

THE OWL

The official newsletter of the City of West Linn



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MAKING COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND TOWN

HOW DO YOU SPELL BI-ALOSTOSKY?

CAN YOU SOLVE THE WEST LINN WORD SEARCH?



Hello West Linn!

A message from John Williams, City Manager

It's been a few years since the City has mailed a newsletter to the entire community, but we think there's still a place for a print newsletter even in 2023. We reach less than half of our community through our weekly email newsletter or social media so we're hoping this helps bridge the gap. We're planning on printing this twice a year, so it won't be the place for urgent updates or breaking news. However, it's a great way to reach every single home and business in West Linn with the most important information, like how to prepare for snow and ice events in the winter, or a cut-out emergency phone list for your fridge or a fun little West Linn Word Search.

So, you're probably wondering why it's called "The Owl". Two reasons! First, the owl is the unofficial mascot of the **City Of West Linn** (get it?). Second, we've been using those same three letters to talk about how we're all in this together: **One West Linn**. All of us here at the City are proud to work for this community and proud to be part of One West Linn with you.

OK, on to the newsletter. Please let us know if you find it useful. We welcome your ideas and suggestions for the Spring 2024 edition!

Best wishes for a wonderful fall season.



CITY OF
**West
Linn**

TOOLS & TIPS



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

City crews are prepared and ready, with on-call staff available 24/7 for emergency operations.

We are actively monitoring weather reports and meeting with weather experts and emergency management personnel on upcoming storm events.

Our de-icing, plowing and sanding equipment is at the ready at our Public Works Operations Yard:

- 4 trucks with plows and sanders
- 2 pickups with plows and de-icer tanks
- 1 pickup with plow and sander
- Front-end Loader with Ice Breaker
- 8,000 gallons of de-icer
- 400 tons of sanding rock

During weather events, staff patrol the City making safety determinations about which roads to close. Please follow all posted signage.

PLANNING FOR WINTER WEATHER

Get ready for winter weather! Our City crews take regular maintenance and preparedness measures to ensure we are always ready and ask that you do the same to prepare yourselves and your home to help ride out any storms this winter as comfortably as possible. Our experienced Public Works crews will be out deicing and plowing as necessary.



If you have to travel during inclement weather, check out our inclement weather driving routes to find the safest routes and know where to expect closures. Please obey all posted closures. We ask that community members please limit driving as much as possible or consider staying safely at home when road conditions are expected to be icy, snowy or hazardous.



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

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

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

SMELL GAS? CALL:
NW Natural - (800) 882-3377
nwnatural.com

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

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

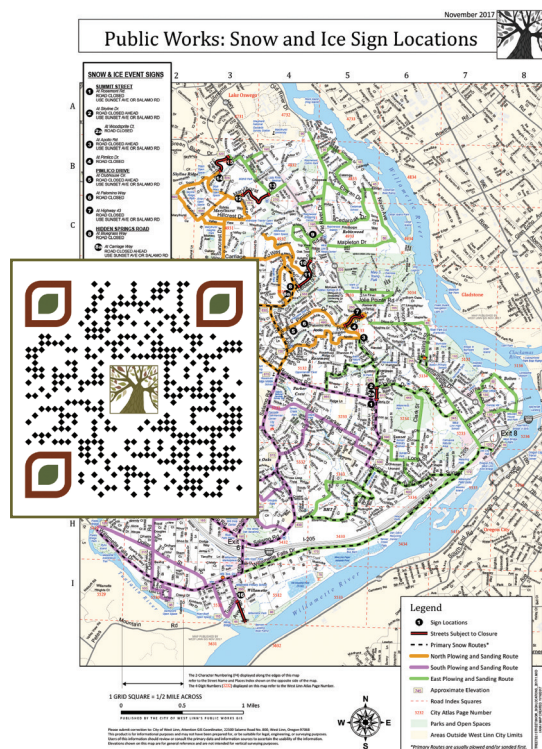
FlashAlert is one of the best ways to get informed of road closures, emergencies, press releases, and other urgent information. Receive updates for West Linn here:
flashalert.net/id/CityofWestLinn

STAY IN TOUCH:

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

Snow Route INFORMATION

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



Winter is coming to West Linn (though we hope this season will have a better ending than a certain TV series). 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.



CITY OF
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LOCAL EVENTS



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

BOO PUMPKIN PATH

October 14 & 15, 2023 - Mary S. Young Park

Back by popular demand: attend the third annual Boo Pumpkin Path Event on October 14th and 15th, featuring pumpkins, lights, and sweet delights! Walk through Mary S. Young Park and witness fun and spooky jack-o-lanterns come alive! Over 200 lit pumpkins carved by local West Linn citizens will be on display. This family-friendly event is not a haunted house or forest, nothing jumps out to scare and festive characters are not gory. Stay for the Halloween movie under the trees; this year's screening will be HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA (2012). Halloween costumes are encouraged.

Tickets are \$5 per person at the door.
Children 5 and younger are FREE.

DETAILS HERE:

westlinnoregon.gov/parksrec/boo-pumpkin-path

HOLIDAY TREE LIGHTING

December 2, 2023 - West Linn City Hall

The City of West Linn invites you to ring in the holiday season with a spectacular tree lighting and community celebration at City Hall on Friday, December 2nd. This year marks the 21st anniversary of this time-honored holiday celebration. At 6 pm, Santa will be escorted by a vintage fire engine for the special tree lighting ceremony. After the ceremony, guests are welcome to visit Santa's workshop for a special complimentary photo and sweet treat from Mrs. Claus. This event is graciously sponsored by: Toyota, Starbucks, and Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue.

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

DETAILS HERE:

westlinnoregon.gov/parksrec

HOLIDAY SWEATER DASH

December 9, 2023 - Historic Willamette

When the weather gets chilly, it's that time of year again to don your holiday apparel for the annual Holiday Sweater Dash. The start and finish will be at the Ale and Cider House. Pre-registration is recommended. Registered participants will receive a mug that the Ale & Cider House will fill with hot cocoa! See you in Historic Willamette on December 9th at 8:30 am!

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

PRE-REGISTER HERE:

westlinnoregon.gov/parksrec/sweaterdash



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COMMUNITY & MORE



Interested in having an indoor community recreation center right here in West Linn? We want YOU to join the conversation and share your ideas about how the City can plan and make this space an impactful resource for the community.

Community Recreation Center



Interested in shaping what an all-ages community recreation center might look like in West Linn? We want YOU to join the conversation and share your ideas about how to potentially plan an impactful community resource. None of the City's current facilities provide adequate space for recreation, a long-time need in West Linn. The City's adopted Parks and Recreation Master Plan (updated in 2019) and recent surveys reaffirmed a need to explore ideas for a building that would combine social spaces (for meetings, gatherings, performances, etc.) and active recreation spaces (such as fitness, classes, courts, climbing, etc.). If residents want to move forward with this idea, we need to decide exactly what types of resources and amenities to propose—that's why we're reaching out. **To get involved, scan the QR code!**

LIBBY!



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.

LIBRARY OF THINGS



The holidays are approaching. Maybe you want to play a new board game with family, or try out that tortilla press a friend recommended. Check out our Library of Things collection for these items and more!

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!

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

ABERNETHY
BHT
COUGARS
HISTORIC
LOCKS
PARKER
ROSEMONT
SUNSET
WEST
ARCH
BOLTON
COYOTES
LINN
MARYLHURST
RIVERS
SAVANNA
TREES
WILLAMETTE
AUTUMN
CITY
HIDDEN
LIONS
OWL
ROBINWOOD
SKYLINE
TUALATIN
YOUNG



A Message from Mayor Rory Bialostosky

Get to know your Mayor & Councilors!

Scan the QR code below
to learn more.



Interested in City Council
meetings? Please visit
[westlinnoregon.gov/
meetings](https://westlinnoregon.gov/meetings)

Hello, fellow West Linnians!

I hope you all have had a wonderful summer in the City and that you enjoyed some of the City's summer programming, whether it be catching a movie at Mary S. Young, listening to music at Tanner Creek or frequenting the Wednesdays in Willamette Summer Street Market among many other opportunities. I am writing to keep you updated on what the City Council has been working on. This first edition of the Mayor's Message recaps our summer activities over the last few months.

HERE ARE A FEW HIGHLIGHTS:

Council continues exploring the idea of a community recreation center. Expect more communication on that from the City in the future as we work towards determining whether residents are interested in this opportunity. Sign up at westlinnoregon.gov/e-news to stay involved.

The City Council passed a balanced two-year budget in June. The budget continues the provision of essential city services, maintains staffing levels and provides us with a guiding document for capital projects.

City Council adopted a public camping time, place and manner ordinance that regulates where houseless individuals can and cannot camp on City property to comply with a new law that required cities to remove camping bans and instead allowed cities to create "objectively reasonable" regulations. A community task force is nearing the end of their work to recommend a designated space for tent and vehicle camping on City property.

In late June, \$5 million was allocated to West Linn by the Legislature for our Abernethy Bridge waterline replacement project that will keep drinking water flowing to

West Linn for many decades to come.

ODOT then announced in their finance plan that tolling collection on the Tualatin River Bridge (near the Stafford Road exit on I-205) was delayed indefinitely, meaning that West Linn residents have one less toll zone to worry about for now. As a trade off, this means that the third lane on 205 near West Linn won't be constructed as the state had planned. We continue to fight for West Linn's interests with ODOT, the Oregon Transportation Commission, and state lawmakers with jurisdiction over these issues.

An Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) code package was adopted to make building ADUs more accessible and equitable for all. This will allow for more diverse and generational living spaces if property owners choose to build them.

Work continues on developing the Waterfront Master Plan and Highway 43 Land Use and Neighborhood Connectivity Plan (soon to be kicked off).

If you have any questions, comments or want to discuss city issues reach out to me

Stay tuned for engagement opportunities on these exciting plans that will positively impact the future of our City.

at RBialostosky@westlinnoregon.gov.

It is an honor to serve as your Mayor.

With gratitude,

Mayor Rory Bialostosky (WLHS '18)



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





CITY OF
West
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WHAT'S AHEAD



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



WEST LINN WATERFRONT PROJECT

City Council wants to hear from you! We're asking residents to collaborate in the development of a community-driven plan for the Willamette River waterfront area (stretching from the Arch Bridge to the Willamette Neighborhood). Ultimately, the plan will create a vision for future land uses and activities based on current community values and aspirations. It will help shape how West Linn would like to use and interact with this underutilized area for future generations.

The Plan's public process includes:

A COMMUNITY-DRIVEN VISION FOR THE WATERFRONT AREA

Establishing the community vision for the Waterfront Area and each development district will inform the rest of the project, and this is where we need your help! What do YOU want to see here? The community visioning efforts will shape the project using four guiding principles: improved river access, preservation of historic character, increased reinvestment opportunities, and transportation improvements. These guiding principles were developed from previous outreach and planning efforts, particularly around the history of the site, and from tribal engagement conducted as part of the Willamette Falls stakeholder engagement process. We're planning to connect with you through an extensive, long-haul out-

reach campaign featuring tabling events around town, surveys, town halls, youth involvement, and more.

GET INVOLVED

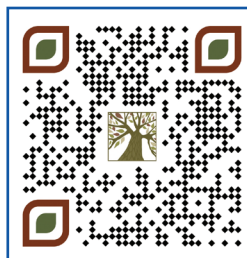
Sign up for news, updates, surveys, and more at <https://westlinnoregon.gov/waterfront>, or look for us at your favorite community hubs around town! Reach out to planning@westlinn-oregon.gov with your ideas and feedback any time, and especially your outreach event suggestions.

FUTURE STEPS

Consultants will develop action plans for each district that identify where early momentum can be created to support the rest of the Plan. The action plan will identify emerging issues that could impact the project and develop creative ways that the redevelopment plan could respond to these issues or future issues.

Based on this public input process, the City will develop a proposed zoning and redevelopment plan for the different project districts that meets community intent. Feedback from all stakeholders and property owners is essential to determine future opportunities in the Historic City Hall District and Industrial Heritage Districts. Consultants will then develop action plans for each district that identify where early momentum can be created to support the rest of the community's plan. These will identify emerging issues that could impact the project and develop creative ways that the plan could respond to these issues or future issues.

Once vetted by the public and approved by City Council, the Waterfront community plan will kick into action to make your visions a reality! Sign up for more using this QR code.



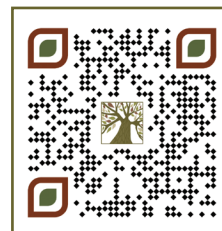
HIGHWAY 43 LAND USE & NEIGHBORHOOD CONNECTIVITY PLAN

We need your input! We're teaming up with residents like you to develop a new, future-focused vision for the Highway 43 corridor (stretching along both sides of Hwy 43 from the boundary of Lake Oswego all the way to I-205). Although this area serves as a critical north/south transportation link in the Portland Metro region, it doesn't add much to the livability of West Linn or the vitality of our economy. Not yet, anyway!

What new opportunities for residents to live, work, and play here would YOU like to see? Safe crossing points on Willamette Drive? Small businesses that meet neighborhood needs like restaurants and shopping? Parks and green spaces? Pedestrian-friendly plazas with walkable connections to goods and services as well as other neighborhoods? A safe place for teens to hang out? The City needs your help exploring mixed-use zoning to re-energize the corridor with a vibrant mix of housing types, workplaces, shops, and parks for people of all ages, incomes, and abilities. We'll be asking for your ideas through an extensive, long-haul outreach campaign featuring tabling events around town, surveys, town halls, youth involvement, and more.

Get involved on the ground floor! Tell us how you'd like to see the Highway 43 corridor transformed for future generations to

enjoy. Sign up for news, updates, surveys, and more at the QR code, or look for us at your favorite community hubs around town! Reach out to planning@westlinnoregon.gov with your ideas and feedback any time, and especially your outreach event suggestions.



GROWING BUSINESS SUPPORT IN WEST LINN

In Spring 2022, the City of West Linn implemented a new Business Support & Economic Development program. The program supports our small business community, economic development projects in our Community Development department and some Tourism efforts. We developed three \$75,000 grant programs for small businesses including a façade improvement and technical assistance grant. One façade grant awardee shared: *"I can't thank the city enough for what a huge improvement the grant work has done to improve the beauty of our area!"* The program collaborates with local partners, colleagues and the Economic Development Committee to thoughtfully grow our economic landscape and make it easier to do business here. We hope to continue to find more grant resources and are currently developing a new business coalition to support the small businesses located on Willamette Drive / Hwy 43.

Another key component in local business outreach is the strong partnerships the City has cultivated with the **West Linn Chamber of Commerce** (westlinnchamber.org), **Historic Willamette Main Street** (historicwillamette.com) and the **Lake Oswego & West Linn Business Recovery Center** (wanderwillamette.com). *These purposeful connections create a synergy among the community and bring events, tourism, business education, resources, marketing and support to a whole new level!* Partnerships like these amplify the growth, vitality and possibilities West Linn has to offer to all businesses!



Government Finance Officers Association

Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting Award

Finance Audit Award!

The City of West Linn received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting award for our Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022. This is the 13th year in a row we have received this prestigious national award.

The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management.

POLICE REVIEW AND RECOMMEND COMMITTEE

In July 2020, City Council convened a Task Force of community members to make recommendations on how best to provide community involvement in police oversight. The goal was and is to improve transparency, accountability, inclusivity, and public trust in the West Linn Police Department. In December 2022, based on the initial Task Force's recommendations, City Council established a permanent, formal police oversight body called the Police Review & Recommend Committee.

This Committee will provide independent oversight of police complaints, investigations, and policy reforms. Members will undergo training and meet as-needed to review issues, plus hold a minimum of two annual public meetings to review and make recommendations on policy, trends, complaints, reports and progress toward reform goals. More details regard-

ing how this Committee will operate are provided in Ordinance 1741.

The City of West Linn is committed to principles of transparency and inclusivity.

We take complaints of employee misconduct very seriously. An online reporting tool is available for your convenience if you need to make a complaint about a police officer or other City employee. This complaint tracking system is hosted by a third-party complaint hotline provider, EthicsPoint. All complaints are initially routed to the City Manager and Human Resources. If the complaint is about either of those people, the complaint is routed to the City's employment attorney office. Please visit tinyurl.com/WLEthicsPoint

Welcome Carol Bryck!



The City would like to extend a warm welcome to our newest Interim Councilor, Carol Bryck! She and her family moved to West Linn in 1999 where her three sons attended CedarOak Park Primary, Rosemont Ridge, and West Linn High School. Councilor Bryck worked as a financial analyst, Assistant Finance Director and Interim Finance Director for the City of Lake Oswego. In 2009, she became the Chief Financial Officer for Clackamas River Water (CRW) providing water services to much of unincorporated Clackamas County. During her tenure at CRW, she earned an Executive Master of Public Administration from Portland State University. While working, she held two financial certifications, Certified Public Finance Officer (CPFO) and Certified Treasury Professional (CTP).

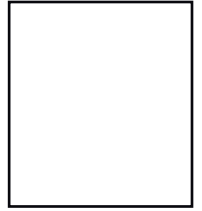
Councilor Bryck lives in the Robinwood Neighborhood and has served on the board of the Friends of the Robinwood Station, as Vice President of the Robinwood Neighborhood Association, and as a member of the Robinwood Community Garden.

In 2011, she served on the Highway 43/Willamette Falls Drive Vision Advisory Committee. Since retiring in 2022, she has more time to give back to the community and was appointed to the Citizen's Budget Committee. In August 2023, she was appointed as interim City Councilor. She looks forward to collaborating with the Council, staff, and citizens to continue building a community where we are proud to live and serve. She wants to hear from you: cbryck@westlinnoregon.gov

In her free time, she enjoys walking through the amazing green spaces in the City, gardening in the Robinwood Community Garden, reading library books, and cooking.

Your City Council is always open to hearing from citizens on topics and issues of importance to you. Please feel free to email Council any time at citycouncil@westlinnoregon.gov.

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

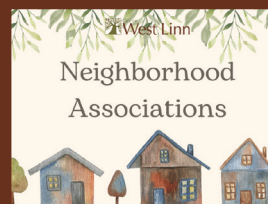


Willamette Park, West Linn



GET IN TOUCH

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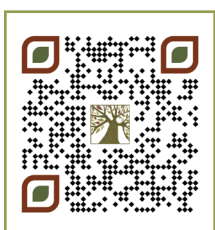
Neighborhood associations (NAs) are one of the recognized channels for community participation in West Linn, and they're different from Homeowners Associations. West Linn's eleven NAs offer an opportunity for the community to participate in decision-making in the geographic area in which they live. These volunteer organizations

bring neighbors together to improve the livability of West Linn's neighborhoods. Participation in an NA is voluntary and open to all community members who live, own property, or a business within its boundary.

NAs may also play an important role in building a sense of community within their geographic area. This involves building positive relationships amongst neighbors and working together for the common good of the neighborhood. Holding block parties, ivy removals, cleanups, and helping elderly or disabled residents are all possible parts of this role.

Neighborhood Associations are one of the best ways for the public to organize around local issues, stay informed of City business, grow strong neighborhood connections, and have a voice in local government. City staff, Council, and the entire West Linn community are grateful for the donated labor of participants, which ultimately benefits everyone.

Explore them today at westlinnoregon.gov/neighborhoods



(503) 657-0331

westlinnoregon.gov

22500 Salamo Rd.
West Linn, OR 97068