

**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, MARCH 10, 2026, 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 March 6, 2026. 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: 02-24-2026
- B) Proclamation: Border Town Comic Con 2026

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) PRESENTATIONS

- A) Life Saving Award: Gabe Galica and Aden Marin
- B) SREDA Update
- C) Revitalize Ontario
- D) Possible Funding of Proposed Sports Complex

7) NEW BUSINESS

- A) Fire Hydrant Grant Application
- B) Rehabilitate Runway, Taxiway, and Apron (Seal Coat & Crack Fill) Project
- C) Resolution #2026-110: Carryover Projects
- D) General Fund Balance

8) DEPARTMENT HEAD UPDATES

- A) Community Development: Quarterly

9) HAND-OUTS

- A) Minutes: Airport 02-02-2026; County Court 02-18-2026

10) CORRESPONDENCE, COMMENTS AND EX-OFFICIO REPORTS

11) 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 (l) Labor Negotiations.

The City of Ontario does not discriminate in providing access to its programs, services and activities on the basis of 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 889-7684 at least one working day prior to the need for services and every reasonable effort to accommodate the need will be made.



CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES February 24, 2026

The scheduled meeting of the Ontario City Council was called to order by Mayor Deborah Folden at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 24, 2026, in the Council Chambers of City Hall. Council members present were Deborah Folden, Susann Mills, John Kirby, Adriana Contreras, Penny Bakefelt, and Ken Hart. Michael Braden was excused.

Staff present were Dan Cummings, Laura Reyes, Kari Ott, Jason Cooper, Clint Benson, Tatiana Burgess, Al Haun, Marshall Pierce, and Andy Wood.

AGENDA

This Agenda was posted Friday, February 20, 2026. Copies of the Agenda are available from the City Hall Customer Service Counter and on the city's website www.ontariooregon.org.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

HART moved, KIRBY seconded, **TO ADOPT THE CONSENT AGENDA, WHICH CONSISTED OF ADOPTION OF THE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 27, 2026, AND FEBRUARY 10, 2026**. Roll call vote: Mills-yes; Braden-excused; Hart-yes; Contreras-yes; Kirby-yes; Bakefelt-yes; Folden-yes. Motion carried 6/0/1.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Connie Godina and Chelsea Skeen, Ontario, stated: *Hello. My name is Connie Godina. I am from Ontario. I live here.*

Ms. Skeen: *And I'm Chelsea Skeen, same thing, from Ontario, business owner downtown.*

Ms. Codina: *Yeah, so, we wanted to discuss some matters that we are facing at the moment. So, we are noticing that downtown Ontario specifically, the heart of Ontario, is declining and sales, some support, as well, which we actually now are on board with Revitalize Ontario, Easter Oregon Rural Roots Academy, yeah, so, and actually John from Chamber of Commerce now, so we are, we're starting to get a little bit of support; however, the downtown businesses are closing their doors. Yesterday there was an announcement that Jack Henry is closing their doors. They are an anchor for downtown Ontario, and we do unfortunately we foresee a lot of downtown businesses are going, their sales are going to decline. So, with that being said, I am a part of the project for Moore Park and I just want to greatly emphasize how important it is that we expedite this project with whatever it takes, and Depot District is an official non-profit now, so we are, there's a whole committee that is really looking at downtown businesses and the surrounding areas to see exactly how we can help downtown businesses thrive. So with this project coming up and as the project is going to be presented to you, we just want you guys to hear our voices as downtown merchants, that we already are not doing well and we foresee us going more downtown, so we need to all work together as a team and figure out what all of our resources are and I know that the City of Ontario, you guys are one of the major key players, so we are also a key player, 'cuz we are downtown. Our little kids are consistently riding their scooters downtown, they go to Moore Park. The future is in downtown as well, so we just want to really emphasize how, how much we need this project to really help downtown.*

Ms. Skeen: *I kind of just wanted to touch on, we work, we've really been working hard to get events going down there, and we just did have a galentines event, which was put on by three of us. It was an in incredible, incredible outcome. We had so many people show up. More than we could have ever imagined. I had 50 people at my door at 6 o'clock when we opened, and so did multiple other businesses, but with that, we are trying to get the Friday Night Market going and this project really is crucial. Last night with the announcement of the closing of Jack Henry, you know, talking, we all see that we are going to take big hit because generally they are walking into our businesses holding, you know, a John Henry cup and without having that down there, it's another empty*



building, we just, we foresee what's coming and it's not going to be pretty for the rest of us. I think you all know that I moved my business downtown from another location, and I've almost been there a year, and I can say, I really have taken a hit and it doesn't seem like no matter how hard we work at it, it's kind of changing that mentality, and so, yeah, we really are just asking for partnership with everyone, and Revitalize has been great to get back in touch with, and so we hope that you guys will hear their presentation and be on board.

PRESENTATIONS

Moore Park Grant: Eastern Oregon Border Board
Tatiana Burgess, Planning Director, presented.



EASTERN OREGON BORDER BOARD'S RURAL ROOTS COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

- 10 students that reside within the Malheur County's Border Board region
- Cohort schedule: October 2025 – May 2026
- Learn leadership and grant-writing skills
- Develop a capstone project with clear deliverables, timelines, and resource requirements
- Capstone project will be funded by Eastern Oregon Border Board through a grant in the amount of \$25,000

COHORT PROJECT

Build a stage at Moore Park that:

- Can be cohesively incorporated into Revitalize Ontario's Park Masterplan
- Can be further developed and built around
- Can be a community hub to be used by various community partners, including but not limited to business partners, vendors, education groups for outdoor school.

COHORT PROJECT INSPIRATION Fir Street Park, Sisters, OR

PROJECT GOALS

- Create a tangible and attainable result.
- Minimize future maintenance requirements by producing a sustainable and lasting project by utilizing highly resistant construction materials, such as concrete.
- Engage various community partners to increase project buy-in.

PROJECT BACKGROUND

Cohort's original idea was to build the auditorium in phases:

Phase 1 – build the concrete pad and minimize project costs by following prescriptive construction rules, before employment of design professional services are required (max height: 30 inches with ADA ramp and railing).
Phase 1 original target completion date – May 1, 2026.

Phase 2 – the surrounding canopy could be built later, around the concrete pad, by other groups, such as Revitalize Ontario, City of Ontario, or other community partners.

PROJECT BACKGROUND

Cohort presented idea to:

- Revitalize Ontario, at the quarterly meeting on January 28, 2026; received support.
- Eastern Oregon Border Board, at the monthly meeting on February 2, 2026; received support.
- Downtown District, at the monthly meeting on February 4, 2026; received support.

PROJECT BACKGROUND

During the February 19, 2026, City of Ontario Parks Committee, a consensus was reached that all interested parties would like to see a cohesive product constructed all at once.

While the Committee made a favorable recommendation to City Council to continue with the project, the cohort was directed to work on securing additional funding, to build the entire project at once, rather than pursuing a phased approach.

REVITALIZE ONTARIO PROPOSED PLAN**PROJECT NEXT STEPS**

- Secure additional funding
- Secure Council's permission to proceed with project
- Continue working closely with Revitalize Ontario to realize their vision for Moore Park



Councilor Bakefelt stated she had lived in Sisters for a number of years, and had been to that pavilion, taken her grandson to the water park, and it was a very nice venue that attracted a lot of people. This was a great idea.

Councilor Kirby stated it was exciting to see conceptual ideas come to life. He was happy to see them moving forward. Had the group spoken with Four Rivers Heating and Cooling, or the beauticians, to show them the ideas? That might avoid them feeling left out. Even though she was only seeking a consensus that night to move forward, what was her idea on funding needs?

Ms. Burgess stated she thought their immediate plan was considering having Revitalize Ontario appear before Council at the next meeting with a specific dollar amount ask.

Mr. Cummings stated Revitalize was putting together the costs for the state and remaining concrete, and it was to be presented to Council at the March meeting, where all the budgetary issues would be discussed. That would give Council the chance to review it all. No one on the Parks Committee was happy with doing a small phase, just a stand-alone slab. Yes, they would be asking for money. What was the consensus of the Council for the presentation?

Council consensus to move forward on the grant.

Annual Audit

Lindsey Cole, City Auditor, stated: *First of all, I want to thank you for having us complete your annual audit again this year. I'm Lindsey Cole with Connected Professional Accountants. I just took this audit over from Chelsea Hewitt last year, so this is the first time you're probably seeing my face at your audit presentation. So, you should have a copy of the audit report in front of you. With that, we have our Governance Letter. I'm just going to flip through the report, and if anyone has any questions, feel free to stop me. So, with your report, you have your Governance Letter. This is where we go over if there's any accounting changes during the year, and there were two new accounting standards implemented during the year. GASB101 for compensated absences and 102 for certain risk disclosures. This letter also goes over the estimates that are involved in creating the financial statements. We did not have any difficulties encountered during our audit, and there were none with management. We also did not have any audit adjustments proposed during our audit.*

So, to get into the report, we'll just get to the first page. This is our Independent Auditor's Report, so there were substantiating account balances to get audit documentation to provide an opinion, whether the financial statements are materially stated. We are also doing tests of internal controls to provide an opinion on whether we believe there are any material or significant deficiencies in internal control. So, in our report, this is where we go over our opinion on the financial statements, which is unmodified. We believe the financial statements are materially stated. It also goes over our responsibilities and management's responsibilities for audit. So, in that report, page four, this is where the management discussion and analysis starts, and this just gives the financial highlights of the City of Ontario, but I'm going to go over some of those highlights while I'm going over the financial statements.

So, I'm going to flip to page 11, which is where the financial statements start. The statement of that position, this shows, this is the balance sheet of the city at June 30, 2025. Assets exceed liabilities by \$94.7M at the end of the year, on statement of that position. And then on page 12, the statement of activities shows the, basically the profit and loss of the city during the year, and at the bottom of this page here, we can see that net position increased by \$5.1M during the year. This is separated by Government Activities and Business-Type Activities. On this page you will also see we have a prior period restatement, and this is for the GASB101 that was implemented during the year to accrue compensated absences. On page 13, this is where governmental funds financial statements start. Governmental funds balance sheet, this does not include any of the proprietary funds, so water, sewer, and you can see that assets exceed liabilities by \$23M. This is on the current financial resource method so this statement does not show any capital assets or long-term debt that would become due over multiple years.

Page 14 reconciles this balance sheet to a statement of net position so you can see all the differences there, which is the capital assets, long term debt, and any of those other long-term liabilities.

Page 15 is our statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances, so this is the governmental fund profit and loss basically. The fund balance increased in the governmental funds by \$2.6M during the fiscal year.

Page 16 reconciles the difference between that and the Statement of Activities. And again, it's just for the long-term debt in capital asset purchases and depreciation.

On page 17 we have the Proprietary Funds Statement of Net Position, so this is all the business type activities, water, sewer, airport. The full net position in the proprietary funds at the end of the year is \$52M.

Page 19 shows the changes in the fund that position for the proprietary funds, and the proprietary funds net position increased by \$2M during the fiscal year.

Page 21 is the cash flow statement for the proprietary funds, that just shows the change in cash by activity per fund. The net increase in cash for the year was \$1M.

Page 24, this is where most of the financial statements start. So, these go over the accounting policies with the city, and then they go into more depth for some of the numbers in the financial statements, so I'll go over, I'll highlight some of these notes for specific financial statement numbers. So, note #5, this is on page 36, the Schedule of Capital Assets, this shows where these capital assets were purchased, construction in progress, equipment, vehicles, buildings, and improvements. You can see any assets that were disposed of during the year, and then the depreciation expense during the year on those assets. I didn't have any other notes that I really needed to highlight.

Note #11 on page 55. This shows usually a change in long-term debt, so if there were any increases or decreases and then the amount due within one year. That is on page 55 so you can see the amount due within one year is \$357k.

On then on page 56, Note #12, the Compensated Absences, this is the new accounting standard I was talking about, so it's just a change in estimate of what needs to be accrued for the compensated absences for employees at year end, and it's sick, vacation, any compensation that would have to be paid to employees upon termination or that is more than likely to be used within the next year, so that is what that accrual comes from, that liability.

Okay, on page 61, this is where the budgetary financial statements are, so you can go through each fund and see how close you came to your budgeted amounts by the end of the year.

And I'll go over the one budget violation in one of the last reports that I go over, which is on page 90. So, on page 90, this is our auditor report on Oregon State Regulations. We audit certain ORS's while we are there. We have a list of what we specifically audit in this report and then would report any violations with those ORS's and the only violation we have is that there was a budget violation in the Reserve Fund for \$1,300.

And in 2025, City of Ontario, spent over \$750k of federal funds, so we performed a single audit while we were there, as well, which is where we audit those federal programs. So, on page 92, it's a schedule of expenditures of federal Awards that shows which programs, federal program, the city received and spent, and the city spent \$1.2M of federal funds during fiscal year 2025. And then we have our notes, which are the accounting policies on that schedule.

Page 94 is our report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting. This is where we would report any material weaknesses or significant deficiencies over financial reporting, and we did not have any during our audit.

Our next report on Page 96 is our report on Compliance for Major Programs that we audited during the year. We did not have any compliance issues, no findings on compliance, and we didn't have any internal control deficiencies over compliance during our audit.

And then on page 98, this is a summary of schedules of findings and questioned costs, this goes over both audits, so our financial statement audit and our single audit. So, you can see in the summary here that we have an unmodified opinion on the financial statements, we have an unmodified opinion on the major federal program that we tested, which was the airport improvement program. We did not have any questioned costs, and we did not have any internal control weaknesses.

And that is all I have for the audit. It was a very clean audit, and we appreciate Kari and the whole accounting team for helping us while we're there. I know it's very disruptive and we really appreciate you all. Does anyone have any questions for me?

Councilor Hart stated as a member of the Audit Committee, he stated his thanks to Kari and her team. He thought he read it somewhere, and found he was correct. In Oregon, right now, over 200 entities, cities, counties, and school districts, had not done their audits for years. It wasn't that Ontario was doing their audit and looked good, those others were not even getting the audits done. There was no transparency in government throughout Oregon, and hats off to the City of Ontario. They were doing an awesome job, and staying on top of things. When issues arose, they were addressed, and the city was transparent. That was important for people to understand it was not easy to do this. It was a small team, and the work was hard, and it took everyone to make sure everybody was getting and giving information. He wanted everyone to realize that the City of Ontario was doing what was supposed to be done, was transparent, having audits, and shame on the 200+ entities in Oregon that decided not to do them. He also added that he wanted to make sure that he was right, and on Page 65 talked about the PERS debt, but he wanted to remind everyone that there was there was a \$10.4M net pension liability, so they still owed over \$10M to the pension fund to make sure the city was whole. Ontario was better than most entities because, on that same sheet, it showed in the last several years, Ontario had paid down the debt by \$7.6M. Ontario had received extra funds, and had been good stewards, and had been paying down that debt. There was still a ways to go, but it showed the prudence of the Council who didn't want to leave that debt for future generations. Big thank you to Kari and her team, and to Dan for holding everyone accountable, and he was very proud of the city for doing what should be done, and being transparent.



OLD BUSINESS**Resolution #2026-106: Funding for Electronic Speed Signs**

Kari Ott, Finance Director, presented.

Providing these law enforcement tools helps meet the desirability of the lifestyle for the citizens of Ontario. At the February 10, 2026, meeting, the City Council approved the purchase of two Speed Alert 18 model Electronic Speed signs and 10 additional mounting brackets and annual subscriptions for data services. The resolution attached will appropriate \$14,064 from the Reserve Fund public safety department to purchase the signs, brackets, and data service, which will leave \$512,691 in public safety contingency. As soon as the funding is approved, the Police Department can purchase the equipment.

HART moved, KIRBY seconded, **THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVE RESOLUTION #2026-106, A RESOLUTION TO APPROPRIATE \$14,064 TO PURCHASE TWO SPEED ALERT 18 MODEL ELECTRONIC SPEED SIGNS INCLUDING THE FIRST YEAR SUBSCRIPTION FOR DATA SERVICE AND TEN (10) ADDITIONAL MOUNTING BRACKETS FOR THE ONTARIO POLICE DEPARTMENT.** Roll call vote: Mills-yes; Braden-excused; Hart-yes; Contreras-yes; Kirby-yes; Bakefelt-yes; Folden-yes. Motion carried 6/0/1.

Resolution #2026-107: Police Department Body Cameras

Jason Cooper, Police Chief, presented.

The Ontario Police Department's body worn camera (BWC) program currently lacks software redaction capabilities, cloud-based storage/software, and internal processes that significantly impact best practices and efficiency. The agency was unable to effectively provide public records requests pertaining to officer body worn video, without compromising privacy issues and/or content exemptions. Costs for additional on-site BWV storage would continue to increase. Staff was seeking approval to move forward with procurement that included body worn camera systems with the aforementioned capabilities.

Historically, the Ontario Police Department BWC program had not possessed redaction software, since the agency implemented officer body worn cameras years ago. Public records requests involving body worn camera were denied under Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS). Previous denials were never challenged any further, until a past event occurred surrounding an OPD use of force complaint. The privacy of citizens had always been respected and the potential of re-victimizing a victim was always a concern. In-house storage capabilities and costs to store BWC video footage continued to rise.

A past Use of Force event and subsequent citizen complaint ultimately generated a public records request for officer body camera video footage. The video footage was ultimately released without redaction as the agency did not possess software capabilities to do so. Body camera public records requests have become more prevalent and should continue trending upward. The utilization of redaction software capabilities, when appropriate, would allow the agency to be more transparent with the public, while maintaining the privacy of its citizens.

The Ontario Police Department initiated procurement for the best practices body-worn camera system through an RFP. The city received four proposals, which included 5-year contract agreements:

Lenslock	\$42,280.00 (Annually)
Wolfcom	\$54,290.00 (Annually)
Axon	\$78,534.25 (Annually)
Motorola	\$26,478.00 (Annually, but with less options)

A committee reviewed all proposals submitted through the RFP process, who carefully considered all factors that would best meet OPD and City Council requirements, such as redaction capability and cloud-based storage as a part of the review process. As a result of this process, the committee selected Axon Enterprises, Inc. as the body camera vendor to provide ongoing services meeting Ontario's needs for the next 5 years.

There would be an annual cost of \$78,534.52 and a 5-year contract agreement with the vendor. The Project was budgeted for FY25-26 in the amount of \$74,000 with a proposal for the remaining balance funded out of the uniform line of the police department.



BAKEFELT moved, MILLS seconded, **THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVE RESOLUTION #2026-107, A RESOLUTION TO APPROPRIATE \$4,535 OF ADDITIONAL FUNDING TO PURCHASE POLICE BODY CAMERAS.** Roll call vote: Mills-yes; Braden-excused; Hart-yes; Contreras-yes; Kirby-yes; Bakefelt-yes; Folden-yes. Motion carried 6/0/1.

BAKEFELT moved, CONTREREAS seconded, **THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVE THE PROCUREMENT PROCESS AND CONTRACT WITH AXON ENTERPRISES, INC. FOR BODY WORN CAMERA SYSTEMS, TO INCLUDE CLOUD-BASED STORAGE, REDACTION AND REPORT ASSISTANT SOFTWARE, AND AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO SIGN ALL DOCUMENTS REQUIRED FOR THIS PROCESS.** Roll call vote: Mills-yes; Braden-excused; Hart-yes; Contreras-yes; Kirby-yes; Bakefelt-yes; Folden-yes. Motion carried 6/0/1.

Ontario Recreation District Swimming Pool Funds Release

Dan Cummings, City Manager, presented.

The City budgeted \$250,000 toward the construction of the Ontario Pool at the time construction began, with conditions to be met as outlined in the attached document. The Recreation Board has requested the city to release the funding to the Board.

The \$250,000 was in the current budget ear-tagged for the pool project. The request was made and should be distributed as soon as possible. According to the conditions made during the granting of the funds, it was the City Council's responsibility to reaffirm and release the funds.

MILLS moved, CONTRERAS seconded, **THE CITY COUNCIL REAFFIRM THE \$250,000 SUPPORT FUNDING TO THE ONTARIO RECREATION DISTRICT AND CONFIRM THAT THEY HAVE MET THE CONDITIONS AS OUTLINED BY THE ATTACHED DOCUMENT IN THIS REPORT. THE CITY COUNCIL WOULD LIKE TO INSTRUCT STAFF TO RELEASE THE FUNDS TO THE ONTARIO RECREATION DISTRICT.** Roll call vote: Mills-yes; Braden-excused; Hart-yes; Contreras-yes; Kirby-yes; Bakefelt-yes; Folden-yes. Motion carried 6/0/1.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution #2026-108: DLCD Grant for Ontario Planning and Zoning Development Standards

Tatiana Burgess, Planning Director, presented.

The Planning Department needed to update, standardize, and modernize the city development ordinance. This was a very time-consuming process and required specific expertise. The city applied for and received a Housing Planning Assistance Grant from the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DCLD). This grant gave funds to the city to hire Winterbrook Planning to prepare hearing-ready documents and presentations for amending Ontario Planning and Zoning Development Standards to comply with applicable Oregon housing statutes and rules. The project was not to exceed \$69,500. There was no match required. This would be a net financial impact of zero, a maximum of \$69,500 grant revenue and expense. As soon as the attached resolution was received the project could officially begin.

CONTRERAS moved, MILLS seconded, **THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVE RESOLUTION #2016-108: A SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET TO APPROPRIATED UNEXPECTED GRANT REVENUES RECEIVED FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT AND AUTHORIZE CITY MANAGER DAN CUMMINGS TO SIGN THE RELATED DOCUMENTS.** Roll call vote: Mills-yes; Braden-excused; Hart-yes; Contreras-yes; Kirby-yes; Bakefelt-yes; Folden-yes. Motion carried 6/0/1.

PUBLIC HEARING

Resolution #2026-109: Master Fee Schedule 2026-2027

It being the date advertised for public hearing on the matter of Resolution #2026-109, the Hearing was declared open. There were no objections to the city's jurisdiction to hear the action, no abstentions, ex-parte contact, and no declarations of conflict of interest.

Dan Cummings, City Manager, presented.

Proposed Resolution #2026-109 combined all city fees into one schedule, as updated from Resolution #2024-111 adopted for fiscal year 2024-2025.



In June 2018, the city implemented the need to review fees collected by the city and developed a master fee list. Prior to that list, fees were determined by individual departments, and reviewed randomly as issues arose, and were addressed and/or adjusted at that time. The first Master Fee Schedule was presented to the Council in 2018, with only a few increases to established fees. Since that time, there have been several updates to the list as needed.

The current list was for FY 2024-2025, and staff was seeking approval to make updates to that list according to the upcoming FY 2026-2027 budget. This resolution, if adopted, would become effective July 1, 2026, and would supersede all previous Master Fee Schedules. There were only minimal increases proposed, and any sections that were missing from previous lists had been added.

Following review by staff, various adjustments were made where increases were merited based on time and materials required to cover the costs associated with the fee. Other sections were added to cover the costs of areas that were not previously included, but that did incur costs to operate or produce. Costs could be adjusted by the Council at any time during the year by adopting a new resolution. It was being done now due to the upcoming budget adoption. Staff would like to have this updated version effective July 1, 2026, to keep in line with the 2026-2027 budget.

The passage of a fee was subject to ORS 294.160(1) which read: *"The governing body of a city, county or other unit of local government shall provide an opportunity for interested persons to comment on the enactment of any ordinance or resolution prescribing a new fee or a fee increase or an increase in the rate or other manner in which the amount of a fee is determined or calculated."* Ontario City Charter Chapter X. Miscellaneous Provisions Section 10.6 Fee Increases. reads: *Any proposal to implement or increase fees or local taxes (except for a general retail which is governed separately in this Charter) must be affirmed by a two-thirds vote of the entire Council. (Ord. No. 2815-2022 § 2(Exh. A), 10-11-22).*

The Hearing was opened for public testimony.

Opponents: None. Proponents: None. There being no Proponent and no Opponent testimony, the Hearing was closed.

MILLS moved, seconded by CONTRERAS, **THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVE RESOLUTION #2026-109: A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A MASTER FEE SCHEDULE FOR THE 2026-2027 FISCAL YEAR.** Roll call vote: Mills-yes; Braden-excused; Hart-yes; Contreras-yes; Kirby-yes; Bakefelt-yes; Folden-yes. Motion carried 6/0/1.

DEPARTMENT HEAD UPDATES

Finance: Monthly Report

Kari Ott, Finance Director, presented.

Public Works: Quarterly Report

Al Haun, Project Director, presented.

HAND-OUTS

Minutes

County Court: 01-28-2026

Check Register: January 2026

Budget Calendar: 2026-2027FY



CORRESPONDENCE, COMMENTS, AND EX-OFFICIO REPORTS.

Councilor Kirby distributed the survey had had sent out. It had been done by goodparty.org and it cost .035¢ per each one. There were approximately 2,500 requests sent out via text, asking what major concerns there were. He had received about 10% in responses. People wanted to talk about their city. He wanted all the department heads to review it, too. It appeared that homelessness was a big issue, from running them off, to feeding and housing them. There were also many who stated concern about the cleanliness of the city. Maybe these comments would help them all create a new direction. And he thanked the citizens who took the time to respond.

Mr. Cummings stated thanked Revitalize Ontario and Depot District for working together. He recognized things still needed to be taken care of, and believed the city was going to be very supportive of their efforts in the downtown area.

Mr. Cummings stated he wanted to make it clear that last Friday was the very first time that he received a phone message, and had seen on Facebook, the news release article that Idaho Power was selling all their interest in the Oregon side to OTEC, which was the PUC out of Baker City. He also received a call from the county, who had also not been notified. He was working with the county to try to set up a meeting with OTEC to at least see what they were proposing. It appeared they had already made the commitment, but he knew they had to get the Oregon PUC Commission to approve the sale. He assumed that the Oregon PUC would hold hearings, but hadn't got that confirmed. If anyone in the community had problems, they should attend those hearings and voice their concerns. He saw on the website that their rates were a little lower than here, but could that be expected here? No one knows. Over the years, Idaho Power had been a fantastic partner, and he was sad to see them leaving, but it was understandable. His large concern was if Ontario was receive the service that Idaho Power had been providing, since they were so close.

Councilor Kirby stated he called OTEC (Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative) and asked why Malheur County had not been notified and the person he spoke with acknowledged that oversight. He also questioned the service, and was told it was four or five years out, but they did plan to have substations and offices in Ontario.

Councilor Mills stated she was a member and a customer of OTEC, and had been for years. She had property in Baker City, and OTEC had been absolutely wonderful, and they were the only utility company in her history that sent her a check every year for being a member. This was a positive thing.

ADJOURN

HART moved, MILLS seconded, **THE MEETING BE ADJOURNED**. Roll call vote: Mills-yes; Braden-excused; Hart-yes; Contreras-yes; Kirby-yes; Bakefelt-yes; Folden-yes. Motion carried 6/0/1. Meeting concluded at 7:43pm.

ACCEPTED:

Deborah K. Folden, Mayor

ATTEST:

Tori Barnett, MMC, City Recorder



**CITY OF ONTARIO
MAYORAL PROCLAMATION #2026-101
BORDER TOWN COMIC CON DAYS**

WHEREAS, With its colorful costumes, creative artistry, and imaginative storytelling, the world of comics and pop culture has captivated our hearts and imaginations for generations; and

WHEREAS, And we are thrilled to celebrate its rich history and influence with Border Town Comic Con 2026; and

WHEREAS, This event will showcase the talents, passion, and creativity of our local artists, writers, and cosplayers, and bring together a diverse community of comic book enthusiasts and pop culture lovers from near and far; and

WHEREAS, As we gather to appreciate the wonders of this unique and vibrant world, let us also embrace the values of inclusivity, diversity, and creativity that make Ontario such a special place to call home; and

WHEREAS, Let us come together in the spirit of unity, joy, and celebration on these special days. And let us continue to support and uplift our local artists and creators, who make Ontario an amazing place to be.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Deborah K. Folden, Mayor of Ontario, Oregon, do hereby proclaim March 14 and March 15, 2026, as

BORDER TOWN COMIC CON DAYS

and invite all our citizens to join me in extending a warm welcome to all the guests and participants of the Border Town Comic Convention, and urge everyone to take part in the many exciting activities, panels, and performances that this incredible event has to offer.

Deborah K. Folden, Mayor





SNAKE RIVER

Economic Development Alliance



Snake River Economic Development Alliance

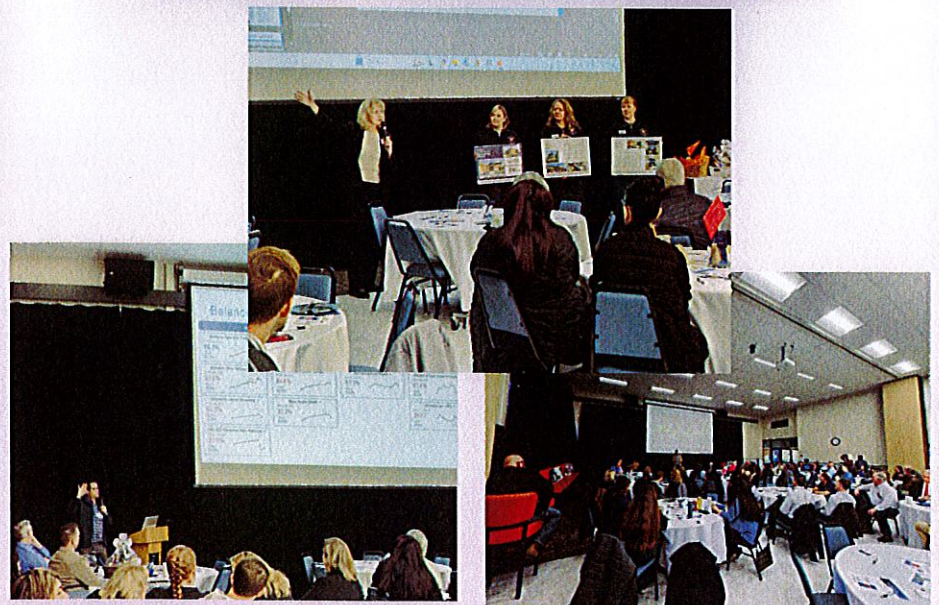
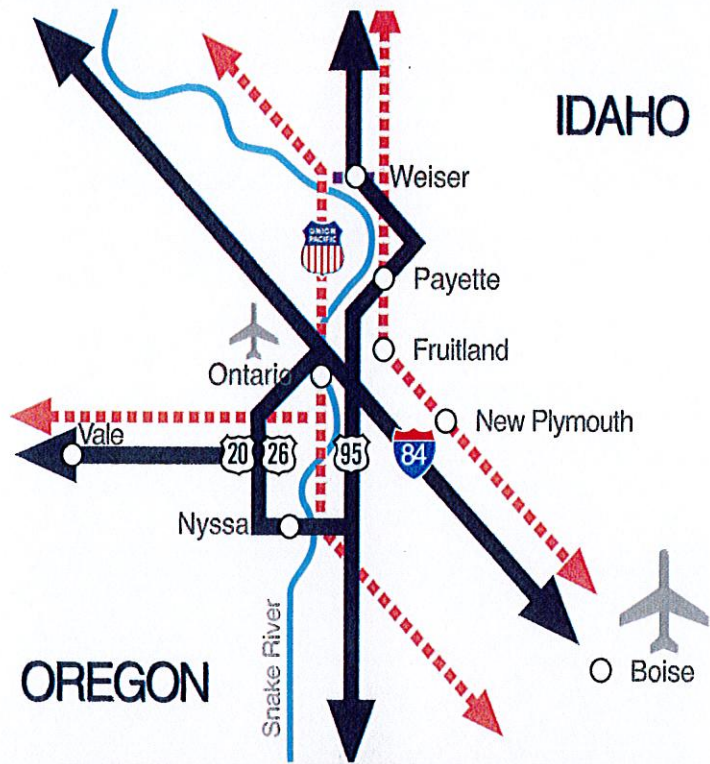
Kristen Nieskens, Executive Director
TVCC Albertsons Bldg., Suite 104
650 College Blvd. Ontario, OR 97914
541.881.5597 or 208.899.7864 cell
kristen.sreda@gmail.com
www.snakerivereda.com

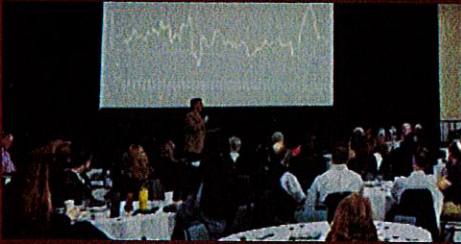
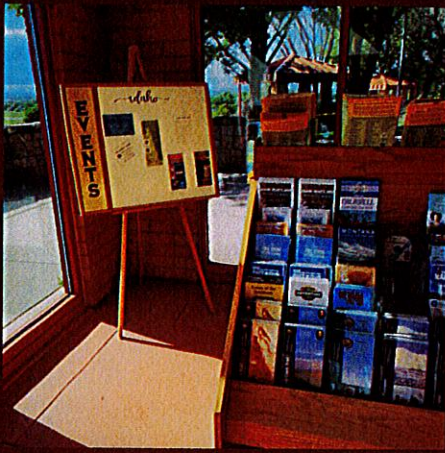
SREDA is an investor-supported, public-private partnership dedicated to promoting the Western Treasure Valley. We work to attract new investment and jobs while helping local businesses grow. Join us as a partner in strengthening our regional economy.

ANNUAL REPORT 2025

Promoting the Western Treasure Valley

*Payette & Washington
Counties, Idaho
Malheur County, Oregon*

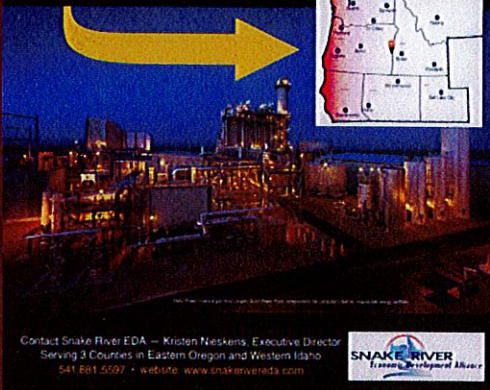




Where Idaho & Oregon Meet

Responsible • Reliable • Affordable

- Electricity rates among the lowest in the nation
- Available sites up to 200 acres
- State and local incentives for qualifying companies
- On the Idaho-Oregon border



Contact Snake River EDA — Kristen Nieskens, Executive Director
Serving 3 Counties in Eastern Oregon and Western Idaho
541.881.5597 • website: www.snakerivereda.com



Economy Overview

70,748

Population (2023)

Population grew by 6,485 over the last 5 years and is projected to grow by 7,055 over the next 5 years.

26,487

Total Regional Employment

Jobs grew by 1,259 over the last 5 years and are projected to grow by 1,362 over the next 5 years.

\$57.1K

Avg. Earnings Per Job (2023)

Regional average earnings per job are \$26.2K below the national average earnings of \$83.3K per job.

Takeaways

- As of 2023 the region's population increased by 10.1% since 2018, growing by 6,485. Population is expected to increase by 10.0% between 2023 and 2028, adding 7,055.
- From 2018 to 2023, jobs increased by 5.0% in 3 Counties from 25,228 to 26,487. This change outpaced the national growth rate of 4.5% by 0.5%. As the number of jobs increased, the labor force participation rate decreased from 61.6% to 56.2% between 2018 and 2023.
- Concerning educational attainment, 12.3% of the selected regions' residents possess a Bachelor's Degree (8.8% below the national average), and 10.2% hold an Associate's Degree (1.3% above the national average).
- The top three industries in 2023 are Education and Hospitals (Local Government), Restaurants and Other Eating Places, and Local Government. Excluding Education and Hospitals.

Region	Population (2024)	Labor Force (Sep 2024)	Jobs (2023)	Cost of Living	GRP	Imports	Exports
Region	72,229	30,091	26,487	102.8	\$3.01B	\$5.28B	\$5.39B

*Statistics pulled from EMSI report for Malheur County, Payette County & Washington County region. November 2025

Thank You For Your Support

Agile Homes
American Staffing
Biz Zone
Bob & Janet Komoto
Cascade Natural Gas Company
Coldwell Banker Classic Properties
Columbia Bank
D.L. Evans Bank
Farmers Mutual Telephone Company
Friends of Our Community
Hanigan Auto Sales
Idaho Power Company
MTE Communications
Rogue Credit Union
Saint Alphonsus
St. Luke's
Teton Machine
Three Rivers Insurance
Valley Family Health Care
Weiser Classic Candy
Weiser Memorial Hospital

Fruitland Chamber of Commerce
Nyssa Chamber of Commerce
Ontario Area Chamber of Commerce
Payette Chamber of Commerce
Vale Chamber of Commerce
Weiser Chamber of Commerce

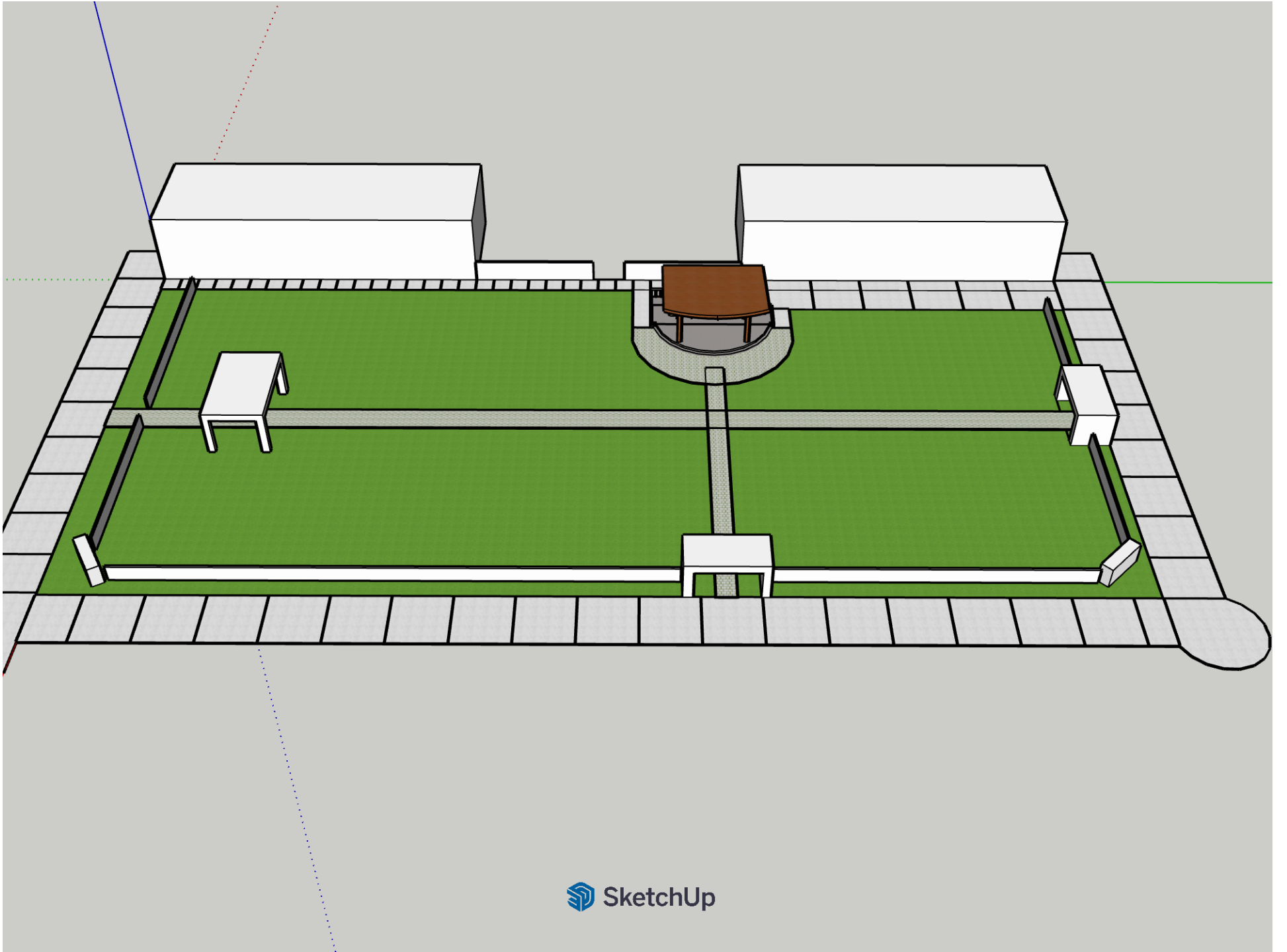
Public Members:

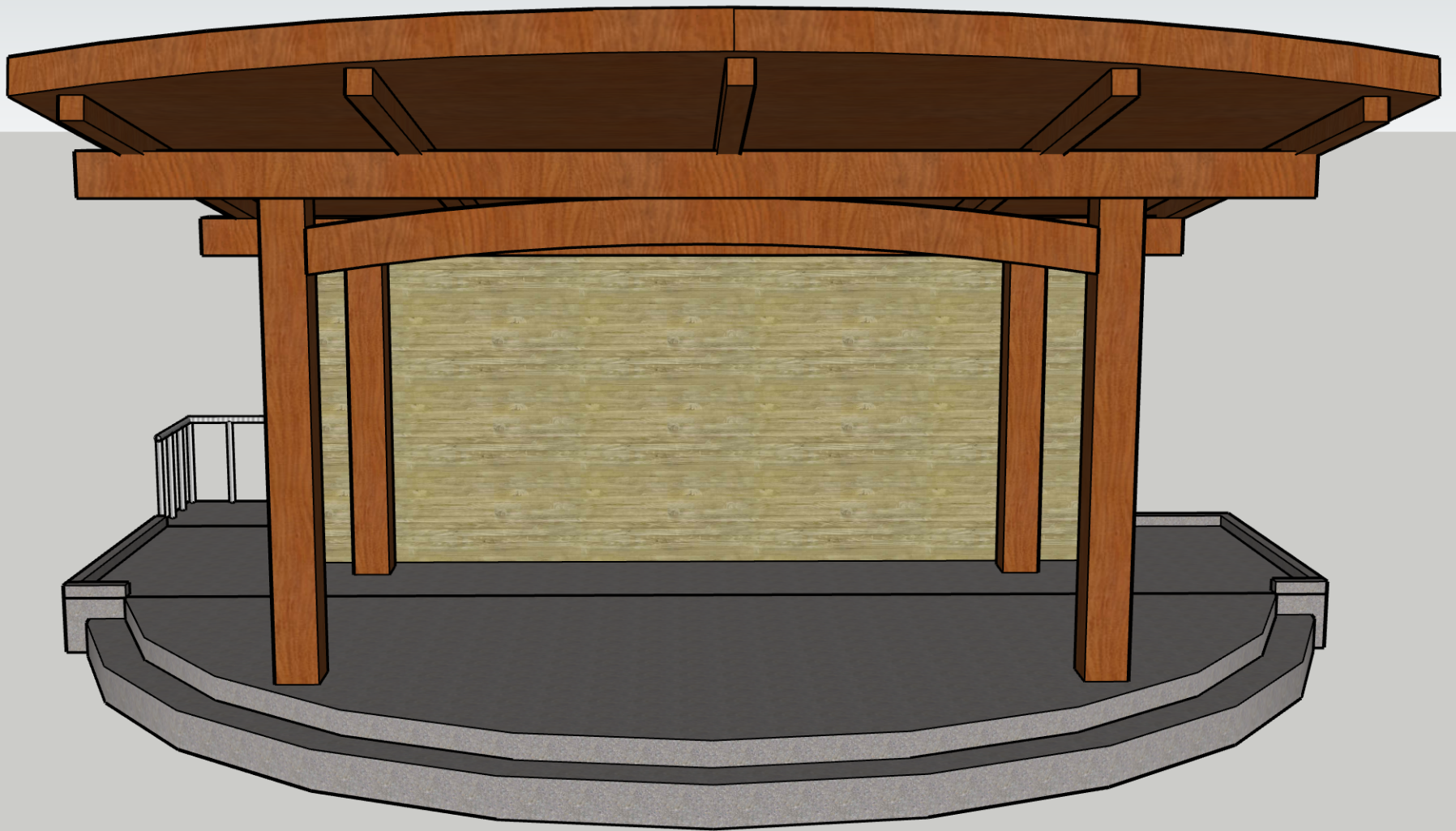
Payette County
Malheur County
Washington County
City of Fruitland
City of New Plymouth
City of Ontario
City of Payette
City of Vale
City of Weiser
Idaho Department of Commerce
Business Oregon

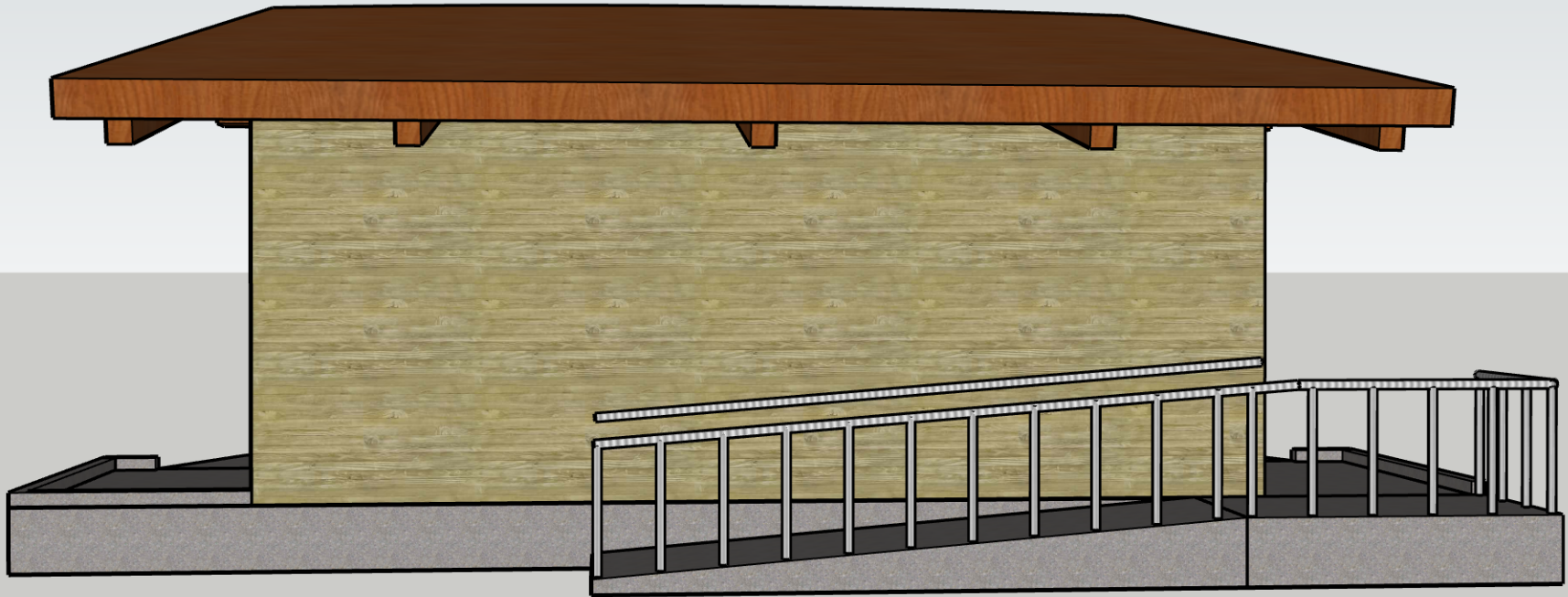


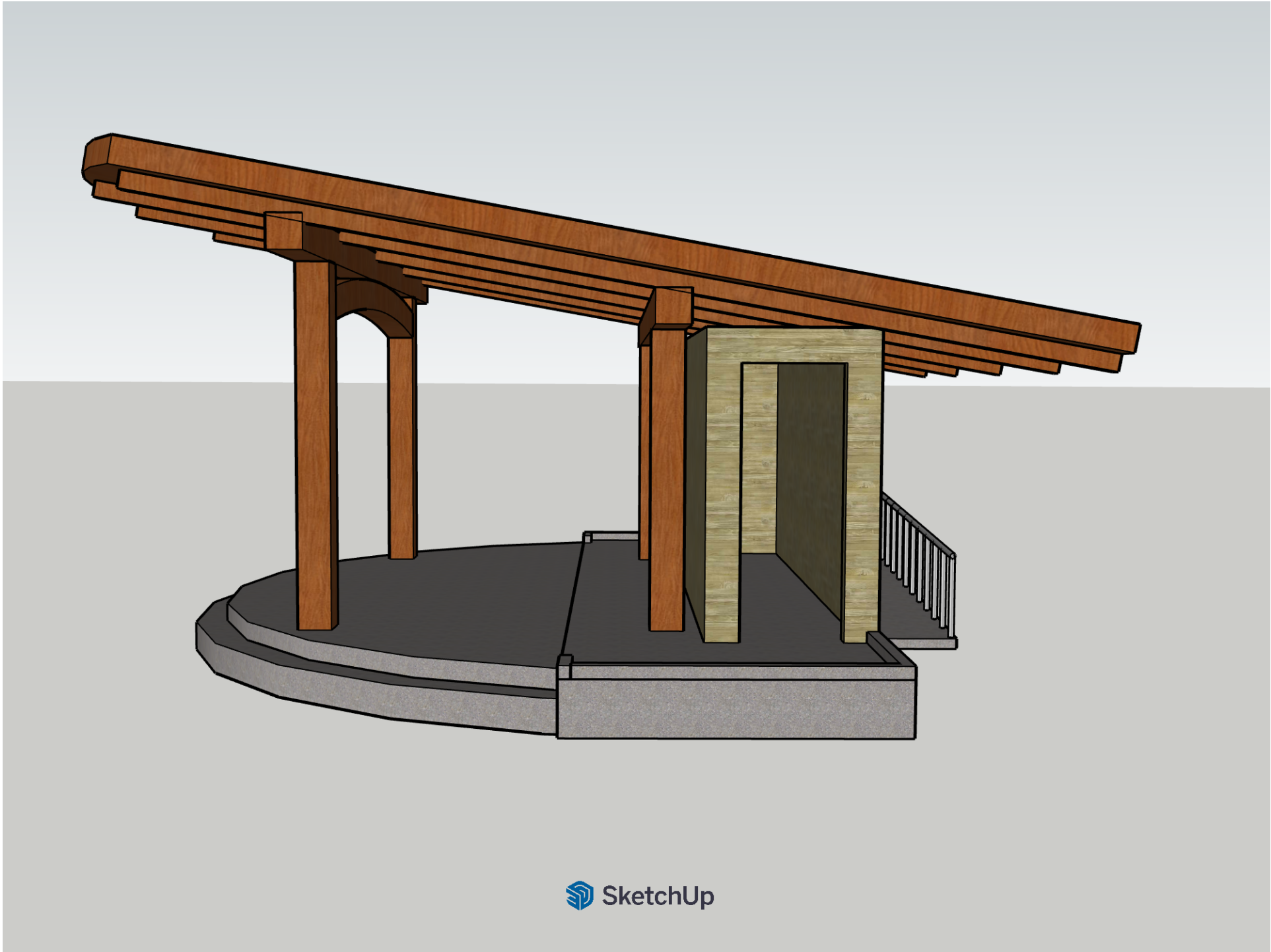
“Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is success.”

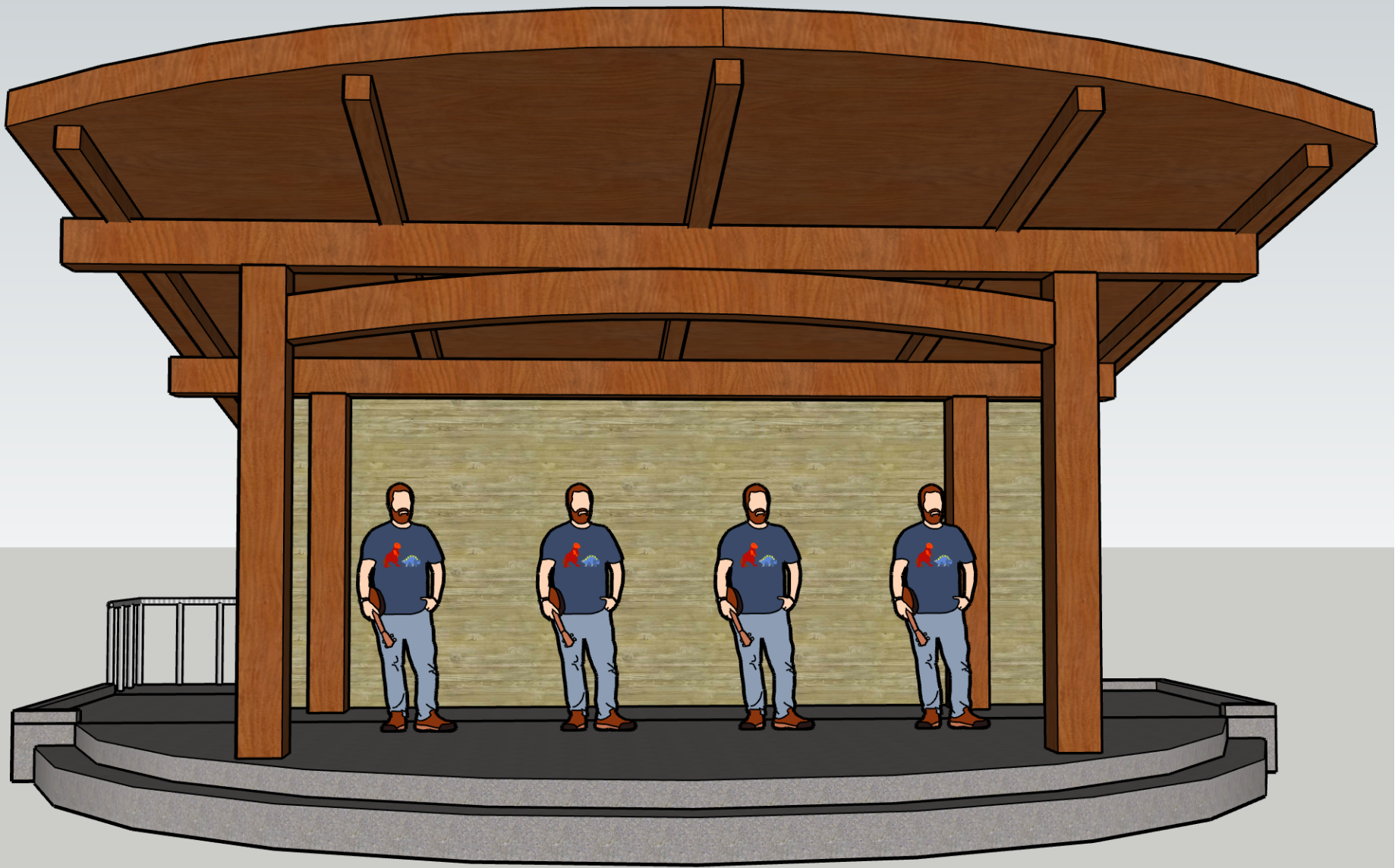
— Henry Ford













NEIGHBOR

NEIGHBOR

CONCRETE WALK

CORPORATE AREA

ADA RAMP

COVERED STAGE

GAZEBO

LOCUST

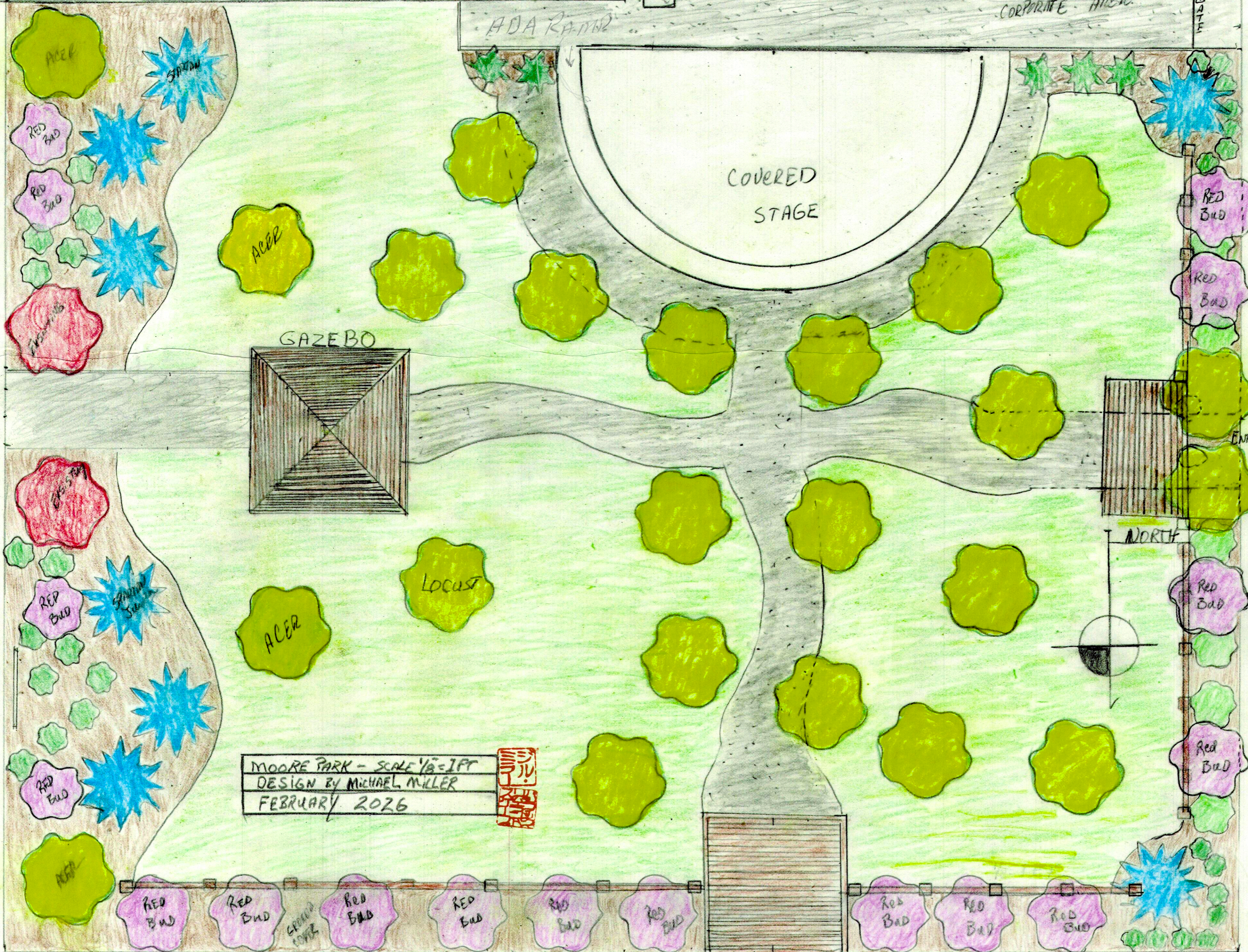
SIDEWALK

2ND ST.

SIDEWALK

NORTH

MOORE PARK - SCALE 1/8" = 1 FT
DESIGN BY MICHAEL MILLER
FEBRUARY 2026



Verde Regional Sports Complex

Citizens were surprised to learn of the property owned by the city just outside of the town designated as a regional sports complex. There were as many ideas for its use as there is potential. Once again there was no dominate answer that garnered more than 50% of the votes by respondents, but the property is large enough to accommodate many things for many people users.

There many layout options for the Verde Sports complex with opportunities to for soccer fields of varying size from U6 all the way to U19, with the opportunity for baseball and softball backstops that overlap soccer fields. At the time the city is ready to develop the property the city should spend time with a parks professional laying out the best option to accommodate the most uses. Incorporating trails in the park and to the park is also an important consideration. Playground equipment and shelters will make it an attractive for families. The facility is large enough to host weekend tournaments for both soccer and baseball.

The image below demonstrates a possibility with the amount of space available at the site.





**AGENDA REPORT
NEW BUSINESS
March 10, 2026**

To: Mayor and City Council
FROM: Andy Wood, Airport Manager
THROUGH: Danny K. Cummings, City Manager
SUBJECT: FIRE HYDRANT GRANT APPLICATION
DATE: March 3, 2026

PROPOSED MOTION:

I MOVE THE CITY COUNCIL TO APPROVE THE GRANT APPLICATIONS FOR THE AIRPORT FIRE HYDRANT PROJECT.

SUMMARY:

The Airport Committee, city staff and City Engineers “JUB” have been working to find suitable grants to fund this project.

BACKGROUND:

The City of Ontario Municipal Airport Layout Plan sets forth the improvements to the airport. Jacobs/Public Works assisted with the layout, design, and requirements to install hydrants to best utilize the coverage, water flow, and cost estimate.

CURRENT SITUATION:

The next stage is approval from the City Council to submit the grant applications for three grant applications with the final grant application closing at the end of October 2026.

ANALYSIS:

- A. **STRATEGIC PLAN** The project will significantly reduce the time required for the Ontario Fire Department's vehicles to refill, improving response times and increasing the effectiveness of firefighting efforts in an emergency. This directly supports the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)'s policy of enhancing airport safety and future growth of Fire Station 2.
- B. **FINANCIAL** The Fire Hydrant Project is estimated to cost \$735,000.00. The Oregon Department of Aviation (ODAV) Critical Oregon Airport Relief (COAR) Grant maximum funding allocation is \$150,000.00 with a requirement of a minimum 10% applicant match. The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) Connect Oregon grant funding allocation is \$339,500.00 and requires a minimum 30% applicant match. Eastern Border Board grant funding allocation is \$100,000.00 with no applicant

match. The higher the match increases the application score. The remaining city match is \$145,500.00, and the city utility billing and utility recapture fees could be used to meet the match.

- C. **TIMING** ODOT Connect Oregon Grant applications close March 27, 2026; Eastern Oregon Border Board Grant closes March 31, 2026; ODAV COAR Grant Cycle 11 applications open late October 2026.
- D. **POLICY/LLEGAL** The Fire Hydrant Project will meet all federal, state, and city fire regulations, including FAA, ODOT, and ODAV grant requirements.

ALTERNATIVES:

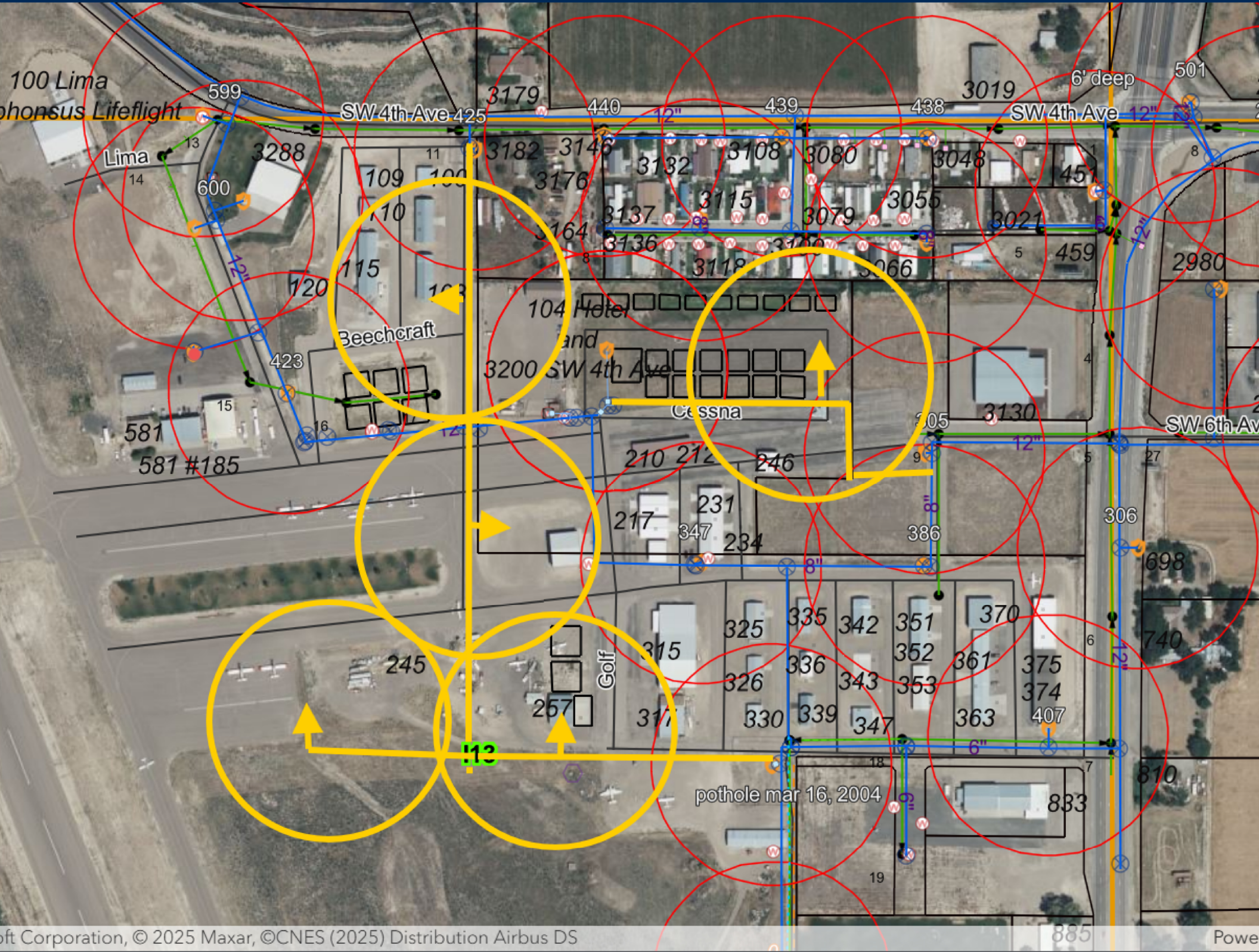
None.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the City Council approve submitting the grant application for the Ontario Municipal Airport Fire Hydrant Project.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Airport New Hydrant Locations





**AGENDA REPORT
NEW BUSINESS
March 10, 2026**

To: Mayor and City Council
FROM: Andy Wood, Airport Manager
THROUGH: Danny K. Cummings, City Manager
SUBJECT: **REHABILITATE RUNWAY, TAXIWAY, AND APRON (SEAL COAT & CRACK FILL) PROJECT**
DATE: March 3, 2026

PROPOSED MOTION:

I MOVE THE CITY COUNCIL TO APPROVE THE FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION (FAA) COMPANION GRANTS AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (AIP) AND BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW (BIL) GRANT, AND THE OREGON DEPARTMENT OF AVIATION (ODAV) CRITICAL OREGON AIRPORT RELIEF (COAR) GRANT CYCLE 11 TO REHABILITATE RUNWAY, TAXIWAY, AND APRON GRANT APPLICATIONS FOR A SEAL COAT AND CRACK FILL PROJECT.

SUMMARY:

The Airport Committee, city staff and City Engineers “JUB” have been working to find suitable grants to fund this project for preventative maintenance and safety operations for the airport.

BACKGROUND:

The City of Ontario Municipal Airport Capital Improvement Plan has scheduled for preventative maintenance and continued development of asphalt surfaces to meet performance requirements.

CURRENT SITUATION:

The FAA guidance recommends pavement asphalt seal coat and joint sealing every three years on eligible AIP asphalt.

ANALYSIS:

- A. **STRATEGIC PLAN** Most recent pavement maintenance was in 2022. The Pavement Condition Index (PCI) report estimates the condition to range from 55-85 being fair to satisfactory condition.
- B. **FINANCIAL** The rehabilitation project estimated cost is \$33,333.00. Companion Grant funding allocation is based on FAA BIL grant funding available \$274,000.00, FAA AIP grant funding \$26,000.00, ODAV COAR grant funding \$30,000.00, and city matching

funds at \$3,333.00. The 2026-2027 budget will allocate matching funds if the grant is successful.

- C. **TIMING** FAA BIL grant has \$274,00.00 remaining entitlement, FAA AIP has \$150,000.00 entitlement remaining, ODAV COAR Grant Application closes at the end of October 2026.
- D. **POLICY/LEGAL** The rehabilitation project will meet the FAA guidance recommendations for pavement asphalt conditions. The project will meet the FAA and ODAV grant requirements.

ALTERNATIVES:

None.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the City Council approve submitting the grant application for the rehabilitation project.

ATTACHMENTS:

None



**AGENDA REPORT
NEW BUSINESS
March 10, 2026**

To: Mayor and City Council
FROM: Kari Ott, Finance Director
THROUGH: Danny K. Cummings, City Manager
SUBJECT: RESOLUTION #2026-110: CARRYOVER PROJECTS
DATE: March 3, 2026

PROPOSED MOTION:

I MOVE THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVE RESOLUTION #2026-110: A SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR CARRYOVER PROJECTS

SUMMARY:

Attached is Resolution #2026-110.

BACKGROUND:

The city held budget meetings in May 2025 and officially adopted the budget in June 2025. The city is on the modified accrual basis of accounting, which can make it difficult to estimate project expense timing. Due to this, there are a few projects that weren't completed by June 30, 2025, and need to carry over to the 2025-2026 budget year.

CURRENT SITUATION:

The details of projects with carryover funds that should be carried over to 2025-2026 are as follows:

- Recreation District Beck-Kiwanis Baseball Field - \$50,000
- Enterprise Camera System - \$93,239
- Cemetery Vehicle Purchases - \$83,000
- Fire Station 2 Project - \$70,000
- Sidewalk Incentive Program - \$9,280
- Facade Grant - \$20,878
- Police vehicle Equipment - \$33,766
- Airport BLM Street Design - \$36,300
- PERS Reserve payment - \$51,480
- Police Rifles - \$32,250
- Fire Turnouts - \$112,388
- Chlorine Pumps - \$50,000
- Reservoir Improvements - \$7,500

Phase 2 - Increase WTP Capacity - \$148,723
Aerators - \$377,302

ANALYSIS:

- A. **STRATEGIC PLAN** No direct impact.
- B. **FINANCIAL** This resolution will increase each fund less than 10%, so no supplemental budget hearing is required. The total budget increase is \$1,068,528.
- C. **TIMING** Approval of this resolution allows the projects to be completed.
- D. **POLICY/LEGAL** A formal resolution approved by the City Council is required to expend funds per ORS 294.

ALTERNATIVES:

A. Take No Action - The Council could take no action on this matter. This would cause the projects to be halted or budget over expenditures.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the approval of Resolution #2026-110.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 1. Resolution #2026-110 - Carryover Projects



RESOLUTION #2026-110

A SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR CARRYOVER PROJECTS

WHEREAS, The City held budget meetings in May 2025 and adopted the budget in June 2025;
and

WHEREAS, There were projects budgeted to be completed in Fiscal Year 2024-2025, but didn't get completed before the end of the year; **and**

WHEREAS, Projects consist of different things in the General, Street, Reserve, Water and Sewer Funds ; **and**

WHEREAS, The City desires to modify the 2025-2026 budget in order to appropriate the funding.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Ontario City Council, to approve the following adjustment to the fiscal year 2025-2026 budget:

Line Item	Item Description	FY 25-26 Budget	Amount of Change	Adjusted Budget
GENERAL FUND				
001-017-615568	Beck-Kiwanis Baseball Field	\$ -	\$25,000	\$25,000
001-004-713603	Enterprise Camera System	\$30,000	\$93,239	\$123,239
001-011-712101	Vehicle Purchase	\$ -	\$83,000	\$83,000
001-016-712111	Fire Station 2 Project	\$ -	\$70,000	\$70,000
001-017-615559	Façade Grant	\$ -	\$20,878	\$20,878
001-017-615565	Sidewalk Incentive Program	\$90,000	\$9,280	\$99,280
001-024-711200	Automotive Equip	\$129,748	\$15,212	\$144,960
001-000-406000	Available Cash on Hand	\$4,870,701	\$316,609	\$5,187,310
STREET FUND				
045-090-719286	Airport BLM Street Design	\$ -	\$36,300	\$36,300
045-000-406000	Available Cash on Hand	\$2,279,826	\$36,300	\$2,316,126
RESERVE FUND				
055-115-714124	Park Improvements	\$ -	\$25,000	\$25,000
055-115-714120	Site Improvements	\$522,321	(\$25,000)	\$497,321
055-000-406050	Available Cash – PERS Reserve	\$ -	\$51,480	\$51,480
055-133-631000	PERS Side Account Payment	\$396,480	\$51,480	\$447,960
055-131-712103	Police Car Purchase	\$ -	\$18,554	\$18,554
055-131-712120	Police Equipment	\$ -	\$32,250	\$32,250
055-000-406060	Available Cash – Public Safety	\$1,026,800	\$50,804	\$1,077,604
055-000-406090	Available Cash – Emerg Equip	\$44,453	\$112,388	\$156,841
055-132-712100	Equipment Purchase	\$89,253	\$112,388	\$201,641

Line Item	Item Description	FY 25-26 Budget	Amount of Change	Adjusted Budget
WATER FUND				
105-160-712117	Chlorine Pumps	\$ -	\$50,000	\$50,000
105-160-719284	Reservoir Improvements	\$ -	\$7,500	\$7,500
105-160-719291	Phase 2 – Increase WTP Capacity	\$ -	\$148,723	\$148,723
105-000-406000	Available Cash on Hand	\$2,848,449	\$206,223	\$3,054,672
SEWER FUND				
110-000-406000	Available Cash on Hand	\$2,266,862	\$294,724	\$2,561,586
110-165-712114	Aerators	\$ -	\$377,302	\$377,302
110-165-871000	Operating Contingency	\$1,116,006	(\$82,578)	\$1,033,428

EFFECTIVE DATE: Effective immediately upon passage.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Ontario this 10th day of March 2026, by the following vote:

AYES:

NAYES:

ABSENT:

APPROVED by the Mayor this 10th day of March, 2026.

Deborah K. Folden, Mayor

ATTEST

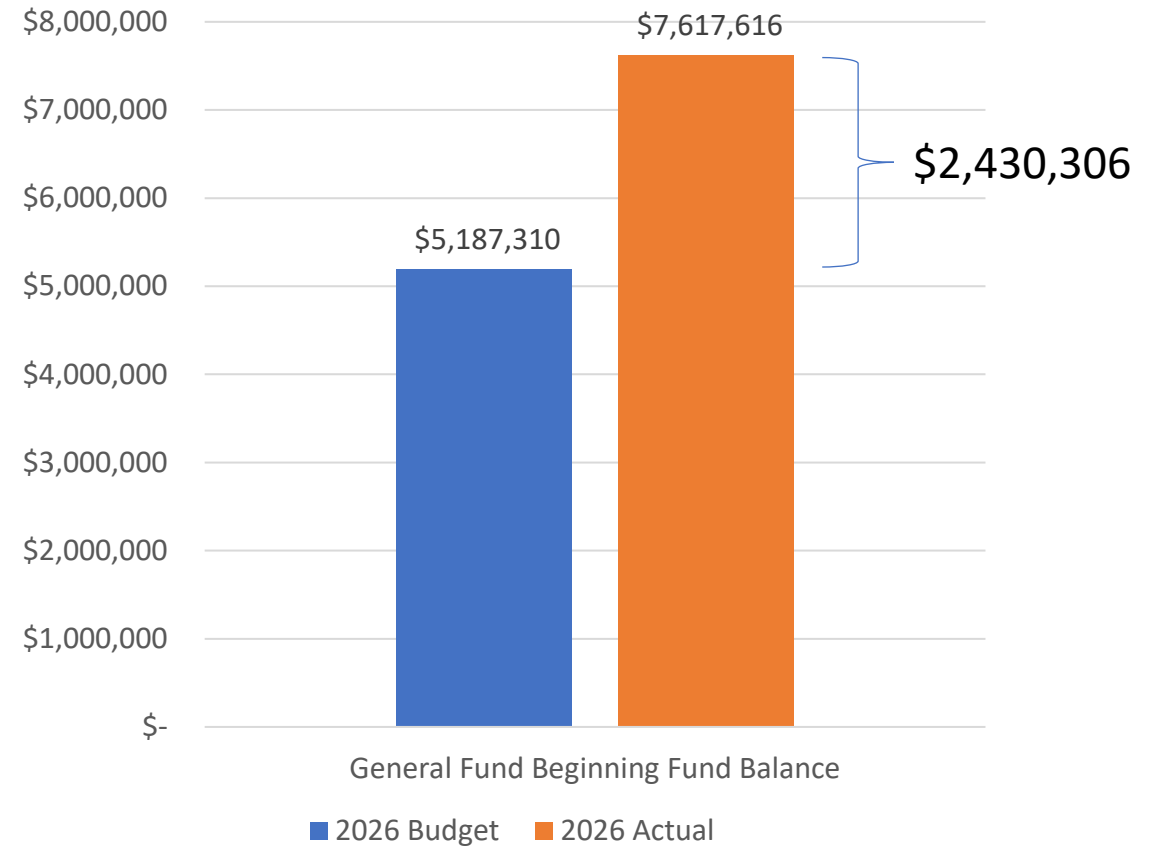
Tori Barnett, MMC, City Recorder



General Fund 25-26 Beginning Balance

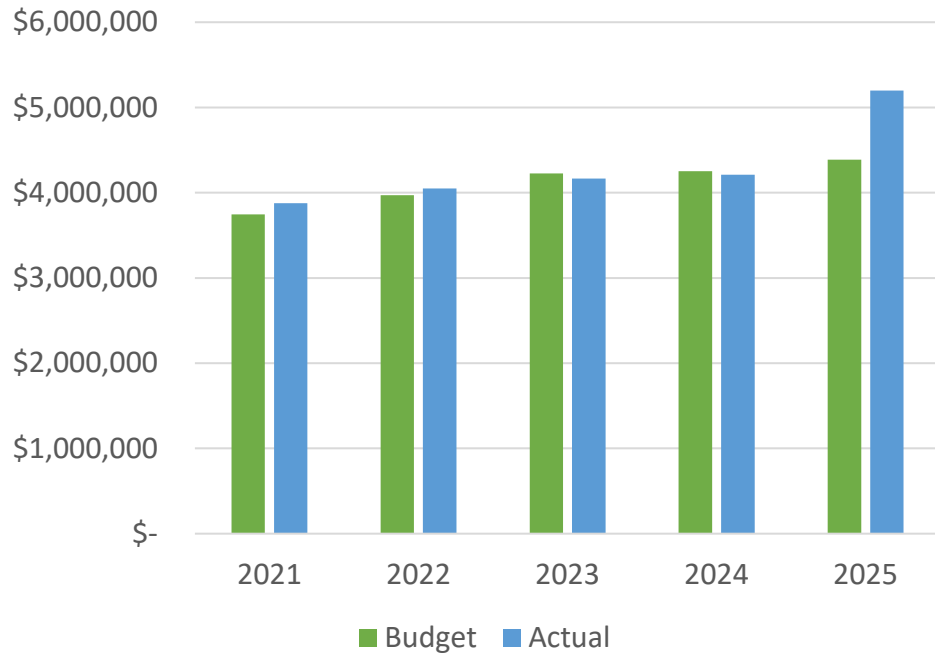
2025-2026 BFB

The 2024-2025 General Fund balance was higher than budgeted.

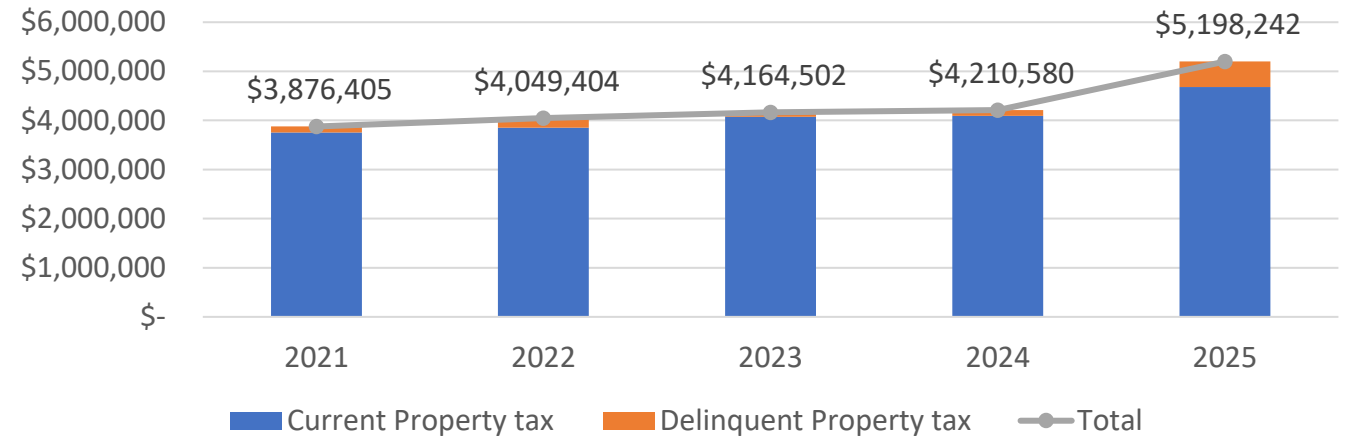


Why the differences?

Property Tax Budget to Actual



Property Taxes - Actual



Property Taxes \$810,191 over budget

Other Items

	AMOUNT OVER BUDGET
MARIJUANA TAX	\$345,060
INTEREST INCOME	\$186,060
FRANCHISE FEE INCOME	\$79,644
PARKS TOT TAX	\$38,377
GRANTS	\$58,030
SALARIES & OTHER EXPENSES **	\$1,436,008
PRIOR YEAR BFB	\$1,614,870



THESE ITEMS WERE CONSIDERED WHEN COMPUTING THE BFB, HOWEVER, WHEN COMPUTING IN MARCH, SOME OF THE ESTIMATED AMOUNTS WERE DIFFERENT THAN EXPECTED.

**THERE WERE POSITIONS BUDGETED MAINLY IN THE POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS THAT WEREN'T FILLED BY YEAR END.

NEXT STEPS?

- **COUNCIL CHOICES**

- *SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET RESOLUTION TO APPROPRIATE ALL OR SOME OF THE EXTRA FUNDS IN 2025-2026*
- *WAIT UNTIL BUDGET MEETINGS FOR 26-27 AND INCLUDE IT IN THE BEGINNING FUND BALANCE AND APPROPRIATE IN THE BUDGET PROCESS*

CONSIDERATION: We are already in March 2026; there are only 3.5 months of the fiscal remaining.



PERS

CITY CONTRIBUTIONS	
5/21/2025	\$ 636,575.00
12/31/2024	\$ 498,689.00
12/20/2022	\$ 2,047,378.00
8/20/2021	\$ 1,500,000.00
5/14/2021	\$ 282,864.21
8/30/2019	\$ 1,243,103.94
2/20/2019	\$ 949,445.00
	\$ 7,158,055.15
EIF MATCHING	\$ 548,137.24
	\$ 159,143.75
	\$ 707,280.99
TOTAL SIDE ACCOUNT	\$ 7,865,336.14

	Tier 1/ Tier 2	OPSRP General	OPSRP Police & Fire
2025-2027 RATES (WITHOUT SIDE ACCOUNT)	51.41%	44.07%	49.34%
ACTUAL RATES	32.42%	25.08%	30.35%
Approximately \$777,746 annually in savings:			

25-26 Budget has \$250,000 payment from the General Fund to PERS for a total side account payment of \$447,960.



PROJECTS FOR CONSIDERATION

- MOORE PARK
- SPORTS COMPLEX



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Q2 FISCAL YEAR 2025-26

October – December 2025

Community Development Center



BUILDING DEPARTMENT

- Building Official – **Eddie Alvarez**

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

- Planning Commission – **1 vacancy**
- Planning Director – **Tatiana Burgess**

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

- Building & Planning Technician –
Jennifer Braden

Total Permits Issued

	Permit Valuation Totals	Permit Fees Assessed	Permits Issued
Structural & Mechanical	\$3,331,224.38	\$47,546.39	77

Total Inspections Completed

Total	October	November	December
227	104	70	53

Building Department Statistics

October – December 2025





October – December 2025

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

- 6 new permits issued
- 2 zoning inspections
- 9 dispensary inspections



SHORT TERM RENTALS (STR)

- 10 STR operators licensed in 2025
- Renewal notices mailed out on December 1, 2025
- All 10 STR operators renewed their annual licenses for 2026
- Partnering with Finance Department to collect TOT tax



Planning Department STR Program

October – December 2025



PHASE III FAÇADE GRANT

Facade Grant Program Phase III

- SW 4th Ave: from Yturri Beltline to Oregon Street
- 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

***No new applicants
this quarter**

FISCAL YTD

Awarded: \$5,000

Total Improvements: \$12,821

Funds Available: \$20,877.50

Economic Development Grants

October – December 2025



DEQ CLIMATE EQUITY AND RESILIENCE THROUGH ACTION (CERTA) GRANT



Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, in partnership with Ontario, is offering funding through the Low-Embodied Carbon Housing Program.

Rebate available: \$45,000 per unit

Funding available: for up to 40 total units

Scope: convert existing non-residential buildings into residential units

Timeline: construction must be completed by March 30, 2029

Economic Development Grants

October – December 2025





October – December 2025

Major Projects Newly Permitted



**TVCC NURSING
CENTER**

777 SW 5th St

**Installation of Fire
Alarm System**



October – December 2025

Major Projects Under Construction



VETERAN'S VILLAGE

797 Alameda Dr

\$1.99M Valuation



October – December 2025

Major Projects Under Construction



**COBBLESTONE
CARWASH
(REBRANDING)
1315 SE 1st Ave**



October – December 2025

Completed Commercial Projects

Frosty Badger



Community in Action Office





October – December 2025

Completed Commercial Projects

PAC West Mini-storages



24/7 over 800 units



October – December 2025

Completed Residential Projects

1541 Skookum Dr



Harrah Heights Subdivision

- **18 total lots**
- **15 developed**
- **3 lots remaining**



October – December 2025

Completed Residential Projects

287 and 297 SW 6th St



with Accessory Dwelling Units



THANK YOU

Tatiana Burgess

541-881-3222

Tatiana.Burgess@OntarioOregon.org

www.ontariooregon.org/communitydevelopment.html



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

February 2, 2026

The committee meeting was called to order by Chairman Shawn Coleman at 6:00 pm.

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

Ex Officio members: Ken Hart (City Council)-present, 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:** *Pete Morgan moved to adopt the agenda with the addition of 7B – Airport Living Quarters. Charlotte Hatch second. Roll call vote: Bill-yes, John-yes, Pete-yes, Charlotte-yes, Mike-yes, Rick-yes, and Shawn-yes. Motion carried 7/0/1.*
- 4) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** *Rick Todd moved to approve the minutes from 1/5/2026. Mike Franks second. Roll call vote: Bill-yes, John-yes, Pete-yes, Charlotte-yes, Mike-yes, Rick-yes, and Shawn-yes. Motion carried 7/0/1.*

5) **OLD BUSINESS**

- A) **Airport Capital Improvement Plan and Budget Ranking Tabulations for Airport Improvements:** Andy Wood brought a previous ranking for airport improvements put together by the committee in February 2024. The list assesses airport needs and their priority. There was some discussion among committee members on improvements that have been completed and items that should be reassessed. Andy Wood will put together an updated list to be ranked again, excluding projects that have been completed.

Andy Wood requested a decision on if the airport should continue forward with the next planned projects in the Capital Improvement Plan. There is a possibility of FAA funding for the Fire Hydrant project because it would increase safety and water access for the airport. *Pete Morgan moved that Andy move forward with the 2027 Fire Hydrant Project. Rick Todd second. Roll call vote: Bill-yes, John-yes, Pete-yes,*



"The Gateway to Adventure"

Charlotte-yes, Mike-yes, Rick-yes, and Shawn-yes. *Motion carried 7/0/1. Pete Morgan moved to recommend moving forward with the 2027 Runway Rehab Project as planned. Charlotte Hatch second. Roll call vote: Bill-yes, John-yes, Pete-yes, Charlotte-yes, Mike-yes, Rick-yes, and Shawn-yes. Motion carried 7/0/1.*

The 2027 F-4 Phantom Static Display Project is next up on the Capital Improvement Plan. The method of mounting the aircraft and the location has not be determined. Bill Hager proposed that Mike McDougall from the Fighting Classics Air Museum present his prior experience with mounting aircraft displays. Andy Wood will be adding this discussion under Old Business for the March meeting and come with a list of previously proposed locations for the display as well.

6) HAND-OUTS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A) *Airport Budget Status October-November 2025:* Andy Wood presented the airport budgets from October and November 2025 and confirmed they were both tracking. Fuel sales went up with helicopter and other activity making up for the mild fire season. The airport is still waiting on the tie down fees to come in from that time.

B) *Airport Living Quarters:* Pete Morgan requested clarification on the Ontario Fire Department adding "rest quarters" to their building. He was under the impression that living quarters were not permitted on airport property. Dam Cummings clarified that the Fire Department's addition will be strictly rest quarters for those on duty, not to be taken advantage of as living quarters.

7) CORRESPONDENCE, COMMENTS AND EX-OFFICIO REPORTS

Lee Unterwegner from JUB Engineering updated the committee that the helipad parking area's plans are to approved by the FAA and city shortly. They are hoping to put the project out to bid in March.

Lee also informed the committee that the BLM are set to start making progress again after some funding and planning delays.

8) ADJOURN *Moved by Bill Hager. Second by Pete Morgan. Roll call vote: Bill-yes, John-yes, Pete-yes, Charlotte-yes, Mike-yes, Rick-yes, and Shawn-yes. Motion carried 7/0/1.*

The meeting was adjourned at 8:11 pm.

Next meeting: Monday, March 2, 2026, at 6 pm at Ontario City Hall.

Shawn Coleman - Chairman

Charlotte Hatch - Secretary

MALHEUR COUNTY COURT MINUTES

February 18, 2026

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. Judge Joyce led the Pledge of Allegiance. 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 # [2026-0597](#)

PUBLIC HEARING – BULLY CREEK PARK FEES

Judge Joyce opened the public hearing to consider increasing camping and other fees at Bully Creek Park. Notice of the hearing was published in the Argus Observer on February 4, 2026. Commissioner Jacobs explained that numerous meetings with staff have been held regarding increasing the fees at Bully Creek Park to assist with the cost of operations and maintenance of the Park. Fees have not been increased since 2008. It is proposed to increase the overnight camping fee to \$25.00 per camp sight (includes sanitary dumping and electricity), and each additional tent will be \$10.00; and the RV sanitary dumping fee to \$15.00 for non-overnight guests. An online reservation system will be implemented and fees associated with this service will be paid by overnight campers using the Park.

Judge Joyce asked for public comments. Ms. DuBois commented that the proposed rates put the Park more in line with similar facilities in the area; and the fee the County pays to pump the dumping station averages \$750-\$1,000 a month.

There were no additional comments received; and no written comments were received.

The hearing was closed. Commissioner Mendiola moved to approve Resolution No. R26-06: In the Matter of: Resolution Enacting Fees: Overnight Camping, RV Sanitary Dumping and other Fees at Bully Creek Park. Commissioner Jacobs seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Effective date of the fee change is March 1, 2026. See instrument # [2026-0598](#); affidavit of publication of hearing notice is instrument # [2026-0619](#)

Vote: JM/RJ/DJ in favor. Approved.

It is hoped to start the irrigation project at the Park the first part of March; the materials have been purchased.

UPDATE – PROJECT HOPE

Lifeways CEO Steve Jensen met with the Court and reviewed architectural drawings and floorplans of the Project Hope project. The Project Hope campus will be located on Lifeways owned property behind West Park Plaza/Tractor Supply in Ontario. The campus will include a medical office facility, a substance use disorder residential facility, and a secure residential treatment facility. It is hoped to complete the project's engineering phase in March and hold a groundbreaking ceremony in April/May 2026; Mr. Jensen invited the Court members to attend the groundbreaking ceremony and requested Judge Joyce speak at the ceremony. This social services campus was designed as a "one-stop shop" for behavioral health services. See instrument # [2026-0599](#) for the PowerPoint.

Lifeways has received grant funding (\$25,000) to be used towards a mobile crises van; additional funding is needed as the cost for the mobile crises van project is approximately \$90,000.

MALHEUR WATERSHED COUNCIL

Malheur Watershed Council Executive Director Ellie Hanson and Office Manager Jesse Prentiss met with the Court and gave an annual update. Also present was Malheur Watershed Council Board member Bill Buhrig and County Weed Inspector Amanda Zander. In the past year, Malheur Watershed Council has partnered with landowners, local businesses, BLM, NRCS, SWCD, BOR, OWRD, DEQ, USFS, ODFW, Burns Paiute Tribe, area irrigation districts, local contractors, Pheasants Forever, and Malheur County. Work accomplished with these partners in 2025 included:

145 acres converted from flood irrigation to sprinkler irrigation

Piped approximately 3,580 feet of ditches to prevent erosion

15,800 feet of lateral ditches piped

Installed 900 feet of buck-and-pole fencing to protect riparian areas and aspen groves

Improved 6 livestock watering systems to help with management on range systems

Enhanced 2,718 linear feet of stream banks

833 acres of weeds were sprayed

Installed vertical post structures as well as some berm removal

Approximately 27 grants were managed during the 2025 year; and currently there is roughly \$5,767,000 allocated towards ongoing projects with landowners committing to contribute an additional \$795,643. These projects directly contribute to the local economy and bring about positive change.

Key highlights of 2025 included: working with Vale Oregon Irrigation District on the Vale Lateral Pipeline Project; receiving 3 new grant awards in 2025; and working with the County Weed Department in weed treatment grants and efforts.

Ms. Hanson answered questions from the Court members. Mr. Buhrig expressed support for the efforts of Ms. Hanson and Ms. Prentiss. Ms. Zander expressed appreciation for the partnership with Malheur Watershed Council. See instrument # [2026-0600](#) for the written report.

CROSSING PERMITS

Commissioner Jacobs moved to approve Crossing Permit #04-26 to CenturyLink/Crown Utilities to replace a cut cable on Greenfield Road #1009. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The original permit will be kept on file at the Road Department.

Vote: RJ/JM/DJ in favor. Approved.

COURT MINUTES

Commissioner Jacobs moved to approve Court Minutes of February 11, 2026 as written. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Vote: RJ/JM/DJ in favor. Approved.

LETTER OF SUPPORT – CITY OF VALE

Commissioner Jacobs moved to sign a letter of support for the Fiscal Year 2027 Community Initiated Project (CIP) Appropriations Request from the City of Vale for its Water System Improvement Project. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously. See instrument #[2026-0601](#)

Vote: RJ/JM/DJ in favor. Approved.

ADDENDUM – LEASE & OPERATING AGREEMENT

Commissioner Jacobs moved to approve Second Addendum to Lease and Operating Agreement between Wyoming Colorado Railroad, Inc., Malheur County Development Corporation and Malheur County, Oregon Effective December 29, 2025. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The addendum finalizes the terms and forms of the Purchase and Sale Agreement in Exhibit D.

Vote: RJ/JM/DJ in favor. Approved.

HELICOPTER USE PLAN

The Court received the proposed Helicopter Use Plan for Idaho Power's Boardman to Hemingway Transmission Line Project (note: Appendix A of the Plan was not included). To meet the requirement outlined in Condition GEN-PS-01 of the Energy Facility Siting Council Site Certificate, the certificate holder must submit to each affected county planning department the proposed plan; any comments need returned within 30 days. Planning Manager Kelsie Haueter inquired if the Court had any comments on the proposed plan. The Court requested that good advanced public notice of the helicopter activities be provided to include time periods and locations. Ms. Haueter will relay the Court's comments to the project manager. See instrument # [2026-0602](#)

CONTRACT – LIFEWAYS

Commissioner Jacobs moved to approve Personal Service Contract between Lifeways, Inc. and Malheur County Oregon for the Operation and Financing of Community Mental Health Programs Pursuant to Intergovernmental Agreement PO-44300-00054296 between Malheur County and State of Oregon. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously. See instrument # [2026-0596](#)

Vote: RJ/JM/DJ in favor. Approved.

IGA - TORT LIABILITY COVERAGE AS PROVIDER FOR PSRB

Commissioner Mendiola moved to approve Intergovernmental Agreement # 44300-00057237 Tort Liability Coverage as a Provider for Psychiatric Security Review Board (PSRB); and Amendment No. 1 to County Contract No. 2026-0596 between Malheur County and Lifeways Inc. (2026-2027 PSRB Liability, 3rd Party Amendment). Commissioner Jacobs seconded and the motion passed unanimously. See instrument # [2026-0614](#)

Vote: JM/RJ/DJ in favor. Approved.

FAIR BOARD

Commissioner Jacobs moved to appoint Cody Franklin and Dave Tiffany to the Fair Board, as recommended by the Fair Board. Commissioner Mendiola seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Cody Franklin and Dave Tiffany have been serving on the Fair Advisory Board. Cody Franklin will fill the position previously held by Leanna Elguezabal; and Dave Tiffany will fill the position previously held by Helen Thomas.

Vote: RJ/JM/DJ in favor. Approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

COURT ADJOURNMENT

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

Vote: JM/RJ/DJ in favor. Approved.