
MEETING MINUTES

Joint Meeting of the Bend City Council and Deschutes County Board of Commissioners

Location: Public Works Campus Headquarters,
Prowell Springs Conference Room, Floor 3
21051 NE Talus Place, Bend, OR 97701

Date: 01/20/2026

Time: 3:00 p.m.

Joint Meeting of the Bend City Council and Deschutes County Board of Commissioners

1. Called to order by roll call at 3:05 p.m.

Present were:

Bend City Council: Mayor Melanie Kebler, Mayor Pro Tem Megan Perkins, Councilor Gina Franzosa, Councilor Megan Norris, and Councilor Steve Platt.

Councilor Mike Riley joined at 3:08 p.m.

Councilor Ariel Méndez joined at 3:42 p.m.

Deschutes County Board of Commissioners: Commissioner Phil Chang (Chair), Commissioner Tony DeBone (Vice Chair), Commissioner Patti Adair

2. Update and Direction on the Future of the City/County Temporary Safe Stay Area (TSSA)

Presenting Staff:

- City of Bend Real Estate, Facilities, and Housing Director Matt Stuart
- City of Bend Senior Program Manager Amy Fraley
- Deschutes County Deputy County Administrator Erik Kropp
- Deschutes County Property Manager Kristie Bollinger



The presenters provided an overview of the TSSA and discussed the intent and timeline of the area, section closure plans, enforcement undertaken in the TSSA, relevant housing and shelter costs, funding and other challenges and potential next steps. Presenters noted that the planned full closure is for September 2026 and reviewed the plan for closures in specific sections of the TSSA, specifically sections 1 and 2. They spoke about specific enforcement underway and associated operational expenses, which are shared by the City and the County. Presenters shared statistics relevant to services and engagement, including that the TSSA's population as of January 9, 2026, was 192 campers in 150 camps.

Discussion included costs of potential alternates, the length and timing of current contracts, and the potential to gain efficiencies through case management over time.

Board and Council discussed shared funding for a continuation of the TSSA which would cost a total of \$550,000. The group discussed the best and most efficient way to keep the population limited to those who are living in the TSSA at the time of the closure of sections 1 and 2, which will likely take place in June 2026.

The majority of City Councilors and County Commissioners agreed to extend the closure of sections 3 and 4 until June 2027, the splitting the management cost and exploring new rules to limit population growth with some flexibility. Both bodies committed to working towards a longer-term solution.

3. Update on the Coordination of Solid Waste Franchise Agreement Oversight

Presenting staff:

- City of Bend Assistant City Manager Stephanie Betteridge
- Deschutes County Director of Solid Waste Tim Brownell

Brownell gave an update on the Solid Waste Franchise Agreement, noting that during negotiations, an agreement was not reached with the current collection franchise holders and that the County will not renew its Franchise Agreements. Brownell then provided elements that the County will include in a new franchise agreement. Brownell shared a timeline to implement new franchise agreements.

Betteridge noted that the City's franchise agreements will automatically renew if Council does not notify the franchisees in writing of an intent to terminate. City Council will have an opportunity at the February 4, 2026, City Council meeting to vote on termination of the agreements.

4. Update on Key Initiatives and Projects

a. Stabilization Center: City use of Opioid Funds

Presenting staff:

- Deschutes County Behavioral Health Director Shannon Brister-Raugust
- Deschutes County Stabilization Center Program Manager Nicole Keith



Keith provided an overview of the Stabilization Center, including anticipated funding, deficits, and funding sources at risk. City Manager Eric King proposed a minimum of \$200,000 annual funding commitment from the City of Bend, for Opioid Settlement Funds.

Discussion included that approximately 64% of the people utilizing services are from Bend, and various operating costs and administrative costs. The Center is attempting to clarify commitments moving forward from the Sheriff's Office and regional cities utilizing the Center.

b. Legislative Update ahead of the Short Session

Mayor Kebler reviewed the top legislative priorities for the City in the upcoming Short Session, noting that if specific funding for housing is not realized, the City will need to close housing options related to that funding.

Commissioner DeBone noted that a priority of Deschutes County is Community Corrections, and Commissioner Chang highlighted a potential wildfire insurance bill and a manufactured homes concept.

Commissioner Chang asked about transportation funding, specifically regarding highway funding. King stated that the Council will be discussing the topic over the next month and noted various funding sources which may be implicated in a potential solution. Regarding the transportation bill, the Board of Commissioners will remain neutral.

c. CORE 3 Public Safety Facility

Commissioner DeBone provided an update on the CORE 3 Public Safety Facility, including the status of the final design, associated planning, and the location. Another possible step includes a Public Private Partnership to assist with funding.

5. Adjourned at 4:47 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Trisha Savage

City of Bend Deputy Recorder



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