



CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP #2 GUIDE

The Bend We Are Making

Date: Wednesday, September 23, 2026

Time: 2:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Location: City of Bend Public Works Campus, Prowell Springs Room — 21051 NE Talus Pl., Bend, OR 97701

This is the agenda guide for City Council Workshop #2, the second of a two-part Workshop series with City Council to launch the Bend Made Project. It includes a recap of Workshop #1 and the intent and goals of both sessions.

About Bend Made

'Bend Made' is the City of Bend's plan for the next 20 years, building how the city grows with intention and purpose. Community involvement is built into every step. The plan coordinates housing, infrastructure, and jobs as one system, so where we live, how we get around, and how we make a living all grow together. Oregon requires cities to plan for future growth. Bend Made is how our community chooses to do it — shaped by the people who live here, now and for decades to come. It is our time to connect, imagine, and decide who Bend becomes — together.

City Council September 2026 Workshops

These two workshops mark the start of that process for Bend Made. Before the conversation opens to the wider community, Council gets a first look at the plan's foundation and a chance to share early priorities and initial direction. Workshop #1 walked through Bend's Past and Present — how the city got here and where it stands today — along with a preview of what is ahead. Workshop #2 turns to the Future, weighing the paths Bend could take next, and closes with Visioning — the Bend We Are Making — the public launch of Community Visioning.

These workshops do not include public comment or real-time audience engagement, because this time is intended to listen to the City Council before asking the community for their perspective through online and in-person engagement starting September 23rd. Content discussed with Council is available for the community to weigh in on as the project webpage and the Bend We Are Making visioning effort launch alongside this workshop. The project will include many opportunities for public input throughout the planning process.

Workshop #1 Recap

Workshop #1 (September 14) walked Council through How Bend Became Bend – an Urban Morphology Assessment and Equity Analysis history – and Where Bend Stands, Bend's current policy trajectory including housing market data, development trends, and how Bend's existing Transportation System Plan compares to new state requirements. The session closed with What's Coming, a discussion of the outside forces (the Drivers of Change) shaping Bend's future, including climate impacts and evolving state planning rules. Workshop #2 builds directly on that foundation, turning from Bend's Past and Present to its Future.

Workshop #2 Agenda & Guidance

Purpose

This session explores three hypothetical growth futures for Bend to explore how different growth strategies produce different outcomes, drawing on transportation modeling and lessons learned from peer cities Boulder and Bellingham. Council will react to how each future performs across climate, market, transportation, and placemaking, then turns to Visioning – naming the values that should guide the Bend Made plan going forward. The session closes with the public launch of the Community Visioning process, the Bend We Are Making.

Council Priorities & Direction

Council's reactions to the three futures, and the values that emerge from the visioning exercises, set the standard the project team will use to evaluate real growth scenarios during the Strategize phase of Bend Made (2027–2028), which becomes official when the Comprehensive Plan is adopted in 2029.

Workshop #2 Agenda Topics & Materials

Pre-work materials include prompts for both City Council (at the workshop) and the community (in the online engagement tool launching September 23rd). These prompts will be discussed live with Council at the workshop. Similar and additional prompts will be available for the community to engage with as the project website launches, as part of the Vision phase of the project – The Bend We Are Making.

Agenda Topic	Prompts for Council Input	How to Prepare in Advance
Hypothetical Futures & Implications		
Hypothetical Futures Presentation & Q&A	- What appeals to you about each future? - What concerns you about each future? - What do you want the team to explore further before real scenarios?	Review the pre-work materials: - City Council Workshop #2 presentation – this is the most important material to review prior to the workshop as it draws from other pre-work material and includes more information. - Technical Summary and Appendices – this includes materials included in the City Council Workshop #2 presentation plus additional technical documentation of the

Agenda Topic	Prompts for Council Input	How to Prepare in Advance
		methodology used in the land use and transportation “hypothetical futures” analysis with other supporting information. Learning from peers: Infill and Vehicle Miles Traveled in practice Please come with clarifying questions and be ready to respond to the prompts.
The Bend We Are Making – Council Visioning		
Futures to Values Activity	- When something appealed to you about a hypothetical future, which of your values did it support? - When something concerned you about a hypothetical future, which of your values felt at risk?	No additional materials to review — this exercise builds directly on the futures discussion earlier in the session. Please come prepared to reflect personally on the values behind your own reactions to each future, not just the reactions themselves. Councilors will be asked to write down what values were supported or at risk by the hypothetical futures and post them to a visible board in the room at the meeting. This will be used to identify Council values.
Plan Outcomes Activity	“In 2050, Bend is a place where ____.”	Builds on the two prior reflection exercises. Please think in advance about the kind of place you want Bend to be by 2050. Aim for statements at the scale of a plan outcome (“Bend is a place where people feel welcome”) and not a single project (“Bend has a protected bike lane on 3rd Street by 2030”). Each Councilor will be asked to draft three Plan Outcome statements and identify which Plan theme the outcome statement is most relevant to: - Our People & Belonging - Homes & Neighborhoods - Jobs & the Economy - Growth & Urbanization - Nature & Climate - Getting Around.
Plan Outcomes Prioritization Exercise	—	No pre-work needed. This is a live dot-voting exercise on the outcome cards posted during the Plan Outcomes Discussion — please come ready to walk the room and weigh in on which outcomes matter most to you.
Final Plan Outcomes Round-Robin	What kind of Bend do you want to leave for the next generation?	Builds on Councilor Plan outcome statements and prioritization from earlier in the session — no outside materials to review. Each Councilor will be asked to share what kind of Bend they want to leave for the next generation thinking about the Plan outcomes that were raised by each Councilor and which ones were prioritized by the group.

Workshop #2 Pre-Work Materials

Please review the following materials in advance of the September 23 workshop:

- **2. (Most important to review) Bend Made Workshop #2 Presentation** – the presentation slides that will be covered in person with City Council, including the recap of Workshop #1, the Hypothetical Futures findings, and the Bend We Are Making Activity prompts.
- **3. Technical Summary and Appendices: Overview of Hypothetical Futures Modeling & Land Use Translation Assumptions** – overview of the technical methodology and assumptions for the transportation modeling and land use translation for the three hypothetical futures: True Trend, High Urbanization, and Edge Rebalancing.
- **4. Learning From Peers: Infill and Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) In Practice** – research and results of interviews with peer cities to provide insights that may help Bend achieve state requirements.

After the Workshops

The workshops mark the public launch of Bend Made. The project's first phase – the Bend We Are Making – is a six to eight-month community visioning engagement opportunity. Visioning prompts explored with Council at the workshops and the Community (through the Visioning phase) will be used to develop a Vision Statement for Bend early next year that will be used to evaluate and guide Bend's growth strategy in future phases.

Following the workshops, the City Council will receive an update on Bend's housing needs in October 2026, then continue to meet on roughly a quarterly basis. A project committee formed in the fall of 2026, and community engagement activities will provide additional avenues for public engagement to help inform the planning process.



Over the next year, the Project Team will work to better understand Bend's housing, job, and land needs to strategize and compare ways Bend could grow, with community involvement built into every step.

Ready to Shape Bend's Future?

Visit bendoregon.gov/bendmade to sign up for project updates, check for details on upcoming events, project materials, and other ways to get involved.





Accommodation Information for People with Disabilities & Language Assistance Services

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.