

# THE OWL

*The official newsletter of the City of West Linn*



Willamette Park, West Linn  
Photo by Michael D. Barton



**John Williams**  
*City Manager*

## HELLO WEST LINN

### WELCOME TO THE FALL 2024 OWL!

Thank you for all the positive feedback on our first two editions; we're happy that you're finding it useful to have a print newsletter in your mailbox!

It's really important to me that the City shares information with the community about what's going on, about how you can access services, and about how to get involved. The OWL is just one part of this. We also have our website, social media, an app for your phone, a weekly email newsletter, and more. But even with all that, as I talk to folks around town, I find

that some questions still come up time and again everywhere I go. Things like "what's happening with an indoor recreation center?" or "why are there so many potholes on Highway 43?" or "where does West Linn's water come from?"

***So I'm going to try something new. Starting this November, I'll be answering your frequently asked questions about West Linn in short videos called "Ask The City Manager."*** Each will be only a minute or two. We'll get these out on social media and in other ways and see if folks find them useful.

My plan is to keep this very low budget (just my phone and a selfie stick), to be completely open and honest, and to make good use of your valuable time. Maybe we'll even have a bit of fun along the way when I show you things behind the scenes that you may not have known.

*I'll do all the work here, but I do have a couple asks of you:*

- > First, take a look at a couple of these when they pop up on your social media or go find them through the link on our home page.
- > Second, send me constructive feedback. I'll only be doing this over time if I hear that it's useful!
- > Third, send me questions for future topics. What have you always wondered about the City of West Linn? Let me know and I'll try to answer. If we use your question, you'll even get some City swag or a "One West Linn" t-shirt.

*Thanks for giving this a chance. See you soon!*

#### IN THIS ISSUE

**WEST LINN CONNECT IS HERE!**

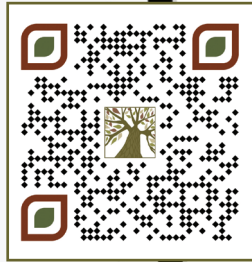
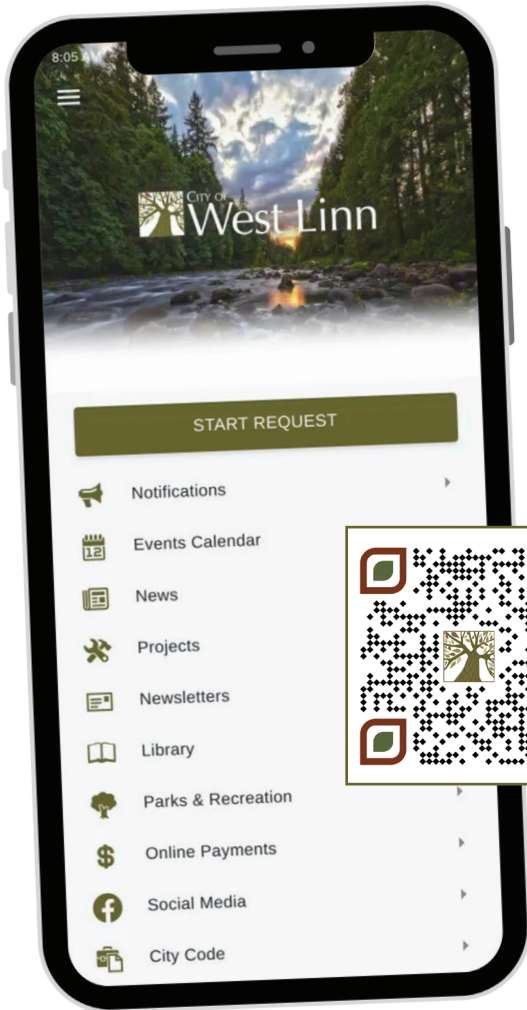
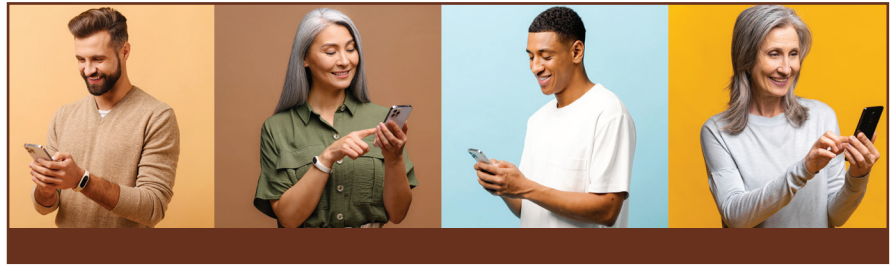
**WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND TOWN**

**LET'S TALK ABOUT THE POTENTIAL OF HWY 43**

**CAST YOUR VOTE THIS NOVEMBER**



# TOOLS & APPS



## OFFICIAL WEST LINN APP NOW AVAILABLE!

*Stay connected with West Linn like never before with the new West Linn Connect app, now available for free on Apple and Android devices! From reporting potholes to receiving real-time emergency updates, this app puts the city's services at your fingertips—read on to discover how it can make life in our community even easier.*

West Linn Connect, a new smartphone app by the City of West Linn, is now available to download for free on Apple and Android devices at [onelink.to/westlinnconnect](http://onelink.to/westlinnconnect). The app lets users submit service requests for issues like potholes or clogged storm drains, and provides automatic notifications when requests are completed. Push notifications keep users informed of emergencies, including road closures and shelter openings, while the app also offers access to community events, staff Q&A, and improved website search features.

the app is part of a broader effort to bring information directly to residents and improve communication. While some may prefer traditional methods, the app complements existing tools like the City's website, digital newsletter, and social media accounts.

Several Council members, including Mayor Rory Bialostosky and Councilor Kevin Bonnington, have tested the app and provided positive feedback. The City welcomes further input for ongoing improvements, which can be shared via email at [dchoi@westlinnoregon.gov](mailto:dchoi@westlinnoregon.gov) or through the app itself.

Community Relations Coordinator Danielle Choi emphasized that



## EMERGENCY NUMBERS

From water main breaks to downed power lines to gas leaks, here is a handy list of who to contact during an emergency.

**EMERGENCY:** Call 911  
**NON-EMERGENCY:** (503) 635-0238  
**POLICE BUSINESS OFFICE:** (503) 655-6214

**SMELL GAS? CALL:**  
NW Natural - (800) 882-3377  
[nwnatural.com](http://nwnatural.com)

**FIRE? CALL TVF&R:**  
Emergency: 911  
Non-Emergency (503) 649-8577

**WEST LINN PUBLIC WORKS:**  
(503) 656-6081 - 7AM - 4:30PM  
(503) 635-0238 - After Hours

**POWER OUTAGE OR POWER LINE ISSUE:**  
PGE - (503) 464-7777  
[portlandgeneral.com/outage](http://portlandgeneral.com/outage)

**HIGHWAY 43/TRAFFIC SIGNALS:**  
ODOT - (888) 275-6368  
[oregon.gov/odot](http://oregon.gov/odot)

### STAY INFORMED:

The City of West Linn, the West Linn Police Department and the West Linn/Wilsonville School District use FlashAlert for emergency notifications.

FlashAlert is one of the best ways to get informed of road closures, emergencies, press releases, and other urgent information. Receive updates for West Linn here: [flashalert.net/id/CityofWestLinn](http://flashalert.net/id/CityofWestLinn)

### STAY IN TOUCH:

Sign Up for West Linn's Weekly Email Newsletter - [westlinnoregon.gov/e-news](http://westlinnoregon.gov/e-news)  
Clackamas County Public Alerts - [clackamas.us/dm/publicalerts](http://clackamas.us/dm/publicalerts)



# Snow Route PREPAREDNESS

Scan the QR code to see a full size Snow Routes Map.



When winter arrives in West Linn, several of the City's streets with steep grades are especially hazardous and may be closed when snow and ice accumulate.

## THEY ARE:

- Marylhurst Drive from Hillcrest to Lower Midhill
- Hidden Springs Road from Bluegrass Way to Cottonwood Court
- Pimlico Drive from Palomino Way to Willamette Drive
- Summit Street from Rosemont Road to Skyline
- 12th Street from Tualatin Avenue to Volpp Street
- Skye Parkway from Troon Drive to Hillside Drive

When these roads are closed, please use Rosemont Road (within City limits) to Summit Street, to Cornwall, to Sunset Avenue. Another route is Rosemont Road (within City limits) to Salamo Road, to 10th Street. Pimlico Drive will be included as an access route unless conditions become too hazardous for travel. These streets will have a priority for sanding and plowing to ensure clear routes from the upper areas to the lower areas of the City and freeway. Salamo Road and Sunset Avenue may have short-term closures due to spun-out vehicles.



Roundabouts reduce traffic accidents by 35% and traffic related injuries by 76%. They do this by reducing conflict points (points where cars' paths' of travel overlap) and directing traffic to flow in one direction. Pedestrians have shorter crossings and can refuge from traffic on splitter islands. Roundabouts' constant flow of traffic reduces the amount of idling cars, which reduces localized pollution and results in quieter intersections due to less acceleration. Roundabouts are not only safer, but are lower cost due to no traffic control equipment and less asphalt to upkeep than a signalized intersection.



City of West Linn

## LOCAL EVENTS



### FALL FESTIVAL IN THE FOREST

October 12, 2024 - Mary S Young Park

11 AM - 2 PM | All are welcome to attend this FREE event for the community.

DETAILS HERE:

[westlinnoregon.gov/parksrec/fall-fest-forest](http://westlinnoregon.gov/parksrec/fall-fest-forest)

### HOLIDAY TREE LIGHTING

December 6, 2024 - West Linn City Hall

6 PM | All are welcome to attend this FREE event for the community.

DETAILS HERE:

[westlinnoregon.gov/parksrec](http://westlinnoregon.gov/parksrec)

### HOLIDAY SWEATER DASH

December 14, 2024 - Historic Willamette

4:30 PM | Pre-Registration is Recommended. Individual Cost: Adult \$15 / Child \$7

PRE-REGISTER HERE:

[westlinnoregon.gov/parksrec/sweaterdash](http://westlinnoregon.gov/parksrec/sweaterdash)

Autumn has arrived, bringing plenty of fun to West Linn! Join us for a season full of exciting activities and events that everyone can enjoy. Don't miss out!

### HOLIDAY PARADE

December 14, 2024 - Historic Willamette

5 PM | "Adventure in Toyland" parade entries wanted. Visit the link below for details.

DETAILS HERE:

[westlinnoregon.gov/parksrec/holiday-parade](http://westlinnoregon.gov/parksrec/holiday-parade)

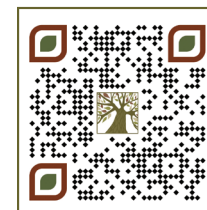
### POLAR PLUNGE

January 4, 2025 - Willamette Park

12 NOON | Pre-registration is recommended. Visit the site below for all the information.

DETAILS HERE:

[westlinnoregon.gov/willamette-river-polar-plunge-0](http://westlinnoregon.gov/willamette-river-polar-plunge-0)



DISCOVER MORE EVENTS HERE



# COMMUNITY & MORE



## SHARE YOUR VOICE IN WEST LINN

This November's election is a pivotal moment for West Linn, offering residents the chance to influence key decisions about our city's leadership and governance. One of the major items on the ballot is Measure 3-620, which proposes an amendment to increase the upper limit on compensation for the Mayor and City Council. This measure reflects ongoing efforts to ensure that our local leaders are fairly compensated for the significant time and responsibility they dedicate to serving our community.

In addition to the ballot measure, West Linn voters will have the opportunity to elect or re-elect West Linn's Mayor and two City Councilors, with the

current terms expiring on December 31, 2024. The individuals chosen in this election will serve from January 2025 through December 2028, making decisions that will shape the future of our city. Whether you're passionate about local policy, community growth, or public services, your vote will directly impact the direction of West Linn in the years to come.

Be sure to check your voter registration status, and keep an eye out for ballots, which will be mailed to Clackamas County voters ahead of the November 5, 2024 election. Remember, ballots must be returned by 8 p.m. on Election Day, either at an official ballot drop box or the Clackamas County Elections Office. Postage is included with your ballot, so you can also mail it in, as long as it's postmarked by election day. Let's all make our voices heard and participate in shaping the future of West Linn!



## E-BIKE & E-SCOOTER REMINDER

The West Linn Police Department would like to remind our community that various types of alternative vehicles in Oregon, including e-bikes and e-scooters, are subject to traffic rules. Test your skills! How many of the following facts do you know?

- Both e-scooters and e-bikes are prohibited on all sidewalks.
- Both e-scooter users on public roads and e-bike riders must be 16 or older.
- E-scooter riders must use a bike lane or path if available. E-bike riders may use a bike lane.
- E-scooter users must wear helmets. E-bike users are not required to wear helmets.
- E-scooters are only allowed to travel at speeds up to 15 mph (even if the vehicle can do more). E-bikes are not capable of speeds above 20 mph.
- Driving either vehicle under the influence can result in a DUII charge.

There has been a recent increase in violations of the above in our community. Although educational correction is preferred, WLPD will issue citations if the trend continues. If you have questions, please drop by or call the non-emergency dispatch line during business hours.



## WONDERING WHAT'S UP IN WEST LINN?

Sign up for our free weekly digital newsletter by scanning this QR code with the camera in your phone, then clicking the link.



The City of West Linn also uses social media in a variety of ways to communicate and connect the West Linn community. Find all of them in one convenient, mobile-friendly interface at [linktr.ee/westlinn](https://linktr.ee/westlinn)



# A LIBRARY OF OPPORTUNITIES

## HOMEBOUND SERVICES

The West Linn Public Library will deliver library items to residents within the City of West Linn boundary lines who are unable to visit our library due to illness or disabilities, and are anticipated to be homebound for a minimum of 6 months; or are 80 years or older.

[westlinnoregon.gov/library/homebound-services](http://westlinnoregon.gov/library/homebound-services)

## FITNESS CLASSES AT THE LIBRARY

Explore fitness at your library! Our introductory classes are designed for community members eager to discover new fitness programs in a stress-free, try before you enroll environment. Led by knowledgeable instructors, these classes provide a supportive environment to explore new fitness routines and techniques.

[westlinnoregon.gov/library/fitness-classes-library](http://westlinnoregon.gov/library/fitness-classes-library)

## READING RESOLUTION CHALLENGE

Welcome to the Library's 2025 Resolution Reading Challenge! Start the year off right by immersing yourself in the wonderful world of books. In this challenge, you will try to read 2000 pages or a total of 25 hours between December 31, 2024 and January 31, 2025. **Participants who complete the challenge will have a chance to win a \$50 Visa gift card or \$50 White Rabbit gift card.**

## READ LOCAL AUTHOR FAIR

West Linn Public Library will host a Read Local Author Fair on Saturday, March 1, 2025 from 12-2 PM. This free event serves to provide a platform for local writers to showcase their work, connect with interested readers, and network with other area authors. It is also an exciting event for readers to explore new authors, talk with them, learn about the writing process, and peruse their books - and have books signed, as well! **Applications for this program will be accepted starting November 1, 2024.**



**Libby, by OverDrive**

Library audiobooks and ebooks.

OPEN

**Did you know you can check out free e-audiobooks from the library?** We have everything from mystery to science fiction to memoirs, and we have titles for all ages. Get started by downloading the Libby app to your smartphone.



City and county leaders joined TriMet officials outside the Oregon City Transit Center on Friday morning, Aug. 23, to highlight upcoming bus service improvements.

TriMet has added several new bus lines and is adjusting more to better meet riders' needs, beginning this past August. We were proud to celebrate these improvements with some of our key partners!

Clackamas County Commissioner Paul Savas and Mayors Denyse McGriff of Oregon City, Rory Bialostosky of West Linn and Joe Buck of Lake Oswego were among those who attended the ribbon cutting.

"Regional connections are vital to ensure that all our residents can move through our county, no matter where they live or work," said Commissioner Savas. "I will continue working with TriMet and other partners to make transit in our area accessible, reliable, and convenient."

We are thankful for the continued work with TriMet and regional partners as we work together for continued improvements to the transit system that better serve our suburban community and create more connected, accessible, safe and climate-friendly transportation options for residents," said Mayor Buck. "We are moving Forward Together!"

"The top of the hill in West Linn has not ever had TriMet service in the past, so this is increasing access to a whole new segment of West Linn and several of our neighborhoods," Mayor Bialostosky said of the new improvements. "Any time we can increase connections and increase access to transit for folks, that's awesome."



**October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and the West Linn Police Department is showing its support in a visible and meaningful way.** Throughout the month, officers will be wearing pink patches as part of a national campaign to raise awareness about breast cancer and encourage early detection. In addition to the pink patches, the department is excited to unveil new graphics on its patrol cars, which will be rolling out next month. These new designs not only enhance the visibility of the department but also symbolize the commitment to community involvement and support for important causes like breast cancer awareness. Keep an eye out for these cars as they hit the streets, representing both safety and solidarity.





# WHAT'S AHEAD



*West Linn's VISION43 project is revitalizing the Highway 43 corridor. Over 600 residents called for safer crossings, more housing options, and better walkability. Get involved by scanning the QR code to view the draft plan and take the latest survey!*



The City of West Linn has embarked upon a bold new project to revitalize the Highway 43 corridor. The overarching goals are to create a sense of place and local identity, enhance safe crossings, promote vibrant commerce, and establish pedestrian networks and neighborhood connectivity through changes to the allowed land uses.



The project is called VISION43 and it kicked off late in 2023 with a survey. More than 600 respondents weighed in and the feedback showed a strong desire for different housing options, shopping, eating, increased recreational opportunities, and improved walkability. Many respondents emphasized the need for crosswalk installations, speed reduction, and enhanced lighting and signals.



VISION43 emphasizes extensive public engagement through online surveys, in-person events, and various community and neighborhood events. Scan the QR code or follow the link to view the VISION43 draft vision and goals, take survey #2, and to see the schedule of upcoming events.



## WEST LINN WATERFRONT PROJECT



*The goal of the Waterfront Project is to find consensus on a vision for future land uses and activities, as well as the framework to implement that vision, along the Willamette River from the Arch Bridge to the Willamette Neighborhood. Community engagement and collaboration with key stakeholders is critical to the project.*



A Draft Vision Plan, based on previous community engagement efforts, was developed for community review and feedback was gathered in Spring 2024 via an online survey (500 responses), public open house (100+ attendees), and project website (3,000+ visits). This information was used to make modest changes to the document, which will be available for final community review and feedback in late October. This will lead to a Final

Draft Vision Plan to present to the Planning Commission and City Council for review.

The project will then pivot to developing the framework and tools to implement the Vision Plan. This will include potential zoning and development code changes, review of the transportation network, and a financial plan. Visit the project website ([yourwestlinn.com/waterfront-community-vision](http://yourwestlinn.com/waterfront-community-vision)) to sign-up for project updates, to provide final input on the Draft Vision Plan, and to see the schedule of upcoming events.





## EXPLORE A CAREER IN THE FIRE SERVICE

*TVF&R is gearing up to offer a unique Career Day on October 12 tailored with activities to give people an inside look at what it's like to be a firefighter.*

Career Day offers an opportunity for adults who may be interested in a career in the fire service to learn more about job requirements and TVF&R. It includes hands-on experiences in primary firefighter responsibilities as well as presentations about station life, career and volunteer opportunities, the hiring process, emergency medical services, fire prevention, public safety education, and more.

Between 8 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. that Saturday, participants will rotate through activity stations at the Training Center in Sherwood and have a chance to talk with education partners from several colleges and universities about their respective emergency medical services and fire science programs.

"One of the things I'm passionate about is creating a fire department that is

welcoming to everyone," said TVF&R Fire Chief Deric Weiss. "I want young people to understand how the fire service works, how they can help create safer communities, and how they can be a part of our organization. Our ranks should better reflect the community we serve. Career Day is a great opportunity to learn about firefighting, emergency medical care, fire safety, and stewardship."

The application period opened August 1, and TVF&R will select as many as 50 participants for Career Day. The deadline to apply is August 31 but may close prior to that date if the District receives enough applications for consideration.

Candidates interested in applying for TVF&R's Career Day must be 18 or older and can apply online at [www.tvfr.com/careers](http://www.tvfr.com/careers) under "Career Events."



## EXCELLENCE IN FINANCIAL REPORTING

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) has awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting to City of West Linn for its annual comprehensive financial report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023. The report has been judged by an impartial panel to meet the high standards of the program, which includes demonstrating a constructive "spirit of full disclosure" to communicate its financial story to citizens and potential users of our financial statements.

This is the 14th year in a row we have received this prestigious national award. A huge thank you to our Finance team for continuing to earn this recognition year after year. Read the 2023 report online or check out our interactive Financial Dashboard for more.



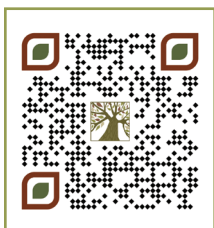


WILLAMETTE FALLS LOCKS



# GET IN TOUCH

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(503) 657-0331  
[westlinnoregon.gov](http://westlinnoregon.gov)  
22500 Salamo Rd.  
West Linn, OR 97068

City of West Linn  
Arts & Culture Commission



Inspired by West Linn

# Fall Art Show

**October 1-31**  
West Linn Public Library

*Open during regular library hours*