



City Manager's Report

October Report—10.7.2025

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE:

- The City's **Event Partnership Grant program** launched in October 2024. To date, the City has awarded \$131,250 across 20 grants, funding 25 events estimated at bringing in approximately 6,000 visitors. This program is funded by Transient Lodging Tax. Learn more at ashlandoregon.gov/YourTaxesAtWork.
- Construction modifications of **2200 Ashland Street emergency shelter** are underway. Based on the existing schedule and anticipated lead times for certain materials, the shelter work is projected to be completed by mid to late November. Stay updated at ashlandoregon.gov/HomelessServices.
- **OLLI courses are underway!** Residents aged 50 and older are exploring the wide range of services the City offers and connecting with City staff through OLLI (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute) courses, provided by Southern Oregon University. Recordings of the classes are offered at ashlandoregon.gov/OLLI.
- The NEW Ashland **City e-Newsletter** brings it all straight to your inbox. [Sign up Now for City e-News!](#) **View the September 25 issue.**
- In September the City launched a new video series, **Minute with the Manager!** The first feature highlights how the citizens of Ashland can engage with the City. [Watch it now.](#)
- Preparation for a **Community Evacuation Drill on October 11** is underway. Information is available at ashlandoregon.gov/EvacDrill. (Registration will be required.)
- **Coffee & Conversation** gatherings are wrapping up for the season. The last one for 2025 is on Tuesday, October 14, 2:30 p.m. at the North Mountain Pak Pavilion. This is an opportunity for residents to connect with elected officials and staff. The meetings are informal with no set agenda.
- **RVTV** (Rogue Valley Community Television) aired approximately **74 LIVE public meetings** totaling over **150 hours** of programming co-produced with the City of Ashland during the 2024–25 operating year. Discover the ways to **watch public meetings** at ashlandoregon.gov/WatchMeeting, including the new **RVTV app** where you can watch live or on demand! The app also features captioning and keyword-searchable videos for easier access.
- **Sign 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. **Don't want to create an account? Simply text 97520 to 888777 to sign up for Ashland alerts!**

FINANCE and DEPARTMENT OF INNOVATION & TECHNOLOGY:

- The City received **GFOA's (Government Finance Officers Association) Distinguished Budget Presentation Award**, recognizing excellence in budgeting and the City's commitment to transparency and fiscal responsibility. [Learn more.](#)



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FIRE:

- Sign up for **non-emergency notifications about controlled burns and wildfire smoke**. Join the City's Watershed group by texting **WATERSHED** to **888777**.
- Join Ashland Fire & Rescue on **Friday, October 10**, 2 to 6 p.m. at Fire Station No. 2 for tours, fire safety education and community connection during **Fire Prevention Week!**
- As of September 30, the **fire danger for Ashland decreased from HIGH to MODERATE**. [View current restrictions](#).

PARKS & RECREATION:

- The Department hired **Cheryl De Saram** as the new Recreation Administrative Assistant and **Ernie Comacho** as Parks Tech 1. Cheryl will be working at the Ashland Senior Center and The Grove. Ernie will be working with the Ops Boulevards Team.
- **Public Meetings for APRD:**
 - The **PROS (Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Senior Services) Strategic Plan** second community meeting was held on September 17 at the Ashland Senior Center attracting almost 30 attendees.
 - An informational meeting on the **Hunter Park Tennis Court Renovation Project** was held on September 24 drawing over 50 attendees.
- The final two **free community concerts** were held at the Litha Park Bandshell on September 15 and 22. A huge thanks to sponsors **Epic Ashland** and the **Folk Music Collective** for providing the community with these beloved and well-attended events!
- **Silent Disco in Lithia Park, 1st & 3rd Fridays thru October**. Wireless headphones will allow you to 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 Lithia Park from 6 to 11 p.m. Headphones are \$10 each.
- **The Return of the Salmon Family Field Day** will take place on October 18, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at North Mountain Park. At this free event, attendees can learn about salmon and their life cycle, macroinvertebrates, water quality, pollinators and riparian areas by participating in activities set up around the park and Bear Creek.



PUBLIC WORKS:

- TID (Talent Irrigation District) was shut down for the season on September 29.