

# City Manager's Report

## Information and Updates for the Mayor and City Council

June 30, 2023

### UPCOMING EVENTS AND MEETINGS

MEETING/EVENT	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Council Meeting	July 19	3 p.m. Quarterly Update 5 p.m. Work Session 7 p.m. Regular Meeting	Council Chambers / Virtual
Council Meeting	August 2	5 p.m. Work Session 7 p.m. Regular Meeting	Council Chambers / Virtual

[VIEW THE FULL COUNCIL SCHEDULE](#)

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## PUBLIC AGENCY AND COMMUNITY PARTNER UPDATES

### October 2022 Houseless Count

Commission Adair shared information she received from Scott Cooper at NeighborImpact in October 2022 regarding disaggregated data on homeless characteristics pulled from the Homeless Management Information System:

#### Current Active Homeless Count in Deschutes County

Total number of people actively experiencing homelessness in Deschutes County, as of September 2022

- Total Unique Individuals - 859.
- Total number experiencing chronic homelessness – 157
  - (Chronic homelessness has been defined as a single individual (or head of household) with a disabling condition who has either: Experienced homelessness



for longer than a year, or on at least 4 separate occasions in the last 3 years, as long as the combined occasions equal at least 12 months during which time the individual may have lived in a shelter, Safe Haven, or a place not meant for human habitation.)

- Veterans – 55
  - Chronic Veterans – 14 (25.4% of veterans experiencing homelessness)

#### **Current Active Homeless Count in Deschutes County Aggregated by Gender**

- Female – 360
- Male – 476
- A gender other than singularly female or male – 12
- Transgender- 1
- Questioning- 1
- Refused- 3
- Data not collected – 6

#### **Current Active Homeless Count in Deschutes County Aggregated by Age**

- Children (ages 0-17) – 59
- Transitional Aged Youth (ages 18-24) – 66
  - Chronically homeless Transitional Aged Youth – 14 (21% of youth experiencing homelessness)
- Adults – 724 (25+ years of age)
- Adults + Transitional Age Youth – 790 (18+ years of age)

#### **Current Active Homeless Count in Deschutes County Aggregated by Household Type**

- Households with Children – 26 (68 unique individuals in households)
- Households without Children – 19 (35 unique individuals in household)
  - Households without children is characterized when adults enter a project with other people who are not minor children. This could be a couple without children, a parent with an adult child, or another combination that results without a minor child. We and HUD make this distinction from single individuals, as the needs of single individuals experiencing homelessness have a variety of different needs than households without children experiencing homelessness .
- Unaccompanied Children – 2
- Single Individuals – 595

#### **Homeless less than 6 months**

From our data, we are unable to accurately pull all individuals who have been experiencing an episode of homelessness that is less than 6 months. However, we are able to pull all individuals that have experienced homelessness for the first time and have actively experienced homelessness for less than 6 months.



- Households with children first time homeless & actively experiencing homeless for less than 6 months – 10 (23 unique individuals)
- Households without children first time homeless and actively experiencing homeless for less than 6 months – 3 (9 unique individuals)
- Single individuals first time homeless and actively experiencing homeless for less than 6 months – 105

### Homeless more than 5 years

We were able to identify 68 single individuals (3 transitional aged youth) who were first served by a homeless service provider more than 5 years ago who are actively experiencing homelessness. With the data that we have, we are able to show throughout the last 2 years, 56 individuals have been high utilizers of homeless services, either through shelter stays and/or engagement with Street Outreach workers. 12 of the individuals did have large periods of times of not utilizing services and 4 of them returned to homelessness from a housed situation, two during the month of September, one in July, and one in May, who are all actively experiencing homelessness.

From the data that we have, we are unable to identify individuals who have been continuously homeless for more than 5 years.

### How long someone has been in Oregon

Unfortunately, this is not a data metric that is collected by service providers. A variation of the question is asked only during the annual Point in Time Count.

### LinkedIn Workforce Report – Bend #1 Place For Remote or Hybrid Jobs

LinkedIn’s recent article titled **Looking for Remote or Hybrid Jobs? These 20 U.S. Cities Set the Pace** ranks Bend as the #1 location, with 73.5% of jobs fitting under the remote or hybrid category.

“Bend continues to rank No. 1 in remote-job enthusiasm among all U.S. metro areas with at least 100,000 residents. (It also claimed the top spot two years ago in **a similar LinkedIn analysis** of remote-job applications.)

For more than a decade, Bend has welcomed digital nomads who enjoy the riverside community’s hiking, biking and kayaking options. During the pandemic, many engineers relocated to Bend from Silicon Valley and Seattle jobs. Some of those arrangements may be sunsetting, while the volume of available remote jobs **has been shrinking**.

Nonetheless, the latest data suggests that remote-minded workers in Bend and similar cities are dominating the job-application picture, applying widely in hopes of finding another work-from-anywhere employer.”

### Juneteenth Celebration – Thank You from The Father’s Group!



Good afternoon,

I wanted to extend a ginormous THANK YOU to all included on this email for your support and participation in the first ever *Journey to Juneteenth Scavenger Hunt*. The winners of the Scavenger Hunt were two VERY excited young students that literally sprinted to the finish line to claim the title of TOP SPOT winners, successfully completing all legs of the Scavenger Hunt. I've attached a photo of the winners so you can see who toughed it out!

Additionally, I wanted to let you all know that over the course of this Scavenger Hunt, the pages were scanned by 185 Unique Users and 30+ repeated visitors to almost all locations. With these numbers, I'm quite pleased with participation that was a good mix of social media post driven traffic and organic scans out of curiosity for the first run of the Scavenger Hunt. We are already in the beginning stages of planning next year's activity with a few tweaks based on the information we are gathering internally based on tracked metrics, community feedback and participant reviews.

As we approach next year, we would like to invite you to participate again as we are working out details much earlier for next years hunt! We exploring an even more dynamic activity set to educate the community, introduce them to this important holiday, and give the community something incredibly fun to do!

And with that, here's a pic of myself, Our President (David Merritt), VP (Kelly Musgrove) and our Treasurer AND Event Coordinator: Natasha James, Nyla the dog and our two winners!



Kenny Adams | He/Him  
**Executive Director**  
541-948-9334



## Bend Vision Project Update from Envision Bend

Dear Leadership Alliance Partners:

I am pleased to inform you that we are closing in on a complete draft of the community's five-year Vision Action Plan. We anticipate providing you with a version of the final Vision Action Plan in September and printed copies of the plan will be publicly released on Sept. 21 at a community celebration event (*details TBA*).

The impact of this plan will raise awareness and align strategic efforts across the region to address large community challenges and improve residents' quality of life. We anticipate this plan will build new collaborations, spur the creation of new organizations, and bring in state level and private funding to our region.

The plan has **four focus areas**:

- Guiding our Growth
- Ensuring a Safe, Healthy Environment
- Building an Economy for Everyone
- Cultivating an Inclusive Community

Each of the focus areas will include one large "Game Changer" project selected for its ability to have a transformative impact on the entire community, five additional strategies, and a single "Quick Win" project to build early momentum.

We have identified **lead partners** for each of the projects and strategies. The lead partners are public, private, and non-profit organizations that are in the best position to adopt specific community ideas and bring them to fruition. We are fortunate to have many of the leading community organizations represented on the Envision Bend Leadership Alliance as well as on our **Vision Action Teams**.

Draft Strategies: One of the four game-changer projects that emerged, for example, is a project to **relocate the BNSF railroad switchyards** to publicly-owned, undeveloped lands south of the Urban Growth Boundary, reducing automobile traffic congestion, noise and potential safety issues and environmental hazards, and equitably repurposing vacated right-of-way for possible redevelopment.

Other game-changer projects include: a once-in-a-generation campaign to **preserve the 33,000-acre Skyline Forest** just west of the city for its conservation, wildfire safety and recreational values; a community-wide initiative to increase affordable workforce housing options close to major employers; and establishing greater Bend as "laboratory city" for belonging, taking our heritage of being a welcoming community to the next level in this era of social and cultural divisions.

Among the 20+ additional strategies: establish a Drake-to-Juniper pedestrian corridor including the proposed Hawthorne Street Bridge; expanding education, training and certification programs for health care workers in Bend; an arts "hub and spokes" strategy to promote the long-envisioned center for the arts while investing in accessible and affordable arts venues across the city; and developing an



integrated urban tree strategy to protect Bend's native trees and promote equitable tree cover for all areas of the city.

In short, the plan is turning community input into strategies to move us forward. Aligning and refining what we heard to create actionable strategies at the edge of some of our largest challenges and our largest opportunities: Affordable Housing, Child Care, Transportation, Connecting East-West, Homelessness, Increasing Community Belonging, Arts and Culture, Workforce Development, etc.

All elements of the draft Action Plan are now being reviewed by the Envision Bend Board and tested with key community stakeholders and identified lead partners. The plan also will feature an overall community vision, a list of community shared values, and other information to engage the community.

Thanks to your generous support as a Leadership Alliance partner, Envision Bend is now strategically positioned to shepherd implementation over the next 5+ years. While the vision process approaches the end of nearly 3 years of work, Envision Bend will serve as the non-partisan convener and steward of these impactful community projects.

Together for the future of greater Bend,



David White

Board Chair



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## PROJECT AND PROGRAM UPDATES

### CouncilAll Email Summary

49 total emails were sent to CouncilAll between June 6<sup>th</sup> and June 19<sup>th</sup>. The top themes and concerns included:

- Housing Development/Urban Growth
- Homelessness
- Bike/Pedestrian Issues

For more information, view the current [CouncilAll Summary Report](#).

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## CAAB Letter to BURA/Council on Recommended Work Plan Priorities

Allison Platt provided **this letter from the Core Area Advisory Board** outlining their recommended work plan priorities for the upcoming biennium. Ben Hemson will bring this forward at a future Council meeting (likely in September) for your consideration.

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## DEPARTMENT UPDATES

### Transportation & Mobility Monthly Street Saver Report

The **Monthly Street Saver Report** is available with data through May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023.

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### Letter of Appreciate for Bend Fire

Chief Riley shared this **Thank You Letter** with some very positive community feedback regarding our response to a structure fire in Broken Top.

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## VIEW PREVIOUS CITY MANAGER'S REPORTS

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### Accommodation Information for People with Disabilities

To obtain this information in an alternate format such as Braille, large print, electronic formats, etc. please contact Meghan Goss at [mgoss@bendoregon.gov](mailto:mgoss@bendoregon.gov) or 541-323-7165.

