



CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

Information and updates for the Mayor and City Council

March 20, 2026

Upcoming Events & Meetings

Meeting/Event	Date	Time	Location
<i>March 25 – Spring Break – Work Session Cancelled</i>			
BURA Executive Session (5 p.m.) Council Executive Session (5:15 p.m.) City Council Business Meeting	April 1, 2026	6 p.m.	City Hall Council Chambers/Virtual
City Council Work Session	April 8, 2026	4-6 p.m.	Prowell Springs Room, Public Works Campus/Virtual
City Council Business Meeting	April 15, 2026	6 p.m.	City Hall Council Chambers/Virtual
City Council Work Session	April 22, 2026	4-6 p.m.	City Hall Council Chambers/Virtual
<i>April 29 – 5th Wednesday – No meeting</i>			

[View the Full Council Schedule Here](#)

Public Agency & Community Partner Updates

League of Oregon Cities Bulletin

[Read the most recent LOC Bulletin here.](#) Highlights from this edition include:

The League of Oregon Cities is offering a series of training courses designed for local government professionals, from grant writing, media training, communication, writing for the web, and public contracting. The League is calling for session ideas for the upcoming October



15-17 conference in Salem. Cities with water infrastructure needs are invited to join a webinar on April 8.

Department Updates

Recycling Contamination Reduction Pilot Program Launching This Spring

As part of Oregon’s Recycling Modernization Act (RMA), local governments, including Bend, are required to implement a program to reduce contamination in recycling. Contamination includes both non-recyclable items and recyclable items that are dirty or unsuitable for the recycling stream.

On behalf of the City of Bend, the Deschutes County Solid Waste Division will be running a Contamination Reduction Cart Tagging Pilot Program to meet this compliance requirement. The goal of the pilot program is to help educate residents about proper recycling and reduce contamination in recycling carts.

Through this program, approximately 2,500–3,500 households in the Cascade Disposal service territory will have their recycling carts visually inspected by cart tagging crews using a mobile app. Each cart will be inspected four times over an eight-week period. If contamination is identified, the cart will receive a notice, and the household will later be sent an informational mailer explaining the issue and providing recycling guidance. There are no fines or penalties as the program is meant to educate community members who are already recycling about recycling right.

Deschutes County will manage all aspects of the program, including outreach prior to launch and responding to questions that arise during the pilot. The pilot will launch on April 13, with notifications mailed to selected households during the weeks of March 30 and April 6. The County will also provide talking points for City staff and Councilors to use if questions or concerns are directed to the City during the pilot period.

Bend Bikeways Reveal Ride – May 5

Councilors are encouraged to join the **Bend Bikeways Reveal Ride**, a community bike ride showcasing newly installed traffic diverters (also known as modal filters) and wayfinding signage in the Old Bend and River West neighborhoods.

The ride will take place on Tuesday, May 5. Participants will meet at **5:00 p.m. at City Hall**, in the parking lot near Council Chambers, where route maps, project information, and swag will be available. The ride will **depart at 5:30 p.m.** and conclude at **7:00 p.m. at Parilla Grill**.



See the Bend Bikes [map](#) of the route and mark your calendars. For more information, contact Derek Hofbauer, Mobility Programs Manager (dhofbauer@bendoregon.gov) and community partners Commute Options and Bend Bikes.

HB 4037 Updates Housing Development Notification Rules

House Bill 4037 (HB 4037), Section 17, changes how local governments process housing development applications and notifications. The new requirements take effect July 1.

Currently, jurisdictions must notify property owners within 100 feet of new site plan review or subdivision applications. While state law sets this minimum distance, it allows jurisdictions to expand it. The City of Bend currently exceeds the requirement by notifying property owners within 250 feet.

HB 4037 specifies that notice may be sent **only** to property owners within 100 feet for developments with fewer than 20 residential units. For developments with 20 or more units, the City must either retain the 250-foot notice standard or expand the notification distance to 500 feet.

Additional considerations include:

- The bill eliminates the ability for neighbors to appeal a city land use decision that is subject to the clear and objective requirements from state law. Currently, anyone who participates during the comment period is a party of record and may appeal the decision. Under the bill, only the applicant can appeal the decision.
- Further analysis is needed to determine applicability to mixed-use developments. A cautious approach would apply the new rules to any mixed-use development that includes residential uses.
- The Waterway Overlay Zone procedures will need to be updated for residential developments to remove the Planning Commission as the review authority, as public hearings are prohibited.
- The bill may limit the city's ability to send pending development notice to the neighborhood district land use chairs.

These changes will be incorporated into the upcoming middle housing land division code update package scheduled to go before Council in June or July. Planning and Legal staff continue to analyze the full implications of HB 4037 and will coordinate on next steps. For more information, contact Colin Stephens at cstephens@bendoregon.gov.



Engineering Department Spring Public Outreach Opportunities

Councilors, please take note of upcoming public outreach meetings related to the following Capital Projects:

2026 Neighborhood Street Safety Program Pre-Construction Neighborhood Pop-Up Informational Booth

Date: March 24th, 2026

Time: 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Location: Blakely Park, 1155 SW Brookwood Blvd.

General information: bendoregon.gov/nssp

Septic to Sewer - Informational Pre-construction Meeting – King Hezekiah and Fargo

Date: April 2nd, 2026

Time: 5:00-6:30 p.m.

Location: High Desert Middle School, Cafeteria, 61111 SE 27th St.

Hawthorne Connections – Community Open House and Survey, Franklin Corridor – Informational Pre-Construction Meeting

Date: April 7th, 2026

Time: 4:30-7:00 p.m.

Location: The Newberry Hotel Bend, 300 NW Franklin Ave.

Wilson Railroad Crossing Pre-Construction Meeting

Date: April 9th, 2026

Time: 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Location: Work Collective Patio, 565 NE 9th St.

Aune Safety and Connectivity Project (Online) Open House Meeting

Date: April 13th to May 4th

Location: bendoregon.gov/aune

Septic to Sewer - Informational Pre-construction Meeting – Azalia and Windsor

Date: April 16th, 2026

Time: 5:00-6:30 p.m.

Location: High Desert Middle School, Cafeteria, 61111 SE 27th St.



Update on Proposed Economic Improvement District

An administrative error was identified in the notices sent to property owners regarding the proposed Economic Improvement District (EID).

- Specifically, the boundary map supported by Council did not fully match the properties receiving the notice.
- After consulting with Legal counsel and the Bend Central District Business Association, staff are requesting to delay the Public Hearing and First Reading of the ordinance establishing the district to May 6.

View Previous City Manager's Reports



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.