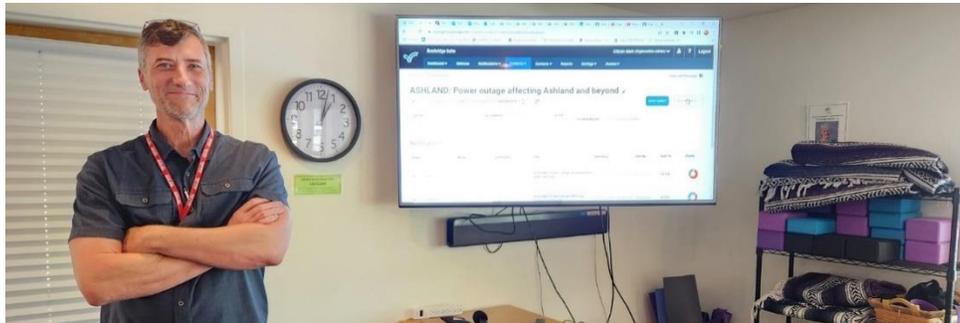


## CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE:

- The following measures for the November 5, 2024, Election have been filed with Jackson County:
  - Measure 15-232 - Open Seat Election
  - Measure 15-233 - Municipal Judge as an Appointed Position
  - Measure 15-234 - Ashland Resolution 2024-05 Authority to Issue Water Revenue Bonds

More information at [ashlandoregon.gov/Elections](https://ashlandoregon.gov/Elections).

- An **Ashland Community Survey** has been mailed to selected households. On October 7, the survey will be available community-wide online. Look for results in early December 2024. This survey is conducted every two years and helps us better understand how Ashland's livability – our natural environment, community design, safety, economy, inclusivity and more – changes over time.
- **Jackson County has introduced new evacuation zones for county residents.** We've collaborated with our GIS Department to update the City Evacuation Zone map, incorporating the new County Evacuation Zones that border the city. Check it out at [ashlandoregon.gov/Evacuations](https://ashlandoregon.gov/Evacuations). The new map will be promoted in a variety of ways.
- **Public Education for Emergency Preparedness:**
  - Ashland Senior Center on July 31 – Emergency Preparedness workshop with about 60 seniors. This coincided with the major power outage (power restored 20 minutes before the class was to start, yet we made it happen).



Emergency Management Coordinator, **Kelly Burns**

- Ashland.News & Ashland Together Emergency Preparedness talk August 18. Diverse group of 65 locals engaged in scenario workshop – [View article from Ashland.News](#).
- **Severe Weather Shelter:** Continued monitoring for activations and coordination. Avram Sacks continues to do a good job coordinating the volunteers. Cooling center has been activated for 22 days this summer season.
- **NHMP** (Natural Hazards Mitigation Planning) up for re-adoption October 1, 2024.
- **I-5 Grass Fire on September 4, 2024** – The City coordinated well with the wildfire and evacuation notices for the recent grass fire just outside of city limits. The following departments were all hands-on deck: Police, Fire and City Manager's Office (Emergency Management, Communications & Administration).



# City Manager's Report

- **Website Stats, [ashlandoregon.gov](https://ashlandoregon.gov), August 1 to 31, 24,131 users...**  
The **top five search terms** include:
  - Lithia Park
  - Elections
  - Daniel Meyer Memorial Pool
  - Jobs
  - Payment PlanThe **top five page visits** include:
  - Home page – 12,343
  - Search page – 4,197
  - Utility Customer Service – 4,144
  - Air Quality Index – 2,628
  - Daniel Meyer Memorial Pool – 2,369
- **Website Stats, [ashlandoregon.gov](https://ashlandoregon.gov), on September 4, 6,049 users – The day of the I-5 grass fire and the Pacific Power outage...**  
The **top five search terms** include:
  - Power outage
  - Electric Department
  - Fire
  - Elections
  - Ashland Fiber NetworkThe **top five page visits** include:
  - Know Your Evacuation Zone – 2,871
  - Smoke & Wildfire Information – 1,751
  - Home page – 1,314
  - News Flash / Grass Fire Near Exit 11 on I-5 – 1,206
  - Evacuations – 591
- The **September 2024 City Newsletter** is available at [ashlandoregon.gov/StayConnected](https://ashlandoregon.gov/StayConnected).

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

- On Tuesday, October 22 at 7 p.m. in Council Chambers, the Planning Commission will hold a Study Session to discuss the Climate Friendly Areas selection and rezoning. More information at [ashlandoregon.gov/ClimateFriendly](https://ashlandoregon.gov/ClimateFriendly).
- The deployment of *Energov* for building permits has gone so well Community Development is looking to expand to all permit types. Currently, eighty percent of building permits are done through *Energov*.

## ELECTRIC:

- A draft of the Electric Masterplan has been completed and is under staff review. It has been scheduled for a study session with Council this fall.



# City Manager's Report

## FINANCE:

- Applications for our Utility Assistance program will be available as of October 1, 2024. More information at [ashlandoregon.gov/UtilityAssistance](https://ashlandoregon.gov/UtilityAssistance).
- Bond Counsel reviewing and working with USDA on finalizing RESP (Rural Energy Savings Program) Loan Agreements.
- Year-end accounting and audit are underway.
- Applications are being accepted to serve on the Citizens' Budget Committee.

## FIRE:

- On September 4, 2024, the **I-5 Fire** was successfully contained to 13 acres thanks to the coordinated efforts of multiple agencies. Our firefighting team, which included five fire apparatus, administrative staff, and executive officers, was onsite. Meanwhile, back at the stations, our Single Role EMT staff ensured that an ambulance crew was available and fully staffed. (*Agencies involved: Ashland Fire, Ashland Police, Jackson County Fire Dist. 5, ODF, Medford Fire, JCSO, OSP, ODOT, Jackson County Fire Dist. 3, Jackson County Fire Dist. 4, Jacksonville, Greenspring, Applegate Fire, Rogue River Fire and the Josephine County Strike team.*)
- **The fire danger in Ashland increased to EXTREME** as of September 6, 2024. Additional restrictions are in place. Information at [ashlandoregon.gov/FireSeasonInfo](https://ashlandoregon.gov/FireSeasonInfo).
- **Ryan Creason** and **Sydney Jenkins** graduated this Summer from Eastern Oregon University with their bachelor's degrees. Ryan earned a Bachelor's in Fire Services Administration and a minor in Emergency Medical Services Administration, graduating Cum Laude. Sydney earned a major in Fire Service Administration and a minor in Public Policy. Both Sydney and Ryan show how education and experience together can lead to meaningful improvements in fire service. Way to go Ryan and Sydney!



(L to R: Ryan & Sydney)



# City Manager's Report

## Innovation & Technology:

- **Ryan Stowasser**, who has been an invaluable part of the City for over a decade, has been promoted to Innovation & Technology Manager. Ryan's innovative ideas and dedication to enhancing our internal systems make him the perfect fit for this role. Congratulations, Ryan!

## PARKS & RECREATION:

- The Senior Services Division finished Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-24 with a new high of 17,666 visits for activities and services (1,472 visits/month). This is an increase of 22% from FY 2022-23, which was the previous record year at 14,126 visits (1,177 visits/month).

## PUBLIC WORKS:

- Public Works is working with our grant writing firm on the preapplication for a **BRIC** grant for the water treatment plant.

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## WHAT'S COMING UP?

- **Morning Bird Walk** at North Mountain Park on **September 21** – More at [NorthMountainPark.org](http://NorthMountainPark.org).
- The free **Guided Walks in Lithia Park** will continue through the **end of September**. For more information, including the schedule, visit [AshlandParksandRec.org](http://AshlandParksandRec.org).
- **Technology Basics for Seniors** at Ashland Senior Center on **September 18**– Information at [AshlandSeniorServices.org](http://AshlandSeniorServices.org).
- **Argentinian Tango Guitar performance** at Ashland Senior Center on **October 9** – Information at [AshlandSeniorServices.org](http://AshlandSeniorServices.org).
- **Bear Creek Salmon Festival** on **October 12** at North Mountain Park – [BearCreekSalmonFestival.net](http://BearCreekSalmonFestival.net).
- The **Ashland Japanese Garden** will celebrate its two-year anniversary on **October 19** – [AshlandJapaneseGarden.org](http://AshlandJapaneseGarden.org).
- **Indigenous Peoples' Day** on **October 14** (National holiday) – Local celebration, **October 19 and 20**, for **Indigenous Peoples' Week** at Stevenson Union on the Southern Oregon University Campus. More information via [kravitzk@sou.edu](mailto:kravitzk@sou.edu).
- **Southern Oregon Pride** on **October 5** – [sopride.org](http://sopride.org).
- **Ashland Mystery Festival, October 17 through October 20** – Information at [ashlandmysteryfest.com](http://ashlandmysteryfest.com).
- **Ashland Monster Dash** on **October 26**, 10K, 5K and 1-Mile options; Run for Education! – [ashlandmonsterdash.com](http://ashlandmonsterdash.com).
- **Butler-Perozzi Fountain historic presentation** with Peter Finkle at Ashland Senior Center on **October 30** – Information at [AshlandSeniorServices.org](http://AshlandSeniorServices.org).
- **Children's Halloween Parade** on **October 31** – More at [ashlandchamber.com](http://ashlandchamber.com).