



CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

Information and updates for the Mayor and City Council

April 24, 2026

Upcoming Events & Meetings

Meeting/Event	Date	Time	Location
<i>April 29 – 5th Wednesday – No meeting</i>			
BURA Executive Session, 5pm City Council Business Meeting	May 6, 2026	6 p.m.	City Hall Council Chambers/Virtual
City Council Work Session	May 13, 2026	4-5:45 p.m.	City Hall Council Chambers/Virtual
City Council Business Meeting	May 20, 2026	6 p.m.	City Hall Council Chambers/Virtual
<i>May 27 — No meeting</i>			

[View the Full Council Schedule Here](#)

Department Updates

Engineering Department Updates

Wilson Railroad Crossing Closure

Next Monday, April 27, marks the first day of closure for the Wilson Railroad Crossing project. Construction is estimated to be completed in July, pending the availability of BNSF work crews.

15th Street & Ferguson Road Roundabout Open House

A preconstruction **open house** for the 15th Street and Ferguson Road Roundabout will be held on Tuesday, April 28, from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. at the Larkspur Community Center.



Hawthorne Crossing Fact Sheet Available

Councilors are encouraged to review the [Hawthorne Crossing Fact Sheet](#).

The Hawthorne Crossing will connect Hawthorne Avenue with a bridge over both the railroad and Bend Parkway (U.S. 97), providing a connection between downtown, the Central District, and many popular destinations, as well as transit and mobility hubs. The new bridge will create a calmer, safer connection for people biking, walking and rolling between east and west Bend.

The Fact Sheet covers why we need a new bridge, the timeline (from preliminary design to construction), funding, and current phase details. A work session for the project occurred on April 24, 2026.

For more project information, review the City's [Hawthorne Crossing webpage](#) and [ODOT's webpage](#).

City of Bend Signs onto Rulemaking Comments and Litigation Briefing

In February 2026, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development released a proposed rule that would restrict access to federal housing assistance for mixed-immigration status households. On April 15, 2026, Mayor Kebler received City Council consent to submit comments opposing this proposed rule change.

Following this approval and Council's prior authorization for the City Attorney to join related litigation, the City of Bend took the following actions:

- The City of Bend joined 20 other cities and local governments in [signing comments](#) organized by the Public Rights Project opposing the proposed rule.
- Mayor Kebler submitted a [public comment](#) on behalf of the City of Bend.
- The City is [joining an amicus brief](#) prepared by Public Rights Project in support of the State of Illinois, the City of Chicago, and Cook County in *United States v. State of Illinois et al.*, 25-2904, (7th Cir.).

Amicus Brief Information:

In the case, the U.S. Department of Justice sued the State of Illinois, the City of Chicago, and Cook County, seeking to compel them to abandon certain sanctuary policies and assist with federal immigration enforcement. On July 25, 2025, the district court granted the defendants' motions to dismiss the case, and the Department of Justice subsequently appealed to the Seventh Circuit.

The amicus brief will argue in support of the position of the State of Illinois, the City of Chicago, and Cook County that their policies are not preempted by federal law. This litigation relates to federal funding because one of the conditions being added to federal grants concerns compliance with federal immigration law, raising questions about whether sanctuary



laws, such as Oregon’s Sanctuary Promise Act and similar laws in Illinois, Chicago, and Cook County, violate federal law. The amicus brief has not yet been filed, but staff will share it with interested Councilors once it is complete.

Airport Medium Intensity Taxiway Lighting Project is Complete

The retroreflective taxiway markings have been replaced with pilot-controlled lighting integrated with the runway lights. When pilots click the microphone to turn on the runway lights, the taxiway lights will activate up to medium intensity. Upon commencement of air traffic services, tentatively scheduled for August 17, 2026, air traffic controllers will assume control of the taxiway lighting.

The project progression can be viewed here: [TWY A & B Lighting Slideshow](#)

Upcoming Events

Upcoming Events featured on the [Meetings and Event Calendar](#) include:

Earth Day Fair and Parade

Saturday, April 25

11 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Alpenglow Park, 61049 SE 15th St., Bend

Join the City of Bend at the Earth Day Fair and Parade hosted by the Environmental Center. Community members of all ages are encouraged to wear costumes that highlight their favorite part of our environment. See [webpage](#) for details.

Fault Lines Film and Panel Discussion

Tuesday, April 28

6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. (Doors open at 6 p.m.)

Tower Theater, 835 NW Wall Street, Bend

The City of Bend is hosting a screening of the film *Fault Lines*. As the City begins work on community engagement for long-range planning, this screening offers a timely opportunity for city committees, elected officials, staff, local developers, and community members to come together for meaningful conversations about growth, housing affordability, homelessness, and related legislation. Tickets are free and open to the public. See [webpage](#) for details.

Go Electric! Electrification 101

Wednesday, April 29

5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Council Chambers, City Hall, 710 NW Wall Street, Bend



Electrification 101 is the first workshop in the "Go Electric! Sparking Conversation Around Energy Efficiency" series. See [webpage](#) for details.

CityFest at First Friday

Friday, May 1

5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Lift Fitness Studio Parking Lot 514 NW Franklin Ave., Bend

Join the City of Bend and Mayor Melanie Kebler for CityFest, a celebration of community, creativity, and Bend's future in the heart of the Downtown Bend Business Association First Friday Art Walk. Explore all CityFest activities, including a hands-on community art project and a gift card raffle, by visiting the [CityFest](#) information page.

Bend Bikeways Ride

Tuesday, May 5

5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Join City staff and community partners for a Bend Bikeways Reveal Ride on May 5! Meet at City Hall at 5:00 p.m for snacks and free bike lights. The ride will depart at 5:30 p.m and explore newly installed traffic diverters and bikeways amenities in the Old Bend and River West neighborhoods. The ride will end at 7:00 p.m at Papi Chulo's restaurant in the Box Factory for a Cinco de Mayo event with Vámonos Outside. See the event [flyer](#) for more information.

Public Works Grand Opening and Public Art Exhibition

Thursday, May 14

4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Public Works Campus, 21051 NE Talus Place, Bend

Join us for an open house on Thursday May 14 as we celebrate our new Public Works Campus! Explore the new Public Art collection, get a behind-the-scenes look at our Public Works facilities, and help honor the 100-year anniversary of the City's water services. Enjoy family-friendly activities, and connect with City staff and artists. See [webpage](#) for details.

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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.