



CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE:

- **City e-News launched in July.** Stay in the know without lifting a finger! From feel-good community stories to can't-miss events and City updates, the City e-Newsletter brings it all straight to your inbox. No digging, no scrolling, just the good stuff, all in one spot! [Sign up Now for City e-News!](#)
- Ashland's **new budget supports key Council priorities with updated utility fees that started in July**, helping fund public safety, wildfire prevention and park maintenance – [Learn More](#).
- **Compensation and Classification Study** information, CPI history and proposed salary increases can be found at ashlandoregon.gov/HumanResources.
- On July 5, the City and honored guests from Guanajuato celebrated 55 years of friendship by **reaffirming the bond between Ashland and Guanajuato** – [Learn More](#).
- The City provides **archives of public meeting broadcasts**. You can also watch recordings of educational programs provided by the City, including **OLLI (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute) classes—Civics 101 and Show Me the Money!**—and the **Better Prepared Wildfire Series**. Take this opportunity to learn more about how local government works and get ready for wildfire season!
 - Ashlandoregon.gov/WatchMeeting
 - ashlandoregon.gov/OLLI (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Southern Oregon University)
 - ashlandoregon.gov/BetterPreparedSeries (Also, check out the July 16 event, **"What's Your Plan? When Every Second Counts: Evacuation Planning & Practice,"** hosted by Ashland.news.)
- **Office Hours at City Hall:**
 - **Councilor Jeff Dahle** – 3rd Monday of each month from 2 to 3:30 p.m.
 - **Councilor Bob Kaplan** – 1st Monday of each month from 1 to 2:30 p.m.
 - **Councilor Gina DuQuenne** – 1st Thursday of each month from Noon to 1:30 p.m.
 - **City Manager Sabrina Cotta** – Thursday each week from 8:30 to 10 a.m.
Office hours exclude holidays.
- **Coffee & Conversation** gatherings are underway and will continue for the calendar year. This is an opportunity for residents to connect with elected officials and staff. The meetings are informal with no set agenda. Events are scheduled as follows:
 - July 16, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Garfield Park
 - August 12, 5 to 6:30 p.m. at Hunter Park
 - September 10, 3:30 to 5 p.m. at Enders Shelter
 - October 14, 1 to 2:30 p.m. at North Mountain Park Pavilion
- **Are you signed up for emergency alerts with JACKSON ALERTS?** The City partners with Jackson County under one alert messaging system called JACKSON ALERTS. Sign up your whole family by visiting ashlandoregon.gov/Alerts.



City Manager's Report

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:

- Ashland's Tree of the Year finalists are here. [Cast your vote by July 31!](#) Help celebrate the trees that make Ashland special.

ELECTRIC:

- All three **EV rebates are back!** Stack state, federal and Ashland incentives—up to \$13,500 in savings. Buy or lease starting May 22 and help Ashland meet its climate goals! [Learn More.](#)

FINANCE:

- Year-end accounting in process
- Payroll software upgrade with selected vendor UKG (Ultimate Kronos Group).
- Delinquency processing continues, including with closed accounts and current past due accounts that are outstanding.
- Repealing AMC 4.32 - Alarm Systems due to it is no longer relevant to City operations.
- Utility Billing will soon issue an RFP to upgrade its billing software and improve processes.
- Utility Billing in-person office hours are now on Tuesdays and Fridays at the new location, 2245 Ashland St – [Learn More.](#)

FIRE:

- On July 2 the **Fire Danger in Ashland increased to HIGH**, resulting in restrictions on gas powered machinery – [Learn More.](#)
- Sign up for **non-emergency notifications about controlled burns and wildfire smoke.** Join our Watershed group by texting **WATERSHED** to **888777**.

INNOVATION & TECHNOLOGY Department (DoIT):

- Continuing to review and update policies and procedures.
- AFN (Ashland Fiber Network) will soon issue RFP for bandwidth services.

PARKS & RECREATION:

- Two free concerts were held at the Lithia Park Butler Memorial Bandshell June 16 and 23. Each concert drew approximately 2000 people. **Epic Ashland** and **Ashland Folk Collective**, both local 501c3s, are both producing concert series this summer. There will be a total of seven concerts offered through September. With the two groups running the concerts, parks staff have been able to scale back their time commitment and offer just on-site support.

Upcoming concert dates:

- July 21, Jessica Malone with opener Hillstomp
- July 28, Marchfourth
- August 18, The Lucky Strokes with opener The Wreckless Strangers
- September 15, The Rumble with opener Les Greene & the Swazeys
- September 22, Sean Hayes

All concerts take place at the Lithia Park Butler Memorial Bandshell from 6 to 9 p.m.

- In partnership with Ashland Police Department, Senior Services hosted their **annual Cookout for Seniors & Their Families** in Hunter Park on Saturday, June 28. Food was donated by sponsor Village at Valley View. Audrey Flint and her Broadway Boomer students provided a fun dance performance.



Annual Cookout for Seniors & Their Families



Annual Cookout for Seniors & Their Families

L: Parks Director Rocky Houston and Tighe O'Meara Police Chief

R: Senior Services Superintendent Natalie Mettler with O'Meara

PUBLIC WORKS:

- GIS has updated the [CIP dashboard online](#).
- BPA is sending \$98,752.21 in reimbursement back to the City after completing the energy savings evaluation between our old UV System and the newly installed UV System at our Wastewater Plant.
- Ashland **advances Water Treatment Plans with secure federal loan amid grant shifts**. Despite recent changes to FEMA grants, Ashland is pressing ahead with its fully funded Water Treatment Plant project, backed by a \$73M low-interest federal loan – [Learn More](#).



City Manager's Report

WHAT'S COMING UP?

- The Better Prepared Wildfire Series will wrap up on July 16 with, **"What's Your Plan? When Every Second Counts: Evacuation Planning & Practice."** This event is hosted by Ashland.news – Learn more and register at ashlandoregon.gov/BetterPreparedSeries.
- **Parks & Recreation Summer PlayGuide:** Visit AshlandParksandRec.org to view summer programs and register.
- **Ashland City Band Concerts—Every Thursday evening this summer through August 14 at the Lithia Park Bandshell.** The City Band plays a mix of original works, orchestral transcriptions, marches and musicals, often featuring guest soloists! With roots dating back to 1876, the 70-member band continues its tradition of weekly concerts each summer. Seating is limited. Bring a chair or blanket. The free concerts start at 7 p.m., with pre-concert music kicking off at 6:15 p.m.
- **Silent Disco in Lithia Park, 1st & 3rd Fridays thru October.** Come experience music in a whole new way! Silent Disco has wireless headphones which lets you choose between multiple channels of Live DJs in an immersive and unforgettable experience for the whole family! Celebrate the diversity and uniqueness of Ashland with Silent Disco in the Park! First & Third Fridays | May through October | 6 to 11 p.m. | \$10 for headphones.