

THE OWL

The official newsletter of the City of West Linn



Camassia Nature Preserve, West Linn

IN THIS ISSUE

PLANNING & INSIGHT FOR YOUR BEST SUMMER!

“WHOO” KNOWS WHAT EVENTS ARE HAPPENING?

EXPANDING OUR VISION FOR HWY 43

CAN YOU SOLVE THE WEST LINN WORD SEARCH?



Rory Bialostosky

Dear West Linn Residents,

As summer begins to blossom in our beautiful city, I am delighted to share the exciting developments and events that highlight the vibrancy of our community. This season, West Linn is buzzing with activities that cater to all ages and interests, reinforcing our reputation as a wonderful place to live, work, and play.

Chief among those activities is our work exploring the feasibility of building a Community Recreation Center in West Linn. The Community Center could be a place for people of all ages to enjoy gyms, classrooms, cardio and weight rooms, food carts and enhancements to the Music in the Park experience among other things! I hope you'll get involved and share your opinions with the City Council on that project this June and July. Important cost information will be available for all of us to look at soon.

Our Summer Market continues to thrive every Wednesday in the beautiful Historic Willamette District. I hope to see you there. This market not only supports local farmers and artisans but also provides a space for us to enjoy food, handmade goods, and live entertainment. Your participation sustains our local economy and fosters a strong sense of community. City staff and volunteers are out there every Wednesday providing opportunities to share input on different projects we are working on, including the Waterfront Plan, Community Rec Center, and our vision for Highway 43.

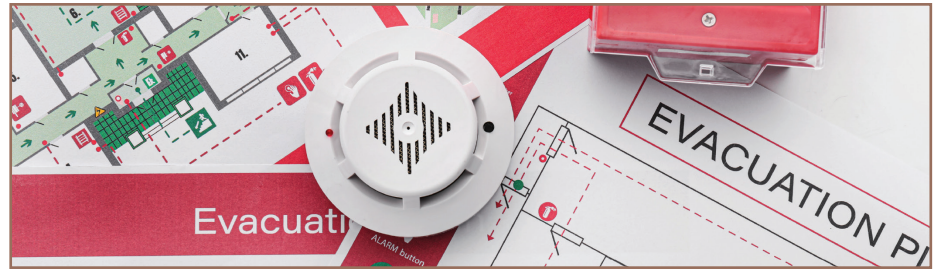
We are also making strides in improving our city's infrastructure. As Mayor, I am proclaiming 2024 the Year of the Roundabout in West Linn! Our long-anticipated Water Master Plan, which will define the needs of our City's water system, is nearing completion, with an expected adoption in June. The comprehensive analysis is available on the City's website.

Thank you for your continued support and engagement. Let's make this summer one to remember - **Mayor Rory Bialostosky** WLHS '18, Lewis & Clark '22



CITY OF
West Linn

TOOLS & TIPS



Be ready for the next season in our beautiful city by planning ahead and being prepared.


EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

As Oregonians we are experiencing more frequent and more extreme wild-fires, floods, heat, and winter storms. In West Linn we have all endured these extreme weather events in recent years and it's time to get better prepared before the next one strikes. The increasing threat of a large Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake in our region also remains a real risk worth preparing for and one where outside help could take weeks to arrive. Consider taking some time to prepare yourself, your family and your neighbors (especially those who are elderly or vulnerable) to be able to get through these emergency events more comfortably together.

Take these steps at our Emergency Preparedness Website by scanning the QR code or visiting:
westlinnoregon.gov/westlinnready

GET READY!

- **Stay informed** by signing up for emergency alerts to receive critical notifications affecting life or health safety.
- **Have an emergency plan** and create an emergency kit with enough food, water and necessary supplies for everyone in the household, including pets, to survive comfortably for at least two weeks following any large-scale disaster.
- **Get to know your neighbors**, special skills/tools they might be willing to share (e.g. a generator, water purifier, solar charger), and help prepare elderly or vulnerable neighbors that might need extra help during an emergency.

WEST LINN COOLING CENTERS

The **West Linn Library and Adult Community Center** operate as a cooling center for the area during their regular business hours (hours may be extended during extreme weather events). Visit clackamas.us/relief for a full list of area cooling centers. If you or someone you know is in need of transportation assistance to get to a cooling center or other social service assistance, please **call 211** or visit **211info.org**



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

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

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

STAY INFORMED:

The City of West Linn utilizes Clackamas County's Public Alerts system to notify residents of critical issues affecting life and health safety. Important messages could include notices to evacuate, shelter-in-place, boil water or other extremely important information. Please sign up now to ensure you receive urgent emergency messages via email, text, or phone at clackamas.us/dm/publicalerts

#ClackCo 
PublicAlerts

Wildfire SEASON



The City of West Linn works with fire specialists, such as our partners at Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue (TVFR) and Oregon Department of Forestry staff to assess and reduce wildfire risk in City spaces. Now is the best time to start preparing your home for wildfire season. Small fires become large incidents when dry fuels are left near the home, in gutters or on roofs and become ignited by fire embers.

Even far-off wildfires can impact air quality and affect public health, especially for those with chronic health conditions. Learn how to prepare your home for wildfire season and find resources to reduce the health effects of wildfire smoke at our Heat and Wildfire Safety Website: westlinnoregon.gov/communications/heat-wildfire-safety



CITY OF
West
Linn

LOCAL EVENTS



Summer is on the way and it's time for some fun. Don't miss out on the exciting activities we have in store for everyone this season!

POLLINATOR WEEK

June 20 & 21 | 11am-1pm | Mary S. Young Park

As a Bee City USA affiliate, the city is committed to celebrating National Pollinator Week through events, proclamations, and promotions that showcase its support for pollinators. The event at Mary S. Young Park will feature the city's pollinator garden, which was designed with the guidance of the Xerces Society, OSU Master Gardeners, and local volunteers to provide habitat for bees, butterflies, and other pollinators. Visitors can learn about the importance of pollinators, participate in crafts, buy seeds, grab a free plant, and find out more ways to get involved in the city's efforts to sustain healthy pollinator populations.



WEST LINN OLD TIME FAIR

July 12, 13, 14 | Willamette Park

This is West Linn's signature annual event held in beautiful Willamette Park at the confluence of the Tualatin and Willamette Rivers. West Linn's annual Old Time Fair attracts more than 13,000 people throughout the 3-day event.

The Old Time Fair includes:

- + West Linn Ambassador Coronation, Crowning of the 2024 Royalty
- + Amusement Rides from Rainer Amusements, LLC
- + Olde Time Baseball Game
- + Community Parade
- + Classic Car & Boat show
- + Live Music
- + Exhibitor & Food Vendor Booths
- + Local organization performers
- + Beer Garden & much more

MUSIC IN THE PARK

July 25-August 22 | 6:30-8:30pm
Thursdays at Tanner Creek Park

The Music in the Park concert series promises to be a summer delight, with a lineup of talented musicians set to take the stage at Tanner Creek Park on Thursday nights. From the bluesy sounds of Brewer's Grade to the high-energy tunes of Ants In The Kitchen, this free, family-friendly concert series has something for everyone. Grab a blanket, some snacks, and get ready to tap your toes as you enjoy the warm summer evenings and the vibrant community spirit of West Linn.

July 25 - Brewer's Grade

August 1 - Collective Nation

August 8 - Red Light Romeos

August 15 - Jennifer Batten and Full Steam

August 22 - Ants In The Kitchen

MOVIES IN THE PARK

August 6-20 | Dusk
Tuesdays at Willamette Park

Enjoy a warm summer evening under the stars at West Linn Parks & Recreation's 2024 Movies in the Park! Movie begins at dusk (approximately 8:45 pm)

Blankets, pillows and low sand chair are welcome. Please note this is a free event. Concessions will be sold during the movie.

Vote for movies here: <https://westlinnoregon.gov/moviesinthepark>



Scan the
QR code to
see the full
list of
Community
Events!



COMMUNITY & MORE



Community Recreation Center
FEASIBILITY STUDY - GET INVOLVED!



Interested in shaping what a multi-generational community recreation center might look like in West Linn? A community survey and polling will be taking place very soon to capture residents thoughts on moving forward with this project. We want YOU to join the conversation, share your ideas, and help us create a potential plan for a building that would combine social spaces (for meetings, gatherings, performances, etc.) and active recreation spaces (such as fitness, classes, courts, climbing, etc).
Scan the QR code for more information!

West Linn Word Search

Find words vertically, horizontally, diagonally – and they can all be backwards too. See if you can find parts of the names of all eleven of West Linn’s neighborhood associations!

A I H E R O N P S A M A K C A L C R V Z G S G S
 B Y E R P M A L O Q D X X B T A E F O M C W D Z
 E Z W O F H T C N L M L Y E Q Z T U B Y E I O K
 R X C B X A K U N I I H U A Q C T Z H W A M P M
 N Y A R O K I W M E T C E V M C E O O H L M S C
 A V N A D J O S K W D A E E X A M E A G L E S L
 T V O R D N A I S G A S L R L L A B T F O S S E
 H Y E M A L B E J A Y T G A K R L R S E G P Y A
 Y M B S M L M N L D M K E N U I L E A M P F Z N
 I T T H B A W V T R Q A A R I T I G L A A X I P
 K T I L I B R A R Y E X C Y W R W P A I P H P A
 T K R D K E G M F Y N M N Z A M P L M N E U L K
 E M B R C L J B N B Q B M G Z K H S O S R N I O
 R E N A E K E D H S Q O R A D M K C A T M C N P
 E T I O E C R T I B T A O L H T A D R R I V E D
 C E A B B I T X S E N T U R A S W O I E L L A M
 R O T E L P G W K D B A O I E V U E A E L P G J
 E R N T H P I R S N Y S L D C N C T R T H H W V
 A I U A B N A T U H E H L E D W H Q V S Z M I R
 T T O K G M A I Y M S U D A H C S K A F D D V R
 I E F S U N N T O N C A B X S O J L O A R N T P
 O X D U D Q Z N P W R O N U O N P D L C O T T O
 N Z G O A T T M W C U Q Q B Z S P X Q J O A V S
 U B A S E B A L L T R R M A Q R E S E R V O I R

- ABERNATHY
- ARBOR
- BASEBALL
- BAT
- BEE
- BEAVER
- BIKE
- BOAT
- CAMASSIA
- CANOE
- CEDAR
- CLACKAMAS
- CUL-DE-SAC
- EAS
- FOUNTAIN
- GOAT
- GRANDSTAND
- HAMMERLE
- HERON
- HIKE
- KAYAK
- LAMPREY
- LIBRARY
- MADDOX
- MAINSTREET
- MARKET
- MAYOR
- MCLEAN
- METEORITE
- OTTO
- PAPER MILL
- PGE
- PICKLEBALL
- POLICE
- RECREATION
- RESERVOIR
- ROSEMONT
- ROUNDAABOUT
- SALAMO
- SKATEBOARD
- SOFTBALL
- SPLASHPAD
- SPRINGS
- SWINGS
- SWIM
- TUMWATER
- TUALATIN
- TVFR
- WILLAMETTE
- ZIPLINE

BOOK NOOK USED BOOKSTORE



The Book Nook used bookstore is located on the main floor near the Information Desk and offers novels, romance, mystery, memoirs, cookbooks, children’s books, audiobooks, DVDs, and more. The store is operated by the West Linn Library Foundation and all proceeds go to support library programs. We also welcome donations of books, audiobooks, CDs, DVDs, and Blu-rays for all ages that are in good condition.

SUMMER READING PROGRAM

The library’s Summer Reading Program will be here before you know it! Starting June 15, you can register online or in-person at the library. Finish your goal and enter to win a prize! We also have fun events for all ages, including our popular Tuesday events at Willamette Park, and Family Trivia Night at the library on Tuesday, June 25. Visit our website for more information.



REMOTE LIBRARY BOOK DROPS

In addition to book drops on each floor inside the library, there is an external slot on the west side of the building that is available 24/7. Materials checked out at our library can also be returned to any Clackamas County library and at 24/7 outdoor remote book drops around West Linn: Sunset Fire Hall, Adult Community Center, Pacific West Bank, and Emanuel Presbyterian Church. Library of Things items can only be returned to a staff member during library hours.





A Message from City Manager John Williams

Get to know your Mayor & Councilors!

Scan the QR code below to learn more.



Interested in City Council meetings? Please visit westlinnoregon.gov/meetings

WELCOME to the second edition of our OWL Newsletter.

The first issue was very popular so we hope you find this one just as useful! We've assembled basic information on a variety of important topics, but you'll only get an overview here. We hope the OWL leads you to our website, to City Hall, or to public meetings to find out more about any of these topics and to get involved.

In honor of Juneteenth, Pride Month, and a variety of other celebrations of our nation's diversity, I'd like to share a few highlights of what the City of West Linn is doing in the areas of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB):

- + Internally, our DEIB Task Force created a Mission and Values Statement that I was proud to adopt for all City staff. It commits us to creating an environment where everyone belongs, guided by three core values: inclusivity, collaboration, and accountability. The full statement can be found on our website.
- + Two cohorts of City staff, over 25 people, have completed a Cultural Competency Certification offered by Chemeketa Community College.
- + The City will offer several events for our third Juneteenth celebration. We'll have a new Storywalk book at Fields Bridge Park, several talks, and are joining the celebration held at Clackamas Community College.
- + We have continued to work with a variety of community partners such as the West Linn Alliance to offer conversation projects to discuss housing and belonging as well as urban/rural divides, the Af-

finity Club at West Linn High School to offer cultural celebrations led by students such as Eid Mubarak and Madaraka Day: Kenyan Independence Day Celebration, the WLWV Family Empowerment Center to reach students and families that benefit from additional services and support, and the West Linn Food Pantry. We collect food and donations year around for the Food Pantry and also visit over the summer to provide book giveaways, ensuring families and adults have reading materials at home along with a reminder of other library resources.

+ The West Linn Library offers prominent displays of material and programming for many cultural heritage months. Some highlights over the past year have included American Sign Language workshops, Nihaio Storytime, Homebound program that offers free service to library patrons who are unable to visit the library due to illness or disabilities, and Spice Club, introducing patrons to spice and cuisine they may not be familiar with. Thanks to our great Library staff for the great work they do all year long!

Our programs are open to the whole community so we look forward to you joining us and enhancing the sense of belonging that we hope everyone feels here in West Linn.

Have a great summer! OWL #3 will be in your mailboxes this fall.

Sincerely, John



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



WHAT'S AHEAD



Planning purposeful projects that grow, sustain, and support our beautiful community.



CITY COUNCIL'S VISION43 INITIATIVE SET TO TRANSFORM HIGHWAY 43 CORRIDOR

In response to growing community needs, the City Council initiated a long-range planning effort last autumn to rejuvenate the Highway 43 corridor. **VISION43** focuses on providing complete and safe facilities for pedestrians, bicycles, and transit, providing safe pedestrian crossing points throughout the corridor, enabling commercial services that meet the community's needs, and fostering vibrant commerce.

The **VISION43** initiative responds to the increasing demands of a rapidly evolving cityscape. **VISION43** aims to create a more vibrant, livable, and interconnected environment for residents and businesses alike.

AMONG THE KEY OBJECTIVES OUTLINED IN THE PLAN ARE:

- Create a new community vision for the Highway 43 corridor
- Engage community members and neighborhoods to help craft recommendations
- Improve neighborhood connectivity adjacent to Highway 43.
- Create opportunities for more diversified housing options, improve business opportunities, and enable the development of better gathering places for the West Linn community.
- Update City plans and policies to implement project goals and recommendations

The first phase of community outreach for the **VISION43** initiative is now in full swing, with

the City scheduling events from May through summer. Look for The **VISION43** tent at upcoming events such as the Farmers' Market, Concerts in the Park, and the Old Time Fair for opportunities to share your vision with project planners.

UPCOMING OUTREACH EVENTS

- **Vision 43 Renter Outreach:** May 23 at 6pm Community Room, West Linn Library (1595 Burns St)
- **Vision 43 Open House:** June 8 from 1:30 -3:30pm Robinwood Station (3706 Cedar oak Drive)
- **Vision 43 Robinwood Neighborhood Outreach:** June 18 – 6-8 pm, Robinwood Station (3706 Cedar oak Drive)
- **Vision 43 Bolton Neighborhood Outreach:** June 24 – 6- 8 pm, Community Room, West Linn Library (1595 Burns St)

Help shape the direction of **VISION43** by taking our quick survey! What do you imagine? What changes would create the community you want to live in? Share your insights and make a difference. Scan the QR code or visit yourwestlinn.com/vision43!



CLIMATE-FRIENDLY & EQUITABLE COMMUNITIES (CFEC) IMPLEMENTATION

The state of Oregon recently adopted rules to require communities, including West Linn, to change local transportation and land use plans. The intent is to ensure safe, comfortable ways to travel about by different means, while also aiming to improve equity and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The City is currently implementing several of the adopted standards, including requiring conduit be installed for electric-vehicle charging stations in commercial and multi-family developments, and removing parking mandates for new development within ½ mile of TriMet Route 35 which runs along Highway 43.

For more information, go to westlinnoregon.gov/planning/climate-friendly-and-equitable-communities-implementation



WEST LINN WATERFRONT PROJECT

The City is developing a Vision Plan for the Willamette River Waterfront that will guide future development and investment in a manner that honors the historic significance of Willamette Falls. Building upon three decades of planning insights and current community values, the plan will establish a framework to transform the 275-acre Waterfront into a vibrant destination for residents and visitors, showcasing the area's natural beauty and cultural significance.

An Open House earlier this spring allowed residents to learn about the project and provide feedback. Themes included the importance of the river and Willamette Falls access. In the Historic City Hall District, there was notable support for including cafes, restaurants, and midrise apartments, while further south in the Cultural Heritage and Pond Districts, community members expressed enthusiasm for trails, viewing platforms, and enhanced access to the river and falls.

This Vision Plan aims to blend years of planning with current community values to guide future development.



Community input is crucial, and residents are encouraged to participate in a survey and provide direct comments on a draft vision plan, both of which are available online at westlinnwaterfrontproject.com or scan the QR Code to visit the Willamette River Waterfront Project Page.

WEST LINN HOUSING PRODUCTION STRATEGY

The City recently adopted the 2021 West Linn Housing Capacity Analysis (HCA), which identifies projected housing need within the community, for both renters and homeowners, over the next 20 years. The HCA was required by House Bill 2003 (HB2003) passed by the Oregon Legislature in 2019 and projects majority need is for housing affordable to households making less than \$125,000. A household making \$125,000 can typically afford to purchase a home up to about \$470,000. The median price of homes sold in West Linn in February 2024 was \$758,000 (Redfin.com).

Income Range	Current Need (no vacancy)	Future Need (no vacancy)	New Need (with vacancy)	Share of Units
Less than \$15,000	380	416	43	4%
\$15,000 - \$24,999	370	406	44	4%
\$25,000 - \$34,999	372	408	43	4%
\$35,000 - \$49,999	607	665	66	7%
\$50,000 - \$74,999	1,279	1,402	140	14%
\$75,000 - \$99,999	1,034	1,133	101	10%
\$100,000 - \$124,999	941	1,032	94	9%
\$125,000 - \$149,999	872	956	86	9%
\$150,000 - \$199,999	1,303	1,429	124	12%
\$200,000+	2,790	3,059	265	26%
Total:	9,948	10,907	1,005	

Sources: PSU, City of West Linn, Census, EnviroNics Analytics, JOHNSON ECONOMICS

HB2003 also requires the City to follow up on the HCA by adopting a Housing Production Strategy (HPS). The HPS will identify policies, programs, and regulations the City will pursue to help facilitate the development of the needed housing identified in the HCA. As discussed above, housing affordable to the average household is limited in the community so the HPS process is very timely.

A City Council appointed working group will be reviewing several strategies focused on land supply, policy and development codes, financial incentives, and funding sources. The working group will recommend an HPS for adoption in early 2025. The City will then be required to analyze the implementation of the adopted strategies over the next six years until the HCA and HPS are required to be updated. For more information, please visit yourwestlinn.com.

ONGOING BUSINESS SUPPORT IN WEST LINN

The City of West Linn continues to value its partnerships with **Historic Willamette Main Street** (historicwillamette.com), **West Linn Chamber of Commerce** (westlinnchamber.org) and the **West Linn Business Recovery Center** (wanderwillamette.com). A winter highlight was designing a Small Business Saturday campaign and collaborative tumbler for folks shopping local in West Linn.

The City of West Linn and the Chamber of Commerce held a successful first event to support businesses located on the Highway 43 corridor in October, a great opportunity for business owners to meet each other and our partners. Our next gathering will take place this summer, please email WestLinnBusiness@westlinn-oregon.gov if you would like to attend or be involved.

In 2023, the City awarded \$85,000 in grant funds to 47 small businesses to help with technical assistance projects including marketing strategies, IT consulting and website updates. In January 2024, reports for these projects were submitted that also included a plethora of positive testimonials, including this one from Sushi Kuni (shared with permission):

"I am writing to express my deepest gratitude for the funding you have provided to Sushi Kuni. Your support has been a significant turning point for our small business, and I cannot thank you enough. The grant has not only been a financial aid but also a source of encouragement and validation for our hard work. As a small business in this wonderful community, your support makes me feel incredibly fortunate to be a part of West Linn." – Agatha Chen, Sushi Kuni

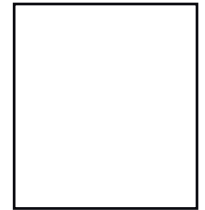
Please find more information on doing business in West Linn and our community partners at this link: www.westlinn-oregon.gov/economicdevelopment/doing-business-west-linn

STOP IN AND SAY HELLO...

The West Linn Police Department is excited to host a booth at the **2024 West Linn Old Time Fair!** We will be set up near the corner of 12th St. and Volpp St., all three days. Come down and meet us, take pictures, spin our wheel of questions to win a prize, and check out our patrol cars and motorcycle up close. Our officers and staff will be at the booth ready to hand out stickers, hats, candy, and more. See you there!



RETURN TO:
City of West Linn
22500 Salamo Rd.
West Linn, OR 97068



Willamette River, West Linn



GET IN TOUCH

©2024 City of West Linn. All Rights Reserved. Newsletter designed by Krake Designs.



(503) 657-0331
westlinnoregon.gov
22500 Salamo Rd.
West Linn, OR 97068

2018 GO BOND SUMMARY

In 2018 the voters of West Linn approved Ballot Measure 3-527 which provided approximately \$20 million in general obligation bonds to improve roads, parks, and city facilities. We are pleased to share that these bond funds have successfully constructed numerous projects throughout the city to improve livability and life throughout our beautiful community. We are incredibly grateful to the voters for prioritizing these critical community projects and wanted to continue to be transparent in how these bond dollars were used.



Scan the QR code here or go to westlinnoregon.gov/community/2018-go-bond for a 2018 GO Bond project summary to see just how far your bond dollars have gone!