



CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE:

- The **new website** was launched on May 22, staff are finetuning the new site, ashlandoregon.gov.
- The **June 2024 City Newsletter** is available at ashlandoregon.gov/StayConnected.
- The City will be looking for a **new band director** as Christine Lundahl has taken a position in California.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

- **A call for artists is out** to design art for a decorative crosswalk near the entrance to Lithia Park – Deadline is June 7, and details are in the newsfeed on the City home page, ashlandoregon.gov.

FIRE:

- The fire season officially started on June 1. It is expected to be hotter and dryer this summer.
- The Ashland Forestland Climate Change Adaptation Project, first phase to reduce fire danger and help forests adapt to hotter and drier conditions, is nearing completion. Helicopter operations finished on May 25 and nearly all trails have reopened. Log trucks will continue to haul logs down Granite Street and through town this week and sporadically over the next few weeks as the last of this work phase wraps up going into fire season. Crews are still working on the ground to clean up debris, so expect to see work happening near local trails. We sincerely appreciate all the patience with noise and traffic as we get this incredibly important work done over the next month! Future work will involve prescribed burning and replanting with species better adapted to the changing climate. See latest news release on our website at ashlandoregon.gov. Project information can be found at ashlandoregon.gov/AshlandForest.
- Controlled burning in the City's municipal watershed has been very successful over the past few weeks. **Part of the 15-year Ashland Forest Resiliency Stewardship Project**, burning reintroduces the long-absent role of frequent fire employed by indigenous tribes for millennia on this landscape. Burning reduces the chance of catastrophic wildfires, helps forests thrive, and protects the many important values our community derives from surrounding forests. Our Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest partners finished burning nearly 250 acres with negligible smoke impacts in town.
- Starting June 8, the City will have two single roll units operational between 12 and 7 p.m. daily.

FINANCE:

- The **Finance Department and Ashland Parks and Recreation Senior Services Division have joined together to assist residents with their online Utility Accounts and Utility Discount Applications at the Ashland Senior Center**, 1699 Homes Ave. Appointments by the half hour are available on Mondays and Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and may be scheduled by calling Utility Billing at 541.488.6004 or emailing utilitybilling@ashlandoregon.gov. Utility Billing phone lines are open Monday through Fridays 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and in-person service is available at the Grove on Fridays at 1195 E Main Street from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Congratulations to **Colton Cochran** for his new role as **Accounting Analyst!** He will be working closely with **Jesse Smith** and **Miranda Iwamoto** on account/general ledger reconciliation among many other responsibilities that Accounting does to keep our finances clean, accurate and complete.



City Manager's Report

- In **Procurement**, we welcome **Justin Biskeborn** who has come to us from Express. We will be posting this position soon.

PARKS & RECREATION:

- Parks and Recreation has a job opening for a **golf manager** for the Oak Knoll Golf Course, and an opening for an **Administrative Assistant** to support the Recreation Division. Second interviews for the **Parks Director** position were held on May 10.
- A team of scientists from Portland-based **Salmon Safe** came to Ashland last week to tour the parks system. The team will be working with parks staff to create a set of science-based management recommendations that serve the overall goal of protecting and enhancing salmon habitat in local creeks and streams.
- The **Ashland Trails Advisory Committee (ATAC)** met to consider a proposed mountain bike trail on the East Glenview Hillside in Lithia Park. The ATAC identified areas for development and improvement of the application and will continue to work on the proposal.

PUBLIC WORKS :

- The Alice Peil Stairway, a popular shortcut from Granite Street to the Downtown Plaza, is being replaced. Work will be complete early this summer.

WHAT'S COMING UP in JUNE?

- The Daniel Meyer Memorial Pool will open for the season on June 4 for open lap swim and evening programs. The full daily schedule will begin on June 6. Visit ashlandoregon.gov/Swim for more information on the daily schedule and programs. Mark your calendars for June 7, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., for the **Dive into Diversity: All In! Adapted Swim Kickoff Event**, sponsored by *The Autism Society of Southern Oregon and Bridging Communities*. This recreational swimming event is for all ability levels to enjoy treats and activities designed for people experiencing cognitive and physical disabilities.
- For a list of June programs, see the May City Newsletter, ashlandoregon.gov/StayConnected.