



2021/2022 West Linn City Council Goals & Initiatives Status

April 2023 Update

**Bold items indicate Council's highest 2022 priorities*

Goal 1: Ensure an equitable, inclusive and diverse community where all feel a sense of belonging	
<p>*1. Reflect diversity, equity, and inclusion in our actions and in city staff, public safety staff, and citizen advisory groups through intentional community partnerships, hiring, and appointment practices.</p>	<p>City Staff Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging Committee continues to meet biweekly to progress DEIB goals from DEI audit (see DEI tracking sheet for more info). DEIB Committee and management group have taken DEIB training and are strategizing on a training plan for all staff. DEIB Committee increased in size and currently enrolled and working towards a Cultural Competency Certificate with Chemeketa Community College. Consultant Tricia Brand contracted to provide DEIB assistance, strategy, and meets regularly with staff DEIB Committee, and held August 2022 DEIB meeting with larger staff group and March 2023 session on creating inclusive spaces through recruiting, hiring, and onboarding. HR recruitment software process further refined to eliminate identifying information and unconscious bias in early recruitment process. Community input included in key Police recruitments. Updated website to provide 10 language translation (Chinese, French, Hindi, Spanish, German, Italian, Korean, Russian, Vietnamese). Community and Faith Leaders Summit meetings continue, in June 2022 guest speakers on topics of homeless resources and emergency resilience were highlighted. City became a Government Alliance on Race and Equity (GARE) member and has been utilizing resources, including sending staff to April 2022 GARE conference. City is working with a consultant to look at DEI impacts on the Waterfront and Willamette Historic Economic Renewal District. Council regularly does proclamations on DEIB topics (e.g. Women's History Month, Black History Month, LGBTQ+ Pride Month, Juneteenth, Indigenous Peoples Day, etc.). Converted single use bathrooms at City Hall to gender neutral. Library regularly works with the school district providing DEIB resources to teachers and learning assistants as well as regular newsletter addressing DEIB topics to WLWV schools in coordination with the Wilsonville Library. City is active participant in the annual Equity Summit with WLWV School District. See also Goal 1, initiative 2 and Goal 4 for more info.</p>

<p>2. Request that staff create diversity, equity and inclusion into programming offered by the City.</p>	<p>Working with residents and community members including Building Bridges, the City of West Linn held their first ever Juneteenth with an event at Willamette Park (planned as an annual event). The event included BIPOC Vendors and Performers from West Linn and other local communities, informational booths, food, music, and dance. Between 400-500 were in attendance. The Library and PD attended and had informational booths. A History walk was created at the event to tell the History of Juneteenth—in the US, in Oregon, and with the Proclamation from the City for all to read. Numerous proclamations celebrating diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging made by Council including, Juneteenth, Pride Proclamations, Women's History Month, Black History Month, and Asian-Pacific American Month. Proclamations and resources shared on City's website and social media as outreach to celebrate and share information. Pride flags flown for the first time at City facilities and provided and flown in Historic Willamette for general use and for Summer Market. The Library and West Linn Alliance continue to partner on monthly events and the Library hosts ongoing programs with DEIB topics and speakers and incorporates bilingual opportunities when possible (e.g. Storywalks at Field's Bridge Park, in person storytellers). Library partnered with local organizations on a Women's BIPOC speakers series, holds Chinese storytime, and hosts a Lunar New Year's Celebration. The Adult Community Center also hosts events targeted to older adults and has culturally diverse offerings (e.g. Marimba Ensemble, Uke Jam, T'ai Chi, etc.). Library utilized the Ingram iCurate Diversity Audit Report to analyze our holdings to ensure inclusion throughout youth and adult collections on a variety of cultures and interests. Library staff regularly ensures representation in topics, authors, formats, and languages during material selection. City offers virtual participation in City meetings and many events to ensure accessibility.</p>
<p>3. Review gaps identified in the DEI audit and implement measures to make improvements.</p>	<p>Spreadsheet of DEI Audit Report is maintained (see for more info.) to maintain progress towards goals. Internal staff DEIB Committee meets biweekly and DEIB updates are on every Council agenda to maintain momentum towards goals. DEIB Consultant Tricia Brand assisting with training and strategy to prioritize and meet highest impact DEIB goals.</p>
<p>*4. Creation of a Police oversight and accountability committee</p>	<p>Police Review and Recommend Committee created by Council in December 2022. Applications have been received and Council to interview and appoint applicants.</p>

Goal 2: Maintain livability and affordability for all

1. Maintain ease and safety of movement through:

<p>*a. Advocating against I-205 tolling.</p>	<p>Staff and Council continue to be in frequent contact and hold meetings with legislators, ODOT staff, other jurisdictions and members of the community on this topic. Council has provided letters and testimony to ODOT/legislators lobbying against tolling and for actual mitigation of the negative effects it will cause to West Linn. Council passed Resolution 2022-02 requesting the Regional Mobility Pricing Project to occur before tolling I-205. City has shared all ODOT opportunities and encouraged public comment to ODOT on the large impact of tolling to West Linn residents/businesses. See City ODOT website for more info.</p>
<p><i>b. Pursuing regional, state, and federal funding for Highway 43 and Willamette Falls improvements.</i></p>	<p>Design work for the Highway 43 grant-funded improvements continues by ODOT. Inflationary costs are likely to result in the need to reduce project scope to stay within funding limits. The City was awarded a \$3.5 Million Metro RFFA grant to complete design and build bike/ped improvements consistent with the adopted TSP along WFD between 16th and Ostman. That work is scheduled to start in the next budget cycle.</p>
<p><i>c. Continuing 2018 GO Bond projects on safe routes to schools</i></p>	<p>Safe Routes to Schools projects prioritized during extensive community outreach process pre-COVID. City staff is meeting with active neighborhood associations and residents to confirm project priorities since that time. Inflationary costs and engineering staff turnover are impacting scheduling and project scope/cost. City staff is nearly complete with design of Cedar Oak sidewalk from Old River to Trillium. As soon as design is complete, staff will pursue bidding for that project. Additional projects in other neighborhoods will likely be constructed next summer.</p>

2. Enhance recreational opportunities

<p><i>a. Move forward Willamette River Waterfront Park and riverside trail.</i></p>	<p>Surveying previously performed for alternate route closer to Willamette Falls Drive deemed not feasible. Project on hold pending Willamette Paper Company involvement. Future funding using West Linn's Local Share Funds has been discussed with Metro staff.</p>
<p><i>b. Improve indoor spaces for recreation, emergency response, and community gathering.</i></p>	<p>Robinwood Station Improvement Project completed. Historic City Hall plans developed and cost estimates reviewed in 2023. Emergency generators installed at Police and Library facilities, Library has agreement with County as a regular warming/cooling center. May 2022 community survey on capital needs indicated less support for a new indoor recreation facility.</p>

3. Make improvements to the Community Development Code

<p><i>a. Support the Planning Department and Economic Development Committee's work on zoning changes around Highway 43.</i></p>	<p>Staff advertised an RFP in late 2022 and received no proposals. Staff received feedback from consulting firms. Staff has requested additional funding in the next budget cycle and will also explore grant funding opportunities. The RFP will be re-advertised once funding is secure.</p>
<p><i>b. Make decisions in accordance with the HB2001/2003 process to support accessible and affordable housing.</i></p>	<p>Council adopted Ordinance 1736 on June 21, 2022 for compliance with HB2001. Staff received grant funding from DLCD to complete HB2003 Phase 2 work and has a contract with a consultant team. Adoption ready comprehensive plan amendments, comprehensive map and zoning map amendments will be complete in June 2023 and ready for the legislative process, which must be complete by end of 2023. Staff will seek additional grant funding for the Housing Production Strategy that must be adopted by end of 2024.</p>
<p>*c. Amend codes to be clear and objective, in compliance with state law.</p>	<p>Proposed code amendments were reviewed/recommended in October 2022 by the Working Group appointed by Council. The PC is holding its final work session on April 19, 2023 and the legislative process is proposed to begin in June 2023 with anticipated Council adoption in late summer 2023.</p>
<p><i>d. Ensure that Committee for Citizen Involvement has a role in code changes and final plan reviews.</i></p>	<p>Staff will bring Community Engagement Plans for both the Hwy 43 Rezone Project and Waterfront Project, as well as other long range planning projects, to the CCI for review.</p>

4. Examine civic infrastructure needs	
<i>a. Request a facilities report of the Public Works Operations Center to examine its long-term viability. Indoor spaces for recreation, emergency response and community gathering locations should be considered as part of this.</i>	Facility report not completed. Land acquired for future Public Works facility. New emergency generators installed at Police and Library facilities. Library entered agreement with the County as an ongoing warming/cooling facility and is listed on State 211, County, and other resource sites.
5. Water Infrastructure	
*a. Abernethy Bridge water transmission main replacement during I-205 Project.	Staff and Council continue to work with state and federal legislators to request funding assistance for the Abernethy Bridge waterline. The May 2022 community survey on capital needs showed strong community support to fund upgrading of the Abernethy waterline. Construction on the I-205 Bridge portion of the Project has commenced, and the current estimate for the City's waterline work is \$14M. November 2022 ballot measure to fund this work did not pass.
<i>b. Identify grant funding opportunities through South Fork Water Board.</i>	Council approved contract for Water Master Plan on June 21 to identify priority projects. No grant funding opportunities exist through South Fork Water Board for local city capital projects. City staff is pursuing grant and earmarked funding opportunities through the state legislator with South Fork in support.
<i>c. Continue annual water main improvement projects, including Marylhurst area and portions of Highway 43.</i>	Most water main improvement projects have been put on hold pending funding of the I-205 Bridge water line. If approved, the upcoming budget will allow a return to water main replacements where needed.

Goal 3: Support a sustainable and healthy environment for all	
1. Task the Transportation Advisory Board to explore how to improve public and multi-modal transportation in West Linn, specifically to explore:	
<i>a. Lobbying Trimet for additional routes in town.</i>	Staff and Council advocated for lengthening of route #154 to run through Salamo and Rosemont Road to Tualatin. The proposed extension parallels I-205 and could eliminate a major gap in service between Trimet southeast service area (Clackamas County) and southwest service area (Washington County). The Transportation Advisory Board has discussed this goal. Due to low area ridership this route extension has not been a priority by TriMet due to inflationary pressure on their existing system.
<i>b. Considering intracity shuttle options.</i>	Clackamas County convened a task force to look at local transit and published the Clackamas County Transit Development Plan (clackamas.us/planning/transit). The plan lists a new route on Rosemont Road in addition to 15 minute service on line #35 as the first short term priority project. The Transportation Advisory Board has discussed this goal. Pending tolling and lack of funding due to inflationary pressure on the existing transit system has resulted in no current consideration for this additional shuttle.
<i>c. Leveraging funding opportunities to build sidewalks and bike lanes on Highway 43 and Willamette Falls Dr.</i>	The city was awarded a Metro RFFA grant to design and construct bike/ped improvements along WFD between 16th St. and Ostman. Council may want to consider code updates for single lot redevelopment and/or zoning updates to these corridors to encourage private development funding of these improvements due to limited public funding opportunities.
<i>d. Amending the Transportation System Plan with the updated Willamette Falls Drive Concept Plan.</i>	The Transportation System Plan was amended in August 2021 with the updated Willamette Falls Drive Concept Plan.
2. Use the CIP to build out the City's electric charging infrastructure and vehicle fleet.	PGE Grant received for public and City fleet charging stations at City Hall which are now operational and in regular use. Awaiting production of additional electric fleet vehicles as electrical vehicle demand has skyrocketed essentially pricing out public fleets. Staff continues to monitor for opportunities based on market conditions.

<p>*3. Adopt a climate action plan in coordination with Clackamas County, other local agencies, community members, and the Sustainability Advisory Board's most recent Appendix update.</p>	<p>The County's Climate Action Plan is currently in development with regular meetings and community involvement, and had a Climate Action Plan survey open to the public that we shared with the West Linn community. The County completed a 2021 update to their Regional Climate and Health Monitoring Report and a greenhouse gas inventory. City partnered with PGE on electric tool exchange events. The City received Leaders in Sustainability gold certification for all our facilities, except the Operations building which received silver!</p>
<p>4. Request that the Sustainability Advisory Board recommend improvements to the Community Development Code.</p>	<p>The SAB provided a list of proposed CDC improvements to Council in December 2021, primarily electrification, resilient landscaping, and tree preservation to be placed on the Planning Docket. Planning working on Climate Friendly and Equitable Communities Rules Implementation from Governor's Executive Order 20-04.</p>
<p>5. Protect riparian and Goal 5 wetland areas when planning the Waterfront development.</p>	<p>Environmental protection has been an integral part of ongoing planning of the Waterfront project and will be incorporated into all final plan documents.</p>

<p>Goal 4: Thrive and move forward under community/stakeholder direction</p>	
<p>1. Strengthen partnerships with community</p>	
<p><i>a. Partner with the County to improve access to services (houselessness, healthcare, behavioral health, addiction, women's services, etc.).</i></p>	<p>The City continues to partner with the County to improve visibility and access to services through public sharing of information on all City platforms. The City hosts Community and Faith Leader Summits, including one in June 2022 with the County's Human Services Manager who distributed detailed information and materials on houseless, veterans, and related available social services. The Community Services Director meets on a regular basis individually and in groups with school district, faith leaders, civic leaders, local cultural organizations and community members. The Police Behavioral Health Specialist, Police staff, and Community Services Director work jointly on addressing houselessness issues and connecting those in need with resources.</p>
<p><i>b. Local nonprofits, tribes, faith-based organizations, school district, environmental agencies and others.</i></p>	<p>Regular community and faith leader meetings (including faith, school, non-profits, and other community groups) are being held to better connect community members. An email distribution list was created to provide information to community and faith leaders. City staff regularly interacts with numerous non-profits, school staff, and other groups as part of regular business. This includes projects and items such as coordinating regular community discussions at the Library with the West Linn Alliance, working with the West Linn Rotary on Parks projects, working with school staff on DEIB topics and projects, and coordinating the details of the Juneteeth event with the Building Bridges and other community groups.</p>
<p><i>c. Perform restorative community building and meet people where they are. Connect with community members through gatherings in the community and via convenient electronic means.</i></p>	<p>The City continues to put intentional effort into creating authentic relationships with groups and members of the community through meaningful community events and activities in person and online. This includes activities from park and City entrance sign clean up events, to staff presence at community events, to ongoing Police outreach with youth and others, to the recent and highly successful Juneteenth event. City offers virtual participation in City meetings and many events to ensure accessibility.</p>

2. Support small/local businesses.	
<i>a. Work with West Linn Chamber, Historic Main Street, and the Economic Development Committee to identify potential code changes and initiatives to create a thriving local business environment (e.g. food trucks, hotel zoning, National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB) code review, etc.).</i>	New City business support staff added and working intensively with businesses, Chamber, and Historic Willamette Main Street to improve business environment in West Linn. Sixth round of Business Assistance funding program currently underway. Food truck code clarified and new food pod at Willamette Garage completed.
3. Continue Waterfront development planning.	
<i>a. Adopt a Waterfront Master Plan.</i>	Council dedicated funding for the project and staff will bring the contract to Council for approval on May 8, 2023. Once the contract is approved, the project will commence per the agreed upon scope of work. Anticipated completion of the process will end of 2024. HB2564 signed by the Governor on June 14, establishing Willamette Falls Locks Authority as a public corporation and creating a path forward for restoration of the Locks. Event held at Locks in June celebrating transfer to WFL Authority.
<i>b. Pursue Tax Increment Financing.</i>	Council approved creation of urban renewal agency to fund improvements in the Waterfront area at their June 13, 2022 meeting. The West Linn Redevelopment Agency (City Council) met in April 2023 to appoint officers and move the TIF program forward. Further actions at the Planning Commission and Council are needed to formally adopt the new TIF district.
<i>c. Support the Cultural Center at Historic City Hall.</i>	Building plans under design by architect. City and Willamette Paper Company are still working through details of parking agreement before being able to bring the Letter of Commitment and lease agreement back to Council for approval. Council provided updated cost estimate in 2023 and project ready to move forward to possible funding approval in 2023. Historic Review Board reviewed project and held public hearing June 22, 2022. The City worked with consultant Elaine Howard and Jade Aguilar, ECO to look at DEI impacts on the Waterfront and Willamette Historical District Economic Renewal District.
4. Ensure adequate staffing levels to support services.	
<i>a. Examine legal services provision.</i>	Council gave direction to hire an in-house legal position. RFP solicited and consultant selected by Council to begin recruitment for the new position in 2023.