



# WEST LINN UPDATE

January 2015

## You Talk, We Listen:

*Thanks for your transportation feedback!*

In last month's West Linn Update we asked you to give us feedback about your general feelings of safety walking and biking around town, as well as to share some of the characteristics related to your daily commute. Here's what you told us:

**Most of you don't feel safe walking and biking around town**, 86 percent of you to be exact. Better connections between the Willamette commercial area and Fields Bridge Park, continuous sidewalks along Rosemont Road and sidewalks from West Linn High School along Skyline and Rosemont Road were a few of the most commonly cited areas in need of pedestrian and bicycle improvements.

**Improve the safety and connectivity of pedestrian and bicycle routes.** More than 1/3 of your ideas suggest that improving the safety and connectivity of sidewalks, trails and bike lanes is the best way to encourage non-drive alone trips. Promoting carpooling and ridesharing, creating a local shuttle service, better maintenance of existing infrastructure, and better enforcement of traffic laws, round out your top four most frequently mentioned ideas to encourage travel by means other than driving alone. A few of you said things are just fine the way they are.

Although you reported an average commute time (30 minutes) that's six minutes longer than the regional average, the majority of you feel that your commute takes less time than that experienced by your counterparts throughout the region. **Your most common commute locations are Southeast Portland, Beaverton, Hillsboro and Tigard.**

If you weren't stuck in traffic, you'd spend your free time... in the garden, with family, exercising and sleeping in!

Finally, you have some **great ideas for ways to make West Linn more walkable and bikable**, among them are: more commercial and retail uses within residential neighborhoods, more local jobs, more and better crosswalks, and better bike and pedestrian facilities, as mentioned earlier. On the other hand, some of you feel that the City should not invest in improvements for walking and biking nor encourage the use of public transit and should limit investments to motor vehicle improvements.



**Thank you** for taking the time to respond to our questionnaire, your feedback helps ensure that we're having the right conversations and asking the right questions as we continue planning our long-term transportation future. Please stay tuned to the City of West Linn's official website for updates regarding the status of our TSP Update and don't hesitate to call, email or stop by if you'd like to chat or share more great ideas.

Sincerely,

**Zach Pelz, AICP Associate Planner, City of West Linn**

Email: [zpelz@westlinnoregon.gov](mailto:zpelz@westlinnoregon.gov) | Phone: (503) 723-2542



## Say Hello to Your 2015 City Council!

*Council will be sworn in on January 5, 2015*

The 2015 West Linn City Council will be sworn in on January 5, 2015, at 6 p.m. in West Linn Council Chambers. Please join us as Councilor Russ Axelrod and Councilor Brenda Perry affirm their support of the West Linn charter! Enjoy cider and cookies after the ceremony.

## Talk to us! We want to hear your ideas for City Council goal setting on January 9:

What is the most important issue that the West Linn City Council should focus on in 2015? Why?

Mail to Kirsten Wyatt at 22500 Salamo Road, West Linn, 97068 (you can add extra paper if needed). Or, you can email your responses to Kirsten at [kwyatt@westlinnoregon.gov](mailto:kwyatt@westlinnoregon.gov). Thanks for your time and your input!



## Recreation Program: Manners Matter

Manners Matter teaches the importance of being polite in all situations and why it is important for everyone.

During class, children will be taught to set the table using plates, glasses, utensils and napkins. They will practice proper greetings and handshake. Also, the polite way to enter a conversation and to write thank you notes.

Children will learn the importance of being a polite host/hostess and/or guest...and so much more. This class will reinforce all the good lessons taught at home about good manners. Children will be asked to practice their good manners throughout the week and share about those experiences at class.

**About the Instructor:** Debbie Spellecy previously taught this popular course on manners through Spokane Parks and Recreation.

### Manners Matter Ages 5-7 Years

Fee: Inside City \$60/Outside City \$65  
2/7 & 2/14 @ 9:15 – 10:45 am  
4/4 & 4/11 @ 9:15 – 10:45 am  
West Linn Adult Community Center

### Manners Matter Ages 8-10 Years

Fee: Inside City \$60/Outside City \$65  
2/7 & 2/14 @ 11 am – 12:30 pm  
4/4 & 4/11 @ 11 am – 12:30 pm  
West Linn Adult Community Center

Register at [WestLinnOregon.gov/ParksRec](http://WestLinnOregon.gov/ParksRec)

## Change to West Linn City Parks Picnic Shelter Reservation Schedule

For many years, residents of West Linn have lined-up the first workday in March, in person, or flooded phone lines vying for their pick of picnic shelter dates.

This year, West Linn Parks and Recreation (WLP&R) has converted to a rolling reservation schedule. Reservations now may be made six months in advance. This means reservations for any time in June may be made beginning the first of December and July reservations may begin the first of January, etc.

The picnic season remains March 1 through October 31. Payment is required at the time the reservation is placed and refunds are available.

Please call WLP&R at 503-557-4700 to check shelter availability, cost information, and place a reservation. You may also visit <http://westlinnoregon.gov/parksrec/refund-policy-picnic-field-reservations> for the complete refund policy.



## Music in the Stacks: The Billy Novas

January 21 at 6:30 p.m.

The Billy Novas will perform at the library. Marianne Flemming (vocals, guitar, bass, mandolin) has been a professional musician for more than 25 years and has won numerous songwriting contests. She has opened for many national acts including Taj Mahal and Roger McGuinn of the Byrds. Robert Richter (vocals, guitar, bass) is a singer/songwriter and guitarist well known in the region for his stellar guitar skills and slide guitar playing. He has taught workshops on slide guitar all around the Northwest including at the NW Folklife Festival in Seattle. They play a jazzy and country flavored style of music that is easy to listen to. As a duo they trade vocal lead and solos. They play both original music and standards.

## Council Goal Setting is Jan. 9, 2015

*How does an idea become a council goal?*

The West Linn City Council meets annually to determine its goals for the year, as well as work plans for its advisory groups. Goal setting is an important time, because the goals determine the focus for city staff for the remainder of the year. So how does an idea become a Council goal? There are four main ways:

- 1. City Council Campaign Idea** - Councilors are elected with big ideas, and they bring those ideas to the goal-setting retreat. It takes a majority of the council to place an idea on the goals list for the year.
- 2. Continuation of Prior Year Goal** - Some goals are too big to be completed in one year's time. Often, the city will have goals that span multiple years given the complexity of the project. A recent example is the construction of a new police station.
- 3. Citizen Advisory Group or Staff Proposal** - These types of goals are long-range legislative projects - updating the Transportation System Plan is an example. Citizen Advisory Groups or staff bring these ideas to the Council for its consideration to include on the goals list.
- 4. Ideas From Citizens** - The City Council wants to hear from you! Please use the form from page one of this newsletter to share your ideas for Council goals. Mail to Kirsten Wyatt at 22500 Salamo Road, West Linn, 97068 (you can add extra paper if needed). Or, you can email your responses to Kirsten at [kwyatt@westlinnoregon.gov](mailto:kwyatt@westlinnoregon.gov). Thanks for your time and your input!

