

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Information and updates for the Mayor and City Council

August 13, 2026

Upcoming Events & Meetings

Meeting/Event	Date	Time	Location
City Council Work Session	August 12, 2026	4 to 6 p.m.	City Hall Council Chambers/Virtual
August 19 & August 26: Summer Break, no meeting			
Developer Roundtable	August 31, 2026	4 to 6 p.m.	Public Works Campus/Virtual
City Council Executive Session City Council Business Meeting	September 2, 2026	5 p.m. 6 p.m.	City Hall Council Chambers/Virtual
City Council Work Session	September 9, 2026	4 to 6:30 p.m.	City Hall Council Chambers/Virtual

[View the Full Council Schedule Here](#)

Public Agency & Community Partner Updates

League of Oregon Cities Bulletin

The latest edition of the **LOC Bulletin** is available. Highlights include:

- **Transportation Survey:** The LOC and the Oregon Department of Transportation are asking cities to complete this year's transportation surveys to help inform future transportation funding and policy decisions.
- **League of Oregon Cities 101st Annual Conference:** Join city officials from across Oregon, October 15–17 in Salem; registration is now open.



- **LOC Partners with Syncurrent to Help Cities Unlock Funding:** The LOC has a new partner to help Oregon cities identify, qualify, and pursue state and federal funding opportunities.

Central Oregon Villages Open Houses

Central Oregon Villages will host two community open houses as part of its neighborhood outreach efforts related to the organization's planned relocation to the Bear Creek and NE 15th Street area. The events will provide an opportunity for neighbors and community members to learn more about the program, ask questions, and tour the site.

Open House Dates

- **August 31** | 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. (For reference only; Councilors will be at the Developer Roundtable)
- **September 3** | 4:30 to 6:00 p.m.

Location: 425 NE 15th Street (please use the access point off of Bear Creek Road)

Councilors interested in learning more about Central Oregon Villages and its planned move are encouraged to attend (see Outlook invite).

Contact Brook Okeefe, City of Bend Homeless Services Coordinator, for more information at bokeefe@bendoregon.gov.

Department Updates

Wildfire Preparedness and Resilience Efforts Continue

Bend Fire & Rescue continues to expand its wildfire preparedness and resilience programs to help residents, neighborhoods, and the broader community reduce wildfire risk and strengthen resilience.

Defensible space and wildfire risk assessments have increased significantly in recent years, from an average of about 50 assessments annually prior to 2022 to 115 in 2023, approximately 200 in 2024, and 500 completed assessments in 2025. This year, 125 assessments have already been completed, with demand increasing as communities across the West experience significant wildfire activity.

Councilors, please review the attached **2026 mid-year summary** from Melissa Steele, Bend Fire & Rescue's Deputy Fire Marshal for Wildfire Preparedness (msteele@bendoregon.gov). Highlights include implementation of Bend's first wildfire risk assessment software and mapping dashboard, expansion of the Firewise program to 75 sites, training volunteer assessors, completing 156 acres of fuels reduction, and advancing innovative partnerships,



policy initiatives, and community preparedness programs that continue to strengthen wildfire resilience throughout Bend.

Upcoming tour: To commemorate the 30th anniversary of the Skeleton Fire in Bend, Councilors will be invited to attend a driving/van tour of the Skeleton Fire burn scar. While the event is still in the planning stages, invitations will be extended in the near future.

HOME Committee Recommendations and Affordable Housing Progress Update

The Housing Options Made for Everyone (HOME) Committee reviewed its final recommendations during its July 9 meeting, and the draft August 12 HOME Committee Recommendations Memo is available on the HOME Committee [webpage](#).

As Council considers the scenario options presented by the HOME Committee, the following resources may be helpful:

- Staff are developing an additional graphic to help Council assess housing needs by AMI category.
 - **80% AMI Housing Data:** One Councilor has inquired about data specific to the 80% AMI segment. Matt Stuart, Director of Real Estate, Facilities, and Housing (mstuart@bendoregon.gov) shares the following:
 - Since the start of the Council biennium (July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2027), the City has permitted 357 deed-restricted affordable units at 80% AMI or below. See [data](#).
 - During calendar year 2025, 145 units at 80% AMI or below were completed. See [data](#).
 - From January 1 through August 6, 2026, 23 units at 80% AMI or below have been completed, primarily through Habitat for Humanity and Thistle & Nest projects. Nine Peaks (Housing Works) is expected to receive its Certificate of Occupancy shortly, adding another 45 affordable units and bringing the 2026 total to 68 completed units (at 80% AMI or below).
 - While several large affordable housing projects are currently under construction and anticipated to come online in 2027, 108 affordable apartments at Parkside Place and 98 affordable apartments at Cascade Landing will be available for tenant applications before the end of this calendar year.
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Monthly Social Media and Media Report

For the month of July, the top community topics and themes observed in media and social media by the Communications & Engagement Department included:



- Infrastructure & Transportation: Road projects, transportation funding, construction impacts, and growth-related infrastructure.
- Housing and Growth: Housing supply, affordability, homelessness funding, development policy, and economic development.
- Community Preparedness: Wildfire preparedness and emergency response.

For more information, including media coverage of the City and social media engagement, see the **July Social Media and Media Monitoring Report**.

View Previous City Manager's Reports



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You can obtain this information in alternate formats such as Braille, electronic format, etc. Free language assistance services are also available. Please email accessibility@bendoregon.gov or call 541-693-2198. Relay Users Dial 7-1-1. All requests are subject to vendor processing times and should be submitted 48-72 hours in advance of events.

Servicios de asistencia lingüística e información sobre alojamiento para personas con discapacidad

Puede obtener esta información en formatos alternativos como Braille, formato electrónico, etc. También disponemos de servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Póngase en contacto en correo electrónico accessibility@bendoregon.gov o número de teléfono 541-693-2198. Los usuarios del servicio de retransmisión deben marcar el 7-1-1. Por favor, envíe sus solicitudes con 48-72 horas de antelación al evento; todas las solicitudes están sujetas a los tiempos de procesamiento del proveedor.