

Affordable Housing Advisory Committee

Role of the Board

- Advises City Council and City staff on Housing matters.
- Evaluates proposals for Community Development Block Grant funding and other available resources that promote housing development.
- Responds to Council when requested to consider proposed policies.

2024 Board Members

Board members: Mandy Dalrymple (Chair), Alison Hohengarten, Ian Karasz, Tony Levison, Isabel Milkovich, Richard Reese, Helen Silfven, Heather Simmons, Geoff Wall

Council liaison: Megan Perkins

Staff liaison: Racheal Baker

2024 Board Accomplishments

1. Evaluated proposals for housing and community development resources and made funding recommendations to Council.
2. Reviewed and recommended the Bend Parks and Recreation District waive System Development Charges (SDCs) for the development of 137 dwelling units.
3. Supported proposed Council actions impacting housing, such as the System Development Charges Methodology and the Bend Urban Renewal Agency Tax Increment Financing Assistance Policy.

Priorities for 2025-27 Council Goal Setting

- Suggestions: Revisit property tax exemptions with special districts for middle-income and accessory dwelling unit rental housing.
- Input
 - Surplus Juniper Ridge property for affordable housing development.
 - Encourage/support funding proposals for homeownership downpayment assistance to first time homebuyers.
- Recommendations for Council consideration
 - Funding exploration work group for housing production targets.
 - Develop sustainable funding strategy for City owned low-barrier shelters with related services.
 - Unlock infill for small lot development after assessing the potential housing production benefits, i.e. sidewalk connectivity and or right of way easements/vacations.
 - Continue enacting policies for greater middle-income housing development, such as SDC extended deferrals and/or property tax exemptions.

Bend Economic Development Advisory Board

Role of the Board

- Advocate by providing input into City policy and procedures from a private sector perspective.
- Facilitate economic development activity by brokering entrepreneurial support among existing community resources.
- Market Bend as “Open for Business”.
- Coordinate and oversee City resources applied to economic development.

2024 Board Members

Briana Manfrass, DaWayne Judd, Gary North, Jenn Lynch, Jillian Taylor, Mark Kroncke, Petra Oroslanova, Ryan Andrews, Tierney Booker

Mayor Pro Tem, Megan Perkins

Business Advocate, Cyrus Mooney

2024 Board Accomplishments

1. Provided input on the policy formation and implementation of the Transportation Fee, including a phased approach to reaching the full revenue target
2. Provided recommendations to City staff on the System Development Charge (SDC) methodology update, including the need to consider exempting childcare facilities
3. Approved and recommended adjusting the rate of increases for permit fees, established 6-month check ins with CEDD Director to determine rate increases moving forward for building, planning and private development engineering

Priorities for 2025-27 Council Goal Setting

- Establishing a separate Council Goal for Economic Development specifically
- Continue to make progress on creating a vetted, comprehensive economic development strategy and action plan

- Explore opportunities for strategic investment in small business support programs, such as expanding resources for the Central Oregon Innovation Hub/OSU-C, Youth Career Connect, Small Business Development Center, etc.

City of Bend Accessibility Advisory Committee

Role of the Committee

- The City of Bend's Accessibility Advisory Committee's purpose is to assist and advise the city on the most efficient and responsible means by which to make its programs, services, activities and facilities accessible to all of Bend's residents and visitors.

Current Board Members

- Liz Woodfin, Chair
- Derek Hofbauer, Vice Chair
- John Heylin
- Liz Diether-Martin
- Stephanie Utzman
- Whitney Bennett
- Aaron Rivers
- Amanda Hamer
- Carl Burnett
- Andrew Caruana (2025 appointment)
- Ian Isaacson (2025 appointment)
- Mariah Tennison (2025 alternate member)
- Alysa MacRae (2025 alternate member)
 - 2024 COBAAC member Kori Sparks served 6 years, and her term ended January 2025.
 - 2024 COBAAC member Nicholas Radon served 4 years, resigned in Nov 2024

Council Liaison: Vacant, City Councilor Barb Campbell historically served as Council liaison

Cassandra Kehoe, Accessibility and Equity Manager, COBAAC Staff liaison

2024 COBAAC Accomplishments

1. **DISABILITY ADVOCACY + AWARENESS BUILDING EVENTS:** COBAAC hosted the 2024 Walk and Roll event – bringing City Staff, City Councilors, BPRD, Commute Options, and community stakeholders together to discuss infrastructure and accessibility. The event served as an opportunity to view transportation and mobility

on City ROW (streets and sidewalks) from an accessibility lens. The event included discussions on how to report Barrier Removal Requests, creating a BendWorks account and submitting a new request, and creating awareness around the impact of our infrastructure on members of our community who have a disability.

2. **LEADERSHIP BEND ACCESSIBILITY PROJECT:** COBAAC, in conjunction with the Accessibility Department, worked with Leadership Bend's 2024 Cohort on an Accessibility initiative that created evergreen resources for local businesses related to accessibility (both in-store and virtually) on the City of Bend website. (<https://www.bendoregon.gov/services/business/accessibility-resources>)
3. **CONNECTION TO COMMUNITY:** COBAAC continued to develop positive rapport and raise awareness within the community. COBAAC serves as a safe space for community members to express access concerns and is an important venue for raising awareness, all while contemplating creative solutions and collaboration between COBAAC members, the Accessibility and Equity Department, City Manager's Office, and other departments within the City.

Priorities for 2025-27 Council Goal Setting

- **ACCESSIBILITY AT THE OUTSET:** Ensure that Accessibility is considered at the core of all developed policy goals and included in the planning phases of all projects and initiatives.
- **JOIN US!** COBAAC extends an open invitation to all City Councilors to attend a 2025 COBAAC meeting to witness the committee in action, and to review their upcoming 2025 Work Plan.
- **ONGOING COBAAC AND ACCESSIBILITY DEPARTMENT SUPPORT:** Support for the Accessibility and Equity Department's initiatives around accessibility, including the Transition Plan and Self-Evaluation, Title II Reasonable Modifications and community events and programming.

The Core Area Advisory Board

Role of the Board

- Advise the Bend Urban Renewal Agency on implementation of the Core Area Tax Increment Financing Plan.
- The Plan identifies a variety of projects and a funding source (tax increment) to invest in the area over the next 30 years as it transforms into an urban, mixed-use area where people can live, work, and play.
- Make recommendations directly to City Council on actions that support implementation of the Tax Increment Financing Plan.

2024 Board Members

• Corie Harlan	• Jeff Baker
• Dale Van Valkenberg	• John Heylin
• Dawn Cofer	• Katherine (Kathy) Austin
• Hank Kamakaala	• Jonathan Taylor, Urban Renewal Project Manager
• James Teeter	
• John Fischer	• Megan Perkins, Councilor

2024 Board Accomplishments

1. Implemented \$100,000 in Small Business Assistance Grants
2. Assisted in the creation of the Tax Increment Assistance for Housing Affordability and Employment Growth Policies
3. Initiated the 2nd Street Modernization and Improvement Project which invests \$4.3 million dollars in 2nd Street revitalization

Priorities for 2025-27 Council Goal Setting

- FOR BURA
 - Assist with the drafting of the Urban Renewal Investment Strategy
 - Assist with implementing the proposed Investment Strategy
 - Joint meetings with overlapping boards to identify shared goals
- FOR COUNCIL
 - Spur development and unlock infill development opportunities
 - Continue with advising on the Midtown Crossings Project
 - Focus on greater sense of safety in the Bend Central District

Advisory Board Name: Environment and Climate Committee

Role of the Board

- Develop recommendations for programs, policies, initiatives, and partnerships to advance implementation of the Community Climate Action Plan (CCAP)
- Recommend updates to the Community Climate Action Plan to ensure it helps the City meet its climate action goals
- Provide input for the City Council on matters related to environmental stewardship, including developing new policy related to environmental stewardship and providing input on the City's development of plans, ordinances, actions, and policies with an environmental lens are relevant

2024 Board Members

Board member names: Andrew Calise, Kavi Chokshi, Kellie Jensen, Laura Tabor, Mark Buckley, Neil Baunsgard, Nick Millar, Ray Hartwell, Rory Isbell, Scott Nordquist, Smita Mehta

Council liaison: Megan Norris

Staff liaison: Cassie Lacy

2024 Board Accomplishments

1. Reviewing policy options and developing a policy recommendation for the Council regarding how to encourage electrification of homes and buildings in Bend
2. Working to update the Community Climate Action Plan by identifying new actions for greenhouse gas emissions reductions and refining actions from the existing plan to better achieve the City's greenhouse gas reduction goals
3. Successfully advocating for and securing additional staff support for implementing CCAP programs

Priorities for 2025-27 Council Goal Setting

1. Develop and execute an outreach and education program – Create and disseminate content through various media channels and activities to promote CCAP strategies and encourage individual action to reduce climate impact.
2. Develop and launch an energy navigator program – Implement a program that helps residents and businesses identify opportunities for energy efficiency, renewable energy, and electrification. This program will connect participants with financial and contractor resources and provides support for completing upgrades.
3. Develop electrification policies – Develop new regulations, incentives, and/or programs to encourage electrification based on Council direction and insights from the Electrification Policy Options Analysis.
4. Install public EV charging stations – Select optimal locations and complete the installation of multiple public EV charging stations to support the transition to electric vehicles.
5. Promote waste prevention and re-use – implement a program that promotes re-use and waste prevention in the community
6. Encourage VMT reduction – through land use policy and improving transportation options
7. Launch a community partner grant program – Create a grant program to fund community partners who deliver projects aligned with CCAP strategies.
8. Identify and secure a sustainable funding source for CCAP implementation – Identify and establish a new revenue source to provide a permanent funding stream for implementing CCAP projects and programs.

Advisory Board Name: Human Rights and Equity Commission

Role of the Board

The HREC's primary goal is to advise the City Council on policies and practices that impact equity, human rights, and inclusion within the community. The Commission works to identify barriers to equity and to recommend strategies for dismantling those barriers. The HREC strives to create systemic change that benefits the entire community by centering the voices of those most impacted by inequity.

2024 Board Members

Board member names

- Chair Agatha Ventura
- Vice Chair Jeff Kitchens
- Council Connector Jackie Currie
- Commissioner Connector Scott Jones
- Adrianne McDougal
- Cameron Fischer
- Carly Colgan
- Eli Loewenstern
- Linda Hiemer
- Ruth Vernotico
- Vanessa Covington
- 2 Vacancies

Council liaison

- Megan Perkins

Staff Liaison

- Andres Portela, Equity and Inclusion Director

2024 Board Accomplishments

1. Accomplishment

- a. Assisted in the Update of the Stipend Program
- b. Recommendations on the Camping Code
- c. Community Engagement Events: Pride and Juneteenth
- d. Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Feedback and Review
- e. Rewrote the Workplan for HREC
- f. Elected New Leadership

Priorities for 2025-27 Council Goal Setting

- Suggestions /
 - Using HREC to engage with Communities traditionally left out of these processes.
 - Presenting data at a high level as a community overview and integrating this into the projects across city services.
- Input /
- Recommendations for Council consideration
 - Leading with data that centers on Bend residents. HREC has been charged with reducing barriers to equity and frequently doesn't have or hear the appropriate data to create systemic change.

Landmarks Commission

Role of the Board

- The Commission conducts quasi-judicial public hearings for certain project applications affecting historic resources.
- The Commission seeks to preserve historic structures and bring non-conforming structures back into conforming status.
- The Commission oversees applications for the Old Bend and Drake Park Historic Districts as well as other individually designated historic structures throughout the City.

2024 Board Members

Board member names:

- Andy Coughlin - Chair
- Jim Figurski - Vice Chair
- Kathy Nagel Hood
- Sean Quinlivan
- Tom Schmidt
- Heidi Slaybaugh

Council liaison: Mike Reily

Staff liaison: Heidi Kennedy

2024 Board Accomplishments

1. Code Audit Project- Commission nearly completed a list of recommended Bend Historic Preservation Code changes for consideration by Council. Specific project outcome would include recommendations for code language changes that a.) reflect concerns raised by Commissioner and staff; b.) meet state and federal laws and rules; c) protect historic properties while providing clear code language that will be user friendly for property owners of historic properties.

2. Approved controlled demolition and mapped stone preservation of AJ Tucker building for future rebuilding to make way for Deschutes County Courthouse expansion.
3. Reviewed and approved 4 applications in 2024 including renovations, demolition and new construction for properties in the Old Bend and Drake Park Historic Districts.

Priorities for 2025-27 Council Goal Setting

- **Suggestions** / Promote livable and walkable communities and increased housing in the central core without compromising historic character. Bike and sidewalk transportation networks can be improved and vehicle traffic can be calmed to help achieve these goals.
- **Input** / The Old Bend Neighborhood is among the most walkable residential neighborhood in Bend and development in and around the neighborhood can help the city meet Oregon's Climate-Friendly Areas goals.
- **Recommendations for Council consideration** / Consider code change recommendations from Landmarks Commission to make Historic Code standards clearer for designers and homeowners.

Planning Commission

Role of the Board

- Review and act on quasi-judicial land use applications
- Review and make recommendations to City Council on amendments to the Bend Comprehensive Plan, Zoning Map, and Bend Development Code
- Act as the Citizen Involvement Committee within the Urban Growth Boundary and advise the City Council on citizen involvement programs.

2024 Board Members

Board member names: Margo Clinton, Scott Winters, Jeff Payne, Suzanne Johannsen, Nathan Nelson, Bob Gressens

Council liaison: Melanie Kebler

Staff liaison: Renee Brooke

2024 Board Accomplishments

1. The Commission considered and made recommendations to the City Council on many packages of proposed Development Code amendments, including:
 - a. Expanding opportunities to designate Neighborhood Commercial Sites adjacent to the Bend Central District.
 - b. Updating and modernizing development standards for housing, and especially middle housing
 - c. Revising boundaries of the Juniper Ridge Employment Sub-District
 - d. Implementing several House and Senate Bills related to increasing housing production and streamlining review of housing projects.
 - e. Implementing Council goals to prohibit new auto-dependent uses in the Convenience Commercial Zone.
2. The Commission considered and made recommendations to the City Council on updated tree preservation standards.
3. The Commission reviewed and approved a Waterway Overlay Zone application for BPRD's enhanced Deschutes River access project at Miller's Landing Park.

Priorities for 2025-27 Council Goal Setting

- The Planning Commission requests a joint Work Session with City Council to discuss Council policy priorities.
- Evaluate need for comprehensive expansion of the UGB, in addition to the one-time 100-acre expansion authorized by SB 1537.
- Consider developing local overlay zones to implement Climate Friendly Area (CFA)-related concepts, in addition to the state-mandated CFA areas.
- Pursue adoption/update of the Pedestrian Master Plan; prioritize pedestrian access; conduct a sidewalk inventory and develop a plan and funding mechanism to infill missing sidewalk segments on key walking routes.
- Modify the Development Code and other local codes to incentivize denser housing and alternative transportation options
- Encourage earlier public engagement and input; not just right before the public hearings (e.g., Citizen Assemblies)
- Evaluate (or reevaluate) incentives/standards for redevelopment of the Bend Central District. Consider if there are challenges that the City can address (e.g., ensure that firefighting capability is not hindering our ability to achieve high density housing on small sites).
- Make strides to allow/better incentivize small commercial nodes in residential areas; encourage more neighborhood commercial.

Transportation Bond Oversight Committee

Role of the Board ‘as an oversight and advisory role to:’

- Make recommendations to City Council on project sequencing and program savings, as proposed and adopted in the capital improvement program
- Provide input to and from the public for bond project transparency and accountability
- If additional funds become available, the TBOC committee may make recommendations for additional projects

2024 Board Members

Board member names – Sean Perkins (Chair), Scott Robinson (Vice-Chair), Denise LaBuda, Will Green, Sharlene Wills, Kim Ely, Dave Howe, Mason Lacy, Travis Widdifield

Council liaison – Barbara Campbell, Ariel Mendez

Staff liaison – Garrett Sabourin

2024 Board Accomplishments

1. Completed Projects: Wilson Avenue Ribbon Cutting, Neff Corridor, 2024 NSSP, Greenwood Ave Quick-Build – implementation of TBOC priorities
2. Design phase Projects: Portland Ave, Aune Extension, Butler Mkt Road, Midtown (Franklin and Hawthorne), 2025 NSSP, Olney Ped and Bike, Archie Briggs Trail Xing, Bend Bikeway, Neff Corridor, Reed Market Overcrossing, Reed Market & 15th Roundabout, Riverwest Key route
3. Pursued and received grant opportunities for Hawthorne Overcrossing and Reed Market Railroad Crossing – leverages Bond funding to increase opportunities for expansion of Bond program.
4. Community engagement to enhance public input and transparency for bond program and individual projects: Implementation of Bond Dashboard, two-pager quarterly program reporting, start development of annual report of Bond/TBOC activities for City Council.

Priorities for 2025-27 Council Goal Setting

- Transportation funding considerations for Bond projects exceeding anticipated budget from the original Bond resolution. TBOC would like to assist City Council in considering future project funding priorities as it may relate to any Bond project list additions/reductions. EG. Boyd Acres key route is currently unfunded due to Butler market (Bend Bikeway) added costs.
- Promote transparency through capital project planning and construction durations with early engagement and transparent communication at critical milestones of the project duration (ie. Concept planning, initial design, preconstruction). How does public input influence project design?
- Identify additional potential grant pursuits to reduce costs to transportation construction fund and general obligation fund. How could TBOC consider prioritizing CIP to align with grant funding pursuits?
- Update City Standards or initiate Bikeway Planning Program (TSP Table 5-2, P-4, pg 95) to improve scoping for transportation projects. Current process to deliver projects is adding cost and time to confirm scope direction. Outcomes are also resulting in significant increases in scope and cost due to added infrastructure. This could be mitigated through a larger bikeway planning effort as outlined in the transportation system plan to ensure we are maximizing our return on investment and building connected corridors.