



## CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE:

- **City Hall is set to open one day a week** – Starting November 7, 2024, City Hall will launch a pilot program, opening its doors every Thursday from 8:30 to 10 a.m. (excluding holidays). This is a great opportunity for residents to stop by and have a direct conversation with the City Manager.
- **This year marks the 150th anniversary of Ashland's founding!** Stay tuned for exciting details about a community-wide celebration happening later this month.
- The **City Manager's Office presented to OLLI** on September 19 covering topics such as City Recorder, Emergency Management, Communications and Economic Development. The presentation was well received and dubbed by participants as, "Civics 101!" City Departments will present in the coming weeks – View the itinerary, past presentations and register for upcoming presentations at [ashlandoregon.gov/OLLI](https://ashlandoregon.gov/OLLI).
- A new **Event Grant Program** is going live this month! This grant program provides funds for events that help boost overnight travelers, stimulate economic activity and promote Ashland as a premier tourist destination. Looking to organize an event? Keep an eye on our website for the application.
- 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 BondsMore 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 through October 28, 2024. 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.
- The **October 2024 City Newsletter** is available at [ashlandoregon.gov/CityNewsletters](https://ashlandoregon.gov/CityNewsletters).

## FINANCE:

- Finance is working toward moving all Finance Divisions into one single location at 2245 YMCA Way.
- Applications for our Utility Assistance program are now available. 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:

- **The fire danger in Ashland** decreased to HIGH as of September 12, 2024. Restrictions remain in place. Information at [ashlandoregon.gov/FireSeasonInfo](https://ashlandoregon.gov/FireSeasonInfo).



# City Manager's Report

## Innovation & Technology:

- **Lea Richards**, our GIS Manager, will celebrate her 20th year with the City on October 18, 2024! Lea came from the SOU (Southern Oregon University) Geography program. Over the years her titles have included GIS Specialist and GIS Analyst. *Congratulations Lea!*
- Parks & Rec worked with GIS to deploy two **public surveys**, one for the Daniel Meyer Memorial Pool and for pickleball. The goal is to find out what kind of programming changes the community would like to see. Currently, there are 195 survey respondents to the pool survey, and 87 for the pickleball survey.

## PARKS & RECREATION:

- On Monday September 16, Parks & Rec welcomed **Brian Weaver as the manager at the Oak Knoll Golf Course**. Brian is a Class A member of the PGA of America and has extensive experience managing golf courses. Most recently, Brian was the Director of Golf at a 27-hole course in Austin, TX. We are thrilled to have him join the Parks & Rec team!
- The Parks & Rec department received two Oregon state grants from the Local Government Grant Program. \$1,000,000 for Phase 1 of East Main Park, which includes a bicycle pump track and skills park, and \$720,000 for the rehabilitation of the Hunter Park tennis courts.
- Recruitment has begun for an **Environmental Education Manager for the Nature Center** and within the Ashland parks system. The position posting will close on October 7, 2024. [Learn more.](#)

## PUBLIC WORKS:

- **Bobby Cope**, Facilities Maintenance; and **Ben Cohen**, Fleet Maintenance, have recently joined the Public Works Department. *Welcome Bobby and Ben!*
- Public Works Director, **Scott Fleury**, and Finance Director, **Mariane Berry**, presented in September to the Ashland Rotary Club on the topic of the **Water Treatment Plant**.

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## WHAT'S COMING UP?

- **Southern Oregon Pride** on **October 5** – [sopride.org](https://sopride.org).
- **Argentinian Tango Guitar performance** at Ashland Senior Center on **October 9** – Information at [AshlandSeniorServices.org](https://AshlandSeniorServices.org).
- **Bear Creek Salmon Festival** on **October 12** at North Mountain Park – [BearCreekSalmonFestival.net](https://BearCreekSalmonFestival.net).
- The **Ashland Japanese Garden** will celebrate its two-year anniversary on **October 19** – [AshlandJapaneseGarden.org](https://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.ed](mailto:kravitzk@sou.ed).
- **Ashland Mystery Festival, October 17 through October 20** – Information at [ashlandmysteryfest.com](https://ashlandmysteryfest.com).
- **Ashland Monster Dash** on **October 26**, 10K, 5K and 1-Mile options; Run for Education! – [ashlandmonsterdash.com](https://ashlandmonsterdash.com).
- **Butler-Perozzi Fountain historic presentation** with Peter Finkle at Ashland Senior Center on **October 30** – Information at [AshlandSeniorServices.org](https://AshlandSeniorServices.org).
- **Children's Halloween Parade** on **October 31** – More at [ashlandchamber.com](https://ashlandchamber.com).