. I think these are all useful things. I believe everybody up here will act based upon what's in their heart, but at the end of the day, I am happy with what the attorney did. I believe that that we have a middle ground here to make sure that we continue to support our citizens that want to be involved, that it's fully staffed. That hasn't happened in a long time. I appreciate you taking the time and effort to meet, so I cannot support, and I'm not disparaging anybody who will support, but I will not be able to support dissolving the Diversity Committee because we've made the changes that our attorney said puts in a spot that protects us as much as we can and still have the committee. So I would, I will vote no on that.*

Councilor Bakefelt asked the City Manager: *Correct me if I'm wrong, but I was thinking that the DAC Committee didn't want the changes, and didn't read what the changes were that we were going to make to the ordinance.*

Mr. Cummings stated: *Well, from what they sent to the Council, I'm just trying to go by memory, they were not happy with what the amendment was, but like I say, I don't remember what their comments truly were. I don't want to speak out of turn, at all.*

Councilor Hart: *Madam Mayor, since we have members here, could we, I mean, we did make the changes. We asked for input, they gave us input, we took into consideration, and we still made the changes at that meeting, but if we have a member who, would that be okay, to see if they could speak to some of the concerns that they've had? I get it. That's what, it's in place.*

Ms. Collins: *If I may, Kathie Collins, member of the committee, fairly new member, to clarify, it really wasn't that we were upset with them or something, as a complete consensus of everyone that was there that night was just, we didn't think it was necessary. We felt like it's a fairly innocuous committee, we just advise a little bit, we don't, we're trying to promote diversity and so, we don't have any authority to do anything, so we just felt like it's, anyway, so we just... (illegible word)..., but we weren't against it or we didn't have concerns I wouldn't say, it wasn't that harsh of language, it was just we didn't think it was necessary. But, yeah, we certainly, I think to a person, too, understood that we don't want to put the city in jeopardy of losing any funding. We certainly wouldn't want to do that. That's not something that any of us would want to do. We just didn't think it was necessary, but if your attorney does, we just want to keep the committee going. Thank you.*

Mayor Folden stated: *I do have something I'd like to say, it has been a very difficult decision, and I put a lot of thought into my decision. I feel strongly that President Trump will fiercely uphold his Executive Order, and it should not be taken lightly. I have very much respect for the people and my friends and this community, and I hope my decision does not have any impact on my friendships, and I value all of you very dearly. Our Portland Mayor, Keith Wilson, has issued an Executive Order to comply with President Trump's Administration with*

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion mandates. The Mayor's choice to comply with federal demands convinces the city and said he depends on funding that could be at stake for their city. By complying with the laws, the city programs and services will provide services, programs, and benefits without regard or preferences based on protected class status, inconsistent with our ongoing commitment to comply with federal non-discrimination laws. President Trump signed an Executive Order shortly after taking office in January, that mandated entities with DEI practices, they would no longer receive federal funding. If we lose this funding, to keep our roads safe, and our neighbors house, we will feel it sharply. The consequences for accepting grants without compliance are severe, including the possibility of both civil and criminal penalties against anyone who signs for these funds, and I'm one of the signors, and I do take that seriously. And that's something that I would like to say.

Councilor Bakefelt: *I just have another question, and I know I've asked this before and it's for Billy, I guess. Can you tell me what, in the past couple years, the accomplishments of the Diversity Committee?*

Mr. Carter stated: *Sure, I'd be happy to tell you some of the, a couple notes. One of the things that we took upon ourselves to do, keeping in mind that we work as an entity of the City Council, and so whatever you guys will ask us to do, we'd be more than happy to do. Okay? But we took an initiative on our own to register people to vote, and especially the few citizens that get their citizenship at Global Village. So we're very active in that. We've been very active in passing out diversity information at various events that happen here in the city. We pass out pamphlets regarding the city's Diversity Committee. We also put together an initiative to recognize citizens who have done a great deal in the community to promote diversity and we have had two recognitions so far. One this year, and one last year. So we have been actively involved in, you know, promoting diversity for the city and trying to present a very positive image of the city, but keep in mind that we work at your direction, and so, you know, whatever you guys ask us to do, we'll be more than happy to do. As that bridge between the Council and the citizens of the city. So that's just a couple of them and I'm probably forgetting something, but, you know, those are things that are fresh in my mind.*

Councilor Hart: *Mayor, can I help Billy? He helped the Ontario Promise Committee, so we were looking for ideas on how we do a better job of getting the information out, scholarships for students, and the committee gave us some suggestions and ideas. So that was an example, where we went and asked you for help and you helped us, so I appreciate that.*

Mr. Carter: *I appreciate that, Councilor Hart. And also, the police department and fire department has come to the Diversity Committee and asked us to participate in their interview process, just to, you know, have some outside input and consideration for their new hires and things along those lines. And so, we are more than happy to step up and do whatever the city needs us to do.*

Councilor Bakefelt stated: *One of my concerns, if I'm honest, is because I've heard there hasn't been quorums at a lot of the meetings over the last year or two, and that's not always everybody's fault, but, and then I've heard, you know, that there's been some problems with staff treatment, basically, at a couple of the meetings. What assurance can you give me that if we were to keep the Diversity Committee, that, we're done with that, that we're going to start looking at some goals, setting some goals, having some challenges out there for the Diversity Committee to go without getting into all this negative stuff.*

Mr. Carter: *Well, I can only speak for myself, but, you know, I will speak on, you know, for myself, and what I foresee happening with the Diversity Committee. For the first time in years, and I've been on the committee for four, five, six years, for the first time, we have a quorum, we have people waiting to be on our committee. Not only do we have a quorum, but we have people waiting to be appointed to the committee. For the first time, ever, and so we have a very, I think, a very involved, very logical, reasonable, sensible committee right now, made up of some really outstanding citizens here in Ontario, and so I don't see all that negativity happening on the committee, first of all, and I think, going forward, I don't anticipate any problems because I think that we have people on the committee that's committed to, you know, supporting the City Council, and I think that there, we already have put in place a mechanism where we're going to have more communications with the City Council, you know, to make sure you guys know, first of all, we're there, and that we're there to support you and that we will be providing you a quarterly or, we debated on whether or not we wanted to do*

monthly or quarterly reports, so you would know what the committee is doing, and any directions you wanted to give the committee, we'd be able to do it answer could all move forward on the same sheet of music. So....

RESTATED MOTION:

BRADEN moved, MILLS seconded, **THAT THE CITY COUNCIL DISSOLVE THE DIVERSITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED UNDER ONTARIO MUNICIPAL CODE ("OMC") TITLE 2, CHAPTER 14, AND DIRECT CITY STAFF TO PREPARE AND PRESENT TO THE COUNCIL AN ORDINANCE DISSOLVING THE DIVERSITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND REPEALING OMC TITLE 2, CHAPTER 14 IN ITS ENTIRETY.** Roll call vote: Mills-yes; Braden-yes; Hart-no; Contreras-out; Kirby-yes; Bakefelt-no; Folden-yes. Motion carried 4/2/1.

Appointments to Committees: Airport, Diversity Advisory

Council Consensus to appoint Pete Morgan to the Airport Committee. The appointment of Andi Walsh to the Diversity Advisory Committee was not acted upon based upon an earlier action in this meeting regarding the dissolution of the Diversity Advisory Committee.

NEW BUSINESS

Surplus Ladder Truck

Clint Benson, Fire Chief, presented.

In early 2023, the Vale Fire Department donated their 1985 Pierce Dash 50' Telesquirt to Ontario Fire & Rescue for use at the Ontario Public Safety Training Center. The ladder truck was unable to pass annual ladder testing as required by NFPA 1901 and the cost to make the necessary repairs exceeded the value of the truck; Therefore, Vale Fire donated the truck to use as a pumping apparatus during training at the training center. To date, the truck had only been used one time by Ontario Fire to repair the pole at Ontario City Hall. At that time, the ladder continued to sag during the operation. When Ontario Fire and Rescue trained in pumping operations at the training center, staff used the department's own apparatus in order to build familiarity with the equipment regularly used. Staff felt that funds from the sale of the truck would be better used towards ongoing projects at the training center rather than the truck itself.

The truck currently had 79,905 miles and 7,214 hours of use. Staff believed the truck would be an asset to a smaller department as a pumper used for training. Staff received some interest from a representative of a fire department in Mexico and another from a community college in Oregon. Staff obtained an estimate of \$1,772 to scrap the truck from Treasure Valley Recycling in Payette, Idaho. The 1985 Pierce Dash Telesquirt currently sat in an outdoor covered storage area at the Ontario Public Safety Training Center and had only been used one time since received it in early 2023.

This action was part of the fleet reduction plan within the 2025 Community Risk Assessment/Standard of Cover study. The fire department could better use the funds that came from the sale of this truck for ongoing projects at the training center. Additionally, there were costs associated with annual maintenance and testing if staff used the truck regularly as a training tool. Annual pump testing was currently \$328, plus travel costs. Annual maintenance was estimated at \$800.

BAKEFELT moved, KIRBY seconded, **FOR THE CITY TO SURPLUS THE 1985 PIERCE DASH LADDER TRUCK BY ACCEPTING SEALED BIDS STARTING AT \$2,000 AND TO USE THE FUNDS TOWARD THE ONTARIO PUBLIC SAFETY TRAINING CENTER.** Roll call vote: Mills-yes; Braden-yes; Hart-yes; Contreras-out; Kirby-yes; Bakefelt-yes; Folden-yes. Motion carried 6/0/1.



Resolution #2025-122: Change Order – Water Treatment Plant Floc Mechanism Replacement Project

Marshall Pierce, City Engineer, presented.

The City of Ontario's old Water Treatment Plant flocculation and conveyor equipment was over 40 years old and was showing its age. Equipment replacement bidding for this project occurred on October 9, 2024. Only one bid was received, in the amount of \$1,687,243, including a \$100,000 construction contingency. With deducting bid alternates 1 and 2, the updated bid amount for award was \$1,455,643. After additional good-faith negotiations with the contractor, additional savings were found that amount to \$112,000. The project was approved by Council and awarded in December last year.

As presented in that Council meeting, needed bid alternates were not included due to budgetary constraints and the plan presented was to request additional funding for next FY (this year), and add a change order for the amount needed, of \$296,975.

The city budgeted for this change order in this new fiscal year and was prepared to issue a construction change order to obtain new equipment. The city would need to carry over 24-25 budget amounts in order to fund and complete the project in 25-26. The total cost should be under budget at the end of the project. The submittal process had begun for this new equipment, and a change order should be executed in order to procure the equipment. If the Council chose not to award the change order, the old plant would not be upgraded as planned.

HART moved, KIRBY seconded, **THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVE RESOLUTION #2025-122: A RESOLUTION TO CARRYOVER REMAINING 24-25 BUDGET FOR THE WATER FLOC MECHANISM.** Roll call vote: Mills-yes; Braden-yes; Hart-yes; Contreras-out; Kirby-yes; Bakefelt-yes; Folden-yes. Motion carried 6/0/1.

HART moved, BAKEFELT seconded, **THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVE THE CONSTRUCTION CHANGE ORDER TO DESERT VIEW IN THE AMOUNT OF \$296,975, AND AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO SIGN ALL DOCUMENTS.** Roll call vote: Mills-yes; Braden-yes; Hart-yes; Contreras-out; Kirby-yes; Bakefelt-yes; Folden-yes. Motion carried 6/0/1.

Resolution #2025-123: Task Order Award – Water Rate Study

Marshall Pierce, City Engineer, presented.

It's been nearly 10 years since the city conducted a water rate study. Periodically, assessing the water rate amount was critical in keeping a balance between the city's water infrastructure and capital improvement expenditures and revenues, as well as ensuring the rate was at an affordable amount for the residents. Additionally, grant and loan funding requirements often dictated a minimum rate for funding eligibility. The city current water user rate was outdated, and a study should be conducted based on the city's current economic scenario.

The update would incorporate recent changes to the city's operating expenses, capital funding resources, and debt repayment obligations. The study would also account for inflation assumptions for current economic conditions. This information would be analyzed and projected against the city's future operations and capital improvements through 2031. The proposed rate increases would provide sufficient revenues to cover the city's projected revenue requirements.

If adopted as proposed, this would decrease the water fund contingency by \$38,285, leaving a fund balance of \$1,227,367. The city was in a position to sign with Jacobs Engineering Group once Council approved the task order award. Once that occurred, a notice to proceed could be issued. The project duration was anticipated to be four months.

If the Council opted to not move forward with this action, there was risk of non-compliance with the current CDBG grant. Not performing a rate study was not advised as the new rates should be based off of current and forecasted capital improvement expenditures.



MILLS moved, KIRBY seconded, **THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVE RESOLUTION #2025-123: A RESOLUTION TO APPROPRIATE FUNDING TO CONDUCT A WATER RATE STUDY.** Roll call vote: Mills-yes; Braden-yes; Hart-yes; Contreras-out; Kirby-yes; Bakefelt-yes; Folden-yes. Motion carried 6/0/1.

MILLS moved, KIRBY seconded, **THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVE THE JACOBS ENGINEERING GROUP TASK ORDER TO PERFORM A WATER RATE STUDY UPDATE, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$38,285 AND AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO SIGN ALL DOCUMENTS.** Roll call vote: Mills-yes; Braden-yes; Hart-yes; Contreras-out; Kirby-yes; Bakefelt-yes; Folden-yes. Motion carried 6/0/1.

PUBLIC HEARING

Accept Right of Way for a Portion of SE 13th Avenue and SE 1st Street

It being the date advertised for a public hearing on the matter stated above, the Mayor declared the hearing open, and asked if there were any objections to the city's jurisdiction to hear this action. Were there any abstentions, ex-parte contact to declare, or any declarations of conflict of interest? None stated.

Dan Cummings, City Manager, presented.

The City Council, the governing body for the City of Ontario, needed to accept the right of way of a portion of SE 12th Avenue and SE 1st Street as shown on Attachments #1 and #2 to this report.

Murakami Farms, Inc., through Grant Kitamura, and George and Margie Yasuda, as part of the improvement of their property in building a portion of SE 12th Avenue and SE 1st Street for the development of a portion of said street, needed to dedicate the right of way to allow for the construction of the project and inspections thereof. In doing so, they wished to dedicate the right of way as agreed upon for the improvements to said streets. To be able to construct the street and public utilities, a right of way was required to be in the city's name so the sewer and water line and street improvements could be constructed to city standards and to provide inspections of the project. There would be no financial cost to the city at this time other than the recording of the right of way documents, which would be paid from the Community Development fund. This action needed to be completed in order to complete the construction of the project.

The Council could, by motion, not accept the right of way offered for dedication, which would leave a portion of the developed street on private property. This would not allow the city access to maintain this portion of the project.

Mayor Folden opened the Hearing for public testimony. There were no Proponents or Opponents to speak on this action, so the public testimony portion was closed.

MILLS moved, BAKEFELT seconded, **THE CITY COUNCIL TO APPROVE THE DEDICATION OF THE RIGHT OF WAY FOR A PORTION OF SE 12TH AVENUE AND SE 1ST STREET AS SHOWN IN THE DEEDS OF DEDICATION AS ATTACHMENT 1 AND 2 OF THIS REPORT AND AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO SIGN THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE DEED OF DEDICATIONS.** Roll call vote: Mills-yes; Braden-yes; Hart-yes; Contreras-out; Kirby-yes; Bakefelt-yes; Folden-yes. Motion carried 6/0/1.

DEPARTMENT HEAD UPDATES

Finance: Monthly Report (Hand-Out)

Kari Ott, Finance Director, presented.

Councilor Hart asked with regard to property taxes, for the budgeted \$4.4M, and \$5.2M received, was that the new normal, or was that just a one-time thing.

Ms. Ott stated some was one time due to a settlement around \$300,000, and that would continue to come in over the next few years.

Councilor Bakefelt asked where the TOT was in the budget.



Ms. Ott stated TOT did not hit the General Fund, for the most part. Portions were in the Parks Department, the Trust Fund, the Reserve Fund, and the Street Fund.

Councilor Hart stated on Page 3, Capital Outlay was at 29% of the budget. Why?

Ms. Ott stated it was partially for the camera system rollover, around \$94K out of \$150K; the City Hall HVAC had \$116,500 budgeted, and that had not been done yet, so that would be a carryover.

Public Works: Quarterly

Al Haun, Assistant Project Director, presented.

Councilor Braden stated in the Parks meeting, it had been brought up the blue court at Laxson Park, and the city was not Boise State, it was Oregon, so Oregon colors. However, that had been clarified that the park was Rotary Laxson Park, and the Rotarians serviced the park, so it had been suggested they paint their emblem or logo in yellow in the middle of the court, to signify the tie in to the service club, over just a random choice of color. It looked good, but Public Works had heard a lot noise about the color.

Mr. Haun stated there had been multiple conversations about that already.

Councilor Bakefelt asked for an explanation regarding the 2% safety section noted in the presentation.

Mr. Haun stated if they found any equipment out of compliance with the Jacobs safety standards, they spent time fixing that. For example, It could be a guard on a machine that had come unsecured, or anything safety related. It was primarily at the City Shop.

Councilor Mills stated the report read “repair multiple main breaks and service breaks”. Was that the main line from the alleys to residences, or commercial buildings?

Mr. Haun stated the mains were actually the water main, the large lines. In the alleys, or in the street. Service lines would be what goes from the main to the meter. Service lines were considered smaller domestic water lines.

Councilor Mills asked why there had been so many breaks.

Mr. Haun stated it was infrastructure. The break on Easter Sunday was asbestos pipe water lines and that was a coupler that was 60+ years old. The pipes were fitted together with couplers and gaskets and eventually the gaskets dried out.

HAND-OUTS

Minutes:

County Court: July 16, 2025; July 23, 2025; Airport: July 7, 2025

CORRESPONDENCE, COMMENTS, AND EX-OFFICIO REPORTS

Councilor Kirby welcomed Steve Jensen, Lifeways, Mark Keele, Altruistic, Jeannie Mowls, recovering mentor, Lifeways, and Dina Woods, Juvenile Department/OHSU, who were seated in the audience.

Councilor Kirby mentioned the book the Council had received, titled “I Was in a Lake of Fire”, written by the gentleman who was in the natural gas explosion fire out by Love’s Truck Stop, In his letter to the Council, he indicated he wanted to tell his story about the community and how friendly it was, and specifically about the public safety individuals who saved his life.



Councilor Mills stated she thought National Night Out was a great event, great accomplishment, well attended. Thank you to everyone who had a booth there, and everyone who worked on the event. All those who cooked, or volunteered, and it was great weather. The community came together, donated a lot to National Night Out, and she wanted to thank them, as well as all the staff for all the work that was done.

Mayor Folden stated it was a true success. It looked like everyone had a good time. She thanked Councilor Mills for taking a turn in the dunk tank.

ADJOURN

MILLS moved, BAKEFELT seconded, **THE MEETING BE ADJOURNED**. Roll call vote: Mills-yes; Braden-yes; Hart-yes; Contreras-out; Kirby-yes; Bakefelt-yes; Folden-yes. Motion carried 6/0/1. Meeting concluded at 7:21 p.m.

ACCEPTED:

Deborah K. Folden, Mayor

ATTEST:

Tori Barnett, MMC, City Recorder





**AGENDA REPORT
OLD BUSINESS
September 9, 2025**

To: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Dan Cummings, City Manager/Community Development Director

THROUGH: Danny K. Cummings, City Manager

SUBJECT: **ORDINANCE #2840-2025: REPEALING OMC TITLE 2 CHAPTER 14 AND
DISSOLVING THE DIVERSITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

DATE: September 2, 2025

PROPOSED MOTION:

IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 8.2(2) OF THE CITY CHARTER, I MOVE THE CITY COUNCIL TO APPROVE ORDINANCE #2840-2025, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ONTARIO REPEALING ONTARIO MUNICIPAL CODE TITLE 2, CHAPTER 14 IN ITS ENTIRETY, WHICH CHAPTER CONCERNED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A DIVERSITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE AT A SINGLE MEETING BY TITLE ONLY AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

IF VOTE IS UNANIMOUS:

IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 8.2(2) OF THE CITY CHARTER, I MOVE THE CITY COUNCIL TO APPROVE ORDINANCE #2840-2025, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ONTARIO REPEALING ONTARIO MUNICIPAL CODE TITLE 2, CHAPTER 14 IN ITS ENTIRETY, WHICH CHAPTER CONCERNED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A DIVERSITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE AT A SINGLE MEETING BY TITLE ONLY AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

SUMMARY:

Due to concerns about losing Federal Funding and Federal Grants based on the current Federal Government Administration and Executive Orders and repercussion thereof, the City Council determined it is in the best interest of all 11,949 Ontario citizens to dissolve the City Committee, known as the Ontario Diversity Advisory Committee.

BACKGROUND:

The city has received several federal grants, a few preliminary approvals, and is moving forward with these grants. Also, staff has applied for other federal grants that could be at risk of losing funds under the current federal administration.

The City Council has held numerous council meetings to discuss the ongoing concerns of the current federal government administration Executive Order relating to compliance with the Order, or face losing federal funds and possible fines or suits against cities that do not comply.

At the Council Meeting of August 26, 2025, the Council approved a motion to (a) dissolve the Diversity Advisory Committee established under Ontario Municipal Code ("OMC") Title 2, Chapter 14, and (b) directed staff to prepare and present an ordinance dissolving the Diversity Advisory Committee and repealing OMC Title 2, Chapter 14 in its entirety.

CURRENT SITUATION:

City staff, through the City Attorney, have created the ordinance as required by the Council motion of August 26, 2025.

The Council finds that passage of this proposed ordinance is necessary for the immediate preservation of the peace, health, and safety of the city's citizens. The Council further finds that a delay of thirty (30) days prior to the effective date of this ordinance may result in acts, omissions, and/or conditions detrimental to the city and/or public welfare. Therefore, an emergency is being declared to exist, and this ordinance will be in full force and effect upon its passage and adoption by the Council and signing by the Mayor.

ANALYSIS:

- A. **STRATEGIC PLAN** None.
- B. **FINANCIAL** Unknow if the ordinance is not approved.
- C. **TIMING** This has been determined an emergency to ensure no loss of current federal funding.
- D. **POLICY/LEGAL** The City Council is the governing body to approve ordinances.

ALTERNATIVES:

None given.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff makes no recommendation. This ordinance was created by order of the Council.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Ord #2840-2025 - OMC 2-14 DAC Repealing Disolving



ORDINANCE #2840-2025

AN ORDINANCE OF CITY OF ONTARIO REPEALING ONTARIO MUNICIPAL CODE TITLE 2, CHAPTER 14 IN ITS ENTIRETY, WHICH CHAPTER CONCERNED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A DIVERSITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

- WHEREAS,** City of Ontario (“City”), an Oregon municipal corporation, has all the powers that the constitutions, statutes, and common law of the United States and Oregon expressly or impliedly grant or allow; and
- WHEREAS,** Title 2, Chapter 14 of the Ontario Municipal Code (the “Code”), as amended, established city’s Diversity Advisory Committee; and
- WHEREAS,** to ensure consistency with applicable federal law and/or directives concerning diversity, equity, and inclusion policies and programs, the Council has determined it necessary or appropriate to immediately repeal Code Title 2, Chapter 14 in its entirety and dissolve the Diversity Advisory Committee.

NOW, THEREFORE, CITY OF ONTARIO ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

1. Findings. The above-stated findings contained in this Ordinance #2840-2025 (this “Ordinance”) are hereby adopted.
2. Repeal; Committee Dissolution. As of the effective date of this ordinance, the Council hereby (a) repeals Ontario Municipal Code Title 2, Chapter 14 in its entirety, and (b) dissolves the Diversity Advisory Committee. As of the effective date of this ordinance, Code Title 2, Chapter 14 is of no further force and effect.
3. Miscellaneous. This ordinance supersedes all city ordinances, resolutions, and/or policies in conflict with this ordinance. All pronouns contained in this ordinance and any variations thereof will be deemed to refer to the masculine, feminine, or neutral, singular or plural, as the identity of the parties may require. The singular includes the plural and the plural includes the singular. The word “or” is not exclusive. The words “include,” “includes,” and “including” are not limiting. The provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared severable. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, and/or portion of this ordinance is for any reason held invalid, unenforceable, and/or unconstitutional, such invalid, unenforceable, and/or unconstitutional section, subsection, sentence, clause, and/or portion will (a) yield to a construction permitting enforcement to the maximum extent permitted by applicable law, and (b) not affect the validity, enforceability, and/or constitutionality of the remaining portion of this ordinance. This ordinance may be corrected by order of the Council to cure editorial and/or clerical errors.

4. Emergency Declaration. The Council finds that passage of this ordinance is necessary for the immediate preservation of the peace, health, and safety of city's citizens. The Council further finds that a delay of thirty (30) days prior to the effective date of this ordinance may result in acts, omissions, and/or conditions detrimental to city and/or public welfare. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this ordinance will be in full force and effect upon its passage and adoption by the Council and signing by the Mayor.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Ontario this ____ day of September, 2025, by the following vote:

AYES:

NAYES:

ABSENT:

SIGNED by the Mayor this ____ day of September, 2025.

ATTEST:

Deborah K. Folden, Mayor

Tori Barnett, MMC, City Recorder



**CITY OF ONTARIO
MAYORAL PROCLAMATION #2025-103
HUNGER ACTION MONTH**

WHEREAS, addressing the food insecurity needs of children, youth, adults, seniors, active military members, and veterans is fundamental to the future of the City of Ontario; and

WHEREAS, hunger and poverty are issues of vital concern in Malheur County, where 12% of residents struggle with hunger and do not know where their next meal will come from and 24% of children are living in poverty; and

WHEREAS, the growing need for comprehensive, coordinated emergency food programs places a critical responsibility upon our community; and

WHEREAS, Oregon Food Bank Southeast Oregon Services is committed to combating hunger in every part of our community and providing the resources for our community members in need; and

WHEREAS, it is our responsibility as citizens of Ontario to learn about hunger and to take action to reduce it; and

WHEREAS, Oregon Food Bank Southeast Oregon Services partners with 18 organizations across Malheur and Harney Counties as part of the Oregon Food Bank Network of Regional Food Banks, as well as leads the work of the Western Treasure Valley Food System Partnership working to educate the public about the importance of hunger-relief efforts and the need for more resources and coordination of services to strengthen the local food system and address the root causes of hunger;

WHEREAS, there are, on average, 5,700 individuals served monthly for food assistance through Oregon Food Bank Southeast Oregon service's area partners; and

WHEREAS, Oregon Food Bank Southeast Oregon Services, along with its local partner agencies, volunteers, and supporters, is committed to educating citizens about the role of food banks, food pantries, and hunger-relief efforts in our community; and

WHEREAS, Oregon Food Bank Southeast Oregon Services distributes nearly 1 million pounds of food across Malheur and Harney Counties each year, and engages the community to help end hunger — one meal at a time — through donations, community outreach, and volunteer service; and

WHEREAS, the month of September is designated “Hunger Action Month” to bring attention to food insecurity in our communities and encourage action to combat it.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Deborah K. Folden, Mayor of Ontario, Oregon, do hereby proclaim the month of September, 2025,

HUNGER ACTION MONTH

in Ontario, and encourage all citizens to increase their understanding and awareness of food insecurity and its impact on our nation, state, county, and community.

Signed this 9th day of September, 2025.

Deborah K. Folden, Mayor



Presentation by Tatiana Burgess
Tuesday, September 9, 2025

CITY OF ONTARIO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Fiscal Year 2024-25
4th Quarter

Building
Department

Economic
Development

Planning and Zoning

Building Department Statistics



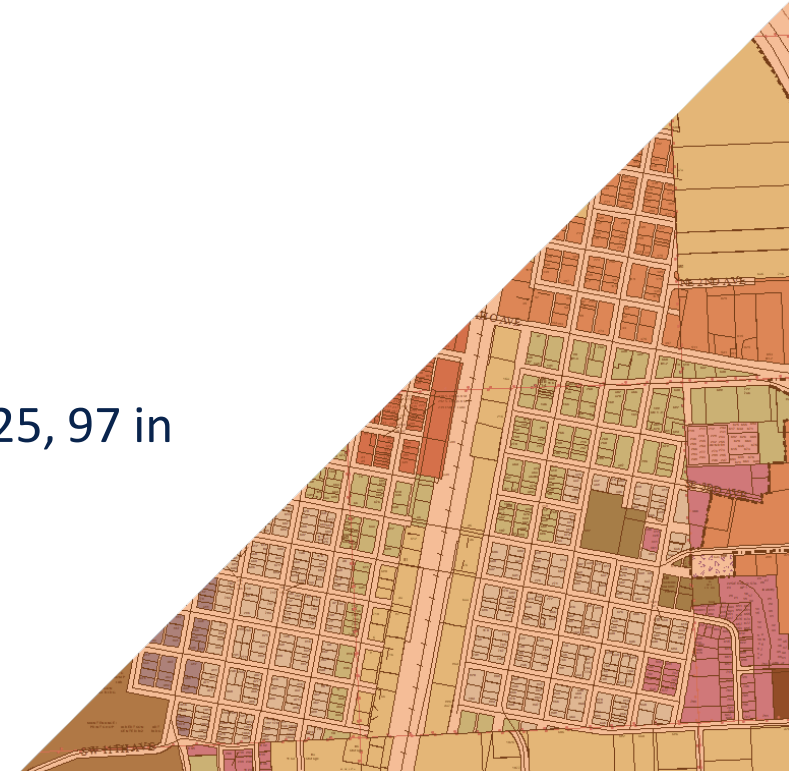
Apr-Jun 2025

Mechanical and Structural Permits

- Total Permits Issued **139**
- Valuation Totals **\$ 13,623,704.14**
- Total Permit Fees **\$ 238,361.88**

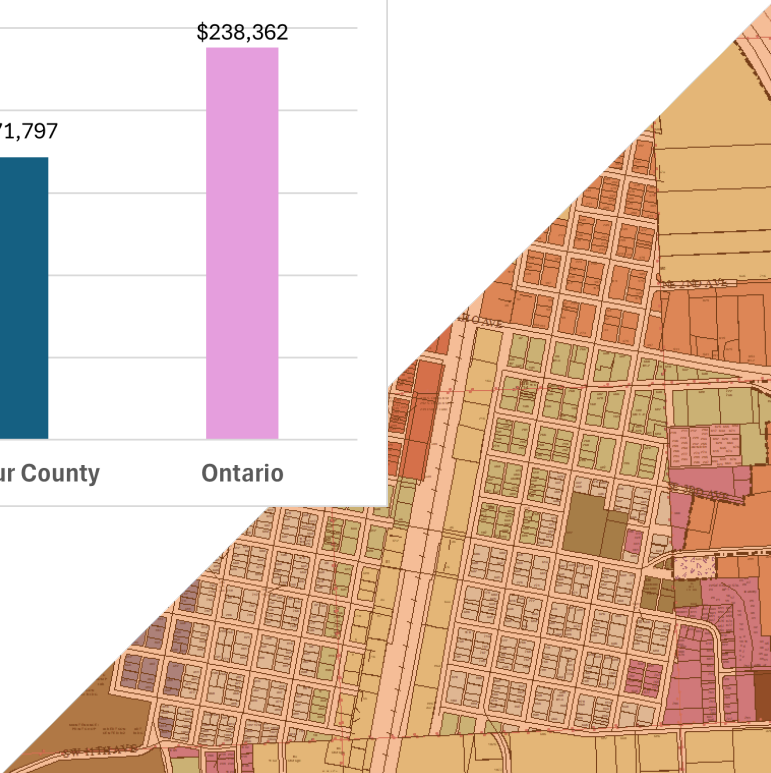
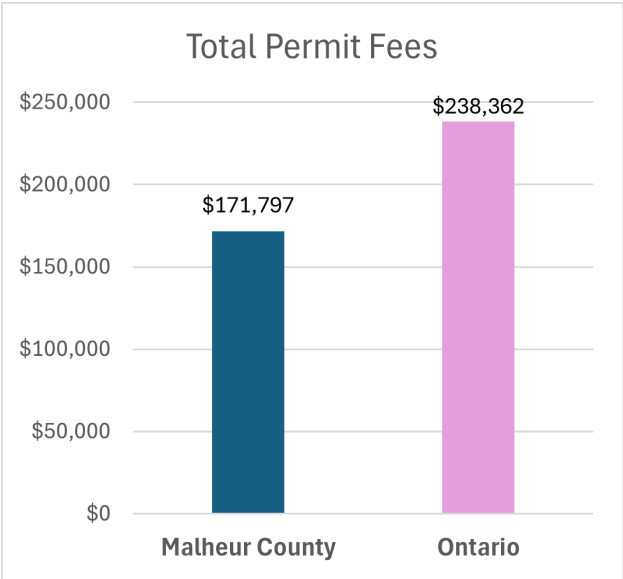
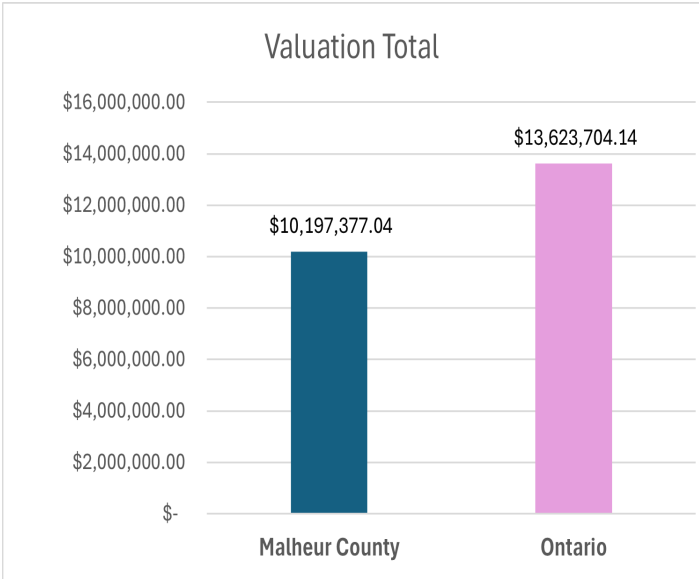
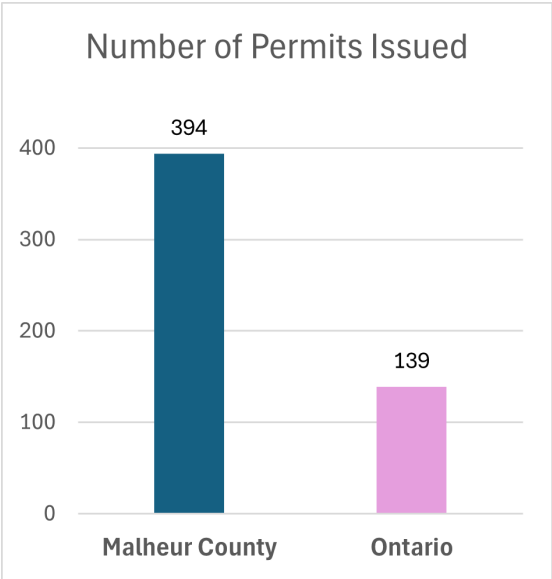
Total Inspections Completed

The Building Official has completed a total of 231 inspections: 76 in April 2025, 97 in May 2025 and 58 in June 2025.



Apr-Jun 2025

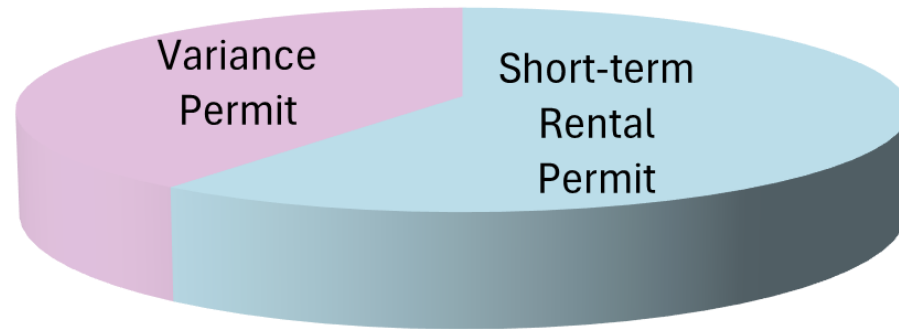
Malheur County (including Vale, Nyssa, Adrian, Jordan Valley) vs. City of Ontario Comparable



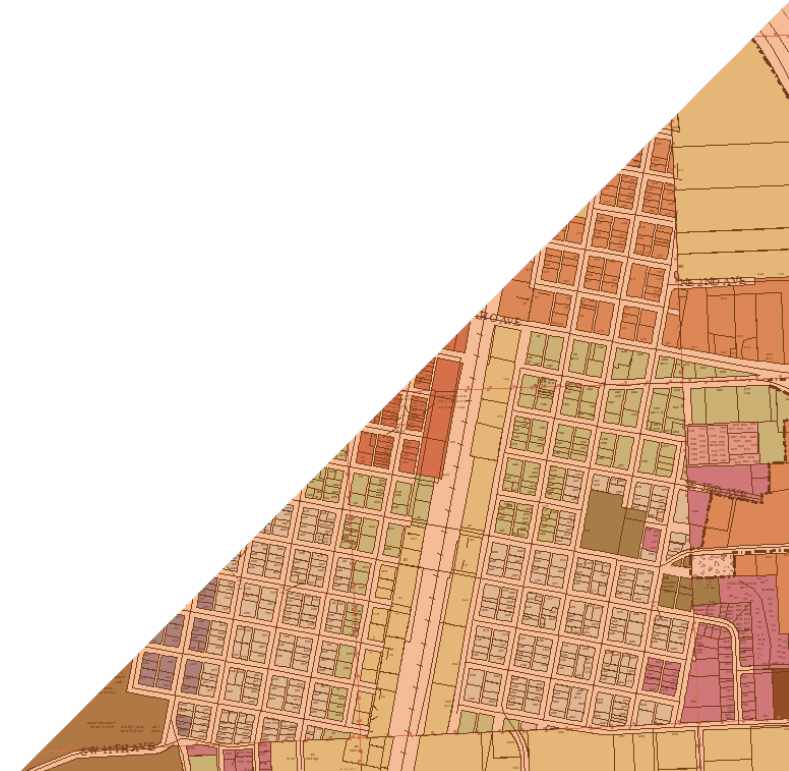
Planning and Zoning Department



Apr-Jun 2025



Total Land Use Applications	5
Total Fees for the Quarter	\$360



Planning and Zoning Department



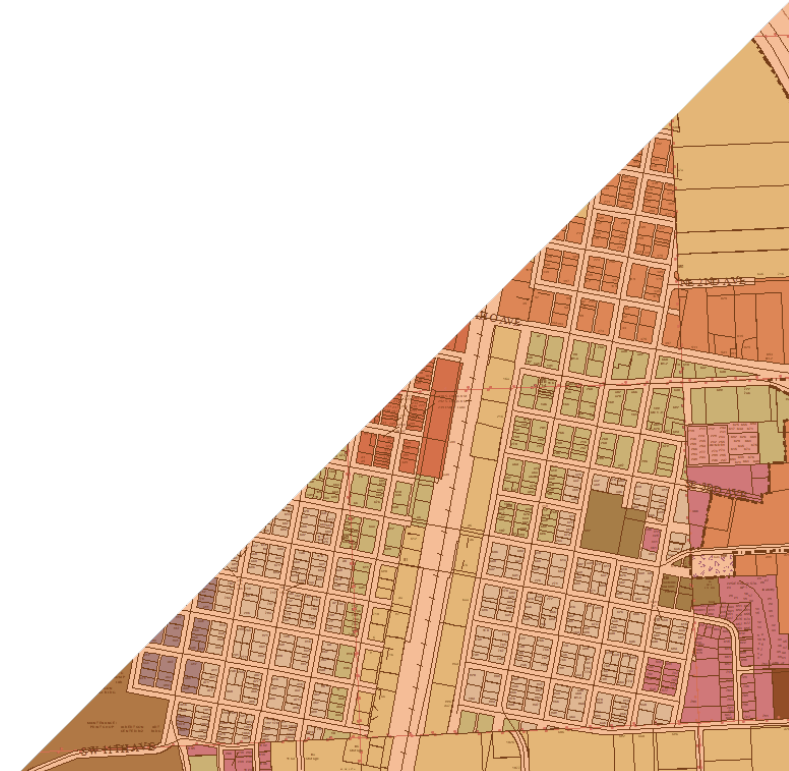
Apr-Jun 2025

Planning and Zoning On-site Inspections Completed:

6 Dispensary Quarterly Inspections

2 Site Visits/Property-Walk through

3 Zoning/Setback Inspections



Facade Grant Program Phase III

Idaho Ave: from NW 9th St to West side of I-84 Interchange

Oregon St: from SW 6th Ave to NW 8th Ave

SW 9th St: from SW 4th Ave to W Idaho Ave

SW 2nd St: from SW 5th Ave to W Idaho Ave

SW 1st St: from SW 5th Ave to W Idaho Ave

SE 2nd St: from SE 5th Ave to E Idaho Ave

- Total Phase III awarded funds: \$15,422.50 leveraged \$ 54,189.50 in improvement costs
- As of 07/01/2025 – available grant amount remaining is \$20,877.50

Phase III Façade Grant Program



Apr-Jun 2025

- Phase III was commenced in June of 2024.
- 1 grant application approved on 05/28/2025 for new signage for Old School LLC – sign upgrade at 281 S Oregon St. Work has not yet been completed. Awarded \$5,000.00



Completed Projects



Apr-Jun 2025

EOCIL – 463 S Park Blvd
Alteration to create 7 new apartments



Completed Projects



COMPLETED:
New dispensary – Thur's Smoke Shop
2380 N Verde Dr



Completed Projects



Apr-Jun 2025

COMPLETED:
New Restaurant at
Ontario Marketplace

9-Juan-Juan Burritos
215 East Ln N, Ste. #5



Completed Projects



Apr-Jun 2025



COMPLETED:
Harrah Heights Subdivision
1627 Skookum Dr



TERRANOVA MOBILE HOME PARK
684 SE 10th Street (Space #2)
New manufactured home added



Completed Projects



Apr-Jun 2025



COMPLETED:
Mayberry Subdivision
Multiple units completed on Phillips Circle



Completed Projects



Apr-Jun 2025



COMPLETED:
Mayberry Subdivision
Multiple units completed on Phillips Circle



Completed Projects



Apr-Jun 2025



COMPLETED:
Mayberry Subdivision
Multiple units completed on Phillips Circle



Certificates of Occupancy



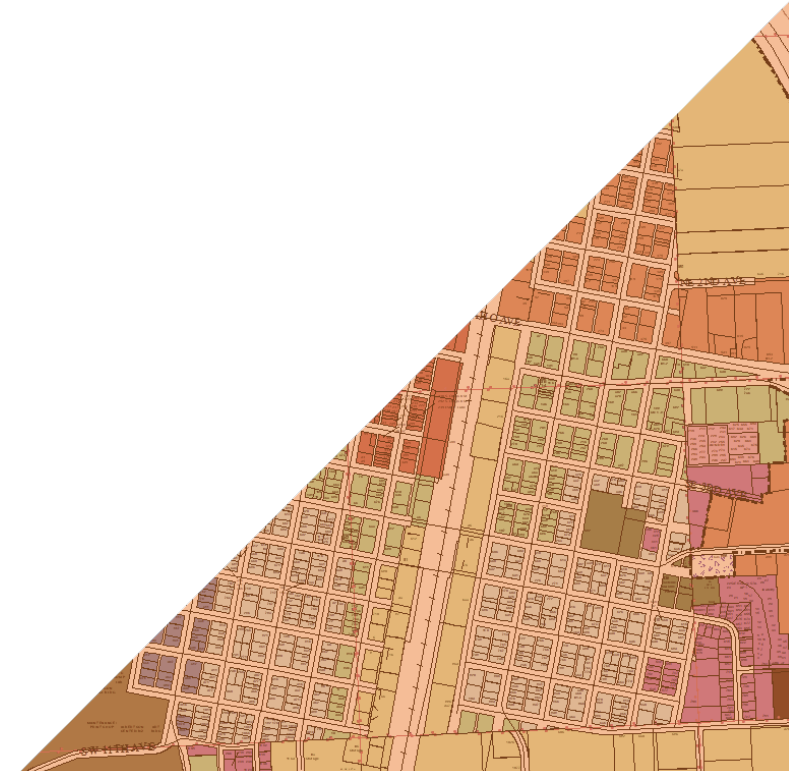
Apr-Jun 2025

Commercial New:

- Thur's Smoke Shop Dispensary (2380 N Verde Dr)

Commercial Remodel/Alteration:

- EOCIL (463 S Park Blvd)
- 9-Juan-Juan Restaurant (215 East Ln N, Ste. #6)



Certificates of Occupancy



Apr-Jun 2025

Residential New:

- Harrah Heights (Skookum Dr)
 - Single Family Home: 1639 Skookum Dr
- Mayberry Subdivision (Phillips Cir)
 - Townhouses: 1210, 1212, 1214, 1216, 1218, 1220, 1233, 1235, 1237, 1239, 1241, 1243, 1245, 1247
 - Duplexes: 1211 and 1213, 1215 and 1217
 - Single Family Home: 1231 Phillips Cir



THANK YOU



MALHEUR COUNTY COURT MINUTES

August 13, 2025

The regularly scheduled meeting of the County Court was called to order by Judge Dan Joyce at 9:00 a.m. with Commissioner Ron Jacobs and Commissioner Jim Mendiola present. Members of the media, public and staff had the opportunity to join the meeting electronically or in-person. Present in the meeting room were Administrative Officer Lorinda DuBois and Economic and Community Development Coordinator Taylor Rembowski. Notice of the meeting was posted on the County website, Courthouse bulletin board and emailed to the Argus Observer and those persons who have requested notice. The agenda is recorded as instrument # [2025-2703](#)

COURT MINUTES

Commissioner Jacobs moved to approve Court Minutes of August 6, 2025 as written. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

FUNDING AGREEMENT – MCDC

Commissioner Jacobs moved to approve Agreement for Funding with Malheur County Development Corporation (MCDC) for executive director and professional services for the Treasure Valley Reload Center (TVRC). Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously. See instrument # [2025-2704](#)

SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET RESOLUTION

Commissioner Jacobs moved to approve Supplemental Budget Resolution R25-25: In the Matter of Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Supplemental Budget by Resolution Under Local Budget Law ORS 294.471. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The purpose of the supplemental budget is to allocate Oregon Department of Veterans Administration (ODVA) hold-over funds in the CVSO (County Veterans Service Officer) Expansion Fund that were not anticipated when the budget was adopted; these funds will be used for advertising/promotions and travel/training. See instrument # [2025-2705](#)

LIQUOR LICENSE APPLICATION

Commissioner Mendiola moved to recommend that the Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission (OLCC) liquor license application for LV Petroleum, LLC (Applicant)/TA Huntington (Trade Name) at 5945 US Hwy 30, Huntington for Off-Premises Sales be granted. Commissioner Jacobs seconded and the motion passed unanimously. This is a change of ownership application.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive Session was called by Judge Joyce in accordance with ORS 192.660(2)(e) to conduct deliberations with designee on real property transaction negotiations with Commissioner Jacobs and Commissioner Mendiola present. Also present were Economic and Community Development Coordinator Taylor Rembowski, County Counsel Stephanie Williams and Administrative Officer Lorinda DuBois. No decisions were made during the session.

JTH LLC

Consensus of the Court was to authorize County staff to continue negotiations and work towards a purchase and sale agreement with JTH, LLC for the Arcadia Industrial Park Subdivision.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Judge Joyce asked for comments from the public; no public comments were received.

COURT ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Jacobs moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

MALHEUR COUNTY COURT MINUTES

August 20, 2025

The regularly scheduled meeting of the County Court was called to order by Judge Dan Joyce at 9:00 a.m. with Commissioner Ron Jacobs and Commissioner Jim Mendiola present. Members of the media, public and staff had the opportunity to join the meeting electronically or in-person. Present in the meeting room were Administrative Officer Lorinda DuBois and Economic and Community Development Coordinator Taylor Rembowski. Notice of the meeting was posted on the County website, Courthouse bulletin board and emailed to the Argus Observer and those persons who have requested notice. The agenda is recorded as instrument # [2025-2780](#)

BLM – UPDATE

Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Acting Malheur Field Manager Dustin Wharton met with the Court. A public meeting was held by BLM last night regarding the Grassy Mountain mine project draft EIS; approximately 25 persons attended in-person with another 25-30 attending on-line. The EIS is in the public comment period (closes September 8) and the final EIS is scheduled to publish in December. A Record of Decision (ROD) will then be published and there will be an appeal period. Depending on the decision, the project will either move forward or not.

The HiTech/Jindalee lithium exploration plan of operation environmental assessment is in progress. This project is in the McDermitt Caldera. The public comment period has closed; over 6,000 comments were received. The draft environmental assessment will be revised based on comments and the applicant's current plan of operation; the target date for publication of the environmental assessment and decision record is November 21, 2025.

The Louse Canyon EIS is in progress. The final EIS is scheduled to be published in October. This project will renew six grazing permits and includes some grazing improvements and sage grouse restoration work.

The Air Force has paused the Over the Horizon project due to staffing. BLM is a cooperating agency in the project. The project would encompass property in Malheur county near Whitehorse Ranch Road and property near Christmas Valley.

ESR plans are in place for fires experienced this season (some fire areas will be addressed through the grazing aspect rather than an ESR).

COURT MINUTES

Commissioner Jacobs moved to approve Court Minutes of August 13, 2025 as written. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

ORDER DESIGNATING NEWSPAPER

Commissioner Jacobs moved to approve Order No. GO-07-25: In the Matter of the Designation of a Newspaper for the Publication of the 2025 Malheur County Tax Foreclosure List. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The Argus Observer is designated as the newspaper for publication of the list. See instrument # [2025-2781](#)

FARMLAND LEASE – FARMERS

Commissioner Jacobs moved that the County terminate the farmland lease with Farmers (Charles, James, and Margaret Farmer; original lease is recorded as instrument # [2020-0142](#)) as the County is in negotiations with JTH, LLC to purchase the Arcadia Industrial Park. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING – SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET

Judge Joyce opened the public hearing for consideration of Resolution R25-26. The public hearing and supplemental budget were necessary in order to allocate funds from Bureau of Reclamation for a Recreation Resources Management Grant in the Marine & Park budget that were not anticipated when the budget was adopted – these funds are to be used to upgrade the Bully Creek Park irrigation system.

Additionally, the supplemental budget allocates funds from Bureau of Land Management for geothermal leases that were not anticipated when the budget was adopted – a portion of the funds will be used for building maintenance (for the Vale City Hall building) and the water system at Bully Creek Park; the balance will go into the General Fund Contingency.

There were no public comments. Judge Joyce closed the hearing. Commissioner Jacobs moved to approve Resolution R25-26: In the Matter of Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Supplemental Budget by Resolution Under Local Budget Law ORS 294.471.

Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously. See instrument # [2025-2782](#)

LYTLE BOULEVARD LANDFILL

Environmental Health Director Evan Magner met with the Court regarding Lytle Boulevard Landfill. The gate on the fence at the landfill is in poor condition and not operating correctly. Three fencing companies were contacted regarding the gate/fence. Two companies proposed removal of the existing gate and replacement with a cantilever gate. The third company proposed repairs to the fence and gate. Consensus was to repair the gate at this time. Replacement of the gate can be budgeted for over the next several years.

The scale and scale house at the landfill need to be relocated and replaced. This project was discussed in budget meetings in April and is included in the budget as an LATCF project. Quotes for the scale house are being obtained.

The recycling program at the landfill may need to be expanded and a recycling receptacle may be placed at the landfill. Oregon's recycling laws are changing. Mr. Magner is in contact with DEQ and working to get the landfill up-to-date.

The power project is nearly complete; the meter box still needs installed.

The air conditioner in the scale house is not working; Mr. Magner will replace it.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Judge Joyce asked for comments from the public; no public comments were received.

ANNUAL JAIL INSPECTION

The Court members conducted the annual jail inspection. See instrument # [2025-2785](#)

COURT ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Jacobs moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

MALHEUR COUNTY COURT MINUTES

August 27, 2025

The regularly scheduled meeting of the County Court was called to order by Judge Dan Joyce at 9:00 a.m. with Commissioner Ron Jacobs and Commissioner Jim Mendiola present. Members of the media, public and staff had the opportunity to join the meeting electronically or in-person. Present in the meeting room were Administrative Officer Lorinda DuBois, Economic and Community Development Coordinator Taylor Rembowski, and public member Arnold Tropf. Notice of the meeting was posted on the County website, Courthouse bulletin board and emailed to the Argus Observer and those persons who have requested notice. The agenda is recorded as instrument # [2025-2856](#)

PROCLAMATION - RECOVERY MONTH

Mark Keele, Lindsey Nieskens, Dawn Dalton, Rene Kesler, Steven Wolfe, and Jeanne Moles were present for the signing of the Proclamation declaring September 2025 as Recovery Month. The proclamation was read by Mr. Keele:

Malheur County Recovery Proclamation

Mental health challenges, substance use, and harmful gambling behaviors affect individuals and families throughout our nation – including right here in Malheur County. These struggles touch people from all walks of life, but recovery is possible and happening every day. It begins with hope, grows with support, and thrives through connections. With the right tools, treatment, and encouragement, people can rebuild their lives and find purpose and joy again.

This September, Malheur County joins the national observance of Recovery Month to celebrate the resilience and healing journeys of those in recovery.

The need for awareness and action is urgent. Over 40 million Americans live with substance use disorders, and tragically, over 100,000 families lose loved ones to overdose annually. Here in Oregon, nearly 13 percent of residents report life altering substance misuse use in the past month – well above the national average – and rates of anxiety and depression are approximately 3 percent higher than nationwide figures. Gambling disorder also affects thousands, with an estimated 88,000 adults and youth meeting clinical criteria and another 180,000 at risk. These numbers are not just statistics – they represent our neighbors and loved ones. This reality calls us to expand prevention, treatment, and support so no one faces these challenges alone.

Recovery Month reminds us all to break down stigma, recognize the signs of mental health and substance use struggles, and offer compassion and support to those who need it. By coming together as a community to share resources and celebrate every step forward, we strengthen the foundation of recovery. This journey is not one anyone takes alone – it is made possible by the dedication of healthcare providers, peer mentors, families, friends, and advocates whose care and commitment help make healing possible for so many.

Therefore, we, the County of Malheur, Oregon, hereby proclaim September 2025 as Recovery Month for Mental Health, Substance Use, and Harmful Gambling Behaviors. We invite all citizens to observe this month with compassion, understanding, and action – celebrating those in recovery, supporting those still struggling, and building a community where healing is always within reach.

Commissioner Jacobs moved to proclaim the month of September 2025 as Recovery Month for Mental Health, Substance Use, and Harmful Gambling Behaviors. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Hands Around the Park will be held on September 11, 2025. Commissioner Jacobs thanked those present for their efforts in helping those in need with recovery.

PLANNING COMMISSION

Planning Manager Kelsie Haueter met with the Court regarding the Planning Commission membership. The Planning Commission bylaws provide that membership is limited to two consecutive full terms (each term is four years); and a member may serve more than eight years if approved by the Court under special or extraordinary circumstances. Two current members have greatly exceeded eight years and a third member will complete his eighth year soon. Ms. Haueter inquired if the Court wanted to replace these three members at the end of the calendar year 2025; or if the Court would rather they continue to serve. The Planning Department does have a list of individuals interested in serving on the Planning Commission. Consensus of the Court was to replace the three members at the end of 2025; a member of the Court will attend the next Planning Commission meeting to assist Ms. Haueter in explaining the decision and thank the members for their dedication and service.

COURT MINUTES

Commissioner Mendiola moved to approve Court Minutes of August 20, 2025 as written. Commissioner Jacobs seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

LATCF PROJECTS

Commissioner Jacobs moved that the Bully Creek irrigation system project, purchase of two Vale City properties and expenses be paid with LATCF funding. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously. (The Bully Creek irrigation system is also funded in part with Bureau of Reclamation funds.)

IGA #26018 AMENDMENT

Commissioner Jacobs moved to approve Eleventh Amendment to Oregon Health Authority (OHA) 2024-2025 Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) for the Financing of Community Mental Health, Addiction Treatment, Recovery, & Prevention, and Problem Gambling Services, Agreement # PO-44300-00026018. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Funding for Civil Commitment Services (MHS 24) have been awarded.

IGA # 185822 AMENDMENT

Commissioner Mendiola moved to approve First Amendment to Oregon Health Authority 2025-2027 Intergovernmental Agreement for the Financing of Public Health Services, Agreement #185822. Commissioner Jacobs seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Funding is awarded for Program Element 01-12 ACDP Infection Prevention Training and Program Element 43-01 Public Health Practice – Immunization Services.

IGA #180802 AMENDMENT

Commissioner Jacobs moved to approve Amendment Number 01 to Intergovernmental Agreement Tort Liability Coverage as a Provider for Psychiatric Security Review Board, Agreement #180802/PO-44300-00022162. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The agreement is extended to December 31, 2025.

ODOT AGREEMENT – OPERATING 5311

Commissioner Jacobs moved to approve Public Transit Division Oregon Department of Transportation Agreement No. 35814, Operating 5311. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Funding is in the amount of \$573,598 for administration and operations to provide public transportation services in Malheur county. The agreement expires June 30, 2027. A subcontract will be drafted with Malheur Council on Aging and Community Services to provide the services.

IGA - DD PROGRAM

Commissioner Jacobs moved to approve State of Oregon Intergovernmental Grant Agreement with Oregon Department of Human Services, Agreement Number PO-10000-00047116, eXPRS Number 157833. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The agreement is for the Community Developmental Disabilities Program (CDDP); the County will subcontract with Lifeways to provide the program services.

This agreement replaces the agreement signed by the Court on July 23, 2025. The State recalled the agreement signed in July and replaced it with this updated agreement.

AMENDMENT – LETTER OF INTENT

Commissioner Jacobs moved to approve First Amendment to Addendum to Binding Letter of Intent between Malheur County, Malheur County Development Corporation (MCDC), and JTH, LLC (Jaguar Transport Holdings Inc). Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The parties agree to execute a purchase and sale agreement by September 15, 2025, providing for a closing date on a mutually agreed date no later than fifteen days following issuance by Union Pacific Rail Road of satisfaction of the conditions stated in paragraph 1 of the Addendum.

ASD COORDINATOR VACANCY

The Court will score the applications and interviews will be scheduled.

PURCHASE DOCUMENTS – VALE CITY PROPERTIES

Commissioner Jacobs moved to authorize Judge Joyce to sign the purchase documents for the Vale City properties (old city hall and old fire hall properties). Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Judge Joyce asked for comments from the public. Arnold Tropf expressed concern with landowners not controlling Kochia weed and the fire danger the weed presents (within the city limits of Adrian). Mr. Tropf was encouraged to contact the City of Adrian with his concerns. Mr. Tropf also questioned who had maintenance responsibility for the road going from Succor Creek to Rockville and stated the road needs repaired from the park to Rockville.

PUBLIC HEARING – PLUMBING FIXTURES PERMIT FEE

Judge Joyce opened the public hearing for consideration of an adjustment to commercial, industrial, and dwellings other than 1 and 2 family plumbing permit fixture fees. Notice of the hearing was published in the Argus Observer and on the County website. Ms. Schaffeld explained that the current fee structure is a tiered structure (base fee plus a per fixture fee). This formula is not supported by the Building Codes Division. It is proposed to change the plumbing fees for fixtures to a fixed \$30 per fixture. The County Building Department contacted local plumbing contractors regarding the proposed change and no objections were received. No written or oral comments were received. Commissioner Jacobs moved to approve Resolution R25-27 In the Matter of: Resolution Changing Plumbing Permit Fee for Fixtures in Commercial, Industrial, and Dwellings Other Than 1 & 2 Family Construction to \$30 Per Fixture Within the Building Department. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The resolution will be forwarded to the State Building Codes Division for consideration and approval. See instrument # 2025-2857

Ms. Schaffeld noted that Pioneer Place received final signoff for the firewall project separating the assisted living and skilled nursing facilities.

COURT ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Jacobs moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously.



ORIGINAL

JACOBS

PARK'S COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES Thursday June 19, 2025, 6:00 p.m. MT

The scheduled meeting of the Park's Committee was called to order by Commissioner Michael Pratt at approximately 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 19, 2025, in the Council Chambers of City Hall. Committee members present in person were Mike Pratt, Marc Berg, Michael Braden, Tyler Whitaker & Sandy Shelton; Andrew Maeda and Michael Partin were excused.

Others present in person were, City Manager Development Director Dan Cummings
Public Works Director, Casey Mordhorst.

Michael Pratt led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA

This Agenda was posted on June 17, 2025; copies of the agenda and minutes are available at the Public Works Headquarters and on the city's website at www.ontariooregon.org.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADOPT THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Laura Hiramatsu, representing Revitalize Ontario, came to comment.

<https://revitalizeontario.org/>

They would like to participate more with the parks committee. Specifically, they would like to adopt the Moore Park or contribute somehow. She asked about a financial obligation or the process to join.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

April 17, 2025

RESOLUTION, ACTION &/OR MOTION

**THE MOTION WAS MADE BY MICHAEL BRADEN SECONDED BY TYLER WHITAKER TO
ADOPT THE APRIL 17, 2025, MINUTES: MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Moore Park – Dan Cummings

- Elaborated on the options to “adopt” the Moore Park.
- They would have the right to rename this park, if Revitalize Ontario took on some ownership.
- The Parks Committee could discuss further about adding another club to the committee.
- Or they could adopt the park with activities such as cleanups or project ideas.
- Dan also explained how the city matching funds could be added to this park, if an organization was to request it.

RESOLUTION, ACTION &/OR MOTION

NO RESOLUTION, ACTION &/OR MOTION

COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- Michael Braden gave an update on the ODF Trees grant. The signing of the contract has been delayed. Everything is being reviewed by the Dept. of Justice (for legal sufficiency review). Once the contract is finalized, the city will organize the TAC technical advisory committee. Michael Braden, Marc Berg, and Tyler Whitaker all volunteered to be a part of that committee.
- Casey Mordhorst from JACOBS commented on the number of tree-related businesses, who have been emailing him. Mostly, software companies, designed to capture and record the tree inventory. Michael Braden commented that ODF wants us to use their Tree Plotter software for the inventory.
- Casey also had some updates on the budget. Several initiatives were approved for the parks this year, including \$100,000 budgeted for items, such as sidewalks. Beck Pond is slated to have an ADA ramp installed down to the water (from the parking lot), as well as a floating dock placed in the water, for fishing in the pond.
- Laxson Rotary Park - The basketball court was resurfaced. Some neighbors commented that it was a peculiar blue color.
- Lanterman Park - Casey reported that the center of the park has not had any watering for the past two weeks. A sprinkler pump needed to be replaced, and two contractors were unable to come do repairs. The pump is now replaced, and the sprinklers are back on. Two newer trees are dead. Two are close to dying. The ten trees south of the pavilion were the most affected. Kiwanis club went out this weekend and watered all the trees. But they will need several weeks of observation.
- Marc and Michael are collecting names of landscapers, designers, arborists, and local enthusiasts who want to be a part of the upcoming tree plantings.

ADJOURN**RESOLUTION, ACTION &/OR MOTION**

**THE MOTION TO ADJOURN WAS MADE BY MICHAEL BRADEN AT 6:21PM;
SECONDED BY SANDY SHELTON: MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR July 17, 2025, AT 6:00PM.

Approved:

Signature

8/21/2025
Date

(Chairman Michael Pratt, Vice-Chairman Michael Partin)



ONTARIO
OREGON

"The Gateway to Adventure"

Ontario Municipal Airport

444 SW 4th Street | Ontario, OR 97914

P: (541) 709-7651 | F: (541) 889-7121

andy.wood@ontariooregon.org

Airport Committee Meeting Minutes

August 4, 2025

The committee meeting was called to order by Chairman Shawn Coleman at 6:03 pm.

- 1) Roll Call:** Bill Hager-present, John Freeburg-present, Vacant, Charlotte Hatch-present, Michael Franks-present, Rick Todd-present, Chairman Shawn Coleman-present, Alternate Jim Beaumont- present.

Ex Officio members: Ken Hart (City Council)-absent, Dan Cummings (City Manager)- present.

Airport Manager: Andy Wood-present

FBO: Silverhawk: Absent

- 2) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Led by Chairman.

- 3) MOTION TO ADOPT THE AGENDA:** *Rick Todd moved to adopt the agenda as presented. Mike Franks second.* Roll call vote: Bill-yes, John-yes, Charlotte-yes, Mike-yes, Rick-yes, Shawn-yes, and Jim-yes. *Motion carried 7/0/0.*

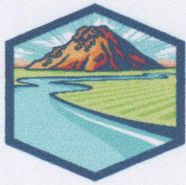
- 4) APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** *Charlotte Hatch moved to approve the minutes from 7/7/2025. John Freeburg second.* Roll call vote: Bill-yes, John-yes, Charlotte-yes, Mike-yes, Rick-yes, Shawn-yes, and Jim-yes. *Motion carried 7/0/0.*

5) PUBLIC COMMENT

Pete Morgan suggested that the Committee put together an annual airport newsletter when the hangar bills are sent out. Andy Wood and Charlotte Hatch agreed to use Andy's quarterly reports to try to put something together. No vote required.

Several Committee members discussed that the Silverhawk FBO 100LL Self Service Fuel Station has had multiple issues that have gone unfixed. The fuel hose motor has been broken since the winter, there have been issues with the grounding cable binding, and receipts are not always dispensed. It was decided that Andy Wood will send Catherine Weber of the FBO an email noting this problems that need to be addressed. If there is no reply or corrective action, the City of Ontario will coordinate repairs and bill the FBO for the expenses.

6) HAND-OUTS/DISCUSSION ITEMS



"The Gateway to Adventure"

- A) *Budget Status Report – Airport May 2025:* Andy Wood presented that the airport is on budget for May 2025. The airport camera system is still waiting on installation. The budget for the installation was approved.
- B) *Grass Strip Irrigation Schedule:* The FBO and Andy Wood have fielded a few complaints of the grass strip being soggy. The triple digit weather had increased the irrigation length to compensate for the heat, but Andy has now adjusted the irrigation schedule to reduce muddiness. There haven't been any complaints since the adjustment.

7) CORRESPONDENCE, COMMENTS AND EX-OFFICIO REPORTS

- A) *Security Fencing Update:* Dan Cummings explained the total project estimate for the airport fencing was \$150,000. The City was able to get an Oregon grant to cover 70% of that cost, the FAA supplied 27% funding, leaving the City with the remaining 3%. The City received two bids for the work, both slightly over budget. The Council approved the lower bid for \$154,000 to Dynamic Metals.

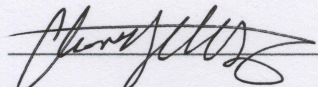
Lee from JUB Engineering updated the Committee on three current airport projects. The jet apron is finished, and the FAA reports are being finalized. The BLM SEAT Base is currently on hold as the BLM trims their plans. Dan Cummings added that the plan is to decrease the initial size with future intention of adding an area for helicopter operations later when more funding is available. And finally, the airport helipad, to be west of the FBO, is planned for 2026 with a predesign meeting in late August with the FAA.

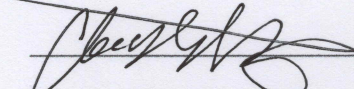
Shawn Coleman and Rick Todd asked if the Committee could petition the FAA in the future to keep the pavement between the current Foxtrot and Golf taxiways on the approach end of 15, as the FAA plans to remove it in the future. Dan Cummings and JUB will be looking into the possibility of keeping this area available for use.

- 8) **ADJOURN** *Moved by Bill Hager. Second by John Freeburg.* Roll call vote: Bill-yes, John-yes, Charlotte-yes, Mike-yes, Rick-yes, Shawn-yes, and Jim-yes. *Motion carried 7/0/0.*

The meeting was adjourned at 6:56 pm.

Next meeting: Tuesday, September 2, 2025, at 6 pm at Ontario City Hall.


Shawn Coleman – Chairman


Charlotte Hatch - Secretary

Charlotte Hatch - Acting Chairman



MISSION STATEMENT: TO CREATE A HEALTHY, SAFE, DIVERSE, AND PROSPEROUS CITY BY ENGAGING COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO DEVELOP AN ENRICHED QUALITY OF LIFE.

Ontario Visitor and Convention Board

Thursday, September 4, 2025, 7:00 am, Ontario

Chamber Office 251 SW 9th ST

CALL TO ORDER: This agenda was emailed on August 28, 2025

Roll Call: Bob Quinn, _ Debbie Blackaby, _____ Cheryl Cruson _ Doug Dean _

Terry Dols, _ Adrianna Contreras, _ Lynelle Christiani _

City Manager: Dan Cummings _ _

V&C Director: John Breidenbach _ _

NEW BUSINESS: Grant Request: Ontario Sister City
Grant Request: Four Rivers Healthy
Community.

Approval of Minutes April 3, 2025 Meeting.

Review Financial Report- Terry Dols,

V&C Director Report- John Breidenbach

COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Attachments

- 1. Grant request**
- 2. April 3, 2025 Minutes**
- 3. V&C Financials**

The City of Ontario does not discriminate in providing access to its programs, services, and activities based on race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, political affiliation, sex, age, marital status, physical or mental disability, or any other inappropriate reason prohibited by law or policy of the state or federal government. Should a person need special accommodations or interpretation services, contact the City at (541) 889-7684 at least one working day before the need for services, and every reasonable effort to accommodate the need will be made.

Ontario V&C Minutes
April 3, 2025
7:00 am
Ontario Area Chamber of Commerce Office

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 am. Bob Quinn

Roll Call – **Board Members present** Bob Quinn, Debbie Blackaby, Cheryl Cruson, Lynelle Christiani, Terry Doles, Adrianna Contreras

Board Members absent: Doug Dean, Terry Doles

Ex-Officio Members Present: V&C Director John Breidenbach,

Ex-Officio Members absent: City Manager Dan Cummings

NEW BUSINESS

Grant Request: Ore-Ida Judo Club, a \$5000.00 Grant was approved with a Motion from Lynelle Christiani, seconded by Debbie Blackaby, passed with a 5-0 Vote.

Ontario Speedway -2025 Sprint Boat test and tune, a grant request for \$1000.00 was denied with a motion from Debbie Blackaby and seconded by Lynelle Christiani, passed with a 5-0 vote.

Ontario Speedway -2nd Annual Big Nasty Obstacle Adventure. A grant was approved for \$1000.00 with a motion from Lynelle Christiani, seconded by Debbie Blackaby, passed with a 5-0 Vote.

MINUTES/FINANCIALS

March 6, 2025: Minutes were reviewed. Cheryl Cruson motioned to approve, and Debbie Blackaby seconded. Motion passed 5-0

John Breidenbach presented the financials. Cheryl Cruson motioned to approve, and Lynelle Christiani seconded. Motion passed 5-0

Adjourn: Motion by motion, Cheryl Cruson and Lynelle Christiani seconded to adjourn at 8:00 am, the motion passed 5-0



VISITORS AND CONVENTION BOARD

C/O Ontario Area Chamber of Commerce
251 SW 9th St.
Ontario, OR 97914
541-889-8012 (Voice) 541-889-8331 (Fax)
info@ontariochamber.com

PROMOTION AND EVENT FUND APPLICATION

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Name of Applicant Organization: Ontario Sister City program

Complete Mailing Address: P O Box 143, Ontario OR 97914

Telephone: (208)739-2360 Fax: _____ E-Mail: cyasuda@tvcc.cc

Principal Contact Cathy Yasuda

Complete Mailing Address: 435 Three Rivers Way, Fruitland ID 83619

Telephone: (208) 739-2360 Fax: _____ E-Mail: cyasuda@tvcc.cc

Name of Event and Date and Time Event Will Be Held: 50th Anniversary-September 30-Oct. 3, 2025

Has organization applied for a V&C Grant Before: X Yes No

**If yes was the V&C grant request approved and for what amount:*

X Yes No / \$ 1000.00

**If grant request was approved did the organization give their 90 day follow-up report*

X Yes No

Description of Promotion or Event: This year marks the 50th Anniversary of the Ontario Sister City Program with

Osakasayama, Japan. Through the past several decades the Ontario community has benefited from this cultural exchange

program that has brought hundreds of visitors from Japan to Ontario and visa versa. In commemoration of this auspicious

occasion, Osakasayama is bringing a delegation of nearly 30 dignitaries, Sister City officials and others to Ontario the end of

September to celebrate the fellowship, friendship and cultural exchange between the two cities.

NATURE OF PROMOTION/EVENT: Tourism, Economic Development/Education and Cultural Exchange

 Tourism based capital project

X Multi-night local lodging event

X Special media promotion

X Education and/or training project

Amount of Funding Support Requested: \$ 1,000

Total Promotion/Event Budget: \$ 10,254.76

What specific expenditures will the granted funds be used for?*: The biggest expenses for this visit
are to cover the costs for hotel rooms for the majority of the visitors and to pay for the food and venues
over the three days they be visiting Ontario. The grant will also cover some of the costs for transportation,
and gift items for all the delegation to take back with them to Osakasayama, Japan as souvenirs from their trip.

List promotion/event supporters or partners***: We are grateful for the large donation we have received
from the City of Ontario for this special event, along with support from the Ontario Chamber of Commerce,
the Snake River Japanese American Citizens League, Treasure Valley Community College, the Ontario
Recreation Department and numerous local businesses and individuals who support the Sister Cit Program.

PROJECTED PROMOTION/EVENT IMPACT:

Describe how the promotion/event will impact the Ontario economy (e.g., room nights, number of visitors/attendees, restaurant sales, retail sales, etc.):* This three day visit will definitely contribute to the local
economy during the three day visit. There will be 19 guests staying in a local hotel for three nights September 30th through
October 3rd. In addition we will be booking at several local business venues for the welcome and farewell dinners.
Our large group of visitors will be eating food from local restaurants and they will also have time to shop at the
various local stores and shops in town during their stay. Hosting this large delegation of folks will fill up hotel
rooms, increase restaurant and retail sales and also utilize local venues and facilities throughout our entire
community. This visit can also lead to future visits from folks from Japan and will increase opportunities
between the two cities for further cultural and possibly economic development into the future as we
look to continue to strengthen and sustain the Ontario Sister Program well into the future and for
another 50 years. Thank you for this opportunity to partner with the Ontario Visitors and Convention Bureau.

FINANCIAL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:

For established groups, please provide two years of P & L Statements, a current Balance Sheet, and a proposed budget for this year's promotion/event. For newly formed groups, please provide a proposed budget of revenues and expenditures in a form similar to the one below:

PROPOSED REVENUES

Source #1 <u>City of Ontario</u>	Amount \$ <u>10,000</u>
Source #2 <u>Visitors & Convention Bureau</u>	Amount \$ <u>1,000</u>
Source #3 <u>Snake River JACL</u>	Amount \$ <u>1,000</u>
Source #4 _____	Amount \$ _____
Source #5 _____	Amount \$ _____

TOTAL REVENUES \$ 12,000

PROPOSED EXPENDITURES

Use #1 <u>Hotel Rooms</u>	Amount \$ <u>3619.76</u>
Use #2 <u>Venue Rental</u>	Amount \$ <u>850.00</u>
Use #3 <u>Food & Beverage</u>	Amount \$ <u>3310.00</u>
Use #4 <u>Transportation</u>	Amount \$ <u>650.00</u>
Use #5 <u>Insurance</u>	Amount \$ <u>300.00</u>
Use #6 <u>Banners</u>	Amount \$ <u>400.00</u>
Use #7 <u>Gifts/Misc. Supplies</u>	Amount \$ <u>525.00</u>
Use #8 <u>Printing</u>	Amount \$ <u>275.00</u>
Use #9 <u>Decorations</u>	Amount \$ <u>325.00</u>
Use #10 _____	Amount \$ _____

TOTAL EXPENDITURES \$ \$10,254.76

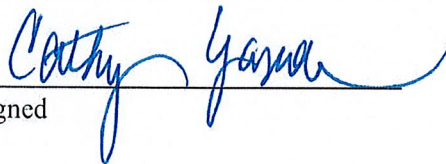
REVENUES MINUS EXPENDITURES \$ 1,745.24

As a final condition to accepting granted funds, the applicant agrees to provide the Ontario Visitors and Conventions Board with a final report summarizing results of the promotion/event (e.g., attendance, local and regional publicity, hotel/motel occupancy, closing revenue and expenditure report, etc.) within 90 days of the event/promotion.

8/26/2025

Date

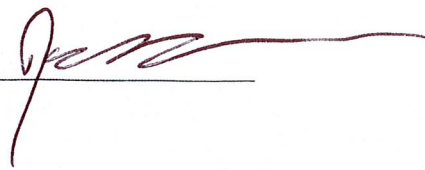
Signed



Cathy Yasuda

Printed Name of Applicant

Date Received: 8/27/25

Ontario Area Chamber President/CEO: 



VISITORS AND CONVENTION BOARD

C/O Ontario Area Chamber of Commerce

251 SW 9th St.

Ontario, OR 97914

541-889-8012 (Voice) 541-889-8331 (Fax)

info@ontariochamber.com

PROMOTION AND EVENT FUND APPLICATION

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Name of Applicant Organization: Four Rivers Healthy Community, Inc.

Complete Mailing Address: PO Box 923, Ontario OR 97914

Telephone: 541-805-9693 Fax: 541-889-7505 E-Mail: jane@4rhc.org

Principal Contact Jane Padgett

Complete Mailing Address: 186 East Lane S, Suite 5, Ontario OR 97914

Telephone: 541-805-9693 Fax: 541-889-7505 E-Mail: jane.padgett@odhs.oregon.gov

Name of Event and Date and Time Event Will Be Held: Poverty Simulation & 4RHC Conference, Sept 24/25, 2025

Has organization applied for a V&C Grant Before: ☒ Yes ☐ No

**If yes was the V&C grant request approved and for what amount:*

☒ Yes ☐ No / \$ 2,000.00

Awarded to the Center for Nonprofit Stewardship in 2019 for the Eastern Oregon Nonprofit Conference

**If grant request was approved did the organization give their 90 day follow-up report*

☒ Yes ☐ No

Description of Promotion or Event: Please see attached description of this two day event.

NATURE OF PROMOTION/EVENT: Two day conference focused on healthy living and human resilience

☐ Tourism based capital project

☒ Multi-night local lodging event

☐ Special media promotion

☒ Education and/or training project

Amount of Funding Support Requested: \$ 4,000

Total Promotion/Event Budget: \$ 40,000

What specific expenditures will the granted funds be used for?*: Event coordination,
programs and promotion, meals for participants, keynote fees,
travel and lodging, conference space rental and services, etc.

List promotion/event supporters or partners**: Four Rivers Healthy Community, Oregon Food Bank,
Western Treasure Valley Food Systems Partnership, Malheur Council on Aging & Community Services,
Malheur County Health Department, Oregon Department of Human Services, Oregon Health Authority,
OSHU Moore Institute, Lifeways, Idaho Central Credit Union, Eastern Oregon Coordinated Care Organization

PROJECTED PROMOTION/EVENT IMPACT:

Describe how the promotion/event will impact the Ontario economy (e.g., room nights, number of visitors/attendees, restaurant sales, retail sales, etc.): Attendees are traveling from across the county, Pacific NW,
and the state of Oregon to attend this annual conference in Ontario. Due to the travel distances and two-day format of the conference,
most of those traveling will be spending at least one night in local commercial lodging and eating at least one meal outside of the
conference setting. They will also likely be shopping at local retailers for personal or conference supplies, and utilizing other local amenities.
We expect up to 250 participants to attend the conference, many of whom are coming from out of town or from more than 60 miles away.
In addition, due to positive experiences attending the conference, some organizations have selected this region to hold future events of their own,
such as the Moore Institute's Nutrition Oregon Campaign retreat for hub communities in October. That event will boost local lodging revenues,
restaurant meals and catering, retail shopping, and recreation for participants to take part in outside of the retreat, all of which promote the region.

FINANCIAL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS:

For established groups, please provide two years of P & L Statements, a current Balance Sheet, and a proposed budget for this year's promotion/event. For newly formed groups, please provide a proposed budget of revenues and expenditures in a form similar to the one below:

PROPOSED REVENUES

Source #1	See event budget	Amount \$	
Source #2		Amount \$	
Source #3		Amount \$	
Source #4		Amount \$	
Source #5		Amount \$	

TOTAL REVENUES \$

PROPOSED EXPENDITURES

Use #1	See event budget	Amount \$	
Use #2		Amount \$	
Use #3		Amount \$	
Use #4		Amount \$	
Use #5		Amount \$	
Use #6		Amount \$	
Use #7		Amount \$	
Use #8		Amount \$	
Use #9		Amount \$	
Use #10		Amount \$	

TOTAL EXPENDITURES \$

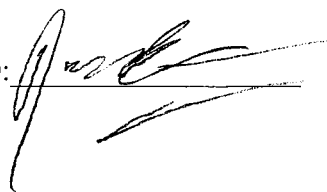
REVENUES MINUS EXPENDITURES \$

As a final condition to accepting granted funds, the applicant agrees to provide the Ontario Visitors and Conventions Board with a final report summarizing results of the promotion/event (e.g., attendance, local and regional publicity, hotel/motel occupancy, closing revenue and expenditure report, etc.) within 90 days of the event/promotion.

8/22/2025
Date


Signed

Jane Padgett, 4RHC BOD / Grant Applicant
Printed Name of Applicant

Date Received: 8/22/20 Ontario Area Chamber President/CEO: 

Poverty Simulation - Wednesday, September 24, 2025
Four Rivers Healthy Community Conference - Thursday, September 25, 2025

Four Rivers Cultural Center & Museum
676 SW 5th Avenue, Ontario, Oregon 97914

Two-day immersive conference focused on healthy living and human resilience.
Our theme is “*A healthy future begins today – thriving in an era of change.*”

Are you a nonprofit leader? A healthcare provider? A student? A concerned neighbor? The Four Rivers Healthy Community Conference and Poverty Simulation are for everyone who cares about improving lives in Eastern Oregon, Southwest Idaho and beyond. Free of charge and open to the public, including those who work in businesses, nonprofit organizations, government and many other sectors, this event is an opportunity to connect and collaborate to advance community health and wellbeing. We will spend this time together focusing on solutions and strengths. Join the conversation. Build the future.

Learn more:  <https://www.4rhc.org/2025-4rhc-conference>

Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/4-rivers-healthy-community-conference-poverty-simulation-tickets-1412628001379>

This year's conference will kick off with a **Poverty Simulation** on the afternoon of September 24th, co-hosted by the Western Treasure Valley Food Systems Partnership ([WTVFSP](#)) and Four Rivers Healthy Community, Inc. (4RHC). Last delivered to the Ontario region in 2019, the Community Action Poverty Simulation© has repeatedly been requested due to the impactful nature of the experience. The simulation is designed to sensitize participants to the realities and challenges faced by low-income people trying to survive from month to month with limited access to healthy foods, shelter and resources, lack of insurance coverage and access to care. The debrief and action planning sessions following a poverty simulation are often a catalyst for change, shifting perspectives to increase awareness and empathy. Our goal is for the simulation experience to inspire new and creative solutions to improve individual and community health.

Immediately following the Poverty Simulation, Four Rivers Healthy Community invites participants of the simulation and/or conference to attend a free, informal **Pre-Conference Networking Reception** the evening of September 24th in the Four Rivers Cultural Center's Hikaru Mizu Japanese Garden from 5-7pm. The reception is an opportunity to relax, network, meet with presenters, keynote speakers, exhibitors, and enjoy the best local Hors D'oeuvres served by Matsy's Restaurant & Catering.

The **2025 Four Rivers Healthy Community Conference**, now in its fourth year, will feature two outstanding keynote speakers and four breakout session times, with up to 24 unique and inspiring workshops to select from, including some offered in Spanish or with Spanish translation.

About the Keynotes:

Dr. Shaleen Kendrick, executive culture trainer and consultant, and founder and creator of Neuro-Relational Integration™ (NRI), will lead participants through a model for expanding their capacity to navigate and thrive in today's fast-changing world. The human experience is evolving -- so too must human beings. Using the science of living systems to integrate Mind (IQ), Body (SQ) and Spirit (Relational SEQ), NRI™ increases human capacities through the development of adaptive leadership, complex problem-solving, and true resilience, both intra-personally and interpersonally. Whether overwhelmed by change, building team cohesion, or shaping a future-ready culture, NRI™ provides the science and practical tools to adapt to complexity and uncertainty.

Margaret Brown, Blue Zones® Vice President of Development, will introduce participants to places across the globe where people live the longest and are healthiest. Dan Buettner, founder of Blue Zones®, has travelled the world documenting recipes, diet, lifestyle and longevity secrets. From his work we will learn about the Power 9®, longevity-boosting characteristics shared by most residents of the Blue Zone® regions, and the concept of lifestyle medicine – eating primarily whole foods, especially plants, avoidance of risky substances and behaviors, the importance of daily physical activity, restorative sleep, stress management, and positive social connections. Margaret will leave us with considerations for the local region – what does it take to become a Blue Zones® certified community? What can we change about our built environments and food access? Are there policies we should be developing or changing?

Both keynote speakers will offer breakout sessions following their workshops where interested participants can delve more deeply into the subject matter and explore opportunities for further learning.

About the Event Hosts and Sponsors:

This event is hosted by Four Rivers Healthy Community, Inc. and Malheur Equity Stewards, in partnership with over a dozen community organization sponsors, including the Oregon Food Bank, Western Treasure Valley Food Systems Partnership, Malheur Council on Aging & Community Services, Malheur County Health Department, Oregon Department of Human Services, Oregon Health Authority, Oregon Health Sciences University's Moore Institute for Nutrition & Wellness, Lifeways, Idaho Central Credit Union, Eastern Oregon Coordinated Care Organization, with requests pending from Saint Lukes Health System, Valley Family Health Care, and the City of Ontario Visitors & Convention Bureau.

2025 Poverty Simulation & 4 Rivers Healthy Community Conference Budget updated 7-30-2025

Income &		In-kind		
Sponsorships	Expenses	Contributions	Notes	
	\$ (4,500.00)		Conference coordinator - contracted services	
	(\$4,500)		Printing programs, Supplies, Decorations, Door Prizes, Conf Bags, Other Services	
	\$ (6,000.00)	\$ (6,000.00)	Facility rental (poverty simulation, reception & conference)	
	\$ (17,000.00)		Catering (poverty simulation, reception & conference - includes linens and gratuity)	
	\$ (8,000.00)	\$ (2,500.00)	Keynote speaking fees, travel, lodging, perdiem for two speakers	
\$ 23,750.00			Sponsorships / Exhibitor Booths	
\$ 5,500.00			Grants requested but not received - St Lukes (\$1,500?), V&C (\$4,000?)	
\$ 7,000.00			4RHC Inputs	
\$ 36,250.00	\$ (40,000.00)	\$ (8,500.00)	\$ (3,750.00) amount short	

The Western Treasure Valley Food System Partnership Presents...

COMMUNITY POVERTY SIMULATION

September 24th
2025

WEDNESDAY

12 PM-5 PM

A POVERTY SIMULATION IS AN INTERACTIVE IMMERSION
EXPERIENCE THAT BRIDGES THE GAP FROM MISCONCEPTION
TO UNDERSTANDING THE REALITIES OF POVERTY.

Sign up for free when you register for the
4 Rivers Healthy Community Conference!

You can attend the simulation without
registering for the full conference — though we
encourage you to join both!



Scan Here to Register Today!

<https://2025frhccps.eventbrite.com>

Learn more about
the WTVFSP!



OregonFoodBank.org/OntarioFoodCenter

Four Rivers Cultural Center, 676 SW 5th Ave. Ontario, OR 97914

SAVE THE DATE

SEPTEMBER
2025

Poverty
Simulation
Wednesday,
September 24

4 Rivers Healthy Community Conference

FOUR RIVERS CULTURAL CENTER
676 SW 5TH AVE. ONTARIO, OR 97914

THURSDAY

25

8 AM-5 PM

JOIN US FOR A FREE

NETWORKING RECEPTION

Wednesday, September 24, 5-7 pm
HIKARU MIZU JAPANESE GARDEN



SCAN OR CLICK FOR
SESSION APPLICATION



FOUR RIVERS
HEALTHY COMMUNITY

A Healthy Future Begins Today -- Thriving in an Era of Change

2025 Four Rivers Healthy Community Conference Sponsorship Levels

Bronze
\$100+
Booth

Silver
\$250+
Booth & Program

Gold
\$500+
Booth, Program & Swag Bags

Platinum
\$1,000+
Booth, Program, Swag Bags & Reception

Email tanya.faughn@malesd.org for more information www.4rhc.org
Four Rivers Healthy Community | PO Box 923 | Ontario OR 97914

**CITY OF ONTARIO
VISITORS AND CONVENTIONS BOARD
PROMOTIONS AND EVENT FUND
BALANCES THROUGH
DRAFT AUGUST 2025**

2024	<i>RESOURCES</i>	<i>EXPENSES</i>	<i>BALANCE</i>
<i>BALANCE FORWARD</i>	\$852,814.15	\$824,339.60	\$28,474.55
<i>T.O.T. Disbursement \$2500</i>			
JUL'24 Disbursement <i>Jun'24 Returns/Collected Jul'24</i>	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$30,974.55
AUG'24 Disbursement <i>Jul'24 Returns/Collected Aug'24</i>	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$33,474.55
SEP'24 Disbursement <i>Aug'24 Returns/Collected Sep'24</i>		\$0.00	\$33,474.55
OCT'24 Disbursement <i>Sep'24 Returns/Collected Oct'24</i>		\$0.00	\$33,474.55
Nov'24 Disbursement <i>Oct'24 Returns/Collected Nov'24</i>		\$0.00	\$33,474.55
Dec'24 Disbursement <i>Nov'24 Returns/Collected Dec'24</i>		\$0.00	\$33,474.55
2025			
JAN'25 Disbursement <i>Dec'24 Returns/Collected Jan'25</i>		\$0.00	\$33,474.55
FEB'25 Disbursement <i>Jan'25 Returns/Collected Feb'25</i>		\$0.00	\$33,474.55
MAR'25 Disbursement <i>Feb'25 Returns/Collected Mar'25</i>		\$0.00	\$33,474.55
APR'25 Disbursement <i>Mar'25 Returns/Collected Apr'25</i>		\$0.00	\$33,474.55
MAY'25 Disbursement <i>Apr'25 Returns/Collected May'25</i>		\$0.00	\$33,474.55
JUN'25 Disbursement <i>May'25 Returns/Collected Jun'25</i>		\$0.00	\$33,474.55
TOTAL FISCAL	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	
ACCRUALS FROM JULY 1997 TO PRESENT	\$857,814.15	\$824,339.60	\$33,474.55

**CITY OF ONTARIO
VISITORS AND CONVENTIONS BOARD
ACTIVITY SUMMARY
BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 1997**

DATE	REQUESTOR	REQUESTED	GRANTED	DISBURSED
SEP 2024	Treasure Valley Community College <i>TVCC New Student Orientation</i>	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
SEP 2024	Vale Mural Society <i>Permanent Audio Tour / City Murals</i>	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
OCT 2024	NO NEW ACTIVITY	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
NOV 2024	ProCon Gaming Convention, LLC Ashton Chapman <i>January 2025 Tabletop Gaming Convention</i>	\$ 3,600.00	\$ 3,600.00	\$ 3,600.00
NOV 2024	Four Rivers Cultural Center & Museum <i>Artificial 25' Lit Christmas Tree Addition to Exterior Light Show</i>	\$ 700.00	\$ -	\$ -
NOV 2024	R & R PROMOTIONS Ron Dillon / Ontario Speedway <i>Fall Maze Motorcycle & 4-Wheeler Race</i>	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
NOV 2024	Treasure Valley Community College <i>Light Up the Season - Christmas Light & Music Display</i>	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00
DEC 2024	NO NEW ACTIVITY	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
JAN 2025	ONTARIO MUNICIPAL AIRPORT <i>Oregon Trail STOL</i>	\$ 15,000.00	\$ -	\$ -
FEB 2025	BETTER TOGETHER, INC. <i>2025 Serve Day</i>	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
MAR 2025	Ontario Sister Cities Committee <i>March 2025 Student Visit</i>	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
APR 2025	Ore-Ida Judo <i>75th Anniversary Tournament - Spring 2026</i>	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
APR 2025	R&R Promotions / <i>2nd Annual Big Nasty Obstacle Adventure</i>	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
APR 2025	R&R Promotions / <i>2025 Sprint Boat Test & Tune</i>	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ -
MAY 2025	NO NEW ACTIVITY	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
JUN 2025	NO NEW ACTIVITY	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
JUL 2025	NO NEW ACTIVITY	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
AUG 2025	NO NEW ACTIVITY	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	8/26/2025	\$ 926,368.04	\$ 792,472.77	\$ 792,472.77